



Obituary

Yurij Aleksejevitch Dyadin, the outstanding Russian scientist widely recognized for his studies in supramolecular chemistry, passed away suddenly at the end of January, 2002, at his home in Academgorodok (Novosibirsk, Russia).

Yurij was born in Novorossijsk on 2 December 1935. His family spent the Second World War in Gori (Russian Georgia) and they moved to Kharkov (Ukraine) in 1944. There Yurij completed his school education and moved to Moscow to the Moscow State University in 1953. Yurij's university background was chemistry, including an additional course on radiation chemistry, completed in 1959. From that date on Yurij Dyadin lived in Novosibirsk where he held a position at the newly established Institute of Inorganic Chemistry (Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences). His research work focused on phase equilibria in aqueous solutions, beginning with PhD studies on "Phase Equilibria in the Systems Containing Uranyl Nitrate, Nitric Acid, Water and Phosphoroorganic Extracting Agent" (1967).

From 1974 to 1979 Yurij served as Head of the Laboratory of Physicochemistry of Solutions. After that he became Head of the Laboratory of Clathrate Compounds. At the same time, he was a Professor of Radiation Chemistry at the University in Novosibirsk (Faculty of Natural Sciences). Since 1993 he had the title of Professor of Inorganic Chemistry there.

The scientific output of Professor Dyadin comprises about 220 original scientific papers, in most part devoted to formation structure, physicochemical characteristics and practical uses of inclusion type compounds, clathrates, semiclathrates, and, in particular, physical chemistry under high pressure. He was recognized worldwide for his papers,

although this did not happen until 1987, when he showed up at a scientific meeting abroad. Before that time Dyadin, for the scientific community, was just an author's name. After that meeting everybody remembered his enthusiasm for science, his expertise in thermodynamics and chemistry of inclusion compounds and, last but not least, his fantastic talent for making music and enjoying social life.

In 1989 Dyadin and his group hosted an International Seminar on Inclusion Compounds (Novosibirsk), which followed the conference on this topic organized two years earlier in Poland. For this seminar he invited several foreign experts in the field of Inclusion Chemistry to Siberia, thus greatly enhancing international cooperation with his Laboratory.

Yurij's contribution to the promotion of supramolecular chemistry is outstanding. He was the first in Russia to deliver a university course on Inclusion Compounds (Novosibirsk University). He supervised many MSc studies and some 14 PhD's. He was awarded several distinctions, from the Russian Academy of Sciences and from the Institute of Physical Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, with which he had a longstanding and extremely efficient cooperation in science.

For the past 16 years Professor Dyadin served as a Member of the International Advisory Board of this Journal.

We shall always remember Yurij Dyadin, as scientist, musician and good friend.

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