



ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ
SCOSAAR

Anexa nr. 6

SUMMARY OF THE HABILITATION THESIS

TITLE:

Ethnos, ethos and polemos. Tracing the profile of a military ethnology

Field of habilitation: philology

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Bibliography

In Section I. Scientific activity, we wanted to emphasize the three major concepts of our approach, which concerns the military sphere: *ethnos*, *ethos* and *polemos*. These represent, in essence, the universe of a military sphere, in the broadest sense, a sphere that is confused - in very diverse contexts - with society itself.

This is what describes a comprehensive research direction, which encompasses our main concerns and predilections, present and future.

In the construction that we have called military ethnology, the emphasis is not placed on the event, nor on the political aspects, which usually examine the interactions between states and between elites. Military histories are taken into account, but they are reserved the place they deserve.

In military ethnology studies, what interests us is the man (elites, leaders, commanders, leaders, but - especially - those located at the base of the pyramid of military hierarchies), the common man, with his feelings, but also the material, palpable aspects (here we also refer to uniforms, insignia, armaments, instrumentation, other equipment and accessories, etc.). While leaders, their decisions, their lives are widely discussed, too little is said about the ordinary man, yet the actor and perpetrator (silent and anonymous) of all events, situations, contexts.

Military ethnology is called upon to carry out research that concerns the martial phenomenon, in which war itself represents only one part, of course an essential one. The elements of the military sphere concern all the main aspects of communities. At the same time, all these elements form a unitary and coherent whole.

The three main concepts on which the present work is based, *ethnos*, *ethos* and *polemos*, are closely linked to each other, in order to present an overall picture of the complexity of military ethnology as a discipline.

Ethnos is related to a community, in the strict sense, or in the broader sense, to the totality of its resources, through which it provides adequate responses to any military challenges.

I have considered the ethnic element in general (and at an abstract level), but also some particular cases that are telling for the nature of the studies described in this work (an ancient, militaristic people, but also with a tendency to philosophize and theorize military phenomena, such as the Sinic, or our people, with their battles and wars, mostly defensive).

Military ethnology is based on a military history, but the two disciplines, connected, do not overlap in their major data. Military history, presupposes a development of events, of facts. Military ethnology, on the other hand, considers the fundamental axis man-space-time, beyond historicity and event: elites and the common man, alike; facts, but also experiences, beliefs, representations, the imponderable and the miraculous. At the same time, spatial and temporal coordinates are taken into account, as they functioned and function in ancient and/or traditional societies.

Ethos represents what we learn, feel, believe, think and communicate; by extension we can reach the psychic makeup and the *Weltanschauung* of the respective ethnic group.

Polemos is based on *ethnos* and *ethos*. We mentioned in the body of the paper that we adopt some concepts in the broadest sense. Polemos represents any aspect, side, element of the community or society that is related to the enlarged military sphere.

Throughout this paper we have mainly referred to three different models: the Chinese, the Romanian and also to a general, abstract model, without a specific identity, which contains the basic features of a military ethnology. However, the relevant features of the different *ethnos* belonging to different ethnic groups and communities, past or present, show us sometimes very different models of polemos,

The Chinese model, in which tradition, history and literary productions presented an already famous, well-known wealth, is one that we wanted to keep in mind, to understand; a small part of it, but from which the essential elements were selected, is to be found in the present work. We refer in particular to the close connection between a science (and, at the same time, art) of governance and a military science-art. Since ancient times, this people has theorized, deepened and developed these science-arts. In addition to Confucian and Daoist teachings, what we would call a core of the tradition of the Sinic space, important works on the military art-science were transmitted.

In counterbalance (and, somewhat, in contrast) to the civilization, culture and traditions of a militaristic people, the Chinese, the Romanian model, typical of our history full of invasions and migrations, shows us a pronounced defensive side, with a rich Christian-Orthodox charge. The Romanian is peace-loving, but – when necessary – does not shy away from confrontations in

defense of the homeland. In this framework, research leads us to the manner of governance, the exercise of diplomacy and the conduct of war by some of the leaders or rulers in our history.

Section II. Professional and academic achievements, briefly presents the professional and academic trajectory, activities related to the Multimedia Archive of the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore "Constantin Brăiloiu", as well as some landmarks of management in research-archive activities; these continue with the didactic activity.

The first part of the section concerns my studies.

Between 1992-1995 and 1997-1998, respectively, I attended the Faculty of History of the University of Bucharest, then, in July 2002, I graduated from the advanced studies courses of the Faculty of History and Theory of Art, from the National University of Art Bucharest, South-East European Studies, multidisciplinary humanistic profile.

Between 2008-2012, I attended the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest, specializing in Chinese Language and Literature - German Language and Literature, continuing with the master's degree in East Asian Studies, at the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures of the University of Bucharest (2012-2014).

The doctoral studies were carried out between 2012-2015, within SCOSAAR - Romanian Academy, under the scientific coordination of Academician Cornelia Sabina Ispas.

Between June 2014 and October 2015 I benefited from a POSDRU doctoral support scholarship.

In 2010-2011, I had a scholarship to study in the P. P. of China, Yunnan province, Kunming city, and between 1995-1997, a scholarship to study in the same country, Sichuan province, Chengdu city.

There were Chinese language studies and research in the field of Chinese culture.

Professional training in a formal and institutional framework began for me in September 2002, the year in which I was employed at the "Constantin Brăiloiu" Institute of Ethnography and Folklore of the Romanian Academy; since that date I have been working within the Multimedia Archives of Folklore and Ethnography Collective, specializing in literary folklore.

I was hired as a scientific researcher, a position obtained through a competition in September 2002 and in which I worked until April 2008.

From April 2008 to January 2018, I worked as a scientific researcher III, a position obtained through a competition.

The rank of scientific researcher II was also obtained through a competition; I worked in this way between January 2018 and November 2020, the title being confirmed by MCI Order no. 644 of 03.07.2018.

I obtained the status of scientific researcher I through the November 2020 competition, a degree that was confirmed by MCID Order No. 83 of 27.05.2021.

As a member of the Multimedia Archives Collective of our institute, I participate in three of the four projects of the Second Program, part of the Research Plan,

Cultural and informational heritage, intangible and tangible, of the folklore and ethnography archive - updating, modernization, systematization, conservation, valorization: Project no. 1 – A) Recording, systematization, conservation, valorization – the funds of the Archive of Ethnography and Folklore and Project no. 1 – B) Valorization of documentary funds from the Archive of the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore "C. Brăiloiu". Annotated editions (studies, anthologies, critical editions, audio and video material, collections). The work entitled Wars of defense, independence, reunification is in progress. Ethnological readings from the Archive of the Institute of Ethnography and Folklore - author: Radu Toader; it is an action to capitalize on some objects from our archive, in full harmony with the themes of the present thesis;

Project no. 2 – Color of culture and civilization: the Danube, the Black Sea and the Carpathians. Enriching the heritage by creating new documents. Observing the current dynamics of cultural phenomena in the intangible heritage, recording them. Elaborating studies to interpret the results of the research undertaken within the project; Project no. 3 – Informatics and social memory: activities related to the digitization of the AIEF funds.

The idea of scientific research management concerns, practically, all research themes and activities. Beyond the existence or non-existence of skills that interest management, a minimum of theoretical knowledge is necessary.

The management of scientific research must deal with activities specific to ethnological-philological fields, such as: the coordination of fundamental works, collective volumes, projects/grants. In the final analysis, it may be the coordination of a doctoral thesis. In 2017,

from January to April, I attended and graduated from the course "How to develop a European project"

At the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures – Chinese Section of the “D. Cantemir” Christian University, Bucharest, I organized and taught (2016-2024) the following subjects: Practical Course, Structure of the Chinese Language, Civilization and Culture-Literature-History; optional courses (language; literature)

Section III. The career evolution and development plan, after a synthesis of the balance sheet so far, outlines the research directions in what I have called military ethnology (as a common trunk of the scientific discipline), with an important branch of it, Romanian military ethnology.

As for the areas of scientific interest, these are currently the following: folklore and folklore archives, culturology - histories of culture, thought and ideas, studies of religious phenomena, mythology, symbology, methodologies for the development and editing of scientific works, military ethnology (with the design of some valorization of archival material), sinology (especially the grammar of the contemporary Chinese language, writing, phonetics), ethnopsychology - imagology, translation studies.

It can be appreciated that these areas of scientific interest converge, in our intention, to research the interplay of the three concepts, ethnos, ethos and polemos, but also the crystallization of the landmarks of this discipline in what we have called military ethnology, with a branch (significant for us) of it, Romanian military ethnology. As I mentioned earlier, military ethnology is not only not limited to war and armed struggle itself, but also encompasses aspects of spirituality, culture and religiosity, as well as economic, social and political issues.