

*Monumenta Serica, Journal of Oriental Studies*. Index to Volumes I-XXXV (1535-1983). Compiled and edited by **Roman Malek SVD**, Institutum Monumenta Serica / Sankt Augustin 1993; 471 S.

The journal: *Monumenta Serica, Journal of Oriental Studies*, was founded by the sinologist Father Franz X. Biallas SVD in Peking in 1535 (1878-1936). The objective of the journal was formulated by the founder in the first issue: »The purpose of the Journal is indicated by its name and the contents of the first issue. It is our intention to lay before the public materials for the study of the peoples, languages and cultures of China and of the neighbouring countries, not neglecting the domains of ethnology and prehistory. ... Finally, we hope that students in the Far East, favorably situated for undertaking research, will find in this Journal a source of encouragement and guidance.« To this should be added what Prof. Dr. J. Beckmann SMB observed in the NZM 1 (1945) 141-145: »Already in the first volumes the *Monumenta Serica* offer notable and learned contributions to the history of missions in China, which cannot be neglected by scholars in the history of missions in the home-land.« (145) Notwithstanding the peripatetic history of the journal's headquarters (up to 1949 Peking, up to 1962 Tokyo and Nagoya, up to 1972 Los Angeles and from 1972 onward Sankt Augustin, Germany), the original goals have been faithfully preserved up till the present day. Moreover, 30 volumes of the *Monumenta Serica* Monographs have been published. Both the Journal and the Monographs have been indexed in the volume which is reviewed here.

ROMAN MALEK SVD, assisted by BARBARA HOSTER and GERD WÄDOW, has created an excellent instrument enabling scholars to make full use of the treasures hidden in both the Journal and the Monographs. The work consists of three parts:

- I. Tabula of contents in chronological order of the single volumes (I-XXXV: 1935-1983) (17-123).
- II. General index of the volumes I-XXXV in alphabetical order of items (125-402).
- III. Index of the titles and tables of contents of the *Monumenta Serica* Monograph Series (volumes I-XX: 1937-1987) (403-466).

At first sight one could wonder why the tables of contents of the Journal and of the Monographs have been reprinted. However, when using the voluminous general index one discovers the function of this generosity. From the general index one receives for example concerning »Churches«, »Religious Orders« and »Missions« a great number of references, but only by returning to the original contributions in the Journal or in the Monographs one discovers a detailed information about them. The same is true for topics dealing with ethnology, history of religions and prehistory; starting from the references »Religions« and »Ethnology« one is directed to quite a number of subdivisions to be found in the general index and from them to the tables of contents of the Journal and of the Monographs. ROMAN MALEK has invented a system of references which is both innovative and useful. He has to be congratulated for this achievement. The result is an excellent instrument to be consulted by scholars of the history of missions and of the history of religions.

Wijchen

Arnulf Camps