Al-Khwarizmi: the Beginnings of Algebra

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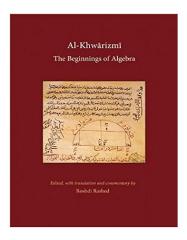
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History of Science and Philosophy in classical Islam

Al-Khwarizmi's Algebra (Kitab al-Jabr wa-al-muqabala), written around 820, was the first scientific text in history to systematically present algebra as a mathematical discipline that is independent of geometry and arithmetic. Roshdi Rashed has produced the first Arabic critical edition of Al-Khwarizmi's work, containing an annotated translation into English, an introductory essay, and extensive commentaries on the text.

Roshdi Rashed is a leading authority in the history and philosophy of science and mathematics. He is senior director of research at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in Paris, and is a former professor at the University of Tokyo.