

Professor Aleksandru N. Lungu – In memory of his very fecund life

Theodor Obadă

Institute of Zoology, Academy of Sciences of Moldova
str. Academiei 1, Chișinău, MD-2028, Republic of Moldova
theodorobada@gmail.com

On the prominent palaeontologist, internationally reputed scientist and teacher, Professor Aleksandru Nicolae Lungu (1936-2011), a short but – at the same time – very significant biography has already been proposed by Igor Nicoara (vide Nicoara, 2011), who was a Professor Lungu's student as well.

Among much other, professor Lungu was also dealing with ancient rhinoceroses.

In this regard, we would like here to point out that the greatest part of the rhinoceros related material found in Republic of Moldova (ex- Moldovian Soviet Socialist Republic) was recovered and studied by him. This represents an aspect of the greatest interest for the contemporary palaeontology, not only for those scientists who are interested in rhinoceroses.

At present, the whole of rhinoceros material is a part of the well-known “Professor Aleksandru Lungu's collection”. In particular, it consists of remains belonging to *Aceratherium incisivum* Kaup 1832-1834, *Aceratherium simorrense* Lartet 1851, *Chilotherium schlosseri* Weber 1905, as well as other material for which he erected the subspecies known as *Aceratherium simorrense orientalis* Lungu, 1984.

The remains on the whole – from about 12 till to 6 Ma in age – are preserved in the palaeontological collections of the Moldovian Academy of Sciences, of the Tiraspol University as well as of the “National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History of Moldova” in Chișinău.



Profesorul Alexandru Lungu la aplicații de teren,
Colocviul Internațional "Vîlceaua Kalkotov-stratotip al pleistocenului", 1969
Professor Aleksandru Lungu on the field at the time of the "Vîlceaua Kalkotov-Pleistocene
stratotype International Colloquium" in 1969



Prof., doctor hab. Alexandru Lungu și prof., doctor Barbara Kovalska,
Institutul de Evoluție și Sistematică a Animalelor, Cracovia, Polonia, 2007

Prof. Dr. hab. Aleksandru Lungu and Prof. Dr. Barbara Kovalska
at the Institute of Evolution & Animal Systematics of Kraków (Poland) in 2007