P R E F A C E

This volume contains some reviews and original research contributions, which are related to the **9th Mathematical Physics Meeting: School and Conference on Modern Mathematical Physics**, organized by the Institute of Physics, Belgrade (Serbia), September 18–23, 2017. The programme of this meeting was mainly oriented towards some recent developments in gravity and cosmology, string and quantum field theory, and some relevant mathematical methods. We hope that articles presented here will be valuable literature not only for the participants of this meeting but also for many other PhD students and researchers in modern mathematical and theoretical physics. We are grateful to all authors for writing their contributions for these proceedings.

The previous eight meetings in this series of schools and conferences on modern mathematical physics were also held in Serbia: Sokobanja, 13–25 August 2001; Kopaonik, 1–12 September 2002; Zlatibor, 20–31 August 2004; Belgrade, 3–14 September 2006; Belgrade, 6–17 July 2008; Belgrade, 14–23 September 2010; Belgrade, 9–19 September 2012; and Belgrade, 24–31 August 2014. The corresponding proceedings of all these meetings were published by the Institute of Physics, Belgrade, and are available in the printed form as well as online at the websites.

This ninth meeting took place at the Mathematical Institute, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, located in Belgrade downtown. We hope that all attending this meeting will recall it as a useful and pleasant event, and will wish to participate again in the future.

We wish to thank all lecturers and other speakers for their interesting and valuable talks. We also thank all participants for their active participation. Financial support of our sponsors, *Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade; and the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics* was very significant for realization of this activity.

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