

George Emil Palade - a Great Personality of the World Biology

Gogu **GHIORGHITĂ**^{1,*}

¹Academy of Romanian Scientists, Splaiul Independentei nr. 54, sector 5, 050094 Bucuresti, Romania

* Corresponding author e-mail: g.ghiorghita43@gmail.com

Abstract

The paper presents the life and the scientific work of the Romanian - American George Emil Palade, one of the greatest world scientist of the twentieth century. Along with other researchers contributed to the foundation of Cell Biology as a research area. George Emil Palade, together with Albert Claude and Christian de Duve, received Nobel Prize in October 1974 "for their discoveries concerning the structural and functional organization of the cell". His legacy is huge, overwhelming, incredible. The paper is an homage of this scientific giant at an important moment - the Romanian Union Centenary.

Key words: George Emil Palade, life, discoveries, scientific work, worldwide validation, awards.

Each country takes pride in its great champions and their success in various sports. The performers in various fields of science are great champions, as well, without whom the achievements of current human civilization and the improvements of our life would not be possible. It's a pity that some of these great personalities are rarely mentioned. Such is the case of the Romanian - American George Emil Palade, perhaps the greatest scientist in our country.

1. The professional formation

He was born in Iași (Romania), in a family of scholars, on November the 19th 1912. His father, Emil Palade, was a professor of Philosophy, and his mother, Constanța Cantemir Palade, a teacher. This intellectual environment instilled a deep respect for books, school and education in the young George Emil, as he later confessed. He attended the first three school years (1919-1922) in the 'Mihail Kogălniceanu' school. Due to the fact that his family moved to Buzău, he continued his education in 'B. P. Hașdeu' highschool, he passed the maturity final exam there, as well. He was a straight 10 pupil all those years. Though his father wanted his son to attend Philosophy courses, he started to attend the classes of the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Bucharest in 1930, he was in top of the