The Real Father of Algebra

Introduction:

Short definition about what is Algebra. (Algebra is the branch of the mathematics that uses numbers, letters and signs to make general the several arithmetic operations. Today we understand Algebra as one of the branches of Mathematics that study the structures, relationships and quantities. Algebra has some universal laws or also called axioms that always have to been follow when using Algebra.)

Why am I going to research about these.

I will present each of the mathematicians in a very rough way just showing when did they live and mentioning one of their most famous discoveries.

- Diophantus of Alexandria:

    Biography of his life (there is almost no information about the life of this mathematician and he became kind of a legendary character.)

    He has a volume of 130 problems giving numerical solutions of determinate equations, those with unique solution but for him the solutions made out of irrational answers were useless and not being able to use zero (because he never knew about it) most of his solutions has just one answer. The tradition says that existed 13 books but just 6 survived

although these last ones were lost really soon, there are some documents with information that was originally in these sources. (IM, pg,87)

- Mohammed ibn-Musa al-Khwarizmi:

It is believed that al-Khwarizmi was born around 790 in Bagdad. He studied in the House of Knowledge in Bagdad where he translated Greek texts and studied basic Algebra, Geometry and Astronomy.

Hisab al-jabr w'al-muqabala was his most important work in his life. The title of this book has given us the name of Algebra. In the book the author uses a easy math which tries to solve typical problems in the human life through, of course, algebra. This book doesn't explain the concept of algebra itself, it is just an instruction manual, "a more useful math". (IM, pg. 78)

The only problem that this author has for not being the father of algebra is because he never used letters to represent various quantities as François Viéte did. (EAOM)

- François Viéte:

He was born in 1540 in Fontenay-le-Comte, France. He was educated in the university of Poitiers being a student in law which skills and astuteness made him work for important and influent people. He became famous for discovering the key for a cipher of 500 characters,

making them to be able to translate the information between the King of Spain and de pope.

His most important discovery was the incorporation of letters as unknown variables creating the syncopated algebra. He just created a total revolution in mathematics because now math that was explained in pages and pages of writing were able to been expressed in a line of symbols. This concept was really complicated to understand but once you got it, the math became so easier. (FVIA)

Conclusion:

The conclusión will be a easy but strong statement in which, with my simple definition of algebra that is in the beginning I will prove who was the real Father of Algebra.

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