

2. An A to Z of the Personality Cult in Romania

Introduction: On January 26 official celebrations were held to mark President Nicolae Ceausescu's 71st birthday. The following is a list of some of the titles conferred on Ceausescu by Romanian publications and the media.¹

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- architect**
(*arhitect*) The title of a volume in Ceausescu's honor: *Arhitect si Constructor de Tara* [Architect and Constructor of the Country] (Bucharest: Eminescu Publishing House, 1987)
- banner**
(*steag de lupta*) "Man and Banner" (George Florin Cozma, *Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu* (Bucharest: Editura Politica, 1978), p. 511)
- brother**
(*frate*) "Brother Among Brothers" (Corneliu Sturzu, *Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu*, op. cit., p. 139)
- builder**
(*ziditor*) "Builder of everything good and just in the country" (Viorel Varga, *Romania Literara*, 26 January 1984)
- Carpathians**
(*Carpati*) "As Grandiose as the Carpathians," title of a song by Marin Constantin (*Scinteia Tineretului*, 26 January 1986)
- celestial body** (*astru*) "He is like a celestial body" (Mihai Beniuc, *Munca*, 21 January 1986)
- column**
(*columna*) "Living Column" (Teodor Anastasiu, *Saptamina*, 24 November 1984)
- conscience**
(*constiinta*) "you are for ever our . . . shining, vigilant conscience" (Alexandru Andritoiu, *Saptamina*, 29 July 1984). "You are our consciences' conscience" (Nicolae Nicolae, *Informatia Bucurestiului*, 8 May 1986)
- constructor**
(*constructor*) Title of a book in his honor (see architect above)
- creator**
(*fauritor*) "Creator of an epoch of unprecedented renewal" (Miko Ervin, *Scinteia*, 26 January 1986)
- creed**
(*crez*) "He is our creed, spur, and luminary" (Eugen Frunza, *Informatia Bucurestiului*, 25 January 1986)
- defender**
(*aparator*) "The defender of our present and future" (Adorjan Gyula, *Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu*, op. cit., p. 510)

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| demiurge (demiurg) | "New Romania's demiurge" (Corneliu Vadim Tudor, Saptamina, 24 November 1984) |
| designer (proiectant) | "Designer, architect, builder of the multilaterally developed socialist society" (Eugen Florescu, Scinteia, 25 January 1978) |
| destiny (destin) | "He is our destiny" (Nicolae Ariesescu, Romania Libera, 22 August 1985) |
| effigy (efigie) | "Effigy of our national pride" (Editorial, Saptamina, 24 January 1986) |
| embodiment intruchipare | "Supreme embodiment of good" (C. V. Tudor, <i>ibid.</i> , 25 January 1980) |
| epoch (epoca) | "He--AN EPOCH" (Draga Mirianici, Orizont, 19 July 1985) |
| father (parinte) | "I appear before thee, father" (C. V. Tudor, Saptamina, 30 November 1979). "Glorious father of the fatherland" (Marki Zoltan, Scinteia Tineretului: Supliment Literar-artistic, 26 January 1986) |
| fire (foc) | "Living Fire" (Paul Tutungiu, Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu, <i>op. cit.</i> , p. 510) |
| fir-tree (brad) | A man like a fir-tree" (Ion Manole, Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu, <i>op. cit.</i> , p. 491) |
| friend (prieten) | "Ceausescu is our youth's friend and father" (Viorel Cozma, Scinteia Tineretului, 23 August 1986) |
| forerunner (inainte mergator) | "Long live the Forerunner" (Niculae Stoian, Informatia Bucurestiului, 24 January 1986) |
| founder (ctitor or intemeietor) | "Founder of the Country, Founder of History" (Title of a eulogy by Nicolae Giosan, Flacara, 24 January 1986); "Great Founder" (Ion Cringuleanu, Romania Libera, 24 July 1986) |
| future (viitor) | "When we say Ceausescu, we say the Future" (Dan Rotaru, Romania Libera, 19 November 1985) |
| genius (geniu) | "Polyvalent Genius" (Editorial, Saptamina, 24 January 1986) |
| glow (dogoare) | "The burning glow" (Iosif Bena, Orizont, 25 January 1985) |
| god (zeu) | "Our secular god" (C. V. Tudor, Saptamina, 25 January 1980) |

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| guarantor (<i>chezas</i>) | "Guarantor of Romania's prosperity" (Viorel Cozma, <i>Scinteia</i> , 1 December 1985) |
| guardian (<i>paznic</i> or <i>pazitor</i>) | "Guardian of our most precious treasures" (C. V. Tudor, <i>Saptamina</i> , 25 January 1980); "The guardian of the holy love [of one's homeland]" (Nicolae Dan Fruntelata, <i>Luceafarul</i> , 25 January 1986) |
| guide (<i>calauza</i>) | "Hardened guide" (Mihai Beniuc, <i>Informatia Bucurestiului</i> , 24 July 1986) |
| heart (<i>inima</i>) | "The party's and the nation's heart" (C. V. Tudor, <i>Saptamina</i> , 25 January 1980) |
| helmsman (<i>cirmaci</i>) | Often with an initial capital. "Wise helmsman" (Dan Florian, <i>Munca</i> , 21 January 1988) |
| herald (<i>sol</i>) | "Romania's herald" (Ion Ungureanu, <i>Scinteia</i> , 15 January 1988) |
| hero (<i>erou</i>) | Often with an initial capital. "Our national Hero" (C. V. Tudor, <i>Saptamina</i> , 25 January 1980); "Great Hero, Hero among [our] people's Heroes" (George Corobea, <i>Munca</i> , 21 January 1988) |
| history (<i>istorie</i>) | "HE came out of the Romanians' History, because HE is the Romanians' history itself" (George Coanda, <i>Saptamina</i> , 25 January 1985) |
| homeland (<i>patrie</i>) | "He is my holy homeland" (Ion Margineanu, <i>Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu</i> , op cit., p. 500) |
| honey (<i>miere</i>) | "He is the honey in the words" (Iosif Bena, <i>Orizont</i> , 25 January 1985) |
| hope (<i>speranta</i>) | "[Our] hope for better [times]" (George Corobea, <i>Flacara</i> , 24 January 1986) |
| kissing (<i>sarutare</i>) | "Sweet kissing of the [homeland's] earth" (Ion Margineanu, <i>Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu</i> , op. cit., p. 500) |
| lawgiver (<i>datator de legi</i>) | "He, Ceausescu, the lawgiver" (Virgil Teodorescu, <i>Flacara</i> , 24 January 1986) |
| leader (<i>conducator</i>) | "We are one country and one leader" (Mihai Beniuc, <i>Informatia Bucurestiului</i> , 24 July 1986) |
| legend (<i>legenda</i>) | "A man like a legend" (Corneliu Anca, <i>Agricultura Socialista</i> , 17 July 1986) |
| light (<i>lumina</i>) | "He came as pure as light" (George Coanda, <i>Saptamina</i> , 25 January 1985); "We chose him as a light over the country" (George Coanda, <i>Scinteia</i> , 3 April 1985) |

- luminary** "bright luminary" (C. V. Tudor, *Scinteia*, 20
(*far*) January 1978)
- mast** "The tallest mast" (Ion Potopin, *Romania Literara*,
(*catarg*) 23 January 1986)
- miracle** "Without this miracle/ [Called] Ceausescu/ The
(*miracol*) Romanian miracle/ Would not have been possible"
(Vasile Andronache, *Romania Literara*, 22 August
1985)
- morning star** "New Morning Star" (Vasile Andronache, *Romania*
(*luceafar*) *Literara*, 22 August 1985)
- mountain** "A mountain watching over the country" (Mihai
(*munte*) Beniuc, *Contemporanul*, 18 July 1986)
- navigator** "A streak of lightning girdles the navigator's
(*corabier*) forehead" (Victor Nistea, *Romania Literara*, 17 July
1986)
- nimbus** "He is a nimbus of victory" (Iosif Bena, *Orizont*,
(*nimb*) 25 January 1985)
- oak tree** Title of a poem by George Tarnea, in *Omagiu*,
(*gorun and* *Presedintelui Ceausescu*, *op. cit.*, p. 511;
stejar) "Splendid oak tree of the Romanian glory" (Mihai
Negulescu, *Romania Libera*, 23 August 1986)
- pathfinder** Title of a poem by Marki Zoltan, *Scinteia*
(*deschizator* *Tineretului. Supliment literar-artistic*, 26
de drumuri) January 1986.
- pillar** "Like the pillar of fire," an allusion to the
(*obelisc*) reference in the Book of Exodus (Traian Iancu,
Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu, *op. cit.*, p. 479)
- pride** "You are for ever our pride" (Alexandru Andritoiu,
(*mindrie*) *Saptamina*, 29 July 1984)
- pledge** "The sacred pledge of the days to come" (Iosif
(*garantie*) Bena, *Orizont*, 25 January 1985)
- Prince** "Prince Charming's birthday" (Ion Manole, *Omagiu*
Charming *Presedintelui Ceausescu*, *op. cit.*, p. 491)
(*Fat-Frumos*)
- revolu-** "The revolutionary has no age, he only has his
tionary epoch" (Balogh Jozsef, *Omagiu Presedintelui*
revolutionar *Ceausescu*, *op. cit.*, p. 465)
- road** "[Our] road toward the future" (Victor Tulbure,
(*drum*) *Contemporanul*, 18 July 1986)

- Romania** "When you say Ceausescu, you say Romania" (Nicolae Dan Fruntelata, *Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu, op. cit.*, p. 482)
- ruler** "The ruler's mission is to stand by his people" (Iv *cirmuitor* Martinovici, *ibid.*, p. 492)
- saint** "I would liken his morality to that of a saint, (sfint) were I not afraid of [violating] Marxist canons" (Eugen Barbu, *ibid.*, p. 442)
- savior** "The savior of the earth [ravaged] by wars" (izbavitor) (Niculae Stoian, in *Informatia Bucurestiului*, 24 January 1988)
- scion** "Our kin's most precious scion (C. V. Tudor, (vlastar) *Saptamina*, 30 November 1984)
- son** Often with an initial capital. "The sun's son" (fiu) (Maria Cristea, *Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu*, p. 498); "Romania's providential son" (Traian Cosovei, *Scinteia*, 27 January 1978); "The beloved Son's ascension" (C. V. Tudor, *Saptamina*, 24 November 1984)
- source** "Source of living water" (Iosif Bena, *Orizont*, 25 (izvor) January 1985)
- spring** "HE is our warm Spring" (George Coanda, *Scinteia*, 3 (primavara) April 1985)
- standard** "Ceausescu is our tall standard" (Adriana Nicolae, (stindard) *Informatia Bucurestiului*, 27 January 1986)
- standard** "Eminent standard bearer" (Emilian Marcu, *Scinteia* bearer *Tineretului. Suplimentul Literar-artistic*, 26 (portdrapel or stegar) January 1986); "The standard bearer Nicolae" (Ion Tomoiaga-Maramureseanu, *Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu, op. cit.*, p. 473)
- strategist** "Enlightened strategist of happiness" (George (strateg) Coanda, *Scinteia*, 3 April 1985); "Peerless strategist among strategists" (Virgil Teodorescu, *Flacara*, 24 January 1986)
- sun** "Like the sun over an emblem" (Alexandru Andritoiu, (soare) *Saptamina*, 29 July 1984)
- supreme** Title of a song by Dinu Stelian, *Omagiu* commander *Presedintelui Ceausescu, op. cit.*, p. 516. (comandant suprem)
- symbol** "Symbol of peace and light" (Teodor Anastasiu, (simbol) *Saptamina*, 29 July 1984)

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| Titan (titan) | "Like a chosen titan among titans" (Ion Potopin, <i>Romania Literara</i> , 23 January 1986) |
| treasure (tezaur) | "This treasure of wisdom and charisma" (C. V. Tudor, <i>Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu</i> , op. cit., p. 503) |
| tribune (tribun) | "Tribune of Dignity," title of a poem by Viorel Cozma, <i>Scinteia Tineretului</i> , 28 January 1987 |
| truth (adevar) | "Ceausescu is the warm truth" (Ion Margineanu, <i>Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu</i> , op. cit., p. 500) |
| visionary (vizionar) | "Visionary scrutinizing the future" (Viorel Cozma, <i>Scinteia</i> , 1 December 1985) |
| voivode (voievod) | "Once upon a time there was a voivode" (Valeriu Armeanu, <i>Orizont</i> , 19 July 1985) |
| worker (muncitor) | "The country's first worker" (Anton Breitenhofer, <i>Scinteia</i> , 31 January 1978) |
| zodiac (zodie) | "Under Nicolae Ceausescu's sign of the zodiac" (Cedomir Milenovici, <i>Omagiu Presedintelui Ceausescu</i> , op. cit., p. 466) |

Dan Ionescu

1 For an early attempt to list some of the epithets and superlatives applied to Ceausescu, see *L'Alternative*, September-October 1980, p. 28.