PREFACE

Professor Charles Ejike Chidume was born in 1947 in Nimo, Anambra State, Nigeria. He received a master's degree in Mathematics from Queen's University in 1977 and received doctorate degree in Mathematics in 1984 at the Ohio State University with a thesis on "Iterative Methods and Nonlinear Functional Equations" under William Jay Davis. In the same year he became a professor at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. In 2009, Charles Chidume was appointed professor at the African University of Science and Technology in Abuja, Nigeria. He held various positions at this university, including Director of the Mathematical Institute, Vice President and President-in-Office. Charles Chidume played a key role in the discovery and development of young mathematicians in Africa, supervising many PhD students at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in Trieste, Italy, and at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He has been co-editor of numerous scientific journals and is a Fellow of the World Academy of Sciences (FTWAS), a member of the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, and the Nigerian Mathematical Society. Due to his outstanding work in the fields of nonlinear functional analysis and fixed-point theory, Charles Chidume has received various prestigious awards, including the British Council Fellowship in Mathematics (1986), the Third World Academy of Sciences (1988) and the Honorary Certificate of the Romanian Mathematical Society (2018). In 2019 he was awarded the AMMSI Phillip Griffiths Prize. Until his death on 7 October 2021, Charles Chidume was acting president of the African University of Science and Technology. He worked tirelessly to improve mathematics education in Nigeria and Africa as a whole. He will be remembered for his great contributions to the Nigerian Mathematics Society and African higher education as a whole. Professor Charles Ejike Chidume was posthumously awarded the Nigerian National Order of Merit (NNOM) Award for Science for 2020 for his contributions to the field of mathematics.

This special issue includes manuscripts on related research areas of Professor Charles Ejike Chidume which include fixed point theory and applications, variational inequalities and monotone inclusion problems. The special issue shows the state of the art knowledge related to fixed point theory and applications, variational inequalities and monotone inclusion problems which would be a valuable reference for both researchers and practitioners in nonlinear functional analysis. All the manuscripts include new, unpublished and original research results. All submissions are peer-reviewed by experts in order to meet the standard of the journal.

We express our deep appreciation to all the authors for their efforts and contributions. We also thank the reviewers for their expert comments and suggestions while preparing this special issue.

Yekini Shehu

Department of Mathematics, Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua, China

yekini.shehu@zjnu.edu.cn