

The Closing Ceremony

The Closing Remarks from the Local Organizing Committee

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Dear participants, both online and onsite,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, and good night!

During ICME-14, we have heard such greetings many times. This is a very special set of greetings for ICME-14.

While in many aspects, ICME-14 follows the ICME tradition, contains all kinds of academic activities, including plenary lectures, plenary panels, survey teams, awardee lectures, invited lectures, Topic Study Groups, Discussion Groups, Posters, Workshops and Special Sessions for Affiliated Organizations, National Presentations and ICME Studies, ICME-14 has made many new records in the history of ICME.

First of all, ICME-14 is held in a hybrid mode and this is the first time in the history of ICME. Consequently, ICME-14 for the first time run the main academic activities from afternoon to midnight in Beijing time.

Secondly, the number of formal registrations is 4055, among them there are 3156 people who attended the congress. ICME-14 is the first ICME with more than 570 thousand people all over the world online and another over one thousand onsite participants watching the opening ceremony.

While the onsite participants are mostly local Chinese, the number is twice higher than that of all the Chinese participants who have ever attended the former ICME. This is, of course, related to the fact that this is the first ICME held in China.

ICME-14 become a big news these days (Fig. 1, Fig. 2, and Fig. 3).

For the variety of academic activities, ICME-14 held four plenary lectures, three plenary panels, four survey teams, five ICMI awardee lectures, more than 60 invited lectures, 62 Topic Study Groups, 15 Discussion Groups, more than 300 posters, 27 Workshops, and the sessions for Affiliated Organizations, National Presentations, ICME Studies, etc.

In addition, a total of 13 Thematic Afternoon activities showing the characteristics of Chinese mathematics education were specially set up in the conference. More than one thousand onsite participants and 15.4 thousand online participants attended these

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ICME-14自7月12日开幕以来受到媒体广泛关注。中国30余家电视台、报社、新闻网站和客户端的不间断持续关注。密集报道大会开幕式、大会报告、主题特色日、最新成果等大会盛况和各项活动近百篇。



(东方卫视 点击可播放 回顾开幕式)

Fig. 1. ICME-14 has received extensive media attention since the opening ceremony on July 12th, 2021 (UTC+8)



Fig. 2. There are many full-page and front-page reports, including *China Daily*

activities. These 13 Thematic Afternoon activities are intended to illustrate the characteristics, experiences and achievements of Chinese mathematics education to the world.



Fig. 3. Many topics concerned by the media

Back to year 2016, when Shanghai won the BID for ICME-14, we were extraordinarily delighted and proud, because it is a very important event in the history of Chinese mathematics education. While we did know this could be a very challenging task, we had profound understanding of how difficult it is till we started to prepare for the conference. All the preparation work for the conference, including the conference venue, conference proceedings, public transportation, accommodations, just mention a few, were all targeted to the conference held in 2020. However, due to the severe global COVID-19, the conference was postponed to year 2021, the preparatory work of the conference then almost returned to its original point, and many of the manpower and material resources were gone with the wind. In fact, the preparation work for the 2021 conference were carried out under the circumstance of many “uncertainties”. We do not know whether COVID-19 will become a history in this summer; We do not know whether overseas participants can come to Shanghai for the conference; We do not know how many participants are willing to accept such a hybrid attending mode; We do not know what difficulties and challenges such a hybrid mode will face.

Till this moment, in the closing ceremony, I can say, we accomplished this almost impossible mission.

Therefore, today, what I want to express the most is gratitude!

On behalf of the Local Committee of ICME-14, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to many people.

First of all, I'd like to thank all of our online participants. We own you an onsite visit. China is an ancient and charming nation with a lot of sightseeing places and special cultures, so as for the city of Shanghai. However, the covid-19 broke the way

for many of you to come, but I am sure and sincerely hope you could come to China, to Shanghai in the near future. The door of China and the city of Shanghai is always open to you.

Secondly, I'd like to thank all of my Chinese colleagues, both onsite and online. In order to make conference time convenient for the largest number of participants in the world to participate in the conference, the most important academic activities of ICME-14 were arranged to start at 7:30 p.m., Beijing time. This is usually a resting and sitting-out time for the Chinese people. Many Chinese colleagues told us that the first thing they need to do with ICME-14 is to adjust "jet lag", because every night, they can't go to bed until after midnight. When the conference comes to the end today, the first thing for them is again to adjust "jet lag". We feel very sorry that this conference has disrupted your biological clock. Thank you! Thanks for your full support. Whenever we need help, it is you who give us new strength; When we encounter difficulties, it is you who stand firmly beside us and become our most reliable backing. Sincerely thank all of you!

Here, I would also like to thank all the leading departments for their strong support, from the State Council, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to the Chinese Association for Science and Technology; from the Chinese Mathematical Society to the Shanghai Mathematical Society; from the city of Shanghai to East China Normal University to the School of Mathematical Sciences. In the process of ICME-14's bidding, preparation and hosting, the guidance and support you have given is unparalleled. Thank all of you!

Finally, I would like to give special thanks to our team. In order to host this conference, we have a large team, including the leaders of East China Normal University and all related functional departments, teaching staff and all administrative staff of the School of Mathematical Sciences, Jing Da Conference Company, and of course, our Local Committee members and volunteers. I am here particularly grateful to our volunteers. Among them are leaders and administrators of fellow universities and colleges, as well as young students. After the daily conference, they still have a lot of work to do, and many people need to take about one-hour bus to return home or dormitory, and the next day, one hour before the conference starts, they need to return to the conference in vigor. The gratitude to you is beyond words, thousands of words can only be combined into four words: Thank you very much! 谢谢你们!

Thank you! Thank you all with my best wishes!