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## Press Release

### Psychology Publisher C.J. Hogrefe Died



**Publisher C. J. Hogrefe**

The publisher and psychologist Dr. Carl Juergen Hogrefe passed away in Goettingen on January 21, 2007, just before his 83rd birthday.

C. J. Hogrefe founded the publishing company bearing his name in 1949, while working as an assistant lecturer at the Institute of Psychology in the University of Goettingen, Germany. He originally founded the company simply because he was unable to find a publisher for the journal he was planning, the *Psychologische Rundschau*, but in doing so he actually laid the foundations for the current Hogrefe Group, which today is one of the leading international publishing companies in the field of psychology.

C. J. Hogrefe was born January 29, 1924, the son of the local schoolteacher, in Hellental, a small village in the Solling region of northern Germany. For the whole of his life he felt a strong connection with the countryside. A childhood that followed the early death of his father taught him modesty, a virtue that remained with him throughout his life.

During the Second World War, while at the military academy, C. J. Hogrefe developed the desire to make a professional career in psychology and was given permission to enrol in university psychology courses while still at the military academy.

After spending traumatic war years on the Eastern front, C. J. Hogrefe was able to turn towards psychology again once the war was over and started studying in Goettingen.

Over the course of several years, the publishing activity that had originally begun more or less incidentally became more and more important. In 1955, C. J. Hogrefe finally decided to quit his academic career and, supported by his wife, dedicated himself totally to his publishing activities. His family and his three children – and later also his ten grandchildren – were always the most important factors in his life and it was from this source that he drew the enormous energy needed to develop and manage his company. With a talent for the broad, long-term view and a good sense of business, he realised that the rapid development of the science of psychology offered great potential. However, rather than aiming for a quick economic success he strove to develop a long-term strategy based on solid publishing activities.

Despite becoming a publisher, C. J. Hogrefe always remained a highly valued member of the psychological community, as demonstrated by his selection to the Board of the German Society of Psychology. In 1998, he was awarded honorary membership by “his” society, being honoured for “his manifold activities both to provide a solid basis and to foster the science of psychology after World War II; especially worth mentioning here is his outstanding role in organizing the first Congress of Psychology after the war. The congress took place in Goettingen exactly 50 years ago.” He was also honoured for “his fruitful efforts to re-found the German Society of Psychology, DGPs, in the years 1947 and 1948, as well as for publishing scientific psychological research results, on a national and international level.”

Led by his ethical desire to allow psychological tests only to be used by qualified users, he founded the Testzentrale in 1955, a company specializing in the distribution of psychological tests to users with appropriate qualifications. Today, the Testzentrale is the prime supplier of test materials for users in the German-language countries, with a catalogue containing more than 750 tests (many of them published by one of the Hogrefe companies).

While originally a German-language publisher, in the 1970s Hogrefe started to publish books, tests, and journals in English as well, such as the well-known journal *European Psychologist*. Due to the company's unique and longstanding cooperation with the APA, all English-language Hogrefe journals can also be found in APA's fulltext journal article database, PsycARTICLES. In addition to German and English, the Hogrefe Group now also publishes in French, Dutch, Danish, Czech, and Slovak.

In 1984, C.J. Hogrefe acquired the Hans Huber publishing company in Bern, Switzerland. As a consequence, the range of publications was extended to include the fields of medicine and nursing.

In 1993, illness forced him to retire from his active publishing work. He passed on the chairmanship of the companies to his son, Dr. G.-Juergen Hogrefe, a psychology graduate who had already been working in the company since 1985. Over recent years the Hogrefe Group has expanded considerably in Europe. It now has branches in seven European countries and a total of 220 employees, 65 of them in the headquarters in Goettingen.

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