

### **Powers: The Central and Local Dimensions**

One of the current areas of interest of historiography is the study of the history of powers, stemming from the revalorization of political history which took place in the last decades. At the same time, the studies that are focused on local history faced some renovation, namely in their municipal aspect and in the social perspective. The operability of these two spheres of power (central/ local) has been framed in a dynamic process and in an interrelated way, as shown by the most recent studies.

*Paula Maria de Carvalho Pinto Costa*

### **The Municipal Power in medieval times – the historiographic 'income' and 'expenditure'**

In this study, drawing upon the various syntheses that have been examining the medieval historiographical production, one presents an evaluation of the works published about the municipal thematic, especially in the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the early years of the current one.

One covers the methodologies and the results obtained in recent works and articles around the development of the municipal movement at the time of its implantation, between the 11<sup>th</sup> century and beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and later on during its maturation period, in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. On the first stage, one emphasises the better knowledge of the influence networks and agents that converged to the genesis and differentiated identification of these centres of local power, which were later legally sanctioned by the *cartas de foral* (charters of privilege). Regarding the second period, one pinpoints the variety of analyses of the municipal life, stressing the study of the social elites and the discourse of the municipalities in Courts or in studies of a more economic and legislative nature, that deal with finance and local by-laws, and also the more recent studies that address the municipal written production, the circulation of writings and its more significant symbolic landmarks. Making known what has been done, this work also points to some research and studies' directions that still have to be pursued within the scope of the multifaceted approach to municipal power in medieval times.

*Maria Helena da Cruz Coelho*

### **Law and municipal power: the by-laws. The example of Lisbon (14th-15th centuries) (first approach)**

Within the framework of the underlying enquiries about the acts that translate the exercise of *normative powers*, the authors focus on the *municipal by-laws* of the Portuguese Late-Medieval Age – particularly the ones from Lisbon, already published –, according to possibly aggregating perspectives of the History of Powers, of Urban Diplomats and of a 'classic' typology according to the contents of such acts.

*Armando Luís de Carvalho Homem  
Maria Isabel N. Miguéns de Carvalho Homem*

**Legal tradition, codification and institutional practices: a glimpse through the Royal Power in 15<sup>th</sup> century Portugal**

The analysis of the public official letters of Book One of the Alfonsine Ordinances and of the Manueline Ordinances and the levels of application of the legislative principles there contained are the focus of this study. The law compiled refers to the existence of laws, titles and paragraphs whose source is not contemporary with the edition, building upon earlier information and legislative experience. Thus, one aims to highlight the process of organisation of the first compilations of Portuguese royal laws, and simultaneously unveil the degree of application of the legislated law in face of the practiced law, on the grounds of the administrative *praxis* of the different instances of Royal Power.

*Judite A. Gonçalves de Freitas*

**Internal mobility in the Order of Avis (12th-14th centuries)**

Building upon information provided to us by the specific documentation of the Military Order of Avis, by the chronicles of the kings of Portugal, by the royal diplomas and by other sundry acts, we sought to reflect upon the knights' mobility, using as a starting point some references that witness the presence of the Master or the knights of Avis in different points of the Portuguese kingdom and abroad, namely in the general chapter of the Order of Calatrava, upon which the Portuguese militia depended.

*Maria Cristina Cunha*

**Military Orders and Frontier: a Military, Jurisdictional and Political Performance in Medieval Times**

The application of the crusade to the Iberian territory gives way to the cooperation between the Military Orders and the monarchy in enlarging the territory and creates a convergence of interests in favour of these institutions, whose effects will extend beyond the reconquering period (*Reconquista*). In this sense, there is an evolution in the performance of the Military Orders since their participation in defining the territorial frontier (12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries) to the construction of the frontier characterised by the strategic projection (14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries), structured in two orienting vectors: North-English Channel (Santiago and Avis) and South-Mediterranean and Atlantic (Hospital and Christ).

*Paula Maria de Carvalho Pinto Costa*

**Global perspective of the voyages of the Portuguese to the Canary Islands within the context of the Portuguese discoveries and expansion. A question postponed until Alcaçovas-Toledo (1479-80)**

Despite the questions that have always been associated with the *issue* of the Canary Islands, visible in the many studies done on them, it is not by any means inconvenient to revisit these islands – in a *global perspective* –, thus, confirming, once again, their importance in the process of the Portuguese discoveries and expansion.

*Isabel L. Morgado de S. e Silva*

**Central power/local power relationships. The permanence of manorial jurisdictions in Early Modern Portugal. A case study: Vila do Conde**

The present article intends to debate, in the context of Early Modern Portugal, the difficult relationships between royal power, going through a process of centralization and political-administrative reinforcement, and the permanence of a manorial structure typically medieval: the manor – lay or ecclesiastical.

The study develops around a case study: that of Vila do Conde, in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, in order to examine the local implications of such dynamic, for the configuration of society and for the exercise of local power.

*Amélia Polónia*

**The harbour of Viana and the construction of the Custom House Quay (1631-1633)**

During the Early Modern Period the maritime traffic became a decisive factor for the prosperity of the societies. As noted by James D. Tracy in the introduction to an important book on the organisation of the world's economy (*The political economy of merchant empires*), it was necessary to deal “with important changes in the growth and composition of the long distance commerce *grosso modo* between 1450 and 1750” which resulted in the primacy of Europe in the global trade. Researchers consider that this was due, essentially, to evolved organisational processes. While concerned about the protection of their navies and strategic routes, states, political powers and private entities began to give special attention to port logistics: the ports were modernised with quays, warehouses and service areas.

In this article, I will address some aspects relating to the evolution of Viana do Castelo harbour in the first half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Constituted as one of the strategic ports of the Portuguese Atlantic trade, and open to international navigation, this anchoring-place was object of profound improvements which culminated in the construction of a quay: the “Custom House Quay”, a work whose technical steps we can follow thanks to a precious income and expense document concerning this undertaking, conserved in a particular archive.

*Amândio Jorge Morais Barros*

**The reconstruction of a historical space: the municipality of Cambra in the second half of the 18th century – sources and methodology**

The territorial reconstruction of the municipality of Cambra will allow a contribution to the diachronic recognition of the organisation levels of its space, identifying the multiple jurisdictions that make the reconstitution of the municipal realities difficult. One seeks to, in a micro-historical analysis, utilise materials and apply methodologies that contribute to an evolutive view of the local space, designing them in a georeferenced way.

*Inês Amorim*

**The law of laws. Notes on the context of production of the 1911 Constitution**

The present text aims at evaluating the context of production of the text of the 1911 Constitution, addressing the discussion that took place at the Constituent Assembly around the most important topics.

*Jorge Fernandes Alves*

**The Hygienic-Sanitary Concerns in Portugal  
(second half of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century)**

With a view to resolving a significant part of the health problems of the time, food and environmental hygiene was one of the concerns of the society of the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. For this reason, the politicians responsible for these matters, through the publication of juridical norms, institutionalised these values and societal concerns. In this article, one analyses many of these measures promulgated in favour of food and environmental sanity.

*João Cosme*

**The Presidential Elections of 1949 and 1958**

Notwithstanding the fact that it was a dictatorship, the *Estado Novo* ('New State') consecrated in the Constitution the realisation of presidential and legislative elections and also elections to the *Juntas de Freguesia* (Local Halls), given that only the popular vote could provide it with the internal and external legitimisation it needed. However, the electoral results were always controlled in order to guarantee the victory of *União Nacional's* ('National Union') candidate or list and all the elections were fraudulent.

The presidential elections of 1949 and 1958 were two of these important moments to Portugal, in which the people could have voted and decided the country's future, but instead oppression, censorship, violence and fraud marked the electoral campaign and determined the

voting, guaranteeing the victory of the Situation candidates and the defeat of the Opposition ones, despite the fact that the latter had, unequivocally, the support of the majority of the population.

*Ana Sofia Ferreira*

### **The First European Day of Portugal: Television Legitimizing Political Decisions?**

The text analyses the treatment given by RTP to the signature of the Treaty of Accession to the EEC (12/06/1985), the second biggest mediatic national event which had taken place until then after 1974. One suggests that the event is treated by RTP not only in a purely informative register, but also as a ceremonial mediatic event or teleceremony, an event-monument constructed by the television technicians to perpetuate the instant in which Portugal became a member of the EEC.

*Gisela Machado*

### **The Egyptian Antiques Collection of Porto University Museum of Natural History**

In addition to providing a brief historical and archaeological characterisation of the Egyptian collection conserved at the Porto University Museum of Natural History, this article also seeks to explain the origin of this collection and trace its path within the very University.

*Maria José Cunha  
Rogério Ferreira de Sousa*

### **The Saints of the Portuguese Routes**

The present study, developed by invitation of the Scientific Commission of the VII Jacobean Congress, held in Santiago de Compostela, from the 16th to the 18th of October 2004, presents a global view of the main Portuguese thaumaturge saints and their respective devotion centres, scattered through the routes more frequently travelled over by the Portuguese pilgrims, either they chose some of these sanctuaries as the exclusive goal of their pilgrimage or, on their way to Compostela, they took the opportunity to visit them and plead their patron saints for protection. We have given precedence to the reports of the many and diversified “miracles” obtained by Portuguese devotees, but, although rare, we have also listed some miracles operated in favour of pilgrims from abroad, who had come on purpose to supplicate for their desired grace to be conceded. The combined news of these Portuguese thaumaturge saints and of the miracles operated in the centres where they were venerated helps to understand the subject, still rather unknown, of popular devotion in Medieval Portugal.

*José Marques*

**Strategies of Lineage Legitimation in Portugal in the 14th and 15th centuries**

In this work we seek to analyse the superimposition of the legitimate and first-born branch of the Pereiras, in the second half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, by the illegitimate collateral branches, mainly through two individuals. After the disappearance of these protagonists of the Portuguese socio-political scene, one verifies that their projection occurs in later times by means of the historiographical sources.

*Fátima Regina Fernandes*

**From Usury to Waste. The Time of a Sin.**

The economic development that takes place after the year 1000 entailed the creation, on the part of the emerging bourgeoisie, of a new concept of time, rational and urban, that was opposed to the biblical, theological and rural time, and was materialised, at the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, in the invention of the mechanical clocks. The clergy seek to be seen as associated to these machines of time and power, and end up adapting to this new time whose waste they will deem a sin.

*Álvaro Rodrigues Pinto*