The jubilee book is dedicated to the outstanding archaeologist, Professor Michał Gawlikowski, who was in charge of the Polish excavations in Palmyra in the years 1973–2011.

The publication contains 65 articles on the different aspects of Palmyra, from architecture and sculpture to religion and commerce. The texts were published from 1966 to 2010 in various journals as well as collective volumes, and they cover the selected research of forty five years which still seem to be of some interest for the public.

More recent papers by the same author can be easily found on Academia.edu and other sites. In particular, papers related to the mithraeum at Hawarte in Syria (excavated until 2009) and to the site of Aynuna in Saudi Arabia, started in 2014, are not included.