

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

©Vera V. Mainz and Gregory S. Girolami 1998

Fuchs, Johann Nepomuk

1774 - 1856

DEGREE: MD

DATE: 1798 ca.

PLACE: Heidelberg

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Hagemayer

discovered water glass (a potassium silicate solution); proposed first correct views on nature of Portland cement and its setting reaction; introduced the term "amorphous"; analyzed many minerals, esp. zeolites, clays, and phosphate minerals; first to state that cation exchange usually leaves crystal form of minerals unchanged; pointed out the metallic properties of graphite; also studied dyes and the manufacture of sugar.

FOOTNOTE: While taking courses required for his medical degree at Vienna, Fuchs came under the influence of N. J. Jacquin and turned his interests increasingly to chemistry.

1. Partington, J. R. *A History of Chemistry*; Macmillan: 1964; vol. 4, p204.
2. *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*; Charles Scribner's Sons: 1970-1990; vol. 5, p202-203.
3. *J. Chem. Ed.* **1951**, 28, 136-142.
4. *Gesammelte Schriften des Johann Nep. v. Fuchs*; In Commission der Literarisch-artistischen Anstalt: 1856; p ix-xxi.
5. Prandtl, W. *Deutsche Chemiker in der Ersten Hälfte des Neunzehnten Jahrhunderts*; Verlag Chemie: 1956; p15-50.