

“Godlewski the Scholar, Godlewski the Academic, Godlewski the Organizer — and yet there is also Godlewski the Man” — hardly a better prospective outline for a Jubilee Volume dedicated to a man as active as Professor Włodzimierz Godlewski and as fulfilled as he is in so many fields. If a man be measured by the influence he has had on others, then the names of the scholars who have penned contributions for this volume and who have forwarded their greetings in the *Tabula Gratulatoria* on this memorable anniversary are the best proof of how his activities have affected those around him and the respect that they have engendered him over the years.

Between Egypt and Nubia, always on the Nile. A thoughtful advisor, attentive and ironical, generously supportive, especially when assured of his partners' good intentions in facing common challenges and generous concern for the well-being of people and places. A good spirit of the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology of the University of Warsaw, which he helped to shape in its current form, the branch in Cairo as much as the head office in Warsaw. His often repeated “you are right, but I totally disagree with you” can be irritating, but only to those unwilling to take up what is on one hand an intellectual challenge and on the other, a quest for standards, in the scholarly life, as much as in interpersonal relations.

It is a pleasure to be able to look back with satisfaction on past achievements, but I will not be far off the mark when I say that this will hardly keep Godlewski with his indefatigable energy and curiosity of the world from making new discoveries in the coming years, and stimulating research of the next generation of archaeologists, in Poland as well as abroad. We are proud at the Polish Centre to have produced this Jubilee Volume, underscoring Professor Godlewski's close ties with the Centre. The Editors, who belong among the Professor's students and associates, are to be commended for preparing this handsome and informative volume and congratulated for working so closely with him. I wish the Professor pleasant reading, wondering only how many interesting things about oneself and others one can learn on the occasion of such a full anniversary.

Tomasz Waliszewski
Director of the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology
University of Warsaw

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An indefatigable energy and concern for Polish Mediterranean archaeology led to Professor Włodzimierz Godlewski's decision to be one of the founders of the Kazimierz Michałowski Foundation. He has served on the Board of the Foundation and continues to support it with his well-informed counsel based on an extensive institutional experience. It is thanks to his help among others that the Foundation has been successful in fulfilling its objectives for more than 20 years. Today, it proudly contributes to the production of this Jubilee Volume in gratitude for everything that he has done for the Foundation. Members of the present as well as past Boards offer their best wishes for a continued and satisfying life of research and publication in the privacy of his Legionowo home, as well as on the Nile.

Tomasz Scholl, Dorota Dzierzbicka, Ewa Chrzanowska and Artur Obłuski
The Kazimierz Michałowski Foundation Board Members

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Archaeology today is a science of many disciplines, as distant from one another as Lower Paleolithic prehistory can be from modern urban archaeology. In effect, figures of scientific authority are seldom recognized, the achievements of an eminent specialist in one field of archaeology being unknown, perhaps even not quite understood by archaeologists of other specialties. We are fortunate though still to have exceptions to this rule: scholars whose achievements are widely recognized by the scholarly community and Włodzimierz Godlewski is one of them. It is a necessity, one might say, because his chosen discipline, which he has helped to shape over the years, the archaeology of Egypt and Nubia, demands exceptionally broad involvement. One factor is the extensive chronological range, reaching deep into Classical antiquity and extending through medieval Islamic times. Another is the broad spectrum of diverse auxiliary study specialties involved, from epigraphy to art history, to architecture, to the histories of the different groups of African Christianity. A polymath approach is unavoidable in this case, but one will agree that creative use of an instrument of such class requires masterly skill.

Godlewski is just such a paradigm of excellence — suffice it to look at his long list of publications that cover and even exceed the thematic and chronological ranges described above. One should note that these texts often present research that has already entered the mainstream of science and are

recognized by people outside the professional community of archaeologists and dedicated specialists: studies of the Coptic monastery at Naqlun in Egypt or Old Dongola, capital of the almost fairytale Nubian kingdom of Makuria, in Sudan. These presentations have truly filtered through to the common man, popularizing a unique part of our cultural heritage.

Godlewski's willingness and ability to reach different audiences is another important aspect of his personality. It is a successful combination of his wide experience, as a museum curator preparing displays and exhibition catalogues for an audience interested in Classical antiquity and as an academic lecturer initiating undergraduate and graduate students to increasingly higher levels of scholarly research.

Then there is his uninterrupted activity, which is so commendable in times when habilitation degrees, not to mention professorial positions, are often considered in Polish science as fulfillment, if not crowning of a scientific career, to be followed by nothing but self-promotion. Włodzimierz Godlewski shows an enthusiasm for work that is fairly incompatible with his status of a sedate university professor, a zeal characterizing the youngest of scholars embarking on a lifelong adventure with archaeology. It is this youthful enthusiasm next to his excellent method and extensive knowledge that engender respect and admiration... and just a touch of envy!

Wojciech Nowakowski

Director of the Institute of Archaeology University of Warsaw

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On behalf of my friends, colleagues and associates from the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums of Sudan, I am honored to express our thanks and appreciation to a man whose life as a scholar has been devoted to uncovering an important part of our Sudanese national heritage. Over the years and throughout my time with the Sudanese antiquities service, as well as my academic career with the Institute of Archaeology and now the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology, I have had the opportunity to work with Włodek, to benefit from his knowledge of Ancient Nubia, and most importantly, to shape my own views on the issues involved in often heated debate, but always seeking that level of scientific truth that is a mark of scholarly excellence.

Mahmoud El-Tayeb

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On behalf of the organizers and participants of the National Conference of Nubian Studies I congratulate you on the occasion of this wonderful anniversary.

I take this opportunity to thank you warmly for participating in our meetings from the very beginning.

For the past 23 years we have enjoyed your presence, benefited from your knowledge and experience — made even more valuable by the fact that you are one of the pioneers of Nubiology, both in Poland and abroad — and learned by example the art of academic debate as well as the art of diplomacy and uncompromising when it comes to scientific principles.

Your participation in our conferences raised their merit, attracting at the same time many young archaeologists for whom you were, and are, an acknowledged role model. We are also grateful for your initiating of the “Poles on the Nile” conference, where we can present the most recent results of our research, expand our knowledge, improve our professional qualifications and skills, enjoy the opportunity to exchange scientific opinions, learn from the best.

We thank you for all of this and for your patronage of the conferences organized in Gdańsk, and we wish you many more years of fruitful professional work in good health and all the best in your professional and personal life.

Henryk Paner
Gdańsk Archaeological Museum

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Thank you for the past thirty years. If I am where I am today, it is because you were there to inspire, to discuss and to “push”, whenever I wavered. I am proud to have worked together on so many different initiatives, during the years at the National Museum in Warsaw, as part of the Naqlun excavation project and as a co-organizer of the 11th Conference of Nubian Studies. Thank you for the challenges that I have risen to and the ones that we may yet achieve working together.

Iwona Zych

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Congratulations for your wonderful career and for the result we expect.

Charles Bonnet

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Don't forget: Beyond 60 you are ageless.

Sylvia Schoske and Dietrich Wildung

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When it comes to the Christian history of the Nile Valley, everyone knows how much Egypt, Sudan and the entire scientific community owe to the remarkable contribution of Polish archaeology in the region. Among the many talented colleagues I've had the pleasure to meet while working in Sudan, Professor Włodzimierz Godlewski has been a leading figure of this tradition of excellence. Francophile, always welcoming you with a smile, it is a privilege to add my greetings to such a distinguished scholar and scientist.

Vincent Francigny

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Życzę Jubilatowi wszystkiego, co najlepsze, i jeszcze długich lat owocnej działalności!

Piotr Dyczek

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Thank you Prof. Godlewski for your remarkable career and accomplishments in Nubian Studies. They have added so much to our knowledge of Ancient Nubia.

Janice Yellin

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Gratulacje za pracę i dorobek Profesora Włodzimierza Godlewskiego w roku jego siedemdziesiątych urodzin.

Marek Tycjan Olszewski

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Życzenia zdrowia i dalszych sukcesów eksploratorskich nad Nilem.

Ewa Parandowska

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Dużo zdrowia i wielu kolejnych lat owocnej i satysfakcjonującej pracy naukowej.

Robert Ryndziewicz