

In memoriam: Vyacheslav Dzhuraevich Dusmatov

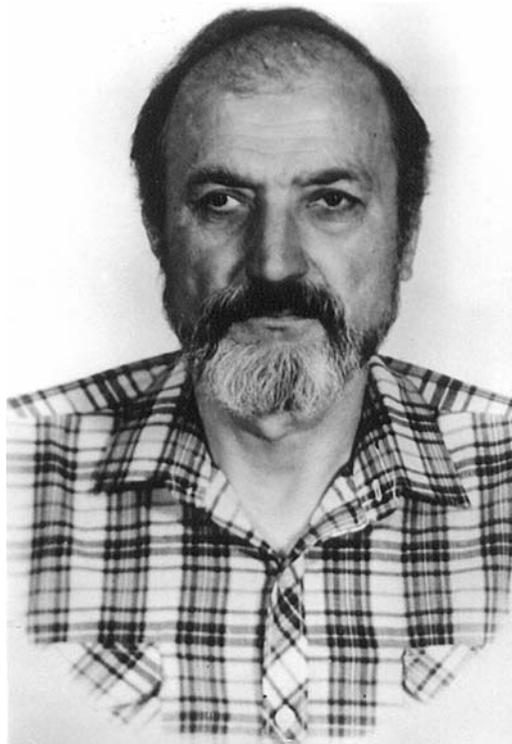
A short fatal disease carried away from us Vyacheslav Dzhuraevich Dusmatov (16.03.1936 – 27.05.2004), Cand. Sci. (Geol., Mineral.), senior research associate of the Fersman Mineralogical Museum, RAS, and a talented geologist and mineralogist who studied natural mineral resources of Tajikistan.

V.D. Dusmatov was born in Garm, Tajikistan. In 1959 he graduated from the Geological Department of Tajik State University in Dushanbe. His career followed from senior technician in the Geological Institute of the Tajik Academy of Sciences to Director of Geological Museum of the Tajik AS and a project leader in the Soyuzkvarzshamitsvety Association. In 1994, he accepted a position of a director of the Tajik State Research Institute for Mineral Deposits, and later during the same year he became a chief gemologist of the Rukhom National Enterprise. In 2001 Vyacheslav Dusmatov joined a staff of the Fersman Mineralogical Museum, RAS, where he took up studies of Academician A.E. Fersman's archive.

A scope of his scientific interests was quite wide, from mineralogy and petrology of alkalic rocks of Middle Asia to economic geology of gemstone. He worked much to promote biological aspects of mineralogy, especially those related to mumiyo. His studies of historical mineralogy in Tajikistan acknowledging Al Berouni and Avicenna as founders of mineralogy became widely known. The museum-related activities played an important part in Dusmatov's studies. During the course of his work in the Tajik Institute of Geology (1959 – 1994), he collected and several thematic series of the rock and mineral samples, which characterized the largest mineral deposits of the Pamirs. These collections made a basis of geological museum organized at this institute. He was not just a curator: he designed and manufactured many windows and racks in the museum. Mineralogical projects carried out under his leadership were attractive for young researchers.

Vyacheslav Dusmatov was fond of nature and flowers; he was deeply interested in history of religion. His deepest passions were badges and stamps. He collected stamps all his life, and mineralogy part is widely known among the collectors. This collection reflected his academic interests and love to the minerals.

When studying alkalic rocks and related pegmatites, Vyacheslav Dusmatov, an experi-



enced field geologist and mineralogist, visited numerous plutons in Gissar and Alay. It was Dara-i-Pioz, a unique alkaline pluton located at the south slopes of the Alay Ridge, that became a key object of his studies. Early in the 1960's, detailed studies were carried out here to estimate this pluton as a source of alumina. The conclusion on nepheline rocks of the pluton has been negative, but the researchers found a noteworthy rare metal mineralization. In 1960, V.D. Dusmatov began his studies of alkalic rocks exposed at the south slope of the Alay Ridge. In the upper part of the Dara-i-Pioz River basin, he established an original rare metal-TR-U mineralization. This mineral assemblage has not been observed elsewhere since then. The first publications on mineralogy of the area written by V.D. Dusmatov and E.I. Semyonov in 1963 deals with Y-Be datolite («calcibeboronsilite»). The same authors have published a series of papers on ekanite, U-thorite, rinkolite, and agrellite during the period from 1965 through 1989. V.D. Dusmatov, E.I. Semyonov, and

A.P. Khomyakov discovered new minerals: baratovite, darapioisite, and zirsilite. Later on, V.D. Dusmatov and A.F. Efimov discovered a series of new minerals: cesium kupletskite, tajikite, tienshanite, sogdianite, and surkhobide.

V.D. Dusmatov first described endogenous reedmergnerite. He was the person who first found stillwellite-Ce (a green variety of leucospheinite) at the territory of the USSR. In co-authorship with A.S. Povarennykh he obtained IR spectra of the minerals discovered or first found in this pluton. An extended series of papers he wrote in co-authorship with F.N. Abdusalomov described amphiboles, pyroxenes, and micas.

V.D. Dusmatov continued his studies of geology, geochemistry, and mineralogy of the Dara-i-Pios pluton till 1991. Using an air photo base map, he compiled a geological map of the upper part of the Dara-i-Pios river basin on 1:25,000-scale with all rock varieties contoured on it.

Another area V.D. Dusmatov was interested in was geology of gems: exploration, reserve estimation, and mineralogy.

To honor his achievements in this area, Leonid A. Pautov and Atali A. Agakhanov named a new mineral they discovered dusmatovite (*Vestnik MGU*, 1996, Ser. Geol., No. 2, p. 54–60).

Having joined the RAS Mineralogical Museum, V.D. Dusmatov undertook studies of Academician Fersman's archive. He browsed a lot of typewritten materials, manuscripts, photos, and newspaper clips of the period. All these materials have been thoroughly studied, sorted, and prepared for publication, what resulted in a book titled *Unknown Fersman*

issued by the Museum in 2003 to celebrate the 120th birthday of A.E. Fersman. Vyacheslav Dusmatov always remained energetic and optimistic in his plans for the future. His devotedness to work inspired his coworkers. Kind, responding, and modest, he gained love and gratitude from his colleagues.

V.D. Dusmatov published 200 and more publications, including 3 monographs. Some of these are listed below:

Dusmatov, V.D., Efimov, A.F., Semyonov, E.I. (1963) First finds of stillwellite in the USSR. *Doklady AN SSSR*, 153, No. 4: 913–915. (in Rus.)

Dusmatov, V.D. (1969) Alkalic rocks of Central Tajikistan: State of the art. *Izvestiya AN Tajik SSR, otd. fiz-mat. i geol.-khim. nauk*, No. 2 (32): 97–102. (in Rus.)

Dusmatov, V.D. (1970) Mineralogy and geochemistry of alkalic and granite rocks from the upper part of the Dara-i-Pios River basin, South Alay. In: *Voprosy geologii Tadjikistana* (Problems of Tajik geology), Dushanbe. (in Rus.)

Efimov, A.F., Dusmatov, V.D., Alkhazov, V.Yu. et al (1970) Tajikite, a new TR boron silicate, the hellandite group. *Doklady AS USSR*, v. 195, No. 5: 1190–1193. (in Rus.)

Klimov, G.K., Akramov, M.B., and Dusmatov, V.D. (1991) Classification of intrusive rock series of Tajikistan. In: *New data on Tajik geology*, Dushanbe. (in Rus.)

Dusmatov, V.D. (1997) Marble onyx from Middle Asia (in Chinese).

Vyacheslav Dzhuraevich Dusmatov will remain as a prominent figure among Russian and Tajik mineralogists

Staff Members of the Fersman Museum