

VAN HAM

Father Januarius Grewe (1802-92) studied the Chinese language in Beijing before he went to Tsinan in Shandong Province, the mission area of the Franciscans. There he was a teacher for about ten years. After his arrest by the Communists, he was imprisoned for a year before being expelled from China in 1951. Even after his return, he was still the Order's representative for Taiwan and Japan. Many important Asian art objects in the collection of the Ethnic Museum of the Franciscans "Forum of the Peoples" in Werl went through his hands and show his expertise. He was one of the great, modest East Asia connoisseurs who knew the customs and religions in its complex contexts very well.



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