

HISTORY

THE BANAT REGION AS REFLECTED IN THE MIRROR OF THE CHANGING ECCLESIASTIC NETWORK

Beatrix Romhányi

Abstract. The research of the Banat region known in the history of medieval Hungary as Temesköz is difficult because its medieval charters, settlement network and architectural memories have largely disappeared, and post-Ottoman settlements have covered the previous layers not only physically, but in terms of historical memory as well. In addition, the storms of the twentieth century did not favour the research of this region. Some of the medieval and modern events in the region's history also suggest that some of its parts have been difficult to populate at times. The present paper aims at contributing to detect the development of the region by examining a relatively well-known data group, the network of the church institutions. Based on the analysis of the monastic and parish networks, the inhabited areas of the Banat changed several times during the Middle Ages. Only the coastal strip of the Mureş/Maros, parts of the transport corridor between Arad and Haram and the narrower area of the Tisza and Danube were inhabited permanently. The western part of the region had a much weaker population than the east, and the southwestern part between the Tisza and Deliblato Sands was almost uninhabited. Based on the evolution of the monastic network, the sustaining capacity of the area reached its peak twice during the Middle Ages: first just before the Mongol invasion and secondly around 1400. Compared to the monastic network of other regions of the country, the number of monasteries was clearly lower than the national average. It could never reach the proportion of fourteenth-century parishes, even in pre-Ottoman peacetime periods. The reason for this can be found in economic factors related to the natural environment.

DESIGNATING THE ARCHDEACONS OF HUNEDOARA IN THE FIRST PART OF THE 16TH CENTURY. A CASE-STUDY

Mihai Kovács

Abstract. This paper aims to discuss the motives behind the dismissal and resettlement of Wolfgang Buzlai as archdeacon of Hunedoara, starting from a document issued in 1519 by the bishop of Transylvania, Franciscus Várdai. The initial dismissal of Buzlai was immediately followed by the appointment of the famous humanist Stephanus Taurinus. Thus, the question arises, whether the appointment of Stephanus Taurinus should be seen as part of a conscious effort to establish a humanist circle in Alba Iulia.

THEOLOGICAL OPTIONS AND POLITICAL LIKES IN TRANSYLVANIA IN THE 16TH CENTURY: THE CASE OF ANTITRINITARIANS

Edit Szegedi

Abstract. The paper deals with the relation between religion and politics in the case of the Transylvanian Antitrinitarians. The main issue of the paper is: Did the Antitrinitarian theology affect in any way the policy of Transylvania? This question is answered in two steps: the role of Antitrinitarianism in the consolidation of the new state and the political allegiances of important personalities of the Antitrinitarian movement and nobility.

HIGH DIGNITY AND PROPERTY IN THE 16th–17th CENTURIES IN THE BANAT - “THE NOBLES GÂRLEȘTEANU OF RUDĂRIA’S WEALTH”

Ligia Boldea

Abstract. The Gârleștenis of Rudăria made a special figure among the Romanian noble families in the medieval and pre-modern Banat due to their almost permanent connection to the local centers of power. During one century and a half, from the end of the 15th century up to 1658, 7 members of the family hold some of the highest dignities in the Banat of Severin, and the Banat of Caransebeș and Lugoj after: bans of Severin, vice-counts/ castellans in the county of Severin, and prime-judges (mayors) in Caransebeș. It is but an interesting model of social ascension and perpetuation of the political influence based both on a series of remarkable personalities in the family, and the weal they inherited or provided by exerting their functions in the course of time. The present study follows the history of the family during the Principality of Transylvania age, by dwelling on the aspects of male and female right of succession, legacies or transactions the members of that family operated, or the inherent litigates before the courts of that time. The study comes as a necessary completion of my previous studies on that so influent family in the Banat, in the days of yore.

THREE SLAV-ROMANIAN CHARTERS IN BUDAPEST ARCHIVES CONCERNING THE HISTORY OF WALLACHIA

Petronel Zahariuc

Abstract. There are still unpublished papers written in the Slav language within the National Archives of Hungary in Budapest, concerning the history of Wallachia and Moldavia. Some time ago dr. Adrian Magina (Museum of the Mountainous Banat) discovered three Slav papers in Sólýom Fekete Ferenc Collection in the Magyar National Archives (Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár Oszágos Levéltára), and kindly put them at my disposal. All my gratitude here inserted too. Two of those papers belong to the 16th century (May 26, 1571, and June 4, 1592), and the other one to the 17th century (May 31, 1620), emitted in Bucharest and Târgoviște: all of them cast light both upon the history of some localities in Wallachia, still existing (Bujoreni, Vâlcea County), or lost (Orbi, Gorj County) and the history of some families of boyards (Olănescu), and the general history of Wallachia through completing and improving our knowledge on some of the 16th century’s voievodes (Alexandru II Mircea, Ștefan Surdul) and the 17th (Gavril Movilă).

BIOGRAPHICAL SEQUENCES OF NOBLES FLORE IN THE 16TH-17TH CENTURIES

Dragoş Lucian Țigău

Abstract. The family of Flore is documentary attested in 1528. The preserved documents do not allow us to reconstitute a coherent and complete genealogy, but come with information on anthroponyms, the way they were related to other families, their fortune and functions in the course of time. The existence of the eight individuals is unequally put in light by papers and their relationship is rarely specified. The family lived and integrated in a preponderant Romanian milieu.

The family's real patrimony consists in shares of villages, houses, and mills in the district and town of Caransebeş. The family got gold of those share through matrimonial alliances (wives' dowry) or by holding them as security. The Flores and the strong family of Fiath of Armeniş were co-owners in 10-15 villages, a reason of lots of conflicts concerning the papers and right of owning. The family was deprived of the possession in the Banat in 1658 with the Ottoman conquest.

The family's members' access to local dignities confirms the social ascension of the family: castellan of the district of Caransebeş and mayor of the homonymous town. The series of testimonies concerning the family of Flore's presence in the Banat ends in 1700.

DOCUMENTS REGARDING TIMIŞ COUNTY AT THE END OF 16TH CENTURY- EARLY 17TH CENTURY

Adrian Magina

Abstract. At the end of the 16th century, in the context of the Long War between the Ottomans and Habsburgs, the territory of Timiş County (nowadays Banat) was the subject of disputes between Christian and Turkish troops. The Transylvanian armies occupied a number of territories on the Mureş valley and nearby Timișoara, areas where nobles from the Principality received various donations. The territorial impact of Christian recoveries can be noticed by following these donations of Transylvanian princes. The Mureş Valley, a strategic route for the Transylvanian Principality, was almost entirely recovered. Although Timișoara could not be conquered, the Transylvanians imposed themselves on the west, south and north of the city by occupying some villages only a few kilometres from the city gates. The documents published in this study offer us the opportunity to investigate the social, military, political and economical framework of the province between Mureş, Danube and Tisza Rivers in the early modern times.

FORTUNA BREVIS: DESTINIES AND WARRANTIES IN 1674 IN SATU MARE COUNTY

Livia Magina, Florin Nicolae Ardelean

Abstract. This article is built around the analysis of a document, *Conscriptio bonorum in comitatu Sathmari annis 1670, 71, 72, 73, 74 confiscatorum*, which contains detailed information on the confiscated properties of various noble families from Satu-Mare County. It

is an interesting and valuable historical sources that reflects the events that followed the signing of the peace treaty of Vasvár in 1664, between the Habsburgs and the Ottomans. The rebellion of the Hungarian nobility, supported to a certain extent by the ruling prince of Transylvania, led to a series of repressive measures taken by Habsburg authorities, including confiscation of land proprieties. This document shows the extent of this repressive measures in the particular case of Satu-Mare County, bringing thus valuable information on the economic, social and political history of Transylvania and Royal Hungary in the second half of the 17th century.

“PROVINZIALNACHRICHTEN” – A JOURNAL FROM VIENNA ON HOREA’S
UPRISING (1784-1785)

Costin Feneşan

Abstract. The outbreak of the Romanian uprising in Transylvania in the late autumn of 1784 caused, as might be expected, the interest of the press in the Habsburg Empire as well as abroad. Aside the officious “Wiener Zeitung” published since 1704, the journals from Pressburg/Bratislava (“Pressburger Zeitung”, “Presspurské Nowiny” and “A Magyar Hirmondó”) but especially the “Siebenbürger Zeitung”, issued in Hermannstadt/Sibiu since January 1, 1784, in the neighborhood of the uprisings scene, were the main sources of news for readers in and outside the Habsburg State. Being under a strict surveillance by the state authorities, even though the censorship was officially abolished in 1781, these journals offered only dry reports on the ongoing uprising, without any free expression of their opinions, except “A Magyar Hirmondó”, imbued by an open sympathy towards the Hungarian nobility and a large disregard towards the Romanian population. At the same time, the readers in Vienna had the opportunity to find various reports on the Romanian uprising in the issues of “Provinzialnachrichten”, a journal with two weekly editions (Wednesday and Saturday) published from July 2, 1782 to June 27, 1789 by the official Courtprinter and editor Johann Thomas Edler von Trattner. Since November 1, 1783 “Provinzialnachrichten” was led by Johann Friedrich Schmidt, a free-mason (member of the Illuminati Order), employed until then by the “Wiener Zeitung”. It is to be pointed out that, whereas the “Wiener Zeitung” published only nine reports on Horea’s uprising, “Provinzialnachrichten” offered to its readers no less than 25 pieces of news related to the ongoing events (published in the Appendix). All reports issued by the “Provinzialnachrichten” were taken, word by word, especially from the “Siebenbürger Zeitung” (14, i.e. 56%) and the “Wiener Zeitung” (4, i.e. 16%), while seven reports (i.e. 28%) could not have their sources established. Only in very few situations the “Provinzialnachrichten” added personal comments, this especially to deny various false news published by other journals (e.g. that Horea had managed to escape from prison in Alba Iulia/Karlsburg seeking and finding refuge in Wallachia). Even when such false reports supported official opinions (e.g. that, during the disarmament of the Romanian peasants after the uprising, several Turkish rifles were found in their possession, suggesting a Turkish involvement and support in favor of the uprising in Transylvania), “Provinzialnachrichten” willingly published the news. However, at the same time, “Provinzialnachrichten” offered to the cautious and attentive reader in Vienna the opportunity to seize and understand the actual social and national aims of the Romanians in Transylvania during their uprising in 1784.

DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS IN THE CENSUS OF JOSEPH II, CONCERNING BAIA MARE DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SATU MARE

Paula Virag

Abstract. The district of Baia Mare, located in the eastern area of Satu Mare County, includes all the shapes of relief (mountains, hills, plain) and this is a fact to leave mark upon the population's life and evolution. The largest number of localities is located along the valleys that dig the territory, the Someş Valley especially. The Depression of Oaş and this one of Maramureş are also intensely populated, with a high number of localities. Apa and Medieşu Aurit are to be noted for their highest demographic density, in the area of the Someş Valley, a proper place for agriculture and for a better living standard so.

Mining was the occupational filed for many of the district's habitants, especially for those in the mountainous areas of Oaş and Baia Mare, and Baia Sprie countryside, together with breeding and farming. The mining workers' life was particularly difficult. The privileged statutes of the two towns mentioned above proves the mining ampleness and importance in this district which was the unique territorial-administrative unit to include two royal free towns in the county of Satu Mare.

SCHOLARS BENKŐ JÓZSEF AND JOHANN GEORG KLEINKAUF ON THE ENVIRONMENT, ECONOMY AND POPULATION OF TRANSYLVANIA, AT THE END OF THE 18TH CENTURY

Dorin Ioan Rus

Abstract. The article dwells on the works of Benkő József (1740-1814) – *Transsilvania. Sive Magnus Transsilvaniae Principatus olim Dacia Mediterranea dictus* (Vienna, 1778) and Johann Georg Kleinkauf – “Beschreibung einiger Berge und Höhlen in Burzenland und Zekelland” and “Chorographie von Burzenland”, both published in *Siebenbürgische Quartalschrift*, in 1793 and 1795, respectively.

Comparatively with Benkő's *Transsilvania*, a descriptive complete work on whole Transylvania, Kleinkauf's geographic work is limited to areas located in Țara Bârsei and Secuime/ Szeklerland. Benkő's *Transsilvania* was written in Latin and so it is more accessible to the specialized researchers, while Kleinkauf's articles were written in German, more for the Saxon milieu.

The two geographers mixed their theoretical, practical and technical knowledge, their works and researches passing the frontier between denominations and specific fields. Both the authors were teachers during their life.

Their descriptions show the readers practical knowledge on lively and inanimate treasures of Transylvania, according to practical needs and contemporary techniques of commerce, mining, farming, and administration. This research's perception in the natural history gives birth to a debate belonging to political history, with regard to record all the trading utilizations of the natural products.

ON THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE GREAT UNION GENERATION. EPISODES FROM THE HISTORY OF THE ISPRAVNIC'S

Abstract. Divine providence made the generation of the end of the 19th century and first decades of the interwar period be the witness of the all Romanians' dream to unite. The family of dr. Sever Ispravnic, an advocate in Arad, was one of the lots of families who took part in the Great Union in Alba Julia, in December 1, 1918.

The generation of intellectuals at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the next one was growing up and educated in the national Romanian spirit, and learnt at the great universities in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. With their rich heritage, they perseveringly and patiently built the whole edifice of Greater Romania.

Dr. Sever Ispravnic represented as a mandatory the commune of Pecica, whiles Adriana, his wife, was a mandatory of the Romanian Women Association in Arad and Province. They were leaving for Alba Julia together with their children Letiția and Sever Ispravnic. It was an experience that definitely put a mark on their whole life. Al together they participated in General Berhelot's greeting (December 29, 1918), in gathering up provisions for the Romanian guards, and also in meeting the Romanian troops in Arad (May 17, 1919), implicitly in the Romanian administration installing there.

They were involved in political, economical and social, cultural and charitable life during the interwar period and so they contributed to the new Romanian administrative structures' consolidation. What the Union Generation decided and did provide a standard for us today. Dignified persons, they suffered the communist horrible things and bequeathed the legacy of Greater Romania to the younger generations.

PORTRAITS OF BREDICEANU FAMILY MEMBERS FROM LUGOJ BY ANTON RUDOLF WEINBERGER

Nicoleta Demian

Abstract. There are presented three special medal pieces representing members of the well-known Brediceanu family from Lugoj, kept in the medal collection of the National Museum of Banat in Timisoara (NMB), pieces made by Anton Rudolf Weinberger (Reșița, 1879 - Vienna, 1936), a medalist born in Banat, but which activated most of his life in Vienna. The paper is about a bronze medal and a bronze unifacies plaque, made in 1930, dedicated to the diplomat Caius Brediceanu (1879-1953), as well as a unique piece: a 1932 bronze unifacies plaque dedicated to his mother, Cornelia Brediceanu (1856-1951). Caius Brediceanu's medal was donated by himself to the museum from Timisoara in 1930, but in the case of the other two pieces the information about the year and the circumstances in which they entered the museum's collection are missing.

Starting from the three pieces, using different sources (including unpublished photographs, diaries and memories of some members of the Brediceanu family or their descendants), the biographies of Caius Brediceanu and Cornelia Brediceanu are presented. Recently, the historians started to speak again - after a few decades of silence - about the diplomat Caius Brediceanu, the plenipotentiary minister of Romania between 1928-1939 in Rio de Janeiro, the Vatican, Vienna and Helsinki. Instead, the biography of his mother, Cornelia Brediceanu (born Rădulescu), the wife of the lawyer and politician Coriolan Brediceanu (1850-1909), was only known to the close. Cultivated, talented pianist, she dedicated her entire life to her family in the house situated in the center of Lugoj, on Făgetului street no. 4 (today Victor

Vlad Delamarina street). At the same time, there are presented biographical landmarks of other members of this famous family from Lugoj.

The three medal pieces were made by A. R. Weinberger in Vienna during the period when Caius Brediceanu was the plenipotentiary minister of Romania there (1930-1936). Since A. R. Weinberger is a lesser-known medalist in Romania today, biographical data and pieces he has produced are presented, focusing on Romanian medals and plaques and especially on those related to Banat. From this perspective, the presentation of the pieces from the NMB collection and the evocation of the three personalities from Banat (of the engraver and his models), represents a necessary “restitution”.

CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE LIFE AND ACTIVITY OF A GREAT PERSONALITY OF THE BANAT: CORNEL CORNEANU (1884-1960)

Răzvan Mihai Neagu

Abstract. Cornel Corneanu lived between 1884 and 1960; he was an important and illustrative personality of the Romanian Orthodox intellectuality in the Banat by the end of the 19th century and during the first half of the 20th century. With a very intellectual grounding at the Faculty of Theology, Chernivtsi University, he was the president of the Student Society *Junimea*, actually the most important association of the Romanian students in the capital of Bukovina. He came back in the Banat once graduating and began his career within the administrative section of Caransebeș diocese. Corneanu had been involved yet as a student in cultural and social works, including lots of charitable initiatives. The distinguished scholar took also part in the Great Union Assembly, in Alba-Julia on the 1st of December 1918. As a member of the National Liberal Party he was directly involved in interwar period in the political life. Member of the Romanian Parliament, Cornel Corneanu was also a sustainer of the Romanian Orthodox Brotherhood, the Romanian intellectuals’ organization in Transylvania and the Banat.

ORTHODOX CLERCKS FROM CARANSEBEȘ DIOCESE’ PARISHES OUTSIDE OF ROMANIAN FRONTIERS, TAKING PART IN THE GREAT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN ALBA JULIA

Emanuil Ineoan

Abstract. The end of World War I generated an accelerate dissolution of the former Austro-Hungarian administration also within the territories preponderantly inhabited by Romanian communities. The case of the Banat is a special one as long as that region was occupied by military units belonging to Serbia, within a short time after the end of the war. The new occupying authorities strongly made heavier or even prevent *manu militari* the delegates of the Banat from preparing and leaving for Alba Julia. No less than 13 Orthodox priests belonging to the western areas of the Banat parishes of Caransebeș diocese assumed and voted the document of December 1, 1918, in spite of the Serbian forces’ opposition, who were interested to strongly limit the Banat’s representatives joining the Great National Assembly. The localities where those priests had worked rested outside of the Romanian frontiers after the Paris Peace Conference. Those priests’ fearlessness to have taken part into the democratic

action in Alba Julia had certain consequences, the most of them being excluded from exerting their clerical competences within those localities.

ON THE HISTORIOGRAPHICAL WAY OF THE TRANSYLVANIAN REVOLUTION AT THE END OF WORLD WAR I

Andreea Dăncilă Ineoa

Abstract. Far from being an exhaustive analysis of the historiographical products that treated the Transylvanian revolution at the end of World War I, the present issue aims to make in the main an inventory of the way this historic subject has been discussed within a generous period, of more than a century. The radiography so developed presents the breaches concerning the facts to be interpreted, and how the political context directed discontinuously the historical writing to some favorite subjects in analyzing Transylvania during October-December 1918.

The Transylvanian revolution passes thus a long way and historically not properly set yet, from a national movement to a Marxist-Leninist class struggle, bourgeois-democratic; this way is visible both at the terminological level (revolutions, revolts, rebellions – the labels under which the collective movements at the end of the international conflagration were known as), and the manner the Transylvanian protagonists of those events at the end of World War I have been perceived, and the way the revolutionary scenario as well as the stakes of the structures of power developed within the fall and winter of 1918.

HYGIENE AND BEAUTY PRODUCTS IN INTERWAR TIMIȘOARA

Minodora Damian

Abstract. Hygiene was one of the important items of the lot of emancipation factories, which runs in Timișoara daily life within the interwar period. Hygiene, coming from the Greek name of Hygieia, Asclepius' daughter, the medicine god, means the series of conditions and practices that constantly maintain health.

Auxiliary based on hygiene, the field of beauty making contributed to identify and promote the cult of exterior image, through advertising, like a real industry.

The advertising message was built to leave the potential client see only the qualities of the product not its deficiencies. The advertising in interwar period might be the ideal of the great corporations of today, with the advertising to say all, leaving no space for interpretations and totally directing the product toward the consumer.

Timișoara re-found its former social-economical identity after I World War. So, the territorial-political liberation brought in its train a spiritual-creative releasing able to forecast an almost total daily life bold re-initializing.

The hypothesis of modernizing took place within the society in Timișoara, generated by a social metamorphosis and mental changing which is mainly put in light by the young inhabitants who adopted the stylistic trends of the developed Western Europe.

The beauty industry's model transposes the contemporary women's look in shapes tacitly going from natural to artificial. The women's natural beauty came so to be falsified by fashion products and those ones generated an artificial beautification due to need of opening a large market for colors, cold creams, lipsticks, and mascara.

ON THE POLITICAL LIFE IN TIMIȘ-TORONTAL COUNTY
IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1946

Eusebiu Narai

Abstract. The political life in Timiș-Torontal County as well as that one at the national level was dominated in the second half of 1946 by the campaign for Parliament elections in November, with lot of abuses and illegal acts, and teasing the traditional parties (the National Peasants' Party and the National Liberal Party, and also the Independent Social-Democratic Party lead by advocate Constantin-Titel Petrescu). A series of crises, "secessions", resignations and dismissals occurred also within the Block of Democratic Parties, generating at a certain moment, a severe crisis of confidence among the members of the governmental coalition. That one was caused by making "a covenant" with "the enemy" (namely, the political organizations of the democratic opposition), by a different visions concerning the Germans and Serbians, as well as by defeatist actions of some of the leaders in communes, towns, counties and regions, or some of important cadres' disciplinary deviations, etc. The leaders of BDP were looking askance at the guardists too; they made so a series of lists with the guardists who had become members – sometimes, even presidents – of some local subsidiaries of the parties in the governmental "arch" (without any note on the context or the way of such cases); they were also more than "attentive" to the former members of the so-called "fascist", "nazist" or "pro-fascist" organizations, etc. The electoral campaigns that lasted for long in fact (June-November 1946) was a special opportunity for a propagandist "duel" between the power and the opposition; non-transparence in informing adopted ever frequently by the cabinet of "a large democratic concentration" lead by dr. Petru Groza, induced a similar retailing that covered all the "topical" questions the population in Timiș-Torontal and the limitrophe counties to (Caraș, Severin and Arad) had to face. The "treasons" of some of the cadres in BDP that were revealed just in the election day (November 19, 1946) needed an urgent re-organizing of those structures and a large cabinet reshuffling (done at the end of November the same year).

ON THE NATIONAL HISTORY TREATISES ELABORATING IN ROMANIA. AN
ANALYSIS CONCERNING THE OFFICIAL HISTORY WRITTING DURING THE
COMMUNIST REGIME

Felician Velimirovici

Abstract. The present study offers a historiographic and ideological interpretation of the first four volumes of the *History of Romania* treatise published under the rule of the late Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, between 1960-1964. I argue that historians involved in this project, far from succeeding to accomplish a full-scale marxist revolutionary breakthrough in Romanian postwar historiography, have managed in the end to offer an original hybrid narrative of the Nation's past, packed not only with marxist and leninist formulas, but also with ideas and themes specific to the traditional prewar Romanian historical writing. In the second section of my contribution, by exploring a wealth of archival sources and a number of four oral history interviews which I have conducted between 2009-2011, I present the fate of the following

volumes of this work which, although having been completed by the end of the 1960s, have never been published under communism.

VISIT OF PRESIDENT CHARLES DE GAULLE IN ROMANIA, MAY 14-19, 1968

Liviu Sadowski

Abstract. The present analysis deals with the historic visit of President Charles de Gaulle in Romania, in May 1968. The moment was as much important as Ceaușescu's regime found a remarkable opening toward the Occidental offices at the time; it was in fact a true diplomatic offensive indubitably promoted by Nicolae Ceaușescu himself, with Ion Gheorghe Maurer's decisive assistance. Nicolae Ceaușescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, was taken by Occident at that time for a virulent objector to the Soviet domination in East-Europe communist camp. The great French dignitary's visit was an expression of the large sympathy Romania enjoyed all over the world within a period of extreme international political tension.

ROMANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY'S CONTROL OF MEDIA IN TIMIȘOARA, IN THE 1970s

Vasile Rămneanțu

Abstract. The present study aims to analyze the relations between the political decisional factors and press in Timișoara, in the 1970s. There were the following papers in Timișoara between 1970 and 1977: "Drapelul roșu", "Neue Banater Zeitung" (German language), "Szabad Szo" (Magyar language), "Banatske Novine" (magazine, Serbian language), and the literary revue "Orizont", all of them with an important circulation. The local Radio studio was also running then.

Even if the years of 1965–1971 are better known as providing a relative political freedom, press in Romania went away with the RCP control; relations between the party and media deeply changed in the summer and fall of 1971, after the decisions taken by the leaders of the RCP. So, media was obliged both to put in light the socialist reality in Romania and to combat with the ideological bourgeois influences and retrograde mentality.

The cultural revues had to promote the "involved" militant socialist arts and literature, and criticize the tendencies to separate the artistic creation from the socialist realities; it was the way the Romanian press became an instrument of the RCP. The journalist' rules were changed too, so that one became a Party activist in that occupational field. Following the above decisions media in Timișoara was controlled by the Section of Propaganda, the Secretariate, and the County Chancery of the RCP; all those organisms periodically analyzed the activity of journals, revues and the territorial Radio Studio.

1974 was also an important but baleful year for Romanian media due to the central decisions to reduce copies, formats, numbers of pages, and periodicity of journals; all those measures touched the press in Timișoara too ("Banatske Novine" – for instance)

Media in Timișoara had mainly to emphasize at that time the activity of the county Party organization, and the political, economical, social and cultural-scientific life in the county. The

county authorities attracted the journalists' attention on the necessity to strengthen the Party militant spirit of all the articles and broadcastings as they considered that trite expressions still were published in articles with a strong formalist shape. The analyses also underlined that there was no clear position both against reactionary philosophic or aesthetic schools and political Occidental doctrines, the capitalist "drawbacks" being so not sufficiently presented. Such critical observations make us believe that the journalists in Timișoara didn't comply integrally with the "ideological orders" of the Party.

But we have also to note that besides those "political commands", there were some positive measures taken by the RCP County Committee: a more extensive mirroring of the culture in the Banat, or of important moments of the history of the Banat and Romania.

The communist authorities were also concerned with the future journalists' professional training, as long as there were still unschooled journalists at the beginning of the 1970s. I have to observe that the professional vocation of the ones who applied for was taken into consideration besides the negative aspects – need of a "healthy" political origin, the candidates' deeds severe political examination or recruiting the candidates from the workers' class especially.

In spite of how media was obliged in the 1970s to serve the interests of a party and of a totalitarian system, the journalists in the Banat succeeded to give a series of professional headings, particularly in the cultural and scientific fields.

VARIA

THEORETICAL CONSIDERATIONS ON THE BAROQUE ART - AIM OR MEANS OF PERSUASION?

Mihaela Vlăsceanu

Abstract. The research has sought to underline some theoretical concerns of the Baroque art that represented an important and recurrent part of Europe's sensibility, integrating the man into the transcendental universe much more accessible in times of uncertainties as were the 1700s in Habsburg province of the Banat. Thematic approaches of the provincial Baroque sculpture are regarded as tendencies of evolution in the art of the Banat, designed to stimulate and express religious devotions, having didactic values, required in order to instruct throughout image and gesture. It is well known that similar themes and types of representations realized in different contexts may express different ideas. Different connotations for similar themes that express opposing ideas, were designed to inculcate Christian values in the area designated as a corridor of civilization, that of the imperial eighteenth century province of the Banat. Also we follow the formation of a local artistic discourse in the visual rhetoric of the artistic movement known as Late Baroque, in an historical context which underlines the European affiliation of the style.

FAKE NEWS AND "HAPPY FUNERALS" WITHIN *LA BELLE EPOQUE*. I. L. CARAGIALE'S DEATH AND INHUMATION

I.

Mihaela Grancea

Abstract. Caragiale's actuality of typologies from his comedy of mores contribute to his fame as a great Romanian writer. His writings have been read, reinterpreted and transformed into arguments. At the same time, the writer was considered a contradictory, paradoxical character in order to be analysed and understood easier. Even the stories about the accidents and incidents at the writer's death and funeral have the role of highlighting his personality's mystery and uniqueness.

SPACE AND TIME WITHIN THE ROMANIAN MENTALITY

Ileana Simona Dabu

Abstract. What the human possesses as an older thing reaches eternity and becomes a new thing every day in a traditional village. Any of the objects within the house-hold had its own sense and place. The countryman takes care of respecting what he has around him in his house-hold: the magic eye of the house, good and bad places, and the time bill that guides him every day in every works. The house magic eye, namely the glass eye on the roof attentively watches the running works inside the house hold. Time is divided in a common time for works and the festal time, so to say, the sacred time.

The countryman's house was projected as a durable building and it couldn't be built anywhere, anyhow. All the building rituals were kept in, beginning with burying some protective objects inside the house ground and finishing with a shrub or a cross setting on the roof at the end of the process.

The three passing places in a house-hold (gate, threshold and door) were always well marked. The gate separates and binds symbolically two worlds, the threshold delimits the human's passing from a secular space to a sacred one, and the door was taken for a protective instrument given its closing and opening system. Hence, any of the countryman's daily work has a magic component and must be submitted to the old customs.

IN THE ORĂȘTIE MOUNTAINS – A FIELD RESEARCH RITES OF PASSAGE AT ORĂȘTIOARA DE SUS

Delia Nadolu

Abstract. The rites of passage, referring to birth, wedding or death represented in the course of human development the actions that aim to certify the social order, but also to legitimate a certain cosmic order. Symbols of joining, mechanisms of motivation and mobilization, and the consensus on the moral values that lie at the bottom of the existence of a community might be found out from these rites.

Orăștioara de Sus is located in the eastern side of Hunedoara County, at the foot of the Șurianu Mountains partly and partly within these mountains; the Grădiștea River makes its central axis. From this point of view, it is a similar village both to the other ones in the high areas of Hunedoara County and of the whole country. Not an economic or social note comes in turn to individualize the village, but a cultural one: the territory of the village is almost congruent with the area of the capital of the Dacian Kingdom during our aboriginal ancestors' time of glory. Costești, Blidaru and Fețele Albe, the three great fortresses around Sarmizegetusa Regia, together with the enclosure like, formed by that one at Piatra Albă (Luncani Platform)

and Căpâlna, on the Sebeş Valley, the most distant one, made these mountains be the cradle of the Romanian people.

A monographic approach lies at the bottom of my methodological steps, joining the participatory action research and the semi-directed interview. There was registered and organized a large volume of ethnographical data at the village of Orăștioara de Sus, Hunedoara County, during the three years of field research there. A series of latent, traditional senses, essentially magical and metaphysical, might be put in light off now, without a hermeneutic analyze of these data.