

## TEACHERS OF PEDAGOGY AND PEDAGOGUES OF ARAD PREPARANDIA

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### Abstract

*We are highlighting, by enforcing Vasile Popeanga's opinion, the pedagogic character of the institution, a core for building up an atmosphere specific for education in the spirit of time. From the beginning, Țichindeal promoted a new concept of education based on the idea of national identity. He had as reference point the translated volume of Peter Villaume, „Pedagogy and methodology for town and village school teachers”; the author was a pedagogue of European openness, taking the role of „unifying new pedagogic ideas into a national system of education”<sup>52</sup>. The first pedagogy professor, Ioan Mihuț, elaborated a manual of pedagogic sciences (deposited in copies at the Archives of Karlovitz, Sibiu and Cluj) structured in four parts: „the needs of folk schools (1); the folk educational system (2); the core of educational act (3) and the explanation of methodological problems (4)”<sup>53</sup>. For Ioan Mihuț, pedagogy is „the science that teaches you to bring up teenagers”. The primary ideas have later on developed into coherent structures for future teachers and their teaching performance.*

**Keywords:** *Arad preparandia, pedagogues, teachers of pedagogy*

While writing about the *History of Arad Preparandia* (2012) I have stated at a certain point that “Pedagogy, as a fundamental school subject for such an institution was taught by Ioan Mihuț (1812 - 1816), Dimitrie Constantini (until 1837), Atanasie Șandor (until 1857), Alexandru Gavra (until 1878), Lazăr Petrovici (until 1880), Ioan Ghibu (until 1881), Petre Pipoș (until 1913), Sabin Evuțian (until 1918)”. I would revise the list of pedagogy teachers and teachers of psychological disciplines with the following: Teodor Mariș (1921 - 1935), Victor Țârcovnicu (1937, 1959 - 1962), Gogu Atanasiu (1939 - 1950), Ilie Orzescu (1940s), Gruia Stroia (1945 - 1951), Ioan Vârtaci (1950s), Grigorie Șarlău (1948 - 1973), Vasile Popeangă (1950 - 1985), Ioan Drăgan (1951 - 1961), Marin Nedelcu (1968 - 1982), Iuliana Scherer (1972s), Aurelia Marșieu (1973 - 2001), Doina Calomfirescu (1986 - 2001), Alina Roman (1996 - 2005), Valeria Peștean (2002 - present), Corina Uzum (2008 - present). Among the pedagogy and psychology teachers we also mention: Elena Bârseti (1962s), Corneliu Peter (1963 - 1980), Maria Tomov (1970s), Georgeta Ciul (1970s), Gheorghe Comicescu (1921s), Ilie Deac (1964 - 1972), Maria

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<sup>52</sup> V. Popeangă, Op. cit., p. 26. **PETER VILLAUME** (1746, born in Berlin - 1825) was a German pedagogue of the Enlightenment of French origin, a preacher, principle and Ethic teacher at a Girl Highschool in Ioachimstahl (Bohemia). In 1793, he emigrated to Denmark, carrying out his didactic activity until the end of his days. He has written: *The History of Man* (1783), *About Education in the Spirit of Love for the Mankind* (1784), *About Body Culture* (1793).

<sup>53</sup> Ibidem.

Lăcrimioara Dincă (1992 - present), Gabriela Iancic (2004 - present), Corina Uzum (2004 - present). From this list, some were pedagogy teachers, performing a professional exercise, and others were, moreover, teachers, or personalities that have issued theories about the educational phenomenon, have produced volumes of pedagogical concern, being thus generators of science.

I mention here, in addition, those teachers who have earned a PhD in educational sciences, and those who have published studies and articles in various journals. However, there were periods in the evolution of Arad Preparandia (by which I synthesize any educational institution names within the two centuries) when the *pedagogy teachers* have had a national, scientific and referential performance in the history of Romanian pedagogy that entitles us to call them *pedagogues*. I am referring to Peter Pipos, Vasile Popeangă, and Victor Țârcovnicu. Therefore, from the title, I understand that there were four pedagogy teachers who have honored this fundamental discipline of education, presented in the *Curricula* in a considerable proportion, and that can be called authentic teachers, that is theorists of the educational phenomenon, developing scientific papers and who have completed the didactic exercise with a representative scientific work. Developing pedagogy volumes and treaties, and textbooks for the use of pedagogy students, Peter Pipos, Vasile Popeangă, Victor Țârcovnicu have their rightful place in the history of national pedagogy, as I have also done, in fact, by including them in our volume *Pedagogic Doctrines from the Origins to the Present* (2010).

What were the reasons that led to the selection of the four leaders of the pedagogy in Arad?

1. **PETER PIPOȘ** (born 29 aug. 1859, Alba-Iulia – 29 sept. 1913, Arad) was a pedagogy teacher at Școala pedagoghicească greco-ortodoxă „Dimitrie Țichindeal” in Arad, for 32 years from 1881 until 1913. Drawing on the ideas of psychologists E. Meumann and W. A. Lay, he calls for "a teaching experiment" to handle the application of the experimental method, the accurate observation and interpretation of statistical data on teaching problem solving. P. Pipos explains the organization of an experimental research, saying that "*we stand before an epochal reform*" in the sense that "*experimental teaching will become the didactics of the twentieth century.*" P. Pipos developed textbooks, being a declared follower of the pedagogy of Pestalozzi, with a critical attitude towards JJ Rousseau's pedagogical thinking. He wrote "Teaching" (1887), "Education" (1900), "Psychology" (1896) and a "History of Pedagogy" (1892, completed in 1912).

In "**History of Pedagogy**" Pipos presents the leading thinkers' conceptions on pedagogy, from the antiquity to nowadays. We owe P. Pipos the presentation in a true view of the teaching culture of the time, the doctrines and the educational trends. Moreover, P. Pipos has an important contribution "*to the assertion of Arad as a teaching center*" and "*to the modernization of the education in Arad*" (V. Popeangă).

The teacher from the Preparandia of Arad starting with 1880, printed the manual "**Pedagogy for Preparandia (normal schools)**" (1900) in which he states that "*education is an action (composed of several partial actions), through which a human adult (grown-up) influences another minor (undeveloped) man intently after a certain plan to perfect him to the extent that it is possible*". He had the ability to systematize pedagogical ideas, the openness to modernize the educational system and to adapt the European pedagogical concepts to the specific of the national education.

2. **VICTOR ȚÎRCOVNICU** (born 1913, Slobozia, Popești, Argeș – died 1987, Timișoara) was "*a teacher built on a great man*" with "*a high civic conscience and professionalism.*" He received a thorough education in seminars and educational and philosophical studies at the University of Bucharest. To developed his teaching and pedagogical activity at the Caransebes Normal School, the High School of Oravița, then the Pedagogical School in Arad and ended it at the University of Timisoara (1962 - 1986), giving the pedagogical literature two important volumes: "*General Pedagogy*" (1975 ) and "*Whole-class Learning, Individual Learning, Group Learning*" (1981). He had his PhD exam with the thesis entitled *Progressive Trends in the Romanian Education of Banat*, in 1968, at the University of Bucharest, a kernel for two other works on the history of the education in Banat: "*Contributions to the history of education in the Romanian Banat (1780-1918)*" and "*History of education in Banat until 1800.*" In his activity, he "*was a man in whose life debt conscience, the sense of justice, human solidarity, the humanity sent by generations of ancestors who have planted it in our hearts, the love of children, the work diligently to affirm Romania in the realms of culture and science were leading values to his own behaviour.*"

The author starts from the belief that "if they would give teachers clear theoretical guidance and practical models of organizing work group and individual work activities, they would detach from the traditional education model." In this respect the proposal of various forms of learning is based on experiments which Țîrcovnicu V. has made on groups of students from primary and secondary schools. Joining frontal education (classes and lessons) with individual and group teaching are, in the opinion of the teacher from Banat, a way to increase the efficiency of learning. He explains the benefits of providing whole-class teaching procedures, the negative aspects of this type of organization, giving a number of suggestions to improve this style, as resulted from the experiments performed. Analyzing the individual education forms, the author proposes a methodology to stimulate individual learning, suggesting the use of worksheets common and differentiated. It is believes that "individual learning prepares the student for lifelong learning to a greater extent " and "the knowledge acquired is more solid and suitable for various uses." Furthermore, the work group has both advantages and disadvantages, but it is important that there is a form of learning that can alternate with the other two types (frontal and individual). V. Țîrcovnicu clarifies the concept of school group, the principles of composition of the group, how to work, and providing a more effective learning. The text elaborated by V. Țîrcovnicu is clearly expressed in short sentences, carefully conceptualized with an impeccable logic of argument.

3. **VASILE POPEANGĂ** (born 22. Dec. 1920 Lelești, Gorj - died January 18. 2012 Arad) graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters, Romanian language-pedagogy from the University of Bucharest (1948). He worked as a professor of pedagogy and logical at "Dimitrie Țichindeal" High School of Arad, led the school for over 20 years created a school of thought and action in undergraduate teaching. He wrote: "*Romanian School in Transylvania in the period 1967/1918 Romanians' struggle for union*" (1974), "*Pedagogical Press of Transylvania*" (1966), "*A century of Romanian activity in different parts of Arad (1721-1821)*" (1974 ), "*Romanian School of Arad between 1967-1918*" (1976), "*Romanian School of Arad in the middle of the nineteenth century, 1921-1867*" (1979), "*School and social collectivity*" (1970) "*The class of pupils, subject and object of the educational act*" (1973)," *General Pedagogy*" (manual / et al) (1967)," *The Preparandia*

of Arad "(colab.) (1964)," Pedagogy "(1994)," Studies in educational sciences"(2007). In addition, he performed a rich and prolific scientific research and publishing.

Although his activity has developed mainly in pre-teaching activity around the "Dimitrie Țichindeal" High School in Arad, the PhD in Pedagogy V. Popeangă had, the scientific and intellectual performance prove he had valued the virtues of a university professor. He has published books, journals or collections, initiated pedagogical studies and histories of teaching or institutions, printed manuals which are very concerned about the teaching logic and its pedagogical effectiveness. After reading "General Pedagogy" (1967), there are some design elements that support its timeliness. First of all, his speech is very clear, consistent and based on logic of ideas and the development of structured thinking. The short sentences, the linking of ideas in a coherent system, the order of the chapters, and the timeliness issues approached give the pedagogical text conceptual clarity and openness. "Man needs education throughout life", is the claim that, today, supports the concept of "lifelong learning". Education is considered a social phenomenon, and pedagogy - a science education. The school has an educational character. The analysis of the teaching principles, the methods and procedures, the use of public education, the general conceptualization of didactics, the forms of organization of the educational process, etc. are resources and teachings that remain valid today. In addition, the school has identified ways of collaboration with family, as well as classroom management issues and those connected to the educational institutions. A reference that is worth mentioning includes considerations about the personality of the teacher. Asked if his Lordship's pedagogical work could configure a doctrine, Popeangă V. testified that teachers around the country's main teaching high school had doctrinal vocation because such institutions have tools similar to higher education teaching.

V. Popeangă was a follower of the pedagogy of cultural values. Establishing pedagogical concepts, in his case, was based on knowledge of the national and European development of pedagogical ideas and their effect on educational institutions, consequences of the practical manifestation of the pedagogical ideas. The school institution was not the most faithful representative of the doctrine of the time. He assigns an essential role to the teacher's personality, who must be a genuine intellectual, virtuous model of conduct and a quality reader of books. The value of the people in education gives value to the processuality that it organizes. Educational institutions are not just devices that express the amount of human quality, but also clues to the intellectual health of the society. The pedagogy of Basil Popeangă is doctrinal, regarding the processability of cultural and human values in teaching.

It was based on the knowledge of the evolution of ideas and pedagogical conceptions about Popeangă V., M. Ionescu calling it "the most important and valuable history of pedagogy in life." A recent volume of Vasile I. Popeangă contains fifteen "Studies in educational sciences" (2007), which expresses a new vision on education issues from the perspective of the establishment of the common European education space. Guided by the idea of training a generation of European stature, V. Popeangă views that only "by ourselves" can we argue the hopes of the Romanian society, and we will diminish the suffering caused by its political repercussions. He presented three models of pedagogy in the Romanian educational corpus: Onisifor Ghibu, Petru Pipos and Victor Târcovnicu. The study entitled "The initial training of educators. Preschool and primary education from a European perspective" conceptualize an experience capable of generating "an educational

project group" which applies to "the whole European generation included in the educational institutions of the Union." In the ontology of learning, proposes some guidelines: respect European identity, national identity and building respect for multiple functions, and they are the result of three cultural codes "the spirit of reflection generated by the Greek philosophers, the Christian faith based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Roman law with principles that put them at the base of society and human coexistence." Such a project must cultivate real pride supported by the idea that the European culture is one of the pillars of the world: "Europe's cultural identity is a driver of feelings, attitudes and value judgments. Europe's cultural reality is a powerful civilization, is the abode of the creative community." This is the spiritual space in which the teaching profession needs individuals with a bunch of skills who have their individual "pedagogical vocation" in the communication with others, the ability to influence others, the power of argument, dynamism in action, the ability to penetrate "other souls" to observe the child's mental life: "it is the vocation that recruits teachers who focus on the pedagogy of the heart, that is on the promotion of an educational doctrine based on love, kindness and forgiveness of offenses." In this study, V. Popeangă outlines principles and suggests actions which could help in the making of an educational paradigm focused on the virtues of curriculum implementation, taking into account: the psychological life of the child (psychology), the dynamics of the educational action (teachers) and the social context of life (sociology). V. Popeangă's doctrinal activity is the consequence of a remarkable practical activity in Romanian school, fact that ensures proper justifications for his theoretical opinions. He is an important personality of our national pedagogy, whose pedagogical work is a source of suggestions for improving the vision of contemporary education.

In conclusion, we have words of special gratitude to all pedagogy teachers who provided theoretical culture and practical models to all educators in order to develop an effective professional exercise which would help pupils from preschool and primary school education. Beyond being teachers in their classrooms, they assured didactic assistance for teaching practice activities, to form psychological and sociological culture and to make pedagogic students more sensitive.

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*Annexes:*

Short biographical listings:

- ATANASIU GHEORGHE GOGU “*had a PhD in pedagogy in Zurich, Switzerland, owned three houses in Bucharest, which were bombed, former minister in Averescu Government and modest pedagogy teacher*”, as he used to introduce himself to the pupils, principal of the Application School (1939 - 1950); „was a distinguished teacher, discrete and internalized”, as V. Popeangă described him.

- BÎRSETI ELENA – born 1932, in Bujoru (near București), taught pedagogy (1962).

- CALOMFIRESCU DOINA - born. Oct 28<sup>th</sup> 1939, Leș, Bihor County; graduate of the Faculty of History-Philosophy, field: Pedagogy, with Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj (1962); taught pedagogy from 1986 until her retirement (2001); has published studies and articles in reviews (**Journal of Pedagogy, Journal of Philosophy, Psychology, Education tribune, Primary Education**, etc.)

- CIUL GEORGETA – teaches pedagogy (1970), has carried out pedagogical counselling activity and logopaedia activity.

- COMICESCU GHEORGHE – taught pedagogy at the School for Primary School Teachers (1921).

- CONSTANTINI DIMITRIE - born 1792, Oravița – died October 17<sup>th</sup> 1865, Oradea; comes from a wealthy Macedonian-Romanian family; graduated Philosophy in Szeged (1815), field Philosophy, pedagogic sciences; preparandial and senior teacher (1817 - 1843); school principal of Oradea district (1846 - 1864). He wrote: *Romanian West and East History* (Timișoara, 1857).

- DEAC ILIE – pedagogy teacher (1964 - 1972); died in Timișoara. He held control positions at School Inspectorate of Timisoara.

- DINCĂ MARIA LĂCRIMIOARA - born March 30<sup>th</sup> 1968, Arad; graduate of the Faculty of Pedagogy, within Cluj University; has been teaching Pedagogy and Psychology since 1992. She has published studies in *Plus Review*.

- DRĂGAN IOAN - born January 21<sup>st</sup> 1923, Bretea Mureșană, Hunedoara County – died November 22<sup>nd</sup> 1993, Timișoara; graduate of Normal School of Deva (1945); Graduate of the faculty of Pedagogy – Psychology of Cluj (1951); taught Pedagogy and Psychology (1951 -1961), was deputy principle of Pedagogic School of Arad and school inspector at the Educational Department in Arad; had a PhD in Psychology, academic career – university reader at the University of Timisoara between 1961 and 1989 (retirement). He published over 300 studies, 21 volumes, among which we mention *Cognitive interest and school orientation, Tutoring in educational work system, Psychology for all, Pedagogical research, General Psychology, etc.* as well as numerous studies and articles in field related reviews.

- EVUȚIAN SABIN – born July 11<sup>th</sup> 1889, Pecica, Arad County - died Sept 25<sup>th</sup> 1977, Timișoara; aBachelor of the Faculty of Natural Sciences of Budapest, taught Pedagogy and organised teaching practice classes (1913 - 1919). He participated as an official at Alba-Iulia in 1918, deputy general inspector of Banat-Timisoara District (1927 - 1941). President of *Astra* Cultural Association Timisoara region.

- GAVRA ALEXANDRU - born December 18<sup>th</sup> 1797, Oradea – died October 23<sup>rd</sup> 1884, Arad; was teacher at the Preparandia from 1821 to 1876 and from 1864 until his

retirement in 1876 he was school principal; he taught Aritmetics, Pedagogy, Methodology, Geography, Economy, History, Romanian, Hungarian etc.; he wrote *Lexis and conversation* (1847), he edited *Cronical of Romanians by Gh. Şincai* (1844), *The Sincai-klein Monument* (1844), *Additions to Romanian Theatre* (ms); plans an organized publishment of Romanian books according to a *Plan on publishing some Romanian books*, which seeks approval at the Court of Vienna in the spring of 1833; *I have served under 3 kings in times when Arad Diocese was governed by 7 bishops*; a big personality of the Preparandia and of Arad culture.

- IANCIC GABRIELA – born November 22<sup>nd</sup> 1971, Arad; graduated the Pedagogic Highschool of Arad (1990); bachelor of the Faculty of Sociology and Psychology, field Pedagogy of the University of the West Timisoara (2004), as well as of the Master Programme “Educational Management” of the Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad (2010); teacher for primary school education at the School of application (since 2008); published articles in *Şcoala vremii, Educația Plus*, being co-author of different volumes for primary school teachers; pedagogy teacher and teaching practice coordinator as well as methodologist of the School Inspectorate of Arad County (since 2004).

- MARIŞ TEODOR – born August 14<sup>th</sup> 1885, Cherechiu, Arad County– died December 18<sup>th</sup> 1935, Arad; held a Teacher Diploma (confessional primary school teacher at the Romanian School, Giula) and the course of professional accomplishment in Budapest, then the course for teachers in Cluj (1921); pedagogy teacher (1921-1935); principal of the School of Application; editor of *Şcoala Vremii*; wrote *Didactics Lessons* (1922); decorated with Romanian Crown with cavalry rank (1933); *Şcoala Vremii* from December 1935 publishes his portrait and the number is commemorative.

- MARŞIEU AURELIA - born July 20<sup>th</sup> 1945, Avrig. Bachelor of the Faculty of Psychopedagogy within "Babeş Bolyai" University of Cluj (1968). She taught pedagogy since 1973. She published the volumes “*Counselling. Applications* (2004), *Counselling. Theory and practice* (2005), *Psychopedagogic Fundaments* (2006, colab), as well as studies in *Şcoala Vremii, Plus* and *Tribuna învăţământului*. She retired as Junior Lecturer, PhD at the Teaching Department of “Aurel Vlaicu” University of Arad.

- MIHUŢ IOAN - born 1756, Şiclău, Arad County – died February 3<sup>rd</sup> 1835, Lugoj; senior-principal of the Preparandia between 1814 and 1816. He translated *Pedagogy* (after P. Villaume<sup>54</sup>) and *Methodology*; he wrote „*Manuductor pentru învăţătorii sholasticeşti*” (Handbook for scholastic teachers), an introduction into pedagogy and a methodological initiation (1818, Buda); he taught pedagogy from 1812 to 1816; was principal of the School District Caransebeş with the seat in Lugoj (from 1816 until 1835).

- NEDELICU MARIN – born March 17<sup>th</sup> 1921 in Cioroiaşi, Dolj County; graduated the Faculty of History and Philosophy, Pedagogy – Romanian of Cluj (1962): he taught

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<sup>54</sup> **PETER VILLAUME** (1746, born in Berlin - 1825) was a German pedagogue of the Enlightenment of French origin, a preacher, principle and Ethic teacher at a Girl Highschool in Ioachimstahl (Bohemia). In 1793, he emigrated to Denmark, carrying out his didactic activity until the end of his days. He has written: *The History of Man* (1783), *About Education in the Spirit of Love for the Mankind* (1784), *About Body Culture* (1793).

pedagogy between 1968 and 1982. He wrote articles and studies in reviews like *Catedra*, *Ziridava*, *Anuarele liceului*.

- ORZESCU ILIE – pedagogy teacher in 1940, former principal of Normal School of Caransebeș.

- PEȘTEAN VALERIA – born October 5<sup>th</sup> 1972, Sântana, Arad county; graduate of the Pedagogical Highschool of Arad, Bachelor of the Faculty of Educational Sciences within Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca; PhD in Educational Sciences since 2010; she wrote *Introduction into contemporary teaching practice* (2011), *Analysis and synthesis –logical-didactic procedures* (2012); participates in didactical projects.

- PETER CORNELIU - born January 28<sup>th</sup> 1922, Lemniu, Sălaj County – died ?; bachelor of the Faculty of Literature and Philosophy of Cluj, (1947); he taught pedagogy (1963 - 1982).

- PETROVICI LAZĂR – born November 16<sup>th</sup> 1856, Bocșa Română, Caraș County – died June 21<sup>st</sup> 1881, Sibiu, suburb Iosefin; Bachelor of the Faculty of Philosophy of Budapest, PhD in Philosophy (1878); pedagogy teacher (1878 - 1881); he wrote *Compendium of Pedagogy* (1880) and translated handbooks from Hungarian and wrote Romanian literature handbooks. He collaborated with articles to the following publications ***Familia, Albina, Biserica și școala*** etc. publishing his PhD thesis *Love for a Child*” (1878); tuberculosis ends his life at the age of only 25.

- PIPOȘ PETRU - born September 29<sup>th</sup> 1859, Alba Iulia – died September 29<sup>th</sup> 1913, Arad (buried at „Eternitatea”cemetery); philosophy studies and PhD at the University of Cluj (1882); he taught Mathematics, Physics, Philosophy and Pedagogy between 1881 and 1913; his former students cast his bust in bronze (1936) and placed it in front of the Cultural Palace; he wrote *Psychology, Pedagogy, Didactics, The History of Pedagogy, Memoirs of Iena Lectures: Dr. W.Rein and his pedagogical system* (1911), collaborator of ***Biserica și școală, Educatorul*** (București).

- POPEANGĂ VASILE – born December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1920 Lelești, Gorj County – died January 18<sup>th</sup> 2012, Arad; Bachelor of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters, field: Pedagogy – Romanian Language, in Bucharest (1948); he taught pedagogical sciences (1950-1985); was one of the most long-lasting principals of the school (1954 – 1960, deputy-principal, 1960 – 1978, principal); „he was principal for 24 years out of the 200 years long school existence; a well prepared teacher, owner of an impressive pedagogical and methodological culture. He impressed on the school a management style based on the „ordo et ratio” principle, exigency and professionalism. Untiring researcher of the Archives and libraries from inland and abroad, V. Popeangă was the creator of a scientific work that imposed him as a reference point in the historiography of Romanian education; he carried on the spirit of Tichindeal, Petru Pipoș and of all worthy teachers of our school in all his being and writing” (notes on a manuscript – Doru Bogdan); he wrote *Școala românească din Transilvania în perioada 1867/1918 și lupta sa pentru unire* (Romanian Schhol of Transylvania in 1867/1918 and its struggle for unification) (1974), *Presă pedagogică din Transilvania* (Pedagogical Press of Transylvania) (1966), *Aradul, centru politic al luptei naționale din perioada dualismului*(Arad, political centre of national fight in the Dualism period) (1867/1918) (1978), *Un secol de activitate românească în părțile Aradului* (A century of Romanian activity in Arad) (1721/1821) (1974), *Școala românească din părțile Aradului în perioada 1867/1918* (Romanian school from Arad in



1867/1918) (1976), *Școala românească din părțile Aradului la mijlocul secolului al XIX-lea 1821/1867* (Romanian school of Arad in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century 1821/1867) (1979), *Școala și colectivitatea socială* (School and Social collectivity) (1970), *Clasa de elevi, subiect și obiect al actului educativ* (The class of pupils, subject and object of the educational act) (1973), *Studii din domeniul disciplinelor pedagogice* (Studies in the field of pedagogical subjects) (1983), *Pedagogia* (Pedagogy) (manual, colab.) (1967), *Preparandia din Arad* (The Preparandia of Arad) (colab.) (1964); *Pedagogia* (Pedagogy) (1994), *Dictatura se amuză* (The Dictatorship has fun) (1997); *Studii despre Preparandia din Arad* (Studies on the Preparandia of Arad) (2011); rich scientific and writing activity.

- ROMAN ALINA – born December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1971, Arad; graduate of the Pedagogical Highschool of Arad (1990); Bachelor of the Faculty of Pedagogy of Cluj-Napoca; she taught pedagogical subjects between 1996 and 2005 when she enters the superior education system; PhD in Educational Sciences; currently university reader at the Faculty of Educational Sciences, Psychology and Social Work of Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad; dean of the Faculty; she wrote: *Labirintul evaluării didactice* (The Maze of Didactic Assessment) (2006), *Elemente de psihologia educației* (Elements of Educational Psychology) (2008), *Evaluare și autoevaluare. Competențe, atitudini, practici* (Assessment and Self-Assessment. Competences, attitudes and policies) (2008), *Strategii de instruire și evaluare* (Strategies of training and assessment) (2010), *Dimensiuni psihologice ale învățării* (Psychological dimensions of learning) (2010), as well as studies and articles in academic publications; she is involved in research grants in the field of educational sciences.

- ȘANDOR ATANASIE – born May 14<sup>th</sup> 1809, Nădlac – died January 27<sup>th</sup> 1892, Arad; classes of Philosophy in Szeged and Medicine at the University of Pesta (1830), PhD in Medicine (1836); he taught Romanian, History, Geography, geometry, Pedagogy at the Preparandia from 1843 to 1879 (36 years); he published in *Gazeta de Transilvania* (Transylvanian Gazette) and *Foaie pentru minte, inimă și literatură* (Paper for Mind, Heart and Literature).

- ȘARLĂU GRIGORE – born August 26<sup>th</sup> 1912, Turbulea – Gorj – died 1998, Arad; Bachelor of The Faculty of Pedagogy in Bucharest, in 1941: teacher at the School of Application of Arad until 1948, later Pedagogy teacher until his retirement in 1973; he published studies in Revista *de pedagogie* (Journal of Pedagogy) and the volume *De la învățarea citirii la munca intelectuală* (From learning reading to intellectual work) (București, 1984).

- SCHERER IULIANA – born May 18<sup>th</sup> 1950; defectologist; she taught Pedagogy; lives in Hungary.

- STOIA GRUIA – Psychology and Pedagogy teacher at the Normal School (1945 - 1951).

- TÎRCOVNICU VICTOR – born 1910, Slobozia, Popești, Argeș – died 1986, Timișoara; benefited from thorough seminar and pedagogical studies, then he studies Philosophy at the University of Bucharest. In 1968, he took the PhD at the University of Bucharest with the thesis “*Progressive tendencies in Romanian education of Banat*”. He taught at the Normal School of Arad (1937), at the Normal School of Caransebeș (1938 - 1954), was principal of The Highschool in Oravita, then at The Pedagogic Institute of 2 Years in Arad (1959 - 1962), ending his career at the University of Timișoara (1962 -

1986). He released important volumes: *Pedagogie generala (General Pedagogy)* (1966) and *Învățământ frontal, învățământ individual, învățământ pe grupe* (Frontal education, individual education and group education) (1981). His PhD was a core for two publications on the history of education in Banat: *Preparandia din Arad* (The Preparandia of Arad) (collab. 1964) „*Contribuții la istoria învățământului românesc din Banat (1780 - 1918)*” (Contributions to the History of Romanian Education in Banat (1780-1918) and „*Istoria învățământului din Banat până la anul 1800*” (The History of Banat Education until 1800). „*He was a man of duty towards school and the profession he has chosen, a teacher who centred his activity on the pupil and above all the care to enrich his character through learning and deeds*” (V. Popeangă).

- TOMOV MARIA – born August 13<sup>th</sup> 1936, Covăsânț, Arad county -died 1994, Arad; Bachelor of the Faculty of pedagogy within the University of Cluj; she taught Pedagogy (1970); she published studies and articles in *Revista de pedagogie* (Journal of Pedagogy), *Anuarul Liceului Pedagogic* (The Yearbook of Pedagogic Highschool), *Învățământul Primar* (Primary Education).

- UZUM CORINA – born March 29<sup>th</sup> 1971, Arad; graduate of the Pedagogic Highschool „Dimitrie Țichindeal” of Arad (1990); Bachelor of the Faculty of Sociology and Psychology, field: Pedagogy within the University of the West Timisoara (2004); pedagogy teacher from 2004; school inspector (2001 - 2010); he published field related studies in study collections for primary school teachers (*Educația-Plus*, the review of The General Association for Primary Education, methodological guides etc.), as well as books: *O pedagogie pentru învățământul primar* (A Pedagogy for Primary School Education) (coord. collab, 2005), *Alternative educaționale – expresia pluralismului în educație* (Educational alternatives – the expression of pluralism in education) (coord. collab, 2008), *Managementul demersului didactic* (The Management of didactic undertaking) (2009), *Strategii pentru eficientizarea învățării – repere teoretice și practice* (Strategies for an effective learning – theoretical and practical guidelines) (2009).

- VÂRTACI IOAN – was teacher and principal of the School of Application; he taught Pedagogy in the 1950s “*a thorough and serious man*” (V. Popeangă).