



ANDREI NIKOLAEVICH KOLMOGOROV

## OBITUARY

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The 20th of October 1987 became a mournful day with the decease of Andrei Nikolaevich Kolmogorov aged 84, a great scientist, an outstanding mathematician of global renown.

A. N. Kolmogorov's name is associated with fundamental scientific achievements in mathematics. As a mathematician and a naturalist, both a theorist and a practitioner, A. N. Kolmogorov ranks very high in contemporary science. His grand ideas and important results are related to sets, geometry and topology, probability theory and mathematical statistics, cybernetics and mathematical logic, hydrodynamics and celestial mechanics. His world-famed book *Basic Notations of Probability Theory*, shaped the trends in the development of probability theory and random processes theory.

A. N. Kolmogorov was born on the 25th of April, 1903, in the city of Tambov. In 1920 he entered Moscow University. Since then, his entire life was connected with the University as a student, post-graduate, research scholar and professor. In 1931 he created a number of university chairs, laboratories and a boarding school; up to his last days he was head of the department of mathematics at the mechanical and mathematical faculty of Moscow State University.

In 1939, A. N. Kolmogorov was elected member of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, Academician-secretary of the Physical and Mathematical Division of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. At the V. A. Steklov Mathematical Institute, A. N. Kolmogorov organized and headed departments of probability theory, mathematical statistics and information theory.

A. N. Kolmogorov is a creator of a number of scientific schools which gave birth to many prominent Soviet scientists. For a long time, A. N. Kolmogorov was president of the Moscow Mathematical Society, a member of the main editorial board of the big Soviet encyclopedia, and editor-in-chief of the central mathematical journals. He was elected member of more than twenty foreign Academies and scientific societies. He was rewarded with numerous decorations, receiving the Lenin and State prizes of the U.S.S.R. and becoming the first Laureate of the International Balzano Prize.

The whole life of Andrei Nikolaevich Kolmogorov is an unparalleled scientific feat. He set a brilliant example of nobility, unselfishness and moral purity. A. N. Kolmogorov is among the pleiad of great Russian and world scientists.

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