

## *Geologische Ausstellung im neuen Gebäude der Hauptbibliothek der Moskauer LOMONOSOV Staatsuniversität anlässlich des 250. Jahrestages ihrer Gründung*

Im heurigen Jahr begeht die Staatliche Moskauer LOMONOSOV Universität (MSU) ihr 250jähriges Gründungsjubiläum. Am 25. Jänner 1755 unterschrieb die Kaiserin Elizaveta PETROVNA (1709-1761), Tochter von PETER DEM GROSSEN (PETER I.) die Gründungsurkunde der ersten Russischen Universität. Der berühmte Mineraloge Michail V. LOMONOSOV (1711-1765) gehörte zu den Gründern dieser Universität.

Zum Jubiläum wurde ein neues Gebäude (geplant vom Stararchitekten Gleb N. ZTOVICH), in welchem die Hauptbibliothek untergebracht ist, errichtet. Es enthält mehrere Lesesäle, Platz für 5 Millionen Bände und ein Museum über die MSU Geschichte.

Der Komandeur Primo ROVIS, ein berühmter italienischer Sammler, Star und Kunstmezän übergab anlässlich des Jubiläums dem erdwissenschaftlichen Museum zwei einzigartige mineralogische und paläontologische Sammlungen, die von zwei Industriellen aus dem Ural stammen. Er setzte damit eine alte Tradition fort, das MSU zu unterstützen.

Jetzt ist die mineralogische Sammlung in einer Dauerausstellung im erdwissenschaftlichen Museum zu bewundern, sie beinhaltet Material aus der ganzen Welt, fast 2 m grosse Amethystgeoden und Achate aus Brasilien, Lapislazulite aus Afghanistan, beinahe 10 kg schwere brasiliatische schwarze Turmaline, gewaltig grosse versteinerte Hölzer (Sequoia) aus Arizona sowie unzählige weitere Schätze.

Die Autorin dieses Vortrages hat am Tag des Jubiläums, dem 25. Jänner 2005 mit zahlreicher Prominenz, darunter der Präsident der Russischen Föderation, Vladimir V. PUTIN, und dem Moskauer Bürgermeister, die Eröffnung der geologischen Ausstellung abhalten können. Professor h.c. Primo ROVIS hat dem Präsidenten PUTIN eine wunderschöne Achatgeode zum Geschenk gemacht.

## *Geological exposition in the new building of the Moscow University Fundamental Library (to 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of LOMONOSOV Moscow State University)*

This year LOMONOSOV Moscow State University celebrated 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its foundation. On January 25<sup>th</sup>, 1755, Empress Elizaveta PETROVNA (1709-1761), daughter of emperor PETER THE GREAT (PETER THE 1<sup>ST</sup>), signed Decree on foundation of the first Russian University. Outstanding Russian scientist of encyclopedic knowledge and poet Michail V. LOMONOSOV (1711-1765) and the prominent state official and patron of art IVAN I. SHUVALOV (1727-1797) have been founders of the University.

During 250 years of its history Moscow University has served the Nation. At present time MSU is the most prominent classical University, the most valuable institute of culture heritage. Rector of Moscow State University – academician of Russian Academy of Science Victor A. SADOVNICHI - is a well-known mathematician.

For celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> jubilee, new building of Fundamental Library – University's Intellectual Center - has been built (the main architect - Gleb N. ZTOVICH). The library obtains a lot of reading rooms, the repository (5 million of toms) and also the Museum of MSU History.

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Commandor Primo ROVIS, a famous Italian collector, prominent public man and patron of arts has presented two unique geological collections to Earth Science Museum of Moscow University. The collection was presented to 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lomonosov Moscow State University foundation. Commandor Primo ROVIS continued a remarkable Russian tradition- to support Moscow University. So, the Ural industrialists DEMIDOV, brothers Prokopi and Nikita, have presented a rich mineralogical collection and herbarium, princess Ekaterina DASHKOVA – cabinet of Natural history and considerable library etc.

Primo Rovis's collections comprise mineralogical and paleontological samples. One collection weights more than 500 kg and consists of 46 samples.

Now the mineralogical collection is displayed as the permanent exposition in an Earth Science Museum study hall devoted to processes of mineral formation.

Another collection weights more than 1000 kg and includes 42 samples. Among them very beautiful minerals are represented by geodes of amethyst, sections of agate geodes from the famous deposits of Brazil. Two amethyst geodes with the large, transparent dark violet crystals (185 cm and 188 cm in high and 157 kg and 210 kg in weigh correspondingly) excite special admiration.

Besides, one cannot be indifferent to excellent samples of “landscape stones” (Italy), the lapis-lazurite (Afghanistan), black tourmaline, 9,9 kg (Brazil), a petrified tree-variegated longitudinal section of sequoia (size – 141 x 57 cm, 198 x 83 cm, weigh - 70 and 178 kg correspondingly) from USA, state Arizona.

Wonderful paleontological samples well-survived are represented by green and red Stromatolithic Algae (state Minnesota, USA) of “honorable age” – 2 billion years - and more “young” representatives – Trilobites (Morocco) 510 million years old.

The samples of second collection are displayed at the exhibition devoted to the 250<sup>th</sup> - Anniversary of MSU. The opening ceremony of the exhibition including geological exposition (author T.K. IVANOVA) took place in MSU History Museum located in the New Library Building, on the memorable day - January 25, 2005.

President of the Russian Federation Vladimir V. PUTIN, academician Victor A. SADOVNICHII, MSU Rector, the Mayor of Moscow Yuri M. LUZHKOV, MSU Honored Professor, P. ROVIS, Members of Russian Government, director of MSU History Museum Alexander S. ORLOV, MSU employees participated in the opening ceremony of the exposition.

MSU Honored Professor, commandor Primo Rovis has presented a very beautiful sample of an agate geode to the President of Russian Federation Vladimir V. PUTIN.

