

e.g. Mod. Gk. τσιφούτης — Alb. *çifut* — Aroum. *çifut* — Bulg. *çifutin* — SC. *çifutin* — Roum. *cifut* 'rascal, bad character' are derived from Turk. dial. *çifut* (not from Modern Literary Turkish *çifit*).

6. Dimitris Theodoridis (Munich, Germany) — "Die frühosmanische ivladi -Stoffe und der Name des Stadtviertels für nichtmuslime zu Ankyra (16 Jh.)"; this etymological presentation was devoted to an obscure but interesting problem of the origin of an Anatolian 16th-century district. Unfortunately, some aspects of Theodoridis' derivation were unclear not only to me, but also — as I believe — to other participants. The lecturer himself was somewhat confused when he explained some ambiguous details mentioned in the discussion. I hope that the expected publication of the full text of Theodoridis' paper will solve all problems and obscurities.

7. Matthias Kappler (Venice, Italy) — "Über die Funktion der Türzismen im griechischen Journalismus"; he observed a decrease in the use of Turkish items in the most recent Greek journals. The turkisms function mainly on the level of irony or joke.

8. Charalambos Symeonidis (Thessaloniki, Greece) "The Greek — Turkish phraseological isoglosses". Utilizing an earlier paper by Tietze, Symeonidis spoke about Greek and Turkish phraseological sentences chosen from the semantic field of 'nose' and 'to smell'. It is difficult to review this lecture (delivered in Modern Greek), because numerous Greek and Turkish idioms were incomprehensible to me.

The wide-ranging discussion, led by M. Setatos and G. Hazai, allowed us a valuable insight into the current state of research on Greek-Turkish linguistic relations⁴. Unfortunately, prof. Paulos Hidi-roglou (Athens, Greece) was unable to participate in the Greek-Turkish colloquium, as previously planned. I hope that his paper "Ein unveröffentlichtes Gedicht in kretischer Mundart über die Geburt des Propheten Mohammed" will be included in the colloquium materials and that any future publication of the studies we have heard should reach a wider international audience.

ALEKSANDER DUBIŃSKI

ZYGMUNT ABRAHAMOWICZ

1923—1990

On the day 13th December 1990 Dr. Zygmunt Abrahamowicz — an orientalist, specialist in Polish-Turkish relationships and Ottoman-Turkish paleography died in Cracow.

The defunct was born on the 20th February 1923 in Halicz (Stanisławów district) in an old patriarchal family of Karaites living in this town. The father of Zygmunt was the owner of a small farm. At the age of eleven Zygmunt lost his father and a year later he left for grammar-school in Stanisławów. He was a studious and talented pupil. Because he was not in good health doctors advised him to stop an intensive learning for at least one year. After the break he returned to the grammar-school and continued studying already after the outbreak of the II World War under a system of the soviet secondary school. At the end of war he was taken out to Germany for forced labour and after war he found himself in the Lower Silesia. Working so that he could survive he enrolled for the studies, first at Oriental Institute of Warsaw University but shortly after he transferred to Cracow, where he continued to study at the Institute of Oriental Philology at the Jagiellonian University and in 1951 he received his Master's degree at oriental philology — he was a specialist in Turkish studies.

The history of relationships between Poland and Turkey and Khanate of Crimea he chose as the main subject of his scientific interests. He worked over this topic from 1952 as an archivist, the researcher of Polish archival collection in Warsaw (The Main Office of Old Records) and in Cracow (Provincial State Office Record), he worked there till 1976. He obtained a doctorate in 1968 at Jagiellonian University.

The penetrating and arduous analyses of preserved in archives texts of correspondence between the Ottoman Port and chancellery of kings and hetmans, required a deep historical knowledge and a discernment in the Ottoman paleography intricacies. Many years' work in this field allowed him to get a position of an experienced expert who was recognized by the national and foreign scientists. The publishing

⁴ To the documentation given in notes 1—3 we should add some other recent publications, e.g. B. E. Newton, *Some Modern Greek-Turkish Semantic Parallelisms*. Glotta 40 (1962), 315—320; S. Stachowski *Beiträge zur Geschichte der griechischen Lehnwörter im Osmanisch-Türkisch*, Folia Orientalia 8 (1971), 267—298; P. Georgiadis, *Die lautlichen Veränderungen der türkischen Lehnwörter im Griechischen*, München 1974; S. Stachowski, *Die Rolle des Griechischen in der Geschichte des Osmanisch-Türkischen* [in:] *Analecta Indoeuropaea Cracoviensia Ioannis Safarewicz memoriae dicata*, edenda curavit W. Smoczyński, Kraków 1994 (in press).

of the description of 381 documents from the Polish collections was the most important work done in this field in the framework of a catalogue of oriental manuscripts. It was initiated at that time by the Department of Polish Oriental Studies at Polish Academy of Sciences. The catalogue elaborated by Z. Abrahamowicz comprises documents with the history of Poland and its neighbours in the years 1455–1672, and it is the first part of works provided for printing.¹ The edition of the first part of documents met with approbation of experts from many countries.

From the beginning of his scientific interests Z. Abrahamowicz devoted much of attention to the Turkish historiography, particularly to the information included in Turkish sources, and the descriptions of countries in the middle and east Europe. He took part in the publication of the Turkish traveller's description from the 17th century, *Ewiliy Tcheleby* — it was an important position in this field. In the translation of Tcheleby's itinerarium made by Polish specialists in Turkish studies, the translation of the peregrination about Crimea is Abrahamowicz's work, as well as the choice, preface and scientific comments.²

The interests in the Crimea Peninsula bore fruits such as the printing of the translation comprising the history of Crimea in 1644–1651 on the grounds of only one copy preserved in the collections of British Museum in London. It is a detailed history of reign of one of the rulers from *Gerey* dynasty in the Crimea Peninsula.³

His interests in Turkish historiography — mainly in materials concerning the historical links between Poland and Turkey — resulted in the printed description of Vienna campaign under the command of grand vizier *Kara Mustafa* on the grounds of relation of one Crimean and four Ottoman authors. It is worth adding that the above-mentioned publication appeared ten years before the grand celebration marking 300th anniversary of Vienna relieving.⁴

With the management of State Archives assent Dr. Z. Abrahamo-

¹ *The Catalogue of Turkish Documents*. Elaborated by Z. Abrahamowicz. Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, Warszawa 1958.

² *The Book of Emiliy Tcheleby's Journey*. Translated from Turkish language by Zygmunt Abrahamowicz, Aleksander Dubiński, Stanisława Błaskowicka-Rymkiewicz, Książka i Wiedza, Warszawa 1969.

³ *H. Mehmed Senai from Crimea. The History of Khan Islam Gerey III*. The Turkish text edited, translated and elaborated by Z. Abrahamowicz, Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, Warszawa 1971.

⁴ *Kara Mustafa near Vienna. The Muslim Sources to the History of the Vienna Campaign*. Translated and elaborated by Z. Abrahamowicz, Wydawnictwo Literackie, Kraków 1973.

wicz was employed at the Polish History Institute of Polish Academy of Sciences, first (since 1976) as a temporary research worker, and since 1979 he was employed as a permanent scientific worker till his retiring in 1988. Throughout the work in the Institute of History he dealt mainly with describing scientifically archival Polish-Turkish treaties stored in collections, negotiated in the years 1489–1648 and being the proof of historical connections of Poland and its policy with one of the once most powerful empires in the Near East. Unfortunately, the lack of forces and energy didn't allow him to prepare this publication.

As the worker of the Institute of History, in order to conduct some research work and to improve his skills, he received research grant in Italy in 1980, and in 1983 in Austria. There, he was able to come into personal contact with foreign scientists.

To show a full range of his legacy, one should point to numerous articles notes in domestic and foreign scientific magazines, such as "Przegląd Orientalistyczny" (Orientalistic Review), "Folia Orientalia", *Polski Słownik Biograficzny* (Polish Biographical Dictionary), "Ural-Altaische Jahrbücher" and Turkish "Tarich Dergisi" (in the columns of the latter magazine he busied with historical toponymics of Podolia and Ukraine).

Recently he participated in works of Society Poland-Turkey, but he couldn't engage more intensely because of a bed-ridden wife who required care for nearly 5 years.

Brought up in austere conditions, he was compelled to shift for himself in various circumstances from the years of his youth. This in turn, I daresay, contributed to making high requirements for himself, and sometimes seemingly exaggerated for others, which resulted however from his warm-hearted relation to people. Striving for objective, historical truth in his research work, he was an advocate of the ancients' rule "amicus Plato, sed magis amica veritas". He had a respect among those who knew him more closely thanks to his vast knowledge, suitable way of working and maybe sometimes too excessive perfection. It in fact didn't promote appearing the printed works in large number, but contributed undoubtedly to securing the first-class quality.

Because of the death of Dr. Zygmunt Abrahamowicz the Polish oriental studies, particularly the Turkish studies and historical sciences suffered a severe and irreparable loss.