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Slobodan G. Markovich

Dositey Obradovich: The man who introduced modernity to the Serbs

Abstract: In what follows, the contribution of Dositey Obradovich to the conceptualisation of modernity among the Serbs is analysed. A periodization of his life is given, in which turning points and three central themes are discussed. The first theme is the importance of the introduction of the vernacular for Serbian culture in the context of the ambiguous ethnic-religious identity that developed among Habsburg Serbs in the course of the eighteenth century. The second theme covers the two approaches Dositey used to disseminate the Enlightenment among Ottoman Serbs: first through absolute and enlightened monarchies, and second from the beginning of the Serbian Uprising with a growing emphasis on nationality. The third theme is Dositey's contribution to higher education and institution building among Serbs. The article ends with an assessment of Dositey as the most successful mediator between European modernity and Serbs.

Keywords: *Dositey Obradovich, Serbian identity, Vernacular among Serbs, the Enlightenment, Establishment of higher education in Serbia*

Bojana Đorđević-Stojković and Jelena Mrgić

Marriage and Madness: A case from mid-nineteenth century Belgrade

Abstract: This paper presents the wider socio-cultural context of a scandal in Belgrade, arising from the public misbehaviour of Persida Stefanović, wife of the high-ranking Serbian statesman Stefan Stefanović-Tenka. Following correspondence preserved between the husband, Stefan, Belgrade municipal authorities, and several physicians, it is possible to determine both the nature of Persida's mental illness and to observe the mechanisms of private and public conduct. As much as these documents speak of medical treatment of illness, they also testify to public morals and system of values in nineteenth-century Belgrade.

Keywords: *marriage, mental illness, public authorities, Serbia, nineteenth century*

Jelena Milojković-Djurić

Dositej Obradović's Legacies Remembered The Centennial Celebration of 1911

Abstract: The Celebration of Dositej's Centennial in Belgrade in 1911 manifested the lasting appreciation and acceptance of his contribution to general enlightenment, educational and humanitarian aspirations in Serbia, as well as in Croatia, Bulgaria and Romania. On the occasion of Dositej's Bicentennial many of his legacies continue to be remembered in an ongoing dialogue of the present with the past.

*It is a sweet consolation that our
names will live on and remain dear
to our people for the good we have
provided to them.*

Saša Knežević

Montenegrin-Albanian Relations at the Beginning of the Twentieth Century

The Congress of Berlin determined the border between Montenegro and Turkey. The frontier was drawn through a region marked by a tribal social structure, which created enormous difficulties for Montenegro and Turkey. The border cut across property, woods and pastures used for centuries by individual villages and clans. Therefore, inhabitants on both sides of the border, particularly Albanians, sought to maintain their former rights. In Montenegro there were some Albanians in the vicinity of Ulcinj and in Zatrijebac, though their number is not known.

Montenegro, or more precisely its ruler, Prince and (after 1910) King Nikola was interested in the Albanian tribes of the neighbouring region of Malesia. He exerted influence over Albanians through his agents, and through Montenegro's consul in Scutari. Montenegrin policy in the Scutari region conflicted sharply with the goals and propaganda of Austria-Hungary, which incited a hatred of Montenegro and the Serbian people in general among the Albanians. The often close traditional ties between the Catholic Albanians and Montenegrin border clans were, however, well known. King Nikola maintained these contacts: he had a number of trusted men from these tribes who either lived across the border with their fellow tribesmen, or who had immigrated to Montenegro. After 1883 King Nikola's contacts with Albanians were maintained primarily through the prominent leader of Malesia, Sokol Baco Ivezić, who immigrated to Montenegro and was later promoted to the rank of brigadier-general in the Montenegrin army. King Nikola advised the Albanian tribes to live in peace and submit to the Turkish authorities.

*Haris Dajč and
Nikola Samardžić*

The Serbian Orthodox Church and the Church of England 1918–1941

Abstract: The following article addresses relations between the Church of England and the Serbian Ortodox Church during the interwar period. It also places the development of these relations in a wider historical context. Efforts and resistance to achieve possible union between two churches can be traced in their entirety, but emphasized is the interwar period. This article reveals links between those relations and current political crises in Yugoslavia, as well as future alliance between various, sometimes completely different political groups. The most obvious was the concordat crisis (1937). That crisis brought the two churches closer together, but also evoked a wide range of Yugoslav opposition. Material from archival sources and British diplomatic correspondence on this topic are published here for the first time. This relationship and its wider connotations represent far more than just cooperation and friendship between two churches. The impact of links between the two churches is greater than hitherto known.

Keywords: *Anglo-Serbian church relations, Inter-war period, Union of the Church of England and Ortodox churches.*

Branislav Radeljić

The European Economic Community and Yugoslavia in the 1980s

Abstract: This article examines relations between the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY) during the 1980s. While the whole decade was characterized by a discourse about economic, political and social cooperation between the two sides, the irrelationship did not deepen sufficiently to offer mechanisms that might have prevented the Yugoslav crisis and violence in 1991. In order to offer a substantial analysis of the period, the article utilizes primary sources not previously dealt with in literature on the Community and Yugoslavia.

Key words: *European Community, Yugoslavia, cooperation.*

Gabriela Vojvoda-Engstler

The NIN Literary Award in Serbia in the 1990s: A search for cultural identity

Abstract: The subject of this analysis is the Serbian (formerly Yugoslavian) literary award of the weekly news magazine NIN in the Milošević era and its role in the search for cultural identity during and after the Yugoslavian wars. It will focus the press coverage, the NIN selection procedure, interviews with writers as well as comments and lampoons on the NIN novel of the year award. The article will suggest that the post-communist Serbian community is concerned with the search for a collective national and cultural identity which is linked to territory, nation, language and religion instead of brotherhood and unity. Following the culture studies of Aleida Assmann the article argues that a community's literary canon comprises a key criterion of its identity policy and is as important for the construction of a cultural identity as history and myth. The Serbian literary establishment of the 1990s is sought to modify or to govern this canon, using history and myths to redefine a Serbian cultural identity to the detriment of its Yugoslavian counterpart. The process is attended by ideological and generational conflicts which had a major impact on the cultural life of Serbia in the 1990s.

Keywords: *NIN Literary Award, cultural identity, literary canon, post-communist Serbia, Milošević era*