

## Preface

The 9th International Congress on Thermal Analysis was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Jerusalem, Israel between the 21st and 25th of August, 1988.

The Congress was organized by the Israel Group for Thermal Analysis (associated with the Israel Chemical Society) in collaboration with the International Confederation for Thermal Analysis (ICTA), under the auspices of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, the Israel Chemical Society, the National Council for Research and Development, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Open University of Israel. The Congress was attended by over 250 participants from different parts of the world.

The program of the congress covered widely divergent disciplines from mineralogy and inorganic chemistry to organic chemistry and polymers and from applied or industrial to theoretical studies. While working on the Program the policy of the Organizing Committee was that except for the time of the Plenary Lectures, there would be five simultaneous sessions of lectures and workshops on different topics so that every one would be able to find the presentation of interest. There were the following presentations: ICTA Honorary Membership Lecture, four Award Lectures, eight Plenary Lectures, 14 Invited Sectional Lectures, 104 oral contributions and about 150 poster contributions. Five workshops were held in collaboration with the Scientific Committees of ICTA to cover several practical and theoretical aspects of thermal analysis. These were:

1. Superconducting materials characterized by thermal analysis;
2. The study of kinetics of thermal analysis;
3. The study of organic compounds by thermal analysis;
4. Calorimetry and thermal analysis in surface science;
5. ICTA Education Committee workshop.

During the Opening Ceremony ICTA conferred the title of Honorary Member on Dr. Robert C. Mackenzie of Aberdeen, Scotland, in recognition of long and outstanding service to the Confederation. Prof. David Dollimore of Toledo, Ohio, USA was the recipient of the DuPont-ICTA Award. ICTA Young Scientist's Award was given to Mrs. Judith Schlichter Aronhime of Jerusalem, Israel. The Award of the Royal Society of Chemistry, Thermal Methods Group was given to Dr. M. Reading of Slough, England. The Bodenheimer Award of the Israel Group for Thermal Analysis was given to Dr. Jaroslav Sestak of Prague, Czechoslovakia.

The original Jebusite name of Jerusalem, "Yerushalem" means "the city of peace". The holding of ICTA Congress in Jerusalem symbolizes for me the contribution of our scientific family to world peace and friendship. The decision to hold the 9th ICTA Congress in Jerusalem, taken in Czechoslovakia, a country which has no diplomatic relations with Israel, symbolizes for me that freedom of science and friendship and collaboration among scientists which knows no borders.

The Pre-Congress Proceedings with 1350 pages and more than 180 full short papers, was published as part of *Thermochimica Acta* (Volumes 133-135). A Post-Congress Proceedings will also be published by that journal and will include comprehensive reports on the five workshops and on most of the sessions which were held during the congress, pointing out the novelties and recent achievements in thermal analysis.

The present volume of Pure and Applied Chemistry is dedicated to the 9th ICTA Congress and includes five full length manuscripts of plenary lectures. These manuscripts embrace divergent subjects in pure and applied chemistry for which thermal analysis is useable. We are grateful to the authors who prepared these manuscripts and to IUPAC for enabling the publication of the manuscripts in their official bulletin. We hope that this issue will bring thermal analysis to the knowledge of many who have not yet applied it.

SHMUEL YARIV, Secretary of ICTA  
and MENACHEM STEINBERG (editors)