



IN MEMORIAM

Associated Professor Anastasiya Gelyazkova Nacheva, MD, PhD

On the 17 of August 2023 Associated Professor Anastasiya Nacheva passed away. Anastasiya Nacheva was born on the 25th of May 1940 in the town of Svilengrad in a pastor's family. She lived, studied and worked in the town of Svilengrad and in the city of Sofia.

Anastasiya Nacheva graduated Faculty of Dentistry at Higher Medical Institute in Sofia (1964). After graduating she worked in a rural health department. She was appointed an intern at the Department of Surgical Dentistry of the Higher Medical Institute in Sofia, and in 1972 she acquired a specialty in Surgical Dentistry. In November 1973, Anastasiya Nacheva was appointed as a researcher in the Department of Anthropology at the Institute of Morphology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. In 1986 she acquired PhD degree after defense of dissertation on "Differentiation in the anthropological characteristics of workers with different type of labor activity". In February 1982 Anastasiya Nacheva was promoted into Assistant Professor, later in 1990 to Associate Professor and then she joined the scientific council of IEMPAM-BAS. She was a member of the Bulgarian Anthropological Society, Bulgarian Anatomical Society and European Anthropological Association.

Anastasiya Nacheva's remarkable scientific activity was in different fields of physical anthropology: paleoanthropology, morphology, dentistry, ergonomics, auxology, physical development, medical and applied anthropology. She created original methods for the quantitative assessment of the manifestations of morpho-functional asymmetry in the human body. Her main fundamental and applied scientific achievements are:

- Determining the specifics of the age-sex differences in the anthropological characteristics of different groups of the Bulgarian population – children, adolescents and adults with an emphasis on the assessment of regularities in the processes of growth and physical development of Bulgarians living in the 20th and 21st Centuries;
- Follow up the secular trend in the physical development of the Bulgarian population in the 20th and 21st Centuries;
- Anthropometric characterization of the body composition and nutritional status of the individuals and determination of the boundaries between morbidity and health in these characteristics;
- Anthropological characterization and assessment of adaptive morpho-functional changes in different living conditions and different labor and physical activity;

Associated Professor Anastasiya Nacheva is a co-author of the 4 monographs in Bulgaria and 1 abroad, such as: „Anthropological-ergonomic characteristics of the Bulgarian population“ (1985); “Anthropology of the Bulgarian Population at the End of the 20th Century” (2006); “Physical Development of Children and Youths in Bulgaria on the Borderline between 20th and 21st Century” (2012) and other. She is the author of more than 130 publications in Bulgaria and abroad; 8 Bulgarian government standards /BDS/ implemented in practice and 2 inventions of scientific equipment. She participated in the organization of many scientific events.

Associated Professor Anastasiya Nacheva was dedicated in teaching students from Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” and National Sports Academy, Sofia. She was a mentor of many young anthropologists and supervisor of graduate and post-graduate students, supporting their scientific development and academic promotion.

She was a beloved teacher, a scientist with wide interests not only in the field of anthropology and biomedicine, but also in the field of history and archaeology, literature, art, music, etc.

We lost a great scientist with nice personality and humanism, Anastasiya Nacheva will leave for ever an everlasting bright mark among us with her erudition, strong spirit, active position, dedication and love for science!

Ivaila Yankova – Pandourska