

Dear Colleagues,

It is with profound regret that the Board announces to the members of the Christian Archaeological Society the passing away of Special Secretary Titos Papamastorakis.

Titos Papamastorakis passed away on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2010, worn out by unfair fate, at the age of only 49, shortly after his appointment at the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Athens, where he had been elected associate professor in March 2009. From 2002 to 2008 he had taught at the University of the Aegean.

The almost 25-years-long scientific contribution of Titos Papamastorakis has been broad. It includes one book, one many-paged participation in a collective volume, 30 articles and an almost equivalent number of participations in Greek and international colloquia. But it is not only the quantity of his work that counts; it is his view point and his innovative interpretative approaches. Titos gave emphasis on the symbolical and ideological content of the representations, on the correlation to the social and historical context of the time. The imperial ideology and political propaganda, the symbols of authority, the perceptions of the Byzantine aristocracy and ecclesiastical officials were the focus of his studies. But also other topics, among those lying at the top of international research, were within his concern, such as worship, crusader icons and every-day life in medieval society. His papers, especially those of the most recent years, published in English language, had a great impact on the scientific community, not only in Greece but also abroad.

In 2003 Titos was elected as a member of the Board of the Christian Archaeological Society. Since then, and up to the present, he served the aims of the Society with scientific knowledge and passion. Without sparing time, or pains, he successfully devoted himself to the organization of the annual Symposia and the preparations for the annual edition of the *Deltion* of the Christian Archaeological Society.

A capable researcher and perceptive scholar, with combinative and innovative thought, with criticism, sometimes even with a tendency to subversion, Titos often reviewed long-established aspects. Methodologically, he developed the combination of pictorial and written historical and philological sources. The void left by his passing away will be difficult to fill, for the University, the Christian Archaeological Society, his old and new colleagues, especially the young scientists he often helped essentially, his students, his friends, his collaborators.

The Board resolved to have the following resolution published in the daily press

## **RESOLUTION**

The Board of the Christian Archaeological Society convened ad-hoc on the announcement of the passing away of its member and Special Secretary Titos Papamastorakis, associate professor at the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Athens, expressed profound regret and sorrow and, honouring his memory, unanimously resolved to:

- express their deepest sorrow and condolences to the family of the deceased
- attend the funeral ceremony
- lay a funeral wreath upon his grave
- have this resolution published in the daily press

Athens, 12 November 2010

The Board