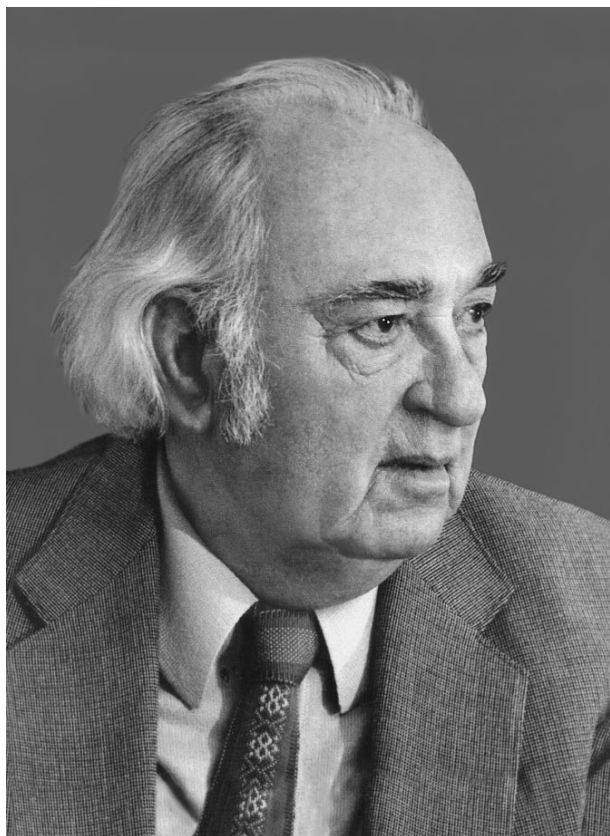

OBITUARY

Rostislav Kaishev (1908–2002)*



On November 18th, 2002, Professor Rostislav Kaishev passed away at the age of 94. He was an internationally recognized Bulgarian scientist who contributed significantly to the foundation and development of the contemporary nucleation and crystal growth theory. Together with Ivan Stranski, Kaishev developed the theory of mean works of separation, demonstrating for the first time and in unambiguous way the interrelation

between the thermodynamic and the kinetic approach to the equilibrium state of small phases. He generalized the Gibbs–Curie–Wulff’s rule for crystals formed on a foreign substrate and carried out a thorough molecular-kinetic treatment of the nucleation and growth phenomena in homogeneous and heterogeneous systems.

Kaishev had initiated many experimental studies of nucleation and crystal growth, which culminated in the verification of the two-dimensional nucleation and growth mechanism in the case of electrocrystallization on identical substrates. His ideas of the electrochemical phase formation had led to a number of important technological applications in this field.

Kaishev founded the Institute of Physical Chemistry at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and directed this Institute for more than 30 years. He was Vice-President of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Vice-President of the International Union for Pure and Applied Physics, member of several foreign Academies of Sciences and member of the Editorial Boards of many scientific journals.

For his scientific achievements Professor Rostislav Kaishev was distinguished with numerous national and international awards, among them the Honorary Insignia “Marin Drinov” of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the Honorary Insignia of the Sofia University “Sv. Kliment Ohridski”, the golden “Cotenus” medal of the German “Leopoldina” Academy of Natural Sciences and the Great Honorary Insignia of Republic of Austria.

Professor Rostislav Kaishev was an outstanding scientist and a remarkable person. With his death the nucleation and crystal growth community lost the last old master from the famous generation of M. Volmer, W. Kossel, I.N. Stranski, Ya.B. Zeldovich, and F.C. Frank.

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* This article was submitted by the authors in English.