

**PROFESSORS K. BRĂTESCU AND K. HORMUSACI:  
A CONTRIBUTION TO GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCE  
DEVELOPMENT WHILE WORKING  
AT THE CHERNIVTSI UNIVERSITY**

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Konstantin Brătescu was born on 30 September 1882 in Kyshla, Tulchyskiy District, Romania. He had been living and working in Chernivtsi from 1924 until 1939. On 1 September 1924 K. Brătescu was appointed a professor at the Department of Geography of the Faculty of Sciences, Chernivtsi University, and later became the Dean of Faculty (1930-1932). The Professor's field of scientific interest lays in general in geography, methodology of geography and comparative geo-morphology. K. Brătescu was also heading the Institute of Geography at the Department of Geography. During his Chernivtsi period of life, K. Brătescu was distinguished as a valuable lecturer at the Free University of the Society of Rumanian Culture and Literature in Bukovyna. He had become a lover of Bukovyna, recognizing its history, geography and culture. Prof. Bratescu founded a Romanian Geographical Society Branch in Chernivtsi. His major scientific works are as follows:

1. "Poarta de la Cernăuți". The work deals with the study of the Tsetsyno and the Berda massifs with respect to their evolution, geo-morphological structure and perspectives.

2. "Populația regiunii Carnăuți": the Chernivtsi region population is studied; differences between mountain and pre-hill population are disclosed; the population common life, customs and traditions, migration causes and density are analyzed.

3. "Câteva captări quarternare în Bucovina și Pocutia" – describes the hydrological peculiarities of the region, as well as those of the Cheremosh river valley and terrace, and the river on the whole. The author also presents the summative hydrological picture of the region and discloses new problems and reasons that lead to changes.

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Konstantin Hormusaci is another significant contributor to the development of geographical science while working at the Chernivtsi University. He was of Chernivtsi origin born on 3 October 1863. After graduating Chernivtsi and Vienna Universities he devoted himself to scientific activity in the fields of entomology, geo-botanic and biogeography, in particular, zoo- and phyto-therapy. His scientific merits were awarded as back as in 1919 by appropriating him an honorable membership of the Romanian Academy, whereas Chernivtsi University awarded him *Doctor Honoris Causa* in March 1931 and a month later appointed him a professor at its new Department of Entomology and Bio-Geography. K. Hormusaci founded a museum and an entomological laboratory.

Bukovyna was among his prior interests: many of K. Hormusaci's works being devoted to its description. Collecting beetles and butterflies, later he turned his attention to the study of regional flora and the factors that influence individuals in particular and Bukovynian fauna on the whole. The region is distinguished for 3 zoogeographical zones, and such versatility within a rather small territory cannot but attract his scientific curiosity making him compare butterflies of these different faunas (Pontiac, Baltic, Alps). Prof. K. Hormusaci's basic works are:

1. "Die Schmetterling der Bucovina". The work deals with description of the linkage between geology, climate, plants and animals spreading in general and on the territory of Bukovyna.

2. "Beitrage zur Kaferfauna der Bucovina und Nordrumaniens Entomol": localities description in the aspects of geography, geology and fauna.

3. "New Studies of Fauna Correlations in Bukovyna": fauna, geological, climatic factors description and the factors' influence upon the Bukovynian fauna structure.

It is therefore evident that Professors K. Brătescu and K. Hormusaci had significantly contributed to the development of geographical science while working at the Chernivtsi University thus making the world know about Bukovyna and its University.

#### REFERENCES

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