



Occupational hazards, underground world and occupational diseases in Algeria

A. Chama

Occupational Health Department of Sanitary Sector , Es-Sénia (Oran), Algeria
(chama_a@yahoo.fr)

In speleology, it is often brought back on the Karstic natural risks and their consequences of the underground areas, like the accidents due to the brittleness and degradation of these areas. In occupational health, the underground world represents a professional environment with the various risks and occupational fatalities, in the short term (industrial injuries) or long-term, involving occupational diseases which some among them are known and compensated, like the chronic intoxications (gaz poisoning), infectious diseases, and diseases resulting from environments and attitudes. In Algeria, the table of the occupational diseases entitled to compensation having milked with underground work, in clear revision recognizes fifteen occupational diseases, in a total of 84. Our paper aims to information on the hazards of the underground world and to discuss the medico-legal aspect of the occupational diseases which can result from it. This subject in medicine field represents a considerable interest in speleology field and will allow the physicien ,a broad contribution in the prevention strategy of “ the man and the environment of underground world ”, beside the Karstic natural risk, and also in justice with regard to the victims of the underground world . We take opportunity to highlight and emphasize the role of two scientific figures in this medical field and speleology, particulary in hygiene of underground world : the italian Bernardino Ramazzini (XVIII° century), “ father of occupational health ” and the french Edouard-Alfred Martel (XX° century) who join his talent and knowledge in speleology and protection.