Editorial

When we launched this periodical in 2000 we wished to publish at least six volumes. Thus we prepared six different colors for the cover pages. Now with this seventh volume we returned to the color of the first volume, pretending that we are going to publish another six volumes. But, to be honest, we can not be so optimistic. Even this volume was barely born by the end of 2006. It was only a month ago that we received the articles of Mohammad Bagheri and Ken Saito, with which we could reach the number of pages which would make one volume. Without the very quick response of our referees the publication should have been postponed to the next year. We were also benefited by the efficient use of internet by the authors and referees. On the other hand, we had received the articles of Alexander Jones and Takao Hayashi more than a year ago, before the publication of volume 6, but we had to ask them to wait for the next issue. We are grateful to them for their patience.

Now, with the decreasing number of submission of articles, it would be time for us to reconsider the principle of annual publication. But I am afraid that, once we give up the regularity, we will easily give up the publication program itself.

Another principle of this periodical is also difficult to keep, namely, the principle of publishing original new source materials in classical and medieval languages, such as Accadian, Greek, Latin, Sanskrit, Arabic, Chinese (and Manchu in vol., 6), etc. With this principle we had to reject some articles even though the topic itself was interesting. In this respect, Nathan Sidoli's article might be regarded as almost violating our principle. The only unpublished material contained in the paper is the demonstration of the sector theorem by Gerhard of Cremona (two pages). The main part of this article consists of the discussion on the so-called 'Menelaus' theorem. But since this article deals with the important topic of the textual tradition in Greek, Latin, and Arabic, we decided to publish it.

Ken Saito's article would also give the reader a strange impression, since almost eighty percent of the pages are filled with geometrical figures. We considered that his approach opens a new aspect of philological research, namely, the transmission of mathematical figures which have not been scrutinized in the editions of classical texts.

We are also thankful to Annick Horiuchi who contributed the review of the recent book which offered a new translation of a Chinese mathematical text. As we wrote in the editorial of the first volume, critical reviews of the monographs or articles

which offered new materials are also welcome to SCIAMVS. Thus the articles in the past issues of SCIAMVS are also the subjects of critical reviews.

Probably slight changes of the second editorial principle might be necessary in order to keep the first principle of annual publication, but we believe that there are still many original materials waiting for publication.

Kyoto
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