



**In memoriam Inessa Khristianovna Sharova  
(28.10.1931–22.06.2021)**

October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 marked the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Inessa Khristianovna Sharova, the famous Soviet/Russian entomologist, Doctor of Biological Sciences, Honorary Professor of the Moscow Pedagogical State University, a member of the Presidium of the Moscow Branch of the Russian Entomological Society.

Inessa Khristianovna Sharova (nee Pukit) was born on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 1931 in Moscow. She spent her childhood first in the regions of Prechistenka and Arbat streets of Moscow City, later in Mordovia, where her family was evacuated during the Great Patriotic War. In 1949, having graduated from Moscow school No. 43, Inessa Khristianovna entered the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the V.I. Lenin Moscow State Pedagogical Institute, which she graduated with honours in 1953. It was then that she luckily met Academician Mercury Sergeyevich Ghilarov, the founder of soil zoology as a new science. Inessa Khristianovna enthusiastically joined the study of soil invertebrates, this having determined her further scientific career. Her formation as a researcher took place during the numerous field trips to different parts of the former USSR. Academician M.S. Ghilarov and Professor Konstantin Vladimirovich Arnoldi, her teachers and supervisors, played major roles in this process. Already during her student years, Inessa Khristianovna together with the scientific staff of the Laboratory of Soil Zoology, A.N.

Severtsov Institute of Evolutionary Morphology and Ecology of Animals, USSR Academy of Sciences, worked in the Rostov, Voroshilovgrad and Volgograd regions, as well as at the North Caucasus. Inessa Khristianovna developed an early scientific interest in the morphology and taxonomy of ground beetle larvae. Due to her excellent artistic abilities, she revealed their smallest morphological features.

In 1953, I.Kh. Sharova entered the graduate school at the Department of Zoology and Evolution Theory of the V.I. Lenin Moscow State Pedagogical Institute. Her supervisor, Academician M.S. Ghilarov, provided the young specialist with all possible assistance, including contacts with such world's leading experts in the taxonomy and morphology of ground beetles as Fritz van Emden, Karl Lindroth, Sven Larsson, Martin Luff, Pierre Bazilevsky and others.

In 1957, Inessa Khristianovna was admitted to the Department of Zoology and Evolution Theory of the V.I. Lenin Moscow State Pedagogical Institute, presently the Department of Zoology and Ecology of the Moscow State Pedagogical University, where she worked until the last days of her life. In 1958, she successfully defended her PhD Thesis titled "Larvae of ground beetles useful and harmful in agriculture" and published a monograph with a guide to the larvae of ground beetles,

the first in the former USSR. Subsequently, the supplemented materials of her dissertation were included as a large section in the collective monograph "The larvae of soil-dwelling insects", edited by Academician M.S. Ghilarov and awarded a USSR State Prize.

Inessa Khristianovna worked her way up from assistant to professor and head of the Zoology and Ecology Department. Her versatile abilities were fully manifested in her teaching activity. The students and graduate students attended her lectures with great attention, falling under the lecturer's charm and erudition, and imbued with her true interest in zoology. She developed original training courses in invertebrate zoology and evolutionary theory, as well as special courses in entomology and ecological morphology. She successfully focused all her experience as a scientist and teacher in "Invertebrate Zoology", a textbook for pedagogical universities published in 1999. During her scientific career, Inessa Khristianovna published 12 monographs, more than 200 research papers and 17 textbooks and teaching aids for universities and ordinary schools.

Inessa Khristianovna attracted large number of her students to the study of the morphology and ecology of ground beetles. Together with her graduate students, she conducted field trips to many regions of the former USSR and Russia: Dagestan, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Crimea, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, the Baltic States and Mordovia, as well as the Moscow, Bryansk, Tambov, Kursk, Orenburg, Saratov and Tula regions.

In 1974, Inessa Khristianovna successfully defended her Habilitation Thesis, "Life forms of ground beetles (Coleoptera, Carabidae)". In 1981, she published a monograph with the same title. For many years this monograph, albeit published in Russian, determined one of the major directions in the study of ground beetles not only among the Soviet and Russian, but also among European entomologists. The most fruitful doctrine of the life forms of ground beetles was further developed and supplemented by Professor K.V. Makarov, one of Inessa Khristianovna's students, and by Pietro and Tullia Zetto Brandmayr, both professors at the University of Calabria, Italy.

Since 1974 to 1984 Inessa Khristianovna was Dean of the Faculty of Biology and Chemistry of the V.I. Lenin Moscow State Pedagogical Institute; between 1983 and 2005 she headed the Department of Zoology and Ecology as well. For more than 15 years she also headed the Dissertation Council of the Faculty of Biology and Chemistry in "Zoology", "Ecology" and "Botany"; for many years she served as a member of the Dissertation Council of the A.N. Severtsov Institute of Evolutionary Morphology and Ecology of Animals, Russian Academy of Sciences; she was a member of the Expert Council of the Higher Attestation Commission for Biological Sciences, and was a member of the editorial board of the journal "Entomological Review".

Inessa Khristianovna was one of the leaders of the soil zoology scientific school in the USSR and Russia, founded by Academician M.S. Ghilarov, also serving as

the scientific leader of the Moscow group of carabidologists. She played great roles in organizing carabidological research in Russia's entomology, combining multidirectional research into a unified direction. Inessa Khristianovna was the executive editor of nine collections of research papers on various aspects of the ecology of Carabidae. Oleg Leonidovich Kryzhanovskiy, one of the world's largest specialists in the taxonomy, morphology and phylogeny of ground beetles, Professor at the Zoological Institute of the USSR/Russian Academy of Sciences, provided invaluable help to Inessa Khristianovna in this process. Together they organized three All-Union Carabidological Meetings: in Moscow (1977), Makhachkala (1986) and Chisinau (1990); the fourth Meeting, in Saransk (2000), took place after the death of Oleg Leonidovich. Inessa Khristianovna was a permanent member of the organizing committees of All-Union and All-Russia conferences on the problems of soil zoology, serving together with her colleagues, friends and apprentices of Academician M.S. Ghilarov such as Professor Bella Rafailovna Striganova, a Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and Head of the Laboratory of Soil Zoology and Ecology, Institute of Evolutionary Morphology and Ecology of Animals, Russian Academy of Sciences, and Professor Nina Mikhailovna Chernova, Zoology and Ecology Department, Moscow State Pedagogical University.

Over the years of her scientific and pedagogical activity, Inessa Khristianovna has trained numerous high-quality entomologists. During this period, under her supervision, as many as 30 post-graduate students and six doctoral students successfully defended their PhD or Doctoral theses, respectively. Her apprentices and followers still work at universities or research institutions of Moscow, Arkhangelsk, Saransk, Bryansk, Michurinsk, Tula, Tolyatti, Nizhny Novgorod, Volgograd, Rostov-on-Don, Makhachkala, Ulan-Ude, Ussuriysk, and Birobidzhan, as well as in the USA, Canada, Bulgaria and the Czech Republic.

The scientific, pedagogical and social activity of Inessa Khristianovna was highly appreciated by her colleagues and management. She was awarded the honorary badges "Excellence in Public Education" (1979) and "Excellence in Education in the USSR" (1981), the medals "In Commemoration of the 850<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Moscow" (1997) and "Veteran of Labor", she was also awarded the title "Honored Worker of Higher Professional Education in the Russian Federation" (2003) and "Honored Worker of Higher Education in the Russian Federation" (2003).

Inessa Khristianovna Sharova died on June 22<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in Moscow and was buried at the Novodevichy cemetery. The warm recollections of Inessa Khristianovna will remain forever in the hearts and memories of all her friends, students and colleagues.

Colleagues of the Zoology and Ecology Department,  
Moscow State Pedagogical University,  
Editorial Board of the "Russian Entomological Journal"



I.Kh. Sharova (in the foreground, right), M.S. Ghilarov (in the background, left) and B.M. Mamaev (in the background, right) in expedition, Derkul steppe, Ukraine (1951).

И.Х. Шарова (на переднем плане, справа), М.С. Гиляров (на заднем плане, слева) и Б.М.Мамаев (на заднем плане, справа) в экспедиции, Деркульская степь, Украина (1951).



I.Kh. Sharova (far right) with students on the excursions on pollinating insects at the Pavlovskaya Sloboda biological station, Moscow region, Russia (1961).

И.Х. Шарова (крайняя справа) со студентами на экскурсии по насекомым-опылителям на биостанции Павловская Слобода, Московская область, Россия (1961).



I.Kh. Sharova and O.L. Kryzhanovsky at the 1<sup>st</sup> All-Union Carabidological Meeting, Moscow (1977).  
И.Х. Шарова и О.Л. Крыжановский на 1м Всесоюзном карабидологическом совещании, Москва (1977).



I.Kh. Sharova with her graduate students of different years: N.V. Nazarenko, N.G. Kozlov, A.V. Matalin, V.E. Karpova, V.M. Dushenkov, S.V. Utyanskaya, Moscow (1986).  
И.Х. Шарова со своими аспирантами разных лет: Н.В. Назаренко, Н.Г. Козлов, А.В. Маталин, В.Е. Карпова, В.М. Душенков, С.В. Утянская, Москва (1986).



I.Kh. Sharova (sitting in the center) with the members of the Department of Zoology and Ecology of the Moscow State Pedagogical University. Sitting (from left to right): S.P. Shatalova, A.V. Mikheev, V.G. Matveeva, N.M. Chernova. Standing (from left to right): V.M. Dushenkov, M.E. Chernyakhovsky, V.M. Konstantinov, S.A. Polozov, V.M. Galushin, A.G. Yelenevsky, I.A. Zhigarev. Moscow (1989).

И.Х. Шарова (сидит в центре) с сотрудниками кафедры зоологии и экологии МПГУ. Сидят: С.П. Шаталова, А.В. Михеев, В.Г. Матвеева, Н.М. Чернова. Стоят: В.М. Душенков, М.Е. Черняховский, В.М. Константинов, С.А. Полозов, В.М. Галушин, А.Г. Еленевский, И.А. Жигарев. Москва (1989).



И.Х.Шарова с сыном и внуками в Вирджиния-Бич, США (1992).

I.Kh. Sharova with her son and grandchildren in Virginia Beach, USA (1992).



I.Kh. Sharova with her graduate students of different generations: V.E. Karpova (left) and B.Yu. Filippov (right), Moscow (2000).  
И.Х. Шарова со своими аспирантами разных поколений: В.Е Карпова (слева) и Б.Ю. Филиппов (справа), Москва (2000).



I.Kh. Sharova during preparation of the paper on the life forms of ground beetles, Moscow (2004).  
И.Х. Шарова во время работы над статьёй по жизненным формам жужелиц, Москва (2004).