

VASILE LAZARESCU, PROMINENT PERSONALITY OF THE ROMANIAN GEOLOGY

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Ten years have passed since Vasile Lăzărescu left us prematurely and we wish to render a homage to the memory of this dignified son of the Romanian people, teacher and researcher, whose single aim in life was the progress of geological sciences. By his scientific contribution, especially in the field of seismotectonics, he enriched with new interesting elements the knowledge regarding the deep structure and the lithosphere dynamics in areas of high seismicity from Romania.

Vasile Lăzărescu was a brilliant descendent of a great gallery of scientific personalities with original works in this relative young science that had direct implication for the Romanian society evolution. We must mention some of them, true founders of the Romanian Geology: in the 19th century - Grigore Cobălcescu, Ion Simionescu, Grigore

Stefănescu, Sava Athanasiu, Sabba Ștefănescu, and in the 20th century - Ludovic Mrazec, Gh. Munteanu - Murgoci, I. Popescu-Voitești, Gh. Macovei, Ștefan Ghika-Budești, A. Codarcea, Gh. Murgescu and I. Dumitrescu. These masters and valuable practitioners, prepared at famous Western universities, deciphered the geological and tectonical structure of the alpine area and its neighbouring regions (Romanian Plain, Transylvania, Dobruja, Moldavian Platform). To this collective effort the remarkable activity of professor Vasile Lăzărescu must be emphasized, as he brought important contributions to the development of a new geological field - seismotectonics.

Vasile Lăzărescu's university career started after the graduation of the Faculty of Mines and Metalurgy (at the Polytechnical School from Bucharest) in 1949 and continued till his death, in 1989. He was a remarkable successor of the tradition of his mentor, Academician Professor Gheorghe Murgescu. V. Lăzărescu had ascended all university degrees from teaching assistant in 1949 to lecturer in 1967, position held till his death. The communist

authorities did not recognize his professional statute and they did not grant him the full professor title.

He taught with an inimitable attractiveness the course of Physical Geology (1962-1989), Geology of Romania (1967-1969), Asian and African Geology (1967-1974), Earth Physics (1985-1989) and in the last year of his life the course of Marine Geology (1988-1989). Within the framework of the Institute of Oil, Gas and Geology he elaborated (1972-1973) the course of Physical Geology in three parts, containing 536 pages.

From the beginning, the teaching activity was permanently accompanied by his scientific preoccupation in different fields of the geological research, especially the dynamics of the lithosphere and the correlation between tectonic structure and seismicity of some active regions from Romania. The first preliminary seismotectonic synthesis of the Romanian Eastern Carpathians was published in 1973, in co-operation with prof. Liviu Constantinescu and dr. I. Cornea.

Formerly he collaborated (co-ordinator prof. Ion Dumitrescu) with M. Săndulescu, O. Mirăuță, S. Pauliuc and C. Georgescu for the elaboration of the "Tectonic Map of Romania, scale 1:500,000" (published in 1958) and "Tectonic Map of Romania, scale 1:1,000,000" (printed in 1962).

In 1965 he presented his Ph. D. thesis "Geological researches between Someș and Lăpuș, NW Dej" under the coordination of acad. Gh. Murgeanu and he obtained the title of "Doctor in geology". This paper well appreciated and it conferred him in 1968 the jubilee medal "Semicentenary Union of Transylvania with Romania".

In 1969-1974 V. Lăzărescu worked with prof. Liviu Constantinescu and dr. Ion Cornea in the framework of the UNDP/UNESCO international project "Survey of the Seismicity in the Balkan Region". The purpose of this scientific project was a necessary and detailed synthesis of the geological, tectonical and seismological information of this European area with high seismicity.

The scientific original contribution of Prof. Vasile Lăzărescu is recognized by three prizes of the Romanian Academy: Grigore Cobălcescu Prize (1962) for the synthesis "Memoire a la Carte Tectonique de la Roumanie"; Gh. Munteanu-Murgoci Prize (1971) for the work (in co-operation) "Contribution geophysique et l'étude des massifs du sel en Roumanie"; Aurel Vlaicu Prize (1982) for the chapter elaborated in co-operation with dr. I. Cornea in the monograph "The Earthquake from Romania on March 4, 1977", book printed by the Academy Publishing House, co-ordinating acad. Stefan Bălan, dr. V. Cristescu and dr. I. Cornea.

Professor V. Lăzărescu published at the Technical Publishing House (1980) the volume "Physical Geology", a reference work in the Romanian geological literature. The book represents a vast modern documentary basis for students and researchers in Earth Physics.

Vasile Lăzărescu was a founding member and general secretary of the Geological Science Society from Romania. In this status he carried out a intense co-operation activity with similar societies from different countries of the world.

In the last period of his life, the tireless professor and researcher was especially preoccupied by geodynamics problems, the signification of recent crustal movements and seismotectonics aspects. He began a book of seismotectonics, in which he wanted to combine his vast knowledge in the field of tectonics and seismology. Unfortunately, the premature death (April 19, 1989) interrupted this preoccupation of his painful last days in hospital and we regret the loss of this important manuscript.

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GEO-ECO-MARINA

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Erratum

Erratum to "Contribution to the biostratigraphical knowledge of the south Romanian Black Sea offshore"

Gh. Popescu, I. Papaianopol, **M. Munteanu**, Mihaela Melinte, R. Olteanu,
E. Antonescu, E. Demetrescu, Jana Ion, Th. Neagu, A. Baltres

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On p.15, and p.184 (second column) instead of M. Munteanu, will be read **Mariana Mărunteanu**.

The Technical Editor regrets that the name of Dr Mariana Mărunteanu was printed incorrectly. Her correct affiliations can be found on this page.