

## Kazys Daukðas (100-osioms gimimo metinøms) (1905–1985)

**Kazys Daukðas** gimë 1905 m. vasario 25 d. Pakruojo rajono Sakalø kaime. 1925 m. baigæs Ðiauliø gimnazijà, jis buvo priimtas á Lietuvos universiteto Matematikos–gamtos fakulteto Fizikos–chemijos skyriø. 1931 m. baigë Vytauto Didþiojo universitetà, nuo 1933 m. pradëjo dirbti Neorganinës ir analizinës chemijos katedros vyresniuøju laborantu, vëliau – vyresniuøju asistentu. 1936 m. K. Daukðas apgynë daktaro disertacijà („Ðarminiø metalø osmatai“). Tai buvo pirmasis neorganinës chemijos ðakos mokslinis traktatas Lietuvoje. Apgynæs daktaro disertacijà, K. Daukðas 1937–1938 m. staþavosi Austrijoje, Graco aukðtojoje technikos mokykloje. Gràþæs á Vytauto Didþiojo universitetà pradëjo skaityti neorganinës chemijos ir analizinës chemijos paskaitas. Jau 1939 m. apgynë habilitacinà darbà, uþ kurà jam buvo patvirtintas privatdocento vardas.

1940 m. K. Daukðas buvo iðrinktas Vilniaus universiteto Neorganinës chemijos katedros vedëju ir tais paëiais metais jam suteiktas profesoriaus vardas, kurio ilgai nepripaþino Maskvos sovietinio mokslo ir ðvietimo administratoriai. Bûdamas katedros vedëju, 1945–1946 m. K. Daukðas buvo pirmasis savarankiøko Chemijos fakulteto dekanas. K. Daukðas buvo ir pirmasis Vilniaus pedagoginio instituto Chemijos katedros vedëjas (1945–1946 m.), dëstë chemijà Vilniaus dailës institute (1946–1948 m.). Nuo pat Lietuvos mokslø akademijos Chemijos ir cheminës technologijos instituto ákûrimo 1945 m. iki 1956 m. K. Daukðas buvo jo direktorius. Nuo 1958 iki 1982 m. K. Daukðas buvo D. Mendelejevo chemikø draugijos Lietuvos respublikinës valdybos pirmininkas.

Prof. K. Daukðo mokslinæ veiklà galima suskirstyti á tris laikotarpius: moksliniai eksperimentai Vytauto Didþiojo universitete; vienuolika metø trukæs vadovavimas LMA Chemijos ir cheminës technologijos instituto mokslinei veiklai; moksliniai tyrimai su aspirantais Vilniaus universiteto Chemijos fakultete. Jam vadovaujant apgintos 11 kandidato (dabar daktaro) disertacijø ið neorganinës chemijos ir analizinës chemijos mokslo ðakø. Pagrindinës ðiose disertacijose nagrinëjamos problematikos buvo susijusios su gamtiniø vandenø tyrimais, þinomø gravimetriniø ir titrimetriniø analizës metodø taikymu ávairiems elementams nustatyti bei naujø analizës metodø paieðka.



Prof. K. Daukðas buvo þinomiausias ir mægstamiausias Chemijos fakulteto dëstytojas. Vienas ar su bendraautoriais paskelbë septynis vadovëlius. Pirmasis paraðë „Chemijos þodynà“. Prof. K. Daukðas iðgarsëjo mokslo populiarinimo knygomis, publicistiniais straipsniais, vieðomis paskaitomis bei diskusijomis. Taëiau sovietinë nomenklatûra já palaipsniui, bet tvirtai atskyrë nuo periodinës spaudos, aktyvios visuomeninës veiklos. Iðdirbæs 48 metus Vilniaus universitete (41 metus vadovavo katedrai), profesorius K. Daukðas 1981 m. iðëjo á uþtarnautà poilsà ir buvo paskirtas Vilniaus universiteto profesoriumi konsultantu. Iki 1985 m. vasaros dar skaitë paskaitas. Profesorius mirë 1985 m. gruodþio 18 d.

Prof. K. Daukðo gyvenimas ir veikla yra iðsamiai nuðviesti doc. Zenono Maëionio monografijoje „Profesorius Kazys Daukðas“ (Vilnius: Pradai, 2000, 657 p.). Vilniaus universiteto chemikø patriarchas, legendinis pedagogas prof. K. Daukðas buvo unikali asmenybë, ávairiapuse veikla turëjusi didþiulæ átakà Lietuvos visuomenës mastysenai.

*Prof. R. Kazlauskas*  
Vilniaus universiteto Analizinës ir aplinkos chemijos katedra  
*Prof. A. Kareiva*  
Vilniaus universiteto Bendrosios ir neorganinës chemijos katedra

## Kazys Daukšas (1905–1985)

The famous Lithuanian chemist and Professor of Vilnius University Kazys Daukšas was born on 25 February 1905, in Sakalai village, Pakruojis district. In 1925, after finishing the Šiauliai Gymnasium, K. Daukšas entered the Lithuanian University (Section of Physics and Chemistry at Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences). He graduated in 1931. In 1933, K. Daukšas accepted an invitation to take a laboratory technician position at his *alma mater*, Vytautas Magnus University (Department of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry). Very soon K. Daukšas was appointed senior lecturer at the same Department. K. Daukšas received his PhD at Vytautas Magnus University in 1936. His doctoral dissertation "Osmates of alkaline metals" is the first doctoral thesis in the field of inorganic chemistry in Lithuania. During 1937–38 he was on sabbatical leave at Graz Technical University in Austria. Returning from his research in Austria, K. Daukšas started his teaching activities by giving Inorganic Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry courses. In 1939, he completed his habilitation work, and Vytautas Magnus University conferred upon Kazys Daukšas the title of Private-docent.

In 1940, K. Daukšas moved to Vilnius and was appointed Head of the Department of Inorganic Chemistry at Vilnius University. In the same year Vilnius University conferred upon Kazys Daukšas the title of professor. However, the Soviet Assessment Committee rejected this decision and conferred only the title of docent with the degree of Candidate of Chemistry. K. Daukšas simultaneously began his career in the administrative area. In 1945–46 he was the first Dean of Faculty of Chemistry and Head of the Department of Chemistry at Vilnius Pedagogical University and from 1946 to 1948 Professor of Chemistry at Vilnius Institute of Art. Besides from 1945 to 1956 K. Daukšas was Director of Institute of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. Also, from 1958 to 1982 K. Daukšas was Chairman of Lithuanian Chemical Society (D. Mendelejev Chemical Society, Lithuanian Branch).

A few details about his scientific career. The scientific activities of K. Daukšas followed three directions: (i) activities at Vytautas Magnus University, based on his personal experiments; (ii) leading for 11 years the scientific activities of Institute of Chemistry and Chemical Technology; (iii) supervi-

sing PhD students at Vilnius University. Under the leadership of K. Daukšas, the mission of part of Institute of Chemistry and Chemical Technology was to investigate the chemical composition of turf, carbonaceous stock, clay and natural water from Lithuania and their possible applications. At Vilnius University his principal interests were investigation of groundwater and evaluation of known and development of new gravimetric and titrimetric methods of analysis for the determination of different elements. Under the guidance of Professor Kazys Daukšas, 11 PhD students in Analytical and Inorganic Chemistry were promoted at the Faculty of Chemistry.

He was undoubtedly the most famous and popular professor at the Faculty of Chemistry. Alone or together with co-authors he published seven different manuals for chemistry students. Moreover, he was the first to publish "Dictionary of Chemistry" in Lithuanian. K. Daukšas was the most active scientist in popularizing chemistry in society. He gave over 1500 public lectures and participated in thousands of public discussions on various topics and subjects in different places of Lithuania. However, he was not loyal to the Soviet regime. Therefore, to everybody's disappointment, the nomenclature in Soviet Lithuania very soon isolated Professor K. Daukšas from active public life. In 1981, after 48 years activities at his *alma mater*, after being for 41 years Head of the Department of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry, K. Daukšas retired and was appointed a professor-consultant to continue teaching at Vilnius University. He passed away at the age of 80 on 18 December 1985.

A comprehensive biography of Professor Kazys Daukšas is described by Doc. Zenonas Maėionis in his study "Profesorius Kazys Daukšas" (Pradai, Vilnius, 2000, 657 p.). The patriarch of chemists of Vilnius University Professor Kazys Daukšas was an exceptionally famous teacher and active scientist. To the end of his life he was full of energy and new ideas. In addition to his love of chemistry, Professor Kazys Daukšas was especially interested in the problems of society. Public spirit was very important to Professor Kazys Daukšas.

*Prof. Rolandas Kazlauskas*

Department of Analytical and Environmental  
Chemistry, Vilnius University

*Prof. Aivaras Kareiva*

Department of General and Inorganic  
Chemistry, Vilnius University