

It is uncommon, albeit not unusual, for a journal volume to honour and celebrate a living or deceased scholar. The journal East and West (established in 1950 by Giuseppe Tucci) like others in various fields had already dedicated an entire thematic volume to the commemoration of important anniversaries in the history of the Journal itself or of the Institute (IsMEO – The Italian Institute for the Middle and Far East, later merged into IsIAO – The Italian Institute for Africa and the Orient). Two such examples are Volume 55, 1-4 of 2005, entirely dedicated to the memory of the Journal's chief editor Maurizio Taddei (†2000), or Volume 56, 1-3 of 2016 dedicated to celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Pakistan, directed at the time by Pierfrancesco Callieri, who succeeded Maurizio Taddei, and the latter Domenico Faccenna, who held the position for forty years. The latter volume contained a series of reports and studies that established the state of the art of the Mission's work. Moreover, in the closing lines of the Introduction, the President of IsIAO, Gherardo Gnoli, dedicated the volume to one of the Mission's scholars, Giorgio Stacul (†2018), naming him an Honorary Member of the Institute.

Now, together with the Journal's scientific committee, the editors of the new series of East and West, published by the new ISMEO, have decided to dedicate this Volume (63), 4, 2 of 2023 to Domenico Faccenna (†2008) on the centenary of his birth.

Domenico was Director of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Pakistan from 1956 to 1996, Director of the Centro Scavi e Ricerche archeologiche in Asia from 1962 to about 1976 (there is no real date of termination) and Director of the National Museum of Oriental Art (formerly the IsMEO Museum) from its foundation in 1957 until 1976. Above all, for many years, Domenico was the de facto editor of the IsMEO Reports and Memoirs series (first edited by Giuseppe Tucci and later by Gherardo Gnoli) and a member of the Editorial Board of the journal East and West. That was until 2009, when East and West suspended pro tempore the publication for reasons that were unrelated to the journal and its administrative and scientific management.

Domenico Faccenna was a giant in the fields of archaeology and ancient art history. His work as a scholar and as manager of interdisciplinary collaborative work has been (and still is) memorable. To get an idea of his work and its impact as one of the most cited scholars in his fields on a par with Alfred Foucher and John Marshall, we refer to the extensive obituary written by Anna Filigenzi¹ and Pierfrancesco Callieri² (two of Domenico Faccenna's best students), as well as the obituary by the great Pakistani archaeologist Farid Khan, who also recently passed away.³

Domenico was "Italy's finest excavator," as Maurizio Tosi called him, but he was also a very capable publisher and a meticulous, precise and extremely diligent editor.

¹ A. Filigenzi, "In Memory of Domenico Faccenna (Castel Madama 1923-Rome 2008)", *Rivista di Studi Sudasiatici*, III, 2008, pp. 239-244.

² P. Callieri, "Domenico Faccenna (1923-2008)", *East and West*, 58, 1-4, 2008, pp. 425-450.

³ Farid Khan, "A Memory of Domenico Faccenna", *Journal of Asian Civilizations*, 34/1, 2011, pp. xi-xii.

Even today, in the volumes he published or edited, readers will struggle to find errors or inaccuracies, and especially typos, layout errors, etc. The reader should bear in mind that many of these works were produced with the offset printing system, that the illustrations were executed on lead plates and that the proofreading process—which often started from a manuscript or typescript—was subjected to repeated proofreading until the final version got its imprimatur (i.e. it was “approved for printing”). In this laborious process, individual errors or corrections entailed the re-composition of entire pages, rechecking of line breaks, and so on.

In addition to all this, Domenico Faccenna was a natural teacher, a true Maestro. He, however, eschewed university teaching, and preferred instead to work on his archaeological sites in Pakistan, Iran and Italy. It was there that he formed a large cohort of students who today continue his excavations and research work, promulgate his “method,”⁴ and transmitting his method of work and study in the university classrooms where they now teach.

A member of the “Accademia dei Lincei” since 1990, Domenico Faccenna loved his silent retreats—his Roman study where he always gladly welcomed his students, his buen retiro in his native Castel Madama (Tivoli), his shady room in the Mission House in Swat and the Library at the German Archaeological Institute in Rome. But he also loved the noisy basements of the main typographic workshops in Rome (e.g. Scalia and Don Bosco, among many others), where he went to oversee in person the printing of his and ISMEO and ISIAO’s works.

As the editors of this journal (and personally as one of his students), we are honoured to dedicate this volume to commemorating the centenary of the birth of Domenico Faccenna (25 November 1923-25 November 2023).

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⁴ M. Casadei, “Pierfrancesco Callieri and the Faccenna Method”, *Fondazione Flaminia*. <https://www.fondazioneflaminia.it/pierfrancesco-callieri-e-il-metodo-faccenna/>, 2019.