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## Preface

The title of this volume, *A Window onto the Other: Contributions on the Study of the Mongolian, Turkic and Manchu-Tungusic Peoples, Languages and Cultures*, containing research dedicated to Jerzy Tulisow on the occasion of his seventieth birthday, is a reference to his beginnings in Oriental Studies. As explained in his biography (by Jan Rogala), Jerzy Tulisow was attracted by a scene which he came upon one day while passing through the campus of the University of Warsaw. Through an open window in one of the university buildings he chanced to observe and – having then stopped – to listen to one of Professor Stanisław Kałużyński's brilliant lectures. Jerzy Tulisow was then and there literally driven to enter the world of the fascinating Other: the Mongols, Turks, Manchus and other Tungusic peoples and their cultures. A window usually serves as a metaphor for opportunity, access to something and entry into another world. Let us explore then the world of those peoples and cultures so loved by Jerzy Tulisow, as presented in these contributions dedicated to the commemoration of his seventieth birthday.

Disciples, friends and colleagues admire his all-encompassing knowledge, eloquence and elegance, unlimited interest in different cultures and sympathetic understanding of otherness, as well as his gentle sense of humour.

We know his passion for adventure; his romantic and poetic character, reflected both in his writings and his life; and his love of nature, people and animals. A true humanity shows itself in all of Jerzy Tulisow's undertakings.

In gratitude for all that we have received from him, we wish Jerzy Tulisow many more travels and new experiences, fascinating research opportunities and fresh inspirations!

On behalf of all of his disciples, friends and colleagues,  
*Agata Bareja-Starzyńska*