

## Preface

To celebrate Professor Masatoshi Noumi's 60th Birthday, we held the international conference

### **“Representation Theory, Special Functions and Painlevé Equations”**

at the Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Kyoto University from March 3 to March 6 in 2015.

This volume is the proceedings of the conference. It contains 15 papers covering a variety of topics in the research fields where Prof. Noumi has made many significant contributions over the years – representation theory, special functions, Painlevé equations and so on. We hope that readers interested in those subjects will find exciting and stimulating insights from excellent papers of this volume.

The conference was supported by RIMS and JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (S)24224001 (PI: M.-H. Saito), (B)24340029 (PI: Y. Ohta), (B)25287017 (PI: T. Oshima), (B)26287018 (PI: Y. Yamada), (C)24540206 (PI: J. Shiraishi) and (C)26400046 (PI: H. Konno). We express our heartiest thanks to all the speakers, the audiences and those who assisted with the organization and the running of the conference.

Last but not least, we wish to dedicate this book to Masatoshi Noumi on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

November 2016  
The Editors

*All papers in this volume have been refereed and are in final form.  
No version of any of them will be submitted for publication elsewhere.*