

Günter Harald MOH (1929-1993)

On 16th May 1993, after a heavy illness, died Günter H. Moh, professor of the University Heidelberg (Germany), an outstanding specialist in ore and experimental mineralogy, honorary member of the Mineralogical Society of Poland. He was born on May 2, 1929 in Legnica (Liegnitz), Lower Silesia. He studied chemistry at the universities in Halle, Berlin and, later, in Heidelberg where started to carry out research work in experimental mineralogy. In 1959 G. H. Moh received Ph.D. degree magna cum laude on the ground of dissertation Experimentelle Untersuchungen an Zinnkiesen und analogen Germaniumverbindungen carried out under the supervision of famous ore mineralogist, Professor Ramdohr, being in the years 1959–1961 his assistant. In 1962–1964 he continued research work in experimental mineralogy in Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution in Washington (U.S.A.). He cooperated there, and also later, with Professor Kullerud in the field of synthesis of sulphide minerals and their stability, important for the origin of ore deposits. In 1967 G. H. Moh returned to Heidelberg where he obtained the post of assistant professor on the basis of habilitation thesis Das Zweistoffsystem Zinn-Schwefel und seine Mineralien. Five years later he was appointed professor and, in 1973, ordinary professor at the University of Heidelberg.

As already mentioned, the main studies of Professor Moh were devoted to experimental mineralogy and ore deposits. The research work carried out in his department and supervised by him contributed significantly to the elaboration of numerous phase diagrams, important for the solution of genetic problems of ore deposits, as e.g. Fe-Co-Ni-Cu-S, Ge-Sn-S-O, Tl-As-S, Tl-Bi-S, Fe-Mo-S-O, Zn-Mo-W-S, Ag-Ge-Sn-S etc. These achievements are also very important for geochemical characteristics and interpretation of ore-forming processes and were highly appreciated when presented at numerous scientific congresses in Europe, North America and Asia.

Professor Moh received several scientific distinctions. Among them worth emphasizing is the title of honorary professor of Chinese universities in Wuhan-Hubei and Nanijng. As already mentioned, he was elected honorary member of the Mineralogical Society of Poland on 26th November 1987.

Professor Moh was always very cordial and helpful to Polish mineralogists staying in the Heidelberg university, especially carrying out research work in his

laboratory. He was a friendly protector of several Polish fellows of Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Professor Moh was an excellent lecturer what was often highly appreciated by his Polish students. His visits to Poland have developed scientific contacts initiated earlier in Heidelberg. They resulted in numerous papers published in several important scientific journals.

Professor Moh was a man of exceptional, deeply human personality, characterized by straightforwardness and friendliness. He will be remembered not only by ore and experimental mineralogists all over the world but by all people who knew him both as scientist and man as well. The death of Professor Moh is a heavy

loss to his Polish friends and numerous co-workers.

Piotr Wyszomirski