

STUDIES AND ARTICLES

**ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH THE DICTATURE IN ROME.
HISTORIOGRAPHICAL WIEVS**

Florian Olteanu

Abstract

The article reveals the ideas of some representatives historians of the Republican Roman period, concerning the relations between society, state and the historical evolution. There are pointed out the principles which approach and differentiate the Greek and Roman societies and also the historiographical conceptions appropriate to these cultures, the most remarkable in the Ancient history of the Europe.

Key words: *Society, Historiography, State, Political Relations, Influence*

**THE ORIGINS AND SETTLEMENTS
OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN SAXONS**

Alexandra Porumbescu

Abstract

This paper will investigate the history of the Saxon community in the Transylvania region of Romania. The Transylvanian Saxons are a people of German ethnicity who settled in Transylvania from the 12th century onwards. First of all, we aimed to present the origins of this people who settled in the south-eastern part of Europe coming from distant area, and the reasons that drew them here. Then, we explained where the name “saxon” originates, continuing with a brief description of the way they lived and how their communities were organized. The evocation of the most important events in the medieval period aims to highlight the important role played by the ethnic Germans in the history of the Romanian provinces.

Key words: *Transylvania, Saxones, Colonists, Settlements, Minority*

DEALU MONASTERY – A CULTURAL LANDMARK AND RESTING PLACE FOR THE RELIC OF MICHAEL THE BRAVE (1601-1916)

Cornel Mărculescu

Abstract

Dealu Monastery represents a major cultural landmark of the capital of Wallachia, Târgoviște, and the odyssey of the holy relic of Michael the Brave is related to it. Nowadays, 420 years after the enthronement of the reigning prince in Wallachia, the importance of this delicate chapter of our history continues to give birth to interpretations and controversies, both in point of the odyssey of the relic of the great ruler who reunited the three Romanian Countries (1601-1916), and in point of the attempts of transferring the sacred voivodal skull (1864-1874). The creation of the Military High School from Dealu Monastery in 1912, by the great politician Nicolae Filipescu, meant the appearance of a significant school for the Romanian army during the period between the Two World Wars, which contributed considerably to the process of modernization of the Romanian army.

Key words: *Dealu Monastery, Gheorghe Bibescu, Odissey, Mihai Viteazul (Michael the Brave), Nicolae Filipescu*

**FRENCH TRAVELLERS' WRITINGS
CONCERNING THE ROMANIANS IN THE 18TH CENTURY**

Iulian Oncescu

Abstract

Out of the numerous foreign testimonies left behind by foreigners about the Romanians in the 18th century, the most important are those of the French, which are also the most numerous. In general, the rhythm of elaboration of the writings on the Romanians, and implicitly of travelogues, is in harmony with the evolution of the French-Romanian relations in general, which are directly connected to the evolution of the French Oriental politics, with the increasingly strong interest of France in the SE European area. Out of the French travellers who wrote on the Romanians in the 18th century, we shall mention: the chevalier de Bellerive, La Motraye, Guedeville, Jean Claude Flachet, Charles de Peyssonnel, baronul Damseaux, Jean-Louis Carra, Alexandre de Launay, baronul Francois de Tott, contele Alexandre d'Hauterive, Charles Joseph de Ligne, Roger de Damas contele de Ferriere, contele de Salaberry, Emil Gaudin, Louis Joseph Parant. Our paper aims only to point out the main French travellers of the 18th century in the Romanian area and their works on the Romanians.

Key words: *Foreign Testimonies, French Travellers, Romanians, Memoires, Histories*

**AN EPISODE OF THE ROMANIAN-ITALIAN RELATIONS.
THE FRANCO-SARDINIAN-HUNGARIAN PLANS OF 1859
AND THE ROMANIANS**

Laura Oncescu

Abstract

The affinities between the two peoples, Romanian and Italian, can be easily perceived as well in the context of the secret Franco-Sardinian-Hungarian plans of 1859 against Austria, plans in which the Principalities played an essential role. The Franco-Italian plans, aiming to remove the Austrians from the North of Italy, were initiated even since Plombières, in 1858, but in his politics, Cavour relied on a collaboration with the Hungarians, so that in case the war with Austria broke out, a revolution was to be triggered in Hungary, entailing a great conflagration later on. The role of the Romanian Principalities in the Franco-Sardinian-Hungarian plan was special, because without their adhesion, it would have been impossible to send the arms and ammunition transmitted by Napoleon III to the Hungarians in Austria and to set up the strategic points for the uprising. In exchange for this collaboration, the Romanians were to be helped later on to constitute their own independent State.

Key words: *Romanian-Italian relations, Franco-Sardinian-Hungarian revolutionary plans, Romanians, Cavour, A.I. Cuza*

**THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BALKAN COMMITTEE IN LONDON
FOR THE DEFINITION OF THE BRITISH POLICY
TOWARDS THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION, 1903-1908**

Aleksandar Spirkovski

Abstract

The members of the Balkan Committee, founded in London, exerted significant political and public influence in Britain, concerning the possible resolution of the Macedonian Question, in the years after the great Ilinden Uprising of 1903. They sought reforms in the concordance with the Treaty of Berlin, organising rallies, publishing articles, submitting resolutions to the Parliament and the Foreign Office. Had an utmost importance in the shaping of the proposals suggested by Lord Lansdowne and the programme initiated by Sir Grey in 1908, culminating with the Reval meeting of the British and Russian Majesties, in June 1908.

Key words: *Balkan Committee, Reforms, Public Awareness, Reval Meeting, Young Turks*

**THE CHURCH DEDICATED TO THE “PRESENTATION”
FROM ROȘIUȚA – MOTRU**

Dumitru-Valentin Pătrașcu

Abstract

The present study is based on a series of unpublished documents belonging to the Roșița parish archive, as well as on documents recently added to the document collection of the “*Alexandru Ștefulescu*” Gorj County Museum from Tg-Jiu. All these documents, combined with the field research, allowed us to try to outline as truthfully as possible the story of the Roșița village church, an area which is now included within the territory of the Motru municipality.

The construction of the Roșița wall church was initiated in the timeframe 1910-1911 by an initiative committee founded even since 1896, a significant role in its appearance being played by Architect Stătie Ciortan, originated in the Roșița village. This initiative was later joined by priests Grigore Roșițeanu and Alexandru Ciortan, by numerous local people, as well as by Professor Teodor Costescu, former prefect of the Mehedinți County, and Dincă Schileru, Gorj deputy in the Parliament of Romania.

Key words: *Stătie Ciortan, Church, Roșița Village, Architect, Restoration*

**VISION OF METROPOLITAN MIRON CRISTEA,
PRIMATE OF ROMANIA,
ON REFORMING THE ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Lucian Dindirică

Abstract

Miron Cristea was born on the 18th of July 1868, in Toplița. Between the years 1887-1890 he attended the Theological Institute of Sibiu, so that in 1891 he enrolled The Faculty of Letters and Philosophy at the University of Budapest, where he would get a Ph.D. As bishop of Caransebeș he participated in the Great National Assembly in Alba Iulia on December 1, 1918 and he was part of the delegation which presented the Unification Act of Transylvanian Romanians at Bucharest. On June 7th, 1919 Miron Cristea was elected honorary member of the Romanian Academy. At the end of that year, on 18/31 December he was elected Primate of Unified Romania, and on 19th December 1919 / January 1st, 1920 Miron Cristea was invested and enthroned in the highest office at that time, in the Romanian Orthodox Church. In August 1920, found the monastery Căldărușani, Miron Cristea wrote a work that included his view on the organization of the Romanian Orthodox Church after the Great Unification, which was printed in the same year. Miron Cristea developed in 1922, a document entitled *Memoriu cu privire la trebuințele Bisericii Ortodoxe Române din țară* (Memorandum on the needs of Romanian Orthodox Church in the country), the document was analyzing the existing problems within the Church, proposing solutions for the most part.

Key words: *Reform, Reorganization of the Church, Patriarch, Carol II, Mihai I*

**HISTORICAL CONSIDERATIONS ON THE ETHNIC
COHABITATION IN MACEDONIA UNTIL THE 2001 CRISIS**

Irina Simonovska-Spirkovska

Abstract

This article offers a historical overview on the aspect of coexistence and cohabitation in Macedonia. The country, seen from a geostrategic aspect is a region where, the cultural historical pattern was in fact a crossroads. Many nations and ethnicities interbred, thus acquiring a superficial, yet sufficiently descriptive picture of the cultural-plural influence in Macedonian history. The principle of cohabitation represents a state of unification and leveling of many different social aspects, which, throughout history, has faced and still faces certain problems. Throughout the middle ages, the Ottoman rule and the more recent Yugoslav history, gaining of independence and transition, that historical pattern has somehow repeated, showing a relatively high degree of readiness for cohabitation in the Macedonian case.

Key words: *Ethnic Cohabitation, Cultural Diversity, Ottoman Rule, Yugoslav Federation, Transition*

PROGRESS: A TWO-EDGED SWORD

Bruce A. Little

Abstract

This paper reviews the power and consequences of the Enlightenment on western culture, particularly by its view that what is new is always preferred over the old. Beginning with Francis Bacon and his idea of progress, this paper examines how eventually the idea of “progress” created a cultural ethos of consumerism where efficiency and convenience become the only measure of human progress especially in terms of technological progress. In the end this means that all human progress is determined only in quantitative terms ignoring or devaluating the qualitative or what one might think of as the spiritual aspect of human life. This is seen particularly in the power of media technology which encourages and supports the ethos of consumerism making possessions, not character the goal of humanity. Without dismissing the merits of progress, the western world must seriously ask not only what technology does for us, but in a real way, what is it doing to us if it is not to end up reducing man to a machine.

Key words: *Enlightenment, Progress, Technology, Consumerism, Efficiency*