Any number of the journal contains three main sections: (i) Literary Section (in Bulgarian), (ii) Historical Archives (chiefly in Bulgarian) and (iii) Scientific Section (usually in English with research papers in the fields of Local/Family History, Oral History, Heritage Studies, Rural Studies, Memory Studies, etc.)

GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Papers of the Scientific Section of Venets should contain: original research; new interpretation or insight of material already in the public domain; or a description that brings to a wider audience material of limited availability, or that is available only in disparate locations. Papers offered for publication in Venets should not have been published previously.

Contributors from all over the world are encouraged to send manuscripts in the above mentioned areas that should be written in a readable and scholarly manner. Manuscripts (in English or in Bulgarian) should not exceed 20 standard pages in length including illustrations, tables, figures and references. Articles must be accompanied by a summary of size not exceeding 20 lines.

Style should conform to that of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA).

The electronic submission of the manuscript (in word format) is preferable.

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A Scientific Conference: Veliko Tarnovo, 30 May – 1 June, 2014 / 285

Oral History:
Г. Симеонова / G. Simeonova

Reviews:
Българските герои (Пацов & Мечков, 2014) [Bulgarian Heroes (Patsov & Mechkov, 2014)] / 442
Б. В. Тошев / B.V. Toshev

Appendix:
Белоградчик в изкуството (Наташа Младенова) [Belogradchik in Art (Natasha Mladenova)] / 456
In May 2014, an international conference entitled “Borders and Border Zones: Differences and Equalities” was held at The University of Saint Cyril and Saint Methodius, Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria. The purpose of the conference was to explore historical, political, economic, social and personal impact of various types of borders, physical and conceptual, in southeast Europe. The conference was a part of larger research project, “National Boundaries,” [„Националните граници“] supported by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria during 2013-2014. At the conference, participants from three countries: Bulgaria, Russia, and Serbia examined the topic of borders from an interdisciplinary perspective.

From the end of twentieth century through the opening decades of the twenty-first, one of the central topics in the fields of Ethnology and Anthropology has been the study of the borders. Impressive publications treating the study of national borders now appear worldwide, most particularly in the USA and Western Europe. The academic network EastBordNet (COST Action IS0803) led by Professor Sarah Green, 1) has made a major contribution to the field and also has served as the initial inspiration for development of border studies in Bulgaria. Worldwide, studies concerning different types of ethnic,
religious, social and methodological borders and boundaries are also under-
way.

The ongoing examination of borders throws light on new problems in
the fields of anthropology and history. Their complex character calls for inter-
disciplinary approaches which apply diverse theories, rather than the search
for a single overriding one. Bringing historians, ethnologists, linguists and f
experts in the fine arts at our conference was, therefore, a most fruitful way to
examine issues of borders in the plethora of subjects including: national
boundaries and border zones, state policies during the communist period and
the impact thereof, ethnic and religious borders in post-socialist societies, mi-
grations and mobility etc. The conference also provided a forum for the exam-
ination of relevant methodological issues in the fields of history and sociology
as well as the concepts of the construction and performance of identities.

We were very pleased by the active participation in the conference of a
number of doctoral students from Veliko Tarnovo University. For them the
conference was of a special importance. It provided them with their first op-
portunity to attend an international conference and be published on English.
Such platforms for their voices to be heard are of a crucial importance to their
further development.

NOTES

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REPORTS AT THE CONFERENCE

Why Sociology Is Silent Concerning Borders / 9
*Stephen Nikolov*

The Wars as Chronological Limits in the Modern History of Bulgaria / 33
*Petko S. Petkov*

Imperial Limes – Projections in Medieval Imperial Idea / 49
*Zhivko Z. Zhekov*

The Borders of "Shopluk" and/or *Shops* without Borders / 63
*Petko Hristov*
The Torlaks Regional Identity(-ies) as a Motive for Cross-border Collaboration in Serbian-Bulgarian Border Zones / 85

Dejan Krstic

“Welcome to the Largest Transnational Fair of the Balkans”: The Borderliness of Kada Boaz Fair / 137

Svetlana Antova

Cross-Border Landscape: Construction of Natural Heritage and Local Development at Bulgarian-Serbian Borderlands / 159

Ivaylo Markov

Borders of Identity (A Case Study - Village Slaveyno, Smolyan Municipality) / 185

Violeta Kotseva

Different Neighbors – Different Borders / 213

Ivelina Eftimova

Boundaries of a Roma Group (A Case Study) / 229

Margarita Karamihova

The Notions of “A Border”, “A Foreign Country (abroad)” and “A Foreigner” in the Relations between the USSR (Russia) and Bulgaria / 289

Irina Sedakova

The Electronic Agora of the British Society in Bulgaria / 309

Desislava Rangelova
On Both Sides of the Portal - Gender Attitudes to the Conscription during Socialism / 322
   Iliya Valev

Modernization and Emancipation - Masculine Women in the Socialist World (Bulgarian Case during 1944-1956) / 339
   Zhanina Stoyanova

Ritual Purity Associated with Birth and Raising a Child / 354
   Iliyana Gancheva

Traditional Jewelry on both Sides of the Danube River / 372
   Pavlin Chaushev

Paintings beyond the Boundaries of the Canon (By Materials from Bulgarian Churches and Monasteries XVII - XIX Century) / 392
   Plamen Sabev

Borders in Library / 408
   Nadia Toshmakova