

Yuri Alexandrovich Kulagin (1924–1987 гг.)

Senior Lecturer of the Department
correctional and developmental technologies
Institute of Inclusive Education BSPU
E.V. Parshonok



Yu.A. Kulagin was born in 1924 in the city of Kovrov. Participated in the Great Patriotic War.

After demobilization, Yu.A. Kulagin entered the psychological department of the philosophy faculty of Moscow State University. M.V. Lomonosov, who graduated with honors in 1952.

Already in his student days, he showed a penchant for scientific work and was recommended for postgraduate studies at the Institute of Defectology, which he completed ahead of schedule, having successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis.

Creative and scientific-organizational activity of Yu.A. Kulagina is associated with the Institute of Defectology. Postgraduate student, researcher, head of the laboratory, scientific secretary, deputy director, director of the institute - this is the way of Yu.A. Kulagin, a prominent scientist and talented organizer of science.



The leading direction of scientific work of Yu.A. Kulagina was a study of the features of the tactile perception of the blind and the visual perception of the visually impaired.

With the use of these studies, special technical means were developed for the blind, which have found wide application in teaching schoolchildren with profound visual impairments.

For a complex of scientific research, on the basis of which a number of devices were created based on the use of the photoeffect and the conversion of visually perceived features of objects into sound signals, Yu.A. Kulagin was awarded the bronze medal of the USSR Exhibition of Economic Achievements.

In 1968 Yu.A. Kulagin defended his doctoral dissertation, which examined the theoretical aspects of the problem of studying the characteristics of perception of the blind.

The monograph «Perception of visual means by pupils of schools for the blind», written on the basis of the dissertation, was awarded the first prize of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences.

A characteristic feature of Yu.A. Kulagin had a desire to use the results of psychological research to solve practical problems of teaching and educating children with visual impairments.

He took an active part in the preparation of programs for schools for the blind, was one of the authors of the «Book for the teacher of the school for the blind»

Yu.A. Kulagin devoted himself to the training of scientific personnel in defectology.

Several Ph.D. theses were defended under his supervision.

Yu.A. Kulagin was the first editor-in-chief of the scientific and methodological journal «Defectology», participated in the creation of such books as «Defectological Dictionary» and «Fundamentals of Education and Upbringing of Abnormal Children»

Since 1975 Yu.A. Kulagin headed the Scientific and Methodological Council for Defectology of the USSR Ministry of Education.

As deputy director and then director of the Institute of Defectology of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, he, with deep knowledge of the matter, creatively supervised various areas of defectological science.

In 1986 Yu.A. Kulagin headed the Bureau of the Department of Psychology and Developmental Physiology of the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences as academician-secretary.

Yuri Alexandrovich Kulagin died on July 2, 1987.

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