

The Time Hides It Deceptively

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SUMMARY

At the same time, the Pázmány Péter University stated as the reasons for the loss of employment that Dr. Orsós: “gave a series of false forensic opinions”, “gave a false expert opinion in the excavation of the Katyn mass graves”, “himself became a member of the SS”. The Verification Committee of the Hungarian Pázmány Péter University filed a denunciation on 13 July 1945 against “the war criminal university professors Dr. Ferenc Orsós, Dr. Károly Burger, Dr. József Boros, Dr. Gyula Darányi, who had escaped to Germany. On 28 May 1946, the Public Prosecutor’s Office of Budapest issued a letter of inquiry against Dr. Ferenc Orsós. In my opinion, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences should set an example to the current generations in respecting the high standards, in objectively appreciating the past generation of scientists and in having the moral fibre to be able to expose the mistakes of the past not only in form but also in substance. Cynical cowards, the great powers (the Soviet Union, the United States of America, England, France) have a huge responsibility in the Orsós affair. As can be seen from the above list, no academics from the Department of Medical Sciences have been rehabilitated. In my opinion, it must be clearly stated that this must never happen again, that the recognition of scientific and professional achievements is subordinated to the winds of politics. In my opinion, financial support should be sought from them to give Orsós the recognition he deserves in Hungarian and international public opinion. We propose that his ashes be brought home and reburied with military honours as an outstanding Hungarian personality of World War II.

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Introduce

As an academic, I believe that we can only build the present and the future in Hungary within a democratic framework if we carefully investigate the past and recent judicial, prosecutorial and police injustices that have seriously violated the dignity, professional and moral standing of individuals and have been capable of leading Hungarian and international public opinion astray for decades.

I find the attitude of the Prosecutor General’s Office towards the legal rehabilitation of Professor Dr. Ferenc Orsós to be very positive [1, 2]. This is why it should be emphasised, because in other similar cases I have received the following answers from the various bodies of the Public Prosecutor’s Offices:

“I am not related to the person in question” or “I am not a victim of that event”.

The undersigned, I am not related to Professor Dr. Ferenc Orsós and I am not a victim of the crimes against him.

Quote from the reply of the Prosecutor General’s Office: “The Verification Committee of the Hungarian Pázmány Péter University filed a denunciation on 13 July 1945 against “the war criminal Dr. Ferenc Orsós who had escaped to Germany...”. THIS IS A STATEMENT!!!

Prosecutor General’s Office Final Reply

Dear Prof. Dr. János Vincze!

We have completed the investigation you initiated in the People’s Court case against the late Dr. Ferenc Orsós, Professor of Forensic

Medicine, in order to obtain his legal rehabilitation.

Our findings are as follows:

“The Verification Committee of the Hungarian Pázmány Péter University filed a denunciation on 13 July 1945 against “the war criminal university professors Dr. Ferenc Orsós, Dr. Károly Burger, Dr. József Boros, Dr. Gyula Darányi, who had escaped to Germany.

On 31 July 1945, the Public Prosecutor’s Office of Budapest ordered an investigation against the denounced university teachers, which was completed by the Political Police Department of the Budapest Headquarters of the Hungarian State Police in November and December 1945.

On 28 May 1946, the Public Prosecutor’s Office of Budapest issued a letter of inquiry against Dr. Ferenc Orsós. ...

On 27 July 1946, the People’s Court of Budapest issued an arrest warrant and ordered proceedings in the case of unknown persons, absentees and fugitives [Bp. § 472], and after a longer period of time, scheduled a trial for 7 March 1949, in the absence of Ferenc Orsós. No record of the scheduled hearing has survived, but the prosecutor was heard and the People’s Court of Budapest subsequently decided that extradition was necessary.

On the proposal of the People’s Court, the Ministry of Justice, on 7 November 1949, under number 88.206/1949.IM.VII, took the position that it was not expedient to submit the extradition request. No information on substantive procedural actions was subsequently

found in the procedural documents. ...

The prosecutor has not filed an indictment against Ferenc Orsós, but has taken measures to extradite him by requesting the issuance of a letter of investigation. The court issued two arrest warrants, both of which were withdrawn. He was not convicted in the People's Court. The Bureau of Criminal Records was also unable to locate information on any convictions.

Your request to the Prosecutor General - to initiate legal rehabilitation – cannot be granted, and in the absence of a conviction, no prosecutorial action can be taken in the case of extraordinary appeal procedure. In connection with the letter of investigation, however, it can be stated that of the crimes listed therein, the suspicion of a war crime as described in § 13(7) of the Nbr. (his expert opinion given during the excavation of the Katyn mass graves was capable of hindering or disrupting peace or cooperation between nations after the war or of provoking international discord) cannot be established against Dr. Orsós, even at the level of suspicion. His opinion on the Katyn massacre did not interfere with the post-war cooperation of the peoples. On this issue, history has vindicated the forensic pathologist.

Nor can there be a suspicion of a war crime under § 13(3) of the Nbr. (because by fleeing to Germany and relocating the Forensic Medical Institute to Germany he assisted the Arrow Cross movement in maintaining power), because his fleeing to Germany and the relocation of the Forensic Medical Institute to Germany cannot be regarded as assisting the Arrow Cross movement in gaining or maintaining power. Dr. Ferenc Orsós has been denounced by his university's Board of Trustees. In the verification procedure, at the meeting of 8 May 1945, the committee decided to suspend the "medical professors who had fled abroad (to Germany)". At the same time, the Pázmány Péter University stated as the reasons for the loss of employment that Dr. Orsós

- "gave a series of false forensic opinions",
- "gave a false expert opinion in the excavation of the Katyn mass graves",
- "himself became a member of the SS".

These findings were not supported by the investigation and prosecution phase of the proceedings.

In the absence of a legal procedure, it would be morally satisfactory for the university's successor to declare this.

Finally, I thank the Professor for his patience. Due to the lengthy review of the archives, in the absence of any action by the prosecution to remedy the situation, we have concluded our review with the above finding."

In my reply letter no. 6, I thanked the Prosecutor General's Office for its very thorough, detailed, accurate and qualitatively impeccable work.

I thanked for their suggestions for the rehabilitation of Professor Dr. Ferenc Orsós.

The Psychology of a Mass Hysteria

The author of this letter, Professor Dr. János Vincze, has been informed by the Prosecutor General's Office that no court verdict has been reached against Professor Dr. Ferenc Orsós in Hungary after World War II. How did Hungarian public opinion come to believe that Ferenc Orsós was a war criminal?

Documents prove that at the time of the "liberation" of Hungary by Soviet troops, which was more characterized by its devastation,

spineless upstarts and crawlers in the shadow of Soviet weapons proposed the permanent removal of Professor Ferenc Orsós Dr. from Pázmány Péter University [3-5]. But they were not satisfied with that, because they also filed a lawsuit with fabricated charges. The court, which constantly insists that judges are independent and make their judgments on the basis of their conscience, started the trial on the basis of false accusations. It was noted that the accused in the case was missing and therefore it was suggested that a request for extradition should be made.

However, the extradition was officially stopped. "On the proposal of the People's Court, the Ministry of Justice, on 7 November 1949, under number 88.206/1949.IM.VII, took the position that it was not expedient to submit the extradition request", but the public was not informed of this in any form. What has spread in the public consciousness that there is a court case and the input, which has entered the consciousness of the members of Hungarian society as information, who, based on their prior information, have transformed the content of the input in their memory and passed it on as output that Ferenc Orsós has been convicted as a war criminal. In the meantime, the leadership of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, in order not to miss out on serving the Soviet comrades, quickly deprived Professor Ferenc Orsós of his membership in the Academy, without considering any specific professionalism [6, 7].

The media's henchmen very consciously silenced the horrible mass murder in Katyn and in the Hungarian public consciousness, Ferenc Orsós' fantastic pathological work in the excavation of the mass graves in 1943 was obscured and only the fact that Ferenc Orsós was a war criminal entered the Hungarian people's memory, but the average person could not remember why.

Freud, in studying the structure of the Self, recognized that "there are differences between unconscious and unconscious mental contents. The spiritual contents that can sometimes become conscious without any "resistance" constitute the "pre-conscious". The contents of the true unconscious can only enter consciousness after overcoming resistance, usually only through analytic intervention. According to Freud's conception of the unconscious, the unconscious therefore presupposes a strong dynamic process, a psychological counteraction "repression", in other words, the unconscious equals repression."

In my opinion, the leadership of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, in 1989, when it rehabilitated its members expelled in 1949, unlike in the case of former academician Ferenc Orsós, was characterized by this Freudian repression [8, 9]. In fact, even since then, when the case of Professor Dr. Ferenc Orsós came up, they tried to settle it with a wave of the hand, accompanied by the following sentence: "The case is not yet topical."

The mechanism of repression can be seen as a protective device of the soul, because without it, even if the consciousness can acknowledge distorted events incompatible with our morality, it is a more comfortable resolution to repress, because the person would sacrifice one of their most precious treasures, their tranquility. This is what folk wisdom says: "Least said, soonest mended."

Conclusions

Letter No. 5 of the Prosecutor General's Office, which clearly states that Professor Dr. Ferenc Orsós has not been convicted by any domestic or international court, has startled the author of this article. All the writings about the professor so far have implied or

clearly stated that after 1945 she was condemned by the Hungarian People's Court as a war criminal. The astonishing thing is that none of the hundreds of researchers has bothered to check what they write, but have copied each other's distortions.

The management of Pázmány Péter University at that time, who drafted the denunciation against Professor Dr. Ferenc Orsós and believed that a final court judgment had been reached, probably played a decisive role in this. It follows from the above that neither the Pázmány Péter University nor its successors (Eötvös Lóránd University, Semmelweis University) have in their possession any final court order concerning Dr. Ferenc Orsós [10].

Unfortunately, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences was also at the forefront in distorting the real facts, depriving Professor Ferenc Orsós of his membership in the Academy in 1946. Since when does the Hungarian Academy of Sciences make its decisions based on political gossip rather than professionalism? It is safe to say that the Hungarian Academy of Sciences does not have a final court order against Dr. Ferenc Orsós, because there is no such order, and no such judgment has been handed down by a Hungarian court. After the failed regime change, the president of the "renewed" Academy, the historian Domokos Kosáry, initiated the rehabilitation of Academy members. Ferenc Orsós was not considered worthy of rehabilitation. Was Domonkos Kosáry, as a historian, so incapable of understanding and comprehending the high level of professionalism and truthfulness of the commission investigating the Katyn massacre? So how much truth is there in the historical events he describes? Since then, the delicate set of values of no academic president has been offended by the Orsós affair [11]. No Hungarian academic historian has been able to write a proper study on Orsós's truth?

"Decision of the 149th Ordinary General Assembly of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1998. *

"The General Assembly discussed the proposal of the Bureau for the reinstatement of the academic membership of those who were classified as consultative members, expelled or went abroad, in 1949. It was established that:

- during the reorganization of the Academy in 1949, many of its full and corresponding members were downgraded to consultative members with disenfranchising effect (A), others were considered to have lost their membership in 1948 and later due to going abroad (B), others were expelled on political grounds (C), and in one case membership was considered to have been terminated due to forced resignation (D);

- the membership of the majority of the members of the Subdivision of Fine Arts, which had been abolished in 1949, was also abolished (E).

The General Assembly declares that it considers it the moral duty of the Academy to make reparation for the damage unjustly caused by the aforementioned measures, that it shall annul all measures and decisions affecting the members concerned and that it shall declare the membership of the following persons to be continuous. Let us take a closer look at the Medical Sciences Department: Baló József full member (1895–1979), Balogh Ernő corresponding member (1890–1964), Haranghy László corresponding member (1897–1975), Herzog Ferenc full member (1859–1952), Johan Béla corresponding member (1889–1983), Krompecher István corresponding member (1905–1983), Miskolczy Dezső full member (1894–1978), Went István corresponding member (1899–1963), (B) Beznák Aladár full member (1901–1959), Laki Kálmán corresponding member (1909–1983), Szent-Györgyi Albert honorary member (1893–1986), Tóth László corresponding

member (1902–1979?).

As can be seen from the above list, no academics from the Department of Medical Sciences have been rehabilitated. In my opinion, it must be clearly stated that this must never happen again, that the recognition of scientific and professional achievements is subordinated to the winds of politics [12].

In my opinion, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences should set an example to the current generations in respecting the high standards, in objectively appreciating the past generation of scientists and in having the moral fibre to be able to expose the mistakes of the past not only in form but also in substance.

Cynical cowards, the great powers (the Soviet Union, the United States of America, England, France) have a huge responsibility in the Orsós affair. In my opinion, financial support should be sought from them to give Orsós the recognition he deserves in Hungarian and international public opinion.

After this investigation by the Prosecutor General's Office, no one has the right to claim that Professor Ferenc Orsós is a war criminal, because this is not an expression of opinion, but a false statement and therefore the person in question should be in prison. Ferenc Orsós has not been declared a war criminal by either a Hungarian court or an international court, and anyone who makes such a claim, whether verbally or in writing, is committing an act of treason and distorting the truth, and is therefore clearly lying.

We propose that his ashes be brought home and reburied with military honours as an outstanding Hungarian personality of World War II. The author of this article is proud to have succeeded in clearing the memory of this world-renowned expert after nearly eight decades and we hope that after the publication of this volume, Professor Ferenc Orsós will receive the final honour he deserves.

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