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پژوهشگاه علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرهنگی  
رتال جامع علوم انسانی



## Obituary: Philippe Gignoux (March 1, 1931 - September 25, 2023)

Shahin Aryamanesh<sup>1</sup> 

Philippe Gignoux was born in Solaize (Isère) on 1 March 1931. He completed his secondary education at Dominican College of Oullins (Rhône) near Lyon. He graduated in Persian Language from École nationale des langues orientales vivantes, and studied at Ecole pratique des hautes études (EPHE) (IVth and Vth sections) and at the Catholic Institute of Paris.




Gignoux succeeded Jean De Menasce as director of studies at the EPHE (5<sup>th</sup> section) in the chair of “Religions of Ancient Iran” from 1970 to 2000. He also served as a treasurer of the Association for the Advancement of Iranian Studies from 1972 to 2000, then became president of this Association from 2000. He co-founded the journal *Studia Iranica* with Jean Aubin.

Gignoux was also vice-president (1983-1987) and then president (1987-1991) of the Societas Iranologica Europaea. He directed the program “Collection of sources for the history of pre-Islamic Central Asia” commissioned by Union Académique Internationale (International Union of Academies) from 1991 to 2004.

His criticism of Mehdi Rahbar about the usage of Bandian Dergz ancient site and Rahbar’s answer to Gignoux were very interesting.

Gignoux had written many works on Iranian archaeology, history and, culture. *Arda Viraf (Ardā Wirāz nāmag)* was one of the books he transliterated and translated from Pahlavi.

His researches on the ancient Iranian history, especially about the Sasanian period, as well as the Collection of Tabaristan in the post-Sasanian era, are highly commendable. Philippe Gignoux passed away on September 25, 2023. May his soul rest in peace.

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