IN MEMORIAM Professor Dr. ION I. BĂRA

(Soveja, 27 07 1941 - Iasi, 20 08 2007)

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In August 2007, Professor Ion I. BĂRA left this world. He was born at Soveja, at the beginning at the '40's, last century. He took his pre-University studies in the country. He then studied at the Biology Faculty, at the *A. I. Cuza* University in Iasi; he took his master's degree at the University in Bucharest (Academician Nicolae BOTNARIUC); he had the chance to specialize his technique in great university centers in Europe, America or Asia, where he had the opportunity to work in the laboratories of famous biologists and genetic specialists.

He had a great and important research activity among research units in the *A. I. Cuza* University in Iasi; in 1993 he was appointed lecturer, and, beginning with 1995, Professor, at the same prestigious University in Iasi. He published more than 360 scientific works (many of them in foreign countries), general information articles, many monographs, books and specialty volumes at known printing houses.

Together with his friend and colleague, Professor Dr. Gogu GHIORGHIŢĂ (nowadays, Rector of the University in Bacău), he organized more *National Genetics Symposia*, at the Biologic Research

Resort, *Stejarul* (the Oak) - Pângărați, of the University in Iasi. Thus, he contributed to the orientation of the genetics researches in Romania. He founded two Genetics magazines, printed in Iasi (of whose redactor he was), namely, *Genetics and Evolutionism* and *Genetics and Molecular Biology*, taking part of the collective that edited the magazine *Romanian Journal of Genetics* (Bucharest), and of many other specialty publications. He coordinated the activity of many students, to the formation of the future doctors in Biology; he lead grants that contributed to solving some theoretical and experimental problems, and assured the formation of future specialists.

The acknowledgement of his activity and scientific authority in Biology and Genetics is confirmed by his leading of Master's degree activity in Biology and Genetics, of the membership of the Science Academy of Moldavia Republic, the prize and medal *Opera Omnia*, offered by CNCSIS, Bucharest for his entire scientific activity, Emanoil Teodorescu distinction, of the Romanian Academy, The Knight Praise-Worthy, offered by the President of Romania (2004), and many more. He was also nominee in *Who's Who in the World* (Romania), *Marquis Who's Who in the World* (2001), nominee in *The Europe 500 Leaders for the New Century*, and selected for *The Man of the Year 2003*.

In the tumultuous contemporary world that we live, he was provided with the peace of creation among his family, his wife, **Klara Băra**, born **FAZAKAS**, who provided him with the comfort of the scientific creation as a **guarding angel**. This permanent attitude allowed them to remove or diminish the effect of many malefic powers that suppressed them in the last 20 years.

His disappearance left an empty place in our hearts: of his family, of his colleagues, the professors of the Biology faculty, who's Dean he was, and of the ones in the *A. I. Cuza* University in Iasi. Thinking of Professor Ion I. BĂRA, we have to think at the attention he showed to the ones near him, and those who knew him must be proud. Thus, we have to cherish his love for life and every moment in our life. And, not the last, we have to question ourselves: *What is life?* Many reflection ideas can be drawn from the survey edited in this magazine.



Professor Ion I. Băra, together his wife Klara Băra and the Huai-Pen Liu University staff (Automne 2006, China)

Prof. Ion I. Băra împreuna cu soția sa Klara Băra și cadrele didactice de la Universitatea Huai-Pen Liu (toamna 2006, China)