

Analysis of four interpretations of the 20th century history: Giovanni Arrighi, Paul Johnson, Eric Hobsbawm and Antonio Negri

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Polemics on four fronts and interdisciplinary —economy, sociology, political science, social psychology, etc.— as properly historical in view of establishing the meaning of the 20th century: the century of the American world hegemony. This essay not only reveals the ideological bases but also the psychosocial reasons that limit the authors' consciousness distressing their understanding of historical development. From the analysis concerning Imperialist theories (pointing out as insufficient the one carried out by Negri and based on Marx's theory about formal and real subordination of labor under capital), the author forges new concepts. One of such concepts deals with the real subordination of consumption under capital, therefore revealing the integral submission of production contents as well as the world consumption: the world social metabolism under industrial capital. Finally, this work deals with the diverse ways and perspectives opened to humanity at the beginning of the 21st century —facing the attack of the Twin Towers in New York. *Key words:* world politics, global processes, 20th Century, Giovanni Arrighi, Paul Johnson, Eric Hobsbawm, Antonio Negri.

A reflection in regards to globalization and modernity

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The aim of this essay is to analyze globalization as a process, as a means that leads interconnected facts giving rise to the following definitions: the crisis of salaried relationship, the dismantling of social protections, the hegemony consolidation of international financial capital and the State social role substitution to its punitive function. At the same time, it has been impossible to create the necessary material conditions when adopting neo-liberal perspective while establishing the economic policy in order to reach the goal of western modernity: individual autonomy.

Key words: globalization, modernity

Social Construction concerning rural poverty within globalization

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The current investigation recaptures the contemporary rural problem linked to local-global tension, specifically the process of impoverishment and its daily experience. A qualitative analysis carried out by means of focal groups and visual anthropology —within the high region of the municipality of Tututepec, Oaxaca— confers the awareness of the unsuitability of analyzing —independently— phenomena as poverty, migration and globalization, since their relationship may be complex. Some resulting arguments are the following: 1. Contemporary rural poverty is built up within a global frame where the domain of the economic reality discourse has surpassed the one concerning political and scientific reality. 2. Social construction of rural poverty within the frame of globalization is submerged into a catastrophic cultural change: from collective orientation (cooperation) to individual orientation (competence). 3. Non Governmental Organizations with projects of sustainable development such as Ecosta Yutu Cuii, Society of Social Solidarity, in Tututepec, Oaxaca, contribute to reinforce local identity as well as to reconstruct daily life's reality and to achieve collective action towards a better "quality of life".

Key words: rural poverty, daily life, collective action, globalization, social construction

Mexican television and political alliances

Teresa Páramo Ricoy

At the same time as technology has evolved, new media has appeared within the cultural, political, economic and social Mexican life. A number of factors came into play in the appearance of Mexican media, and without any question, each of them has had and still has an essential role within Mexican society. This essay focuses on the rising and the historical development of Mexican television together with the role that this media has played in Mexican democracy's development. This analysis focuses on the relationship established among Mexican television, democracy and the role that this media plays within politics and democracy development. That is the reason why, while this essay makes reference to the 20th century, it emphasizes the political issues that have taken place in this new millennium, when it can be said that Mexican political democracy has made an important progress.

Key words: television, Mexico, political alliances, communication

Sense and meaning in communication and culture

Fernando Matamoros Ponce

This article analyzes symbolical, historical, and cultural dimensions within discursive constructions. This theoretical and methodological approach —based on socio-anthropology and history— utilizes an interdisciplinary method to show the way in which cultural and political references concerning the legitimacy of established powers are present in symbolic interchanges or in regards to rebel attitudes against established paradigms. Pertaining to the past, it is possible to find the logical reasons firmly incorporated in the movement, the conflict and the change. The purpose of this article is to understand the structure of communication using on the one hand, conceptual and methodological supplies of social sciences and on the other hand, considerations carried out by sociology investigators of communication and culture.

Key words: sense, meaning, culture, communication.

The history of the diffusion of the *1844 Economical-Philosophical Manuscripts*

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For some people, Latin America constitutes the Far West (Rouquié 1999). This peripheral character can be appreciated from diverse viewpoints. One of these views is *configured from the analysis concerning the way in which the main western theories —mainly developed in Europe and United States of America— have influenced Latin American thinking.* It is feasible to establish some routes in order to investigate the way in which these social theories have spread out as well as assimilated in Latin America. One of these routes is —without a doubt— the translation of the most important European works as well as the way in which Latin American creators assimilated the ideas. This article explains some of the aspects of Jose Revueltas' method of using the *1844 Economical-Philosophical Manuscripts*. Investigations —up to now— affirm that the first work mentioned above occurred in Mexico. Nevertheless, the quality of this translation has been debated and that is why this work deals with a comparison concerning the translation of the main passages published in 1938 and successive editions, mostly carried out and published in Mexico. Also, a Spanish translation is considered, which has profusely circulated in Mexico. Moreover, there is an analysis regarding some aspects that allow setting out the influence of the work written by Marx into multitask writings of Revueltas.

Key words: History, diffusion, economical-philosophical.

Interpretative proposal of politics from the theory of systems

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The purpose of this essay is to point out the possibilities offered by the theory of systems for the analysis of politics. It is important to mention the minimal elements that schematically define the decision-taking process. In that sense, the energetic character —concerning exchange and information—emerges as the most obvious reference of the processes of legitimacy and censorship in regards to the decisions taken by the power. Therefore, this article focuses on an analytical line suggesting the theoretical coincidences among Deutsch, Easton, Luhmann, and Adams regarding the concept of power.

Key words: politics, theory of systems.

Politics, education and Porfirian culture: an untrue attempt of modernity

Víctor Alarcón Olguín

The *Porfiriato* has been characterized as a period in Mexican history which is barely understood from a cultural and ideological viewpoint. This article attempts to be an account on the impacts that politics, education as well as fine arts has produced over those intellectuals who tried to justify the discourse of dictatorship and its apparent inclusion as a modern political and social regime.

Key words: education, culture, politics, modernity, Mexico, twentieth century.