

**Constantin-Virgil Mihălcescu, *Oameni din Mehedinți,*
Dicționar de personalități,
Craiova, Editura Sitech, Craiova, 2013, 227 p. (Maria Dobre)**



A descendant of a family of intellectuals, teachers originating from Mehedinți, C.V. Mihălcescu, himself a teacher, was driven by a noble goal, that of publishing this book and making known, at present and for the future, the personalities that have marked the spiritual life of the county over time. As he confesses in the *Preface*, his wish was “not to forget those who, through their effort, have helped the development of people and places where they were born and worked”, the volume constituting a “homage brought to the village intellectuals, priests, teachers, doctors and those known for their dignity and their attachment to the village”. (p.6)

In order to fulfil this dream, the author carried out a comprehensive documentation, consisting of information from publications,

historical documents, monographs, encyclopaedias, dictionaries etc.

The 194-page volume takes the form of a dictionary, with uneven articles in scope, according to the availability of literature sources.

It should be noted that the well-known, great personalities are briefly mentioned in the dictionary as pertaining to the county of Mehedinți, for they have fully received the attention of exegetes.

In preparing each article, the following aspects were taken into account: date and place of birth, education, profession, work, references regarding the echo in the press of each personality's work, year of death. Each presentation concludes with references.

Famous personalities in different fields emerge from the pages of the book: Dumitru Anghel, sculptor, Acad. Alexandru Balaci, famous Italianist, critic and literary historian, Dumitru Ghiață, painter, Ștefan Odoleja, post-mortem member of the Romanian Academy, physician with remarkable concerns in the field of cybernetics, Constantin Rădulescu-Motru, philosopher and psychologist, Gh. Țițeica mathematician, etc.

It is worth mentioning the onomastic inventory at the end of the book, according to the scope of activity: actors, directors, agronomists, bishops, airmen, pharmacists, engineers, schoolmasters, school inspectors, doctors, soldiers, politicians, priests, publishers, printers, journalists, etc., specialists in: architecture, arts, astronomy, chemistry, cybernetics, trade, literary criticism and history, physics, folklore, geography, musicology, etc.

The volume concludes with a *General Bibliography*, including copyright works, periodicals, editions of archival documents, dictionaries, encyclopaedias.