

PREFACE

This volume of contributed papers commemorates the 75th birthday of Prof. Rani Siromoney, one of the foremost theoretical computer scientists in India and a leading authority on Formal Languages and Automata Theory. Over a period spanning four decades, she has made tremendous technical contributions to the field through her research. She has also inspired generations of students in Chennai with her teaching and has been responsible for building up a community of dedicated teachers and researchers in this part of India to carry forward her vision.

Prof. Siromoney has served on the Editorial Board of the journals *Theoretical Computer Science* and *International Journal of Foundations of Computer Science* and has headed several international collaborative research projects. She also served on the Programme Committee for the first ten editions of the international conference *Foundations of Software Technology and Theoretical Computer Science*, one of the leading theoretical computer science conferences in the world. She is currently Professor Emeritus at Madras Christian College, the illustrious institution where she has spent most of her professional life. She continues to play an active role in research and teaching as Adjunct Professor at Chennai Mathematical Institute.

The contributions in this volume span a wide range of subjects, thematically connected by the use of concepts from formal languages and automata theory. The areas explored in this volume include compiler construction, computational complexity theory, formal modelling of concurrent systems, codes and image analysis. The contributors are leading researchers in computer science from all parts of the world, all of whom have been associated with Rani Siromoney during the course of her long and productive career.

We thank all the authors for readily accepting to contribute to this volume. We also thank the staff of World Scientific for their assistance and cooperation that have been crucial for the successful completion of this project.

K.G. SUBRAMANIAN
K. RANGARAJAN
MADHAVAN MUKUND