

Tadeusz POBOŻNIAK

JÓZEF ŁĄCZAK

5.XII.1926 - 21.VIII.1989

Born in the village Książnica near Mielec. He attended the elementary and the high school at Mielec. At the Jagellonian University he studied Indian philology - his professor was H. Willman-Grabowska - and Polish philology. He graduated in 1952 on the ground of thesis "Indian studies in Poland". During his studies he was interested especially in Dravidian languages. Some years he was teacher of Polish at the high school in the town Biecz. From 1954 he worked at the university of Budapest as teacher of Polish language and lecturer of Polish literature. There also he studied Finno-Ugrian linguistics. At the Institute of Hungarian Philology at the Warsaw University he was a lecturer till the year 1972. In this time he went to Helsinki and worked there as lecturer of Polish language. He studied at the same time Finno-Ugrian linguistics and Samoyed languages. From 1976 he was engaged at the Indian Philology Institute of the Jagellonian University. He taught Sanskrit, Pali and Dravidian languages.

Beside didactic work he was engaged in research work. He was member of the editorial board of the Hungarian-Polish Dictionary and verified particular entries. His published works concern chiefly literature and Finno-Ugrian languages and their relation to Slavonic languages. They are: Notes on some abessive constructions in Finno-Ugrian languages ("Acta Philologica" 3, Warsaw University), entries: Tót, Ural languages and peoples, Hungarian-Slavonic language contacts (Starożytności Słowiańskie - Slavonic Antiquities), Lengyel irodalom (Polish literature) in Uj Magyar Lexikon. He has

not finished two greater works: I. Language of the village Derenk (Monography of the dialect of the Polish village in North-Hungary), II. the dissertation Infinitival and participial constructions in the Udmurt language. Lately he prepared a textbook of Sanskrit on the grounds of his didactic work. All these works are noticeable by their precision and originality of conclusions.

He was twice married. From the first marriage he had a son and a daughter, from the second one two sons. His premature demise is a great loss for the Polish research work in Finno-Ugrian and Indian philology.

Tadeusz LEWICKI

THE CENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF THE LATE
PROF. DR. TADEUSZ KOWALSKI

The internationally famous Prof. Tadeusz Kowalski, one of the most outstanding Polish orientalists, a man of great nobility of character and kindness was born a hundred years ago on the 21st of June 1889. All his life he was connected with Kraków where he lived, worked and died on the 5th of May 1948. There are not many of his colleagues or even pupils left now, and so it seems proper to remind the new generation of orientlists of him.

Following his death his achievements were fully reported in numerous articles. Today I shall deal with his private life.

Tadeusz Kowalski was born in Châteauroux in France. His father, Teofil Kowalski, a Polish emigrant, was an analytical chemist, working in the French textile industry. His mother Kazimiera, née Kuszpecińska was a daughter of a High Court judge in Kraków. In 1894 Teofil Kowalski returned to Kraków with his wife and children. Tadeusz Kowalski was then 5 years old. The father died shortly afterwards and the mother brought up the two boys (Tadeusz and four years older Ludwik - later to become an analytical chemist and geologist). Already at school (eight years followed by matriculation in the grammar school of Nowodworski in Kraków) Tadeusz Kowalski was greatly interested in the Muslim Orient and this became the main subject of his University study. He met his future wife, the late Zofia Medwecka while still at school. They were both very active in organisations of progressive youth. They were also interested in rambles, mountaineering and skiing - this last in its infancy then. They remained active in these sports almost to the end