

Franz Grieshofer, *Muzeele – depozitare ale moștenirii culturale*

Rezumat: Studiul de față are în vedere evoluția colecționării și muzeologiei în general. În speță, autorul, un reputat specialist în muzeografie, profesor în domeniu la Universitatea din Viena, a realizat un „coup d’oeil“ asupra trendului muzeografic european din ultimele decenii, după o introducere în care justifică importanța păstrării amintirii trecutului istoric. Muzeologia ca știința muzeului, de la Mouseion la muzeu, de la obiect la moștenire culturală, o nouă identitate a obiectului de muzeu sunt tot atâtea teme asupra cărora s-a oprit autorul, folosindu-se atât de experiența personală de muzeograf și director de muzeu, cât și de exemple germane și românești, fondate pe o bibliografie relevantă. Conform concluziei, care rezultă din pledoaria de față, muzeele sunt depozitare ale moștenirii culturale. Au o mare responsabilitate în fața societății și necesită o grijă permanentă, în calitate de păstrătoare ale memoriei culturale naționale și universale.

Cuvinte cheie: istorie; bunuri muzeale; informare; memorie colectivă; societate

Daniel Dumitran, *The reform of the parish clergy during the rule of bishop Ioan Bob. A possible model*

Abstract: The translation into Romanian of some of the essential works of dogmatic, moral and pastoral theology represented an essential and even programmatic step made by bishop Ioan Bob who wanted to encourage the formation of a well-trained clergy. Mention should be made about some of these works: *Theologhiia moralicească sau bogosloviia* (1796) and *Theologhia dogmatică și moralicească despre Taine preste tot* by Samuil Micu, followed by the volumes about each of the Sacraments (1801-1802), *Theologhia dogmatică* translated by Dimitrie Caian Jr. and others (I-III, 1804-1811). On the other hand, *Carte de învățături creștinești* (I-III, 1805-1806) and *Forma clerului și a păstorului bun* (1809) were the results of his efforts, too. We undertake through the present study to emphasize some aspects about the last work that has been mentioned above. We thought about a double perspective: firstly, the specific character of the model of the ideal priest that was taken over from the author of the original version of the work, Louis Tronson, the general superior of the Saint-Sulpice seminar of Paris (between 1676 and 1700); secondly, the possible reference of his attributions to the co-ordinates of the reformatory programme imposed by the bishop in his own diocese. The translation therefore frequently becomes remaking. We might discover elements that come from the personal experience of the hierarchy. Hence, the educative dimension interpenetrates the reformatory one and tends to prove it scientifically whenever it is possible.

Key words: moral theology; pastoral theology; Louis Tronson; reformatory programme; translation

Beatrice Ciută, *Holocene climate reconstruction. The influence of the environmental factors on vegetation*

Abstract: We undertake through the present study to present the climate evolution during Holocene in accordance with the scientific evidence. We also noted the progress registered by vegetation in Holocene because of the climate, and pointed out the most important changes. There were warming and cooling periods, and they affected the vegetation as well. We also want to demonstrate that the hypothesis according to which the present climate warming is determined only by humans is not completely true. There are a lot of other factors that influence the cold or warm weather.

Key words: Holocene; climate; reconstruction; vegetation

Mihai Gligor, *Foeni pottery of Transylvania (Romania)*

Abstract: A series of studies with regard to the problem of the emergence and development of Foeni-type communities within the larger context of the end of Late Neolithic of Transylvania and Banat have been published in the specialty literature during the last few years. We consider that is useful to point out several archaeological sites where pottery artifacts belonging to Foeni group have been discovered. This allows us to more accurately outline the present state of the research.

We undertake to present the pottery of Noșlac – *Pe Șes* (Alba County), Petrești – *Groapa Galbenă* (Alba County) and Călan – *La Podină* (Hunedoara County). It is therefore confirmed the fact that the entrance of Foeni tribes from Banat to Transylvania was made through the Mureș valley corridor. Archaeological documentary evidence that was identified in settlements that mark out this line represents a proof in this respect. The archaeological sites out of which the artifacts raised for discussion came from are placed in the middle Mureș basin. It is a geographical area with a significant denseness of population in the Neolithic Age.

Key words: pottery; Foeni cultural group; Late Neolithic; Early Aeneolithic; Transylvania.

Sanda Băcuet-Crișan, *Considerations upon the neolithic clay spoons with shaft hole*

Abstract: Some of the most interesting “special pieces” that were founded in the sites of Porț/Suplacu of Barcău “Corău” and Pericei “Keller tag” are the so-called clay spoons with shaft hole. They were discovered at Pericei. We undertake through the present study to present the main sites into which these discoveries were found and to point out the most important hypothesis with regard to their functionality: their paediatric usage – to feed the children, tools employed in metallurgy, lamps, pipes, ritual objects. There are pro&con arguments of each of the hypotheses. All these pieces can be ascribed to the Late Neolithic and Eneolithic of the Northern-

Western part of Romania and Transylvania. The most representative sites are those from Iclod, Porț/Suplacu de Barcău “Corău” and Pericei “Keller tag”.

Key words: sites; discovery; functionality; Late Neolithic; Early Eneolithic

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Pl. II. Artifacts from Pericei “Keller tag” (Sălaj County).

Pl. III. Artifacts from Pericei “Keller tag” (Sălaj County).

Dan Băcuet-Crișan, *Early mediaeval amphora type vessels on Romania's western and north-western area*

Abstract: The boundaries of the area in discussion are formed by the Țibleș-Gutâi-Oaş mountain chain in North, Romania's western frontier, on the South Mureș River and on the East, the Eastern Carpathians (Pl. I/1). This vessel type was destined exclusively for liquid transportation and keeping, that's why some of them have handles, but some of them, do not have it at all. We also mention the fact, that in the specialty bibliography these pots are mentioned under several names, like amphora, jug and in some cases flasks. Because of the fact that in the majority of cases the archeological material is very fragmentary, we can not analyze it to conclude if there were handles, or not, so we just call this kind of pottery *amphora type vessels*.

During this article we would like to analyze this type of pottery dating in the early medieval period, found in the north-western area of Romania, and to propose a typological and chronological classification as well. To accomplish such an objective, it's a quite hard work, because in spite the fact that this kind of pottery is part of the 7th-13th century vessel it is rarely found. We will study archaeological discoveries published in special literature, using these information (as they are) given by the authors of the researches and/or discoveries. What concerns the north-western part of Romania, we present nine sites with amphora type vessel discoveries, sites spread on the territory of six localities (Pl. I/2).

By the characteristics of amphora type vessels discovered (dimensions, form of the pot lip, opening and neck), we have identified the existence of 4 types (each of them, having it's own 2 variants). The classification proposed by us, concerning this type of pottery identified on the north-western area of Romania, can be dated as we present it below:

- a. TYPE IA and IB last decades of the 7th century – first half of the 8th century;
- b. TYPE IIA 8th century – beginning of 9th century;
- c. TYPE IIB belongs to 9th – 12th centuries;
- d. TYPES IIIA and IIIB 11th- 13th centuries;
- e. TYPES IVA and IVB are dated in the 10th century, possible further on to the 11th century.

In the already mentioned area of this country we have registered 9 archaeological sites with amphora type pottery discoveries, for what, we now propose a typological classification. Some of them were discovered in the context of early medieval settlements (Nușfalău “Țigoiul lui Benedek”, Bobota “Pe vale”, Biharea “Grădina SA-Baraj”, Biharea “Lutărie 1”, Cefa “La Pădure”), others in an early medieval fortress (Biharea “Cetatea de pământ-incintă. Zona de sud-vest” (“Măr”), Biharea “Zona cetății de pământ”), towards early medieval residence (Sânnicolau de Beiuș “Dealul bisericii”) and one in a village’s field without precise location (Sântandrei). Of course we do not exclude the possibility of other discoveries of this kind, yet not published, the real number of these discoveries being much larger than it is in this moment. As it was already mentioned, there was only analyzed the archeological material published, by the author of discoveries and/or researches. So, the present conclusions on chronological and typological facts are not definitive and undisputable.

Keywords: discoveries; settlements; fortress; residence; classification

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Translated by Zsolt Csók

Călin Șuteu, *O revizuire a normelor de prelevare pentru metoda arheomagnetică de datare – ghid pentru arheologi*

Rezumat: Metoda arheomagnetică de datare nu a cunoscut în România o evoluție normală așa cum s-a întâmplat în mai toate țările dezvoltate din Europa, cu toate că au existat ceva preocupări în acest sens în anii 60-70. Rezultatul evident astăzi este că pentru întreg teritoriul României nu există date coerente asupra evoluției

principalelor caracteristici ale câmpului geomagnetic terestru, în contrast destul de evident cu țările învecinate. Înființarea la Alba Iulia a unui modern laborator de datare precum și realizarea unor legături cu specialiștii străini prin programe comune de cercetare și pregătire sunt două obiective realizate, al treilea și cel mai important fiind culegerea de date. România beneficiază de un important patrimoniu cultural care, în contextul dezvoltării economice accelerate de astăzi, este intens investigat prin intermediul a numeroase săpături preventive, de salvare și nu în ultimul rând sistematice. Această situație nu poate decât să ajute demersurile noastre de culegere de date însă doar dacă arheologii sunt corect și bine informați cu privire la existența acestui proiect și asupra cerințelor concrete ale acestei metode de datare în privința structurilor arse din care pot fi prelevate probe. Subiectul acestui articol este de a defini concret, fără a intra în detalii de metodă și tehnici, tocmai acele caracteristici minim necesare pentru a se realiza o prelevare de date cu succes. Se face și pe această cale apel la toți arheologii care descoperă astfel de structuri în a contacta personalul laboratorului din Alba Iulia în vederea prelevării de probe ori de câte ori este cazul. În condiții ideale, această analiză, în prezent gratuită ca urmare a finanțării din alte surse (un proiect CNCSIS pe trei ani), se poate finaliza, în folosul arheologului, chiar și cu o datare a respectivei structuri, utilizând curbele de calibrare deja realizate ale Ungariei și Bulgariei. Este esențial însă să se colecteze cât mai multe astfel de date pentru a se realiza o curbă de calibrare proprie, adecvată teritoriului României, oferind astfel șansa unor datări mult mai precise în viitor.

Cuvinte cheie: datare științifică; săpături arheologice; curba de calibrare; termoremanență; ardere (eveniment)

Cosmin Popa-Gorjanu, *Landmarks in the historiography of the european medieval nobility*

Abstract: This article aims to survey the broad field of medieval nobility for the Romanian public by identifying and briefly describing the "most significant" works that have contributed to the development of this topic. The historiography of medieval nobility has developed differently, both in chronological and geographical, and thematic terms. The topic is subdivided in several subjects: Merovingian aristocracy (Gallo-Roman and Frankish); aristocracy during the Carolingian Empire; nobility in the post-Carolingian epoch; the crisis of the year 1000 and the ensuing developments in the eleventh and twelfth centuries; late medieval western nobilities; development of nobilities in Central and East Central Europe in the Christian monarchies; rise of the nobility estate. The investigations of Merovingian, Carolingian or post-Carolingian nobility have produced a highly complex and valuable scholarly literature in a great number of monographs, collective volumes, individual studies, books, etc. Several of these works, such as the recent synthesis of Chris Wickham, the volume published by Fredric Cheyette in 1967, or that by Timothy Reuter in 1978, have played an important role in focusing the attention of research on certain topics. Then, the problem of the crisis or mutation of the year 1000, was one of the crucial topics which stimulated the research of nobility and related aspects of a broad number

of medievalists. For the later period, that from the eleventh century onwards, one can noticed the gradual, but nevertheless thin, presence of Central and East-Central European nobilities in the international scholarly literature.

Key words: historiography; medieval nobility; Merovingian aristocracy; Carolingian/post-Carolingian nobility; late medieval western nobilities

Translated by author

Eva Mârza, Andreea Mârza, *Transylvania in the works of slovakian polyhistor Mathias Bel (1684-1749)*

Abstract: Slovakian Polyhistor Mathias Bel (1684-1749) had a lot of studies of historiography at his disposal, and they might be diversified through further research within the Romanian context, too, as it has already been proved by the research made in the past. He is the author of many works of history and geography, such as: *Hungariae Antiquae et Novae Prodromus* (1723), *Adparatus ad Historiam Hungariae* (1735-1746), *Notitia Hungariae Novae Historico-Geographica* (1735-1742). Different editions of his works may be found in various documentary libraries of Transylvania. The Slovakian and Magyar historiography dedicated to him a large number of works, articles and papers in the last centuries and previous decades. There will be 425 years since Mathias Bel's birth and 260 years after his death in 2009. This is the reason why he deserves documentary attention within the context of the Romanian and Transylvanian historiography, too, on the line of several cross-cultural and cross-political interferences registered between the Transylvanian Romanians and Slovaks during the Age of Enlightenment and Pre-Enlightenment, but partially studied.

Key words: historiography; geography; the 18th century; Slovakia; Hungary; Romania

Tudor Roşu, A. T. Laurian: *publisher and editor of Magazin Istoric Pentru Dacia (Historical Magazine For Dacia)*

Abstract: A.T. Laurian's historical synthesis is the expression of his polyvalent experience. In his vision, history is meant to offer to the national credo the background that is necessary for its being, to reshape the collective mind, and create a new pattern of the national identity. History therefore has to be proved scientifically. *Magazin istoric pentru Dacia* is a very good model for the new way of tackling history. The number of its printed copies was high enough for that epoch, and it was widespread enough throughout the entire territory of Romania. It is a modern result that emphasizes precise accumulations at epistemological and methodological level, a tendency towards novelty, and a straightening towards the reader.

The present study has in view the circumstances that made the editing of the *Magazine* possible in the years that preceded the Revolution of 1848. An important element is represented by the contribution that Laurian brought to this historical review by comparison with the role played by his associate, Nicolae Bălcescu. The

discussion is necessary because ulterior exegesis did Laurian an injustice because of Bălcescu's after-fame. Another part of the study examines the content of *Magazine's* programme, and displays its modern characteristic. The structure of the periodical - as the "Prospectus" reveals it - displays Laurian and Bălcescu's epistemological vision upon history. The *Magazine* also served as model for the alphabetic transition that represented the main concern of Laurian's cultural intercessions. A.T. Laurian published in *Magazin istoric pentru Dacia* new documents, articles, and historical synthesis with a view to popularizing the historical information, scientific studies, reviews, reading notes, announcements, etc. Laurian is considered the founder of epigraphy because of his work. In addition, mention should be made about his general interest in the auxiliary sciences and ancient history. The *Magazine* enjoyed a widespread diffusion and a great impact. It was something that Laurian constantly wanted to achieve, and the public audience is one of the advantages that he gained in comparison with his predecessors.

Keywords: historical review; the middle of 19th century; history; publication; articles; publisher

Dan Mircea Mazălu, *Aspects of Alexandru Ioan Cuza's reign in the works written by historian Alexandru Lapedatu*

Abstract: Historian Alexandru Lapedatu took a very special interest in the personality and epoch of the first voivode of the United Principalities of Romania, Alexandru Ioan Cuza. They became the master's preferred research subjects, especially towards the end of his scientific career. Lapedatu therefore presented a series of studies upon Cuza's life and reign during the debates of the Romanian Academy that were held between 1930 and 1946. The historian considered these works stages for the carrying out of a large-dimension synthesis that he intended to write. The abovementioned studies represented a compulsory bibliographic content for the study of the period of Romanians' history between 1859 and 1866 by tackling various aspects of Cuza's reign: Great Powers intervention in the political life of the young Romanian state, the Reform policy carried out by Cuza, the reasons for Barbu Catargiu's assassination, the support offered to Serbians', Poles' and Magyars' fight, the controversy about the forced abdication etc. The studies also presented other first-rank personalities of the epoch in parallels. They were political people who made possible both the recognition of the Romanian ruler's double election by the Great Powers, and the series of reforms that propelled the new state among the realities of the modern world in the middle of the 19th century: Mihail Kogălniceanu, Barbu Catargiu, Costache Negri etc. Historian Alexandru Lapedatu's main project was that of carrying out an ample monograph about Cuza's reign since he was attracted by his personality and the special significance of his reign upon the formation process of the Romanian nation and modern Romania. The ill-fated history of the 5th decade of the last century and particularly the Romanian state entrance into the Soviet influence area represented an obstacle against the setting into practice of this important

historiographical project. The historian went under unjust censorship for this reason, and paid with his life and liberty for his options later on.

Key words: Alexandru Lapedatu; Alexandru Ioan Cuza; historiography; political reforms; the United Principalities of Romania.

Iacob Mârza, *Post-december historiographical recovery. Greek-catholic priest and historian Zenovie Pâclișanu (1886-1957)*

Abstract: The approach of the history of reality in the case of Romanians was a real effort of exorcization for Zenovie Pâclișanu in the sense of cultural and political field reclamation. Zenovie Pâclișanu (1886-1957) was a Greek-Catholic priest, historian, high official and diplomat. He became doctor in the History of Church at *Alma Mater Viennensis* (1916), and was corresponding member of the Romanian Academy (since 1919). He published the monumental work *Istoria Bisericii Române Unite* (the 5th decade of the 20th century) that represents a real challenge of the contemporary historical discourse. He is considered the representative of the “creative localism” of the interwar Romanian historiography with good reason, if we think about his epoch-making series of books that are part of the national historiography: *Biserica și românismul. Studiu istoric*. Cluj: Carmen, 1910; *Luptele politice ale Românilor ardeleni din anii 1790-1792. Studiu istoric cu anexe documentare*, Bucharest: Cultura națională, 1923; *Corespondența din exil a episcopului Inochentie Micu Klein, 1746-1768*, Bucharest: Cultura națională, 1924 etc. It is natural to say that we cannot omit dozens of articles, papers, studies, reading notes, reports etc. where he consciously tackled the history of the Transylvanian Romanians during the age of Reform and Counter-Reformation, the stages and moments of the religious Union of a part of the Transylvanian Romanians with the Church of Rome, and different aspects of the Transylvanian Romanians’ national fight with a view to maintaining the national being during the days of the Austro-Hungarian Dualism etc. with an obsessive endeavour. Unfortunately, he ended his life tragically and unjustly together with other representatives of the Romanian elites in the communist prison (the 6th decade of the last century) as a particular reflection of the painful syntagm “the pay and reward of history”.

The author of the research paper turns to good account some of the results of the effort made in order to scientifically recover the work of the abovementioned servant of Goddess Clio, starting from some co-ordinates and research programmes traced back in the post-December Romanian historical discourse. A series of articles, papers, studies, and reading notes etc. that tackle aspects of historian’s life, activity and written work from the point of view of certain studies of historiography and historiographical re-evaluation are mentioned because of their significance for the abovementioned inquiry, problems and chronology (Octavian Bârlea, Anca Câmpian, Remus Câmpeanu, Ovidiu Ghitta, Adela Herban, Andreea Mârza, Iacob Mârza, Anton Moisin, Camil Mureșanu, Fănică Niță, Mircea Popa, Claudiu Secașiu, Ernst Chr. Suttner, a.s.o.). The modality of carrying out present editions on the model of

Zenovie Pâclișanu's papers is not overlooked as well: *Biserica și românismul. Studiu istoric, and Istoria Bisericii Române Unite*.

Key words: the fall of the Wall; historiography; Greek Catholic Church; turning to account; contemporary historical discourse

Liviu Zgârciu, Ioachim Crăciun and the militant activity of the interwar historiography of Cluj

Abstract: The act that took place on the 1st of December 1918 marked the beginning of a period of maximum prosperity of the Romanian culture that was – unfortunately – suddenly interrupted by the Communist regime and never experienced again. History had given political satisfaction to the Romanian people after a long period of expectations and extraordinary sacrifice. This meant the liberation out of the reunion political obsession, as far as the interwar generation of intellectuals is concerned, but also the act of addressing new questions about the way in which the man of culture was about to serve the interests of the Romanian nation starting with this moment. The problem of the legitimation of these decisions was constantly raised for discussion on the background of the post-war changes which placed Romania on the side of the countries that were favoured by the provisions of the peace treaties signed in Paris. Within this context, the historian was aware about the fact that his role was not completely played up to the 1st of December 1918. It went on and continued to support the state and the society. The historian provided them with arguments that were useful from a political point of view, such as those arguments similar with the “historical right” as means of supporting the national interests.

This attitude was characteristic to all historians of Cluj, no matter if they were part of “the first line” of the Romanian historiography represented by Ioan Lupaș or Alexandru Lapedatu, or the second one. Ioachim Crăciun was part of the second category, and his contribution to the Romanian historiography is hardly known and analysed nowadays mainly because he distinguished himself especially in the field of bibliology. Nevertheless, Ioachim Crăciun's historical activity cannot be neglected because most of his works were carried out during the interwar period; they focused on themes of political, cultural and ecclesiastical history, and represented a significant contribution brought to the Romanian historiography. Most of his historiographical concerns focused on the intra-Carpathian province, because - just like the other historians of Cluj, he considered the study of the history of Transylvania a fundamental issue.

Historiography underwent just a shifting or a transfer process from the area of the extremely militant attitude placed into the service of the political unity towards areas into which the militant spirit is more subtle. It is the reason why several studies written by Ioachim Crăciun employed this type of approach after the year 1918. His forms of militant attitude are directly connected with the school of Cluj where he came from. Cluj was the place where the militant attitude was mostly employed as consequence of both the Transylvanian realities marked by ethnical and religious diversity and the still vivid memories of those Transylvanian historians who became

conversant with the school policy of Magyarization before 1918. The militant attitude of the Transylvanian historiography and, implicitly, that promoted by Ioachim Crăciun in the interwar period, should also be analysed in direct connection with the course of the international political events. The treaties that were signed in Paris in the end of the First World War doubled the size of the Romanian territory on the account of the losses that were suffered by its neighbouring states: Bulgaria, Soviet Russia, and especially Hungary. This is the reason why the militant attitude in the Romanian historians' writings was very subtle in the beginning, but the aggressiveness of the historical discourse gradually advanced at the same time with the direct threat exerted by the international events upon the state union that was carried out in 1918.

Key words: the Great Union; December 1, 1918; Transylvania; the historical right; nationalism; revisionism; the interwar historiography.

Peter Chrastina, *Historical geography in the 21st century*

Abstract: Historical geography as part of the spectrum of auxiliary historic disciplines plays an indispensable role in the study of state, changes, and development of a specific region in the past, along with causes of such changes, their consequences, and the related laws. It reconstructs the already-extinct medieval and modern-age landscape (region), considering the mutual relationship between man and nature.

Through its natural (geoecological) parameters (limits), landscape influences the activities and behavior of human individuals/society within a given time and space. Historic and geographical aspects suggest we need to know which human activities have always been present in the landscape and how they were, and still are, impacting the studied structure. It is only natural that such perceived analysis of historic (or pre-historic) landscape calls not only for the application of "classic" methods (e.g. historic, cartographic methods), but also for approaches of the related disciplines. (geoecology, cultural geography, landscape archaeology, etc.) In fact, their combination provides a more complex view on the assessment of historic-geographical systems and their development, as well as social and natural *driving forces* behind the society-environment development trends or, more exactly, *human-landscape (space)-culture-time* relationship.

Such designed platform helps to form an environmental-cultural-geographical strategy of historical geography, which we refer to as post-positivistic to post-modern historical geography. This article offers a closer perspective on some dimensions of the studied discipline; it outlines selected dimensions of the interdisciplinary approaches within the context of three basic historical geography strategies that have profiled themselves over the last decades.

Key words: historical geography; geoecology; cultural geography; landscape archaeology

Octavian Tătar, *The nobiliary family of Geoagiu de Sus (Gyogh) during the 13th century*

Abstract: The second half of the 13th century was a favourable period of time for the setting up and affirmation of the nobility in Transylvania. The social and political ascent of the main nobiliary families of Transylvania mostly depended upon the attitude of Prince Stephen of Hungary, especially after the moment when he got the title of “Duke of Transylvania” (1257). Duke Stephen wanted to attract the nobility within the Carpathian arch to his side since he was engaged in military actions meant to defend Transylvania in face of the Mongol attacks and the bitter confrontation for power with his father, King Béla IV. The family of Geoagiu de Sus (*Gyogh*) of Alba County was one of the nobiliary families who had a spectacular ascent during these years. The name of this family is related to the estate that was situated in that part of Alba County that we call today Geoagiu de Sus.

It is not known how the first representatives of this family gained their positions as noblemen. If it is to take the specific circumstances of Alba Iulia of that time into account – it was the Episcopal and, indirectly, political centre of Transylvania “comitatense” – close to which this nobiliary family had most of its lands, it is possible that the noblemen of Geoagiu de Sus came from the administrative staff of the royal estate of Alba. The first attestation of a member of a family with nobiliary position dates back from 1264. It was the year when Andrei of Geoagiu de Sus received three important estates as donation from Duke Stephen: *Germand*, *Polcholka* and *Cupud*. They were all situated in Alba County. The donation document shows that Andrei of Geoagiu de Sus held the title of *comes*. This aspect emphasizes the significant position he held within the political elite of Alba County. The family of Geoagiu de Sus gained ample royal donations in a short period of time. They were all fields in the middle Mureş area, between Teiuş and Aiud, in Alba County. The name of this family is also linked to the building up of a stone fortress established on the Eastern edge of Geoagiu de Sus. We do not have precise data about the moment of its building.

The sons of Andrei of Geoagiu de Sus, Andrei and Nicolae were the most active men of the second generation of the family. Their attachment and loyalty towards king Ladislau IV promoted them to political ascension. Andrei (II) of Geoagiu de Sus became vice-voivode of Transylvania in the years 1290-1292, and Nicolae of Geoagiu de Sus became *comes*. The family estate underwent a process of continuous extension, and it comprised at least the following lands as they appeared in the documents of the time in the end of the century: *Gyogh*, *Gomord*, *Germand*, *Polcholka*, *Cupud*, *Ratka*, *Kend*, *Tynod*, *Zwke mand*, *Panad*, *Panka*, *Merkoknaya*. As far as the social position of the family is concerned, it was said that it was part of the top ten nobiliary families of Transylvania in the end of the 13th century. The members of the family of Geoagiu de Sus were capable of preserving the estate during the years of the political crisis between the 13th and 14th centuries by means of the balanced policy they promoted.

Key words: Transylvania; the 13th century; nobility; Andrei; Geoagiu de Sus

Cornelia Popa-Gorjanu, *Nicolaus Olahus' relationships with Erasmus of Rotterdam*

Abstract: This article explores the circumstances and the motivations behind the connections between the Romanian Humanist, Nicolaus Olahus, secretary of Queen Mary of Hungary with Erasmus of Rotterdam. The friendship between Olahus and Erasmus is often mentioned in the Romanian historiography, but a detailed analysis of the relationship between these two intellectuals was needed. The examination of the primary sources (30 letters, written in 1530-34, are extant) and of the recent scholarly literature has allowed the following conclusions. The connections between Olahus and Erasmus were preceded by earlier attempts of attracting the Dutch humanist in the circle of Queen Mary of Hungary. As the historiography concerned with the Queen Mary's life and politics has pointed out, Erasmus and his works were discussed and admired at Buda, in the presence or by persons attached to the royal household. Before Olahus started to write to Erasmus, a previous counselor of the widow queen, Joannes Henckel, tried to attract him in the circle of the queen. Moreover, the invitations to join the household of the queen before and during the Diet of Augsburg, and later, while the queen was regent of the Low Countries, strengthen the conclusion that behind Olahus' contacts with Erasmus were the interests of Queen Mary. There is a genuine admiration and sincere appreciation in the letters of Olahus, who did his best to entice Erasmus to return in his *patria*. However, his rhetoric skills and even political influence were not sufficient to convince Erasmus to accept the protection of the queen's household. Olahus was valuable for Erasmus due to his influential position, which allowed him to wield some favors for his protégés. Olahus in return benefitted from the recognition and honor of becoming one of the friends of the great humanist.

Keywords: Nicolaus Olahus; Erasmus of Rotterdam; humanism; Mary of Hungary; friendship

Translated by Cosmin Popa-Gorjanu

Ana Dumitran, Elena-Daniela Cucui, Saveta-Florica Pop, *Nistor Dascălul: contributions to the biography of a painter from the first half of the 18th century*

Abstract: Nistor, a painter from the first half of the 18th century, was only known from his signature, shared with the painter Popa Ivan from Rășinari, with whom he had worked and painted, in 1720 the icons from Certege (Alba county) and in 1724 and 1758, the fresco of the church from Geoagiu de Sus and Rășinari.

The present thesis tries to shed some light on the stylistic individuality of the painter, focusing on two signed icons (Pleașa, 1730 and Șpring, 1733, both in Alba county). These two helped us to attribute to Nistor some other icons: one from Șpring, a group of three icons of iconostasis from Sânpetru de Câmpie (Mureș county), two imperial icons of unknown origin, kept in the collection of the

Metropolitan Church from Sibiu, two icons from Mogoș-Miclești (Alba county), two icons from Ohaba Streiului (Hunedoara county; these are considered the works of Popa Ivan from Rasinari) and two icons from Cuștelnic (earlier attributed to Toader the Painter).

As far as his biography is concerned, the icon from Pleșa and its inscription helped us establish that Nistor was the son of a certain Nicola, possibly identified with the painter Nicola from Brâncoveni. The latter, together with Preda and Efrem, were the creators of the fresco found in the infirmary from Hurez monastery, built in 1699. Probably, at one point, together with another painter, possibly Iosif Ieromonahul, whose works resemble those of Nistor, the latter reached Transylvania, settling at Rășinari and building a small team with Popa Ivan. In 1758 he recommends himself as Nistor Dascălul the Elder. This means that he had taken the arts of teaching others the mysteries of painting and that he was aged. Among his apprentices, whom he taught together with Popa Ivan, we have to mention Iacov and Stan, sons of the priest Radu from Rășinari, both predestined to exceptional artistic careers.

Key words: 18th century; icon; painter; stylistic individuality

Translated by Codruța Rusu

Mircea Baron, *Social and economic connections between Hațeg country and Jiu Valley in the beginning of the modern age. The contribution brought to the process of populating the Jiu Valley and the setting up of the settlement system of this area*

Abstract: Jiu Valley and Hațeg Country are two of the depressions of the Southern part of Transylvania close to one another and very similar from the geological point of view. A lasting social and economic bond will be the result of this reality. We undertake to emphasize through the present study the fact that there are elements of common history of the two regions, and the nobles of Hațeg Country owned lands in Jiu Valley starting with the 15th century and up to the beginning of the Modern Age. This aspect will favour the first stage of the process of population in Jiu Valley in the 16th-18th centuries, and determine the increase in the number of population and the forming of most of the present-day existing settlements.

Key words: Hațeg Country; Jiu Valley; population; economy; society