

**HISTORY AND
CULTURE:
ESSAYS ON THE
EUROPEAN PAST**

AT. IN. E. R.



Athens Institute for Education and Research

EDITED BY:

NICHOLAS C. J. PAPPAS

**ATHENS INSTITUTE
FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**

2012

History and Culture: Essays on the European Past

**Edited by
Nicholas C. J. Pappas**

**Athens Institute for Education and Research
2012**

First Published in Athens, Greece by the
Athens Institute for Education and Research.

ISBN: 978-960-9549-40-0

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Printed and bound in Athens, Greece by ATINER

8 Valaoritou Street, Kolonaki

10671 Athens, Greece

www.atiner.gr

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History and Culture: Essays on the European Past

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PREFACE

GREGORY T. PAPANIKOS, PRESIDENT
ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

It is with a great deal of pride and relief that we are renewing publications of the Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER) in the field of historical studies. After lacuna of three years, we have resumed our schedule of history publications with a collection of essays from past conferences that deal mostly with the cultural history of Europe. The shift of the annual history conference from December to July and the growth of publication needs in Education and Mediterranean studies led to delays in our history publication schedule. Volumes on Ancient history, European history, World history are forthcoming. Moreover, we are moving in the direction of more thematic volumes and as such, the referee and editing process may take longer than in the past. Nevertheless, those who need to have their presentations and papers cited sooner may choose to have them published online in our Conference Publication Series. The series includes only the papers submitted for publication after they were presented at one of the conferences organized by our Institute every year. The papers published in the series have not been refereed and are published as they were submitted by the author. The series serves two purposes. First, we want to disseminate the information as fast as possible. Second, by doing so, the authors can receive comments useful in revising their papers before they are considered for publication in one of ATINER's books, following our standard procedures of a blind review.

We at the Athens Institute consider history essential to knowledge and understanding in the social sciences, education, the media, and the humanities. Consciously and unconsciously we scholars in other disciplines often use past experiences as frames of reference for the study of current and future trends in our investigations of state, society, economy and culture. Historians dare to continue the research of past developments, not only recording events and trends, but also interpreting and reinterpreting them using both traditional and innovative methodologies. Good historians, like good social scientists, conduct their research in the philosophical search for the truth. While the passage of time and the accumulation of events often make this search elusive, historians nevertheless persevere in asking basic questions such as: What really happened? What significance did it have? How should we view the past?

In pursuing these and other questions in studying the broad flows or narrow rivulets of history, historians are conducting an important service not only to other scholars but also to humankind in general. They are providing us with a collective memory. Just as an individual who loses his memory is lost, so too communities, societies, nations, and humankind would be lost without a

memory; that is, a collective view of the past, which historians provide. All knowledge can be used for good or ill. History, at its worst, can be misused to whip up national, class or ethnic animosities, to foster chauvinism and racism, or to further specific ideologies. At its best, however, history can serve as both an unbiased tapestry of the past, in which we can view the successes and failures of our ancestors and thus gain an understanding of our present condition. Most historians do not believe that their discipline can be used to make specific decisions or policies for the present or future. Instead, they believe that history provides broad counsel on the past experiences of human states, societies, economies and cultures that can be applied in the present only with the understanding of human behaviour. The past cannot be reduced down to formulae or maxims.

The scholars who have presented papers at these conferences and have contributed essays to this volume provide us with a multifaceted mosaic of the history of this, the European continent. They include studies of culture such as architecture, art, athletics, dance, literature, and philosophy. They also include investigations into the political, social and economic events that meld with the cultural trends of the European past.

In organizing this collection of historical studies, the Athens Institute for Education and Research had the help of groups and individuals. As President of the institute, I wish to thank the regular and volunteer staff of the Athens Institute for Education and Research for their hours of hard work in the preparation, the implementation, and the subsequent work of our historical conferences and publication program. Finally, I would like to thank Professor Nicholas Pappas, for agreeing to edit and prepare this present volume for publication.

Gregory T. Papanikos
Athens, Greece
July 2012

INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

NICHOLAS C. J. PAPPAS

ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

It is with great pleasure that the Athens Institute for Education and Research is issuing a volume of collected essays on the history and culture of Europe. They represent efforts of scholars from over a dozen different countries, including Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, France, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States. It is interesting to note that a significant number of these authors are studying or have studied, as well as teach and research in countries outside of their homelands. This may be a sign, not only of the mobility and internationalization of academics today, but perhaps of a slow but perceptible move toward having a broader outlook toward a Europe and a World beyond the confines of particular country or nation.

There are some essays in this tome that deal chiefly with political, social and economic history. Nevertheless, most of our offerings address aspects of cultural history either wholly or partially. Hence we have entitled this volume *History and Culture*.

In survey courses in European and World History, this editor divides the study of history for students into four broad areas of inquiry: economic, social, political, and cultural history. This basic division may give you a clue into this editor's thinking on history and culture. Economic history studies how humans have made a living, from the development of agriculture and livestock breeding in Neolithic times through the growth of crafts, commerce, industry and finance up to our own times. Social History investigates how humans have organized themselves by gender, age and class into nuclear families, extended families, clans and tribes both before and subsequent to the establishment of political or state systems. When the economies and societies become too complex to organize by kinship and custom, especially with the growth of centres of trade and crafts, states and political systems are formed. Political history studies the nature and evolution of political systems. Political history investigates past types of government, their constitutions, branches and functions. Within political history are many subfields, including constitutional, legal, diplomatic, and military history. Finally, cultural history researches what humans have valued in the past. In pursuit of cultural history, one investigates whatever has made economic, social, and political lives enduring and sometimes enjoyable, if not meaningful. Areas of cultural history include the study of religion, philosophy, education, athletics, literature, music, theatre, art, architecture of the past.

None of these four basic areas of historical inquiry are pursued in an isolated vacuum. They influence and are influenced by the other three broad

fields of historical study. If, so example a business historian researches and writes a study of a past economic enterprise, the scholar has to look at how the enterprise fit into the political, social and cultural milieu of the era. The researcher has to see how the enterprise interacted with its employees, which may fit into labour history, a branch of social history. Investigation of relations with government, either in the business' legal proceedings in courts, its payment of taxes, or its influencing policy, could be considered part of political history. Finally the study the past use of methods of marketing and sale of goods through advertising, branding and sponsoring may include aspects of cultural history. Therefore even essays that concentrate on economic, social and political history may include elements of cultural history. Readers will find in this year's volume a preponderance of essays dealing with the culture of the past, in the broad definition given above.

The editor can say that the closest thread uniting this potpourri of essays is that each author indulges in aspects of culture in their pieces, most notably those essays in sections one, two, four, five, and six, where one finds studies on architecture, art, dance, literature, philosophy, psychology, religion, and other themes. Even those offerings that deal with what the general public perceives as history, politics, diplomacy, and the military, inject elements of culture. For example, in his study of the Greek national division and disaster, George Kaloudis quotes a Turkish poem that eloquently evokes the anguish of being a refugee. Another example is diplomatic historian, Glenn Leonard, who discusses an institutional 'culture' within the British Foreign office that prevented it from innovative policies in the Balkans. This collection by contributors from different countries, backgrounds, and ranks can aptly have the title, *History and Culture*, because culture is area of inquiry in history, while the study of history is a cultural endeavour. Historians may be considered negatively as the dilettantes or positively as the renaissance people of academia, since they study all aspects of the human experience as long as they fit somewhere between the most remote and most recent past. In their quest for understanding the past, historians gather material, written, audio-visual, and digital, as evidence for the smallest or the broadest aspect of the past. They appropriate, indeed loot from other disciplines, in order to pursue their investigations. Many of them come from other fields of expertise and pursue historical investigation to satisfy the need to understand the origins and past developments of their own fields and beyond. One cannot and must not limit historical studies to History Departments at Universities. Anyone who is well-read and is willing to learn and endure the discipline and methodology of researching and writing history has the right to be called a historian. The first great historians, Thucydides and Herodotus did not hold Ph.D.'s in history. Indeed, most historians up to the 18th century did not have to specialize in the study of the past at higher schools of learning. The merit and quality of their research and writing were judged by the educated public at large.

Our first section of essay looks into the cultural heritage of Europe from the middle ages to the 16th century with four diverse studies. It begins with an thoughtful investigation by S. Hendrix on the views of the great scholastic

theologian, Thomas Aquinas, on astrology and whether it can fit into the Christian view of free will, destiny and salvation. This in turn is followed by L. Crombie's fascinating study of crossbow festivals and competitions in 14th and 15th century and their role in urban culture and society. The third offering is an exposition of the pioneering role played by Benedikt Kotruljević of Dubrovnik in both the development of financial account methods and commercial ethics by Professors L. Cerović, Đ. Jurić, and S. Mudrić. The fourth and final contribution is A. Georgoulas' insightful examination into the art of Rubens and the political meaning of his use of Greek and Roman legends in his paintings.

Part two consists of a group of essays that inquire into the culture of the 18th and 19th centuries. In the first, J. Burson delves convincingly into the influence of the Jesuit Theological Enlightenment, and particularly Fr. Claude Buffier's writings, upon the French *philosophes* and the Scottish common sense philosophers. The next offering is F. Van Keuren's interesting exploration of exactly how and why the noted neo-Classicist Thomas Hope appropriated illustrations from contemporary books to depict ancient Greek figures in his album, *Costume of the Ancients*. The ensuing essay is a cogent study of 19th century European attitudes of obesity and how they reflect their outlooks on race, ethnicity and culture. E. A. Şarлак concludes this section with her vivid description of the 19th century renaissance in architecture in Istanbul that culminated in the construction of one of the largest and most unique wood structures in the world, now threatened by abandonment and neglect.

The third section focuses on the role of politics and culture on the development of Croatian national identity and nationalism. In the first of these two essays on nationalism, M. Topić observes and comments the role of three early modern harbingers of modern Croatian identity, the Dalmatians Vinko Pribojević, Mavro Orbini and Pavao Ritter Vitezović. Ž. Holjevac concludes this part with a discussion of the overlooked role of the Unionist party in the 19th century, which favoured confederation of Hungarians and Croats, in the formation of modern Croatian nationalism.

The fourth section deals with historical themes in Britain and Ireland, most dealing with aspects of culture. D. Albano concentrates on violence at funerals in 19th Century Dublin and shows that it was caused by confessional rivalry, by customs and superstitions, as well as by an unseemly aspect of medical research of the era, grave robbing. Next G. Spur examines the growth of athletic recreation and 'muscular Christianity' in the YMCA and how it clashed with more traditional forms of evangelism and mission in Great Britain. Thirdly, C. Kinealy and D. Quest present an account of the arduous laying of the Trans-Atlantic cable in the mid-19th century and the role of Ireland as the nerve-centre of the first long-range communication network in the world. In the final essay of part four, D. Carpenter scrutinizes the operation of Lunatic Asylums in three localities in England and shatters stereotypes by showing that they were run with a good deal of order, cleanliness and humanity.

Two essays on 19th and 20th century European historiography of the Middle Ages make up the fifth part of this collection. M. Vicinus begins with a vivid description of how the medieval past, both in academia and popular culture was used to bolster and enhance the rival nationalisms and imperialisms of England and France in the late 19th century, with the exception of James Darmesteter and A. Mary. F. Robinson, a French-Jewish scholar and his English wife, who challenged the dominant nationalist paradigm. L. Field concludes this section with a study of three German scholars, Carl Schmitt, Erik Peterson, and Ernst Kantorowicz, who in their friendship, estrangement, rivalry and political division over Nazism, developed concepts of medieval kingship that intertwined monotheism and monarchy into a 'political theology'.

The last two parts of the collection, consisting of nearly half of the essays, deal with the last century, roughly from the eve of the First World War to our own time. This sixth section deals with aspects of culture over that century. It begins with a study by S. Göldere on the impact of German *Tanztheater* on the development of modern dance. J Nelis follows with his incisive research into the appropriation of the Roman past by the Italian Fascist regime in literature, art, and especially architecture. In another essay on the state and culture in the 20th century, M. Pedreirinho investigates how the authoritarian 'Estado Novo' government managed the architectural heritage of Portugal for over forty years (1932-1974). These two essays on the State and culture in architecture are followed by two that deal with the individual and the state in literature. T.L. Lewis examines British scientists' attitudes regarding the Anglo-American project to develop an atomic bomb during World War II as reflected in the fiction of C. P. Snow, while F. A. Becker looks into the impact of the obscenity trials of *Cain's Book* by Alexander Trocchi upon both the counterculture and the establishment. P. von Bawey follows these with an exploration of the most important graffiti in the 20th century—the art produced on the Berlin Wall during the years 1961 to 1989, covering the fate of the wall and its art in the post-Cold War era. Finally we have a probing analysis by J. Pelzer of the spate of German films on Hitler and the Nazis that were released in the 2005-2006, concentrating on the biggest in cost and box office revenues, *The Downfall*.

The final group of essays in this tome deal with the problems of war and peace in Europe in the last hundred years. The first two cover aspects of politics, war, and diplomacy, while the remainder deal with the consequences of war in the previous century. In the first essay, G Kaloudis considers the tumultuous decade 1912-1922, when Greece doubled in size, suffered a national schism over entry into World War I, and was enticed by the Sirens of irridenta and imperialism into a disastrous war which ended with the displacement of over 2 million refugees among Greeks and Turks. G. Leonard follows with a review of how and why the British Foreign Office failed to prevent the gravitation of Bulgaria toward the Axis Powers in the 1930's, citing as factors the Office's own inertia and inflexibility.

After these two essays, the others look at the effects of war and the attempts to alleviate them by reactive and proactive measures. The study of H. Genizi investigates the role of the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) in

relief efforts before, during and after World War II, looking also into the tensions that were created by the AFCS' 'Quaker way of relief' and the needs of allied authorities. The subsequent essay by A. Davis surveys how the experience of World War II, with its evacuation and displacement of children and the division of families in Great Britain, influenced the field of child psychology in Great Britain. In another example of proactive efforts, K. Midtgaard analyzes the emergence of Denmark from a latecomer to a frontrunner in European development aid, with a special emphasis on the political issue of linking developmental aid to human rights. In the final offering in this volume, S. Bajramović Jusufbegović conducts a trenchant enquiry into whether the efforts of international aid NGOs, such as the Swedish *Kvinna till Kvinna* in post-war Bosnia-Herzegovina ought to be examined through the lens of post-modern and post-colonialist criticism.

In assembling a volume of essays with such variety, the editor owes a debt of gratitude to a number of people. First and foremost, we would like to thank the members of the anonymous members of the institute that helped me in the refereeing and reviewing of the essays. They conducted their evaluations of the essays submitted to this volume with both professionalism and humanity.

I would also like to thank the authors of each of the studies in this volume for submitting their papers to the editing process and for their patience in dealing with this process, which was long overdue. I also wish to express my appreciation to Sam Houston State University for allowing me a flexible summer schedule to pursue projects such as this. Thanks also go to my wife, Lee, and daughter, Zoe, for patiently putting up with my work hours and habits. Finally we wish to thank the staff of the Athens Institute for Education and Research for all of their help in developing this volume, especially Afrodete Papanikos, publication coordinator, and Gregory Papanikos, the director of the Institute, for their patience, confidence, and encouragement.

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July 2012