History in the Making

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Introducation and Acknowledgements

Editors of History in the Making

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Introduction

Welcome to the seventh edition of History in the Making, the History Department of California State University, San Bernardino’s annual journal. Every year, California State University, San Bernardino students donate their time and efforts in writing, editing, and managing the journal. The board strives to produce a journal that delves into fascinating and important topics in history. Our hope is that the journal will ignite passions in readers to further pursue historical knowledge. This year’s board is honored to present to our readers seven full-length articles, two articles on students’ travels, six reviews, and two articles in our new “In Memoriam” section.

In our first article, “Racial Theory: José Martí, José Vasconcelos, and the Beliefs that Shaped Latin America,” Jose Renteria compares the racial theories of José Martí and José Vasconcelos. He analyzes how social conditions led to their racial understandings and political agendas, and how nationalistic movements developed due to their influential ideologies. Finally, he evaluates how influential their ideologies continue to be.

Our second article moves from examining racial theories to comparing revolutionary ideologies. In “Mao Zedong and Mohandas Gandhi: Revolutionary Pragmatists?” Kevin Wheeler examines Mao and Gandhi in the pre-1949 era, and explains how the two men are far more alike than previously believed. It discovers that Mao was indeed a pragmatist before the founding of the People’s Republic of China and it would be an over-simplification to represent him as only a violent revolutionary. Both men were equally pragmatic in the promotion of their ideals, in order to garner the support of the masses in their respective countries. Even though they utilized different methods to achieve victory, they did so for the identical reason of it being in the best interests of the Indian and Chinese freedom organizations.

The next two articles explore topics relating to the Holocaust. Our third article, “The Goose-Step is Only Functional for Geese: Perspective on the Intentionalist/Functionalist Debate on Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, and its Implications for Humanity’s Advancement through Modernity,” Richard Butler uses a new perspective, known as modified Intentionalist, to assert that the intentions of leadership created a society of functionaries. Ancillary to this goal, the article also offers commentary on what implications Nazi Germany has had on humanity’s progression through modernity. Our fourth article, “Holocaust Ghettos,” by Rebecca Parraz, shifts from debating who was responsible for the Holocaust, to examining the Lodz and Warsaw ghettos; by focusing on their
construction, geography, and transition from a Jewish community into a Holocaust ghetto. The work discovers that the ghettos were merely designed to contain the Jews at the outset of their relocation, and only became Holocaust ghettos as the Second World War progressed.

In article five, “The Role of the Prison-Industrial Complex in Demilitarization, Corporate Outsourcing, & Immigration Policy,” Shellie Shimmel discusses how the goals of the American justice system have been twisted and distorted from rehabilitation of criminals to one centered on a corporate model of mass punishment based on profits, expediency, and the exploitation of free labor.

Article six, “Iranian Receptivity to CIA Propaganda in 1953,” by Alex Ponce, provides a commentary on the U.S. and CIA perceptions of Iranian receptivity to propaganda from 1950 to 1953, in order to better understand the blowback caused by Operation Ajax.

Our last full-length article, “Development in Southern California after World War II: Architecture, Photography, & Design,” is written by Joshua Edmundson. In this piece, midcentury modernity and architecture, from its source in the Bauhaus to its heyday in Palm Springs during the 1950s and 1960s, is explored in depth.

Importantly, the study of history is not just about the exploration of events in time, but also the experience of living the history as well. This idea is illustrated in our section, “Travels Through History,” where we feature a pair of articles written by those who have personally visited the places about which they have written. First, Moriah Schnose takes us on a trip to Kenya. She spent time in the capital city of Nairobi, the village of Kakuyuni, and a few days on a safari in the Masai region. While discussing this journey, she better clarifies the actual history of Africa, and how Western views and beliefs have shaped their development since the 1600s. Our other travel piece is authored by Richard Butler, who also wrote one of the Holocaust full-length articles. Going with that theme, he discusses his trip to Norhausen, Germany, where he toured the Mittlebau-Dora concentration camp, and conducted work with an organization to keep the histories of the camps alive in the cities which house them.

Our new “In Memoriam” section features two retrospectives on the lives of Ariel Sharon, written by Sean Switzer, and Margaret Thatcher, by Todd Broaddus. Both Sharon and Thatcher recently passed away, and these articles offer a more balanced perspective on their lives than ones which the media may give. Furthermore, they discuss how influential
their work was to shaping the histories of Israel, Great Britain, and the world in general, during the twentieth century.

Rounding out this year’s journal are three film reviews, one exhibit review, one book review, and a review of the current archival practices in place at presidential libraries. The latter is placed first, and is authored by Cassie Grand. Following that is a book review of Greg Gordon’s *When Money Grew on Trees: A.B. Hammond and the Age of the Timber Baron* by Cody August Vrba and the three film reviews: one on *The Attack*, written by Steven Anthony, another on *42*, authored by Alexandra Martin, and a third on *12 Years a Slave*, co-authored by members of the History Club. Finally, Charmaine Galley, Shawn Martinez, and Stephanie Reilly review the Silk Roads exhibit on display at the Los Angeles Museum of Natural History.

We hope that you find these articles as informative and compelling as we do, and sincerely thank you for reading the 2014 edition of *History in the Making*.

Kevin Wheeler,
Chief Editor
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Acknowledgements

Without the hard work and dedication of many individuals, this journal would not have been possible. From cover to cover, staff, faculty, and especially students, have donated their time and efforts in its development and completion.

The editing process can be a difficult one, and the editorial staff would like to thank faculty members and staff who helped during this process. Among them, but not limited to them, were: our Faulty Advisers, Dr. Cherstin Lyon and Dr. Tiffany Jones, as well as Dr. Jeremy Murray, Dr. Timothy Pytell, and Dr. David Yaghoubian. Thank you for the help and insightful feedback, which you have given to authors and editors alike. Additionally, thank you to Danielle Jones for providing the cover photo for the journal.

Thanks to all students, especially those who submitted their papers for review and possible publication. The response to the “call for papers” was rather impressive, and I would like to thank you for your interest and support. Furthermore, thank you to authors for working with your assigned editors, and congratulations on your publications. Most importantly, my utmost appreciation goes to the editorial board for their time and efforts. You have done significant jobs with the reading, selection, and editing processes over this past academic year. Your work is highly valued, and I am proud of each and every one of you.

Once again, thank you.

Kevin Wheeler,
Chief Editor
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