Department of Mathematics
Panjab University, Chandigarh

The Fifth Sarvadaman Chowla Memorial Lecture

THE CHOWLA PROBLEM AND GENERALIZATIONS
by

M. Ram Murty
Queen's University, Canada

on **March 25, 2020 at 4.15 pm**

in Online Mode

S. Chowla 1907-1995

M. Ram Murty

Abstract

In 1969, Chowla asked a question regarding non-vanishing of certain infinite series. He was able to answer his question partially and the complete solution was discovered in 1972 by Baker, Birch and Wirsing using Baker's theory of linear forms in logarithms. This work has led to new questions that are still not completely solved. I will give a survey of these developments and discuss some surprising consequences in transcendental number theory.

About the Speaker

Professor M. Ram Murty is an eminent mathematician and is presently A. V. Douglas Distinguished University Professor and Queen's Research Chair at Department of Mathematics, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada. He specialises in Number Theory and has Erdős number 1. He received his Ph.D. in 1980 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under the supervision of Harold Stark and Dorian Goldfeld. According to MathSciNet his first research paper appeared in 1975 and since then he has published several books and more than 250 research papers in leading journals. Professor Ram Murty has more than hundred co-authors around the globe and has also supervised 23 Ph.D. students. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1990 and became a fellow of the American Mathematical Society in 2012. Professor Ram Murty has very strong Indian connections. He is an Adjunct Professor of Harish-Chandra Research Institute (HRI), Allahabad; The Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Chennai; Chennai Mathematical Institute (CMI), Chennai; Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mumbai, Tata Institute for Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai; Indian Institute for Scientific Education and Research (IISER), Bhopal. Besides this he was elected as a fellow by the National Academy of Sciences (NASI), India in 2007 and by the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) in 2008.

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