

## Chronicle • Kronika • Хроника

### IN MEMORY OF VALENTIN K. LUKASHEV (1938–1998)



On 25th of June of this year, there was the 70th anniversary since the birth of the worldwide famous geochemist, corresponding member of the Belarussian Academy of Sciences, Doctor of Sciences Professor Valentin K. Lukashev. On that occasion, an international scientific conference was held on June 25–26, 2008 in the Domzhericy village located in the Berezina Biosphere Reserve (Belarus) with the participation of very many scientists from different regions of Russia as well as representatives from Ukraine and Lithuania. The conference was organised by the Department of Chemistry and Earth Sciences of the Belarussian Academy of Sciences and the administration of Berezina Biosphere Reserve. The presentations were grouped into the following seven sections: 1) geochemistry of urbanised territories, 2) geochemistry of radioactive elements, 3) medical geochemistry, 4) geochemistry of Quaternary sediments and landscape geochemistry, 5) geochemistry of continental surface waters, 6) geochemistry of mining territories, 7) geochemistry of seas and large lakes. Presentations of the first and fourth sections lasted two days. A great part of the presentations will be published this year.

The conference was started by plenary presentations devoted to the famous scientist and excellent organiser of scientific research Professor V. K. Lukashev. There were also recollections of his colleagues, friends, near and dear professor's wife Galina. Most of the speakers expressed their deep regret that such a gifted, well-rounded and talented scientist, enthusiastic organiser, kind-hearted, very friendly and honest person died so young as a result of heart attack just after reaching 60 years. So this year is distinguished also as the 10th year since his unexpected death. This happened during an international workshop on medical geology at Uppsala, Sweden, short after he had given his paper on medical geology research in Belarus and the former Soviet Union as a member of the International Group on Medical Geology. No doubt that all the features of

the character of V. K. Lukashev made him a friend of many colleagues all over the world.

V. K. Lukashev was born in St Petersburg (Leningrad). His father was professor and Rector of the Leningrad State University. Valentin K. Lukashev visited school in Moscow and Minsk and graduated from the Geographical Faculty of the Belarussian State University in 1961. In 1961–1971, he worked at the laboratory of geochemical problems of the Belarussian Academy of Sciences, starting from junior researcher and finally becoming head of the sector. In 1972–1998, he was head of the Laboratory of Supergene Geochemistry of the Institute of Geochemistry and Geophysics (since 1992 Institute of Geology, Geochemistry and Geophysics). He defended two dissertations: “Palaeogeographical conditions of sand dune formation in Belarus” (1964) and “Geochemistry of Quaternary lithogenesis” (1970). In 1986, V. K. Lukashev was elected a corresponding member of the Belarussian Academy of Sciences and in 1994 he was granted Professor's title.

The scope of his scientific interests was extremely wide. In the sixties and early seventies he investigated mainly geochemistry of Cenozoic lithogenesis. For many years he was involved in theoretical and applied research of the halos of secondary dispersion of chemical elements in the supergene zone. At the end of the seventies he developed a new method for mineral prospecting using artificial sorbents, for which he received three patents, including one for a new method of gold prospecting. In 1971–1991, V. K. Lukashev was an active participant of the Section on the problem “Scientific principles of geochemical methods for prospecting deposits of mineral resources”, which was established at the Interdepartmental Council of the Ministry of Geology and Academy of Sciences of the former USSR and included scientists from Belarus, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Since 1977, he was the chairman of this section, and Lithuanian geochemists knew him very well. The first contact of V. K. Lukashev with the international community of geoscientists occurred in 1983 during the Helsinki conference of the Association of Exploration Geochemists. During one of the first workshops on the global geochemical mapping, he presented the status of geochemical mapping in the former USSR to an international audience.

Valentin K. Lukashev was among the pioneers of developing urban geochemistry and ecological geochemical mapping in towns. In 1978–1981, the first ecological-geochemical mapping in Minsk and some other cities of Belarus was done under his guidance. V. K. Lukashev was an official opponent-reviewer or a member of the scientific committee of dissertations in Lithuanian environmental geochemistry. He planned to start international projects of urban geochemical mapping. In the early eighties, he was active in creating a new scientific direction – medical geochemistry and investigated geological and geochemical aspects of cancer, the ecological and geochemical problems of the Chernobyl

accident. During the last fifteen years he also carried out investigations on thorium as a catalyst in geochemical processes, the chemical composition of sapropels used as fertilizers.

The scientific results of V. K. Lukashev are presented in more than 300 publications, including 25 monographs. These results are based on research not only in Belarus, but also in different places of the world: in 1961 he investigated loess in Uzbekistan, in 1964–1969 – glacial deposits in Poland, in 1965–1970 Cenozoic deposits of the Dnepr basin, in 1974–1973 – of Transcaucasia, in 1971–1974 – of Kaliningrad district, Lithuania and Latvia, in 1973–1976 – of Moldova, Ukraine and Crimea; in 1974–1984 he was doing experimental research in Transbaikalia, in 1977 he was studying geochemistry of Quaternary deposits in Canada, in 1978–1979 doing applied research of artificial sorbents in Georgia and in 1982–1984 in Karelia; in 1978–1979 he investigated the problems of the Baltic Sea contamination, in 1985 he was invol-

ved in geochemical exploration in Estonia, and in 1993–1997 in a joint research of ecological geochemistry with German scientists. He was also a member of expeditions to the Black Sea (“Glomar Challenger”, 1975–1978) and the Baltic Sea (“Academician Kurchatov”, 1986). Since 1986 he was a member of the editorial board of the scientific journal “Applied Geochemistry”. In 1967 he was elected to the International Commission of classification of tills of INQUA and participated in world international congresses (INQUA, International Geological Congresses, congresses of IAGC and AEG). The world scientific community will always remember his important scientific contributions and his kind and friendly communication.

Geochemists of the Institute of Geology and Geography:  
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## VALENTINUI K. LUKAŠEVUI ATMINTI (1938–1998)

Šių metų birželio 25–26 d. Berezinos biosferos draustinyje (Baltarusija) vykusio tarptautinė konferencija „XXI amžiaus ekologinės geochemijos problemos“, kurioje dalyvavo daug mokslininkų iš Rusijos, taip pat Ukrainos ir Lietuvos atstovai, buvo skirta 70-osioms Baltarusijos Mokslų Akademijos nario korespondento, profesoriaus, įžymaus geochemiko Valentino K. Lukašev 70-osioms gimimo metinėms. Šie metai yra kartu ir dešimtosios metinės nuo jo staigios ankstyvos netekties per Upsaloje vykusį tarptautinį medicininių geologijos seminarą. Kolegos, draugai ir artimieji prisiminė ne tik jo platų mokslinių interesų akiratį ir gausias publikacijas, bet ir entuziazmą organizuojant mokslinius tyrimus, draugišką bendravimą su kolegomis. V. K. Lukaševas paskelbė per 300 publikacijų, tarp jų – 25 monografijas, buvo mokslinio žurnalo „Applied geochemistry“ redakcinės kolegijos narys. Jis dalyvavo įvairių pasaulio kraštų moksliniuose tyrimuose. Lietuvos geochemikai bendradarbiavo su juo nuo 1971 m., kai jis

tapo aktyviu TSRS Geologijos ministerijos ir Mokslų Akademijos Pabaltijo ir Baltarusijos tarpžinybinės sekcijos „Naudingųjų iškasenų telkinių paieškų geocheminių metodų moksliniai pagrindai“ nariu, vėliau – pirmininku. Jis buvo ekologinių-geocheminių tyrimų Minske ir kituose stambiuose Baltarusijos miestuose pradininkas, taip pat tarptautinės darbo grupės „Medicininė geologija“ iniciatorius ir aktyvus narys. V. K. Lukaševas buvo mūsų disertacijų iš Lietuvos aplinkos geochemijos srities oficialus oponentas ar mokslinio komiteto narys. Jis planavo pradėti tarptautinius miestų geocheminio kartografavimo tyrimus. Šviesus atminimas apie jo mokslinį įnašą, geranoriškumą ir draugiškumą ilgam liks Lietuvos geochemikų ir kitų mokslininkų širdyse.

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## В ПАМЯТЬ О ПРОФЕССОРЕ В. К. ЛУКАШЕВЕ (1938–1998 гг.)

Международная научная конференция „Проблемы экологической геохимии в XXI веке“, проходившая 25–26 июня 2008 года в Березинском биосферном заповеднике (Беларусь), в работе которой принимали участие многие ученые из России, а также представители Украины и Литвы, была посвящена 70-летию со дня рождения выдающегося геохимика, члена-корреспондента Академии наук Беларуси, доктора наук, профессора Валентина Константиновича Лукашева. В этом году исполняется десятая годовщина со дня его преждевременной смерти во время международного семинара по медицинской геологии. Коллеги, друзья и близкие вспоминали не только широкий спектр его научных интересов и многочисленные публикации, но и его энтузиазм при организации научных исследований, а также дружеское общение с коллегами. Число публикаций В. К. Лукашева превышает 300, среди них 25 монографий. Он являлся членом редколлегии научного журнала „Applied Geochemistry“, участвовал в научных исследованиях в разных регионах мира. Литовские геохимики сотрудничали с

ним с 1971 года, когда он стал активным участником, а потом и председателем Межведомственного совета Министерства геологии СССР и АН СССР по проблеме „Научные основы геохимических методов поисков полезных ископаемых“. Он был основателем эколого-геохимических исследований в Минске и в других крупных городах Беларуси, а также инициатором и активным членом международной рабочей группы „Медицинская геология“. В. К. Лукашев выступал официальным оппонентом, также был членом научного комитета диссертаций в области геохимии окружающей среды Литвы. Он планировал начать международные исследования по геохимическому картированию городских территорий. Светлая память о его вкладе в науку, доброжелательности и искренности надолго останется в сердцах литовских геохимиков и других ученых.

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