

Dimiri Mendeleev

Dmitri Mendeleev was born on February 7, 1834 in Siberia, Russia. He was the youngest child of seventeen children. His father died when he was a boy leaving his mother to raise all of the seventeen children by herself making Mendeleev childhood a bit of a struggle. In 1850 Mendeleev was accepted on a full scholarship to the Pedagogical Institute, kicking off his life as a young and bright chemist. While in school he wrote many papers on chemistry including "Chemical Analysis of a Sample from Finland.". He then graduated at the top of his class and moved onto St. Petersburg to get a masters degree. During this time he prepared a paper that described the relation of properties of atoms and their elements. In order to do this Mendeleev began to arrange the elements according to their mass, which lead to him discovering that there were missing spots where there should be elements in order for the pattern to work. So he concluded that there were undiscovered elements and they would complete the table. These undiscovered elements needed to have masses of 44, 68, and 72 which were later discovered as being correct. This made the periodic table that is still used today. That is why Dmitri Mendeleev is known as "the father of the periodic table". His contributions to the periodic table lead the way to scientists like Mosely coming up with elements having an atomic number and Seaborg creating transuranic elements. Also Mendeleev's discovery is seen in almost any chemistry classroom and lab today.

In 1894 Dmitri Mendeleev was given a doctorate by Oxford University and Cambridge University. Being only 34 when he made his discovery about the periodic table, Mendeleev's

contribution is ranked with those of Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin. He got married in 1862 to Feozva Nikkitichna Leshchevaya and had two children, a boy and a girl. Then in 1882 he left that family and married Anna Popova who was a young artist and had two sons and two daughters. Dmitri Mendeleev died in 1907 because of heart failure and at his funeral his students carried the periodic table over their heads following his funeral procession.

Bibliography

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