


Opening Ceremony



The conference took place between the 22nd and 24th of June, 2006, under the direct coordination and supervision of **Professor Vasile Surd PhD**.

The conference was organized with the specific purpose of offering a scientific support for the 31st Academic Congress of International Geographical Union that will be held at Tunis, August 2008.

The works of the conference were held in three different locations: in Cluj-Napoca City supported by the "Babeş-Bolyai" University and the Faculty of Geography, in Turda Town benefiting of an unlimited support from behalf of the City Hall and the Mayor himself, **Ec. Tudor Ştefănie**, and also, in the Miceşti Village, Cluj County, the native place of Vasile Surd.

Over 125 specialists in the field from all the University centres of Romania, and guests and friends of Professor Vasile Surd from 17 European countries and from the USA as well were present at the event. We beheld the honourable presence of **Professor Andrei Marga PhD**, president of the Economic Council of the "Babeş-Bolyai" University, who greeted the audience in the opening section of the conference with humble words honouring the event of the third international conference on Rural Space and Local Development. Also pledging honour on the importance of the present event, **Professor Emil Boc PhD**, the Mayor of Cluj-Napoca Municipality, and Ec. Tudor Ştefănie, the Mayor of Turda Town delivered their opening speeches.

The conference was also saluted by the political class from behalf of the Chamber of Deputies, Romanian Parliament, represented by **Professor Ioan Ianoş PhD**.

On the 24th of June, all the participants in this conference undertook a field trip in the area of Turda -Turului Gorges.

We closed the conference with an honorary event, a traditional festive meal, where all the participants were invited to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Professor Vasile Surd at his residence, in the village of Miceşti, no. 62, Cluj County.