

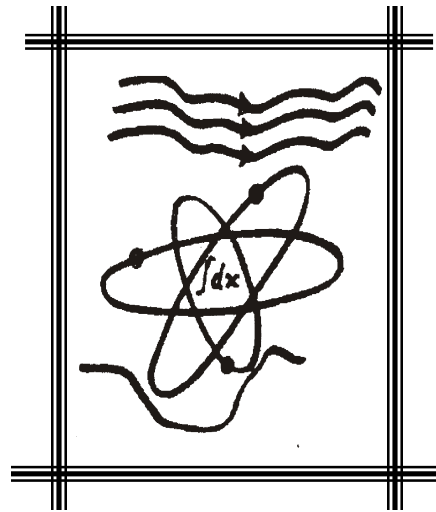
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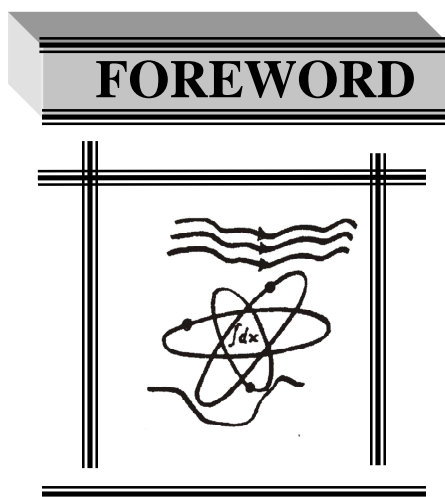
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The Symbolism of the NAMP

- (1) The 3-wavy arrowed lines at the top have a dual significance:
 - (a) Taken together, they represent **vector fields**, the building blocks of the theory of **dynamical systems** which is the bridge across many facets of mathematical physics.
 - (b) The lowest of the 3 lines defines the northern border of Nigeria.
- (2) The wavy overlapping electron orbits symbolize **physics**, while the integral at their core is **mathematics**, the core or nucleus of mathematical physics.
- (3) The wavy line at the bottom is the southern border of Nigeria.
- (4) Thus, the symbols taken together represent mathematical physics located in Nigeria

However, the geographical outline of the country, as represented in the logo, is open at the sides, which means that the association is free to interact horizontally with its sister organisations at its own level, outside the country, without any hindrance imposed by national boundaries.

Although NAMP was formally inaugurated in 1979, the discussions and consultations that led to its foundation commenced in 1978. Those who participated in the discussion were Professor Chike Obi, Dr. Eden Akinrelere, Professor Awele Maduemezia, Mr. Titus Akindele, Professor Sunday Iyehen and Dr. Donatus Uzodinma. An unsuccessful attempt was made by Professor Chike Obi to register the association with the Ministry of Trade on June 29, 1978, under the name Nigeria Society for Mathematical Sciences.

In May, 1979, Dr. G. O. S. Ekhaguere wrote to Professor Awele Maduemezia and proposed a National Colloquium or workshop on Mathematical Physics. Funds were sought, and the first National Colloquium on Mathematical Physics was successfully held at the Department of Physics, University of Ibadan, from 12 to 15 December, 1979. Participants came from eight of the thirteen universities that existed in the country at that time, and from the College of Technology, Ilorin. The eight universities were Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, University of Ibadan (UI), University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University), Bayero University, Kano, University of Ilorin (Unilorin), University of Lagos (Unilag), University of Maiduguri and University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN).

During the Plenary session on Thursday, December 13, 1979, commencing at 3.35p.m., in Room B11 of the Department of Physics, 22 of the 31 participants were present. The meeting was presided over by Professor Awele Maduemezia FAS. The Secretary was Dr. G. O. S. Ekhaguere. At the meeting it was revealed that the Nigerian Academy of Science provided the Local Organising Committee with secretarial assistance, while the National Science and Technology Development Agency provided a grant of N1, 000.00 (One thousand Naira only) towards the publication of the proceedings of this first colloquium on Mathematical Physics. During the meeting, it was noted that there were only very few scientists in the country who could strictly speaking be called *Mathematical Physicists*. For this reason, it was decided that the term *Mathematical Physics* should be broadened to mean: *Any scientist who applies fairly rigorous mathematics to physics, chemistry, engineering, or other sciences, and also any mathematician whose results have direct applicability in physics, chemistry, engineering and so forth.*

The house unanimously agreed that there was a need to form an association, which would bring together all the mathematical physicists, as defined above. A motion to this effect was formally tabled by Prince Dr. O. A. Odundun of the Department of Physics, University of Ife, Ile-Ife and seconded by Dr. J. Adetunji of the Department of Physics, AdmaduBelloUniversity, Zaria. The motion read as follows:

That those here present constitute themselves into a body to be known as and called the NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF MATHEMATICAL PHYSICS (NAMP). The motion was carried unanimously, and the following inaugural Executive was elected

President: Professor AweleMaduemezia, FAS,

Secretary: Dr. G. O. S. Ekhaguere

Treasurer: Dr. G. OluremiOlaofe

Ex-officio members: Professor C. Amazigo.

Professor M. A. Rashid,

Dr. C. O. Afolayan.

On the same day, that is, 13th December, 1979, the new President of NAMP designed the logo shown above for the association, with the symbolism indicated. In a great country like Nigeria, with immense potentials, there ought to be a vibrant national forum for a critical discussion of research results and a proper documentation of accepted works that have been duly reviewed. The annual Colloquium and Congress of NAMP serve the former, while the latter is catered for by the Journal of NAMP. The fact that we are able to do these two things every year is a measure of the growth and stability we have strived to realise over the years.

It is my sincere hope that we will continue to be in a position to produce at least one volume of the Journal of NAMP every year.

Dr. G. Babaji,

November, 2013

**EXIT
OF AN
ICON**



(June 9, 1948 – September 30, 2012)
Professor Rueben Olafenwa Ayeni

Professor Rueben Olafenwa Ayeni was born on June 9, 1948 at Owode-Ketu, Oguri State, (not far from Benin Republic).

He attended L. A. Primary School, Owode-Ketu and Egbado High School, Igbogila. His first tertiary institution is the University of Lagos College of Education where he specialized in Physics and Mathematics. He obtained the Nigeria Certificate in Education in 1969 with Distinction.

Professor Ayeni later attended the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University) where he obtained a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics in 1973.

In 1974, he worked on theory of loops and by January 1975, he entered Cornell University, USA for a Doctoral programme. He obtained the Ph.D. in May 1978.

Academically, Professor Ayeni is of the lineage of Von-Mises-Geoffrey Ludford. He is a fluid dynamicist (reacting and non-reacting flows) and he has contributed much to fluid mechanics. He was the President of Mathematical Association of Nigeria from 2002 to 2004.

Administratively, he was the Head of Department of Mathematics at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife from August 1, 1983 to July 31, 1986. He was head, Department of Pure and Applied Mathematics, Ladoké Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho from 1990 to 2000 when he became Dean, Faculty of Pure and Applied Science.

He was Dean for four years and in last year of deanship he became the Chairman Committee of Deans. Prof Ayeni was President of NAMP for 8 years. He published over 150 Journal Articles, about 60 of which were in the Journal of NAMP. May his gentle soul rest in peace