

Abstracts

Fascist Educational Policies for Natives in Eritrea (1931-1941), Alessandro Volterra

Within the Italian colonial experience in Eritrea, educational policies are one of the most significant issues in order to focus attitudes towards the natives.

The examined period starts with the new schools regulation of 1931 and analyses both the decisions on education taken in the colony before and after the foundation of the Empire and the debate – as it emerges in specialized Italian journals – between those who believed the natives should receive a basic education and those who thought they should only receive a knowledge of practical skills.

The exam of these issues allows us to see how, during the thirties, the educational system in the Eritrean colony, because of the racial laws, changed its character from paternalistic to racist. The education of Eritrean subjects then was aimed at turning them into Italian native soldiers or into unskilled clerks or manual labourers.

The Corporative Institution and their Role in the Fascist Regime, Alessio Gagliardi

It is common knowledge that State intervention in Italy in the Twenties and the Thirties developed outside corporative institutions. The history of Fascist corporatism, however, is not only an history of failure. Fascist corporatism helped the progressive development of a new regulation model of the relations between public and private sectors of the economy. The Consiglio nazionale delle Corporazioni (set up in 1930) and the Corporazioni (set up in 1934) were one of the favourite ways for the participation of entrepreneurial organizations to government decisions. The article examines not only the form of these institutions (role, legislative interventions and internal organization) but also their activity. It dwells upon the internal debates, the political and institutional importance acquired by corporative institutions in the Fascist regime and the actions of the entrepreneurial organizations and the labour unions related to them.

The Anti-Jewish Argument in the Catholic Press of Rome after the Italian Victory, Annalisa Di Fant

The article analyses the role attributed to the Jews by quite a large part of the Catholic press of Rome in the final stage of the Church's loss of temporal power. In the increasingly bitter anti-liberal argument that evolved after the 20th of September 1870, the anti-Jewish polemics was indeed far from irrelevant and it was furthered by long-established theological statements as well as by local popular anti-semitism following the end of the Roman ghetto regime.

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The refusal to accept the freedom of the Jews occurred against a backdrop of a global and unbending refusal to accept a society founded on modern liberties, of which the Jewish emancipation was one of the most conspicuous consequences.

The argument followed two main lines, the first being the close link which was assumed to exist between the Jews and the liberal “usurpers” who, in their attack against the Church, were depicted as “*novelli giudei*” (new Jews). The second one was the fear of potential contamination between the majority of Romans and the Jewish minority, with particular concern for young Christians in mixed, secular schools. The invective therefore had two main targets: the first one were Jewish outsiders editing liberal newspapers and spreading anticlerical propaganda; and the second one were the Roman Jews, now freed from the restraints of the ghetto, who were depicted as a threat from a moral point of view, because of the harmful influence they might have on the genuinely decent nature of the Catholic “*romano de Roma*”.

On Past and Present of the Superpowers: two Recent Russian Books, Vladislav M. Zubok

The review discusses two recent Russian books on the past and present of the superpowers. In the first book economist Yegor Gaidar analyzes the financial roots of the collapse of the Ussr. In the second, philosopher Eduard Batalov explores the discussions in American political and intellectual debates about the current international system and the Us role in it. Both Russian intellectuals agree on the volatile nature of world economy and international affairs. Their advice to the Russian leadership is: support the world order and abstain from expensive imperial projects.

Governance and Administration in US Public Policies: Opposing Discourses in a Debate at the End of the XX Century, Chiara Giorgi

The aim of this article is to examine the governmental Reform of the American civil service system and the debate about the reinvention of public administration during the Clinton Presidencies (the so-called National Performance Review). Starting from the analysis of the new public management (NPM) and of the business administration's tradition, the research displays the features of the governance theory, a new and alternative policy making, based on democratic grounds and different from the old public administration and the NPM. In order to present the issues of the changing public service at the end of XX century, the role played by two historical factors is also examined: (1) the heritage of merit and spoils system in the American political system; (2) representative bureaucracy in the United States.