

CHRONICLE AND INFORMATION

**IN MEMORIAM: VLADISLAV KHLEBOVICH,  
THE OUTSTANDING RUSSIAN HYDROBIOLOGIST**



Three days before his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday, on 23 February, 2024, Vladislav Khlebovich passed away. He was an outstanding Russian hydrobiologist, zoologist, physiologist, and evolutionist. He was experimenter and theorist, thoughtful citizen, teacher, colleague, friend, interesting companion, and amazingly talented man.

The combination of logic and intuition, exhaustive clarity of formulations, and deepest knowledge and erudition allowed him to create verbal models equal in their rigor to mathematical ones. These were the concepts of critical salinity (as a key factor affecting biological processes, as a marker of the transition from the potassium era to the sodium one, and as an aspect of acclimation) and the role of hereditary triads in speciation.

In our memory, V. Khlebovich remains as a talented organizer – a director of the White Sea Biological Station of the Zoological Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union and a head of expeditions to the Arctic, Far East, and Chernobyl.

Without seeming to make any special efforts, Vladislav Khlebovich trained a galaxy of hydrobiologists studying brackish waters. His students and followers, now scattered throughout research centers of our country and abroad, constitute a real scientific school, albeit unofficial.

His contribution to scientific education is invaluable (and has not yet been clearly appreciated) – namely to *education*, since the modern term *popular science* is completely inapplicable to him. To understand this, you only need to read his fascinating works: “Not yet domestic” (1987), “Agrozoology” (1991), “Individual as a quantum of life” (2015), “Animals and us” (2015), and “On the origin and fate of civilizations” (2019). Being purely scientific publications, nevertheless, those are quite understandable to a wide range of readers.

Essays have been written about him, but he spoke best about himself in the book “Pictures from the life of a zoologist. Memories.” We are all incredibly lucky that we met him and had the opportunity to communicate with him! The memory of Vladislav Khlebovich will always be with us, as well as a feeling of great gratitude.

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**ПАМЯТИ ВЫДАЮЩЕГОСЯ РОССИЙСКОГО ГИДРОБИОЛОГА  
ВЛАДИСЛАВА ВИЛЬГЕЛЬМОВИЧА ХЛЕБОВИЧА**

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