



Cecilia Krieger

(AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN 1894-1974)

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EARLY LIFE

Cypra Cecilia Krieger-Dunaij was born on April 9, 1894, in Poland. She came from a big Polish family and was Jewish. She had to flee to Canada after the war because Poland wasn't a perfect place for Jews at that time. She was 26 when she came to Canada in 1920.

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OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

Cecilia Krieger faced many challenges. After migrating from Poland to Canada, she had to adapt to a new country and language. Despite working in a male-dominated field with limited opportunities, she became Canada's first woman to earn a PhD in mathematics.

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Cecilia Krieger taught mathematics and physics at the University of Toronto for many years and was a strong advocate for women in the field of mathematics. She also translated Waclaw Sierpinski's "Introduction to General Topology" from Polish to English and added a 30-page appendix, which made the theories accessible to the entire world.

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EDUCATION

Cecilia Krieger loved mathematics and pursued her studies at the University of Toronto, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees. In 1930, she made history as the first woman in Canada to earn a PhD in mathematics. She later became a professor, sharing her knowledge and passion while making lasting contributions to mathematics education in the country.

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FUN FACTS

The Krieger-Nelson prize is partly named after her. This prize is given annually to an outstanding female mathematician, honoring her legacy. Cecilia Krieger was the first woman and the 3rd person overall to get a doctorate in mathematics at a Canadian university.