

In memoriam:



Academician GHEORGHE UDUBAȘA

(September 8, 1938 - March 2, 2019)

On March 2, 2019, Romanian geologist Gheorghe Udubașa, a great personality of European geology and the first member of the Review Board of PANGEEA magazine, ceased his life.

Graduate with merit diploma from the Faculty of Geology and Geography, University of Bucharest (1960), Gheorghe Udubașa obtained his doctorate at the University of Heidelberg with the distinction "*Summa Cum Laude*" (1972).

Between 1970 and 1972 he was an associate researcher as a "Humboldt" scholar at the Institute of Mineralogy and Petrography of the University of Heidelberg.

He worked at the Institute of Geology and Geography of the Romanian Academy, later at the Geological Institute of Romania (1972-2013),

where he was director for 17 years (1996-2003).

At the same time he was also an associate professor at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa (1993), Associate Professor of the North University of Baia Mare, between 1997-2001, and from 2003 Associate Professor and Scientific Researcher at the Lythos Research Center of the University of Bucharest.

Since 1999 he has been a PhD supervisor at the University of Bucharest.

It has achieved remarkable results, sometimes pioneering in a number of directions, such as: identifying a large number of minerals, many of them representing first occurrences in the country or in Europe (*mackinawit, cymrit, heterolith, greigit, maghemite*), identifying rare minerals - first occurrences in Romania (*manganiferous fayalite and manganiferous wetlands in Razzo, kermesite and berthierite* in Țibleș), the application of isotope analyzes of sulfur in the assessment of mineralization genesis, the use of Mössbauer spectroscopy in specifying some structural particularities of some minerals (*olivines, amphiboles, nagyagit, pyrite*).

The results of his researches were presented in more than 300 works and studies, written alone or in collaboration, among which: *Polimetallic mineralizations from Bocșa (Metaliferi Mountains)* (1976); *Rutile of postmagmatic mineral formation* (1982); *Metallogenesis of the Coranda-Hondol region (Metalliferous Mountains)* (1982); *Typomorphism of some ore minerals and a P-V classification of certain ore deposits* (1984); *Metallogenesis of the Țibleș eruptive complex* (1984); *Sulfur isotope data on sulfides of different origin in Romania* (1985); *Metallogenesis of the Leaota massif* (1988); *Minerals in Romania - the State of the Art* 1991 (1992); *Main Types of Gold Deposits and Occurrences in Romania* (1993); *Mineralogy of the Mn-Fe Deposit at Răzoare; Tephroite and Mn-Humites* (1993), distinguished with the "Ludovic Mrazec" Premium of the Romanian Academy; *Mineral deposits, mining activity and related pollution problems in Romania* (1996); *Observations and proposals for writing mineral names in Romanian language* (1997); *Mössbauer Spectroscopy in Mineralogy and Geochemistry* (1999); *The "Golden Quadrangle" in the*

Metaliferi Mts., Romania: What does this really mean? (2001); *Minerals of the Carpathians* (2002); *International Encyclopedia of Minerals* (2004); *Nanominerals and their bearing on metals uptake by plants* (2011), also awarded with the "Ludovic Mrazec" Premium of the Romanian Academy; *Nickel in Romania: sources and resources* (2012); *Keeping alive the mining tradition / heritage: the museum mines and geoparks in Romania* (2014).

Participated in IGCP / UNESCO projects on the complex study of spheres of cosmic origin (1996–2000) and Copernicus, funded by the European Union on obtaining ultra-pure quartz (1999–2001); NATO scientific project assessor, EST Program (1998-2001).

He was a member of the editorial boards of the Romanian Journal of Geology" and Studies and researches of geology" of the Romanian Academy, *Mineralogicheskii Jurnal* (Kiev, Ukraine), *Romanian Journal of Mineral Deposits, Pangeea - University "1 December 1918"* from Alba Iulia, Romania, *Journal of Sciences and Arts - "Valahia "University of Târgoviște.*

He was also a member of the Geological Society of Romania, of the Mineralogical Society of Romania (president, 1993-2009), of the Society of Economic Geology of Romania (honorary member of 2014), of the International Association of Mineralogy - New Minerals Commission (1992-2009), of the Mineralogy Commission of the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association.

The Romanian Academy elected him a *Correspondent Member* in 1996, and in 2017, he was elected a *Full Member*.

He was distinguished with: *Medal "Scientific Merit"* (1983), *National Order "Faithful Service"* in the rank of Knight (2000), *Diploma of Excellence with Special Mention* (ANSTI, 2000).

The professors of the "1 December 1918" University from Alba Iulia and the Editorial Staff of the PANGEEA magazine pay a final tribute to the academician, the teacher, the researcher and the man of high professional and moral standing who was Gheorghe Udubașa.