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NOTIZ – NOTICE

IN MEMORIAM TIMOTEUS POKORA – 26.6.1928–11.7.1985

On July 11th, 1985, Dr. Timoteus Pokora died. He was a prominent Czech Sinologue and specialist in ancient Chinese history, philosophy and law, and also an ardent popularizer of Chinese culture and translator of Chinese literature.

After his law studies at the University of Brno and his sinological studies at the Carls University of Prague, Pokora devoted himself to Chinese studies, specializing in Far Eastern history. His master's thesis was devoted to the Later Han philosopher Wang Chong. His post-graduate studies at Beijing University in 1956–1957 resulted in a doctoral thesis devoted to another Han time philosopher, Huan T'an, and his works.¹

Until his sudden dismissal in 1969, Pokora served as a distinguished research specialist in the Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Science in Prague. In 1965–66 he also lectured at Heidelberg University, and in 1969 and 1970 he was a research fellow at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

During the more than thirty years of his sinological career Pokora published several monographs, many scholarly articles, and hundreds of book reviews. After 1969 he continued his research work so far as circumstances permitted this, and kept up his publication activities. His first posthumous contribution in English was published late in 1985.²

It is a tribute to Pokora's fortitude of spirit that even during the last years of his life, when he was plagued by an increasingly serious illness, he kept up his research interests and thus exercised his keen and critical mind until the very end of his all too short life. Pokora leaves a proud scholarly heritage to Chinese studies.

R. P. KRAMERS

1 *Hsin-lun (New Treatise) and Other Writings by Huan T'an (43 B.C. – 28 A.D.)*, Michigan Papers in Chinese Studies No. 20, 1975.

2 «Living Corpses in Early Medieval China. Sources and Opinions», in *Religion und Philosophie in Ostasien, Festschrift für Hans Steininger*, Würzburg 1985.