

## HOMAGE TO THE MEMORY OF PROFESSOR GHEORGHE GALBURĂ

ADRIAN CONSTANTINESCU

On 11 of August 2007 passed away in Bucharest the *dean of age* of the mathematicians from Romania

*Professor Dr.Doc. Gheorghe GALBURĂ*

Professor at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of the University of Bucharest, Honorary Member of the Institute of Mathematics "Simion Stoilow" of the Romanian Academy, the founder of the Algebraic Geometry research in Romania.

Born at 27 of May 1916 at Trifesti, Orhei District, Republic of Moldavia, in a countryman family.

Graduated in 1934 the Normal School of Bacau and in the period 1935-1936 gave the differences for the Scientific Section of the High School.

Became in 1936 a student at the Section of Mathematics of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Bucharest. In 1939, after the graduation, was nominated Assistant at the Chair of Algebra of this faculty and go to Rome for doctoral studies under the supervision of *Professor Francesco Severi*, the Head of the famous Italian Algebraic Geometry School between the two world wars. Obtained in 1942 the title of "Doctor in Mathematics" with a thesis with the title "*Sull gruppo caratteristico di una corrispondenza fra varietà algebriche*".

From 1943 continued to work as Assistant at the Chair of Algebra of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Bucharest, led by *Professor Octav Onicescu*.

In 1948 is Associated Professor of Algebra and Algebraic Geometry at the University of Iassy and in 1950 returned to the Chair of Algebra of the University of Bucharest.

Professor in 1961, Vice-dean in 1962, Head of the Chairs of Algebra and Geometry between 1968 and 1982.

Consulting Professor from 1982.

Delivered lecture courses in Algebra, Geometry, Algebraic Geometry, Vector bundles on algebraic varieties, Commutative Algebra and Algebraic Topology, being a pioneer in teaching Commutative Algebra and Algebraic Topology and the initiator of the field of Algebraic Geometry in Romania.

Was the supervisor of many PhD theses in Romania: among these let us remember only those of *Alexandru Lascu*, *Nicolae Radu*, *Mircea Becheanu*, *Constantin Niță*, *Lucian Bădescu*, *Manuela Stoia*, *Mihnea Moroianu*, *Vasile Brînzănescu*, *Adrian Constantinescu*, *Ioan Pop*, *Paltin Ionescu*, *Alexandru Dimca*, *Nicolae Buruiană*, *Ovidiu Păsărescu* and many others.

Founder of the Algebraic Geometry research in Romania, founder of the Algebraic Geometry Seminar of the Institute of Mathematics of the Romanian Academy in cooperation with the Faculty of Mathematics of the University of Bucharest, Head of the Section of Algebraic Geometry of the Institute of Mathematics between 1962 and 1967.

Has scientific papers, books and monographs in the fields of Algebraic Geometry, Geometry and Algebra.

Visiting Professor at Rome (1966, 1968), Taormina (1968), Berlin (1969), Padova (1973), Milano (1975), Ferrara (1984).

The long life of *Professor Gheorghe Galbură* was connected with two special overwhelming situations.

Firstly is the fact that because of the last world war he was one of the few representatives of the Romanian mathematics joining the bright generation of the Romanian mathematicians like *Professors Grigore C. Moisil*, *Miron Nicolescu*, *Gheorghe Vrânceanu*, *Octav Onicescu*, *Victor Valcovici* and many others and, on other hand, the wide younger generation of the eminent researchers like *Professors Solomon Marcus*, *Cabiria Andreian*, *Radu Miron*, *Romulus Cristescu*, *Nicolae Dinculeanu*, *Petru T. Mocanu*, *Marius Iosifescu*, *Kostake Teleman* and many others.

Secondly is the particular outstanding situation represented by the well known series of tremendous revolutionary transformations and progress in the area of the foundations, concepts and methods in the field of Algebraic Geometry: in his life *Professor Galbură*, matured at the Italian Algebraic Geometry School, crossed entire this dynamic epoch, being highly sensitive

to the new ideas and works of the great mathematicians *Oscar Zariski*, *Andre Weil*, *Jean-Pierre Serre* or *Alexander Grothendieck*, who decisively influenced the destiny of this field.

Due to this experience, *Professor Galbură* was always completely open and very sensitive to all kinds of new ideas in such a dynamic and innovative domain as the Algebraic Geometry, remaining a *model* for the younger generations.

In spite of his age, until few years ago, he still attended the Seminar of Algebraic Geometry being an active presence. Also remain as remarkable facts his recent supervisions of some PhD theses, as well as the interest to produce some papers.

Was a personality with a sober structure but with much argute humour. A subtle psychologist, with surprising remarks. Always open and modest ...

*Professor Gheorghe Galbură* will remain as an unforgettable mentor in the memory and hearts of his numerous former students and assistants !

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