

## **GOLDEN PAGES**

**SAMVEL KHUDOYAN**

### **IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE PROMINENT SCIENTIST**



Samvel Khudoyan, psychologist, psychotherapist, doctor, Head of the Chair of Applied Psychology of Khachatur Abovian ASPU, died prematurely on December 3, 2020.

The eminent Armenian psychologist was born in 1960 in Yerevan. Graduating from Pedagogical Institute in 1991, he defended his PhD dissertation. In 2010, he introduced successfully his doctoral thesis, which earned him the Doctoral degree. In 2014 he received the title of Professor. At the beginning of his career, S. Khudoyan worked as a school teacher, then as a researcher at the State Research Institute of Pedagogical Sciences. Since 1989, S. Khudoyan has been teaching at the Armenian State Pedagogical University named, at the Yerevan State University, Public Administration Academy and other universities of Armenia. In 2005 S. Khudoyan was invited to give lectures at the K. Tahta Armenian School of London, later at the Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) State University. In 1994 he started to work as a psychologist at the Mental health centre “Stress”, where during the period 2003-2005, he headed the non-medicinal therapy department. In 2006, S. Khudoyan started to run the Chair of Psychology at Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia. From 2011 till the end of his life, he headed the Chair of Applied Psychology of the Armenian State Pedagogical University named after Khachatur Abovian.

Dr Khudoyan made a considerable contribution to science development, particularly psychology, its appreciation and popularization. He is the founder and the editor of the first Armenian yearbook “Hogi” (“Soul”), and in 2002 it was published as a biweekly journal. He was a member of the editorial board of many Armenian and international scientific journals, such as “Psychology and Life”, “Wisdom”, etc.

Professor Khudoyan was also an outstanding psychotherapist. Practising hypnotherapy, behavioural and existential hypnotherapy for many years, he organized

many training sessions on psychotherapy, created and practised several psychotherapeutic techniques, a scientific concept about suggestion mechanisms. S. Khudoyan is the author of the first psychotherapeutic CD (against depression) in Armenian language. In the 1980s, he was doing a psychological TV program on the First Armenian TV channel, in the early 2000s, he worked as a consulting psychologist of AR TV at the same time he has many materials in popular newspapers, journals, TV and radio programs.

Samvel Khudoyan has more than 120 published scientific works, eight books dedicated to different problems of psychology and psychotherapy. He participated in many international scientific conferences in Russia, Greece, Canada, Turkey, etc. In 2013 S. Khudoyan organized a scientific conference, "The history of Armenian Pedagogy and modern school problems", in 2014, "Problems of school psychological service", and in 2019 S. Khudoyan organized the international conference "*Psychological problems: characteristics, principles of classification and diagnosis*".

In 1992, S. Khudoyan proposed a new theory of teaching. The effectiveness of understanding the material is conditioned mainly by the fact that if the learners understand the problems, solving which the given system of knowledge has been formed.

In 1998 S. Khudoyan proposed a new typology of personality. According to this theory, the human psychological types are formed during evolution. They have functional significance: each type is "designed" by nature to carry out a particular activity or function in society. These functions are orientation ("**information type**"), management and execution ("**organizational type**") and motivation ("**motivational type**").

S. Khudoyan has put forward several theoretical and practical innovations and concepts in the field of inspiration and hypnotherapy. He proposed another scientific typology, which has great importance for the specialists practising hypnotherapy or suggestive therapy: according to this theory, there are different psychological types, according to their determination system, i.e. how they determine, explain the objective reality, facts. These types are formed during the ontogenesis and highly depend on education. These types are "**biological determination type**", "**social-economic determination type**", "**psychological determination type**", "**mystical determination type**", "**mixed determination type**", etc. Hypnotherapy and suggestive therapy are even more effective if the specialists consider the patient's determination system if the specialist works on it or changes it.

One of the significant scientific contributions of S. Khudoyan is the new theory of ontogenetic development, which includes a new age periodization, a concept of self-consciousness reconstructions, a new concept of developmental crises.

In this theory, age development is seen as a process of solving four problems (the formation and self-exhaustion of a “type activity subject”, “sexual activity”, “social activity” subjects etc.). At each age stage, self-consciousness undergoes reconstruction: during the first stage (at the age of about 3), the type awakens, in the second stage (at the age of 11-14), sexual self-awareness awakens, in the third stage (around the age of 25-30) the person begins to perceive and feel like a subject of social (i.e. family-work) activity, and in the last age stage (at the age of 60-65), the person begins to perceive and feel mortal. The author distinguishes two types of developmental crisis: Personality developmental crises and Crises caused by transitional ages; Reconstructions of self-consciousness condition personality developmental four crises.

Armenian and foreign scientists have highly praised S. Khudoyan’s scientific theories and approaches.

The great scientist was also a man of great patriotism and had noble personality traits. He was feeling pain and was suffering from the losses and problems of his homeland, and he was looking for ways to solve those problems. He was full of life and energy. Until the last days of his life, he was engaged in scientific and pedagogical work. He had many thoughts and dreams connected with the development of psychology.