



KŘIKAVOVÁ, ADÉLA

Křikavová, Adéla (b. Prague, 9 August, 1938; d. Prague, 3 August, 2002; [FIGURE 1](#)) Czech scholar of Iranian and particularly Kurdish studies. Having studied Near Eastern history and languages (Georgian, Persian and Arabic), and after graduating from Charles University in Prague, she began working from 1962 as a research fellow in the Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences, where she was mainly occupied with Iranian and Islamic studies and made particularly valuable contributions to Kurdish studies. She delved deep into the archives for her study on Professor Josef Wunsch's journey to Mesopotamia and studied Persian manuscripts from three private Ottoman libraries. She also presented scientific essays on ecology in the Islamic world and wrote on nature and its influence on Islam. Overall, she aimed at depicting the many-faceted aspects of the Islamic world in order to counterbalance the distortions and prejudices inherent in the more monolithic and excessively schematic approaches that can produce a warped and prejudiced view of the culture. Her numerous papers and articles (including the unpublished ones) discuss Kurdish literature, shapes of Islamic gardens, man and nature in the Islamic world, geometry and mass in Islamic art. Regrettably she passed away at precisely the time when she was in the midst of her most promising and mature research.



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