



IN MEMORIAM

Professor Dojčin Dojčinov, a man who had greatly influenced medical science in Niš and Serbia, has passed away. He was the first full-time professor and a long-standing manager and director of the Institute of Pathology, Medical Faculty, Niš. Prof. Dojčinov was the creator and founder of modern pathology in Niš and a distinguished initiator of the scientific, educational and professional development of the Institute and pathology services in southeast Serbia. This coryphaeus in the field of pathology has also proved himself as an excellent organizer of pathology services, as a teacher of second- and third-level instruction, and as a man who tutored a number of eminent experts in pathology. Always a contemporary and ahead in his organizational abilities and conception of problem solutions, he marked the most important period in the development of Medical Faculty in Niš. Prof. Dojčinov initiated the building of the Institute of Pathology in Niš, which in that time presented constructional and professional accomplishment par excellence; it was furnished with up-to-date equipment to facilitate routine pathologic analyses required by clinical practice. He was parallelly engaged in research, healthcare and teaching activities. The first electronic microscope in the Institute, which helped all professionals in the Institute to include their work in contemporary science, was purchased thanks to his engagement in providing financial sources. He mentored tens of M.A. and Ph.D. theses. Many of his associates attended advanced training abroad thanks to his personal engagement. His zealous devotion to his working duties resulted in trying his skills in almost all fields of medicine. His personality and his work became a skeleton, i.e., a core of enthusiasm in development of scientific aspirations, which was a magnet for all young people eager to accumulate knowledge to gather around him. Professor Dojčinov was the author of many scientific papers dealing with nephropathology, especially endemic nephropathy in the region of southeast Serbia, hepatology, and pathology gastrointestinal tract, which were published both in domestic and international journals. He also wrote brilliant texts in many textbooks for medical students and physicians. His fluent knowledge of German, French, English and Russian language enabled him to access easily into enormous literature data from all over the world.

With his understanding of his profession and science Professor Dojčinov lived, unfortunately or fortunately, far ahead his time. The city of Niš and its milieu were not ready to accept all of his principles. He had to leave Niš and all what he created in it and for which both Niš and medical science of former Yugoslavia and present Serbia owe to him. The city of Niš and its inhabitants who were well acquainted with the lifework of Professor Dojčinov succeeded only to small extent to give in return to their professor and physician, first of the expression of their love, which was the most important for him and which he always returned generously. His death is an irredeemable loss for Serbian pathology because he was the supreme arbiter in the assessment of complex and partial procedures in histopathology.

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