

PREINDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES I

1. The appearance of the urban phenomenon and the Creation of Cities in the Eastern Mediterranean and Near East

Not to be taught during the 2016-2017 academic year.

A. Connection with the Neolithic Revolution.

Transition from a way of life based on hunting and the collection of fruit to a way of life depending on agriculture/livestock farming and mainly to the gradual appearance of surpluses, thus creating prerequisites for exchanging goods, population density, specialization and labor apportionment. [around 10.000 BC] Definition of Urbanization. Various criteria and mainly combinations between them: demographic issues – artisanship settlements – fortifications - size and structural elements of the settlement - life duration of the settlement. Population Density as major factor. The paradigm of Jericho, the paradigm of Catal Huyuk. Production and Transport issues - Geo-economic determinism; - Bidirectional urban-rural relationship. Cities and political hierarchies (the specificities of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Phoenicia and Judea)

B. Collective Memory, Consciousness, Identity.

Beyond the infra-structural elements and the social interactions as preconditions of the urban phenomenon, reference is made to the fundamental question of the collective memory and its recordings. Reference to the work of M. Halbwachs. The time-space preconditions of memory - correlation with the community, the rituals, the calendars - the reconstruction – techniques of memory -“mise en scene”- participation. From rituals to texts: the writing, the rule -repetition and deflection (Aristotle).

C. The Greek Polis

[The lesson is not based on an evolutionary approach of the urban phenomenon] Return to the discussion about the determination of polis: All the above mentioned criteria [fortifications, size, duration, structure etc.] result from a specific population concentration process [urbanization].

The topic of the expansion of urbanization in the Mediterranean Basin: commercial activities, quest for metals, dissemination of writing, foundation of colonies (Phoenicians and Hellenes but also Etruscans). The eloquent example of Cyrene (631 BC). The documentary significance of the material culture. The relations of the Greek peninsula with the Eastern Mediterranean. Migrations of populations. The interpretations of the ancient Greeks: Thucydides. The ideological use of migrant populations by the posteriors. The example of the archaeological site at Lefkandi (island of Euboea). The great changes of the 8th century. From cremation to inhumation. The social organization of the space. The world of gods: monuments, offerings from locals and foreigners. Writing and the alphabet- A new way of Lebenswelt. The colonies and the external factors in the formation of the

metropolitan community. Writing and orality: Homer's and Hesiod's' poetry. Organization of homeric societies and their values. The artistic choices of the 7th century. New military organization, the paradigm of Sparta. The political institutions. The Lawmakers.

Learning outcomes

The choice of the theme of the appearance of the urban phenomenon wishes to enrich the curriculum of the Sociology Studies with a cohesive presentation of the origins of the urban phenomenon, both in its historical and sociological dimension as well as mirroring the phenomenon as it takes place during the Modern era.

Indicative Bibliography

- P. Bairoch, *De Jéricho à Mexico. Villes et économie dans l'histoire*, Παρίσι 1985
R. Osborne, *Η γένεση της Ελλάδας*, Αθήνα, Οδυσσέας 2000
Fr. de Polignac, *Η γέννηση της αρχαίας ελληνικής πόλης*, Αθήνα, MIET 2000
G. Leick, *Mesopotamia. The invention of the city*, The Penguin Press 2001
Ch. Gates, *Ancient cities*, Routledge 2003
M. Halbwachs, *Η συλλογική μνήμη*, Αθήνα, Παπαζήσης 2013
J. Assmann, *La mémoire culturelle*, Παρίσι 2010

Assessment

Final oral exam. Students are advised to present written essays.

2. The Mediterranean as a geopolitical unit until the early medieval period

Not to be taught during the 2016-2017 academic year.

First experiences until "Odysseus time": from non-existing mobility to the Neolithic revolution, the competitions for control of natural resources and timid movements of merchants. Obsidian and Milos. Copper and brass. Crete and the Cyclades, NE Aegean. Social hierarchies. Art. Crete and the Minoans (the urban phenomenon, the writing) =>the first civilization to exceed their native narrow geographical cradle branching out its radiation to other Mediterranean regions.

The Mycenaean and the expansion of the Mediterranean horizons. From Peloponnese to Thessaly and northernmost, the Aegean, Crete, the Eastern Mediterranean, Cyprus, Syria and then Italy, Sicily. Linear B, metal trade, copper, tin. Documents of contacts (scripts and styles).The Mediterranean unifies - does not separate. The paradigm of Troy, the route of metals, textiles, horses. Its destruction, but also the decline of the Mycenaean world. Circa 1200 problems with the mightiness of the Hittites and the Egyptians. The silence of the sources. (pestilence, famine, invaders?)Peoples of the Sea. The end of the Copper Era.

The creation of the "first" Mediterranean by the Mycenaean. And then decline?

Circa the 8th century => new trade networks, not by central states but by trade communities. Phoenicians, Hellenes, Etruscans. Traders and Pirates. Barter trade non-monetary, metals. From Phoenicia to Hercules' Pillars (even farther by the Mycenaean), shipbuilding and navigation knowledge: new transportation capacities for people and goods. Sardinia, Cartago. The Euboeans to the fore. The writing and the alphabet. Eastern artistic production. Religion and human sacrifice. The residents of the Hellenic cities => Diaspora: Euboeans, Corinthians, Athenians. Ceramics, timber, metals, olive oil, wine. Circa 600: currency. Colonies in the West (Syracuse 733). Colonization: indication of wealth and power of the metropolis and not of poverty and emigration=> quest for overseas power. Etruscans: the 1st "western" civilization. Recipient of eastern elements, urbanization, writing. The history of the Mediterranean: a). Large expansive cultural constructs. (Minoans, Mycenaean, Phoenicians, Greeks) but also, b) individual indigenous cultural ecosystems which define their world with regard to any contacts with third parties. Examples of Sardinia and Marseille concerning their relations with the locals. Spheres of influence between foreigners and locals. Eastern Mediterranean: Establishment of the State of Achaemenids (ecumenical states). Persian Wars. Athenian hegemony, strengthening of metropolitan urban centers (needs for supplementary cereals). Alexander (late 4th century). New factors: Hellenes+ Asians - Etruscans, Romans. Alexandria and Egypt's first opening to the Sea. New commercial network. Cartago in the West (until its destruction by the Romans in 204 BC) and Sicily (Syracuse). Appearance of Rome. Its military, political, economic expansion in the East and West. (Hannibal, Macedonians, Confederations, Kingdoms of Asia and Egypt). War and Economy. Expansionism. Pax Romana. New Religion. Political fragmentation of the Mediterranean. Mohamed. The Mediterranean as a Historical Unit. The polis phenomenon, the settlements. Connectivity (commerce, piracy, migration, war, destruction, environmental consequences). Connectivity and the respective historical circumstances. Unique culture? Common social / psychological character?

Learning outcomes

The overall objective of Pan. Doukellis teaching targets is the initiation of the Students to social phenomena of "other societies" and specifically to societies of the ancient and partly the medieval world. The comprehension of contemporary social issues is intended by projecting them to their relevant pre-Christian/post-Christian euro-mediterranean era and by the research of their origins, appearance, development, ruptures and continuations or even extinction.

The objective of this lesson is the historical approach of the Mediterranean as a particular geo-cultural area. Surpassing any political or other bounding, reference is made to the perception of the Mediterranean during the 20th century, to issues of geographical and cultural determination of the Mediterranean, of survival conditions in the area, of human mobility etc. The Social Studies Students are thus offered the motive of studying more profoundly the components of a specific time-space paradigm. Topics discussed:

Unity/Fragmentation of the Mediterranean area (geography, culture, economy)

Ecology (nature and human settlements)
Connectivity-Mobility, Ruptures and Continuations
The so called Mediterranean Values

Indicative Bibliography

- P. Horden – N. Purcell, Μεσόγειος. Θάλαττα πονηροδιδάσκαλος. Μελέτη της μεσογειακής ιστορίας, Αθήνα, Οδυσσέας 2004
D. Abulafia, Η μεγάλη θάλασσα. Οι περιπέτειες των λαών της Μεσογείου, Αθήνα, Ψυχογιός 2012.
W.V. Harris (επιμ.), Rethinking the Mediterranean, Oxford University Press 2005
J. Norich, The Middle Sea: A history of the Mediterranean, Chatto & Windus 2006
F. Braudel, Les mémoires de la Méditerranée. Préhistoire et Antiquité, Παρίσι 1998

Assessment

Final oral exam. Students are advised to present written essays.