INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL UNION

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF GEOGRAPHY

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2) MEETINGS HELD IN 2010.

Report of the Symposium Geography, Civilizations, and Cultural Identities in Historical Perspective., Tel Hai and Tel Aviv, Israel, July 2010.

On the occasion of the IGU Regional Conference in Israel, the Commission organised a Symposium on the topic Geography, Civilizations, and Cultural Identities in Historical Perspective. This Symposium was divided into two different locations: two sessions were held at the Tel Hai Academic College on July 11 2011, within the framework of a pre-conference field trip organised by the Commission on July 9-12 around the Historical Geography of Galilee; and four sessions were held in Tel Aviv, on July 13 2011, during the major conference. Professor Haim Goren, from the Tel Hai Academic College, acted as the local coordinator of the activities carried out by the Commission.

Within the paper sessions, special attention was paid to the historical contribution of Geography and geographical thought in conceptualising world’s cultural diversity, at different scales and in different times and places. The three main topics discussed in the Symposium were as follows: 1) Visions of identity and civilization in Modern and Contemporary Geography; 2) Theoretical and Historical perspectives on the Relationships between Space, Landscape and Identity; and 3) Colonial Geographies of the Near East. A total of 22 papers, prepared by 27 authors, were presented (8 in the Tel Hai pre-conference and 14 in the Tel Aviv conference), according to the following order:

Papers presented in Tel Hai:

- Geographical revelation of an unknown region: the Huleh Valley and the sources of the Jordan in the Nineteenth Century (Haim GOREN, Tel Hai College, Israel).
• German Holy Land cartography in the mid-19th Century: international networks, motivations, and strategies of geo-visualization (Bruno SCHELHAAS, Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, Germany).
• Encountering a geographical modernity: Shibusawa Eiichi’s visit to the Etablissement Géographique de Bruxelles, 1867 (Toshiyuki SHIMAZU, Wakayama University, Japan).
• Nation and civilization in the work of a “wandering” Iberian geographer: Gonzalo de Reparaz-Rodríguez (1860-1939) (Jacobo GARCÍA-ÁLVAREZ, Carlos III University of Madrid, Spain).
• The Sierra de Gredos (Spain). Images and outward approaches (Eduardo MARTÍNEZ DE PISÓN, Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain).
• Geography and identity in the formation of the modern image of the landscape of the Sierra de Guadarrama (Spain) (Nicolás ORTEGA, Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain).
• The agricultural landscapes of Spain through the geographers’ regard: a diachronic interpretative essay (Valerià PAUL, University of Santiago de Compostela & Joan TORT, University of Barcelona, Spain).
• Mexican landscapes and identity (Manuel MOLLÁ, Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain).

Papers presented in Tel Aviv:

• Le principe de l’articulation littorale et la civilisation européenne dans la géographie française entre 19e et 20e siècle (Federico FERRETTI, Universités de Bologne e Paris 1 Panthéon – Sorbonne, UMR 8504 Géographie-Cités, équipe E.H.GO, Italy, France).
• Education and nationalism in Makiguchi’s Geography (Marcella SCHMIDT, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, Italy).
• Embodiment of homeland in museums in modern Japan: Gentaro Tanahashi and his unfinished project (Tamami FUKUDA, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Osaka, Japan).
• Mountain landscapes: places of autobiographical identity for the contemporary artist (Carlos CORNEJO, Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain).
• Colonial city planning’ in suzerains: interest in autochthonous features and the formation of Histric District in France (Miyo ARAMATA, Keisen University, Tokyo, Japan)
• Lessons from experience: Geography and the integration of knowledge. Insights from an International Dialogue Project (Anne BUTTIMER (IGU Past President, 2000-2004; University College Dublin, Ireland).
• Hunting, identity and cultural values in the configuration of Spanish National Park landscapes and their surroundings (Rodrigo TORJA, Emilia MARTÍNEZ & Julián SÁNCHEZ; Autonomous University of Madrid & IREC/CSIC, Spain).
• Ran AARONSOHN (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel): Turkish Jerusalem? The Ottoman legacy in the new city.
• The Israel’s effort to strengthen Jerusalem's international status as its capital city.
(Ofira GRUWEIS-KOVALSKY & Yossi KATZ, 'The Chair for the Study of the History and Activities of the Jewish National Fund (KKL)', Bar Ilan University, Israel).

- **Akko during the 16th and the 17th Centuries – new approaches** (Dror PASHUT, Department of Civilizations, University of Haifa, Israel).
- **The maritime aspect of the naval battles for Akko in 1831 and 1840: a comparison** (Deborah CVIKEL, The Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies, University of Haifa, Israel).
- **Acre in late 1830s according to the Russian sources** (Mitia FRUMIN, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Israel).
- **The Negev: land, settlement, the Bedouin and Ottoman and British policy 1871-1948** (Ruth KARK & Seth FRANTZMAN, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

The pre-conference field trip around the Historical Geography of Galilee was attended by 18 people (including 12 paper authors registered for the Commission sessions, 4 participants from other IGU Commissions and 2 accompanying persons), apart from the organising staff. The tour, carefully designed and assisted by Prof. Haim Goren, included the visit to Mount Carmel, Acre, Segev Region, Kfar Vradim, Safed, Jish, the Lebanese Border, Kfar Giladi (a kibbutz along the Libanese border where the group was accommodated during the trip), the Tel Hai College (where the preconference paper sessions took place), a War Memorial in the Golan Heights, Rosh Pinna, Yiron, the Community Stress Prevention Centre at Kiriat Shemona, the Hula Valley and the Hula Nature Reserve, and the sacred sites of Tabgha and Capernaum, on the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

Prof. Jacobo García-Álvarez  
Carlos III University of Madrid  
IGU Commission on the History of Geography
3) FORTHCOMING MEETINGS: PRAIA, CAPE VERDE (JUNE 2011) AND SANTIAGO DE CHILE (NOVEMBER 2011)


This meeting has been organized in collaboration with the University of Cape Verde’s Department of Science and Technology. Four thematic axis will be considered, namely: a) Reflections on Geography and Colonialism; b) Geographical Knowledge of Tropical Regions; c) The Non-tropical Colonial World; and d) Geography in Cape Verde: History and theoretical / methodological Issues. The first two days of the Symposium will be devoted to conferences and paper sessions. On the 17th of June 2011, there will be two excursions going, respectively, to the historic centers of Praia and
Ribeira Grande de Santiago (Cidade Velha). The Symposium first circular and registration form are available on:

Abstract proposals for oral and poster presentations should be sent, either in English, in French or in Portuguese, no later than February 28th 2011 to Prof. Judite Nascimento, Departamento de Ciência e Tecnologia, Universidade de Cabo Verde, Campus do Palmarejo, Praia, Santiago, Cabo Verde, either by fax (00238 2627655) or by e-mail (geografia2011cv@hotmail.com).

3.2) IGU 2011 Regional Conference (Santiago the Chile, November 14-18 2011).

Within the framework of this Conference, the Commission will organize general sessions open to papers on any aspect of the history of geography and geographical thought, as well as a themed seminar on Geography and Territorial Policies: Past and Present. The themed seminar will include presentations that evaluate the historical contributions of geographers to different areas of territorial politics, including border delineation and territorial divisions, the territorial organization of the state, colonial policy, regional policy, urban and regional planning, forest policy, geopolitical and geostrategic thought, military policy etc.

Those interested in presenting a paper or poster to either the general sessions or the themed seminar should send an abstract through the “Submission System for Papers and Posters” on the website of the IGU Santiago 2011 Regional Conference (http://www.ugi2011.cl), using the thematic classification Box 20 for the History of Geography. Submissions will be evaluated by the Scientific Sub-Committee of the Local Organizing Committee and the Committee of the IGU Commission on the History of Geography. Accepted submissions will be assigned either to the general sessions or the themed seminar.

Abstracts and posters may be submitted in English, Spanish or French, though authors should note that simultaneous translations will only be available in English and Spanish. The first circular informing on the Commission specific sessions for the IGU Santiago de Chile 2011 Regional Conference was issued on December 22 2010 and is available on.

The deadline for abstracts of papers and posters is 10 March, 2011.
4) COMMISSION’S PUBLICATIONS IN 2010


Geographers Biobibliographical Studies is the annual serial publication devoted to the lives and works of geographers. It is, effectively, the ‘house journal’ for our Commission and an important scholarly resource for studies that provide a key insight into the personal shaping of a discipline, in different countries and at different times, and into the ways in which geography and geographical knowledge, however understood, has had an impact upon its practitioners.

Volume 29 (2010) of Geographers Biobibliographical Studies appeared in October 2010, its seven essays bringing the overall total of biographical and historiographical essays in the series to 426. The geographers whose life and work is covered in this latest volume are (in the order in which they appear in the volume): the British regional geographer Alan Grant Ogilvie (1887–1954); the French regionalist and Marxist Pierre George (1909–2006); the population geographer and one-time editor of GBS, Philippe Pinchemel (1923–2008); the spatial modeller and historical geographer Leslie Wilson Hepple (1947–2007), the pioneering medical geographer Andrew Thomas Amos Learmonth (1916–2008); the leading cultural geographer Denis Edmund Cosgrove (1948–2008); and Allan Pred (1936–2007), theoretician of urban geographies and historical geographer of modern Sweden. With the exception of the Oxford, Paris and Berlin-educated Ogilvie, all the other subjects are, in the main, products of the later twentieth century – products, that is, of a by-and-large well-established disciplinary culture for geography in their several countries. Yet their experiences were far from common. Some led the development of the discipline, within the confines of their own country and beyond. Others, perhaps more engaged in the particularities of research or from a commitment to teaching, found their fondness for the subject and its meanings waning over time, even becoming disenchanted with the subject which helped shaped them.

The forthcoming GBS volume, that for 2011 (volume 30), contains essays on a further nine geographers: three British, three French, two American and one Spaniard. Their subjects are Lionel William Lyde (1863–1947); Norman John Greville Pounds (1912–2006); Michael Williams (1935–2009); Mary Arizona (Zonia) Baber (1862–1956), Luna Bergere Leopold (1915–2006), Juan Carandell y Pericay (1893–1937); Marcel Dubois (1856–1916); André Siegfried (1875–1959); and Pierre Deffontaines (1894–1978). We are delighted with all this new work and in particular delighted to be adding to the history of physical geography (through the essay on the hydrologist and fluvial geomorphologist Luna B. Leopold – son, incidentally, of the distinguished ecologist Aldo Leopold) – and, importantly, adding to the essays on women geographers (whose representation in GBS still does not adequately reflect their contribution to the subject) with the essay on ‘Zonia’ Baber.
As editors, we very much welcome suggestions for additions to the GBS series. A list of the full set of essays covered to date in the GBS series is available for consultation on the Commission website:
(http://web.univ-pau.fr/RECHERCHE/UGIHG/Geographers/Geographers.html.)
Intending authors are invited to get in touch with either one of us as co-editors (Hayden.Lorimer@ges.gla.ac.uk), (c.w.j.withers@ed.ac.uk). The GBS series from Volume 27 (2008) onwards is now available as an e-book and we are developing with our publishers, Continuum Ltd, further ways to promote the series. We look forward to hearing from you.

Hayden Lorimer (University of Glasgow)
Charles W J Withers (University of Edinburgh; IGU Commission on the History of Geography)


From February 5th to 8th 2009, the IVth Colloquium of the History of Geographical Thought Working Group of the Association of Spanish Geographers was held at “La Cristalera”, a residence owned by the Autónoma University of Madrid in the village of Miraflories de la Sierra, Madrid. The Colloquium took place jointly with the first Symposium held by the International Geographical Union Commission on the History of Geography (formerly named Commission on the History of Geographical Thought) since its recent renewal and renaming, which were approved during the International Geographical Congress held at Tunis in August 2008. Both the Spanish Working group and the international Commission collaborated in the organization of this meeting, and fifty geographers, coming from Spain and nine other countries, attended it. Besides the present book’s editors, the Local Organizing Committee of the Colloquium-Symposium was made up of four other professors and researchers from Autónoma and Carlos III Universities of Madrid, namely, Elia Canosa Zamora, Ángela García Carballo, Paloma Puente Lozano and Juan Manuel Trillo Santamaría.

The works presented at the Colloquium-Symposium focused on two main topics: on the one hand, languages and visions of landscape and territory were taken into account, ranging from the most scientific issues to the cartographic or artistic side of the question; and on the other hand, the connections between landscapes and territories, and the building of identities and places of memory were considered as well. The meeting was carried out in six different working sessions, split into two simultaneous working groups. In addition, there were an opening lecture, given by Vincent Berdoulay, and a closing lecture, given by Eduardo Martínez de Pisón. Two excursions took place as well:
the first, as part of the meeting, to the Lozoya Valley; and the second one, immediately after the meeting, to Toledo.

The present book, issued in May 2010, contains 40 of the 46 papers presented at the meeting, as well as Berdoulay’s opening lecture and the explanation that Martínez de Pisón gave during the excursion to the Lozoya Valley. On the whole, the book truly reflects what was lived during the February 2009 Languages and visions of landscape and territory Colloquium-Symposium. Besides the scientific interest of the discussed works, it was an excellent opportunity to spend some time together and to get in touch with different people from the field, who exchanged their points of view about landscape and other territorial issues in a very cordial atmosphere. Finally, since the activities took place in the Sierra de Guadarrama, the beauty of its nature and its landscapes (enhanced by a great snowfall) made the meeting, and the whole experience, even nicer.

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