

THE SILK ROAD AND BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS IN THE ANCIENT EAST

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Abstract

In the modern world, which is striving for globalization and an increase in the number of means of communication, many researchers return to the history of the Great Silk Road as a means of transcontinental communication of peoples, countries, and economies. Since the end of the XX and at the beginning of the XXI century, new projects have been developed to "restoration" this path with the help of modern means and methods, in the context of understanding the new international economy. The relevance of the research is due to the need to turn to the beginning of the formation of this path, to its origins and understand how intercultural business communications were built in ancient times. The purpose of this study is to consider the process of establishing business ties between Ancient East countries. To determine the role of the participating countries, a historical and geographical approach was used. The chronological method is the leading research method of this problem, which allows us to trace the relationship between the causes and consequences of certain actions aimed at the construction and participation of countries in trade; the comparative, retrospective and analytical methods are also involved. These methods allow us to comprehensively consider how business ties were formed in the Ancient East. The article examines which peoples and empires were involved in the development of this ancient way, reveals what goals and methods were, and how the Great Silk Road influenced their development, both economically, culturally, and politically. In addition, the article reveals the role and participation of the peoples of modern Kazakhstan in the implementation of international trade in the Ancient East, and what prospects open up due to the development of new projects to restore this international communication. The study shows a comprehensive and chronological view of the formation of business communication in several countries involved in business relations in the region.

Key words: *The Great Silk Road, business relations, Kazakhstan, the Ancient East, transnational trade*

THE NEED TO INTRODUCE A NEW SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT IN KAZAKHSTAN BY THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE

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Abstract

The paper reviews the attitude of the Russian Empire to the management of the Kazakh steppe and the execution of the "Provisional Decree on the Governance of Steppe Regions" on the territory of the Orenburg region in 1868. Based on objective analysis and the use of archival materials, the need of the Kazakh steppe in new governance and the colonial essence of administrative reforms were identified. To study the matter in hand, historical sources from the State Archives of the Orenburg Region of the Russian Federation and the Central State Archives of the Republic of Kazakhstan were used. Through administrative reforms, the tsar of the Russian Empire decided to forcibly colonise the Kazakh lands. Through reforms, the tsarist government took measures that served as the basis for a predatory, colonial agrarian policy. The interests of local residents were not taken into account; moreover, the colonists intended to seize fertile lands and water resources, and push local residents into the desert, arid territory, giving their lands to Russian settlers and the Cossack army. It was an unreasonable policy that led to the destruction of the traditional way of using the pasture meadows, the free movement of Kazakhs to winter and summer meadows, which disrupted the nomadic lifestyle. The need for colonial development of the eastern territories, the importance of the Orenburg region for the implementation of political, strategic, tactical goals by the tsarist government, and the profit received from the colonisation of the Kazakh lands, all this required the Russian government to develop and strengthen the administrative system in Kazakhstan. The findings of the historical analysis indicated that the final consolidation of tsarism in the steppe helped to form a network of power relations at the local level with the help of military and administrative institutions, which, through powerful state structures, allowed Russian capital to redistribute income to the empire. In turn, the expanded capillary network of stable power relations at the local level allowed the administrative apparatus to extend the imperial legislation to the territory of Kazakhstan. The tsarist government concentrated administrative power in its hands, finally pushing the Kazakh people out of political power. As a result, the Kazakhs, like their neighbours, became victims of the colonial policy of the Russian Empire.

Key words: *West Kazakhstan, Orenburg region, administrative reforms, Russification, colonial policy*

**ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE CREATING AND FUNCTIONING
OF REGIONAL RAILWAYS IN BUKOVYNA IN THE SECOND HALF
OF THE 19th – EARLY 20th CENTURIES**

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to study the objective economic aspects and prerequisites for the creating and functioning of regional railways in Bukovyna in the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries. The deployment of railway construction on the lands of Bukovyna in the second half of the 19th century was associated with the processes of the capitalist structure formation in the economies of the countries that included these lands – Austria-Hungary and the Russian Empire. The successful activities of the large railway companies in Bukovyna were facilitated by their strong ties with banks and close mutually beneficial cooperation with various parts of the state apparatus of Austria-Hungary and the Russian Empire. There was certain dependence between railway companies and States that, on the one hand, companies could not do without financial assistance from the State. On the other hand, the State did not possess sufficient funds at the end of the 19th century to independently expand the railway network and it was forced to entrust the construction of railway lines to private companies. Banks willingly acted as founders of new private railway companies in Austria-Hungary, which intensively stimulated the development of railway construction in Bukovyna. The high degree of the capital concentration in comparison with the other branches of private capitalist production was one of the characteristic features of the railway companies of Bukovyna.

Key words: *Bukovyna, regional railways, economic aspects, banks, Austria-Hungary, Russian Empire*

**CENTRAL AND SOUTH ASIA AS A PRIORITY OF RUSSIAN
AND BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY IN THE SECOND HALF
OF THE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURIES**

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Abstract

For centuries, world powers have struggled for influence in the geographical area formed by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Central Asia is the least explored world region and has long been a source of geopolitical tension. The aim of this study was to characterize Central and South Asia as a priority for Russian and British foreign policy in the second half of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Scientific and historiographic methods were used to analyze documented facts and ensure reliable results. Foreign policy relations of the Russian Empire and Great Britain during the great geopolitical confrontation were analyzed by comparison. The results support the hypothesis that there were influence spheres, contentious issues, and interests, which enabled the players to find compromises at the end of the 'Great Game' without resorting to force. These facts enriched diplomatic practices in buffer states, natural boundaries, de-escalation, and agreements for improving conflict management between competing foreign nations.

Key words: *Central Asia, South Asia, Russia, Britain, foreign policy*

**THE "SUCESS STORY" OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN
A COUNTRY IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL AFRICA:
ROMANIA AND CAMEROON (1970-1990)**

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Abstract

The relations of friendship and cooperation between Romania and Cameroon in the 1970s had an exceptional quality, based on a strong and lasting partnership, reinforced by the status of the two countries. Romania, a country with a communist vocation, and Cameroon, a major privileged partner in diplomatic and economic relations. It is a traditionally close bilateral relationship initiated by the first President of Cameroon Hamadou Ahidjo, characterized by trust and mutual respect, which prevailed for twenty years. The establishment of an embassy in Cameroon then paved the way for the success of diplomatic relations, continuous and substantial development through dynamic and pragmatic political dialogue and close cooperation in many areas. The realization of several bilateral visits at governmental and parliamentary level, as well as economic missions, testified to this dynamic of the links and the importance that Yaoundé attached to Bucharest, to the open and constructive dialogue which existed between these two countries. It was therefore a priority relationship for Romania's policy aimed at the countries of Africa south of the Sahara; this is why Romania was interested in further strengthening bilateral political dialogue, diversifying and developing economic and sectoral cooperation, as well as pursuing close cooperation at the multilateral level, but also consulting on issues of common interest with Cameroon. Therefore, what were the priority axes of cooperation between the two countries? Was Cameroon a trade partner of Romania in Africa? What bilateral strategy was implemented to strengthen this partnership? Finally, what reflects the severance of diplomatic relations with Romania? The following analysis will answer the various main questions set out in order to better understand the role played by Romania in Cameroon in the 1970s to 1990s.

Key words: *Success Story, Relations, Bilateral, Romania, Cameroon*

HISTORICAL CONTEXT, STRATA AND UNITY OF MEANING: THE HERMENEUTIC MENTALITY OF ROMAN INGARDEN

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Abstract

We live in a world in which visiting a museum, listening to music or reading a book has become commonplace. Long gone are the times when only a minority was able to read or attend great concerts. We have become accustomed to move in an environment where contact with artistic creations is easy and accessible. However, if we pause to reflect or question the true meaning of art and its intrinsic nature, many would be surprised to find themselves without a clear or concise answer. It may be that if we were truly aware of art's role we would dedicate more time to contemplate and enjoy the artistic works available to us. The question of defining, delimiting or framing the notion of the "artistic" is not a trivial one. Engaging with art brings us into contact with the sublime, with that which we most need but fail to recognise or understand.

However, rapid technical or technological access to works of art does not necessarily translate into a proportional interest in art. Many look forward to their retirement to begin enjoying the pleasures of art while others frequent artistic or cultural milieux merely in order to project an image of sophistication to others, rather than out of any real personal interest; still others simply believe that art is not for them because they are too busy in their daily lives and have no interest in investing time and money in something that requires quietude and repose. Some regard art in purely decorative terms: books, artwork or records are adornments to make walls and shelves more attractive and appealing. Here art is exclusively ornamental. Within this final group are those who take a real interest in these theoretical and practical questions, themselves creators or not, who look to art simply for that which is lacking or can profoundly nourish their own lives.

But what is art? What does it consist of? The question of art is a philosophical and anthropological question. To understand art one must look beyond the merely apparent, the concrete, through a phenomenological approach where what matters is the relation we establish with what confronts us as a subject. To understand the truth of an artistic composition, if it is truly artistic, is to understand ourselves.

In this vein, we will analyse the work of the Polish thinker Roman Ingarden and his specific notion of the literary work of art as the foundation of modern aesthetics. We will thus pursue an understanding of artistic creation by exploring its essence, its ontology and epistemology within literary theory.

Key words: *Truth, Aesthetics, Tempo, Culture, Constitution*

**THE FORMATTING OF SPACE AND TIME IN TOTALITARIAN
HISTORICAL DISCOURSE
(ON THE EXAMPLE OF SOVIET HISTORIOGRAPHY)**

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Abstract

The subject of this article is the influence of socio-political engagement in non-democratic societies on the formation of scientific and historical discourse and on its further functioning and use for non-historical – political and educational purposes. It is analyzed not only from the point of view of the unique features inherent exclusively to totalitarianism, but rather as a derivative of socio-political requests for history that arise and are realized in any society, constantly becoming more complex over time. For Soviet totalitarianism, a characteristic feature of such requests was the absolutization of revolutions, which were interpreted as pivotal, milestone events that signified the main content of the progress of social development at literally all its stages. Because of this, Soviet historiography and the historiography of countries dependent on the USSR was characterized by attempts to “conceptually update the status” of a number of historical events, even those that preceded revolutions in their generally accepted meaning. In addition, an in-depth study of revolutions was characterized by the introduction of new terminology into scientific circulation and the identification of new elements of the division of historical time and space within revolutions. The article examines this side of the problem, in particular, on the examples of formatting the chronological framework of the Eighty Years War for the Independence of the Netherlands (“Dutch bourgeois revolution” in Soviet terminology), as well as on the example of the officially accepted periodization of the 1917 revolution in Russia and the called “Triumphal march of Soviet power”. Since reformatting the historical time of revolutions was not the only purpose of processing the past, the article focuses on other examples of such formatting. First of all, this concerns military operations on the Eastern Front of World War II, which turned into the Great Patriotic War under the pen of Soviet scientists by analogy with the Patriotic War of 1812, which laid the foundation for its subsequent absolutization and sacralization.

Key words: *Historiography, revolution, space and time structures, scientific research, totalitarianism.*

IDENTITY TRANSFORMATION OF THE UKRAINIAN DONBAS: FROM THE “WILD FIELD” TO RUSSIAN OCCUPATION

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Abstract

The population of the Ukrainian Donbas before the beginning of Russian war aggression had a particular regional identity that, apart from boundary characteristics, has a significant “Soviet” component. Russian aggression has led to the mass exodus of at least 1.5 million citizens with a dominant Ukrainian identity to Ukrainian-controlled territory. At the same time, the Ukrainian mnemonic space is being completely cleansed in the temporarily occupied territories. The Russian model of historical memory bizarrely combines imperial, Soviet, and occupation components. Today, the identity of the sub-occupation population is undergoing a significant transformation, which creates an increasing distance from other Ukrainian citizens, even in the liberated territories of Donbas.

However, the hybrid nature of this identity makes it ambivalent, unstable. Moreover, in a state of crisis, the population has suffered several waves of cultural trauma. Divided political loyalties are maintained and strengthened. The article has analysed the functioning of historical consciousness as a key identity marker of different groups, both before the occupation of these territories and today.

Key words: *border / hybrid identity, Ukrainian Donbas, historical memory, Russian military aggression*

**THE HISTORIC FOOTPRINT OF THE LAW IN LEGAL SYSTEMS:
FROM ITS EDUCATIONAL VALUE TO SOCIAL ENGINEERING -
SOME EXAMPLES**

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Abstract

“The people must fight for its law as for its (city) walls”. These are the words of Heraclitus who, in the 5th century BC, was already perfectly aware of the immense influence that the law has on shaping the identity of the people. Because not only do laws have an effect on institutions, but indeed they also transform the minds and even the hearts of individuals. In this article, we will try to understand what the law is and what its purpose is. We will ask ourselves if it is legitimate, and if it is possible, to leave the educational value of the law aside in order to use it as a tool for social change. This is why we must resort to the concept of law throughout history in order to understand its value and its virtuosity.

Key words: *law - social change - social engineering – legal history*

**GENDER BARRIERS AND ACADEMIC MANAGEMENT
OF „AL. I. CUZA” UNIVERSITY OF IAȘI**

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Abstract

Discriminating experiences of women in the academic world discourage them to take part in contests to occupy higher academic positions. People tend to evaluate academic management based on what they consider to be normal behaviour for women and men, respectively. Because of this, women are perceived as more inappropriate to occupy an academic managerial position than men, especially in fields (such as the academic field) where male stereotypes are regarded as more efficient. Focusing on the obstacles women met in their attempt to reach a scientific/ academic management position, we have noticed that one of the major difficulties women in the academic world are confronted with when they have to decide in relation with their participation in the academic management refers to creating a balance between family life and their career, as domestic activities are normally time-consuming, limiting the period which could be dedicated to professional activities.

Key-words: *personal satisfaction, academic performance, mentors, management position, male stereotypes*