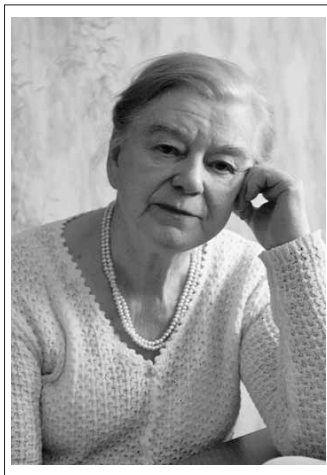


## IN MEMORIAM

# Tatyana Ivanovna Alexeeva

(7.12.1928 – 22.06.2007)



It is always difficult to write an obituary but it is almost impossible to do so when one is talking of Tatyana Alexeeva, the most energetic, charismatic and full of life leader of Russian anthropology. We suffered an irreplaceable loss. Tatyana Alexeeva has passed away on June 22, 2007. She had all possible titles in Russian academic ranking: Full Academician – the member of the Russian Academy

of Sciences (RAS), Doctor of historical sciences, Professor, Principal researcher of the Research Institute and Museum of Anthropology, Moscow State University (MSU), Principal researcher and Head of the Physical Anthropology Research Group at the Institute of Archaeology of RAS, president of the Museum Council of RAS, president of the Russian branch of the European Anthropological Association, foreign member of the Montenegro Academy of Sciences and Arts, etc, etc, etc. She was also a Consulting Editor to the journal *Collegium Antropologicum* for many years.

Tatyana Alexeeva was born in the family of biologists (the father – professor, Head of the Department at Moscow Veterinary Academy, the mother – microbiologist). No wonder, that after graduation from the secondary school in 1946 she entered the Faculty of Biology of the MSU. There from numerous specialties she has chosen Department of Anthropology but the love to the «lesser cousins» was her peculiar feature – there were always cats and dogs in her house, and in some period of time she was taking care of the horse called Emir who was a real member of the family.

After graduation from Moscow State University in 1951, she continued her studies as a doctoral student of professor Yakov Roginsky, and in 1954 defended her doctoral (Ph.D. called «candidate» in Russia) thesis dedicated to the problem ethnogenesis and relations of Slavic-

-Finnish people in the of Volga river. After finishing her Ph.D. studies, she started working at the Research Institute and Museum of Anthropology of MSU, where she continued her activities till her very last days.

Principal scientific interests of Tatyana Alexeeva concerned two big fields of studies: ethnogenesis and ethnic history of Slavic people; and human ecology – adaptations of human populations to different ecological niches of the globe. In both she was a world-known leader. In 1969, T. I. Alexeeva defended her habilitation doctoral thesis (called in Russia «Doctor of Sciences»): «Ethnogenesis of Eastern Slavs according to anthropological data». It was published as a monograph in 1973. Later on, she contributed significantly to the studies of ethnogenesis and ethnic history of Slavs, including such problems as protohomeland of Slavs, origins and ethnic history of Russians, substrate and superstrate relations in Slavic ethnogenesis, survival strategies during colonisation of new ecological niches, etc.

Tatyana Alexeeva was a world-known founder of the school of human ecology and physiological anthropology. About thirty candidate and doctoral theses in biology and history were defended under her supervision. Her studies concerning adaptations of modern and ancient humans to different ecological niches became classical research texts. The theory of adaptive types as the norm of biological reaction to natural surroundings, which she had elaborated, was recognized as one of the basic postulates in human ecology. She published 250+ scientific papers, including 14 monographs. Her works are translated into English, German, Polish, Serbian, Chinese and Mongolian. In 2002 for the publication of a collective monograph «Homo Sungirensis» T. I. Alexeeva as an editor together with Professor Nikolai O. Bader, was awarded the Miklukho-Maklai prize of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Tatyana Alexeeva's academic contributions were acknowledged with numerous state awards.

She was a great traveler. Her works were based on original anthropological materials, collected during field trips to Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central and North-Eastern Asia. From 1947 till the end of her life, she spent over 40 field seasons on fieldwork, five of them in the famous Russian Anthropological Expedition where she collected the material about ethnogenetic variations

in Russian population (her supervisor in this expedition was the founding father of Russian anthropology professor V. V. Bunak). She also took part in many and many conferences. Symbolically even her death occurred on the road: she was returning back to Moscow after a conference.

There was still another field of interests, which became her life work during her last years – museum work. True, she had been involved in it early in life – published two catalogues on craniological and osteological collections of the Research Institute and Museum of Anthropology of MSU (1979, 1986), during many years was the president of the Museum Council of RAS, but for the last two or three years she spent a lot of efforts on the reconstruction of Museum of Anthropology of MSU, enthusiastically spending numerous hours with researchers and designers. Regretfully, it was not the fate to finish this work, and it is our duty to complete it.

For many years Tatyana was married to Valery Alexeev, another outstanding and famous leader of Russian anthropology. They formed a starring couple, union of scientists supporting and complementing each other. After Valery's untimely death in 1991, Tatyana Alexeeva had literally worked for two. During subsequent sixteen

years she was continuously organising conferences dedicated to Valery Alexeev, publishing his works, and organising days of his commemoration. After collapse of the Soviet Union, November the 7<sup>th</sup> for all Russian anthropologists still remained a symbolic day: Valery's memorial day when we were visiting hospitable as usual home of the Alexeevs, where thanks to Tatyana's efforts we felt that Valery was also with us.

Tatyana Alexeeva was a perfect teacher. For many years she was giving lectures on human ecology in the Department of Anthropology of MSU, and at many other universities of Moscow.

Tatyana Alexeeva had some special connections with Balkan anthropology. As was already said, she was a Foreign member of the Montenegro Academy of Sciences and Arts. She travelled to Zagreb and Hvar to participate in the conferences organized by Professor Pavao Rudan.

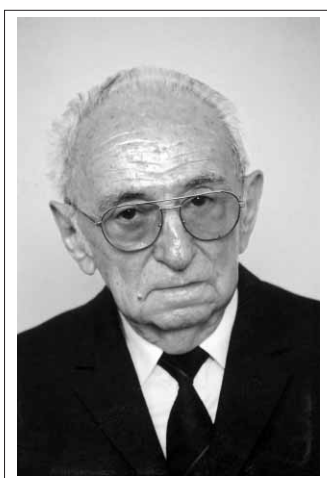
It is difficult to imagine how Tatyana Alexeeva was capable to fulfill all of her obligations. Her loss is irreplaceable, but her contributions to science are great and memories of her will remain in our hearts and minds forever.

*Elena Godina*

## IN MEMORIAM

# Đorđe Vukadinović

(1925 – 2008)



Đorđe Vukadinović was born in 1925 in Sombor where he completed his schooling. He studied medicine in Zagreb and graduated in 1951. The major part of his working years he spent on the Institute for Work Hygiene which is later to become Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health. In the beginning of his career he was working in the group led by the academician Zoran Bujas.

That was in the Unit for Psychophysiology of Work, one of the 5 units active in the first years after Yugoslavian Academy of Sciences and Arts on the initiative of Andrija Štampar it's president at the time, founded the Institute. Đorđe Vukadinović excelled in his work and obtained his Ph. D. in October 1959 with thesis entitled: »Influence of Analgesia on Endurance During Static Exertion«.

Since 1966 Vukadinović is the head of Laboratory for Applied Physiology. After his first years marked by experimental research Vukadinović is mainly directed towards professional orientation medicine. It could be said that in this area after World War II he played a pioneering role. Professional orientation medicine began already in 1931. in Zagreb with the Station for Professional Counseling founded by the Chamber of Commerce's Department for Improvement of Crafts. After World War II medicine of professional orientation was tightly connected with activities of Employment Service. In 1951. a Professional Counseling Service was founded. The purpose of this service was to give advice to the working population based on medical and psychological examination with regard to the professional choice, and to participate in professional orientation, selection and reeducation of

disabled persons and to cooperate with its work with schools, Employment Service and health institutions.

As physiologist Đorđe Vukadinović was especially concerned with methods and techniques of work in the medicine of professional orientation. Along with that he was working to develop Service for Professional Orientation Medicine. He was organizing scientific conferences and seminars for experts who were working within the network of units of the Professional Orientation Medicine. The major part of his papers deal with this activity.

In his activities on the Institute, except for these areas, Vukadinović was through the Laboratory for Applied Physiology engaged in certain epidemiological surveys of selected entities from the group of chronic degenerative diseases, especially of the respiratory system in the working populations.

In 1992. after 40 working years, he transferred to the Institute for Anthropological Research. Under the leadership of academician Pavao Rudan, Vukadinović with his characteristic style of a good teacher and older colleague successfully contributed to the activities of the Institute from the aspect of applied physiology. He played a positive role, especially in educating and mentoring younger colleagues engaged in projects at the Institute. After retirement, Vukadinović participated in the activities of Croatian Anthropological Society and in the organizational committees of international conferences »Schools of Biological Anthropology« and »Anthropology and Health«.

Đorđe Vukadinović was in every aspect special and exceptional personality. He was fluent in many languages: French, English, Russian, Spanish, Italian and Hungarian. He kept up with the literature and scientific development. He loved music, especially classical. As a man he was very sociable, ready to offer a helping hand. His achievements and honest friendship will leave fond memories of him amongst us.

*Marko Šarić*

(Translated from the article in Croatian published in the Archives of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology, issue no. 1, vol. 59., 2008.)