

In memory of K.Ya. Kondratyev

Academician Kirill Yakovlevich Kondratyev made a real epoch in the history of the world and, of course, Russian science with all its numerous and much complicated problems. Kirill Yakovlevich played quite a unique role in science because of his unsurpassed ability to summarize various rather concrete findings of the research community and formulate very definite conclusions that often highlighted quite unexpected aspects of the problems. It is the most significant feature of his scientific work that Kirill Yakovlevich could recognize, among many problems, just those, solution of which yielded the overall results gained significance well beyond the scope of a purely scientific program and became of imperishable public and applied value. The part Kirill Yakovlevich took in the discussion on the trends and driving forces of the climate changes is the best illustration of his active role in science.

It is quite clear that such an activity required quite fantastic capacity for work, as one had to be well informed about many and even, sometimes unnoticeable, papers published in numerous journals and transactions. Many legends were known in the community about this ability of Kirill Yakovlevich.

It is practically impossible to enumerate all the particular results of the research activity of Kirill Yakovlevich. The number of only books, he managed to write, well exceeds one hundred. It is, however, unnecessary to do this as the name of Academician K.Ya. Kondratyev is well known to everybody who had touched the atmospheric science at least once.

Kirill Yakovlevich played very important role in establishing and development of the Russian science. Those who have ever been involved in atmospheric optics studies in Tomsk and in Siberian region estimate very high the true and permanent support from Kirill Yakovlevich. It is of course pertinent to remind that our understanding of the physical basis of atmospheric optics and especially of its radiation aspects came from his two books, namely "Transfer of the long-wave radiation through the atmosphere" and "Radiative heat exchange in the atmosphere." Those, by the way, summarized his candidate and doctor degrees theses and demonstrated his ability to combine the physical basis and a comprehensive overview of the state-of-the-art of some research field in a clear formulation of the much promising research problems.

Of course, it is easy to list a long series of quite particular results obtained by Kirill Yakovlevich, the scope of which would be very wide. Those, being bright findings of the moment well underline his strategic outlook, which made the backbone of the research work done by Academician Kondratyev.

All these, undoubtedly unique, abilities of Kirill Yakovlevich are the basis that his name will always remind those who made the history of atmospheric sciences.

Kirill Yakovlevich was among the editorial staff of our journal, and what is most important he was its active author. Comprehensive overviews and valuable articles submitted by him, of course increased the prestige of our journal. His death is bereavement for all of us. By publishing the last paper by Kirill Yakovlevich in our journal, we would like to remember him once more and thus to express our deep appreciation to this man.

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