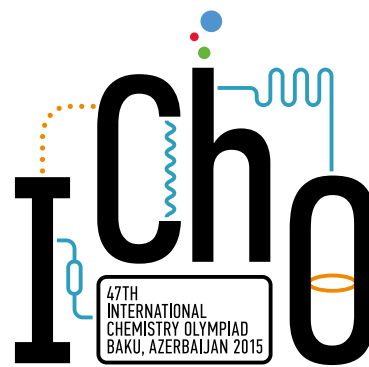


# CATALYZER

No.3, TUESDAY, 21 JULY, 2015

LIFE IS A HUGE LAB



## OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 47<sup>TH</sup> IChO



**Professor, Dr. Nargiz Pashayeva**

**President of the 47th International Chemistry Olympiad**  
**Rector of Baku Branch of Moscow State University**  
**Corresponding member of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences**

I am glad and proud of being the president of this important and exciting event. The youth, participants of the Olympiad who are present here are the main source of my joy and pride.

Dear friends, today we all understand that our planet is not so big. That's why we have chosen the motto of the Baku Olympiad "Life is a huge chemistry lab". The major

part of this laboratory consists of the living nature which has created us and gave us life. Protecting the nature means protecting the beauty, saving the beauty means protecting the truth, protecting the truth means saving the spirituality and saving the spirituality means protecting the humanity.

As Goethe said, science belongs to all people and it has no nationality. Today, 75 teams representing 75 countries are present in this hall. Members of each team are different inwardly and outwardly, they speak different languages and represent various traditions. At the same time, the indispensable factor which today brought us together and made us a team is apparent. Namely this factor turns us into the citizens of one common country, a state without borders. This country is "Science, Education and Culture". It is an indestructible state. Its flag is light, that's to say, the Sun, its anthem – singing of birds, nightingales and its sign is the life itself and existence.

I once again welcome you with love in my heart, wish the young participants success, interesting moments, good mood, zeal, patience and inner confidence and I officially declare the 47th International Chemistry Olympiad open!



### PROGRAM FOR 22 JULY

### FROM

### TO

Breakfast at "The Crescent Beach Hotel"	7:00	8:00
Transfer to Old City	8:00	9:00
Tour around Old City	9:00	11:00
Transfer to "The Crescent Beach Hotel"	11:00	12:00
Lunch at "The Crescent Beach Hotel"	12:00	13:30
Safety instructions (in groups) at "The Crescent Beach Hotel"	13:30	18:30
Dinner at "The Crescent Beach Hotel"	18:00	19:30



Weather for 22 July

**24°C / 30°C**

# GREETING SPEECHES



**Duckhwan Lee**, chairman of the Steering Committee of the International Chemistry Olympiad, professor at Sogang University (South Korea)

Welcome all of you to Baku, also known as the Land of Fire and the Land of Wind, for the 47th International Chemistry Olympiad. I assure all of you that you will have wonderful time, excellent competitions, and memorable cultural experiences, here in Baku.

As you all know well, without chemistry we cannot understand the nature and ourselves. That is the reason why we say 'Life is a huge laboratory, indeed' here in Baku.

First of all, you need to pay attention to the fair competition. Competition is an essential and unavoidable part of our life. I sincerely hope that all of you try to be fair in your competition.

Azerbaijan is a wonderful country. Azerbaijan is one of a few countries, who is "chemical" on its own virtue. It is in fact, here in Azerbaijan where modern oil industry started more than a hundred years ago. It was here in Baku, where the first pipe lines for crude oil were constructed. In a sense, you cannot find a better place than Baku for Chemistry Olympiad.



**Viktor Sadovnichy**, Rector of Lomonosov Moscow State University

Dear friends, participants of the 47th International Chemistry Olympiad  
On the day of Olympiad Opening I cordially congratulate each of you with this meaningful event in your life.

I wish you all the success and good luck at the 47th IChO. I am sure you will face challenging scientific problems as well as enjoy a very interesting social program. You will get acquainted with splendid traditions, great culture and famous art of the Azerbaijan Republic.



**Lotfi Zadeh**, professor of the University of California, famous Azerbaijani scientist

I should like to extend to you my warm personal greetings as one who was born in Azerbaijan and was deeply influenced by the culture of Azerbaijan and its rich history. Azerbaijan has been evolving into an increasingly visible and influential members in the international community. Holding the 47th Chemistry Olympiad in Azerbaijan is an important symbol of recognition of the remarkable progress which Azerbaijan has made and is continuing to make in developing science, technology and culture under the leadership of President Ilham Aliyev and other leading members of the government whom I was privileged to meet.

# GREETING SPEECHES



**Rudolf Arthur Marcus**, professor of California Institute of Technology, Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry in 1992

It is a pleasure to greet you in the 47th International Chemistry Olympiad in Baku.

It is a place where you meet many people from different countries, see different cultures and I hope learn very much chemistry from talking with each other.

Baku is certainly a splendid city that I have visited number of times known for its historical background and friendliness of its people.



**Roald Sagdeev**, member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and US National Academy

I am so proud to address you at this very important event – opening of the prominent Olympiad. It is not surprising that this Olympiad is taking place in Baku, Azerbaijan. Baku is an example of a very fast developing city which devotes a lot of attention to science, education.



**Professor Ahmed H. Zewail**, Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry in 1999

I am delighted that the 2015 competitions will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan. The International Chemistry Olympiad is uniquely positioned for celebrating the beauty and cornucopia of chemistry with the best young minds.



# OIL AND THE TEMPLES OF FIRE



The Absheron Peninsula was famous for its eternal fires - the underground fire gases rising to the earth's surface. Zoroaster established fire worshipping and Baku became one of their most sacred sanctuaries. People all over the world wished to visit and bow before the eternal flame. In the Baku region, there were three cult hearths or "Temples of Fire" - one in Surakhany, another at Pirallahy Island, and the third at Shubanu Mountain.

# SHIRVANSHAHS' PALACE



Located in the Old City, The Palace of the Shirvanshahs considered by locals as one of the pearls of Azerbaijani architecture, built in XIII-XVI centuries. The historical complex contains a palace, a mosque with minarets, a bath house, and many intricate and beautiful small stone complexes. The complex construction was completed in 1558 during the Shirvanshah dynasty. Under Ibrahim I of Shirvan, the country's capital was transferred from Shamakhy to Baku following a devastating earthquake.

## Even Proverbs Need Chemistry

Which chemical element is present in the proverbs.

1. All that glitters is not ...
2. Beware of a silent dog and still ...
3. ... hand in a velvet glove.

Happy Birthday



**Georg Berger**  
(Germany)

22 July, 1997

**Lin Zi Khang**  
(Malaysia)

22 July, 1996



Happy Birthday

## LEARN THE AZERBAIJANI PHRASES

Sabahınız xeyir	[sabahin`iz khe`yir]	— Good morning
Axşamınız xeyir	[akhshamin`iz khe`yir]	— Good evening
Gecəniz xeyrə qalsın!	[gedzæ`niz khey`ræ gal`sin]	— Good night

## CATALYZER TEAM

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