



**AZƏRBAYCAN ŞAHMAT FEDERASIYASI
BƏSTƏÇİLİK KOMİSSİYASI**

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Rəsmi sayt: www.ulvichess.az/chess-composition

CIRTDAN 2018 (+=, #2, #3, #N)

**JIRTDAN 2018 (Etüdlər / Studies)
İLKİN TƏLTİF / PROVISIONAL AWARD**

Təşkilatçı / Organizers: Azərbaycan Şahmat Bəstəçiliyi Komissiyası / Azerbaijan Chess Composition Commission.

Yarışın direktoru / Tournament director: Elmar Abdullayev (Şirvan, Azərbaycan).

Təltifin dərci / Award publication: <http://ulvichess.az/chess-composition>

Bölmələr (sections) və hakimlər (judges):

- 1) += (Etüdlər) – Harold van der Heijden (Hollandiya).
- 2) #2 (İkigedişli) – Mikola Çernyavski (Ukrayna).
- 3) #3 (Üçgedişli) – Elmar Abdullayev (Şirvan, Azərbaycan).
- 4) #N (Çoxgedişli) – Aleksandr Sıqurov (Rusiya).

Cırt dan (RUS – Джыртдан, ENG – Jirt dan) – Azərbaycan nağıllarının ən məşhur qəhrəmanlarından biridir. O, milli kimlik, cəsarət və zehni ilə fərqlənir. Cırt dan ağıllı bir yeniyetmə oğlandır, boyunun kiçik olduğuna görə belə adlanıb. Nağılda o nəhəng Divə hiylə gələrək dostlarını xilas edir.

Azərbaycan şahmat bəstəçiliyində daşların sayı 5-dən artıq olmayan məsələ və etüdlər “Cırt dan” adlanır.

Jirt dan is a problem or study with not more than 5 figure (including kings). Some history: Jirt dan is one of the most popular character of Azerbaijanian fairy tales. He is distinguished by his national identity, courage and wittiness. Jirt dan is an intelligent yongster with tiny heighth. «Jirt dan» is translated from azerbaijanian as small, tiny. In a fairy tale he saved his friends outwitting giant Div.



Yarışa **15 ölkədən 28 bəstəçidən 54 etüd** göndərilmişdi / 54 studies from 28 authors 15 countries: **Azerbaijan** (Ilham Aliev), **Argentina** (Mario Guido Garcia), **Georgia** (David Gurgenedze), **Germany** (Martin Minski, Udo Degener, Siegfried Hornecker), **Denmark** (Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen), **Russia** (Vasilij Lebedev, Pavel Arestov, Valery Kalashnikov), **Serbia** (Branislav Djurasevic, Borislav Ilincic, Darko Hlebec), **Slovakia** (Anton Bidlen, Michal Hlinka), **Spain** (Luis Miguel

Gonzalez), **Ukraine** (Vladimir Samilo, Nikolay Griva, Vladislav Tarasiuk, Mikhail Zinar), **Canada** (Charles Ouellet), **Hungary** (Arpad Ruzs, Janos Mikitovics), **Italy** (Mario Micaloni, Marco Campioli, Daniele Gatti), **France** (Daniel Keith), **Norway** (Jarl Henning Ulrichsen).

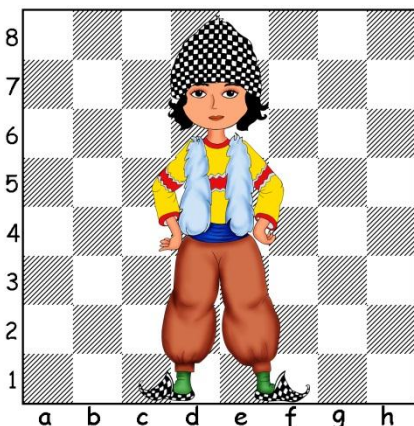
It was an honour to me that the Azerbaijan Composition Committee entrusted me to judge the endgame study section of this tourney.

For this particular tourney, studies with a maximum of 5 men were required, I proposed to the committee to explicitly ask the composers to only submit artistic lines (solution, thematic tries) and leave out the analytical lines. After all, since all endings can be found in 5EGTB's, the composer does not need analytical lines to prove that the study is sound (perhaps an exception is to indicate that alternative moves are only minor duals). Unfortunately, the committee considered this to be too difficult to explain in the announcement. I feared for the usual entries with hundreds of analytical moves and terribly nested lines. But this was only the case for a handful of studies. I even resisted to immediately skip such entries for the award. Well-done, composers!

A (good) endgame study must have a solution with unique winning moves. But a position with a solution with unique winning lines is not always a (good) endgame study. Apart from other artistic merits (e.g. a theme / idea), in my view a good endgame study needs a surprise, or something that makes us smile. This certainly does apply to maliutka's, but as a matter of fact this applies to studies with any material balance.

I received a PGN-file with 60 study positions (54 studies), among which there were several twin studies. To my surprise the studies were not anonymized, so this is an informal tourney.

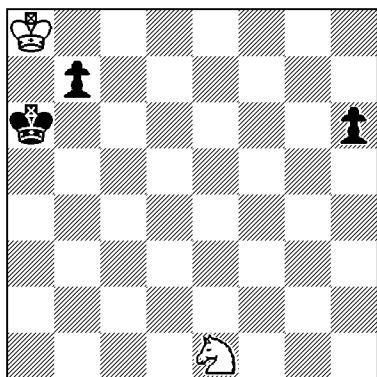
One study (**49/50.A.Ruzs**: e7h6 and e7h4) was presented as a twin, but after three moves with a slightly different order of the black moves, and where nothing remarkable happens, we arrive in exactly the same position. This is not a twin study, but two versions of the same study. Further, there were some other irregularities. One study (**38.Daniele Gatti**: a1g2) had more than 5 pieces and was disqualified. Further, to my surprise, there were two cases of 100% anticipation, one by a composition GM! Are these accidental re-compositions or some misunderstanding? (**11.Oleg Pervakov**: h1h5=Tarasiuk HHdbV#00214–mirrored!, and **16.J.Mikitovics**: e2h2=Becker #46733). Finally, there was one unsound study (**33.B.Ilicic**: e7h8, apart from the nice 8.Qf4 mate, 9.Qh7+ wins the bQ), although there were some studies with duals which possibly are not minor duals as claimed.



All of this left me with 54 studies for judging. Anticipation testing was done using Chess Query Language (CQL) 5.1 and HHdbV (and HHdbVI – work in progress). In addition to the 100% anticipations mentioned above, in 6 cases a forerunner, although being partly anticipations, was in my view serious enough to not include the studies in the award (which of course also depends on the other merits of the study): **9.Vladimir Samilo** (h1g4): the highlight is the move 2...b5 in the thematic try, which is known from the 2.Kd4? try in Garcia (#02022). **22.Jarl Henning Ulrichsen** (e1a8): Chupeev #08471. **32.Darko Hlebec** (h3h1): Fritz #57628. **46.Daniel Keith** (e4c1): Umnov #13031. **47.Daniel Keith** (e4f2): Kondratev & Kopnin #31617. **54.Charles Ouellet** (b1d1): Pogosyants #35797, Kallström #46546, and others.

The overall level of the tourney was good, with some nice finds. Not a single study stood out from the rest, so I hesitated a lot about the ranking. Obviously, my final ranking is greatly influenced by my personal taste. For the award I edited all awards, e.g. leaving out the lines with duals, or which you can easily check in the database.

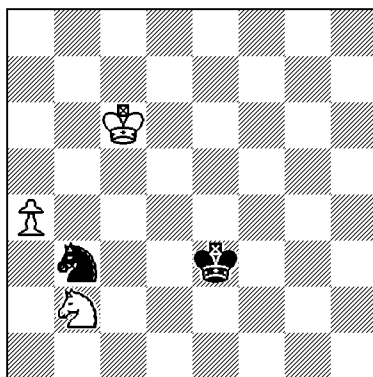
48. P.Arestov & V.Tarasiuk
(Russia, Ukraine)
JIRTDAN 2018
1st Prize



Draw (=)

2+3

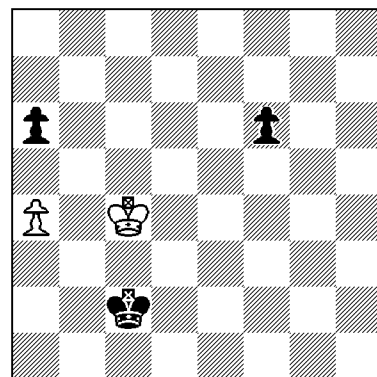
18. Janos Mikitovics
(Hungary)
JIRTDAN 2018
2nd Prize



Win (+)

3+2

37. Mikhail Zinar
(Ukraine)
JIRTDAN 2018
3rd Prize



Draw (=)

2+3

№48. Pavel Arestov (Russia) & Vladislav Tarasiuk (Ukraine).

1.Kb8! (1.Sd3? b5! wins) **1...Kb6** (1...b5 2.Kc7 draws) **2.Kc8 Kc6 3.Kd8 Kd6!** (3...h5 4.Ke7 Kd5 5.Kf6 draws) **4.Ke8!** (4.Kc8? b5! 5.Kb7 Kc5 6.Sc2 h5 wins), and: - **4...Ke5 5.Kf7!** (5.Kd7? h5! wins) **5...Kf5 6.Ke7 h5 7.Kd6 Ke4 8.Sg2 Kd4! 9.Sh4!** (The point of this line. The obvious 9.Ke6? fails to: 9...b5 10.Kf5 b4 11.Kf4 h4! 12.Se3 h3 13.Sc2+ Kc3 14.Sxb4 h2 wins) **9...b5 10.Sf5+ Ke4 11.Sg3+ Kd4 12.Sf5+!** (12.Sxh5? b4 13.Sf4 b3 14.Se2+ Kc4! wins) positional draw, or: - **4...Ke6 5.Kd8! b5** (5...Kd6 6.Ke8 Ke6 7.Kd8 positional draw) **6.Kc7 Kd5 7.Kb6 b4** (7...Kc4 8.Sc2! h5 9.Sa3+ Kd3! 10.Kxb5! h4 11.Sc4 h3 12.Se5+ draws) **8.Kb5! b3 9.Sd3 Kd4 10.Sb2 Kc3 11.Sa4+ Kd3!** (11...Kd2 12.Kc4! h5 13.Kd4 Ke2 14.Ke4 Kf2 15.Kf4! Kg2 16.Kg5 draws) **12.Sc5+ Ke3! 13.Sxb3 h5 14.Sa5!** The point of this line. If 14.Sc5? h4 15.Se6 h3 wins. **14...h4 15.Sc4+ Kf2! 16.Se5! Kg3 17.Sc4! Kf2 18.Se5** positional draw.

“The authors succeeded in adding a new main line to a famous study by Grigoriev (HHdbV#69746). The fact that in both lines a surprising knight move to the edge of the board (9.Sh4!/14.Sa5!) is necessary to secure the draw is very entertaining”.

№18. Janos Mikitovics (Hungary).

1.Kd5 (1.Sc4+? Kd3 draws) **1...Kd2 2.Kc4 Kc2 3.Sd1!** (Thematic try: 3.Sd3? Sd2+ 4.Kd4 Sb3+ – avoiding 4...Sf3+? 5.Kc5! a thematic white move! – 5.Kc4 Sd2+= positional draw) **3...Sa5+ 4.Kb4!** (4.Kb5? Sb7 draws) **4...Sc6+** (4...Sb7 5.Sf2 Kd2 6.Se4+ Kd3 7.Sc5+ wins) **5.Kb5** (5.Kc5? Kb3! draws) **5...Kb3 6.Sb2! Sd4+** (6...Sa7+ 7.Kb6 Sc8+ 8.Kc7 Se7 9.a5! Sd5+ 10.Kc6 Kb4 11.a6 wins) **7.Kc5 Kc3** (7...Sc2 8.a5 wins) **8.Sd1+! Kd3 9.Sf2+!** (9.Sb2+? Ke4! 10.Sc4 Sb3+ 11.Kb4 Sd4 12.Kc5 Sb3+ positional draw) **9...Ke3 10.Kd5!** (Thematic try: 10.Kc4? Sf5! – avoiding 10...Sc6? 11.Sd3 Ke4 12.Kc5! a thematic white move! – 12...Sd4 13.Sc1 wins – 11.Sd1+ Kd2 12.Sb2 Kc2 13.Sd3 Sd6+ draws) **10...Sb3 11.Se4! Sa5** (11...Kd3 12.Sc5+) **12.Sd6! Kd3 13.Kc5** (Thematic try: 13.Se4? Kc2! – avoiding 13...Sc4? 14.Kc5! zz 14...Sa5 15.Sd6 Kc3 16.Kb5 see main line – 14.Kc5 Kb3 draws) **13...Kc3 14.Kb5 Sb3 15.Sf5!** zz (15.Se4+? Kd4! 16.Kb4 Kxe4 draws) **15...Sd2 16.a5** (16.Sd6? Sb3 17.Sf5 Sd2 repeats) wins.

“White has to put / leave his knight en-prise in many instances during the main line: 3.Sd1!, 6.Sb2!, 10.Kd5! as well in some tries if Black goes wrong”.

№37. Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine).

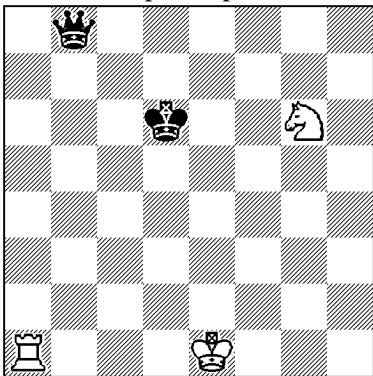
1.a5! f5 2.Kc5! (Logical try: 2.Kd4? Kb3 3.Ke5 Kb4 (Ka4) 4.Kxf5 Kxa5 5.Ke4 Kb4 (Ka4) 6.Kd3 Kb3 7.Kd2 Kb2 wins) **2...f4** (2...Kb3 (Kd3) 3.Kb6 f4 4.Kxa6 f3 5.Kb7 f2 6.a6 f1Q 7.a7 draws) **3.Kd4! Kb3 4.Ke4 Kb4 5.Kxf4 Kxa5 6.Ke3 Kb4 7.Kd2 Kb3 8.Kc1** draws.

“This is how a logical study should be: the most obvious move (2.Kd4?) fails. The move 2.Kc5! does not necessarily goes for bPa6, but enforces Black to advance the f-pawn, after the wK heads back to capture the f-pawn. The marvellous idea is that the wK is able to get in time to c1 from f4 (solution), but not from f5 (thematic try)! You should challenge your chess friends at the club to solve this study (perhaps better say that it is game fragment...)”.

27. Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain)

JIRTDAN 2018

1st special prize



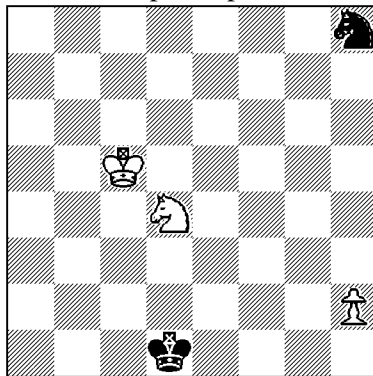
Draw (=) 3+2

b) Sg6→h5, b=c) Ra1→h1,
c=d) Sh5→a5.

42. Mario Micaloni (Italy)

JIRTDAN 2018

2nd special prize

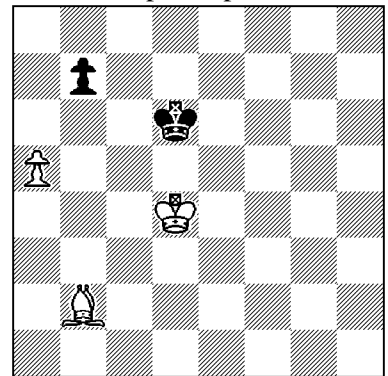


Win (+) b) Sd4→d5 3+2

3. Branislav Djurasevic (Serbia)

JIRTDAN 2018

3rd special prize



Win (+) 3+2

№27. Luis Miguel Gonzalez (Spain). Twins: only wR and wSg6 change position.

a) 1.0–0+! (1.Rd1+? Kc5 (Ke6) wins) **1...Kc5! 2.Se7! Qf4+** (2...Qa7 3.Sd5 draws) **3.Rd2! Qg5** (3...Qe3 4.Sd5 draws) **4.Sd5!** draws.

b) 1.Sg3! (1.0–0+? Kc5! 2.Rd3! Kc4! 3.Rf3 Qa8 (Qb7) wins) **1...Qb4+ 2.Kf1! Qf4+ 3.Kg2** draws.

c) 1.0–0! Qa7+ (1...Qg8 2.Rf6+ draws) **2.Rf2! Qd4** (2...Qa1+ 3.Kh2! draws) **3.Sf4!** draws.

d) 1.Sc4+! Kc5 2.Sd2! (2.Se3? Qb1+ 3.Sd1 Qe4+) **2...Qg3+ 3.Kd1!** (3.Kf1? Kb4! 4.Rh8 Qf4+ 5.Ke2 Qe5+ wins, but not here 3...Kd4? 4.Rh2! draws) draws.

“This castling task deserves a special prize. It is of course a pity that in position IV the wS is not on h5. There are 39 studies with castling in a 5 man position in my database, but apart from the castling there were no major anticipations among those”.

№42. Mario Micaloni (Italy).

a) 1.Kd5 Sg6 2.Ke4 Kd2 3.h3! Ke1 4.Ke3 (king triangulation (e3–f3–f4), to circumvent the pendulum Se5+/Sg6+ as the knight cannot lose a tempo) **4...Kf1 5.Kf3 Ke1** (5...Se5+ 6.Kg3 wins) **6.Se6** (6.Ke3? Kf1 7.Kf3 Ke1 repeats) **6...Se5+ 7.Kf4** (7.Ke4? Sg6 8.Kf5 Sh4+ 9.Kg4 Sg6 10.Kg5 see main line after 8.Kg5) **7...Sg6+ 8.Kg5** (8.Kf5? Sh4+ 9.Kg4 Sg6 10.Kg5 see main line after 8.Kg5) **8...Se5 9.Kf6 Sf3 10.Sd4! Sh4 11.Kg5 Sg2 12.Kg4 Kd2 13.Kg3** second triangulation (g3–f3–f4) **13...Se3 14.Kf3 Kd3 15.Se6 Sf5 16.Kf4 Se7** (16...Se3 17.Ke5 wins) **17.Kg5 Ke3 18.h4!** wins.

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b) 1.Kd4 Sg6 (1...Ke2 2.Ke4 wins) **2.Ke3 Sh4** (2...Ke1 3.Kf3 wins) **3.Kf2** (king triangulation (f2–f3–g3) to outtempo Sh4) **3...Sg6 4.Kf3 Se5+ 5.Kg3 Kd2 6.h4! Kd3 7.Sf6 Kd4 8.h5 Kc5** (8...Sf7 9.Kf4 wins) **9.Kf4 Kd6 10.Kf5 Sf7 11.Sg8!** (11.Kg6? Ke6 draws) **11...Kd7 12.Kf6 Ke8 13.Kg7 Sd6** (13...Sg5 14.Sf6+ wins, e.g. 14...Ke7 15.h6 Sf7 16.h7 Ke6 17.Sd5) **14.Sf6+ Ke7 15.Sd5+** wins. “This special prize is awarded to a relative newcomer. In I, the moves 3.h3! and 10.Sd4! are fine”.

№3. Branislav Djurasevic (Serbia). Dedicated to Marjan Kovacevic.

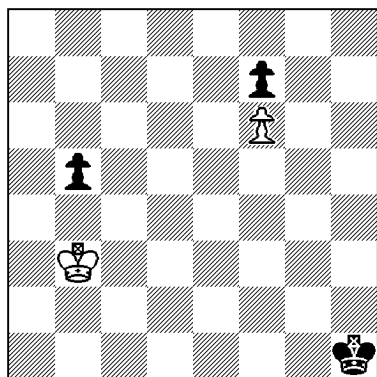
1.Kd3! (1.Ba3+? Kc7! draws) **1...Kc7!** (1...b5 2.axb6! wins) **2.Be5+! Kc6 3.Bd4! Kc7** (3...Kb5 4.Bb6! wins) **4.Ba7! Kc6** (4...b6 5.a6 Kc6 6.Kc4! wins, or here: 4...b5 5.a6! b4 6.Kc4 b3 7.Kxb3 wins) **5.Bb6!** (5.Kc4? b5+, or 5.Kc3? b6! draw) **5...Kd7 6.Kd4!** (6.Kc4? Kc8! 7.Ba7 b5+ draws) **6...Kd6!** (6...Kc8 7.Ba7 Kc7 8.Kd5 Kc8 9.Kc5 Kc7 10.Kb5 wins. 6...Kc6 7.Kc4 is a shortcut) **7.Kc4 Kc6 8.Kb4 Kd7! 9.Kc5!** (9.Kb5? Kc8 10.Ba7 Kc7 and the wK must go back: 11.Kb4 Kd7 repeats, as 11.Kc5? b6+! draws) **9...Kc8 10.Ba7 Kd7** (10...Kc7 11.Kb5 Kc8 12.Kb6, or 10...b6+ 11.Kxb6! wins). **11.Bb8!** (11.Kd5? wastes time: 11...Kc7! and we have reached the original position by L.Paulsen (HHdbV#82555): 12.Kd4! wins).

“A great extension to the well-known position published by Paulsen after a game Paulsen–Metger 1888. The first move 1.Kd3!! is the highlight of the study. The position after 6.Kd4 is known from a cook in HHdbV#83651 and #77950”.

35. Mikhail Zinar
(Ukraine)

JIRTDAN 2018

1st honourable mention



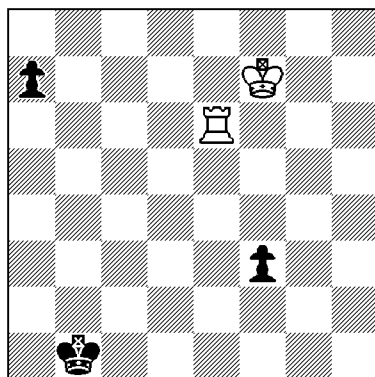
Draw (=)

2+3

8. David Gurgenzidze & Ilham Aliev
(Georgia, Azerbaijan)

JIRTDAN 2018

2nd honourable mention



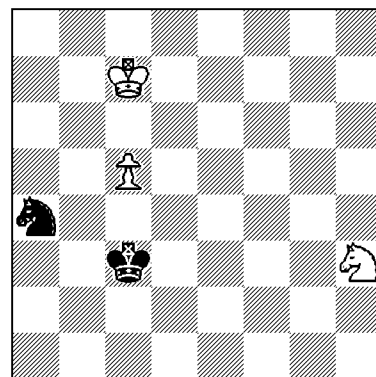
Win (+)

2+3

23. Pavel Arestov
(Russia)

JIRTDAN 2018

3rd honourable mention



Win (+)

3+2

№35. Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine).

1.Kb4 Kg2 2.Kc5! (Logical try: 2.Kxb5? Kf3! 3.Kc4 Ke4! 4.Kc3 Ke5 (Kf5) 5.Kd3 Kxf6 6.Ke4 Kg5 wins) **2...b4** (2...Kf3 3.Kd6 draws) **3.Kxb4 Kf3 4.Kc3! Ke4 5.Kd2 Kf5 6.Ke3 Kxf6 7.Kf4** draws. “2.Kc5!! is marvellous”.

№8. David Gurgenzidze (Georgia) & Ilham Aliev (Sumgayit, Azerbaijan).

1.Re5!! (Thematic try: 1.Re3? (Re4?) f2? 2.Rb3+! Kc2 3.Rf3 a5 4.Ke6 a5 5.Kd5 a3 6.Kc4 a2 7.Rxf2+ Kb1 8.Kb3 a1Q (8...a1S+ 9.Kc3) 9.Rf1#. But 1...a5! 2.Ke6 a4 3.Kd5 f2! 4.Rf3 a3 5.Kc4 a2 6.Rxf2 a1Q draws. **1...f2** (1...Kc2 2.Re3! f2 3.Rf3 and white has now difficulties and wins similarly to the main line: 3...a5 4.Ke6 a4 5.Kd5 a3 6.Kc4 a2 7.Rxf2+ Kb1 8.Kb3 wins) **2.Rb5+!** (2.Rf5? a5 3.Ke6 a4 4.Kd5 a3 5.Kc4 a2 6.Rxf2 (6.Kb3? a1Q and no mate 7.Rxf2 Qa6 and black wins) 6...a1Q 7.Rf1+= only draws) **2...Kc2 3.Rf5 a5 4.Ke6 a4 5.Kd5** (5.Rxf2+? Kb3!) **5...a3 6.Kc4** (6.Rxf2+? Kb3!) **6...a2 7.Rxf2+ Kb1 8.Kb3 a1Q** (8...a1S+ 9.Kc3) **9.Rf1#**. “The manoeuvre 1.Re5! – 2. Rb5+! is a nice discovery. This does

not work in the thematic try, as Black has 1...a5! This move does not work in the solution because it fails to the obvious 2.Rxa5”.

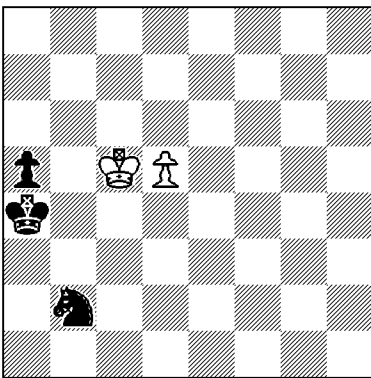
№23. Pavel Arestov (Russia).

1.c6 Kb4! Clearing the square c3. **2.Kd8!** (Try: 2.Kb8? Sc5! 3.Ka7 (3.c7 Sa6+ draws) 3...Se6 4.Kb6 Kc4! 5.Sg5! Sf4! (5...Sxg5? 6.c7 wins) 6.Kb7 (6.c7 Sd5+ draws) 6...Sd5 7.Se6 Kb4! 8.Sf4! Sf6! (8...Sxf4? 9.c7 wins) 9.c7 Se8! 10.c8Q Sd6+ draws. 2.Kd6? is too early: 2...Sc3! 3.c7 Sb5+ draws) **2...Sc5! 3.Ke7!** (3.c7? Se6+ draws) **3...Sa6 4.Kd6!** (Only now! The white king made the manoeuvre Kc7–d8–e7–d6, but not Kc7–d6) **4...Kb5** (4...Kc4 5.Sg5 (Sf4) Now there is no move by the knight to the 4th line, such as 5...Sf4 in the try) **5.Sf4!** (5.Sg5? Kb6 6.Se6 Sb8 7.c7 Kb7, or 5.Sf2? Kb6 6.Sd3 Sc7 draw) **5...Kb6 6.Sd5+ Ka7 7.Sc7!** (7.Sb4? Sb8! 8.c7 Kb7 draws) **7...Sb8 8.Sb5+!** check! **8...Kb6 9.c7 Sa6 10.c8Q** wins.

39. Nikolay Griva (Ukraine)

JIRTDAN 2018

4th honourable mention



№39. Nikolay Griva (Ukraine)
1.Kd4!! Kb4 2.d6! Sa4 3.d7! Sc5
4.d8S! a4 5.Sc6+ draws.

“Short, simple, and a terrific key
 1.Kd4!!”.

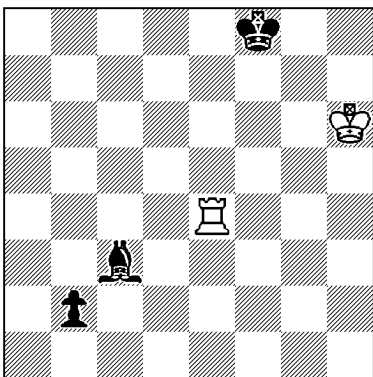


Draw (=) 2+3

6. Ilham Aliev (Azerbaijan)

JIRTDAN 2018

1st commendation

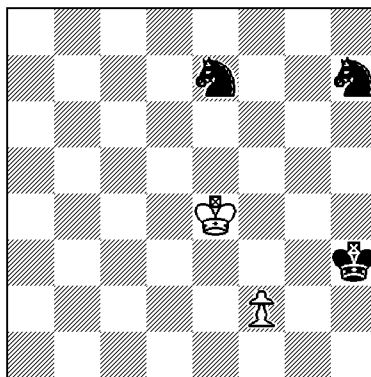


Draw (=) 2+3

15. Valery Kalashnikov (Russia)

JIRTDAN 2018

2nd commendation

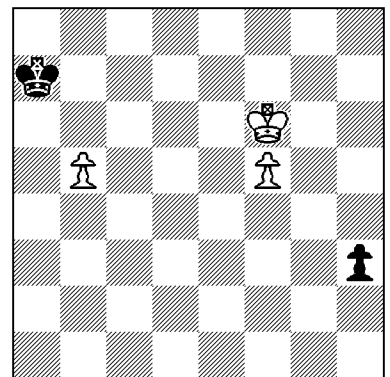


Draw (=) 2+3

36. Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine)

JIRTDAN 2018

3rd commendation



Draw (=) 3+2

№6. Ilham Aliev (Sumgayit, Azerbaijan).

1.Rf4+, and: - **1...Kg8 2.Rg4+!** (2.Rf1? Bd2+ 3.Kh5 Bc1 wins) **2...Kh8 3.Rg1 Bd2+ 4.Kg6!** (4.Kh5? Bc1 wins) **4...Bc1 5.Kf7 b1Q 6.Rh1+** and Black must play **6...Qh7+ 7.Rxh7+** draws, or: - **1...Ke8**

2.Rf1! (2.Re4+? Kd7 (Kd8) wins) **2...Bd2+ 3.Kg7!** (3.Kg6? Bc1 4.Re1+ Kd7 5.Rd1+ Kc6 wins) **3...Bc1 4.Rf8+ Kd7 5.Rb8** draws. “Two main lines in which White uses two different ways to stop the pawn from promoting. This looks familiar, but it seems that this wasn’t realized in such a simple position”.

№15. Valery Kalashnikov (Russia).

1.Ke5! (1.f4? Kg4! 2.f5 Sf6+) **1...Kg4 2.f3+!** (2.f4? Sf5 blocks the pawn in time) **2...Kh5!** (2...Kg5 3.f4+, now Black wants to block the pawn at f6, but there is a problem: 3...Kh6 4.f5 and f6 is not supported by the bK, or 3...Kg6 4.f5+ check, so no time to play the bS). **3.Ke6!** (3.f4? Sg8 4.f5 Shf6! 5.Ke6 Kh6 6.Kf7 Kh7 wins) **3...Sg8 4.Kf7 Shf6 5.Kg7** draws.

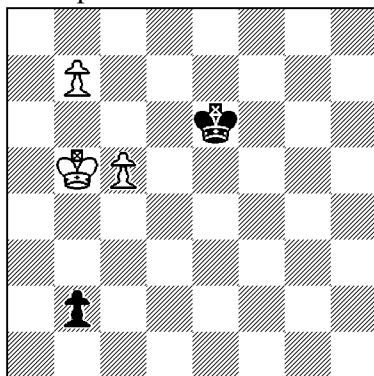
“Having Troitzky in mind, one wants to advance the f-pawn as quickly as possible. But, curiously, here the f-pawn only takes a small step, and the other moves are only king moves”.

№36. Mikhail Zinar (Ukraine).

1.b6+! (1.Kg7? h2 2.b6+ Kb8!, or 1.Ke7? h2 2.b6+ Kxb6 (Kb7) win), and: - **1...Kxb6 2.Kg7! h2 3.f6 h1Q 4.f7** draws, or: - **1...Kb8 2.Ke7** (2.Ke6? h2 3.f6 h1Q 4.f7 Qe4+! 5.Kd7 Qb7+! 6.Ke8 Kc8 7.f8Q Qd7 mate!) **2...h2 3.f6 h1Q 4.f7** draws.

“White gets rid of the pawn in order to obtain a well-known theoretical draw. The 1...Kb8 main line has an interesting refutation of the 2.Ke6? try, which by the way is not a move one would consider to play”.

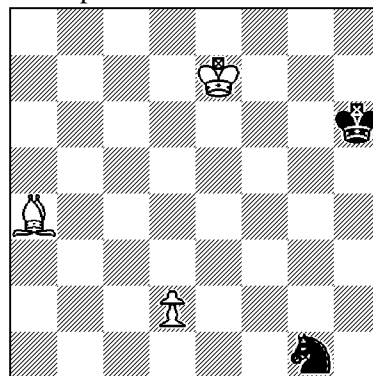
31. Darko Hlebec (Serbia)
JIRTDAN 2018
Special commendation



Draw (=)

3+2

49. Arpad Ruzs (Hungary)
JIRTDAN 2018
Special commendation



Win (+)

3+2

№31. Darko Hlebec (Serbia).

1.Kc6! (Thematic try: 1.b8Q? b1R+! (avoiding 1...b1Q+? 2.Kc6 Qxb8 stalemate) 2.Kc6 Rxb8 wins) **1...b1Q** (1...b1R 2.Kc7 draws) **2.b8Q!** (Of course not 2.b8R? as Black doesn't capture, but plays e.g. 2...Qa2 winning) **2...Qxb8** stalemate.

“This must be anticipated, don’t you think? Well I failed to find a study (also not with exchanged colours) with the point of first playing 1.Kc6 and then promote, instead of the other way around. If so it is an original subtlety!”.

№49. Arpad Ruzs (Hungary).

1.d4 Sf3 (1...Se2 2.d5 Sc3 3.d6! Sxa4 4.d7 wins) **2.d5 Se5** (2...Sd4 3.Kf6 wins) **3.d6** (3.Ke6? Sc4 draws) **3...Kg5** This is a cyclic zugzwang with WTM. In order to win, White has to reach the same position but with BTM. **4.Ke6 Sd3 5.Bb5** (5.d7? Sc5+, 5.Bc2? Sc5+ 6.Kd5 Sd7 draw) **5...Sf4+ 6.Kf7!** Thematic try: it is too early for 6.Kd7?! (Position X!) **6...Sg6 7.Bd3?** (7.Ke6 Sf4+ and we are back to the 5th move of the main line) **7...Se5+ 8.Ke6 Sxd3 9.d7 Sc5+** draws) **6...Sg6 7.Ba4!** (7.d7? (Bc6?) Se5+

draws) **7...Se5+** (7...Kf5 8.Bc2+ wins) **8.Ke7!** And we have the cyclic zugzwang with BTM. White managed to transfer the move to Black. While the white king made a triangle manoeuvre (Ke7–e6–f7–e7, 3 moves) and a bishop a switchback (Ba4–b5–a4, 2 moves), the black knight walked on a diamond-shaped path (Se5–d3–f4–g6–e5, 4 moves). These manoeuvres result in a tempo loss by White. **8...Sg6+** (8...Kf4 9.Kf6! Ke4 10.Ke6 Sd3 11.Bc2 wins) **9.Ke6 Sf4+** **10.Kd7!** (Position X) **10...Kf6** (10...Sg6 11.Bc2 Se5+ 12.Ke6 wins. Now d3 is not available for the knight. Compare this with the thematic try) **11.Kc8! Sd5 12.Bb3!** (12.d7? Sb6+ draws) **12...Ke5!** (12...Ke6 13.d7 wins) **13.Kd7! Sf6+** **14.Ke7 Kf5 15.Ba2** (tempo, or: Bc4, Bf7) **15...Ke5 16.Be6** wins.

“The author presented this as a twin with bKh4 instead of bKh6, and 1.d4 Sf3 2.d5 Kg5 3.d6 Se5 as the solution. I do not accept this as a twin study. The cyclic zugzwang, which as far as I know is an invention of the author, is well-explained here and interesting”.

Harold van der Heijden.

FIDE judge for Endgame Studies.
Deventer, the Netherlands, 3-5-2018.

JIRTDAN 2018 (#2 – İkigedişli / Twomovers) **İLKİN TƏLTİF / PROVISIONAL AWARD**

Yarışa 12 ölkədən 15 müəllif 31 ikigedişli məsələ göndərmişdi / 31 problems from 15 authors 12 countries: **Azerbaijan** (Elmar Abdullayev, Ramil Safaraliyev), **Argentina** (Carlos Grassano), **Slovakia** (Karol Mlynka), **Germany** (Dieter Mueller), **Russia** (Eduard Nagovitsin, Alana Utarova), **Italy** (Alberto Armeni), **Hungary** (Arpad Ruzs), **Turkey** (Feridun Oney, Umut Sayman), **Croatia** (Josip Pernaric), **Czech Republic** (Miroslav Svitek), **Kazakhstan** (Nikolay Akimov), **Ukraine** (Mykhailo Halma).

От директора конкурса Э.Абдуллаева 15 апреля с.г. я получил 31 задачу в обезличенном виде. Модная в последнее время тенденция судить обезличенные задачи имеет одну негативную особенность: сложно отметить задачи начинающих составителей, которые тяготеют к малым формам и которых всегда хочется поддержать.

В конкурсах малюток, как известно, довольно много предшественников. На сей раз их было больше половины - 17 из 31. Все они указаны в Annex. Поиск проведен по четырем базам: YACPDB, PDB, Albrecht-Sammlung, Meson Chess Problem Database. Их создателям и продолжателям, которые пополняют эти коллекции, пользуюсь случаем, – моя большая благодарность!

Не могли претендовать на отличия также две задачи с отнятием полей у черного короля, две – с шахами вступительным ходом, а также два близнеца с двойными перестановками фигур.

Как обычно, критерием отличия задач была их оригинальность и мастерство воплощение замысла. Из 8 оставшихся бездефектных задач отличия распределены так.