

JÜBİLEE

75th Birthday Anniversary of Academician Mirsaid Mirrakhimov

On March 27-2002 there is an 75th Birthday anniversary of a great scientist, well-known clinician-physiologist, academician of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, academician of the Kyrgyz National Academy and the New York Academy of Sciences, honored scientist and honored physician of the Kyrgyz Republic, owner of the Golden medal of the Association of cardiologists of the Commonwealth of the Independent States (CIS) "For outstanding contribution in cardiology", Doctor of Medical Sciences, director of the National center of cardiology and therapy of the Ministry of Public Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, professor Mirsaid Mirrakhimov.

Innate talent, smart and keen mind, multiplied by inexhaustible creative activity and energy, continuous titanic work, aspiration of getting to know allowed Mirsaid Mirrakhimov to become one of the brightest and outstanding representatives of medical science not only in own country but also abroad. Scientist with world name, unique clinician, genius teacher, active public worker – all in one face! Really happy and romantic sole in science and medicine fell to this honest and nice man's lot, whose kind fame and reputation stepped over the Kyrgyzstan.

Mirsaid Mirrakhimov was born in 1927 in Frunze (now called Bishkek) in the family of well-known musician. After finishing with distinguish Kyrgyz State medical institute (now Kyrgyz State medical academy) he underwent 3-years clinical ordnatory and successfully defended in 1952 the candidate dissertation. In 1958, Mirsaid Mirrakhimov, being the chief of the department of faculty therapy, organized for the first time wide scientific research works on high-altitude physiology and medicine. The major cycle of these investigations formed the doctoral dis-

sertation "On acclimatization to the high-altitude of the Middle Asia" (1965) which was defended at the Scientific research institute of physiology named by Ivan Pavlov of the Academy of Science of the former USSR (Leningrad).

Since 1977 Mirsaid Mirrakhimov is a director of the created by him the Kyrgyz scientific-research institute of cardiology, re-organized in 1996 to the National center of cardiology and therapy of the Ministry of Public Health of the Kyrgyz Republic. During the period from 1963 till 1977 Mirsaid Mirrakhimov had got together the work as the vice-rector on

science of the Kyrgyz State medical institute, the chairman of the former All-Union problem commission on «Physiology and pathology of the human adaptation to the condition of high-altitude» of the academy of Medical Sciences (1976-1984 yy.) and Scientific Medical Committee of the Ministry of Public Health of Kyrgyzstan (1980-1992 yy.).

Mirsaid Mirrakhimov has made a great contribution to the development of the medical science and practical public health not only in Kyrgyzstan but also in the former USSR. Especially, his investigations in cardiology and high-altitude cardiology should be emphasized. He defined and described high-altitude pulmonary hypertension (HAPH), named further as the disease of Mirrakhimov. His fundamental investigations were devoted to the assessment of the role of beta-adrenoreceptors functioning, activity of calcium channels and role of new proteins, synthesized under stimulation of hypoxia and named as hypoxins, in the mechanism of HAPH. Special interest have gained his and collaborators works on genetic factors in the adaptation to the high-altitudes. It has been found the amount of Q-heterochromatine in the chromosomes may serve as the measure of the human adaptive capabilities to high-altitudes. Joint investigations with scientists from Great Britain showed presence of alleles of I and I/I genotype of angiotensin-converting enzyme



inhibitors are associated with tendency to the development of HAPH. Certain interest have works on features of cor pulmonale and right ventricular hypertrophy, the reversion and relationship of the latter one with life-threatening arrhythmias in highlanders.

Concerning other sides of his activity as a scientist-cardiologist, it should be also pointed out that even at the end of 50's he set up the basis of clinical cardiology in Kyrgyzstan, which was further developed and improved after opening of the Kyrgyz scientific research of cardiology (now National center of cardiology and therapy). Organization of network of cardiologic departments throughout all the republic, application of telemetry service and among the firsts in world practice pre-hospital use of thrombolytics and staged treatment of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) facilitated significant reduction of mortality from AMI. Importantly, that results of research work in cardiology and optimization of cardiology service in Kyrgyzstan allowed to reduce mortality from cardiovascular disease by 15-20% (!!!) in early 80's being the highest in the former USSR.

At present time the original National Program on fight with cardiovascular diseases "Healthy heart to every citizen of Kyrgyzstan in 2010 year" has been developed and is being successfully realized. The main point of the latter program is realization of prophylactic measures by the "institute" of family doctors with paying special attention to families with high risk of cardiovascular diseases development.

But, his investigations in the field of high-altitude physiology and medicine, as investigation of adaptation of human organism to high-altitudes, theory on functioning levels of physiologic systems, development of criteria of organism adaptation, modified influence of high-altitude climate on the course and manifestations of internal diseases (asthma, allergy, aplastic anemia, other cytopenic syndromes, hyperlipidemias, mild hypertension, etc.) brought him wide eminence. There is nearly no other part of internal medicine, which was out of the sight of Mirrakhimov. Pulmonology and hematology, rheumatology and nephrology, gastroenterology and immunology – everywhere his keen mind and creative thought, and bright pen-nib have left unrepeatable trace.

One of the characteristic features of the nature of bright individuals in science is a creation of the so-called intellectual construction around themselves, which is called scientific school. However, the school could not be created by order. It is formed itself aro-

und man, having knowledge, talent and energy, feel of new, honest and educating students by his own example. Mirsaid Mirrakhimov has more than 100 students and followers, defended the candidate and doctoral dissertations under his direct supervision; and more than 300 specialists in cardiology, trained and educated through clinical ordinariness, are supplied the high level of treatment and diagnostic work at the different parts of republic. So, we could talk now about the school of Mirrakhimov, gained broad popularity at home and abroad.

Acceptance of the outstanding contribution of scientist to the development of medical science and practical health was reflected by a large amount of awards and medals he has got: State premium of the former USSR (1980 y.) and State premiums of Kyrgyzstan (1978 y, 1984 y.), The Hero of the Socialist Labor (1987), Medals (Sign of Honour, Manas II-Ird degree, golden medal of Chazov, golden medal of the President of Kyrgyzstan for outstanding contribution in cardiology in XXth century and many others).

This shortly represented information reflects only the so-called visible part of iceberg - contribution of Mirrakhimov to science and preparing scientific staff not only in Kyrgyzstan, but countries of CIS and specially of Central Asia.

He is the founder and the first president of the Association of Cardiologists of Central Asia, and elect-President of the Association of Cardiologists of CIS since 1995 (he was also one of the founders of the latter one) and member of the board of international societies. He at the same time is the Editor-in-Chief of the Central Asian Medical Journal and member of the editorial board of several international journals.

Now, in his 75 years, Mirsaid Mirrakhimov, as always, is full of new ideas and creative plans, and we sure, that new innovations and successes are awaiting him, because time has no power over him. Let us congratulate this incredible man with his jubilee and wish him good health, further creative successes and fruitful work for benefit of community and people.

Friends, colleagues, students and employees of the National Center of Cardiology and Therapy.