



Tata Institute of Fundamental Research  
Alumni Association

12<sup>th</sup> TAA-JRD Tata Public Lecture

# A Glimpse into the Foundations of Mathematics

by Prof. Nitin Nitsure

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Lecture Theatre, TIFR

Friday, July 27, 2012; 5.00 pm

What is Mathematics about? What does it mean to say that some mathematical objects exist? What is the meaning of 'truth' in mathematics? What is a proof? Why should we believe in the resulting theorems? Foundational questions such as these have intrigued common people, as well as mathematicians and philosophers, for ages. In this talk, we will take a look at these questions, and at some of their suggested answers from ancient to modern times.

Prof. Nitin Nitsure, an outstanding alumnus of TIFR, is acclaimed for his lucid exposition of concepts in mathematics and their applications in other sciences. He is well known for his research in Algebraic Geometry for which he has received various honours and recognitions including the ICTP Mathematics Prize in 1997. He was elected as Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore in 2001. He is a member of the National Board for Higher Mathematics.

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