



My thesis is one of challenges and patience. It has been delayed for 29 years. I was supposed to defend it in late 1993 or at the beginning of 1994.

My dream did not materialize, and I was imprisoned for 13 years. I was prohibited from reading and academic writing as well as from studying during this dark period of Tunisia's history.

I still remember when I went on hunger strike for a month to be able to write so that I wouldn't forget about mathematics (I practised maths for an hour each day). I used to tell them that they could never affect my thoughts and beliefs in spite of them imprisoning my body.

I was told one day that I would be mad when they set me free. Then, they beat me on the head with a truncheon. Thanks heaven that I was stronger and more strong-willed than they were, and that I abstained them on many occasions.

Oh yes, at the age of 59 years I am defending my thesis that should serve as an example for determination and as a message to youth to never give up. The future lies in your hands and in ours too. Sooner or later, we will build our own country until there's no more sorrow and oppression.

I also want to mention my twin-brother, Qais, who supported me during my ordeal and who encouraged me to defend the thesis.

I am grateful to everyone, who supported me, particularly the scientific committee with all its members.

This is my present to the youth and to Tunisia. May it be accepted!



Rached Jaïdane
june 4th 2022