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Noble Families from the Teleajen Valley in the first modernity: XVIIIth Century-1858

Supervisor:

Prof. univ. dr. Viorel PANAITE

Doctoral student:

Ionescu (Bugău) Ioana

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ABSTRACT

Keywords: landowners, Teleajen Valley, local history, Vălenii de Munte, elite theory

The research paper we are presenting, has the main field of interest the local history domain, highlighting the elements of the theory of elites.

The novelty is that the subject in question, Teleajen Valley, although it has been described in several monographic references did not benefit from an approach based on the study of elites and the general elements of local history.

From the methodological standpoint, the sources used in this work are mostly primary. I have analyzed documents from archives and libraries side and my research was made in the country and abroad. I covered most general works on the subject of study nobility in our country and we highlighted the most important aspects, suitable to the context.

Each chapter of our study showing family history in question, Filipescu, Macovei Bălăceanu, Marzia, seeks to provide from an objective view, events in which they were involved. In research, we have not stuck strictly to the 1858 events, following the Paris Convention, when Boyar ranks were abolished, we have also brought families to the present days to see how their descendants and the legacy they left evolved.

The study of the local history has many directions, but we have considered suitable the documentation approach to this area made by the British researchers. Hoskins' idea of "landscape archeology", can be applied in this case. The idea of visiting all the localities where these landowners that I presented, had estates where they lived and built homes, seemed nice and I walked and photographed all the major elements.

Moreover, I was at the Village Museum "Dimitrie Gusti", just to see the homes that are kept there and were transported from the study area, in order to outline our general impression about the subject.

Gaetano Mosca and Vilfredo Pareto saw the domain of the elite studies in a manner close to ours and our way of seeing the Romanian elites frame during the Greek - Phanariote reigns seemed similar to the theory of the "circulation of the elites".

A discussion about the Saac County, today no longer on the Romanian map, represents the subject of the second chapter of our presentation. The beginning and the origins of this county remains unknown, but a well-known fact was that the county residences, were Vălenii de Munte and afterwards Bucov. We have made a larger description of the first place because we were interested, in particular, in its status as customs with Transylvania. The county name was given to residents who fled the Principality of Transylvania, especially after 1690. The plight of the Romanians from Transylvania, favored a shift transalpine heavy inhabitants of the Principality of Moldova and the Romanian Country.

In each of the subsequent chapters, which refers only to the families concerned, we have tried to analyze from the point of view of the preliminary stage of the information, and after what our investigation has discovered.

Even if I found information in some papers that treated collateral one of our subjects, such as Bălăceanu, the scientific approach was as intense as in the case of the other families. We have already highlighted in conjunction with new information to improve knowledge of the case.

Each of the families we have presented have the general features and elements that are found in the case of most elite. One thing I certainly noticed, is that the mostly descendants of the boyars from the Teleajen Valley are aware of the status they have had their ancestors and tried to reclaim, and some have obtained, the family fortune confiscated by the communists.