

## IN HONOUR OF PROFESSOR LADISLAV DROZDÍK

Professor Ladislav Drozdík, the doyen of the Slovak community of Orientalists, was born on the 3rd March 1930 at Nová Baňa in Central Slovakia. In 1953 he graduated from the Philosophical Faculty of Comenius University in Bratislava where he had studied Semitic philology under Professor Ján Bakoš.

After his graduation he accepted the post in the Semitological seminar as assistant of Professor Bakoš. Here he acquired his PhD in linguistics in 1967 and in 1992 was inaugurated.

Immediately after his graduation he has concentrated upon research in the field of Arabic linguistics. In 1990-95 he was in charge of Classical and Semitic philology at the Faculty. In 1967 he was elected President of the Slovak Oriental Society and has held this post until 1987. At present he is member of the staff of the Institute of Oriental and African Studies of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and at the same time teaches Arabic philology at the Philological Faculty of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica.

Professor Drozdík's linguistic studies have concentrated upon the problems of Modern Standard Arabic in confrontation with its non-standard and local variants. His scope of interest comprises issues of lexicology. His papers on development of the Arabic vocabulary, derivation, composition, and borrowing have attracted attention of his colleagues both at home and abroad. Lately he has been involved in studying problems of complex sentences in Uralic and Altaic languages and its transformation.

In addition to research in Arabic descriptive linguistics and sociolinguistics, he has enriched Slovak literature with his translations from Arabic literature – poetry, folktales, fiction and for his translation of Ibn Khaldun's *al-Muqaddima* he was granted the prestigious Ján Holly Prize.

His colleagues have decided to devote this volume of AAS to him on the occasion of his 70th anniversary. *Ad multos annos!*



Viktor Krupa  
Editor in Chief