

Dear Participants,

Welcome to 4th Cemal Koç Algebra Days.

Some years ago during a conference dinner in Istanbul, we were in the same table with Songül Esin, Müge Kanuni and Ayten Koç. Professor Koç was passed away in a short while ago that time. As collaborators of Koç, they wanted to do something for him. I suggested to start an algebra days for him. The first Cemal Koç Algebra Days is organized by Songül Esin and Güloglu in Doğuş University, Istanbul, the second one by Müge Kanuni in Düzce University and third one by Mustafa Akkurt and Emira Akkurt in Gebze University. The previous ones were local conferences in Turkey, thanks to our colleagues coming from Iran, Italy and United states who accepted our invitation and made the Cemal Koç Algebra Days an international conference.

Koç was a leader for us not only mathematically but also in life. He was a chairman of this department. He worked also as a chairman of University staff union. After the military takeover in 1980, he was dismissed from the university in March 1, 1983. He had a family with 3 daughters and his wife doesn't work. So he earned his life by giving private lessons to high school students worked in Dershanes for 6 years. Finally in March 1, 1989, he won the case in court and got his position in this department again. He retired in July 17, 1999.

He moved to Istanbul and worked in Doğuş University for 11 Years until 2010. He passed away in April 1, 2010.

The other friend which he could not come to our conference is Kivanç Ersoy. He was one of the people who registered first to attend the conference. Since you all know what had happened to him, I will not mention the known things. But today, he will be in court and we hope very much that, he will be free and this shame will end. Here is his name tag and conference material for him. We would like to give these to him together with conference poster signed by the participants. If you wish to sign I leave it here. This is to give it to Kivanç not to any other place and on this poster the following is written:

Dear Kivanç,

As participants of 4th Cemal Koç Algebra Days we hope very much, you will obtain your freedom as soon as possible.

For support we would like to thank Middle East Technical University and Turkish Mathematical Union.

Finally I would like to thank all the invited speakers and the organizing committee members Gökhan Benli, Ayten Koç, Ömer Küçüksakallı, Ebru Solak, and Yasemin Talu for their hard work. They have done everything regardless of they are very busy colleagues. Thanks also to our graduate students Sezen Bostan, Özge Almaş and Şükran Gül. Thanks to all the participants for coming and I wish you a fruitful conference and I hope you enjoy your stay in Ankara.