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The scientific staff of the Schmidt Institute of Physics of the Earth of the Russian Academy of Sciences extends our heartfelt condolences on the occasion of academician Jin Ma's passing.

Jin Ma was a renowned expert in tectonophysics, a leader in her field in China, and a dear friend of Russia.

Sixty years ago, she came to the Schmidt Institute to work on a Ph.D. project under the supervision of M.V. Gzovsky. She mastered methods of tectonophysical modeling and found good friends in Russia. Good memories of her outstanding academic achievements and her personality are still cherished at the Laboratory of Tectonophysics at the Schmidt Institute.

Jin Ma was a distinguished scientist and a leading specialist in experimental tectonophysics. She dedicated her entire career to solving the problem of deterministic behaviour of geostructures before earthquakes. The experiments she conducted on large-sized samples allowed to detect crucial properties of their deformation before brittle fracture. This research became the foundation for describing the unstable phase of faults development.

Another line of Jin Ma's research in later years was the study of the thermal manifestation of brittle-ductile deformation of fault zones. Both research areas contribute to earthquake prediction, which provided the basis for her collaboration with colleagues from our Institute.

New plans for joint research were made at the international symposium, held in May 2018 in China. Jin Ma's untimely passing was an irreparable loss for us.

Schmidt Institute researchers, who knew Jin Ma and collaborated with her, will always remember the shrewd and wise woman, who knew a lot about life. She was a wonderful, caring, easy-going person and a scientist entirely dedicated to her profession and her nation.

We grieve her loss and we shall always remember the great scientist and the lovely person that Jin Ma was.

Acting Director  
Schmidt Institute of Physics of the Earth

V.A. Kamzolkin