

## PREFACE

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This first issue of *Herodoto* brings a total of 18 contributions, including 5 articles of the **Dossier** “Classical world and its Afro-Asian connections” (“O mundo clássico e suas conexões afro-asiáticas”), 4 texts in the section of **Articles**, 4 **Translations** and 5 **Reviews**. In compliance with its editorial guidelines, all articles of *Herodoto* are published in Portuguese and English versions, except for the texts of the section of **Translations**.

The opening contribution of the **Dossier** of this first volume is the article written by Pedro Paulo Abreu Funari and Tamima Orra Mourad, who relate curatorship and the colonial experience in the cases of Brazil and the Near East, by analyzing how Colonialism shaped curatorship as a practice of museums in both contexts. Funari and Mourad approach situations in which the need to appropriate, protect and keep resulted in the theft, deformation and isolation of the heritage of local populations, thus evincing relations of institutional and individual interests in the form of political and pseudo-scientific practices linked to the issue of heritage.

Fábio Augusto Morales discusses the restoration of Pericles’ Odeon in Athens, undertaken by King Ariobarzanes II of Cappadocia from 63 to 51 B.C. The Odeon of Pericles was a covered theater built in the 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C. and destroyed during the Roman siege of 86 B.C., and can be seen as an important monument that represents the discourse of Athenian identity vis-à-vis the Persians. The opposition of the Greeks to the Persians, which can be seen from the literary production to the elements of material culture, was a hallmark of Athenian civic identity. Morales seeks to understand the decisive importance of the restoration of this “anti-Persian monument” for the foreign policy of Athens in its context.

From a theory-based perspective of the uses of the past, Natascha de Andrade Eggers analyzes the relation between the British Empire and Ancient Egypt, in order to understand how Europeans and, in particular, the British, starting in the 19<sup>th</sup> century,

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used the image of the Egyptian civilization to build a national identity and memory of their own.

Montesquieu's anti-absolutist ideas, deriving from his knowledge of Roman history and his Germanist theory of history, are analyzed by Adilton Luis Martins, who seeks to examine Montesquieu's confrontation against the erudition of a Catholic, absolutist and bourgeois historiography, with the exaltation of the fall of the Roman Empire.

Finally, the issue of slavery, based on the study of the records of an important tradesman from the city of Larsa, in Southern Mesopotamia, is the object of analysis of Kátia Maria Paim Pozzer. Dr. Pozzer also has the merit of making available to Brazilian readers the research sources for the study of economic history with the direct translation of documents from the Akkadian language and the cuneiform writing system.

The opening contribution of the section of **Articles** is the study of Daniel Barbo on the constructionist historiography of Greek erotic art. Barbo analyzes the post-modern and Foucauldian perspective of works that studied Greek erotic art starting in the 1980s, and seeks to identify its links with the New Cultural History School. And Renata Barbosa undertakes an analysis of Roman erotic elegy as a contribution to a deeper understanding of the education of Roman women. Avoiding an analysis focused on the poetical issues of elegiac authors and their works (but not neglecting them), and focusing on education as the guiding thread, Barbosa's analysis is centered in the contrapositions between the ideal of the elegiac *puella docta*, on the one hand, and, on the other, the ideal of Roman matrons.

In the field of political history of the Roman world, Jonathan Cruz Moreira analyzes popular participation in the decision-making processes of the different assemblies of Rome, considering their sovereignty and the role of aristocracy in the control of decisions during the Republican period.

Finally, Cláudio Umpierre Carlan examines the description of iconography as a form of historical document, considering above all the place of image in Late Antiquity. Carlan's analysis is focused on the possibilities of numismatics as a source for students of the ancient world, thus approaching the amplitude of the science of currencies of the ancient world beyond our current view in this field.

In this issue, the section of **Translations** includes 4 new translations of articles into Portuguese, to provide readers – and, particularly, Brazilian students – with access to contributions of important authors on themes that have not yet been widely published in Brazil. These articles were carefully selected in order to encompass, in a general way, the fields of interest of the Study Group on Classical Antiquity and its Afro-Asian Connections, which is linked to *Herodoto*.

The article by Claude Lepelley has a suggestive and self-explanatory title: “Romans in Africa or Romanized Africa? Archeology, colonization and nationalism in Northern Africa”. This issue then brings a contribution of Pascal Arnaud which is the article about “Africa in chapter 35 of Diocletian’s Edict on Maximum Prices”. Finally, the contribution by Juan Carlos Moreno Garcia, “Egypt and its neighboring deserts in the light of the recent discoveries (4<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> millennia B.C.)”, was selected to help fill in a fundamental gap regarding publications on Ancient Egypt in Brazil. All articles of this section point at the existence of a classical context of exchange and circulation with the African world – in short, an interconnected world.

The section of **Reviews** presents critical readings of 5 works, including 2 books published by Brazilian authors in other languages: *The archaeology of gender, love and sexuality in Pompeii*, by Lourdes Madalena Gazarini Conde Feitosa; and *Potestas populi. Participation populaire et action collective dans les villes de l’Afrique romaine tardive (vers 300-430 apr. J.-C.)*, by Julio César Magalhães de Oliveira. Both contributions were published by prestigious international companies (Oxford Archaeopress, and Brepols Publishers), and evince the importance and the circulation of Brazilian students of the ancient world abroad.

The other 3 books in review deal with important themes in the field of studies about Antiquity in the light of recent approaches: *Caesar Augustus: entre práticas e representações*, edited by Carlos Eduardo da Costa Campos and Maria Regina Cândido, is a commemorative work of the 2,000 years of the death of Roman emperor Augustus, with contributions of Brazilian and international authors; *Alexandre, o Grande*, by Philip Freeman, is a biographical narrative about Alexander, the Great; and *História Antiga*, by Norberto Luiz Guarinello, approaches the current reflections on the epistemology of ancient history.

We hope this first issue of *Herodoto* may be a pleasant read to all persons interested in the study of Antiquity in Brazil. We also hope that the fulfillment of the aim of this journal to consolidate itself as a bilingual publication can help promote the academic circulation and exchange with scholars from several research centers and universities around the world, while increasing the international visibility of the contributions of Brazilian authors in this field of studies.

