

FRANCIS X. D'SA and ROQUE MES-  
QUITA (ed.): *Hermeneutics of  
encounter: Essays in honour of  
Gerhard Oberhammer on the  
occasion of his 65th Birthday.*  
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This is a well deserved tribute by colleagues, one or two of whom are his former pupils, to an esteemed University teacher, researcher and organizer of colloquia and interdisciplinary encounters. Professor Oberhammer is not only an outstanding indologist, but also a philosopher of religion with an open outlook and deep appreciation of the dimension of the transcendent which is at the core of every religion and therefore deserves due attention on the level of academic research. He has been interested in methods by which it is approached (meditation, yoga), in the salvific implications of its experience, in its effects when it becomes revelation and in the history of the development of textual records regarded as revelation within different traditions.

Besides his scholarly erudition, he has also shown a highly practical drive. For 25 years he has been the editor of the research series 'Publications of the De Nobili Research Library' whose base is the Institute of Indology in the University of Vienna and which he founded under the patronage of Cardinal König. Named after a Jesuit missionary in India (1577-1656), the aim of the series has been to promote research which would enable dialogue of the religious traditions of India and the West on a deeper level. Besides 20 substantial volumes the series has brought out five occasional papers, all of it under his able editorship; he himself is the author or co-author of seven of these works, besides having many other publications to his credit.

The *Festschrift* contains 20 contributions of high standard from the fields of indology, comparative religion and philosophy of religion by authors from Austria, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, U.K. and U.S.A. The themes of almost all the papers fit in well with the field of research of the jubilant so that the *Festschrift* represents a valuable 20th volume of the De Nobili research collection.

KAREL WERNER