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ABSTRACTS / RESUMES

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ABSTRACTS / RÉSUMÉS

Gunnar Hering, *Systemic Political Crises in Yugoslavia during the Inter-war Period*

The declaration of the establishment of the «Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes» on the 1st of December, 1918—which in 1929 was renamed to Yugoslavia—fulfilled the long standing desire for the political unification of all South-Slavs. However, the new State which apart from the three old kingdoms of Serbia, Montenegro and Croatia included the entities of the former Hungarian Vojvodina, the former Austrian Slovenia and Dalmatia and the Serbian Macedonia had to tackle certain problems. Its subjects were divided into several ethnic groups: Serbs, Croats and Slovenes—who constituted three quarters of its entire population—and Germans, Hungarians and Albanians as well as other ethnic minorities. The population of the new state was also divided into three religious categories: 47% were Orthodox Christians, 39% Catholics, and 11% Muslims.

This paper attempts to analyze five constructive crises which came about in interwar Yugoslavia, and are characteristic of any modern state: 1) The crisis of identity of the state itself and of the various ethnic groups. The ideology of Yugoslavian unification failed to bridge the differences between the ethnic and religious groups; 2) The crisis of legitimacy. This is related with the nature of the regime. From 1918 until the dictatorship of 1929 twenty three governmental crises occurred; 3) The crisis of integration, as reflected in the policies and the electoral results of the various political parties which had clear ethnic and geographical limits. During the interwar period none of the existing political parties attained to play this integrating role by securing mass support throughout the country; 4) The crisis of participation of individuals and social groups in controlling the public affairs and manning the state apparatus; 5) The crisis of distribution of goods and services. The ethnic and political contradictions between the Slovenes and Croats in the North and Serbs in the South resulted in the uneven development between these two geographical districts of the state.

D. Demetropoulos, *Pressoirs à huile, moulins, fours, églises dans l'espace insulaire au 17e siècle*

Au 17e siècle les pressoirs à huile, les moulins, les fours et les églises dans l'espace insulaire constituaient des champs d'activité économique dont l'exploitation présente une caractéristique commune: le choix de la co-propriété a souvent constitué le moyen de leur exploitation économique. Les pressoirs à huile et les moulins à vent ont été des fabriques liées à la production agricole de la région dans laquelle ils avaient été construits, mais leur construction et leur fonctionnement exigeaient une somme d'argent importante. Pour ces biens l'existence de co-propriétaires a été un phénomène habituel. En ce qui concerne les moulins à vent les possesseurs des «parts» étaient très souvent plus de deux. Pour les fours et les églises ce phénomène était moins fréquent et la plupart de fois les co-propriétaires se limitaient à deux.

L'apparition de la co-propriété sur ces biens immobiliers n'était pas seulement le résultat des partages héréditaires au sein de la famille. Au contraire il est probable que ce type de propriété constituait un choix qui se mettait en application à partir du jour où on décidait de construire et équiper un de ces immeubles, parce que cela favorisait la rentabilité de leur exploitation, et permettait, de plus, la collaboration de ceux qui possédaient la capital indispensable avec ceux qui avaient les connaissances techniques nécessaires ou ceux qui avaient obtenu certaines qualifications. Parallèlement, alors que la co-propriété ne constituait pas un obstacle à la concentration de ses biens, sous le contrôle des familles puissantes de chaque région, elle empêchait pourtant l'exclusivité sur leur possession et leur emploi.

Rika Benveniste, *The Construction of Alterity in the «History of Saint Louis»*

This article is a study of narrative representations of otherness in a thirteenth century chronicle, the «Histoire de Saint Louis», by Jean de Joinville. The examination of three episodes concerning Jews, Bedouins and Mongols, as well as Louis' attitude towards conversion, leads to the following conclusions: i) «others» are inscribed in the text through a process of translation, use of stereotypes and elementary cultural categories, such as death, sexuality and food and ii) the representative tropes are antagonistic or complementary, depending on whether alterity is considered negotiable; representations may correspond to the heterogeneous status of different cultural groups vis à vis medieval Christianity.

Padelis Lekkas, *The Supra-Class Rhetoric of Nationalism*

The paper addresses two of the most perplexing aspects of nationalism across its major manifestations in time and space; namely, the diversity of the social composition of the supporters of the national ideals and the non-existence or vagueness of references to social problems in the nationalist discourse. It argues that the lack of generic or consistent associations between nation and class constitutes a major analytical problem for the theory of nationalism. It is a question which may lie at the heart of the historically unprecedented plasticity of form, dynamism, expansiveness and durability of the nationalist phenomenon and which, in itself, calls into question some primary assumptions of conventional social theory.

Maria Stamatoyannopoulou, *Chambres et tables séparées. Conflits conjugaux à Lesbos autour de 1900*

L'article examine les conditions de crise au sein du couple conjugal, comme celles-ci se présentent dans les cas portés devant la Cour Ecclésiastique de l'Eveché de Mytilène, à Lesbos, à la fin du XIXe et les débuts du XXe siècle. Les demandes de divorce et de pension alimentaire, ainsi que les procès exécutés devant la Cour, en présentant la marche vers la rupture, esquissent les attentes, les exigences de deux parties et la fonction sociale de la liaison conjugale. La prédominance de la couche des «travailleurs» dans ces situations de conflit permet de rapprocher la rupture du bien conjugal à la mobilité masculine — immigration temporaire dans la région voisine de l'Asie Mineure. Par ailleurs, la présence d'une épouse attachée à sa maison dotale où son mari vient et part, conduit à lier le système de transmission du patrimoine, qui favorise les filles, avec les pratiques de séparation des époux.

Ioanna Laliotou, *Edward P. Thompson. A Historiographical Approach*

This paper discusses the politics of historical interpretation as manifested in E. P. Thompson's *The Making of the English Working Class*. The discussion addresses two main areas of interest:

a. The structure of the conceptual framework that organises historical narration and grounds historical analysis and interpretation. It is argued that this framework is based on his insistence on the privileged

character of historiography as a field of knowledge and as a critical perspective for social and political perspective on the one hand. The conceptual framework also consists of Thompson's conviction that in the process of class formation experience is the sine qua non historical catalyst that intervenes between the social being (modes of production) and class consciousness. These analytical inclinations are explored with reference to Thompson's engagement with the discussion over marxist reductionism on the one hand, and althusserian structuralism on the other.

b. Finally, an attempt is made to trace the particularities of the historical context within which Thompson's perspective was shaped, as well as the influence that his work has had on the orientations of social studies during the period of the 1970s and 1980s.

Katerina Gardikas-Alexandropoulou, *Internet and Historical Research*

The Internet is the network connecting universities, research institutes, libraries and other academic institutions around the world and serves primarily the academic community. Historians may benefit from its use by communicating with colleagues by e-mail and e-lists, they can search library catalogues from their home computers and obtain valuable data by means of services developed to integrate the world of information, such as FTP, gopher and World Wide Web.

Maria Skiadaressi, *The 1944-45 Chronicle from the «Convent's Notebook» of the Sisters of Saint Josef, in the «Jeanne d'Arc» Piraeus Greek-French School*

The abbess recorded the bombardment of Piraeus on January 11th 1944, the destruction it caused to the school and the death of 2 of the convent's nuns as well as the events that followed till the re-opening of the school towards the end of 1945.