

# *Abstracts*

LAWRENCE TRITLE

## AMMIANUS MARCELLINUS AND THE HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE BALKANS

This paper examines the Roman historian Ammianus Marcellinus in the light of historical geography, particularly its sub-categories of frontiers, population migrations, and human geography. The historian's account of the Roman-Gothic War (AD 377-378), especially the fight for control of the Thracian town of Beroe, reveals the contribution to historical understanding of the roles of frontiers and population migrations. Similarly, a close reading of Ammianus and his description of the Goths and their society reveals an appreciation for that dimension of historical geography today called human geography, or the study of peoples and their environments.

ANDREW F. STONE

## MANUEL I KOMNENOS, THE MAIANDROS CAMPAIGNS OF 1177-8 AND THESSALONIKI

Scrutiny of the panegyrics of the twelfth-century Byzantine rhetor Eustathios of Thessaloniki has uncovered testimony to historical events not recorded in any of the contemporary sources. Study of an oration to the Grand Hetairiarch John Doukas, and an oration to the emperor Manuel I Komnenos, made upon a temporary recovery from his terminal illness, suggests that Manuel had directed the repair of Thessaloniki's fortifications in 1179, and provides a chronology for the campaigns in Asia Minor on the River Maiandros in the latter part of Manuel's reign. The dating of the two orations may be subject to revision, as the Doukas oration may be earlier than late 1179, and the oration on the occasion of the emperor's recovery may belong to late 1179 rather than early 1180, but it is fairly certain that the two orations belong to the 1179-80 period. The suggested date for the refurbishment of Thessaloniki's defences is therefore accurate to within only a few months, but the suggested chronology of the Maiandros campaigns would nevertheless still be valid.

*BOŠKO I. BOJOVIĆ*

## THE PAST OF THE TERRITORIES: KOSOVO AND METOHİJA (11th-17th CENTURY)

Kosovo and Metohija represent the territory in the central part of the Balkan Peninsula with natural borders in the south, west and partly in the north-west, while from its adjacent regions in the east and north east this territory is not separated by mountain barriers but only by some morphology distinctions and the terrain characteristics. Their present names originate from the late Medieval Age. As Serbia expanded its territories towards the south-east to the disadvantage of Byzantine Empire, during the 11th and particularly in the 12th century, these regions became the border area between Serbia and Byzantine Empire. During the 13th and 14th century they represented the central part of the Serbian medieval state, its administrative and religious center, its economic, mining, agricultural, commercial and cultural most developed areas with dense road network and a relatively large number of significant and big urban, religious and cultural centres. From the end of the 14th century, Kosovo was the border area between the Ottoman Empire and Serbia and finally in the middle of the 15th century it fell into the Sultan's hands.

The establishment of Turkish administration on the whole territory of Kosovo and Metohija in the middle of the 15th century introduced the period of crucial changes in the economic, cultural, social and ethnical structures in this region, that resulted in gradual Islamization of the local population that, with the progressive influx of the Turkish and Albanian elements, lost its relative uniformity that had existed in the end of the Medieval Age. The big wars in the 17th century intensified the old financial and legal insecurity even more and culminated in the large-scale ethical and confessional restructuring that took place after the Turkish-Austrian war in the end of the century. Since that time Kosovo and Metohija have experienced the long period of confessional and ethnical stratification that has directed the development of social relations on this territory in this century and the modern history of this part of the Balkan Peninsula.

*CHARALAMPOS G. CHOTZAKOGLU*

## ON THE TRACES OF THE GREEKS IN GYÖR (HUNGARY)

The difficult social and financial conditions in the Ottoman Empire at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the military

expansion of the Turks to the North brought the balkan population in contact with the Hungarian and Transylvanian territories. The Serbs and Greeks merchants succeeded in taking over rapidly an eminent trade-activity; they introduced trade-stations and gradually founded communities, where they were living permanently with their families. The Greek presense in Győr, a town of a great commercial significance, was until now known only due to indirect and scattered information. Some documents, which were discovered during a research in Hungarian und Austrian archives, shed light on the activities of the Greek colony in Győr. The first document (30/4/1744) is an application of the Greek trading company of Győr to the City Council, which arranges the opening-time (time-table) of their stores in the period of orthodox feasts. The analysis of the document shows the structure and the characteristics of the Greek trade-companies, which indicates great similarities not only to the trade companies of that period in Greece but to the Byzantine structures as well. Other documents acquaints us with information about the visiting of a monkpriest from Jerusalem to Győr (6/7/1746) in order to collect alms and his impressions on the Greek community there. Some additional documents dated 18<sup>th</sup> century enable us to reconstruct the relations amongst Greek communities in Hungary, their hardships conserning the lack of priests, their salaries and give us some numbers about the orthodox population of Győr. The last mention of the Greek community in Győr is comming from a report of the bishop of Amaseia and Exarch of Middle-Europe Germanos Karavaggelis, who in 1930 visited Győr and verified the dissolution of the Greek community and the closing of the church. Today stand around the recently renovated orthodox church of Győr the cemetery with two Greek tombstones walled in, the greek school and the house of the orthodox priest as witnesses to the Greek presence in the Hungarian town of Győr.

IZABELLA PAPP

THE SON OF A GREEK MERCHANT IN DIÓSZEG IN THE HUNGARIAN WAR  
OF INDEPENDENCE PÁL KISS, *HONVÉD*-GENERAL 1809-1867

Owing to bourgeois development and the demand on breaking down feudal conditions a bourgeois revolution took place in Hungary in 1848. The revolution turned into a national war of independence, which after one and half year of bloody battles was defeated only by the united armies of the Austria and Russia. The Hungarians' struggle for independence was followed

with the sympathy of European nations and many people supported the Hungarians with personal participation.

The Greeks living in Hungary felt the aims of the war of independence their own; as most of the families had lived in their new country for three generations. Many of them fought as members of the national guard, while some were promoted to high military ranks. Pál Kiss, the son of a mercant in Diószeg, was advanced to generalship in May, 1849.

*MARINA SAKALI*

THE IMAGE OF THE TURKS/MUSLIMS IN THE OTTOMAN GREEK PRESS (1830-1860)

One of the results of the movement to reorganise the Ottoman state in the 19th c. in line with Western Europe, was the evolution of an indigenous press. The importance of the press in promoting the efforts of the Government was recognised both by Sultan Mahmud II (1785-1839) and Mohammad Ali (1769-1849) governor and later viceroy of Egypt both of whom established their own state run newspapers in Istanbul and Cairo respectively. Their example was followed very quickly by private individuals in Smyrna and Istanbul who saw the press both as a business and as a means of promoting their political ideas, informing their Millet about what was going on, complaining about maladministration, advertising goods and services and promoting the cultural life of their readership.

By the 1860's all four initial millets (religious nations) of the Ottoman Empire i.e., Muslim, Orthodox Christian, Armenian and Jewish had developed their own press. The Muslims had produced eight newspapers. Five of them were state run, one was semi official and two were independent. The Armenians sixteen and the Jews three and as far as I can ascertain all of them were independent. The Orthodox Christians produced thirty three (twenty seven in Greek, one in Bulgarian and five in Turkish with Greek characters), all of them independent.

In this paper I present the image of the Turks/Muslims as portrayed in the Ottoman Greek press up to 1862. I begin by presenting how and in what context the terms Turk and Muslim were used in that period. The Turks/Muslims appearing in the Greek press are divided into several distinct groups: the Sultan and his family, the rest of the government ministers, the local government officials and ordinary people. I show the general trend of how each group was treated in the Ottoman Greek press with examples of editor-

ials, reports from local correspondents and individual letters from all over the Empire. It appears that the image of the Turks/Muslims as portrayed in the Greek press is varied and the comments or explanations that accompany each positive or negative image of the Turks/Muslims give us an insight of what Greeks in the Ottoman Empire found good or bad in the character, behaviour and customs of the Turks/Muslims as well as in the administration of the Ottoman Empire, how they perceived and what they felt towards their Muslim compatriots and the Ottoman government.

*DIMITRIOS A. SAKKIS*

MAURER'S POINTS ON THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF PRIMARY EDUCATION: FROM ITS PLANNING TO ITS APPLICATION

George Ludwig von Maurer, one of Othon's vice-roys, was an eminent lawyer and a sagacious observer of social events. He was the inspirator of the institution in the newly-born Greek State. He adopted and enforced the 1834 law about primary education. In this project, a comparison between Maurer's points-visions and those which occurred after all, takes place. The conclusion is: Maurer was rather innovative as far as the educational conditions of that period (both in Greece and Europe) are concerned, although he had been brought up in a conservative environment. He suggested an education, which paid no attention to social classes, free of charge and one which did not differentiate according to sex.

*REGINALD HIBBERT*

ALBANIA'S EMERGENCE ONTO THE BALKAN SCENE

The Albanian people did not achieve statehood until the 20th century. Half the Albanian nation was then left outside the state, and the state had a precarious existence, suffering many severe vicissitudes, until well after the second world war. Disputes with Greece over Epirus diminished after the war, but relations with Yugoslavia have been periodically soured by the issues of Kosova and western FYROM. Enver Hoxha and the Albanian Communist Party successfully exploited the National Liberation Movement and the German war to seize power in 1944 and reconstitute Little Albania, but they could not make any progress towards achieving the national ambition of a

Greater Albania. Only the Stalin-Tito breach saved Albania from being absorbed into Yugoslavia. The imperatives of survival largely dictated Hoxha's subsequent policies of rapprochement with the Soviet Union, rapprochement with China and finally complete isolation. The Albanian state having survived until the communist system collapsed, it is now emerging as an autonomous player on the European scene. The collapse of the old Yugoslavia has turned Kosova and western part of FYROM into active issues. Albania is too weak to influence developments there effectively, but the issues will not go away. The Albanian question now has to be recognised as a real and important one, and the international community will from now on have to give greater attention to Albania's needs and interests.

PETER A. ZERVAKIS

THE ROLE OF THE "JUSTICE FOR GREECE COMMITTEE" FOR THE AMERICAN  
INVOLVEMENT IN GREECE AFTER WORLD WAR II

Among the numerous political action groups that were organized during the immediate post-War era, one was the "Justice for Greece Committee". This initiative of the organized American citizens of Greek descent sought to focus the attention of the American public and government upon the various problems in Greece associated with the ending of the Second World War. The main platform of this Committee involved the economic reconstruction of war-devastated Greece and the annexation of such Greek-speaking areas as the Dodecanese Islands (then in possession of Italy), and Northern Epirus (the southern part of Albania). Even though these disputed regions were currently controlled by other European countries, the national aspirations of the united Hellenic-American communities on both sides of the Atlantic could not be readily dismissed by Congress, especially since the "Justice for Greece Committee" employed the U.S. media in its tactics to publicize its programme through both newspapers and radio. This campaign was designed to remind the American public about the hardships which the Greek population had previously suffered under Fascism and was now experiencing from Communist aggression along its territorial frontiers, which faced imminent invasion by the armed forces of the three neighboring states converted to Soviet Communism. To prevent the Communist domination of Greece, the "Justice for Greece Committee" frequently alluded to traditional American philhellenism which had originally inspired the American government to provide the Greeks with

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military and economic assistance during the Greek Revolution of the 1820s. Even though the United States did not conform with all the demands of the “Justice for Greece Committee», the Truman government extended in a formal plan of assistance known as “Truman Doctrine” enough support to halt Communist aggression against Greece.