

Later on she focused on the study of spiritual culture (customs, demonology, superstitions, cosmogony) in wider Slavonic contexts applying consistently historical and comparative method.

In 1964 she started working at the department of ethnography as an external lecturer giving lectures on non-European nations. In 1975 she became an external and in 1978 internal head of the Cabinet of Ethnology of the Faculty of Philosophy of Comenius University, where she habilitated as a Associate Professor of ethnography. As the head of the Cabinet she led the research team working on the state supervised basic research in ethnic minorities, ethnic processes and cultural traditions in socialist society. She carried on with her own research in and study of custom traditions the results of which were published in a monograph called *Rok vo zvykoch nášho ľudu / The Year in the Customs of Our People* (1986) – the first synthesis of seasonal customs in Slovakia. In the sphere of theory she focused on the category of traditions and ethnic categories.

As a lecturer she gave lectures on spiritual culture, Slavonic ethnography, the ethnography of non-European nations. She supervised seven doctoral students. For teaching purposes she published a textbook *Úvod do štúdia etnografie a folkloristiky* (1989) / *The Introduction to the Study of Ethnography and Folklore*.

She was also active as an organizer of scientific activities as a head of the Section of Spiritual Culture in the Ethnographic Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, head of the Cabinet of Ethnology of the Faculty of Philosophy and the deputy head of the Department (in 1990 she was a designated head of the Department). In 1975 – 1978 she acted as a chairperson of the Slovak Ethnographic Association. In 1993 she was appointed its honorary member. E. Horváthová belonged to the most significant and productive representatives of ethnography of her generation.

Kornélia Jakubíková

Assoc. Professor Ladislav MLYNKA, CSc.

*1954 – †2010



The personality, and to ethnology and museology oriented professional career of professor Ladislav Mlynka significantly influenced the development of the Department of ethnology and cultural anthropology in the previous two decades. Since his graduation he focused on the study of folk architecture which on the basis of his field systematic research he interpreted and made accessible in his works.

The key problems of his scientific interest were not only the research of the types of dwellings in the context of construction and settlement development

in Slovakia, but he paid attention to the social and professional orientation of their dwellers (*Remeselník vo vidieckom prostredí. Remeslo a status remeselníka v lokálnom spoločenstve*, 2004).

He was interested especially in folk technical constructions (with the emphasis on the water-mills) in Slovakia which he presented in numerous studies not only from the view of an ethnologist and exquisite expert in constructional principles of these objects (*Vodný mlyn a jeho terminológia v slovenčine a v slovanských jazykoch*, 2006, editor of the miscellany: *Ochrana banských technických pamiatok na Slovensku* 1988, *Výrobné technické objekty v ľudovom staviteľstve* 1988), but also as a museologist and conservator of the Slovak cultural heritage (*Prezentácia technických stavieb in situ" a v múzeách v prírode na Slovensku*, 2004).

The professional erudition of professor Mlynka resulted from his knowledge he gained through the activities of many years in the institutions of cultural heritage preservation. These two priorities were reflected in his publications and teaching activities in the department of ethnology and cultural anthropology in Bratislava resulting in the foundation of the museology branch of study he became head of. (*Muzeológia na Filozofickej fakulte UK Bratislava ako študijný odbor*, 2008).

Besides lectures and seminars on folk architecture he extended his professional interest by the issues of environmental ethnology with the emphasis on the preservation of historical settlements, their cultural and spiritual dimension and the sights as the items of settlement structure and its identity (*Identita vidieckych sídel / k jej duchovnej a kultúrnej dimenzii*), 2003, *Pamiatky v regióne, regiónov pamiatkach / na príklade využitia mlynov v turizme*, 2005).

The bibliography of his works includes monographs he authored and edited (*Región Vodného diela Žilina. Ľudová kultúra zátopovej oblasti* 2005, *Volkovce* 2000, *Zlaté Moravce* 1998, *Komjatice* 2008).

Magdaléna Paríková

Professor Milan LEŠČÁK, CSc.

*1940



After finishing his studies of Slovak language and ethnography and defending his diploma thesis (*Humoristické rozprávania v Spišskom Hrhove, Klčove a Dolanoch*) in 1963 M. Leščák became a doctoral student at the Ethnographic Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. In 1971 he defended his doctoral thesis *Humoristické rozprávania v Spišskom Hrhove, Klčove a Dolanoch*. In the Institute he held the positions of research worker, scientific secretary (1967 – 1971), deputy director (1976 – 1988) and the director in 1988 – 1992. In this period he was also an editor-in-chief of the journal *Slovenský národopis*.