



IN MEMORIAM

YERMAKOV YURII IVANOVICH

Professor of Chemistry, D.Sc.

Yurii Ivanovich Yermakov has lived a short and bright life. He has made a significant contribution to many trends of catalysis science. His name is closely related with the history of the formation and development of the Institute of Catalysis of the Siberian Division of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Yu.I. Yermakov was born on June 18, 1935, in Kiev. He graduated from M.V. Lomonosov Institute of Fine Chemical Technology in Moscow in 1958 and then became a Ph.D. student of Academician G.K. Boreskov at the Institute of Catalysis. In this Institute Yu.I. Yermakov worked his way from a Ph.D. student to Head of Laboratory, Head of Department and Deputy Director.

The spectrum of Prof. Yermakov's scientific interests was very broad, including bulk and supported heterogeneous catalysts of olefin polymerization, homogeneous catalysts of selective oxidation and carbonylation of olefins, heterogeneous catalysts of selective hydrogenation of various unsaturated functional groups of organic compounds, hydrogenolysis of hydrocarbons, hydrodesulfurization and hydrodemetallation of oil, hydrogenation of carbon monoxide, etc. The main landmarks in his scientific heritage can be seen in his review articles that cover the results of comprehensive studies of the composition, structure and mechanism of action of active sites of olefin polymerization catalysts, of the effect of the size of supported metal particles on their catalytic properties, of the effect of the additives on the catalytic properties of supported metals and of the closely related problem of the strong metal-support interaction (SMSI).

As a man of great erudition Prof. Yermakov succeeded in carrying out substantial work in the field lying at the juncture of homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysis. Widely recognized are his works on immobilization of metal complexes on various supports, and on catalytic properties of active sites resulting from decomposition of anchored complexes, on synthesis of discrete active sites for catalytic polymerization, for metathesis and hydroformylation of olefins, for selective hydrogenation of polyolefins and hydrodesulfurization.

Prof. Yu. Yermakov was a talented teacher. He has trained many scientists who are working now in the field of catalysis in the various USSR institutions.

Great contribution has been made by Prof. Yermakov to the establishment of international collaborations in catalysis. Together with Academician G.K. Boreskov he was an organizer of regular bilateral Japan-, Indo-, and French-Soviet seminars on Catalysis. Prof. Yermakov worked fruitfully as member of Editorial Boards of Journals "Kinetics and Catalysis", "Reaction Kinetics and Catalysis Letters" and "C<sub>1</sub> Molecule Chemistry". and as member of the various organizing committees of national and international meetings. His role as organizer of the 5th International Symposium on Relations between Homogeneous and Heterogeneous Catalysis, the most representative Symposium of this series regarding the wide scope of scientific program and the number of participants, can scarcely be exaggerated.

Originality of ideas, a pictorial style of thinking, erudition and great capacity for fellow feeling - those were the qualities of Yu. Yermakov as scientist and person that won him the regard of all who knew him.

*The Editorial Board*