

## TABLA DE CONTENIDOS

Presentación.....	vii
Directorio de participantes.....	ix
Semblanza del profesor Luis A. García Moreno.....	xiii
Luis A. García Moreno: publicaciones 1970-2021.....	xix
Entrevista a Luis A. García Moreno (25/01/2016).....	xlvi
Borja ANTELA-BERNÁRDEZ – Jordi VIDAL PALOMINO	
Ríos, manantiales y fuentes fantásticas en la literatura geográfica griega sobre la India antigua.....	81
Manuel ALBALADEJO VÍVERO	
<i>Abstract:</i> In this paper I have tried to collect all the rivers, springs and sources of fantastic nature that the ancient Greek authors located in India. The objective is to analyze these passages to extract a series of common guidelines to all of them, among which the image of India as a wonderland stands out, a country blessed by all kinds of wealth and natural resources, but which, in a contradictory way, at times the country also hid many dangers.	
César en <i>Brigantium</i> (61 a. C.). Crítica de las fuentes e intertextualidad.....	93
Víctor ALONSO TRONCOSO	
<i>Abstract:</i> This paper continues two earlier publications of the author on the same subject. It studies the naval expedition of Julius Caesar to the north of Callaecia, leading to the subjugation of Brigantium. It analyses the passage of Cassius Dio describing the episode and faces three questions: its degree of credibility (basically right), the sources on which it depends in the last resort (Caesar's letters to the senate) and its intertextual dimension (according to the hermeneutics of Bakhtin and Kristeva).	

Borja ANTELA-BERNÁRDEZ

*Abstract:* In the literature of antiquity, we can find clear examples of writings in which the fantastic acquires the validity of historical fact. In this paper we will focus on a series of episodes from Plutarch's Life of Sertorius in order to show how certain concepts prior to the actual narration of the facts, considered historical, influence the way of conceiving the facts to be narrated, and the very meaning of the story being told, clearly affecting the biographical genre, but also on the way of conceiving ancient historiography, and consequently, even on our current perception of past events, which were probably clearly fantastic and exempla motifs for the ancients, but have been validated as possible and real by our contemporary colleagues.

Oleg AUROV

*Abstract:* The article is devoted to the question of existence of royal insignia in the Visigothic Kingdoms since the appearance of the Kingdom of Toulouse till the middle of the 6th century. The author comes to conclusion, that the absence of information about these insignia in Latin and Greek texts of the period can be explained by the character of the Visigothic kings' power. Barbaric generals of the Late Roman army (including the Visigothic ones) who usurped power over the certain West Roman provinces used the support of military units consisting of their compatriots and of the Roman provincial aristocracy who needed defense in the situation of the Roman administration collapse. In this situation the Visigothic kings did not need any direct communication with the Roman population and did not want to emphasize the legitimacy of their power using the Roman political symbols. The fall of the Western Roman Empire did not change the situation immediately. But the Visigothic defeat in the battle of Vouillé (507) created step by step the basis of the new political reality. Looking for the social base of their weakened power the kings had to accept the new political conception and to operate like legitimate governors in the sense of Late Antique political culture. The culmination of this process chronologically corresponds to the reign of king Liuvigild (568 – 586), who appeared seating on the throne dressed in purple clothes with a gold crown on the head.

Viviana EDITH BOCH

*Abstract:* The difficult times that occurred in the years around the plunder of the Eternal City had an immediate impact on all regions

of the vast Empire. The intellectual elites transmitted, through epistolary exchange, their experiences, anguish and ideas. The influence of the metadiscourse on Antiquity was of capital importance to spread the stamp and relevance of prominent personalities in the political and ideological evolution of a period marked by uncertainty. It functioned as an agent for the construction of images and mobilization of transformations in all areas of culture. It is the interest of the present study to delve into the motivations and circumstances that accompanied the religious conversion of an influential pagan senator of the Empire: the proconsul *Rufius Antonius Agrypinus Volusianus*.

Los *conventus* de la Bética y los límites del método histórico..... 167

Antonio F. CABALLOS RUFINO

*Abstract:* As a result of the need for a continuous re-evaluation of historiographical models, on this occasion we consider the need to review the argumentative and methodological starting points that lead to a conception, which has been consolidated to the point of becoming a paradigm, of the *conventus* of Hispania Ulterior Baetica as intermediate circumscriptions in the political-administrative management of the territory during the High Roman Empire, which we understand, however, to be lacking this character in this specific province.

The Jews Who Sold Spain: The Image of the Jew in the Medieval  
Conception of the Muslim Conquest of Spain..... 185

Liubov CHERNIN

*Abstract:* The article deals with the history of the literary reflection of “Jewish trace” in the Muslim conquest of Spain. The stories about any participation of the Jews in this event, which appear mostly in the late medieval chronicles, are analysed as the part and parcel of the general image of a Jew as a traitor in both theological and political spheres. Muslim reports about Jewish garrisons in the conquered towns gave birth to the colourful story about the Jews who opened the gate of Toledo to the Muslims, invented by Lucas of Tuy. It was soon picked up by other authors and entered to the large-scaled anti-Jewish discourse of Late Medieval Spain.

Aceptación y rechazo de Roma: el rey, la *lex Aquilia* y la patria potestad  
en los Fueros de Aragón..... 205

Guillermo FATÁS

*Abstract.* The medieval laws of Aragon (Fueros) have become famous for their rejection of Roman law, but this, which is real in some points, should not be understood as a general feature. This essay deals with the supposed native formula of a royal oath; and two specific cases with

opposite meanings: the adoption of the “lex Aquilia” and the denial of the “patria potestas” interpreted in the manner of Rome.

Los escipiones en la Primera Guerra Púnica. La desesperada búsqueda del éxito militar de un grupo familiar patricio..... 213

Jaime GÓMEZ DE CASO ZURIAGA

*Abstract:* The Scipio’s family group, belonging to the *gens* Cornelia, was looking for prominence, prestige and glory during the First Punic War. However, it’s most prominent members, Gnaeus and Lucius, were far from obtaining a great success, and their triumphs were made to look enlarged by the family’s own political influence, already huge in that epoch.

De las columnas a los Pirineos: Apiano y la geografía de la Península Ibérica..... 237

Francisco Javier GÓMEZ ESPELOSÍN

*Abstract:* Appian’s apparently archaic image of the Iberian Peninsula reveals his manifest disinterest in such matters. His whole account of the Roman conquest of the peninsular territory ignores the corresponding geographical supports that may have appeared specifically in his sources of information in order to concentrate his attention on other more relevant aspects from his perspective, such as the stratagems used or the more or less courageous and prudent attitude of the protagonists. The isolated and scattered geographical references in his account are only the result of the filtering process from his sources and do not in themselves allow for an approximate reconstruction of the scene of events.

Iberia en el *Periplo del Mar Exterior* de Marciano de Heraclea..... 261

José María GÓMEZ FRAILE

*Abstract:* In this paper I propose to contrast the information on the Iberian Peninsula from the Marcian of Heraclea’s *Periplus of the Outer Sea* with the Ptolemy’s *Guide to Geography*. The analysis covers the coastal sequences, the general geographic inventory and I propose a method to relate the numerical information from the Marcian’s *Periplus* with the Ptolemy’s geographic coordinates.

Algunas precisiones sobre las formas de gobierno en Atenas..... 291

Florencio HUBEÑAK

*Abstract:* The topic of “forms of government” or “forms of power” is a classic in the literature of the history of political thought and even of political science.

As a historian convinced of the need to “go back to the sources” and review the interpretations, it seems convenient to me to carefully analyze what was the historical reality of the emergence and

development of these forms in Athens, considered the basis of political thought in this sense.

The conclusions we arrived at –and that arise from the development of the work– clearly show the difference between the Athenian political reality and its interested deformation through the times.

“¡Soy demasiado vieja para volver a casarme!” Mujeres y vejez en el Antiguo Oriente.....	321
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Josué J. JUSTEL

*Abstract:* This contribution aims at providing some data about the factor of (advanced) age in Ancient Near Eastern women. The article deals with a selection of legal and literary cuneiform texts, as well as a brief list of biblical ones, and attempts to explain why in the Ancient Near East not all women (whose husbands had passed) were considered “widows”.

Isidoro de Sevilla en Rusia: estudios y traducciones.....	337
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Elena MAREY

*Abstract:* In this article I tried to present an overview of Isidorian studies in Russia. Professional interest in the history of Spain, especially in the history of the High Middle Ages, appeared not so long ago: strictly speaking, the studies of Visigothic history begin in the 60s and are associated with the name of Alexander Korsunsky. The figure of Isidore of Seville, his thoughts and his works are always in the center of attention. Today his texts are studied by historians and philosophers, specialists in ancient and medieval culture; the main issue of various works is the Isidorian way of citing and using his very different sources. Any works of Isidore were translated into Russian, and the new translations also appear, although there are many difficulties with the “word game” in the Latin text.

El asesinato como instrumento político entre los visigodos.....	355
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Salvador I. MARIEZCURRENA PONCE

*Abstract:* The next pages are a study about political assassination throughout Gothic history, identifying the different existing variants from it presents from the 5th to the 8th centuries and which serve as a guide to the process of institutional construction and political relations that will take place in the different stages of the Visigothic evolution: the Toulouse kingdom, the Ostrogoth intermediate, the Leovigildian re-founding and the Toledo kingdom.

<i>Powerslave:</i> rehenes y control político en el reinado de Alejandro.....	379
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Marc MENDOZA

*Abstract:* Alexander employed different policies in his dealings with the elites from his new territories. Recurrently, groups of locals joined the

expedition. Behind an apparent uniformity, it is possible to distinguish different policies in terms of application and goals both towards those involved and their homelands. Therefore, this practice covered from the forced taking of political hostages until the relatively voluntary incorporation of some contingents into the Macedonian ranks. This way it will address their short- and long-term goals, the effects both aimed and produced, their incorporation in the discourses of both conquerors and conquered, and their importance for their integration into the growing empire.

Los gladiadores en la *Onirocrítica* de Artemidoro y una propuesta de restitución..... 403

María Engracia MUÑOZ-SANTOS

*Abstract:* Artemidorus is an essential source for the knowledge of gladiature in the Eastern Roman Empire of the 2nd century AD. Although his *Onirocritica* is an obviously fanciful work, the social context in which it was written gives us a lot of information about how the inhabitants of Greece saw the *munera* at that time. However, his work has several gaps precisely where a gladiator typology should appear. In this work, we reread Chapter 32 of Book II to launch a hypothesis for the restitution of these gaps..

San Isidoro y Ximénez de Rada como fuentes para los cronistas suecos del Renacimiento y del Barroco..... 411

Ingmar SÖHRMAN

*Abstract:* We do not know whether there remained any idea of a common Gothic origin and the Gothic exodus to Spain in the memory of the Swedes and the Scandinavians during the first part of the Middle Ages even if there are some indications that this story was not altogether forgotten during the Viking Era, but it turns out clearly that the Gothic part of the history and its legends and ideological prejudices were rediscovered when the work of Ximénez de Rada became known as it was considered more serious and complete than the work of his predecessors. His chronicles and those of his pupil, Alphonse X, come rather quickly to Sweden where they caused a new interest in the Gothic past as the work of Ximénez de la Rada could be used as an established source and through his chronicle many also got to know the works of Isidore of Seville whose books were considered interesting, and many Scandinavian intellectuals of the time studied and used them in their own works. The inspiration to dedicate one's work to the Gothic past led to that the last two Catholic Archbishops of Sweden, and virtually brothers, wrote their respective works on this topic and especially these two turned into the main source for Gothic studies not only in Sweden but also in Spain. In the C17 once more a great interest in the Gothic past rose as the small Swedish Baltic empire took form.

This interest was based on the works of John Magnus and Ximénez de Rada and led to the ultimate romantic interest in the topic at the beginning of the C19.

De nuevo sobre el segundo tratado entre Roma y Cartago.....	429
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YU.B. TSIRKIN

*Abstract:* The second treaty between Rome and Carthage, as it used to be the first one, is first of all a deal of spheres of influence, but it did in a clearer way: Carthage tried to prevent an eventual Roman interference in his area of interest and Rome prioritized recognition by Carthage of his character of leading power and hegemony on the Latium and south of Etruria. In some way, this treaty reflects the Roman regeneration after the catastrophe of the Gallic invasion.

#### ÍNDICES

Index locorum.....	445
Index nominum.....	453