

Obituary

Lazarev Vladislav Borisovich

The Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Division of Physical Chemistry and Technology of Inorganic Materials of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and Kurnakov Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry of the Russian Academy of Sciences announce with the deep sorrow the sudden death of Vladislav Borisovich Lazarev.

Professor V.B. Lazarev, D.Sc., was a prominent chemist, Head of the Laboratory of the Thermodynamic Fundamentals of Inorganic Materials Science at Kurnakov Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry, winner of the State Prize of the USSR, Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Inorganic Materials*, Chairman of the National Committee of Russia on Thermal Analysis, and ICTAC member. V.B. Lazarev was born on July 25, 1929, in the settlement of Reutovo, Balashikha District, Moscow Region. In 1952 he was graduated with honors from the Faculty of Physics of Moscow State University. Since 1954 V.B. Lazarev's scientific activities were inseparably connected with Kurnakov Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry, where he progressed from the postgraduate level to Deputy Director (1973–1992) and became a most prominent expert in the fields of physical chemistry and technology of inorganic materials, chemical thermodynamics, physicochemical and thermal analysis, as well as solid state chemistry.

In 1979, V.B. Lazarev and co-workers were the first to synthesize compounds of mixed rare-earth and alkali-earth cuprates and to establish their metallic electrical conduction temperatures higher than that of liquid nitrogen. These particular substances proved to be the first representatives of high-temperature superconductors. V.B. Lazarev and co-workers were among the first to develop original methods of the synthesis and to study the thermodynamic properties of a wide range of oxide HTSCs, which won world-wide recognition. The wide-range investigation of thermodynamic and thermal properties of inorganic substances with tetrahedral ions, carried out in the Kurnakov Institute at V.B. Lazarev leadership allowed to obtain the very interesting results about the rotational properties of these ions in the crystal lattice.

V.B. Lazarev's fundamental works in the physical chemistry and technology of oxides, chalcogenides, and semiconductors made a large contribution to the theory and practice of inorganic materials science. The discovery of conduction mechanism in mixed oxides systems, fundamental advances in the synthesis and studies on the properties of binary and ternary semiconductor compounds, revealing of the intraglobular crystallization phenomenon in amorphous oxide systems, development of the original ideas concerning the dynamic strength of ceramic materials, based on the thermodynamics of non-equilibrium processes, synergism, and fractal topology – all these aspects owe much to V.B. Lazarev. His fundamental investigations were always closely connected with solving top priority problems and have become classics of the Russian science. The scientific activities of V.B. Lazarev win a great recognition among his colleagues in all over the world: He was elected the ICTAC member and member of ICTAC Award Committee, and member of Editorial board of international journals: *Thermochimica Acta*, *Ceramics International*, and *Journal of Thermal Analysis*.

The encyclopedic character of V.B. Lazarev's knowledge and profound theoretical interests always attracted young scientists to him. The scientific school founded by V.B. Lazarev deservedly holds a leading place in world science. V.B. Lazarev generously shared his knowledge: He is the author of eight monographs, more than 600 scientific publications, more than 100 inventions, and two scientific discoveries.

To his pupils and colleagues, Vladislav Borisovich Lazarev will always remain an example of honest and noble service to science and his country.

Dr. K. Gavrichev

Professor V.B. Lazarev was the member of the EAB of J. Thermal Anal. between 1987–1990. On behalf of the Editorial Advisory Board, Regional Editors and Editors, of J. Thermal Anal. let me express my deep sympathy.

J. Simon