

LEO CHIKAVA – 90

90th year anniversary from the birth of a famous Georgian scientist, Leo Chikava is turned this year. He was an excellent scientist-economist, demographer, public figure, doctor of economical sciences, professor, member-correspondent of Georgian National Academy of Sciences, Founder and first President of Georgian Academy of Economical Sciences, Academician of the Academy of Sciences of New-York, Real Member of Business, Egrisi and Ecological Sciences Academies, Deserved Figure of Science and Cavalier of Order of Honor.

Mr. Leo Chikava was born in 1928 in Koki village of Zugdidi region. After completion of a secondary school with honors, he successfully graduated from the Economic Faculty and postgraduate school of Tbilisi State University specializing in Political Economy. In 1954 he successfully defended the Candidate dissertation, under the guidance of the Academician Paata Gugushvili and in 1968 – the doctoral dissertation. At the age of 40 he received a scientific title of a Professor.

Between different periods he worked, as the Head of the Chair at Ilia Chavchavadze Tbilisi State Pedagogical Institute of Foreign Languages; as a senior teacher, Professor, Head of the chair at Georgian Technical University; Deputy Director in the field of scientific work at the Institute of Economics of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences, Director of Demographic and Sociological Research Institute of Georgian National Academy of Sciences, Rector of Paata Gugushvili University, Head of the Center for Management of State Office and Training, Retraining and Improvement of Qualification of civil servants; senior research officer of the Industrial Forces and Natural Resources Center at Georgian Technical University.

Academician Leo Chikava conducted a fruitful scientific research work in parallel with active pedagogical work. He was the author of more than 200 published scientific works. Among them up to 40 monographic researches are published as separate books, guidance, supplementary guidance and a brochure. The spheres of his scientific interests were: systemic research of actual problems of innovative economy, production of food, demographic situation, theory of economy. His recom-



mendations introduced into practice significantly supported improvement of the economic efficiency.

Results of his many-sided scientific researches are widely reflected not only in Georgian, but also in international scientific journals and collections. Following researches should be mentioned among them: „The place and the role of Georgian Food Industry in the Labor Division of the Union“, „Georgia in Integrated National Economic Complex“, „Critical Demographic Situation in Georgia: Essence, Reasons, Ways of Overcoming“, „Employment and Unemployment in Georgia“ etc.

Works of Academician Leo Chikava deserved many prestigious famous premiums. Among them should be mentioned the monograph: „Demology and Its Laws System“, which in 2012 was awarded with Registered Academic Premium of Philippe Gogichaishvili. It should be specially emphasized, that Mr. Leo Chikava completed Terminological Vocabulary, which was started, but could not be completed, by academicians Paata Gugushvili and Vasil Chantladze, and which is a table-book of all the economists.

He attended international conferences in Ita-

ly, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary and Russia with reports containing interesting and acute scientific problems. More than 35 candidates and doctoral dissertations were defended under his guidance. He was opponent of more than 70 dissertations, among them 25 doctoral dissertations. He was the Head and the member of many boards of dissertation.

Academician Leo Chikava was the organizer of various scientific conferences (symposiums); the author, co-author and participant of important projects on the conceptions and actual problems; active member of many international economic journals published in Georgian language, as well as editorial board member of foreign journals; Editor-in-Chief of the journal of Works of Georgian Academy of Economic Sciences. Under his editorship tens of works were published.

He also was the member of Coordination Board of Economic Section at the Learned Experts Board, Head of the Bureau of Social Sciences Department of Georgian National Academy of Sciences, Member of Mtianeti Study and the Commission of Humanitarian Sciences, Member of Rector's Advisory Board of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

Mr. Leo Chikava was engaged in various social activities. He was the member of various governmental commissions, scientific associations and societies, he was elected as a Chairman of All Georgians World Congress Demography and Migration Chamber. He presented many reporting cards to the Government, regarding the problems of social-economic development of our country.

During the last 20 years Mr.Chikava intensively investigated the most acute problems of our country – demographic situation regularities. Under his guidance the demographic policy conception was developed. He was a worthy student of his teacher - Academician Paata Gugushvili, who founded the demographic science in Georgia. Professor

Leo Chikava has conducted the patriotic act - by his initiative and effort a Research Institute of Demography and Sociological Research of Georgian Academy of Sciences was founded and he was its first Director. He was the first President of the Academy of Georgian Economic Sciences, which was founded and directed by him until the end of his life.

Merit of Professor Leo Chikava is diversified and very remarkable. He was elected as a Deputy of the Supreme Council of the first convocation of the Republic of Georgia. His signature is on the Act of Restoration of State Independence of Georgia (April 09, 1991). On September 10, 2004, the International Biographical Center (Cambridge, England) awarded Mr. Leo with International Order of Honor and he was elected as an Honorary Member of this Organization. He was a Cavalier of many governmental awards. On March 18, 2009 American Biography Institute has named him as „Man of The Year representing Georgia 2009”.

By the Decree No: 167 of the President of Georgia issued on March 20, 1998, Mr. Leo Chikava was awarded with the Order of Honor. He was awarded with Iv. Javakhishvili medal too. The Patriarchal Certificate, which was handed to him by Catholicos - Patriarch of All Georgia, His Holiness and Beatitude Ilia II in the ceremonial circumstances should be specially mentioned.

In Georgian Economists' society Mr. Leo Chikava is considered as the Patriarch of Georgian economic sciences for his great contribution made in the economical science.

Our generation is happy to be the contemporary of the Academician Leo Chikava. His memory, as of a worthy patriot and excellent scientist, will pass from generation to generation.

**Rectorate of Georgian Technical University
Department of Engineering Economics**