

ISTITUTO PER L'ORIENTE "C.A. NALLINO"
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI "L'ORIENTALE"

RASSEGNA DI STUDI ETIOPICI

Vol. I

3^a Serie

(XLVIII)



ROMA-NAPOLI
2017

Volume I - 3^a Serie (XLVIII) / RASSEGNA DI STUDI ETIOPICI / 2017

ISSN 0390-0096

ISTITUTO PER L'ORIENTE "C.A. NALLINO"
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI "L'ORIENTALE"

RASSEGNA DI STUDI ETIOPICI

Vol. 1
3^a Serie
(XLVIII)

ROMA-NAPOLI
2017

RASSEGNA DI STUDI ETIOPICI – RIVISTA FONDATA DA CARLO CONTI ROSSINI

Consiglio Scientifico – Scientific Committee:

GIORGIO BANTI, ALESSANDRO BAUSI, ANTONELLA BRITA, RODOLFO FATTOVICH, GILDA FERRANDINO, ALESSANDRO GORI, GIANFRANCESCO LUSINI, ANDREA MANZO, LORENZA MAZZEI, SILVANA PALMA, GRAZIANO SAVÀ, LUISA SERNICOLA, MAURO TOSCO, ALESSANDRO TRIULZI, YAQOB BEYENE, CHIARA ZAZZARO

Comitato Scientifico Internazionale – Advisory Board:

JON ABBINK, ABDIRACHID MOHAMED ISMAIL, ALEMSEGED BELDADOS ALEHO, BAHRU ZEWDE, EWA BALICKA-WITAKOWSKA, BAYE YIMAM, ALBERTO CAMPLANI, ELOI FICQUET, MICHAEL GERVERS, GETACHEW HAILE, MARILYN HELDMAN, JONATHAN MIRAN, MAARTEN MOUS, MARTIN ORWIN, CHRISTIAN ROBIN, CLAUDE RILLY, SALEH MAHMUD IDRIS, SHIFERAW BEKELE, TEMESGEN BURKA BORTIE, TESFAY TEWOLDE, SIEGBERT UHLIG, STEFFEN WENIG

Comitato Editoriale – Editorial Board:

GILDA FERRANDINO, ANDREA MANZO (Vicedirettore – Deputy Director), LORENZA MAZZEI, GRAZIANO SAVÀ, LUISA SERNICOLA

The present issue is the 1st volume of the “3^a Serie” (the volume IV of the “Nuova Serie” was published in 2012) and it represents the 48th volume since the establishment of the journal.

– The Università degli Studi di Napoli “L’Orientale” participates in the publication of the «Rassegna di Studi Etiopici» by entrusting its care to its Dipartimento Asia, Africa e Mediterraneo.

– All correspondence should be addressed to:

Redazione Rassegna di Studi Etiopici
Dipartimento Asia, Africa e Mediterraneo
Università degli Studi di Napoli “L’Orientale”
Piazza S. Domenico Maggiore 12 – 80134 Napoli, Italy
e-mail: redazione@unior.it
Segretario di redazione – Editorial Secretary: MASSIMO VILLA

Direttore Responsabile – Director: GIANFRANCESCO LUSINI

Iscrizione presso il Tribunale civile di Roma, Sezione Stampa, al numero 184/2017 del 14/12/2017

ISSN 0390-0096

Tipografia: Il Torcoliere. Officine Grafico-Editoriali d’Ateneo, Via Nuova Marina 59 – 80133 Napoli

CONTENTS

ARCHAEOLOGY

- KIFLE ZERUE, ALEMSEGED BELDADOS, *Archaeological Investigation in Ahfärom Wārāda, Tigray*..... 11
- Addendum – The Sabaic inscription of ‘Addi Ba’əkäl (GIANFRANCESCO LUSINI)*..... 39
- TEKLE HAGOS, *A Preliminary Report on the Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey in Ganta Afäšum and its environs, Tigray, 2007*... 49

PHILOLOGY

- GIANFRANCESCO LUSINI, *The Stemmatic Method and Ethiopian Philology*..... 75
- MASSIMO VILLA, *Fruentius in the Ethiopic Sources: Some Text-Critical Considerations* 87
- DARIA ELAGINA, *The Gə‘əz text and the Amharic version of the Chronicle of John of Nikiu*..... 113

LITERATURE

- MERSHA ALEHEGNE, *The Mälkä’ä Säma’ətat of Däbrä Libanos: Text and Translation*..... 121

HISTORY OF ART

- LORENZA MAZZEI, *An Illustrated Apocalypse of Mary (Ra’əyā Maryam)* 139

MISCELLANEOUS

- Ignazio Guidi, Martino Mario Moreno, Enrico Cerulli, *studiosi dell’Etiopia (GIANFRANCESCO LUSINI)*..... 163
- The archaeological excavations of the University of Naples “L’Orientale” at Seglamen, Tigray, 2010-2016 (LUISA SERNICOLA)*.. 175
- The Nile Project. Ethnography and ethnoarchaeology of the Sudanese Nile (CHIARA ZAZZARO)* 181

BULLETIN FOR 2016-2017.....	185
BOOK REVIEWS	
Alessandra Avanzini, <i>By land and by sea. A history of South Arabia before Islam recounted from inscriptions</i> (GIANFRANCESCO LUSINI) ..	205
Judith McKenzie, Francis Watson, <i>The Garima Gospels: Early Illuminated Gospel Books from Ethiopia</i> (GIANFRANCESCO LUSINI) ...	208
Michela Gaudiello, Paul Yule, <i>Miḥsas Bahri: a Late Aksumite Frontier Community in the Mountains of Southern Tigray. Survey, Excavation and Analysis, 2013-16</i> (ANDREA MANZO)	213
Gérard Colin, <i>Saints fondateurs du Christianisme éthiopien: Frumentius, Garimā, Takla Hāymānot et Ēwoṣṭātēwos. Introduction, traduction et notes</i> (MASSIMO VILLA).....	218
OBITUARIES	
<i>Giampaolo Calchi Novati, 1935-2017</i> (SILVANA PALMA).....	223
<i>Richard Pankhurst, 1927-2017</i> (JON ABBINK).....	226

In copertina: Biblioteca Forteguerriana (Pistoia), ms. Martini etiop. 5, *Apocalisse di Maria* (*Ra'ayä Maryam*), f. 134v (gentile concessione; foto L. Mazzei)

OBITUARIES

Giampaolo Calchi Novati, 1935-2017

Giampaolo Calchi Novati, one of the most influential and prestigious voices in Italian Africanist and International Political Studies, passed away last January 2, 2017.

Born in Vimercate (Lombardy), he graduated in law and then specialized in history, starting his career as a researcher at the Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI) in Milan.

He was among the founders of the Institute for Relations between Italy and the Countries of Africa, Latin America and the Middle East (IPALMO), which he headed between 1971 and 1987. In this role, he contributed to the drafting of the first Italian Law on International Cooperation, which was passed on February 26, 1987. He founded the journal *Politica internazionale* and served as editor in chief from 1973 to 1989. Visiting professor at the University of Addis Ababa, since 2009 he had been in charge of ISPI's Africa Watch. He taught History and Institutions of African-Asian countries at the universities of Pisa, Urbino, and Pavia, where he ended his academic career as Emeritus Professor.

Calchi Novati was among those who made history in Italian Africanist studies, not only because of his ability to integrate them into mainstream international studies – which for a long time saw Italy remain on the margins of debate and growth (very lively elsewhere) – but also for shaking off a legacy that had long weighed on their (late) renewal.

In the aftermath of the Second World War, enduring colonial institutions, academic historians' transition from Fascism to the republic, former colonial officials' transformation into academics, as well as inaccessible sources, all but prevented the decolonization of African studies in Italy until the 1970s. For years, African history was marginalized even in Italian Universities, where finding space for the discipline meant threading one's way through ghettoization and hostility motivated not just by Africanist historical studies' credibility (or lack thereof), but also by academic power struggles.

Calchi Novati is among the scholars credited with making Italian Africanist Studies less provincial, as well as with renewing and consolidating them. He formed dozens of scholars and professors. He was a prolific writer, too, boasting a bibliography of 230 (and counting) scientific works, according to a list compiled in 2008 by two of his students.

Among the books he published: *Le rivoluzioni nell'Africa nera* (Dall'Oglio, 1967), *Decolonizzazione e Terzo Mondo* (Laterza, 1979), *L'Africa* (Editori Riuniti, 1987), *Il Corno d'Africa nella storia e nella politica. Etiopia, Somalia e Eritrea fra nazionalismi, sottosviluppo e guerra* (SEI, 1994), *Dalla parte dei leoni* (Il Saggiatore, 1995), *Storia dell'Algeria indipendente: dalla guerra di liberazione al fondamentalismo islamico* (Bompiani, 1998), *Africa: la storia ritrovata. Dalle prime forme politiche alle indipendenze nazionali* (with P. Valsecchi, Carocci, 2005), *L'Africa d'Italia. Una storia coloniale e postcoloniale* (Carocci, 2011).

Algeria and the Horn of Africa, along with Italy's past and colonial heritage and, more generally, Italian-African relations, were his privileged fields of analysis, but his research also included Middle East issues. First and foremost he was a prominent voice in Italian International Political Studies on what was once called the Third World.

With tireless lucidity and a rare ability to shed light on the search for the meaning of contemporaneity, he was a watchful observer of the peripheries of the world, which today more than ever experience what closely resembles a competition for their spoils among the Western powers and the newly developed countries.

Self-admittedly 'on the lions' side', but never biased, he was, in his own words, «day by day and year by year, a commentator and a witness of Africa's hopes and lapses» (*Dalla parte dei leoni*, 9). In this he was able to blend scholarly rigour with civic passion, along with extraordinary dissemination skills always aimed at shortening the distance and rescuing Africa from the historical-political marginality to which it was relegated by the West.

Despite Africa being progressively relegated to a subordinate role and experiencing lower media coverage and neo-colonial practices following the end of bipolarity, if in the last fifty years its political events have been understood in all their complexity even outside the confines of Italian academia, Calchi Novati deserves much of the credit. His passion and determination, and his formidable and tireless dissemination, made it possible.

Mentioning his drive and extraordinary work habits may seem overly celebratory rhetoric, but even those who had but a nodding acquaintance with him know how true (and even proverbial) this was of him.

A punctilious, demanding and rigorous but generous scholar, he was always open to discussion, even when his illness became harder to bear.

His last article, written just days before his passing, was published on December 17, 2016, in *Il manifesto*, where he was a regular contributor. Titled *More growth and a bit of development. But Africa still has no voice*, it is the significant epitome of his constant scholarly commitment to addressing Africa's complex problems and denouncing international influence and pressures, as well as bringing Africa out of the shadow of misrepresentations and distorted perceptions largely perpetuated or even instigated by the media.

Whether consciously or not, I do not know, the article is the culmination of fifty years of scientific production that began with a book whose title is remarkably similar, *L'Africa nera non è indipendente* (Edizioni di Comunità, 1964), published soon after the Year of Africa.

Born in the year of the Italian invasion of Ethiopia, Calchi Novati left us in the midst of what Italy (and more generally Europe) perceives as the African 'invasion', between a resurgence of colonial-style racism, waves of xenophobic chauvinism, and ethnocentric narrow-mindedness, in which religious belongings, colour lines, and seclusion in small Heimat-like nations, villages, and even neighborhoods prevail.

In this new world (dis)order, propped up by material and cultural walls, we will miss Giampaolo's critical insight, not only for the seductive force of his ideas, but for the lucidity and depth of analysis that were the mark of his intellectual stature.

Silvana Palma