Virgil GÂRBACEA – Relieful de glimee, Presa Universitară Clujeană, 2013, 260 pages, 56 figures, English abstract, 400 bibliographic titles

Deep-seated landslides of „glimee” type represents one of the specific sorts of relief encountered on the Romanian territory which attracted the attention of international scientists as a consequence of the presentation made by Morariu and Gârbacea at the New Delhi International Congress in 1968. As for the genesis of this type of relief, although frequently approached in the scientific litterature, especially the glimee deep-seated landslides in the Transilvanyan Depression, there haven’t been formulated unanimously accepted causal explanations yet. That is why one should state as a great achievement the publishing of a study on the analysis, hypothesis and researches on glimee deep-seated landslides in Romania which also defines the activity of a specialised scientist in the study of glimee deep-seated landslides – the Professor Virgil Gârbacea.

The structure of the study follows the characteristics of this type of relief renown both in the national and the international scientific litterature. The author supports his opinion through his direct researches made in different areas (Saschiz, Transilvanyan Plain) etc.. Consequently there is a logic in the succession of the 13 chapters of his book as follows: definition, toponims, classifications, history of researches (chapter 1 and 2); the position on the slope, the absolute altitude, the connection with the relief evolution in general (chapter 3); the morphographic and morphometric characteristics through which the main defining elements for glimee deep-seated landslides are reflected such as: the detachment cornice, the landslide glacis, relief microformes, the relative altitude etc. (chapter 4); the genetic factors and conditions (chapter 5); the morphodynamic of glimee deep-seated landslides with examples different authors’ opinions (chapter 6); the link with the geological structure – insecvential or asecvential glimee (chapter 7); associated geomorphological processes, of past and actual modelling of glimee through erosion, suffosion etc. (chapter 8); the age of landslides of glimee type (chapter 9); the causes of their formation (chapter 10); the synthesis of glimee research in Romania (chapters 11 and 12); the valuing of fields with glimee and conclusions (chapter 13).

The abstract extended on 14 pages makes the work accessible for specialists that don’t know Romanian as well. We think that the work doesn’t need more presentations or interpretations and we rather invite those interested in the topic to discover the unique character of this book.

It is a very valuable work through the richness of its interpreting and through Prof. Virgil Gârbacea clear, explicite, original style. We think that we don’t make any mistake by affirming that he is the only geographer/geomorphologist who studied perseverently and thoroughly for a long time the glimee deep-seated landslides, gathering exhaustively in one study the litterature for this type of relief (the bibliographic references comprise 400 titles). One should state that this study will be a topic of research for other generations as glimee type of relief also fascinated us and stired us up to research.

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