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**Between History, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.
Some results of the ASRT / CNR Bilateral Project
'History of Peace-building: peaceful relations between
Est and West (11th - 15th Centuries)'**

Luciano Gallinari - Ali Ahmed El-Sayed - Heba Mahmoud Saad (eds.)

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Special Issue

Between History, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage. Some results of the ASRT / CNR Bilateral Project 'History of Peace-building: peaceful relations between Est and West (11th - 15th Centuries)'

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Editorial

Luciano Gallinari

(CNR - Istituto di Storia dell'Europa Mediterranea)

This Issue of the Journal *RiMe* celebrates its (first) 10 years of existence. In fact, the first volume was published in December 2008. Since then a lot of things have changed in *RiMe*.

Looking at its various volumes in a diachronic manner, we note that, alongside several more typically historical topics, the Journal has hosted several *Special Issues* with a monographic nature concerning other Humanities, such as Literature, or Disciplines at the boundary between Human Sciences and Exact Sciences, such as Architecture, for example.

Not to mention several incursions into the wide and interesting world of Social Networks or, again, Gamification and Public History.

The Journal has always paid great attention to a reliable and accurate dissemination of the results of Research in the civil society and, of course, in the Schools of all types and levels.

All this also in order to raise in the contemporary society the level of the debate on History and other Humanities, in the face of an ever-increasing risk of "presentification", and to make as many readers as

Con il presente numero la rivista *RiMe* festeggia i suoi (primi) 10 anni di esistenza. Infatti il primo volume uscì nel dicembre del 2008. Da allora molte cose sono cambiate in *RiMe*.

Osservando diacronicamente i suoi diversi volumi, si nota che accanto a numerosi temi più tipicamente storici la Rivista ha ospitato diverse *Special Issues* con carattere monografico riguardanti altre Scienze umanistiche quali la Letteratura, o discipline al confine tra Scienze Umane e Scienze esatte quali l'Architettura per esempio.

Per non parlare poi di diverse incursioni effettuate nel vasto e interessante mondo dei *Social Networks* o, ancora, della *Gamification* e della *Public History*.

La Rivista ha prestato sempre una grande attenzione anche a un'attendibile e accurata disseminazione dei risultati delle ricerche nella società civile e, ovviamente, nelle Scuole di ogni ordine e grado.

Tutto ciò anche al fine di innalzare nella società contemporanea il livello del dibattito sulla Storia e le altre Scienze Umane, dinanzi a un

possible can reach every content of *RiMe*, now accessible totally free of charge.

Precisely in accordance with the aims pursued since the the creation of the Journal 10 years ago.

In order to celebrate this first important Journal's anniversary in an even more appropriate way, we decided to adopt the Content Management System (CMS) "OJS". This choice is due to two of our objectives: 1) to adapt *RiMe*'s contents to parameters now very common at international level with regard to scientific Journals, and 2) to further increase the indexing and visibility of the essays hosted in it.

Currently, the last three issues have been uploaded to the new CMS, those marked "n.s.", i.e. "New Series" published in the last year, starting from December 2017.

Progressively all the previous 18 Issues will be uploaded in the new CMS, thus reaching a total of 27 Booklets.

rischio sempre crescente di "presentificazione", e di far raggiungere al maggior numero possibile di lettori ogni contenuto di *RiMe*, ormai accessibile in maniera totalmente gratuita. Proprio in ottemperanza delle finalità perseguite dalla creazione di questa rivista ormai 10 anni fa.

Per festeggiare in maniera ancora più adeguata questa prima importante ricorrenza della rivista, abbiamo deciso di adottare il Content Management System (CMS) "OJS". Tale scelta è dovuta a due nostri obiettivi: 1) adeguare così i contenuti di *RiMe* a parametri ormai molto diffusi a livello internazionale in riviste di carattere scientifico e 2) incrementare ulteriormente l'indicizzazione e la visibilità dei saggi ospitati in essa.

Attualmente sono stati caricati nel nuovo CMS gli ultimi tre numeri, quelli caratterizzati dalla dicitura "n.s.", ossia "nuova serie" pubblicati nell'ultimo anno dal dicembre 2017.

Progressivamente saranno inseriti nel nuovo CMS tutti i precedenti 18 numeri, arrivando così a un totale di 27 fascicoli.

Ad Maiora

Cagliari, 31 Dicembre 2018

Introduction

Luciano Gallinari

(CNR - Istituto di Storia dell'Europa Mediterranea)

Ali Ahmed El-Sayed

(Damanhour University, Egypt)

Heba Mahmoud Saad

(Alexandria University, Egypt)

This issue of *RiMe*, with which the Journal celebrates its (first) 10 years of existence, is once again, a *Special Issue*. In this case, it is dedicated to the topic of relations between Italy and Egypt and, more generally, between the Western World and the Islamic one in a chronological span that goes from the High Middle Ages to the beginning of the Modern Age, a theme at the heart of the Bilateral Project ASRT (Egypt) / CNR (Italy) "*History of Peace-building: peaceful relations between East and West (11th - 15th Century)*", financed for the years 2016 - 2017, whose scientific managers were, for the Egyptian side, Prof. Ali Ahmed Mohamed El-Sayed, from the University of Damanhour, and Dr. Luciano Gallinari, from the CNR-Istituto di Storia dell'Europa Mediterranea, for the Italian one.

The same historical and historiographic themes were discussed by Egyptian and Italian researchers in the context of three other workshops, two of which were organized in Rome in February and December 2017 ("Historiographic reflections on the medieval relations between Muslims and Christians"), and the third and last one in Alexandria ("Egypt and Italy: Cultural Heritage for Sustainable Tourism and Peaceful Relations") always in December 2017.

The volume contains some articles by Italian and Egyptian researchers of the above mentioned Bilateral Project that fit in the wake of themes already examined at the International Conference *Peace Building between East and West (XI-XVI c.)*, held in Cairo on 27 October 2016.

Alongside an essay dedicated to the important theme of the profound change recorded in the settlement policies in the Late Ancient and Early Medieval Mediterranean, strongly affected by the rapid and large expansion of Islam, there is another text that examines the stimulating figure of the Priest John in relation to the Crusades, from the dual Christian and Muslim perspective.

The third essay is dedicated to a theme of great importance: the relationship between the Roman Curia and the Mamluk Sultanate at the time of Innocent

VIII (1484-1492). A pope who played an anything but a secondary role also in the setting up of Christopher Columbus' "discovery" enterprise, also aimed at breaking that sort of "encirclement" sensation on the part of the Islamic World that Christianity felt at the end of the Middle Ages.

This volume also includes six other scientific essays, three by Italian researchers and three by Egyptian researchers dedicated to the theme of Cultural Heritage and its management for cultural tourism purposes in Italy and Egypt. I will not talk about them because it will be done by Prof. Heba Mahmoud Saad in her pages of this Introduction, but I will just say that the idea of this booklet and other initiatives that will take place in the next two years of the aforementioned Bilateral Project (2019 - 2020) came to me during a stay in Alexandria, Egypt, in October 2016 after meeting the aforementioned Prof. Saad who very kindly accompanied me on a tour of that beautiful Egyptian city.

On that occasion, we talked for a long time about the rich cultural heritage of our two countries and the idea of increasing scientific collaboration between us was born. This volume is a first, small piece of this collaboration, which confirms how this Journal can be a forum for discussion and debate on the important issue of Dissemination of Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage, which is one of the main aims of *RiMe* since its creation.

Finally, the volume contains an interesting archaeological essay dedicated to the medieval *villa* of Santa Gilla (or Santa Igia, in other sources) probably located within the lagoon of the same name a few kilometers from the Roman and Byzantine city of *Karales* located below a part of the centre of the current city of Cagliari. The author of this essay presents an interesting and stimulating proposal for the identification of this *villa*, attested in the sources from 1070 and seat of the judges of Calari, who were from an institutional point of view the most direct heirs of the previous Arconti / Giudici di Sardegna mentioned in the Byzantine and papal sources of the 9th and 10th centuries A.D.

The volume is closed by some Book Reviews of recent publications on Medieval and Modern History.

Luciano Gallinari

* * *

It is an honor to participate in the introduction of the special issue of *RiMe* journal which is dedicated to publish part of the results of the Egyptian-Italian (ASRT/CNR) research project entitled "History of Peace-Building: peaceful relations between East and West (XIth – XVth Century)"

The project focuses on the significance of the relations between Western Europe and the Islamic East and the efforts which were made towards peace-building from the eleventh to the fifteenth century, although that period was considered as the most serious stage in the conflict between the East and West, Islam and Christianity in the Middle Ages.

During the two-years of cooperation many activities and events were organized between the Egyptian and Italian partners: In October 2016, an international conference was organized by the Egyptian partners and was hosted by the Supreme Council of Culture aiming to compare the results of our research. It was followed by a workshop held in the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, in collaboration with the Italian Principal Investigator; Dr. Luciano Gallinari.

In February 2017, Prof. Aly El-Sayed and Dr. Abdallah Al-Naggar, two members of the Egyptian research team, visited Rome and participated in a workshop hosted by Istituto Storico Italiano per l'Età Moderna e Contemporanea. Another workshop was also organized by the Italian team headed by Dr. Luciano Gallinari between 10-15 December. During that workshop which was held in Rome, the Egyptian participation was represented by Prof. Aly Al-Sayed, Dr. Abdallah Al-Naggar and Mr. Ahmed Sheir.

Considering the international interest in heritage and the common heritage shared by Egypt and Italy; a special workshop was devoted for that topic in 17 December, 2017. During the workshop, which was held in Alexandria and organized by Prof. Heba Saad together with Dr. Luciano Gallinari, Egyptian and Italian researchers presented papers, focusing on heritage as an aspect of peace-building and potential for sustainable development.

The results of the Bilateral Project were disseminated by various publications. The first is a multilingual (English-Arabic-Italian-Hungarian) book, entitled *Relations between East and West - Various Studies: Medieval and Contemporary Ages*, which contains all papers compiled by both research teams. This volume contains 11 papers in addition to a preface. The papers were prepared by 6 Egyptian researchers, 4 Italians, and 1 Hungarian. The current issue of *RiMe* is the second publication containing 3 papers on history (2 Italian researchers and 1 Egyptian), 6 papers on heritage (3 Italian researchers and 3 Egyptians) in addition to 1 focus and 3 book reviews.

Within the next few weeks, the third publication will be issued in the form of a book which presents histories of peaceful coexistence between various people, empires, cultures and religions from the Middle Ages to the end of the 20th century. The authors examined the contact points of different cultures from the Byzantine Empire, through the Trebizond Empire period and into the Seljuk Sultanate. The book also presents insights into the peaceful coexistence between

Egyptian Copts and Muslims in the period from 1882 to 1952. Researchers from Egypt, Italy, Germany, and Hungary participated in this work.

Ali Ahmed El-Sayed

Peaceful relation between East and West is an important topic that attracted the attention of both Egyptian and Italian researchers to work on. Thus; a formal research project was established between CNR and ASRT entitled "History of Peace-building: peaceful relations between East and West (11th-15th Century). The current issue of *RiMe* is dedicated to publish some results of that project.

Leaving aside the first part of the Issue, already presented by Luciano Gallinari, I will focus on the second part of it which is dedicated to heritage since the Egyptian and Italian partners of the project believe that this wide and yet diverse aspect insures the deep relations between Egypt and Italy. The Italian contribution in the creation of the modern Egyptian heritage is unquestionable and the Egyptian heritage presented in Italy is irreplaceable; thus, heritage can provide a common ground for planning for the future. It ensures sustainable development of tourism and can strengthen the future relations between the two countries. Due to that importance of heritage a special seminar was organized in Alexandria in December 2017 to discuss Egyptian-Italian heritage and how it can be another aspect of peace-building between the two countries.

Many papers were presented in the seminar and 6 of them were chosen to be published in the current issue of *RiMe*. Sandra Leonardi's paper is entitled "*The cultural places' valorization through new models of tourism*" and it focuses on the sustainable tourism as one of the principles of economic development. The paper sheds light on new forms of tourism aiming at enhancing, integrating environmental sustainability of the landscape, cultural heritage and environmental resources by identifying their potential value and making them attractive.

Sara Carallo's paper which is about "*Digital Cultural Heritage and Tourism: Valle dell' Amaseo Web Portal*" presented a cultural heritage project executed in Valle dell' Amaseo to encourage the local community participate in the development of the cultural heritage. The project focuses on the census of cultural and environmental heritage and on the creation of tourist travel routes aiming at promoting sustainable mobility and improving accessibility through the proposal of alternative routes.

An innovative approach of using cultural heritage was presented by Luisa Spagnoli - Lucia Grazia Varasano in their paper "*Unused railways for a planning idea- A Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage*". They proposed the idea of the

transformation of two railways of Basilicata Region – the Lagonegro-Spezzano Albanese and the Matera-Montalbano Jonico, – which have a historical, cultural and environmental important value. The paper suggests that the reusing of these abandoned railways can have effects on the territory crossed, on the places, on the historical settlements, activating a special type of “experiential” tourism and other innovative forms of it. Such an experience can also represent an extraordinary Intangible and Tangible Cultural Heritage experience.

Another idea of using the tangible and intangible heritage for the benefit of tourism is proposed by Heba Saad in her paper *“Thematic walking tours in Alexandria as a way to discover its heritage: Case study of Italian heritage in Alexandria”*. The paper sheds light on the role of the Italian community in the creation of both the tangible and intangible heritage of the cosmopolitan city; Alexandria. The paper presented thematic walking tours as a way to discover the vivid Italian heritage of Alexandria; proposing a wide range of themes to present that heritage and the different routes of such tours.

Heba Said and Sherine Hamid in their paper *“Community participation in heritage sites tourism planning: Case study Dahshur mobilization plan”* explained the essential role of community participation in the planning, development and conservation of heritage sites. They applied their study on one of the sites in Egypt; “Dahshur World Heritage Site” to investigate the local community participation. The study proved that the residents had a positive perception of the participation experience which empowered them to influence the decision making process, enhanced their quality of life, created job opportunities and improved their skills.

In her paper *“Italian Egyptologists through the Ages”* Reham El-Shiwy looked at heritage from a different prospective focusing on how part of the Egyptian heritage was discovered in the past by Italian archaeologists, explorers and missionaries. The paper sheds light on the efforts of famous Italians such as Ippolito Rosellini, Giovanni Battista Caviglia, Belzoni, Ernesto Schiaparelli, Silvio Curto and others; highlighting their findings in Egypt and discussing their participation in the field of Egyptology.

Heba Mahmoud Saad

