

Despite devoting his efforts, energy, and time to official duties and social work, Kuvandyk Poladov remained in collaboration with the Academic Institute of Chemistry and investigated the physico-chemical properties of oil. In the abovementioned area, he published approximately 50 articles in scientific journals and collections as well as registering patents. He participated in a number of international conferences, scientific symposia, and meetings on education and science. The subject of his constant attention included training, professional internships, and the further promotion of young experts from Turkmenistan in which he saw a promising future for specialists in his

field and for science in general. Kuvandyk Poladov will remain in the memory of everyone who knew him as one who understood the importance of cooperation for many years and as an exceptionally benevolent, intelligent, and sociable person whose openness, personal charm, and constant sense of humor earned him universal respect and a high reputation.

Yazgül Eziova,
Editor-in-Chief,
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MIKHAIL NIKOLAYEVICH FEDOROV (1937-2020)

ON January 3, 2020, an outstanding numismatist and archeologist, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor Mikhail Nikolayevich Fedorov passed away in Germany. He was born in Tashkent on June 28, 1937. From 1954 to 1959 he studied at the Central Asian State University for a degree in archaeology. He counted Mikhail Evgeniyevich Masson and Galina Anatoliyevna Pugachenkova as his teachers under whose guidance he underwent archaeological training in Old Merv (Turkmenistan). He often liked to tell his students about that experience. Immediately after graduation, he began working at the Institute of History and Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Uzbek SSR in Tashkent, where in 1961, he defended his Candidate of Sciences thesis. Ten years later, Fedorov, like many of his Tashkent colleagues, became an employee of the newly established Institute of Archaeology at the Academy of Sciences of the Uzbek SSR located in Samarkand. He did not work there for long, however, and in 1971 he moved to Frunze (present-day Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan), where he taught at the Kyrgyz State University until 1996 progressing from a Senior Lecturer and an Associate Professor to a Professor and eventually Head of the Department of Archaeology and Ethnography (1991–1994). While working at the history department, Fedorov delivered lectures on numismatics, archaeology, and the medieval history of Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia, which many of his students still fondly recall. During that time, he published the first textbook on numismatics in Central Asia (Frunze, 1978). In 1990, in Novosi-



birsk, he defended his doctoral dissertation on the coinage of the Karakhanid era.

Working at the Kyrgyz State University, M.N. Fedorov was engaged not only in training professional historians and archaeologists, but also in archaeological field research. Under his leadership from 1980 to 1988, excavations were carried out at the settlement of Koshoy Korgon in the inner Tian Shan Mountains. He identified the medieval town of At-Bash, known from Arab and Persian sources. As a result, the topography and fortification of the town were clarified; a palace-type building, as well as residential and handicraft buildings were also excavated. Simultaneously as these excavations, archaeological surveys were conducted to identify new sites and to take into account

the previously known historical and cultural monuments of the inner Tian Shan range for the preparation of the corresponding volume on the Code of Historical and Cultural Monuments of Kyrgyzstan.

In 1996, Professor Fedorov immigrated to Germany with his family. He lived in Mannheim and worked at the University of Tübingen.

His scientific heritage is very significant and comprises several monographs and about 240 articles, mainly on Muslim numismatics. He is published in Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Russia, the USA, England, Belgium, France, and Germany. His final publications, devoted to the circulation of money under the Shaybanids, was published in the 48th volume of the *Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Iran und Turan* (Berlin, 2019). The fact that Professor Fedorov's articles were published in different countries and in different languages prompted the scholar to summarize the long-term results of his research, so that in 2018 the first volume of his collection of the articles called *Essays on Ancient and Early Medieval Numismatics of Central Asia* was published in Mos-

cow. The author did not manage to compile yet another collection of his articles on the numismatics of Kyrgyzstan.

Historical fiction was another creative direction in his life. First, was a trilogy *The Ghilman* whose setting was during the events in Transoxania and Khorasan in the 11th century. It was published in Tashkent in the 1970s. He also published a series of short stories about Abu Rayhan al-Biruni. Mikhail Fedorov considered the Tashkent writer Mikhail Sheverdin (1899–1984) – the author of a series of historical adventure novels, out of print but available online – as his mentor along the literary path.

The memory of this scholar who made a significant contribution to the study of the history of Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia will remain in the hearts of his colleagues, students, and followers.

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IICAS Activities in 2019

2019 was an extremely eventful year with meetings, ideas and projects for the International Institute for Central Asian Studies. In addition to its main activities, the institute took part in 20 projects that were not included in its annual budget. At the end of the year, 8 new publications were presented, each of which proved quite popular among specialists. The following are just a few of the milestones that have marked 2019:

On **February 16, 2019**, the International Institute for Central Asian Studies organized a workshop with support from the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan concerning the restoration problems of cultural heritage sites. Leading specialists and international experts in the field for the protection of cultural heritage sites as represented by the Director of IICAS Dr. D.A. Voyakin and Ms. LV. Dubrovskaya made presentations concerning restoration and conservation for architectural and archaeological sites.

D.A. Voyakin, director of IICAS, was designated as a member of the Program Committee for the “3D Digital Silk Road” Portal as decided on **April 18, 2019** by the Council of the Institute of Computer Science of Lublin University of Technology.

On **May 20**, a range of workshops and extensive work on the inventory of Central Asian sites commenced in Samarkand. This project is planned to extend for the next five years. The Central Asia Archaeological Landscapes Project is funded by the Arcadia Fund. The team is led by Professor Tim Williams, University College of London. The project was coordinated by IICAS directly on site in Central Asia. Scientists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan spoke under the auspices of the project. In addition, professionals from China and Turkmenistan also participated in the work.

The International Conference entitled “IT Technologies for Cultural Heritage Management” (IT-CHM’2019) took place on **May 22, 2019**, at the site of the madrasah of Ulugbek at the Registan complex in Samarkand.

On **June 14, 2019**, a round table discussion took place in Almaty, Kazakhstan, dedicated to the nomination of the dossier “Rock Art of Central Asia” to be included on the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List. Participants from seven countries took part in the round table and recommended appointing IICAS as the secretariat for the nomination. The initial stage