



REPORT
Of the Symposium KARST 2018
“EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED”
Trebinje, Bosnia & Herzegovina – 06 - 09. June, 2018.

The Symposium under the name *Karst 2018 „Expect the unexpected“* was organised in the honour of 80th Anniversary of Petar T. Milanović’s birth, and took place in the heart of Dinaric karst (Classical Karst) - Bosnia & Herzegovina (B&H), in the city of Trebinje, the largest town of eastern B&H, located on the northern rim of one of the spectacular karst poljes of the Dinarides - Popovo polje in the Trebišnjica river basin, just 30 km from the Adriatic coastline. This area was thoroughly studied by professor Milanović for many years, and that is why scientist from whole around the world were gathered there.



Symposium was held in the period from 06 - 09. June 2018, and was organised by Hydro Power Plant Dabar (Trebinje) and University of Belgrade, Faculty of Mining and Geology, Centre for Karst Hydrogeology of the Department of Hydrogeology in partnership with IAH Karst Commission and Geological Survey of the Republic of Srpska. Symposium was generally sponsored and supported by Municipality of Trebinje and Hydro Power System on Trebišnjica River.

Symposium was attended by approximately 100 people from 16 countries (USA, Canada, Russia, China, Turkey, Albania, Hungary, Austria, Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Italia, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Serbia), who submitted a total of 47 papers (150 authors and co-authors from 21 countries).

Opening ceremony took place in the Cultural Centre of Trebinje in 4 pm on the 6th June. The presidential board consisted of Željko Zubac, co-president of the organizational committee of

the Symposium and director of the Hydro power plant Dabar, Dr Saša Milanović, president of organising committee, prof. Dr Zoran Stevanović, president of the scientific committee of the Symposium - head of Centre for karst hydrogeology and Boban Jolović, representative of The Geological survey of the Republic of Srpska, who joined the stage and gave welcome speech to the respected audience. Beside them, Dr Dragoslav Banjak president of The City Council of Trebinje, as representative of Trebinje City addressed to the respected audience with his speech and officially opened Symposium Karst 2018.



Welcome speech of Željko Zubac (left) and Dr Saša Milanović (right)



Welcome speech of prof. Dr Zoran Stevanović (left) and Boban Jolović (right)



Welcome speech of Dr Dragoslav Banjak who officially opened Symposium

During whole ceremony, guest could enjoy in the lovely sounds of ethno group Teodulia which performed rather interesting and nice old songs from this region.



Ethno group Teodulia

After presidential board left the stage, two invited speakers held their lectures. Firstly, Derek Ford, an eminent emeritus professor from McMaster University in Canada held his plenary lecture with title: *THE EVOLUTION OF KARSTOLOGY*. After his lecture, respectable emeritus professor Richard Parizek, from Pennsylvania State University, took the stage and delivered his plenary lecture with title: *When research and practice involves karst: EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED*.



Plenary lectures delivered by eminent emeritus professors: prof. Dr Derek Ford (left) and prof. Dr Richard Parizek (right)

After all speaker and lecturers, the final part of the opening ceremony was reserved for award giving ceremony. The awards were given to distinguished scientists from all over the world who have given significant contribution to the development of the science of karst with their work and studies for many years.

Firstly, director Željko Zubac gave a Special award, which was the plaque of the Karst Symposium 2018, to prof. Dr Petar Milanović for his 80th birthday and an immense scientific contribution to the karst studies, and primarily to the studies of the Dinaric karst.



Plaque of the Karst Symposium 2018

for 80th birthday of prof. Dr Petar Milanović

After this Special award, professor Dr Zoran Stevanović, on behalf of the Centre for karst hydrogeology, awarded ceremonious plaquettes to the scientists and institutions which have given contribution to the development of karst studies on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of The Centre. Awards were given to prof. Dr Petar Milanović, prof. Dr Derek Ford, prof. Dr Ognjen Bonacci, and to Hydro Power System on Trebišnjica River whose plaque was awarded to the General Director Gordan Mišeljić. Award was also posthumously awarded to the prof. Dr Borivoje Mijatović, whose plaque was awarded to his wife Olga Mijatović. After award giving ceremony, guest were invited to enjoy in cocktail party that took place on the roof of the Cultural Centre of Trebinje.



Ceremonious plaquettes awarded to the scientists and institutions which have given contribution to the development of karst studies on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of The Centre.



Cocktail party on the roof of the Cultural Centre of Trebinje

On the second day, participants of the Symposium were on the whole day excursion, where they were able to see “the upper horizons” of Trebišnjica Hydro Energy Power System. Prof. Dr Petar Milanović was guide of the excursion. First stop was outlet of the tunnel Fatnica Polje and reservoir “Bileća”. On the second stop, participants had opportunity to see Fatničko polje and Obod estavela. Third stop was reserved for inlet of the tunnel reservoir Nevesinje – HPP Dabar.



First stop - outlet of the tunnel Fatnica Polje and reservoir “Bileća”



Second and third stop Fatničko polje and Obod estavela; inlet of the tunnel reservoir Nevesinje – HPP Dabar.

During the bus ride, participants also had opportunity to see Nevesinjsko polje, temporary river Zalomka, as well possible zone of reservoir. Final stop was on the dam and reservoir Klinje, where participants rest a little bit and enjoyed in natural beauty of the area, while they listened an oral lecture of Prof. Dr Milanović. Whole day excursion was finished with lunch at the national restaurant Mosko near the Trebinje city, where participants enjoyed in traditional food.



Natural beauty of Herzegovinian karst and dam and reservoir Klinje

On the third and the last day of the Symposium, participants presented their presentations in the four sessions divided in Big and Small hall in the building of Hydro Power System on Trebišnjica River. Sessions were opened by key note speakers: prof. Dr Ralph Benische, prof. Dr Lu Yaoru, prof. Dr Zoran Stevanović and Dr Neno Kukurić. Closing ceremony was in the afternoon (5 pm), when Symposium statement was presented by Željko Zubac, Dr Saša Milanović, prof. Dr Zoran Stevanović and Dr Neno Kukurić. Also, Prof. Dr Peter Milanović Milanovic was addressed to the auditorium and thanked for the fact that they came in large numbers to support the Symposium on karst organized in his honour.



Closing ceremony

Symposium Karst 2018 “Expect the unexpected” was closed with gala dinner in the hotel Leotar, where participants in good atmosphere were enjoyed local food and wines. They also enjoyed music and dance, which continued till late hours.



Gala dinner in the Hotel Leotar

Reported by

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co-president and president of the Organising Committee