

DICE 10/1



DIVERSITÉ ET IDENTITÉ CULTURELLE EN EUROPE

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DIVERSITATE ȘI IDENTITATE CULTURALĂ ÎN EUROPA

10^{ème} Anniversaire /10th Anniversary

EDITURA
MUZEUL LITERATURII ROMÂNE

**DIVERSITÉ ET IDENTITÉ
CULTURELLE
EN EUROPE**

TOME 10/1

**Editura Muzeul Literaturii Române
București, 2013**

Publicație semestrială editată de:
Muzeul Național al Literaturii Române

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Bulevardul Dacia, nr. 12, București, CP 010402, Romania
<http://www.mnlr.ro/ro-dice.html>

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TOME 10/1

**Editura Muzeul Literaturii Române
București, 2013**

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Descrierea CIP a Bibliotecii Naționale a României

Diversité et identité culturelle en Europe/Diversitate și identitate culturală în Europa / Ed.: Petre Gheorghe Bârlea

ISSN: 2067 - 0931

An X, nr. 1 – București: Editura Muzeul Literaturii Române - 2013.

217 p.

008(4+498)(063)

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ÉDITORIAL

DICE – AN ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE

FONDEMENTS DU DIALOGUE CULTUREL

ROMANIAN BALKANISM OR ABOUT CULTURAL RIFTS

Petre Gheorghe BÂRLEA, PhD
“Ovidius” University of Constantza
gbarlea@yahoo.fr

Abstract:

The term “Balkanism” has two meanings, referring to both something objective and strictly geographic, as well as something subjective – a meaning that describes a certain mentality, a certain manner of thinking and behavior embraced in the Balkans.

This article sets out to analyse the elements that are considered to define the cultural identity of the communities from the area of the Balkans. Their historical events, their linguistic differences and peculiarities, their art (music, cinematography, etc.), their culinary preferences and other elements are approached and described from the perspective of the “cultural crevice” theory.

Keywords:

Balkanism, cultural identity, linguistic unity, cultural crevice.

THE PROTEAN CULTURAL SYNTHESIS OF POSTCOLONIAL IDENTITY

Dr. Angela STĂNESCU
Valahia University of Târgoviște
angelastanescu@yahoo.com

Abstract:

In the age of mass migration and global travel, the claim of many to a global citizenship becomes a common reality. The multiculturalism of the postmodern European nation remains a beautiful slogan, which cannot always redress the loose ends of traumatic (post)colonial histories of cultural identity, still reminiscent of the traditional geographic divisions into haves and have-nots, developed, developing or underdeveloped. Political correctness alone cannot erase the memory of centuries of colonial antagonism and hurt, with their attending displacements of cultural identity, traditions and native civilisations. The agonistic intricacies of former colonial relations, which warped the construction of racial, national and cultural identity on both sides, continue to condition the redefinitions of national identity and culture in ex-imperial metropolises and their former territories and their reflection in postcolonial literature.

Key-words:

Postcolonial, multiculturalism, hybridity, interstitial cultural identity.

POSTURE OF SOCIAL CAPITAL FOR COMMUNITIES IN TRANSITION (CASE STUDIES IN YEZIDIS RURAL POPULATION OF ARMENIA)

Akbar VALADBIGI
Yerevan State University (YSU)
E-mail: karvan74@gmail.com

Abstract:

This article is concerned with the peculiarities of social capital focusing on the alterations of social trust and the social factors that influence it among the Yezidi rural population of Armenia. Our theoretical framework has been adopted from the following theorists: the theory of social system in terms of the theory of action – Parsons and the theory of structure-agency – Giddens.

Our sample contained 300 of the over 20-year old residents of the Yezidi rural population of the Republic of Armenia. When validity and reliability of our questionnaire were tested, we applied survey research to collect data for analysis.

There is difference between kinds of trust and they don't have the same mean. The mean of basic trust was 16%, generalized trust 15% and abstract trust mean was 74%. Thus, our study shows that in the society under study the rate of basic trust is no less than other kinds of trust. In other words, the mean of basic trust is something more than generalized trust but less than abstract trust.

The value of the correlation coefficient was positive, and this shows that by increasing the rate of religious tenets, the level of social trust will increase subsequently, and vice versa. In this article, unlike the usual procedure of articles, I have tried to focus on the results part – because of its importance – and only referred succinctly to other parts.

Keywords:

Social capital, Social trust, Ethno-religious minority, Transition, Yezidis, Armenia

PERCEPTIONS OF EUROPEAN ANTI-AMERICANISM REFLECTED IN ROMANIAN CULTURAL JOURNALS

Dr. Irina DAVID
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
irina.david.2009@gmail.com

Abstract:

This study aims to highlight the main characteristics of Western European anti-Americanism – a long-standing phenomenon, which has become more powerful and widespread after the end of the Cold War – from a Romanian perspective. After a brief presentation of some of the most representative features of anti-American attitudes identified by scholars in the field, I will analyse several articles published in the last decade in two Romanian cultural journals – *Revista 22* and *Dilema Veche* – focusing on their authors' perception of Western European exacerbated criticism of America.

Key-words:

Anti-Americanism, Western Europe, Romanian.

LA CREATIVIDAD DEL LENGUAJE COMO ARMA SOCIAL

Edgar ÁLVAREZ-NOREÑA CUEVA
egare@hotmail.com

Abstract:

All through the year 2011, movements with similar characteristics have taken place in several countries, movements that were based on a social awakening with an impact upon the economic, political and cultural sphere. It is within this context that one can notice that language is not an isolated element, the socio-linguistic studies or the discourse analysis studies revealing the relationship between language and society as well as the common aspects of their development. The social movement set off in Spain in May 2011 (15 – M), has reunited thousands of people in the public squares where there was talk of the democracy that the people had thought long lost; the movement had as a slogan: *they don't represent us*. The slogans that are being shouted out show the way in which the thinking, the ideas, the political and social situation of a community are being influenced through the concise messages that generate group feelings – real weapons of social struggle.

Key words: power, language, domination discursive structures, context/text control, social influence

THE SILENT TRUTH OF THE ALBANIAN RELIGIOUS SYMBOL AND THOUGHT DURING THE YEARS 1921-1939 UNDER THE ENGLISH FOCUS OF OBSERVATION AND DESCRIPTION

Ma Benita STAVRE
Ma Erinda PAPA
“Fan S.Noli” University
Korça, Albania
b.stavre@gmail.com
erindapapa@yahoo.com

Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to highlight one of the frequently discussed periods of the Albanian history; that of the years between 1921 and 1939, whose said and unsaid facts have very frequently been misjudged. Its focus is to bring evidence of the way English visitors, writers, missionaries and journalists of the time have perceived the religious co-existence and the problems that accompanied it, the formal measures undertaken by the government to improve the spiritual relations and the sharp contradictions between both main religious faiths at the time. The paper will also bring evidence of other religious sects in Albania and the way they worshiped God through symbols, customs and principles, which made them a means of introducing light and knowledge even in the most remote areas of the country. The data, descriptions and analysis have been mainly withdrawn from books, published diaries and articles written by foreign visitors of the time or later historians of the Albanian life.

Key words:

Religious co-existence and tolerance, symbolism, truth, principles.

FROM LEGENDARY TEXTILES TO FIBRE ART, CULTURAL FINGERPRINTS IN TEXTILE ART

Dr. Anna-Mária ORBÁN
National University of Arts Bucharest
annaorban@yahoo.com

Abstract:

In his *Manifest pour métamorphose du monde* (Manifest for the metamorphosis of the world) the great philosopher Edgar Morin, Pierre Gonod and the artist Paskua declared in 2009 that understanding the world is becoming impossible on account of the current fragmentation of thinking. They preach the development of a global conscience and the safeguarding of human unity and diversity. Metamorphosis implies the wish to transform visions and perceptions. Our vision is fragmentary, as our mental barriers can often be stronger. In enhancing this vision, it seemed essential that one should discover, contemplate and reflect so as to be able to appreciate the particularity but also the diversity of textile arts, of fibres and techniques in fibre art. In a more and more globalised world, textile arts can offer representations of society and humanity in search of a new identity.

Key-words:

Textile art, fibre art, diversity, cultural identity, know-how.

DESTINÉES EUROPÉENNES

EUGEN SIMION - (LITERARY) CRITIC – A FORM OF CHARACTER

Dr. Lucian CHIȘU
Muzeul Național al Literaturii Române
lucianchisu@gmail.com

Abstract:

The article presents the life and activity of one of the greatest contemporary Romanian literary critics. President of the Romanian Academy, member of the French Academy of Arts, Eugen Simion approached the work of classical and contemporary Romanian writers as well as that of international writers such as E. Ionescu, E. Cioran, M. Eliade, P. Popescu.

Key-words:

E. Simion, literary criticism, literary history.

CONFLUENCES

EXOTIZACIÓN, DOMESTICACIÓN Y NIVELACIÓN EN LA TRADUCCIÓN DE OBRAS LITERARIAS Y DE TÍTULOS DE OBRAS DE ARTE PLÁSTICO

José Manuel POZO LÓPEZ
josemanuelpozolopez@gmail.com

Abstract:

The theory of literary translation presupposes, apart from the norms that require a minimum semantic equivalence between the source language and the target language, a strategy of the translator's intervention in the text as well. This strategy is oriented towards three directions, as follows:

1) the translator replaces linguistic and cultural elements specific to the original text with elements that are characteristic to the culture it addresses, in order to facilitate a better understanding for the readers; 2) the translator preserves those three elements specific to the “exotic appearance” that confer upon the text its uniqueness dimension; 3) the translator brings together, through “cultural levelling” (which is intimately related to the adequacy of the first direction), conceptual and stylistic elements intrinsic to the source text and elements that are intrinsic to the target language. As the relationship between form and content constitutes the essence of artistry itself, the translator will endeavour to make his efforts head for an act of creation and not of betrayal towards the original text.

Key words:

Translation, translation strategies, appropriateness, exoticisation, levelling.

GREEKS AND BARBARIANS IN HOMER'S “*ODYSSEY*”

Ph. D. Ștefania VOICU,
University of Bucharest
stefvoicu@yahoo.com

Abstract:

Homer's “*Odyssey*”, viewed as a relevant literary source for Archaic Greece, has led to the development of different research domains through the medium of hermeneutics or text interpretation. One of these directions regards the reconstitution of social aspects pertaining to the Archaic Greek world. Given that Odysseus' adventures unfold beyond the borders of the world known by the hero, Greek identity can only be rendered by exclusion, the exclusion of the *Other*: the reverse of the reprehensible deeds or aspects of the *Other* comes to define the real, or at least desirable, characteristics of the one operating the exclusion.

Key words: Mythology, society, barbarians, Odysseus.

GRECS ET MACEDONIENS DANS L'ANABASE D'ALEXANDRE¹

Dr. Andreea ȘTEFAN
Université de Bucarest
andreea_stefan12@yahoo.co.uk

Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to investigate the perception of Macedonians in Arrian's *History of Alexander*. The analyse concerns the text's various layers and the way this sedimentation of facts and, more importantly, of interpretations, affects the relation between Greeks and Macedonians. Firstly, we identified the author's own perception of Macedonians among the various imprints left behind by his sources. Secondly, we would like to point out to the methodological relevance this approach has on the sources analyse for Arrian's *History of Alexander*.

Keywords:

Ethnicity, Greeks, Greek identity, Macedonians, Second Sophistic

LES ETHNONYMES DANS LES HISTOIRES D'AMMIEN MARCELLIN

Dr. Elena Emilia ȘTEFAN
Université de Bucarest
elenaemiliastefan@yahoo.com

Abstract:

This paper analyzes the role of ethnonyms in Ammianus Marcellinus' *Roman History*. On the one hand, the different ways of naming 'the other' represent a literary device used by the historian in order to classify people from outside the Roman border. Therefore, people well known to Romans are less 'barbaric'. On the contrary, unknown people or with superficial contacts with the Romans are described as mere savages. On the other hand, the list of barbarians is an essential element in understanding Ammianus' conception of history and of inhabited world, and also of how he places himself in relation to his predecessors, Greek and Roman historians, and his audience.

Keywords:

Ethnonym, otherness, Roman Empire, barbarians, classical tradition

¹ Cet article représente une partie révisée de l'étude que j'ai élaborée dans le cadre d'une bourse octroyée par New Europe College (octobre 2010 – février 2011). La version initiale paraîtra, en format électronique ou en volume, dans le *New Europe College Yearbook 2010-2011*.

CONVERGENCES ET DIVERGENCES IDENTITAIRES

REMINISCING THE BLANK SPACES OF SOJOURN: SUBLIMATING EMOTIONAL FLIGHTS IN TABAN LO LIYONG'S *Words That Melt a Mountain*

Niyi AKINGBE

Ondo State University Of Science & Technology

Okitipupa, Ondo State, Nigeria

E-mail: deniakingbe@yahoo.com

Abstract:

Taban Lo Liyong's profundity as a prominent writer from East Africa is often showcased by his wilful eccentricity and dogged iconoclasm, which exuberantly dot the lines of his poetry collections. For much of his writing career, Liyong has sustained a cultivated equanimity towards the paradox of being widely accepted by the budding African literary critics, while being deliberately neglected by the Western critics. His maverick disposition to literary craftsmanship is stridently exhibited in the thematic strands of *Words That Melt a Mountain*: an unabashed treatment of controversial subject matters; an intrusive and digressive narrative technique; a confident assertive ego; an effervescent erudition in his writing and a disturbing frankness in the treatment of sex.

This paper examines how the poetics of *Words That Melt a Mountain* are grounded in the experiences of Liyong's sojourn in Japan. It highlights the way in which these reminiscences ferment the interplay of themes which oscillate between an audacious narrative of erotic explorations and a penetrating introspection into African mythopoesis.

Key words:

Reminiscing, the blank spaces of sojourn, sublimating, wilful eccentricity, emotional flight, Taban Lo Liyong.

THE NARRATIVE TEXT IN THE NOVEL "OTHELLO THE MOOR OF VLORA"²

Dr. Elona (BIBA) ÇEÇE

„Fan S. Noli” University

elona_biba@yahoo.com

Abstract:

In the novel "Othello the moor of Vlora", one of the most accomplished works of the Albanian contemporary literature, we have analyzed the narrative technique, which, from the linguistic viewpoint, is also characterized by the kind of discourse used by the author. I. Ways of connecting parts of speech and clauses in direct and indirect speech. These connections might be: 1. Asyndetic Connections 2. Syndetic Connections. II. Structural features of the narrator's speech (first person speaker) a. Speech features of the narrator in this work are: very long and complex where the equality and dependency relations are combined. b. There are also cases when, for stylistic reasons, subordinate clauses function as separate sentences. c. Syntactic structures with homogeneous parts of speech. III. Semantic priorities of these structures depending on the linguistic means which acquire stylistic – emotional values. a. Linguistic means on morphological level b. Linguistic means on syntactic level.

² <http://www.toena.com.al> , "Othello, the moor of Vlora", an etude to the love for Vlora and Venice of XIV-th century.

IV. Semantically, it is obvious that the analyzed narrative text mainly consists of narrative, descriptive and dialoging sequences.

Key words:

Narrative technique, parts of speech, morphological level, syntactic level, narrative sequences.

ÉVÉNEMENTS

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**DICE 1 – 10/1
2004-2013**

Indexed by Marinușa CONSTANTIN