

## To the Memories of Bakur Beritashvili (1940-2019)

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The biographical information about Bakur Beritashvili - prominent geophysicist, Main Scientific Worker of Weather forecast, natural and technogenic disaster modeling department of Institute of Hydrometeorology of Georgian Technical University, Doctor of Geographical Sciences is presented*

**Key words:** Cloud physics, weather modification, precipitation artificial growth, climate change.

### **Bakur Beritashvili**



Bakur Beritashvili was born on September 22, 1940 in Tbilisi, in the family of famous artist Shalva Beritashvili and the unrivaled specialist of foreign languages - Lydia Modzelevskaya. In 1958, after finishing school with Gold Medal, he continued studies at the Faculty of Physics at Tbilisi State University, which graduated in 1964 with the specialty of geophysics. In 1963 he was sent to Leningrad, the Main Geophysical Observatory (MGO) to complete diploma works, where he continued studies in absentia as postgraduate student until 1969. By the end of 1963, the enviable student was enrolled in the staff of the Institute of Hydrometeorology at the Junior Science Worker position.

Since 1966 B. Beritashvili was assigned to manage meteorological and agro meteorological works on Paravani polygon.

In 1971-1973 he was appointed as the head of the Sevani Expedition of the Institute of Hydrometeorology, which under union program explored the possibility of precipitation artificial growth in the Lake of Sevani.

At the beginning of 1971 Mr. Bakuri defended the Candidate Thesis to acquire scientific degree in physics and mathematics at MGO. In Candidate Thesis the results of the work carried out by him in order to study the dynamics of clouds on the Paravani polygon were summarized.

In 1975-1976 B. Beritashvili continued his career at M. Nadia Institute of Geophysics of Georgian Academy of Sciences. In the Institute of Geophysics, under his guidance, the plan of creation of a complex geophysical polygon of Javakheti was prepared.

In 1977-1978 he returned to the Institute of Hydrometeorology and by Acad. G. Svanidze's order headed precipitation artificial increasing works in Iori river basin. He prepared the scientific-technical justification of the project "Iori", which was the basis for the precipitation artificial

increasing work carried out till 1992 in the mentioned region which was most important for the different fields of economy.

In 1978 B.Beritashvili was invited to the state investigation commission on the activities of the fight against hail and year later he moved to work at Telavi to participate in the practical work on weather modification, where at Gogebashvili Pedagogical Institute he was reading lectures in parallel..

Since 1987 B.Beritashvili returned to the Institute of Hydrometeorology and continued the scientific-methodical leadership of the works of the Iori polygon and other regions of eastern Georgia to increase precipitation. Mr. Bakuri has accomplished his work in the mentioned field by defending Doctoral Thesis at the Tbilisi State University in 1994.

Since 1995 B.Beritashvili is the deputy director of the Institute of Hydrometeorology at the scientific field. He was overseeing 4 laboratories in the ecology department, acting as Deputy Editor at the Institute's Editorial Board and was responsible for editorial controls of the dissertation theses prepared by the Institute's staff.

At the institute B. Beritashvili led the development of cloud and precipitation field monitoring system, as well as actively participating in various projects implemented by the Institute. In the same period (since 1995) his interests have moved to climate change problems. He was appointed at the position of deputy coordinator of the National Program for Climate Change and in 1997-2015 with the support of UNDP by his immediate participation, the First, Second and Third National Communication of Georgia to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was prepared. He was the dozens of project participants, headed for vulnerability and adaptation groups, and he was tasked with editing papers and projects. With his active participation the project was carried out by the European Commission to implement the "Clean Mechanism."

Since 2006 B. Beritashvili was the Main Scientific Worker of the Institute of Hydrometeorology, by his initiative the numerous researches were carried out used during the implementation of various project related to climate change.

He has published more than 100 scientific works, including 5 monographs, 3 manuals, brief explanatory dictionary related to climate change, brief histories of the Main Geophysical Observatory of Tbilisi and Institute of Hydrometeorology founded on its base.

Under his guidance 5 doctoral theses were performed. In 2001 he was awarded with the Order of Honor.

Widespread erudition, brilliant knowledge of languages, hard work, high performing culture, humility, communication and collegiality created the name of one of the leading scholars of the Institute for Mr. Bakuri, and conditioned high authority among colleagues. He served faithfully his beloved work until the last minute of his life. It also indicates that the day before his death he finished his sixth monograph.

In the person of Mr. Bakuri, the Georgian geophysicists lost noticeable scientist and teacher, man with high intellect and a culture whose path and scientific work is a sample of how to live and work to remain forever in the memory of family, colleagues and friends. Mr. Bakuri has left a rich scientific heritage, which will greatly serve future generations.

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## **ბაკურ ბერიტაშვილის ხსოვნისათვის (1940-2019)**

**ნ. კაპანაძე**

**რეზიუმე**

წარმოდგენილია ბიოგრაფიული ინფორმაცია ბაკურ ბერიტაშვილის შესახებ, ცნობილი გეოფიზიკოსი, საქართველოს ტექნიკური უნივერსიტეტის ჰიდრომეტეოროლოგიის ინსტიტუტის ამინდის პროგნოზის, ბუნებრივი და ტექნოგენური კატასტროფების მოდელირების დეპარტამენტის მთავარი მეცნიერ-თანამშრომელი, გეოგრაფიის მეცნიერებათა დოქტორი

## **В память о Бакуре Бериташвили (1940-2019)**

**Н.И. Капанадзе**

**Резюме**

Представлена биографическая информация о Бакуре Бериташвили - видном геофизике, главном научном сотруднике отдела моделирования прогнозирования погоды, природных и техногенных катастроф Института гидрометеорологии Грузинского технического университета, доктора географических наук.