

STUDII ŞI ARTICOLE / STUDIES AND ARTICLES

Ovidiu Nedu

Kauṣītāki-Brāhmana (Annotated Translation).....7

Abstract. *Kauṣītāki-Brāhmana Upaniṣad is one of the oldest Upaniṣads, written in prose, but including many quotations from the Vedic literature, which are generally in verses. The text is divided into four chapters.*

The first one deals with Brahmanic eschatology. It discusses the post-mortem fate of the soul, which can be either Pitryāna (“the path of the fathers”), through which the soul continues its transmigratonthrough the Universe, either Devayāna (“the path of the gods”). Devayāna is followed by those who reached the comprehension of Brahman and hence are liberated from the Universe, at their death returning to their ontological source, Brahman, the absolute reality.

The remaining three chapters expose a vitalist view of the Universe. The essence of the entire Universe is none else but the essence of life, namely breath (prāna). The principle of life is the principle of everything; ultimately, everything reduces to life, to breath. Hence, life becomes the absolute reality, the all-encompassing principle.

Keywords: *Kauṣītāki-Brāhmana Upaniṣad, Upaniṣad, Veda, Brahmanism, Indian religion, Sanskrit, vitalism, breath (prāna).*

Sergiu-Alexandru Ciutescu

Mimesis and representation: Plato, Aristotle and the paradigm of islamic art46

Abstract. *The views on mimesis supported both by Plato and Aristotle are two different ways of understanding representational art. If Plato sees representational art more as a world-reflecting device, similar to a (deformed and deforming) mirror, Aristotle understands it as a way of creating a world by reproducing the functioning mechanism of reality, by understanding the universals and by expressing them in works of art.*

Both theories see work of art as representation, while the Islamic paradigm of art, even if not explicitly theorized, lets us conclude that works of art should be referential by resemblance rather than representational. This fact encourages the development of an metaphor of aesthetics that requires a religiously informed eye to be proper understood.

While the theories of Plato and Aristotle are both rooted in philosophical thought, the Islamic view over art is rooted in religious thought and, as we argue in the present study, this is the reason for which the latter falls into none of the two types of understanding the art (as world-reflecting or world-creating) to which western thought is tributary.

Keywords: *Mimesis, Representation, Aristotle, Plato, Islam, Qur'an, Aesthetics, Metaphor*

Mihai Safta

The Kingdom of Hungary and the Teutonic Order – Forms of property in the Ius Commune: Exemption67

Abstract. *The research aims to clarify certain terminological misinterpretations in medieval legal discourse of the ius commune. After a brief exposure of the institutional and political context of the Kingdom of Hungary during the early thirteenth century, we will focus on the case of the "Burzendland" and its new masters, the Order of the Teutonic Knights, in relations with the Holy See and the Crown, regarding property rights and the exemption granted in 1224.*

Keywords: *Transylvania, Teutonic Knights, Medieval Hungary, property rights, ius commune.*

Florența Telman

The beginning of the Radu Vodă Monastery from Bucharest: History and Sources 78

Abstract. *In the city-center of Bucharest, in an atmosphere filled with the sound of the hurried footsteps of passersby, it rises imposing and haughty, though tested several times over the centuries, The Monastery of Radu Voda, once an important place of worship in the capital city of Alexander II Mircea. The memories regarding the dominant presence of Christian spirituality over the surroundings, that this monastery still imposes through the word and songs that raise from the sanctuary are getting lost thus in the days long gone when it was called the Holy Trinity and it fulfilled its function of residence of the the highest hierarchy of the Wallachia. Although burned by Sinan Pasha's Turks, history springs allow the identification of the first phase of construction of the Holy Trinity Monastery, as a distinct place in the content of the same monastic settlement which today is called Radu Voda.*

Keywords: *Alexander II Mircea, founder, The Holy Trinity Monastery in Bucharest.*

Carmen Alexandrache

The attitude of Romanians towards religious holidays. Vision of foreign travelers of XVII TH – XVIII TH centuries97

Abstract. *The Romanian celebration of religious holidays was an attraction for foreign travelers due to its forms of manifestation. In the extra-Carpathian Romanian society of the 17th and the 18th centuries, the participation at the celebration of the Orthodox Christian calendar has significance not only the piety of Romanians but the socio-political*

impact which it had on this community also. With the help offered by the notes of the foreign travelers, which we take over with reserve, we tried reconsider our focus from the religious feeling over the social importance of the religious holidays.

Keywords: *Mentality, religious practices, otherness, authority, public and community.*

Federico Donatiello

I primi contatti con il Teatro Occidentale in Romnia: le traduzioni dei melodrammi di Pietro Metastasio nei Principati Danubiani alla fine del XVIII secolo111

Astratto. *Uno dei fenomeni più importanti che hanno favorito l'occidentalizzazione romanza della lingua letteraria romena è stato il largo affluire di traduzioni di letteratura francese e italiana. Nel Settecento predomina la figura del poeta italiano Pietro Metastasio con ben nove testi tradotti: il melodramma italiano arriva nei Principati con modalità peculiari in quanto le traduzioni non sono destinate tanto alla rappresentazione scenica quanto alla sola lettura; esse si basano inoltre non sul testo italiano originale ma su alcune traduzioni intermedie in lingua neogreca. La penetrazione delle opere di Metastasio nei Principati, come pure di molta cultura occidentale, è perciò legata indissolubilmente alla cultura neogreca e ai gusti della nobiltà fanariota. Per modesti compilatori come Slătineanu o Beldiman; la scomparsa del neogreco come lingua di cultura favorirà ulteriormente il processo di rinnovamento linguistico e letterario.*

Ana-Teodora Kurkina

The language in the Romanian political thought of 1850-1890s. The grand debates and their outcomes125

Abstract. *The article focuses on the Romanian linguistic debates of the second half of the 19th century and their influence on the processes of state- and nation-building. The essay concentrates on the attempts of using the ties of the common language as a defensive element that can not only mark the local nation-building strategies, but oppose similar competing foreign schemes. The current paper can be considered an effort to see and analyze the place of language in the Romanian political thought between 1850 and 1890 when Romanian national state emerged on the world arena and its manifestation sharpened the disputes regarding its linguistic and ethnic homogeneity. Furthermore, the article regards the language as a primary strategic instrument in the process of state-building, used by the participants of the debates, whose views and ideas were strictly tied to linguistic unity. The ideas of languages being parts of the "bodies of nations" expressed by Romanian thinkers are put into the General European context, which is briefly investigated as well.*

Keywords: *nation-building, Romanian political thought, Romanian language, linguistic policy.*

Iuliana Delia Bălăican

The emigration of Jews from Craiova: A solution for the crisis from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Research study: Crența Aizig and Șvarț146

Abstract. *As part of the history of Jewish emigration from Craiova, caused by the agricultural crisis of 1899, this article analyzes the case of Crența Aizig Șvarț who, according to the archives of the Romanian Foreign Office, was issued with an “exit only” emigration passport. The “exit only” passports, which barred return to Romania, were issued on request, exclusively to the Jewish ethnics who did not hold Romanian citizenship. The Jewish population’s complaints as to the consequences of these documents triggered criticisms in the foreign press and prompted the Western diplomacies to intervene with the Romanian authorities for the amelioration of the legal situation. This article shows that the “exit only” passports were one of the controversial legal practices associated with “the Jewish problem” in Romania, initiated by article 7 of the 1866 Constitution, allowing naturalization for Christian emigrants only, backed up by another two hundred anti-Semite laws and pervasive racist cultural attitudes.*

Keywords: *The Jewish problem in Romania, anti-Semitism, emigration passports, 1899 agricultural crisis, Ion Al. Lahovary, Craiova.*

Marian Petcu

The media during the “Years of Fire”167

Abstract. *The present study aims to be a blueprint of media's development within the Romanian Kingdom during The First World War. We're pursuing here the media's appearance privileging war topics, pleading for military alliances and/or neutrality and for the reduction of newspapers and journals' number since Romania entered the war, and also introducing the censorship over all forms of public knowledge and communication.*

It may be concluded that the editorial schemes take no more into account ideologies, but political and military alliances both during the neutrality years and military confrontation. After the occupation of the southern Romania by the German, Austro-Hungarian and Bulgarian troops, the central administration of the state along with the royal family and a large number of editorial offices relocate to the north-eastern Iași city. Meanwhile, in Bucharest are tolerated by the German military administration only a few pro-German publications – such as Gazeta Bucureștiului, Lumina and Seara. Other publications are also printed by the German army in the occupied cities: Kriegs-Zeitung 9 Armee (The 9th Army's War Journal) printed in Sebeș and Râmnicu Sărat, Verordnungen für die Bevölkerung Rumäniens im Gebiete der Militärverwaltung (in Bucharest), Deutsche Ausgabe des "Agrar" (also in Bucharest), Putna-Zeitung (in Focșani), Donau Armee Zeitung (in Brăila) and others.

We will also present some samples of wartime advertising, messages illustrating the poverty caused by the war (i.e. the exchange of edibles or other items). The journalists' situation, the rhetoric of hatred are also topics that we issue in this historical outline.

Keywords: *Romania, journalism, First World War, Bucharest, media, censorship.*

Cristian Constantin

The little-known biography of Jack the Crow, a british vice-counsel to Braila (1880-1938)182

Abstract. *This study is based on some documents stored in the diplomatic archives of the Diplomatic Corps in Braila and Galati. In 1925, Jack the Crow C, a Jewish entrepreneur in Romania, became vice consul of Great Britain in Braila. The interest shown by the British political and economic circles for the trade and navigation at the Lower Danube represented a constant of the Romanian - British relationship in interwar period. The question of the foreign consulates from the area of the Lower Danube has been treated insufficiently in the Romanian historiography. In this line, the author presents the influence of the Jack the Crow's family in international trade at the Lower Danube..*

Keywords: *Jack Corbu, Braila, Danube maritime, trade, genealogy.*

Marius Mureşan

The National Peasant's Party government during the Great Depression189

Abstract. *In this article, the accent falls upon the interwar period of the Romanian history. Immediately after First World War ended, the Romanian society and political class were still very effervescent. In these conditions, from the former territories of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy arise some new movements. PNŢ's (The National Peasants' Party) history at country's leadership overlaps with a period that influenced the whole world: The Great Depression. The difficulties the governments had to face are reflected in historical analysis, but also in press articles that try to present power abuse, economic and social decisions. We propose to present the way this doctrine evolved and the way it's ideas have been implemented as the PNŢ led the Romanian government.*

Keywords: *The Great Depression, doctrine, ideology, sacrifice curves.*

Eperjesi Zoltán; Boér Zoltán

Crucial views on the German Reunification of 3 October 1990201

Abstract. *Authors of this paper are examining the premises that lead to the historical event of the German reunification (deutsche Wiedervereinigung) of 1990 and simultaneously contemplate on contemporary implications. History could help to grasp the informal and official interaction of top politicians who worked for or against the German unity. Therefore, it can be thought provoking to review according to newly published works how the masterwork of the German unity was carried out and what were the main effects for the new German society? Approach of the authors is a simple one: it is summarised and*

reviewed what certain key-actors as former Chancellor Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher have written about themselves (autobiography) and others have written about them (biography). Additional study concerns editions with primary sources and other evidences related to the peaceful revolution and German unification of 1990.

Keywords: *Peaceful revolution, Diplomacy, Fall of the Berlin Wall, Reunification of Germany, Deutschmark.*

Cristian Culiciu

Facts about the higher state education in Oradea between 1990 and 2000, as seen in the local written press266

Abstract. *This paper presents how a higher education institution, the University of Oradea, evolved between 1990-2000. Issues considered by the emergence and development of faculties, to student life, are presented according to the information published by the local press from Oradea in those years. The author tried thereby pointing the role of this institution in the Romanian academic environment, and how both teachers and students have contributed to the development of the University.*

Keywords: *higher education, University of Oradea, faculties, scientific activity, students.*

Ioana-Bianca Berna

Post-conflict gender politics in the Western Balkans – between the same circle of palms with human security and a small stream outside the box282

Abstract. *Can the issue of gender politics trust to time and opportunity for better be discussed when it does not actually feel like that enough has been said, especially in the case of the Western Balkans?*

The effective experience of pre-definition or of a case closed applies when one attempts to tackle the issue of gender politics, its hitching with human security and its call of revelation in the Western Balkans.

The display of performing acts of the women`s role in the postconflict region of the Western Balkans has been multiply appreciated in analyses.

Throughout this article, we will be housing a linking overture that this aspect entertains with human security and, above all, we will be reckoning a manner of adjudication to the foreordained elements that still have an important impact core upon the issue of gender politics in the Western Balkans.

Keywords: *Human Security, Post-Conflict Environments, Gender politics, Gender Reconstruction, Western Balkans.*

Vlad Moghiorosi

The Tismăneanu Report: Reactions and Debates301

Abstract. *The aim of the paper is to present the reactions and the debates that followed the official condemnation of communism in Romania, which was based on the Tismăneanu Report. As expected, the main discussions regarding the report and the official condemnation were present on the political scene and in the media. Thus, the focus will be on the political reactions, referring here to the parliamentary parties, and on the debates that appeared in the media. Also other reactions are studied, such as the position of the Romanian Orthodox Church, the attitude of the academic sphere and opinions of the opponents of communism.*

Keywords: *Tismăneanu Report, politics, media, communism, Bănescu.*

RECENZII / BOOKS REVIEWS

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Vasubandhu, Trisvabhavanirdesa (The Indications regarding the Three Own-beings).....6

Abstract. *According to some authors, Trisvabhāvanirdeśa is the last work authored by Vasubandhu (IV-th century AD), one of the founders of Vijñānavāda, the idealist school of Mahāyāna Buddhism. The text briefly depicts the tripartite ontology of the school. The doctrine of Vijñānavāda is based on the theory of the three own-beings (trisvabhāva), which ranks everything on three levels of reality: the absolute reality (pariniṣpanna svabhāva – the fulfilled own-being), the non-delimited conditional flow (paratantra svabhāva – the interdependent own-being) and the level of categorically structured experience, specific to human beings (parikalpita svabhāva – the constructed own-being). Among these, the first two own-beings are real, while the third is unreal, being the object of religious and philosophical criticism.*

Keywords: *Buddhism, Mahāyāna, Vijñānavāda, Vasubandhu, metaphysics, idealism, own-being (svabhāva).*

Corina-Ruxandra Șteflea

The death of a Roman Emperor: The case of Claudius28

Abstract. *This article discusses the death of the Roman emperor Claudius, which occurred at the ides of October 54 A.D. The testimonies of ancient authors about this episode are being analyzed, the conclusions of contemporary scholars based on those written records are being presented and probably, the most interesting part of this research rests in the displaying and discussing of the opinions and approaches of medical specialists, to which this case is also of interest.*

Keywords: *the emperor Claudius, assassination, Agrippina, mushrooms, intoxication.*

Constantin Zamfir

The Knights Templar in Narrative Sources (12th – 14th century).....47

Abstract. *This paper deals with the beginnings of the Order of Nights Templar, from the influence on the its formation of St. Bernard of Clairvoix, to the medieval chroniclers attitude about this Christian knights. Also, it makes an analysis of the canons that governed the life of the Templars over time. The general attitude of contemporaries in regard to the abolition of the order was one of hostility towards the knights because of their wealth and arrogance. The violation of their own rules of poverty and humbleness, among others, and the loss of the Holy Land has made the posterity to be pretty rough with this monastic-knightly order.*

Keywords: *Knights Templar, Bernard of Clairvaux, Christianity, Holy Land.*

Mirel Gheonea, Cristian Constantin

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Abstract. *The present paper analyses the evolution of the agrarian problem and the social structure of the peasantry in Romania. This study focuses on the Wallachia and Moldavian peasantry, because the documents present the evolution of the agrarian problem in this area.*

The measures taken in the agrarian field were pretty ineffective and they did not resolve the problem of peasantry even after 1907, when the uprising was crushed brutally by the authorities.

Keywords: *Wallachia, Moldavia, peasant uprising, agrarian question.*

Fănel Teodorașcu

A Journalistic Manifesto – Our Calendar for 191882

Abstract. *In the early twentieth century, the press played a special place in the development of a modern state. At that time, Romanian media history contained numerous dark episodes and one of them occurred after the outbreak of the First World War. The scandal caused by the so-called “Günther file” raised important questions about the morality of many talented journalists of that time. At the end of 1917, it was the despair of the spiritual state that characterized the Romanian society. In this context, at Bârlad, the publication entitled “Our Agenda for 1918” came out.*

Keywords: *war, journalism, rhetoric, blackmail, media history.*

Cristian Constantin

The European Commission of the Danube and Foreign Consulates of Braila and Galati (1919-1940)96

Abstract. *This study aims at synthesizing the multitude of political, economic and juridical relationships that gravitated around the maritime Danube between 1919 and 1940. The question of the foreign consulates from the area of the Lower Danube has been treated insufficiently in the Romanian historiography. The mouths of the Danube became Romanian territory in 1878 and this was a great advantage for Romania, but also a serious threat for its national sovereignty.*

Keywords: *European Commission of the Danube, foreign consulates, Braila, Galati, Lower Danube.*

Teodor Borisov

Football in Romania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria during Stalinism (1944-1953)111

Abstract. *The current article describes the reforms in Romanian, Yugoslavian and Bulgarian football in the years of Stalinism (from the arrival of the Red army on their territory to the death of Joseph Stalin on 5 March 1953). The article presents a parallel between the political processes and the changes in the local football. The Soviet influence and the specificity of their model are explained compared to the model of each individual country.*

Keywords: *football, Stalinism, Soviet influence, communist regime.*

Marius Mureşan

The Visit of Nicolae Ceauşescu at Gherla in 1983128

Abstract. *This study analyses the way a visit of such a personality like Nicolae Ceauşescu, was perceived by the people of Gherla, a province city. Beyond the actual events, through the medium of interviews (teachers who were mobilized alongside their students) and oral history testimonials (the director of The Plant of Wood Processing- Combinatul de Prelucrare a Lemnului), we propose to highlight which were the people's feelings, how they perceived the presence of the head of state in their community and which were the effects. In this work we'll try to track the way a visit of an important personality, during the communist period, could generate feelings like passion, carelessness, curiosity etc.*

Keywords: *cotidian life, communism, working visit, propaganda.*

Zoltán Eperjesi, Judit Urbán

The Multidimensional Relationship Between Constructivist, Structuralist and Rationalist thoughts139

Abstract. *Theories of political constructivism (culturalist), structuralist and rationalist accounts are approaching the collapse of the Soviet Union (SU) from various angles. However, this paper argues that the above-mentioned traditional schools come to complementary conclusions (that are not mutually exclusive) despite their distinct starting points. One only has to put together the puzzle, because no single modern approach can process at once all the intricacy of contemporary global politics and historical events or happenings. For instance, the influence of structural realism has declined nowadays due to its incapability to predict the collapse of the SU. However, academics managed to resuscitate this theorem by skilfully melting it with agent-centred designs. Conversely, not even constructivism can estimate long-term historical change, such as the end of the Cold War because adepts of this approach do not think about how interests were created. They suppose that everybody has the same interests but by supposing this, one would totally ignore the topic of inequality. Interests are coined by power and political or economic influence, even if rules and values could change over time through diverse interactions. Political thinkers developed competitive theoretical schools by putting emphasis on diverse causes by clarifying various political, historical, social or cultural issues. Rational choice (rationalist), constructivism or culturalist and structuralist views have their own research tools and suppositions, but interestingly the predominant approach is none of these competing traditional schools, because currently neo-institutionalism seems to overcome all of them. This development is simply astonishing, also because scholars of postcommunism mostly applied rationalist methods in their analyses. This is especially true if considering the wide-ranging fields of comparative politics and history (outcomes of comparative analysis). Authors of this paper do not want to construct a hierarchy among these systematic explanations, because (in their opinion) these approaches can function in a complementary way, especially if someone wants to observe and explain socio-historical, political or other problems.*

Keywords: collapse of the USSR, democratisation process, Perestroika, Glasnost, identity-formation, Marxism, neo-institutionalism.

Ala Movileanu

Alkonost Bird – Symbol and Myth at Lippovan Russians176

Abstract. *The article is a brief description of a popular myth from the Slavic mythology, Alkonost - heaven's bird. Alkonost is frequently found in medieval Byzantine and Russian legends as the bird of heaven; half woman, half bird, bearer of luck. The legend of Alkonost bird was brought from across the seas by merchants and quickly took root in the land of ancient Russia.*

The Alkonost bird symbol is common in Russian chronicles and depictions of this creature is found in the manuscript books, on the jewelry of Kievan Russia, in the sculptures of white stone churches of Kiev, Vladimir and Suzdal.

This fairy tale bird became known in ancient Russian literature of the fourteenth century, and in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries it is found in alphabetical dictionaries. Very common are also the drawings made on paper of lower quality ("lubocinîe cartinî"). In Romania paintings representing the Alkonost bird were rarely found in Lippovan Russian homes in Dobrogea, and a copy of an impeccable artistic execution can be admired by the visitors of the Jurilovca museum unit, located in the National Village Museum in Bucharest.

Keywords: Alkonost, heaven's bird, myth, symbolism, Starover, Village Museum.

RECENZII / BOOK REVIEWS

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