

## Doc. RNDr. DUŠAN HOVORKA — 50 YEARS OLD



Doc. RNDr. D. Hovorka was born on 22. 8. 1933. After school-leaving examination at Grammar school in Lučenec he enrolled at the Faculty of Geological-Geographical Science, Comenius University Bratislava, where he took his degree in 1956. Consequently he joined the staff of the Department of Geology, led by Professor Andrusov, as an assistant. Being at the Department of Petrography, Faculty of Sciences, Comenius University, he devoted the period within 1958—1961 to internal scientific preparation. As an expert sent by Technoexport and Geological Survey Prague, he spent the years 1960—1961 in Indonesia. In 1964 he received the doctor's degree for the thesis "Serpentinites of the Kohút crystalline

complex and their metamorphic products — Accessory minerals of Veporide granitoid rocks." Four years later he was appointed Associate Professor at the Department of Petrography, Faculty of Sciences, Comenius University. Since 1977 he has been on the staff of the Geological Institute, Comenius University.

In the first case, outstanding is the scientific work of D. Hovorka. During the first years he pursued research of accessory minerals mainly of plutonic rocks. He was a pioneer research worker in the field of accessory minerals in Czechoslovakia which is evidenced by his numerous paper on this topic. Later on his attention was given to complex characteristics of metabasites and some other amphibolic rocks (lamprophyres and porphyrites) from the Tatricum and Veporicum and later he also majored in tectonic units of the Inner Western Carpathians. His work was mainly concerned with metabasite properties in the zones of anatexis and migmatization. Published results of his studies were appreciated mainly abroad.

Mainly the study of xenoliths of spinel lherzolites in alkaline basalts is considered pioneer and it is remarkable that the author included the results of the studied topic in solving essential geological problems.

Research concerning granitoid rocks of the Variscan Western Carpathians represents another important period of his research work. The papers are outstanding due to their complexity and the author used all available analytical and instrumental methods. The published papers represent a considerable contribution in pursuing the knowledge of granitoid rocks.

The longest period is devoted to the study of ultramafic rocks from different geological units of the Western Carpathians and the Carpathian system, respectively. Being organizationally talented, he excelled in employing a team of specialists from different institutions in searching ultramafic rocks of the Western Carpathians. As a result, this rock group has been described in a most detail way among all eruptive types of metamorphites not only in the Western Carpathians but also in a world scale (usually, only partial topics of the mentioned problem are referred to in foreign literature). The results of goal-oriented efforts as well as organizational work of the author and his co-workers will be published in a monograph in English, published by Geological Institute of D. Štúr, Bratislava.

The study and consistent research in the mentioned topic led the author to elaborate a thesis and he applied for the doctor's degree in Petrographic Sciences in 1983.

In recent years, his efforts are concentrated on solving petrogenetic problems of the Gemericum — one of the most promising depositional areas in Czechoslovakia. His research is carried out using methods typical for his way of investigation, those of complex overview applying the most modern progressive methods.

Scientific — research work of D. H o v o r k a is important also in other topics and fields. In co-operation with Professor J. Kamenický, he has worked out and published the monograph on the textures of eruptive and metamorphic rocks of the Western Carpathians and also the Catalogue of chemical analyses (1972) was welcomed by geological scientists. In the recent years the author also aims his research at the genesis of Meso-Cainozoic basalts of the Western Carpathians and the Pannonian area. Published results of this study were accepted and commented positively mainly abroad.

It must be admitted that complete evaluation of research work of D. Hovorka can not be treated in detail within the limited space and the list of his varied activities and results, amounting to more than 100 papers in most different both foreign and Czechoslovak periodicals, is not possible. All his work, activities and results determine Doc. D. Hovorka, CSc. to represent an outstanding and distinguished personality in the field of petrography of eruptive and metamorphic rocks in Czechoslovakia but he is also considered a well-known expert abroad.

Nearly the last but not least is his activity in organizational-scientific, pedagogical and popularizing-scientific work.

Since his youth, D. H o v o r k a has been joining most different activities in organizations, youth movement and he also has been an active sportsman. Consequently, he was appointed different functions at the faculty. His pedagogical work at the Faculty of Sciences, lectures, help and leading diploma theses, membership in commissions for final state exams as well as his authorship of textbooks are highly appreciated because his knowledge of his major topic and the overview have attracted many a student.

His organizational abilities found the place in the Bratislava branch of the Slovak geological society where he has been the chairman since 1978.

He has brought some new impulses which caused noticeable intensity of the activities and he stimulated the work as for the organization, the standard of lectures and in organizing most different activities. He had taken part in preparing and organizing one of the excursions of the XIII-th International geological congress in Prague and he was the excursion leader of jubileeing Xth Congress of the Carpathian-Balkanian Geological Association in Bratislava, 1973. He functioned as a coeditor of the conference "Paleovolcanism of the Western Carpathians", he organized a post-graduate course on the topic of new methods in petrochemistry.

At the present time he was appointed to prepare the guide to localities in the crystalline complex, as a part of the International geological congress Moscow, 1984.

Thanks to his knowledge and organizational abilities, he is working as a managing editor of *Acta geologica* — containing research works from geological sciences, presented by workers of the Faculty of Sciences, Comenius University. He is the member of editorial board of *Geologický zborník* — *Geologica carpathica*, published by Geological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Science, and *Geologické správy* — published by Geological Institute of D. Štúr. He reviews very often publications of different periodicals, frequently he is functioning as an opposer of research works carried out by scientific institutes and those of applied geology. He himself is responsible for partial tasks set out by the State plan of basic research.

For his many-sided merits, D. Hovorka was awarded the bronze medal of the Faculty of Sciences, the bronze medal of the Comenius University and the medal of J. Slavík — by the Slovak geological society.

Recently, his organizational activity reached the top by organizing sessions and excursions of working groups 2.1 and 2.2 of the Problem Commission IXth of the multilateral agreement (he has been a member of this commission since 1979) and he also organized the international symposium in Košice (1983).

At the present time, he is working also as a scientific secretary of the Geological Institute, Comenius University, and he is the member of the Institute board. He is also the member of the state committee of theses for doctor's degree in mineralogy and petrography (12—10—9).

Also the scientific-popularizing activity of D. Hovorka is many-sided, which is evidenced by a whole range of scientific-popularizing papers in different periodicals, but also reports about important activities, reviews of important books, lectures and anniversaries of institutes and well-known personalities of the scientific life.

A brief outline of 50 years in the life of D. Hovorka shows that during these years, he has reached the success in geological science and he has considerably contributed to its development in scientific, pedagogical and organizational fields. Editorship of *Geologický zborník* together with others working in the field of geological sciences, wish him success in research work, private life and vigour in his further work.