

# Jacob Palis, a testimony

*Stefano Luzzato*

I first met Jacob at ICTP in Trieste in 1991. I was just starting my PhD course at nearby SISSA and followed with great interest the courses in Dynamical Systems by Jacob and his collaborators and students. From the beginning there was a general sense of excitement around the subject and the way it was presented and I think very much of that was due to Jacob's personality and his contagious enthusiasm and the warm and encouraging way he behaved with his students.

I met him again the following year when he returned to ICTP to organize another school, by which time I had spent some time studying the subject and getting more and more interested and so I plucked up the courage to ask him if he would be willing supervise my PhD. To my great joy he accepted and we agreed that I would visit him in IMPA for 2-3 months.

Thus started a relationship with Jacob and with IMPA, and with many people from the Dynamical Systems group which he founded and nurtured, which continues to this day. This relationship has been one of the most wonderful and productive relationships I have ever had, both from a professional and from a personal point of view.

Thank you Jacob for making this possible!