

IN MEMORIAM**MIECZYŚLAW KLIMASZEWSKI**

(1908–1995)

Photo by Konrad K. Pollesch

The Polish Polar science had lost an illustrious representative: Professor Dr. Mieczysław Klimaszewski — a world-renown geomorphologist, Honorary Fellow of the Committee on Polar Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

His main field of scientific research over many decades was geomorphology and landscape evolution of the Carpathian Mountains. In this field, he has been considered an authority both in Poland and abroad and the founder of a modern school of geomorphology.

Professor Klimaszewski's visit to the Arctic in 1938 was organized in connection with a Polish 4-man scientific expedition to Oscar II Land, NW Spitsbergen, led by S. Bernadzikiewicz. Professor Klimaszewski's excellent monograph *Geomorphological studies of the western part of Spitsbergen between Kongsfjord and Eidembukta* (Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Prace Inst. Geogr., 1: 1–168, 1960), a result of that expedition, was widely acclaimed by students of Quaternary glaciation. It served as a basis for further geomorphological research over the same area by numerous scientific expeditions organized by the M. Copernicus University (Toruń, Poland) since 1977.

Professor Klimaszewski's comparative geomorphological studies in Europe (Carpathians and the Alps), China, Brazil and Spitsbergen earned him worldwide recognition. He was awarded seven doctorates *honoris causa* at the Polish and foreign universities, five fellowships of the Polish and foreign academies of sciences, and several honorary fellowships of scientific societies in this country and abroad, not even to mention numerous medals and other distinctions. For a long time he had been Professor and Director at the Institute of Geography of the Jagiellonian University in Cracow, then President of that university. For several years, he had been Vice-President of the Polish Republic.

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