



PŘEMYSL KLÍR

IN HONOUR OF THE 85th BIRTHDAY OF Prof. MUDr. PhDr. EUGEN STROUHAL, DrSc.

Prof. MUDr. PhDr. Eugen Strouhal, MD., Celebrated on January 24, 2016 in the full force of his. He is a significant figure in many fields, not only in medical circles, but also among those involved in archaeology, anthropology and palaeopathology, particularly in connection with scientific expeditions and findings from numerous Czechoslovak and International expeditions to ancient Egypt.

His scientific course started at the Biology Institute of Plzen Medical Faculty and after a year's sojourn at the Endocrinology Institute in Prague he became for 8 years a member of of Egyptology Institute at Charles' University in Prague.

In addition to work at the Ptahshepses pyramid in Abusir near Cairo, he participated in 3 Archeological-epigraphical expeditions to Nubia as part of an International drive to safe Nubian UNESCO sites (1961, 1964, 1965).

He sailed on the ship "Friend of Nubia" on it's journey up the Nile as both an archeologist and as the ship's doctor. In 1965 and 1967, he initiated and organized the Czechoslovak-Egyptian Nubian anthropological expedition, this time relocated to New Nubia, from which he published his memoir "Antropology of the Egyptian Nubian Men" (Anthropologie 45: 2–3, 2007)

After the Russian invasion in 1968, he rejected his membership of the "Revival Party" and moved to the Náprstek Museum, where in 1991 he worked on a collection of Egyptian antiquities, significantly enriching it with items from Czechoslovak expeditions and he put on a number of exhibitions.

In the years 1969–1970, 1958 and 1989, as part of the Nubian rescue mission of UNESCO, Strouhal worked on extensive anthropological finds from Austrian expeditions in Sajal.

During his stay in USA in 1973 in Detroit, Strouhal became one of nine founders of the field of Palaeopathology. He was the only European and together with prof. Vyhnánek, he brought this field to the Czech Republic.

In the years 1969–1973 E. Strouhal was an external lecturer at the 17th of November University in Prague, where he lectured in English and French on the prehistory of Africa for foreign students.

With the exception of the University of Alexandria, he was then banned for 15 years from accepting invitations to lecture for students. After the Velvet Revolution, he was employed again at Charles University at the Institute of Medical History at the 1st Medical Faculty, where he lectured for students of medicine, and also for anthropologists from the Natural Sciences Faculty and Egyptology. From 1993 he lectured as part of the "University of the third

age" at the 1st Medical Faculty in Prague. In addition, he was invited to lecture on physical and cultural anthropology at the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, where he commuted until 2002.

For political reasons, E. Strouhal was not permitted by the leadership of the communist party at the National museum to defend his dissertation on archaeological research into the village community in Wadi Kitna in Egyptian Nubia in 1984. The defense on the challenge of Polish colleagues took place in 1991 at the Faculty of Archaeology at Warsaw University with the award of the scientific title "Doktor habilitowany". In the same year the work, expanded with cultural and social anthropological aspects, he also defended it at Charles University in Prague, where he received a scientific doctorate, DSc. A year later E. Strouhal submitted a dissertation on the diachronic evolution of the Egyptian population of Nubia, which he defended at Charles University and became an Associate Professor of Anthropology. After the next three years, based on submitted works published from palaeopathology, he was named Professor of History of Medicine and Medical Deontology (1995).

As the head of the Institute, Strouhal became a member of the scientific board of the 1st Medical Faculty in Prague, Faculty of Arts in Pilsen, and the Faculty of Education at Palacky University in Olomouc, he also served on the advisory boards for Anthropology and Egyptology at Charles University in Prague and the Board of Humanities at the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen.

Strouhal actively worked on the editorial boards of four scientific journals: The New from the Czechoslovak Orientalist Society, Brno's Anthropology, The Italian Journal of Paleopathology and the English International Journal of Osteoarcheology.

Strouhal was also a prolific writer. The extent of his bibliography is indeed venerable, including 1,100 scientific and popular scientific articles, scientific monographs, books, hundreds of papers from scientific life and hundreds of reviews (see Anthropologie Journal 48:2, 2010; and additional references in this issue).



After retirement, he also published: "Fundamentals of palaeopathology" (Horáčková, Strouhal, Vargová 2004), "Anthropology of Egyptian men" (Strouhal 2007), and "Did ancient people suffer tumors?" The History and palaeopathology of tumours, particularly malignant" (Strouhal, Němečková 2008), "Medicine of the ancient Egyptians I. Surgery. Care for women and children" (Strouhal, Vachala, Vymazalová 2010). His greatest success was "Life of Ancient Egyptians" (the first Czech edition in 1989). By 2007, the book was published in 19 editions in nine language in 12 countries (eg. in the USA and Japan). It won the J. Rothbaum award for the best book of 1992 from the publishing house of the University of Oklahoma in Norman, USA.

With co-author Břetislav Vachala and Hana Vymazalová, he published the first part of a trilogy, "Medicine of the Ancient Egyptians", the second part is at the printers and the third part is being prepared. Currently Strouhal's monograph is being edited, "Wadi Qitna and Kalabsha South Volume II – Anthropology" about the Nubian tumulus necropolis of the Roman – Byzantine period, as excavated by the Czechoslovak expedition as part of the UNESCO initiative to preserve the Nubian sites. Before finishing the monograph on the anthropology of Nubian burial sites from the same period, which was explored at the same time by an Austrian expedition and they entrusted it to Strouhal, who was a corresponding member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, for processing and publication.

E. Strouhal also prepared a memoir about his grandfather, "Professor Čeněk Strouhal, founder of Experimental Physics" (2012).

Dr. Strouhal became an honorary member of the Austrian Anthropological Society in Vienna (1969), the Spanish Anthropological Society in Madrid (1980), the Swedish Society for the History of Medicine in Stockholm (1985), Polish Anthropological Society in Warsaw (1988), the Austrian Archaeological Institute in Vienna (1991), the society for the history of science and technology in Prague and its branches in Pilsen (2001), the society for connective tissue Czech medical society (1992) and the Czech and Slovak anthropological society (2006).



Dr. Strouhal received a number of awards, the Hrdlicka memorial medal (1981), the Michalowsky jubilee medal (1987), 3 medals from the 1st Medical Faculty of Charles University for its 650th anniversary (1998), a silver medal from the Medical Faculty in Hradec Kralové (2001), the Bernard Bolzano medal (2001), medal from the Medical Faculty in Pilsen (2005) and a gold medal from the Czech medical society of Jan Evangelista Purkyně to his lifetime work and at the 85th birthday occasion (2016). Together with E. Vlček, he was nominated by the Rector of Charles University for the international Bolzano prize (1999).

Thanks to his renown as an expert of tumours in ancient populations, he was invited by prof. Kathryn I. Hunt to write an introduction about the current state of research in the field of Palaeooncology for a special edition of the "International Journal of Oncology."

Dr. Strouhal is married, has two children and seven promising grandchildren.

We wish our Jubilant Prof. MUDr. PhDr. Eugen Strouhal, DrSc., all the best for the upcoming years, full of health and elan, joy in his family and success in his future publications and scientific work.

Ad multos annos!

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