

**Werner Sundermann (22<sup>nd</sup> of Dec. 1935 – 12<sup>th</sup> of Oct. 2012)**

We regret to announce the death of our esteemed colleague Werner Sundermann who passed away on Friday the 12th of October 2012 after a long illness. The Turfan Study Group ('Turfanforschung') has not only lost a former colleague and director, but also a scholar of the highest standing who was well regarded in the whole world. Even after his retirement he stayed close to us, taking part in our activities and supporting us with literature, discussions and advice.

He completed his doctorate in 1963. In 1970 he started to work in the Turfan research group founded in 1965 at the German Academy of Sciences, which he and his colleagues made internationally known through editions of new textual material. In 1984 he completed his second doctorate (habilitation). From 1993 to 2000 he was director of the long-term project 'Turfanforschung' at the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. In 1992 he became honorary professor in the Institute of Iranian Studies at the Free University Berlin.

He was an extraordinary member of the Class of Humanities of the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and a member of the Academia Europaea and also corresponding member of the Istituto Italiano per il Medio ed Estremo Oriente, of the North Rhein Westphalian Academy of Sciences and Humanities, of the Danish Academy and of the British Academy.

He was a member of many academic societies, which he often as leader.

He received an honorary doctorate in 1994 from the Alma Mater Studiorum Saecularia in Bologna.

As part of his work in the Turfanforschung he published the following volumes in its series 'Berliner Turfantexte' (BTT):

Mittelpersische und parthische kosmogonische und Parabeltexte der Manichäer mit einigen Bemerkungen zu Motiven der Parabeltexte von Friedmar Geissler. 1973 (BTT IV).

Mitteliranische manichäische Texte kirchengeschichtlichen Inhalts. Mit einem Appendix von Nicholas Sims-Williams. 1981 (BTT XI).

Ein manichäisch-soghdisches Parabelbuch mit einem Anhang von Friedmar Geissler über Erzählmotive in der Geschichte von den zwei Schlangen. 1985 (BTT XV).

Der Sermon vom Licht-Nous. Eine Lehrschrift des östlichen Manichäismus. Edition der parthischen und soghdischen Version. 1992 (BTT XVII).

Der Sermon von der Seele. Eine Lehrschrift des östlichen Manichäismus Edition der parthischen und soghdischen Version mit einem Anhang von Peter Zieme. Die türkischen Fragmente des »Sermons von der Seele«. 1997 (BTT XIX).

Only a few months before his death he completed a further volume for the 'Berliner Turfantexte' which will appear shortly:

Die Rede der Lebendigen Seele. Ein manichäischer Hymnenzyklus in mittelpersischer und soghdischer Sprache. 2012 (BTT XXX).

He published two volumes in the series *Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum*:

The Manichaean Hymn cycles Huyadagmān and Angad rōšnān in Parthian and Sogdian. Photo Edition. Transcription and translation of hitherto unpublished texts, with critical remarks (*Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum. Suppl. Series II*), London 1990.

Iranian Manichaean Turfan texts in early publications (1904–1934). Photo edition (*Corpus Inscriptionum Iranicarum. Supplementary Series, Vol. 3*), London 1996.

He also participated in the edition of the Iranian fragments of the Ryūkoku-Collection in Japan:

(with K. Kudara and Y. Yoshida), Iranian Fragments from the Ōtani Collection. Iranian Fragments Unearthed in Central Asia by Ōtani Mission and kept at the Library of Ryūkoku University, 2 vol. (Facsimile Series of Rare Texts in the Library of Ryūkoku University 17), Kyoto 1997.

He co-edited a number of volumes:

(with J. Duchesne-Guillemin and F. Vahman) *Barg-e sabz. A Green Leaf. Papers in Honour of Professor Jes P. Asmussen (Acta Iranica, 28)* Leiden 1988.

(with H. Klengel) Ägypten - Vorderasien – Turfan. Probleme der Edition und Bearbeitung altorientalischer Handschriften. Tagung in Berlin, Mai 1987 (SGKAO 23), Berlin 1991.

(with R. E. Emmerick, I. Warnke and P. Zieme) Turfan, Khotan und Dunhuang. Vorträge der Tagung „Annemarie v. Gabain und die Turfanforschung“, veranstaltet von der Berlin-Brandenburgischen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Berlin (9.–12.12.1994). (Berichte und Abhandlungen, ed. BBAW, Sonderband 1), Berlin 1996.

(with R. E. Emmerick and P. Zieme) *Studia Manichaica*. IV. Internationaler Kongreß zum Manichäismus, Berlin, 14.–18. Juli 1997. (Berichte und Abhandlungen, ed. BBAW, Sonderband 4) Berlin 2000.

(with M. Macuch) *Iranian Languages and Texts from Iran and Turan: Ronald E. Emmerick Memorial Volume*. Wiesbaden 2007 (*Iranica* 13).

(with A. Hintze and F. de Blois) *Exegisti monumenta: Festschrift in Honour of Nicholas Sims-Williams*. Wiesbaden 2009 (*Iranica* 17).

He received a festschrift on his 60th birthday:

*Iran und Turfan. Beiträge Berliner Wissenschaftler Werner Sundermann zum 60. Geburtstag gewidmet*, hrsg. v. Ch. Reck & P. Zieme, Wiesbaden 1995 (*Iranica* 2).

On his 65th birthday a two-volume collection of his articles appeared:

*Manichaica Iranica. Ausgewählte Schriften von Werner Sundermann*, hrsg. v. Ch. Reck, D. Weber, C. Leurini & A. Panaino, (Serie Orientale Roma 89, 1–2) Rom 2001.

On the occasion of his 70th birthday a colloquium in his honour was held in the Academy in Berlin on the 30th –31st of March 2006:

*Literarische Stoffe und ihre Gestaltung in mitteliranischer Zeit: Kolloquium anlässlich des 70. Geburtstages von Werner Sundermann*, hrsg. v. D. Durkin-Meisterernst, Ch. Reck und D. Weber, Wiesbaden 2009 (*Beiträge zur Iranistik* 31).

For a complete bibliography, s. here:

[http://www.bbaw.de/bbaw/Forschung/Forschungsprojekte/turfanforschung/bilder/Bibliographie\\_Sundermann2012.pdf](http://www.bbaw.de/bbaw/Forschung/Forschungsprojekte/turfanforschung/bilder/Bibliographie_Sundermann2012.pdf)