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IN MEMORIAM
Professor, Dr. phil. Poul Tuxen

Professor Tuxen, an Honorary Member of The Siam Society, passed away on May 29, 1955, at the age of 74. He belonged to that distinguished category of humanistic savants who in our materialistic age are often valued less than the inventors of diabolical weapons. But to those whose hearts are set on the search for the truths of human thought and culture Professor Tuxen will long be remembered and honored.

Professor Tuxen was born on December 8, 1880 in Frederiksberg (Copenhagen), Denmark, the son of a professor and the grandson of a naval captain who fought against the Germans in 1848. After having finished college Professor Tuxen took up the study of the German language, obtaining his M.A. in 1903. From 1903 to 1928 he was attached to the Royal Library in Copenhagen. Meanwhile, he had taken up the study of Sanskrit in which he received his Doctor's degree in 1911. In 1921-22 he went to the East for the first time. By then Professor Tuxen had already begun the study of Indian philosophy and the teachings of the Buddha, and in order to deepen his knowledge of Buddhism he came to Bangkok. Here, thanks to the kind assistance of his late Royal Highness, Prince Damrong Rajanubhab, Professor Tuxen had the good fortune of meeting the late Phra Sasana Sophon (later Somdeth Phra Puttha Kosacharya), then abbot of the Wat Thepsirindr monastery, who was to act as his interpreter. In 1928 Professor Tuxen was appointed a professor in Oriental philology at the Copenhagen University. He retired in 1950 because of age.

Professor Tuxen was the author of many outstanding publications, of which a few are: *Yoga, a Survey of the Systematic Philosophy of the Yoga* (1911); *An Indian Primer of Philosophy* (1914); and *Buddha, His Teaching, its Tradition and its Life Today* (1928).

A big tree has fallen in the forest but posterity will not forget Professor Tuxen and his outstanding work. Peace to his ashes and honour to his memory from one of his many sorrowing friends.

Erik Seidenfaden

*Sorgenfri, Denmark
July 1955.*

