

Dr. Marek Smurzyński (1954–2009) to whom we dedicate this volume was a man of many talents. Through variety of his scholarly interests as well as translation and artistic activities he used to bring together Iranian and regional culture with European traditions. He obtained mastery over Persian and Western literature studying first in Łódź and Warsaw, then in Tehran where he received his PhD. Since 1998 he was a lecturer, then assistant professor in Department of Iranian Studies of Jagiellonian University. As a gifted translator, he introduced Wisława Szymborska to Iranians (in cooperation with Persian poets) and Jalal od-Din Rumi to Poles. His scholarly interests comprised an uneven variety of topics such as Medieval Persian poetry, Islam, history of Iran, Afghan and Kurdish culture, theory of translation. His work shifting new light on the phenomena of postmodern Persian prose has remained unfinished just as many other of his projects as a result of his premature passing. Let us mention just a few of his many publications: *Il romanzo postmoderno nell' Iran postrivoluzionario* (The Postmodern Novel in Post-Revolutionary Iran), in *L'Iran e il tempo. Una societa' complessa*, ed. by A. Cancian (Rome, 2008); "The Iranian Studies", volume 43, number 4, September 2010, *Veiled Text in the Islamic-Persian Textual and Its Authoritative Power.*, in *Texts of Power: The Power of the Text. Readings in Textual Authority across History and Cultures*, ed. by C. Galewicz (Kraków, 2006); *Seir al-'ebad elal-ma'ad of Sana'i from Ghazna as a Poem of Initiation*, in *In the Orient Where the Gracious Light... Satura Orientalis in Honorem Andrzej Pisowicz*, ed. by A. Krasnowolska, K. Maciuszak and B. Mękarska (Kraków, 2006); *The Parataxis of Persian Narration and the Problems of the Segmentation of a Translated Text*, in *Oriental Languages in Translation*, ed. by A. Krasnowolska, B. Mękarska and Z. Zaborski (Kraków, 2002); *The Description of Spatial Relations in the 'Aql-e Sorkh of Shehab al-Din Yahya Sohravardi as Mystical Mind Training*, in *Erzählter Raum in Literaturen der islamischen Welt/Narrated Space in the Literature of the Islamic World*, ed. by R. Haag-Higuchi and Ch. Szyska (Wiesbaden, 2001); *Paradigms of Movement in Ali Shariati "Hemispheres"*.