

12 Nov. $1910 \sim 12$ June 1985



Early Life

Hua was born in Jintan, China. As a child, he showed exceptional talent in mathematics, and preferred to muse and study instead of play with other children, which made him seem "nerdy" among his peers. In his teens, Hua's family arranged a marriage between him and XiaoYuan Wu; she would be his lifelong companion.



Education

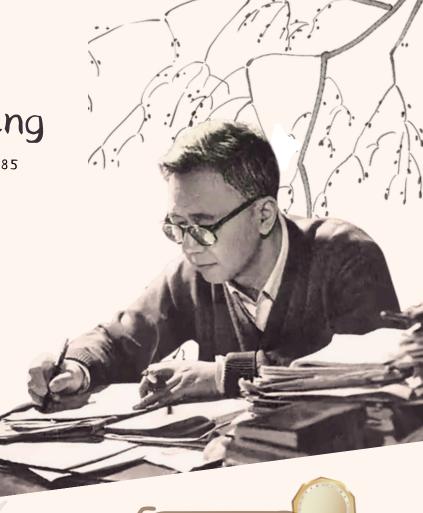
Due to societal turbulence during the time of the Republic of China and limited family income, Hua was forced to drop out of secondary school.

Although never awarded a college degree, Hua independently studied advanced math topics like analysis and number theory. Eventually, his learning and research gained him a reputation among scholars; he became an assistant professor at Tsinghua university, and received honorary doctorates from multiple universities.



Overcoming Adversity

Shortly after he married, Hua fell ill and was bedridden for a year, yet he continued to sustain his family by writing mathematics articles. During his middle years as an intellectual—during China's cultural revolution—he often suffered beatings and his home was rummaged. This undermined his health and relationship with his family, yet Hua never let these events affect his work, for he wanted to devote all his energy to making his country stronger and more developed.



Contributions

He made pioneering advances in number theory, especially involving prime numbers and Diophantine equations (notably Hua's Inequality). He authored many textbooks, such as "Introduction to Number Theory", to improve the way mathematics was taught and studied in China. In addition, he mentored many young mathemematicians, notably Chen Jing-Ren, who also became accomplished researchers.





Hua could read and understand mathematics works in English, French and German. He also had a hidden talent for Chinese calligraphy, an art that demands precision and patience. Hua's contributions extend to politics as well: he was also a public advocate for the Chinese communist party; he solved math problems related to resource allocation as a way to contribute to China's industrialization.