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Çukurambar Mahallesi Dumlupınar Bulvarı No: 11 06530 Çankaya/ANKARA

e-mail: bilimsel_dairesi@mta.gov.tr

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In Memory of Prof. Taner Ünlü,

The scientific community is not only defined by the knowledge it produces but also by the students it educates, the institutions it builds, and the values it instills in a profession. With deep sorrow, we recall the passing of Prof. Taner Ünlü in July 2024, a distinguished scholar of ore deposits and geochemistry and a retired faculty member of the Department of Geological Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Ankara University. His loss has been felt profoundly, not only by the academia but also by the geologists who are committed to the ethical values of our profession.

Prof. Ünlü began his professional career at the General Directorate of Mineral Research and Exploration (MTA) after graduating as a Geological Engineer from Karadeniz Technical University. He later pursued his doctoral studies in ore deposits at the Technical University of Berlin. His subsequent projects at MTA, particularly on the development of iron ore deposits, and his collaborative research with Danish colleagues showed his early passion for international scientific cooperation. In 1989, he joined Ankara University, where he served in various administrative roles—including chairmanships and the establishment of research laboratories and centers—while mentoring several students throughout his academic career. Between 2012 and 2019, he also served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Bulletin of the Mineral Research and Exploration (BMRE), guiding the journal with vision, fairness, and dedication.

His scholarly contributions went far beyond research papers, encompassing pioneering projects, translation of key textbooks, and comprehensive studies on Türkiye's iron deposits. Among his

lasting legacies are the Turkish editions of *Metal Deposits in Relation to Plate Tectonics* and *Understanding Ore Deposits*, as well as his contributions to *Mineral Resources of Turkey*, published by Springer in 2019. His role in the production of the documentary *From Magma to Ore*, broadcast by TRT, further reflects his devotion to bringing scientific knowledge to broader audiences.

Prof. Ünlü was not only a respected scientist but also a heartfelt supporter of professional organization and development. Through his active involvement in the Chamber of Geological Engineers and as the founding chair of the Turkish Iron Working Group, he played an important role in strengthening the institutional foundations of the discipline. He will be remembered for his thoughtful approach to science, his sense of institutional responsibility, and the lasting guidance he provided to generations of students.

As the BMRE editorial family, we have dedicated the December 2025 issue of our journal to the memory of our esteemed colleague, mentor, and guiding figure, Prof. Taner Ünlü. His contributions have left an indelible mark not only on our journal but also on the advancement of the Earth sciences in Türkiye.

We honor his memory with respect, gratitude, and profound admiration.

On behalf of the Editorial Board of BMRE,

Sinan AKISKA
Guest Editor