



AFTER MUZAFFER ŞENYÜREK
THE GREAT TURKISH SCIENTIST

There are men who come to the world, live and die, and there are men who, despite the death, continue to live.ŞENYÜREK was one of our rare scientists of international value who belong to this second group.

The parting ofŞENYÜREK from the heart of science and his passing into the arms of death leave — for our country as well as for the world of science — a gap that cannot be filled.

ŞENYÜREK was able to start in our country the torch of the modern Paleontology and to extend its light to the western world. It is our unavoidable duty to mention here with gratitude thatŞENYÜREK was the vanguard in our country of the Evolutive Paleontology, which is most needed by the Geology.

His studies, which proved that the geological, paleontological and paleogeographical problems of Turkey — situated between great continents — must be

established within the framework of the Evolutive Paleontology, form the honour pages of the Turkish Paleontology. He was capable of developing with an enviable perfection the evolutive paleontological characteristics and the value of a fossil, that would exactly show the characteristics of a geological zone. This virtue of ŞENYÜREK was due to his unlimited respect for the ever-advancing principles of science.

ŞENYÜREK, who worked in the field as a geological biogeologist, and in his laboratory as a biological geologist, represented an eminent and respected figure in the field of Paleontology.

The increase of his scientific studies had reached, in quantity and quality, a very advanced point. Among his publications, which number around one hundred (the list of his works given here, and which is not complete, gives us an idea about this fact), especially in the last years, his studies exploring the deepest parts of the modern Paleontology are above all kinds of compliments.

His continuous work in the field of Human and Mammiferous Paleontology will hold a torch for our generation as well as for the generations to come. His interest towards the Carnivore fossils — which gave the most logical and reliable samples to the Paleontology and to the geological and evolutive problems — was no smaller than his interest towards the Primatological materials. As an indication of this, we could mention as best samples his most appreciated efforts contained in his great works published in 1959 and 1960.

The modern biometric methods of ŞENYÜREK and his ability to use them in the Paleontological and Paleoanthropological studies have given to these twin sciences a completely new aspect.

It is a misfortune that his untimely death has deprived us of his further contributions towards the determination of the generical characteristics in the Paleontological and Paleoanthropological materials.

The personality of ŞENYÜREK, his superior qualities of teaching, his deep modesty, his unequaled and devoted amical feelings, his unforgettable good deeds, reflected the superior qualities of a human being who has reached the peak of science and culture. -

If I could add here a few words, I should say that I have been during 18 years under the protection of his deep erudition and merits. It is a pity that he disappeared and we left him with all his qualities and scientific knowledge under an armful of flowers. The wind brought into the deepest parts of our hearts the scent of his wet grave and we could think only this: to live in the bosom of science was his unlimited happiness.

Fikret OZANSOY