

Introduction

In this issue, we continue to offer up-to-date surveys of the latest knowledge on important topics in the history of the Catalan-speaking lands in all their facets and historical periods. The first article examines the leading Roman cities in what is the region of Valencia today until the 3rd century AD, complementing the information provided in the previous issue on the Roman cities in today's Catalonia. The early Romanisation of the eastern seaboard of the Iberian Peninsula can be explained by geographic reasons, and this zone soon became a part of the new system after the second war between Roman and Carthage, beginning with Sagunt, even though none of the cities here ever reached a significant size.

The historiography of Romanesque art in Catalonia has a prestigious arc of more than 100 years. However, the vision and interpretation of Romanesque religious architecture has undergone significant changes in recent decades, as shown in the article on this topic published in this issue, an extensive text which far exceeded the preordained limits. This historiographic revamping has spotlighted the former church in *Egara*, today the city of Terrassa, after the recent excavations, and the latest studies on the cathedrals in La Seu d'Urgell, Girona and Vic. It is still difficult to pinpoint the late transition from Romanesque to Gothic in Catalonia, when it had already taken place in northern France. In former times, the Catalan Romanesque used to be considered the first "national" style; however, a comprehensive vision of Europe as a whole has come to prevail. Comparative studies of the structures and the relations of the buildings' forms with the liturgy are quite possibly the most highly developed aspects lately, even though the economic and technical imperatives went beyond the liturgy and the monastic reforms, such as the Cistercian. The article notes that Romanesque architecture in Catalonia lasted until well into the 13th century, with an eclectic synthesis of new elements.

The military orders have always been a focal point of particular attention by historians. They emerged around the first crusade to establish Western Europe's dominance over the Holy Land. Their members included half monks and half warriors, and they played a prominent role in Catalonia and Aragon in the expansion against Islamic power on the Iberian Peninsula, without the need to focus on the expeditions to the eastern Mediterranean, although they did depend on the headquarters established there. An entire county in the northeast of the Kingdom of Valencia is called Maestrat because it was governed by the masters of the Orders of the Temple and the Hospital. From Ramon Berenguer IV to James I the Conquerer, the

kings enlisted the aid of the knights from the military orders for their conquests and in return granted them important domains with castles. Upon the dissolution of the Knights of the Temple, the source of so many subsequent legends, King James II of Aragon, Catalonia and Valencia obeyed the Pope's ruling, instigated by the King of France, but he did not mercilessly pursue the Knights Templar as his neighbouring king did; rather he absolved and indemnified them despite the armed resistance they put up against the dissolution of the castles of Montsó and Miravet between 1308 and 1309. Part of the Templars' assets went to the Hospitallers and the other new local order of Montesa. This was the second military order created in locally after the Order of Saint George of Alfama, founded in 1201. The life and resources of these military orders' convents are analysed, where people of both sexes who had not taken religious vows also lived, albeit separately. The article contains significant new information on the female branches of the military orders in Catalonia.

The Counter-Reformation of the Church through the Council of Trent was the orthodox response to the Protestant Reformation. The article published in this issue believes that a definitive conclusion on the success or failure of the Catholic Reformation in the Principality of Catalonia and the Kingdoms of Valencia and Mallorca in the 16th and 17th centuries is not yet possible, despite the fact that a host of resources and efforts were spent on it with the wholesale involvement of the monarchs and the interference of the Crown in the zeal to ensure Castilian pre-eminence in lands that enjoyed political autonomy. Immigrants from Occitania and the neighbours in France led them to fear penetration by the Calvinists. The phenomenon of banditry and the presence of Moriscos (Muslims who had officially converted by force) hindered the success of the Catholic Reformation, which penetrated the minority urban world more easily than the majority rural world. The tradition of the provincial councils and diocesan synods facilitated the spread of the Catholic Reformation in Catalonia, as well as the enforcement of the Tridentine reforms, which dictated using the vernacular in catechism and preaching. The magical notions associated with witchcraft were slowly replaced by the new orthodoxy.

The use of hydraulic energy as an alternative to the coal consumed by steam engines was not exclusive to Catalonia in the 19th century, but here it was exceptionally dense thanks to the proliferation of the industrial colonies in rural settings along the Llobregat and Ter Rivers. By industrial colonies we mean nuclei with workers' homes built next to the factory by the company itself. There are

around 80 of these industrial colonies, today either fallen out of use or repurposed. The extensive literature on the subject serves as the foundation of the survey published in this issue. The periodisation of a complex phenomenon with a multitude of factors and causes necessitates a time-less view. It has been difficult to overcome the prejudices both in favour and against the industrial colonies which were formulated polemically in the late 19th century. In addition to drawing up a model, we need to note the particular features of each case. Today these industrial colonies are one of the most noteworthy parts of Catalonia's industrial heritage, and some of them have been restored partly as museums for cultural tourism.

Literature written in Catalan was in the midst of a phase of consolidation and maturity when the Spanish Civil War broke out from 1936 to 1939. The conflict prompted short stories, more appropriate for war chronicles and journalistic reporting than realistic fiction, which required a longer gestation time. The most recent referent was the literature generated by World War I. Few book-length publications were issued during the Civil War itself, the exceptions being Pere Calders' *Unitats de xoc* (Shock Troops), which avoided an epic tone, and Manuel Valldeperes' *Els perills de la rereguarda* (The Perils of the Home Front), which was more moralistic in tone. The purpose of the last article in this issue is to examine the characteristics of and evolution in this narrative until reaching anthological examples of novels with translations into several languages, such as Joan Sales' *Incerta glòria* (Uncertain Glory) and Mercè Rodoreda's *La plaça del Diamant* (translated as *The Pigeon Girl* or *The Time of the Doves*).

To commemorate the sixth centennial of the death of King Martin the Humane, the History-Archaeology Department of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans organised an international congress from the 31st of May to the 4th of June 2010 at its headquarters. The congress examined diverse facets – political, social, economic and cultural – of the reign of that monarch of Aragon, Catalonia, Valencia, Mallorca, Sardinia and Sicily who died without a direct descendant. This in turn yielded an interregnum that led to the Compromise of Caspe, a hotly disputed event which led to a change in dynasty with the enthronement of the Castilian house of the Trastámara in the Crown of Aragon. This issue offers a chronicle of the congress, just as a previous issue did for the 2008 congress on James I also organised by the History-Archaeology Department of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans.

In another area, we echo the conclusion of the international congress *Ianua Coeli*: The monumental Roman-

esque doorways, which was organized in Barcelona and Ripoll by the Amics de l'Art Romànic (Friends of Romanesque Art), an affiliate of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans. The scientific gathering aimed to study the large doorways that emerged in the Christian territories in the west and east of the Iberian Peninsula in the 12th century and the early years of the 13th century.

The issue also includes a list of books and journals on historical topics published by the Institut d'Estudis Catalans in 2010.

The cover shows a reproduction of an oil painting, *La teixidora* (The Weaver) by Joan Planella i Rodríguez (1850-1910). This work dates from 1882 and depicts one of many girls who worked in the factories in the cities and industrial colonies of Catalonia which are examined in this issue of the *Catalan Historical Review*. An official survey conducted in 1883 revealed that working-class children began to work at the age of seven and toiled between eleven and thirteen hours per day. This was the social cost of industrialisation in Catalonia and in other countries. The painting reproduced here does not seem to be critical in tone; rather it reflects an everyday fact, re-creating it in the charm of the girl, who is lit from above, leaving foreman who is watching over her work in the shadows. Joan Planella was a famous realistic painter, as well as the author of large-scale paintings on historical or propagandistic topics such as *Los Comuneros de Castilla* (1887) and *General Prim in the Battle of Tétouan*, from 1859.

In the previous issue of the *Catalan Historical Review*, we were pleased to report on the journal's classification in several databases of Spanish and international journals. Now it has just been included in the highest category in the official evaluation system of scientific journals on the social sciences and humanities in Catalonia, the Carhus Plus System of the Management Agency of University and Research Aid (AGAUR).

Apart from this wonderful piece of news, we are currently mourning the loss of historian Manuel Riu i Riu, who joined the History-Archaeology Department of the Institut d'Estudis Catalans in 1990 and was one of the most renowned experts in mediaeval archaeology, and the historian Robert B. Tate corresponding member in 1966 for having promoted relations between Catalan and British scholars in the field of cultural history. Obituaries featuring their work and career have been included. May they rest in peace.

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