

## THE WRITING OF HISTORY IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

### **Chloé Maurel – Doing World/Global History in China in the Era of Globalization**

The practice of history in China was long China-centered. With the opening of the country under Deng Xiaoping from the 1980s, Chinese historians had more access to foreign sources and global history took off. Handbooks, journals, institutes in global history appeared. Thanks to the efforts of Chinese historian Wu Yujin, global history won recognition in China : many works by Western scholars advocating the global approach were introduced into China. Recent trends in global history in China show an interest for ancient times, from Prehistory to Modern times, and for Orient-West relationships. The importance and diversity of the global history themes tackled by Chinese scholars in international symposia prove the enthusiasm for this trend in China, even if some remain reluctant.

**Keywords :** Globalization, China, Asia, global history, world history, Orient, historiography, epistemology.

### **Eliana de Freitas Dutra – Brazilian Historiographic Practices at the Crossroads: Contemporary Challenges**

This article intends to reflect upon a few decisive moments of history writing in Brazil, as well as upon some specific aspects of Brazilian historiographic practices in the XX-XXI centuries. Our objective is to analyze them in regard to their theoretical framework; their analytical tendencies; their dialogue with other world historiographic trends; the critical thinking of historians on their own work; the definition of fields of interest; the investigative practices and the conditions of research. Our path in this text is anchored in two thematic domains chosen for their exemplarity: the history of reading and of the book; and the history of slavery, having as a backdrop the political implications of historiographic work and its social relevance.

**Keywords :** Historiographic, book, reading, slavery, Brazil.

### **Candice Raymond – Life, Death and Resurrection of the History of Lebanon, or the Vicissitudes of the Phoenix**

This article considers the specific production conditions and modalities of an official history, understood as a historiography produced and promoted by the state apparatus, in modern Lebanon. It recounts the history of “the history of Lebanon” as a historical discourse consubstantial with the formation of the state, whose very relevance of the subject was initially disputed and whose main statements have been challenged. It then describes the processes by which this historiography has been reconfigured so as to form at the end of the civil war the basis of a minimum and default national history, which reflects, however, an unprecedented

narrowing of positions within Lebanese society and a more widely shared desire for consensus despite the persistence of sectarian divides.

**Keywords :** Lebanon, historiography, official history, national history, lebanonism.

### **Zhang Xupeng – Historical Writing in the People's Republic of China since 1978**

The December 1978 decision at the Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party to implement reform and opening-up marks an important watershed in historical studies in contemporary China. With this in mind, historical studies in contemporary China can be conveniently subdivided into three periods: the period from the founding of the People's Republic of China to the start of the Cultural Revolution (1949-1966); the Cultural Revolution period (1966-1976); and the period starting with reform and opening-up, or the "new period" (1978 onwards). This paper gives a comprehensive survey on the historical writing in the People's Republic of China since 1978. The paper has three parts. The first part is about how and why Chinese historians turn away from traditional political history to cultural and social histories. The second part analyses four paradigms in contemporary historical research in China: revolutionary history paradigm, modernization paradigm, postmodern paradigm, and global history paradigm. The third part reviews World History studies in China and lists four methods that have successively been employed, namely, the total/integral history, modernization history, the history of civilizational exchange, and global history. The paper concludes that it is incumbent on Chinese historians to be sensitive to all foreign historiographies while steadfastly adhering to the best Chinese traditions, for only in this way can a unique and worthy model of Chinese historiography emerge.

**Keywords :** Historical writing, People's Republic of China, the expanding scope of historical writing, shift of historical studies paradigm, world history research in China.

### **Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch – African Historiography in Africa South of the Sahara**

English written historiography began a generation before French written historiography. Firstly, this paper analyzes the historical reasons for the delay, and then the birth of the Ibadan, Dar es Salam, and Dakar Schools. African researchers of the 80s and 90s wrote a large number of Masters and Ph.Ds most of which were not published. Often mostly evenemential, they were nonetheless full of information. French "Africanists" were mistrustful of so-called "afrocentric" thinking, and critical of a sometimes sterilizing patrimonialism. They were unaware that, for the last 40 years, African history has been mainly written by African historians. This mistrust is obsolete. In spite of huge material difficulties, modern African historians are of universal value.

**Keywords :** Africa, French written historiography, English written historiography, history.

## VARIA

### **Catherine Fournet-Guérin, Céline Vacchiani-Marcuzzo – New Interactions between Southern Countries? A Case Study of the Links between Madagascar and South Africa**

In the context of globalization, trade among developing countries continues to grow. South Africa, the continent's emerging power, and its poor country neighbour, Madagascar, are part of this dynamic. The paper examines the South African interest for Madagascar across the African continent and in the context of regionalization of trade, and then focuses on bilateral relations between the two countries, which are both heterogeneous and asymmetric. Finally, the article examines the reasons why trade between these two neighbouring countries finally remains stunted. The analysis also examines the gradual marginalization of France in the economic development of its former colonies in Africa, compared to the growth of emerging countries.

**Keywords :** Madagascar, South Africa, Globalization, South-South cooperation, spatial implications.

### **Julien Debonneville, Pablo Diaz – Policy Transfer Processes and the New Techniques of Governance: The Role of the World Bank in the Adoption of the Conditional Cash Transfers Program in the Philippines**

This contribution aims to study policy transfer processes in the field of development and the fight against poverty. By studying the Conditional Cash Transfer in the Philippines, we will attempt to highlight how this policy, born in the 1990's in Latin America, was put on the agenda of the Philippines government. To this end, we also intend to describe what role(s) IGOs, and particularly the World Bank, played in these processes of policy transfer. Therefore, we will emphasize its role as an entrepreneur of ideas/norms as well as its networking ability through its international experts, favouring lesson-drawing processes. More specifically, based on our field studies, we underline the importance of conferences, workshops and field visits of "best cases", organized by IGOs to legitimate new policies. Our conclusions underline the transnationalization of policymaking and the centrality of IGOs in this process.

**Keywords :** Public policy, policy transfert, World Bank, The Philippines, Conditional Cash Transfers.

## DOCUMENTS

### **Jude C. Eggoh, Denis Acclassato – Crisis of Illegal Investment Institutions in Benin: Origin and Manifestations**

This paper presents the general mechanisms of the Ponzi game, by highlighting striking experiences in developed and developing countries. Moreover, we focus on the case of Benin which was recently hit by the crisis of illegal investment institutions. Based on the foundations of the Ponzi scheme, the article analyzes the factors behind the recent crisis, its

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consequences and the efficiency of the proposed solutions. Recommendations of economic policy are proposed in order to avoid such financial plans.

**Keywords :** Financial crisis, Ponzi game, Benin. **JEL classification:** G01, G21.