ADAM JISHKARIANI (1930 – 2005)



On 24 April 2005 Adam Jishkariani, an excellent Georgian mathematician left us. A noble representative of our creative intelligentsia has passed away after a life full of activity. Death stopped the efforts of a men at the age of wisdom who still had a lot to realize. He lived to see the first part of his monograph published in the last days of his life. The anticipating reader, however, will wait in vain the second part.

A. Jishkariani was born on 22 January 1930 in the village of Akhali Khibula of Khobi district of Georgia. Right after finishing the secondary school he entered Tbilisi State University but due to illness had to interrupt his studies temporarily and graduated the Department of Physics of the university in 1956.

In the same year he became a post-graduate student of A. Razmadze Mathematical Institute of the Georgian Academy of Sciences at the speciality of computational mathematics. He was sent to the Leningrad Branch of V. Steklov Mathematical Institute for post-graduate studies. There he attended lectures of the prominent Russian mathematicians V. P. Il'in, S. G. Mikhlin, L. V. Kantorivich, V. N. Fadeeva and participated in the work of scientific seminars.

From 1959 until his death A. Jishkariani worked in A. Razmadze Mathematical Institute occupying consecutively the positions of junior, senior and leading research fellow. Since 1982 he led the scientific Seminar on Computational Mathematics. Since 1987 he has been Head of Computational Mathematics Sector.

A. Jishkariani defended his candidate's degree in 1961 and doctor's degree in 1985. He is the author of numerous research papers on classical projective methods (Ritz, Bubnov–Gelerkin, least squares methods and their generalizations), methods of finite elements. Most of them are published in authoritative scientific journals. The sphere of interests of A. Jishkariani covered the issues of approximate solution of elliptic boundary value problems, Fredholm integral equations of second kind and certain classes of singular integral equations.

Several Ph.D. theses have been prepared under the guidance of A. Jishkariani. Over a long period of time he gave lectures on general and special courses in mathematics for students of Tbilisi State University. He was a reviewer of the Mathematical Reviews, participated in many local and international conferences.

A gifted and deeply erudite personality, a man of principle and a genuine intellectual, he was impartial and critical-minded in assessing realities of our life.

A. Jishkariani was characterized by moderateness, responsiveness and attention towards fellow creatures. He was notable for his devotion to science, creative energy, enviable diligence and enormous professional integrity. In his spare time his favorite occupations were sport, gardening and reading the press.

His Christian simplicity covered a powerful analytical mind, erudition, finesse of spirit. He remained kind even when offended.

The course of life of A. Jishkariani may be characterized as struggle, overcoming, striving. Courageous and cheerful, he was always ready to help others in overcoming difficulties, he always enjoyed success of others. His firmness helped those around him to survive the hardest years. Philanthropic himself, he felt deep fondness and esteem of colleagues, appreciating that better than any award.

We all miss Adam Jishkariani, the kin, friends, pupils and colleagues, those who have been happy enough to know him. All is left is a clear remembrance of a proud man of remarkable strength of spirit whose life will continue in our memory.

G. Berikelashvili