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A Brief Biography of Tom H. Koornwinder

Written by Quin Buob

Dr. Tom Koornwinder is a Dutch mathematician that was born by Rotterdam in the Netherlands in 1943. He received both a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Physics, as well as a Master of Science in Mathematics from the University of Leiden. Koornwinder also received his doctorated from University of Amsterdam in Mathematics and Natunder the guidance of Dr. H. A. Lauwerier. His dissertation was on Jocobi Polynomials and There Two-Variable Analogues in 1975. Koornwinder's specific research interests are in harmonic functions, computer algebra, and analysis of special functions and orthogonal polynomials. From 1968 to 1992 Koornwinder was a mathematics researcher at the Mathematical Centre in Amsterdam. During this time, he attended the Ramanujan Centennial Conference in 1987.

After attending the conference, and as a researcher at the Mathematical Centre in Amsterdam, he finished his time in academia at the University of Amsterdam, as a professor of mathematical analysis, as well as holding multiple positions at this institution. From 1995 to 1996 he was the chairman of the Department of Mathematics. He eventually became vice dean of the Department of Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics and Astronomy, in 1996. After this, he Director of the Korteweg-de Vries Institute. In 2008 he became a professor emeritus from the Korteweg-de Vries Institute but remains a guest lecturer to this day.