MODERNISM (ISSN 2499-6742) ANNO VI - 2020

Entre modernización y tradición Cultura, sociedad, Iglesia y política en el México de los años Treinta

ISBN 9788837234782 – pp. 544, € 40,00

ABSTRACTS E KEYWORDS

Massimo De Giuseppe

Ensayo introductorio

«¿Fanáticos o devotos?»

El gobierno cardenista y la iglesia católica frente a la cuestión indígena
(pag. 5-53)

ABSTRACT

The essay, in addition to introducing the dossier, wants to address some expressions of the complex relations between the Mexican State and the Catholic Church during the Cardenista period through the mirror of the indigenous question. The crisis of the Maximato and the attempts of the Lázaro Cárdenas government to build a new proto-indigenous and corporate revolutionary policy through agrarian, educational, union, institutional and cultural policies (culminating in the creation of the Department of Indigenous Autonomous Affairs), generated a complex reaction in some sectors of the Catholic Church but also helped to temper the anti-clerical pressures. The idea of reorganizing the missions in indigenous territories was accompanied by various efforts to rebuild social action that in some cases would have produced original forms of silent competition with state or federal institutions. The dispute around the «search for the indigenous», even with paternalistic overtones, entailed a different reading of the pre-Hispanic and colonial past of revolutionary Mexico and, through popular religiosity, it offers elements of reflection on the modernity/tradition dichotomy.

KEYWORDS

Cardenism – Mexican Catholics – indigenous question – popular religiosity – missions – post-revolutionary Mexico

Pablo Mijangos y González La experiencia judicial de los «arreglos» entre México y la Santa Sede (1929-1942) (pag. 54-89)

ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the Mexican Supreme Court decisions on religious liberty and church-state relations between 1929 and 1942, that is, between the signature of the "Arreglos" that put an end to the Cristero war and the beginnings of the modus vivendi supported by Presidents Lázaro Cárdenas and Manuel Ávila Camacho. Amparo rulings of the highest court have rarely been used by historians of religious persecution in Mexico, even if they provide an excellent window for examining the application and interpretation of the anticlerical articles of the 1917 Constitution. The author claims that the judicial interpretation of these articles was neither consistent nor systematically favorable to the government or to Catholic plaintiffs. Far from echoing the "arreglos" of 1929, the Supreme Court privileged the protection of general constitutional principles – federalism, legality of state actions, and "exact" application of criminal law –, while leaving a door open for the discretional solution of politically relevant cases.

KEYWORDS

Church-state relations – Religious liberty – Mexican Supreme Court – Amparo rulings against religious persecution – 1929 "Arreglos"

Cecilia Adriana Bautista García El frágil equilibrio
Las disputas Estado-Iglesia en el espacio educativo durante la gubernatura de Lázaro Cárdenas en Michoacán, 1928-1932 (pag. 90-142)

ABSTRACT

The consolidation of secular education was an element of constant tension between Catholics, civil governments, and the Catholic Church in post-revolutionary Mexico. This article aims to expose how during the governorship of Lázaro Cárdenas del Río in Michoacán (1928-1932), the attempts of the State to define the terms in which education would be imparted, generated the diverse response of Catholics. This proposal maintains that, based on the individual guarantees enshrined in the 1917 Constitution, the amparo remedies were implemented to contain educational reforms and the intervention of civil governments in private education.

KEYWORDS

Lázaro Cárdenas – Catholics – Education – Michoacán – Post-revolution – amparo appeal

Ben Fallaw «Sumidos pero no vencidos»

Los católicos de Coahuila en la política posrevolucionaria, 1930-40 (pag. 143-164)

ABSTRACT

While Church-state conflicts erupted in much of Mexico in the mid-1930s, the northern state of Coahuila remained calm. This article examines close ties between governor and prominent revolutionary politician Manuel Pérez Treviño and the bishop in the context of Coahuilan revolutionary politicians and priests' mutual preference for accommodation, Catholic voters' power in the revolutionary party's electoral machine, the lack of a second Cristero Revolt (1932-38) or a strong cristero electoral bloc, and relatively weak anticlerical sentiment among organized labor or federal teachers.

KEYWORDS

Anticlericalism – Catholics and the Mexican Revolution – the Cristero War and Second Cristero War – Manuel Pérez Treviño

Mariana Elisabet Funkner La cuestión social en las mujeres de la Acción Católica Mexicana (pag. 165-195)

ABSTRACT

The culmination of the Cristero War implied a new stage for both the Catholic Church and the laity. The foundation in 1929 of the Mexican Catholic Action sought to reorganize the laity and reorient their activities under the strict control of the ecclesiastical hierarchy. Through the two female branches that made up the association, Mexican Female Catholic Youth and Mexican Catholic Women's Union, women exercised outstanding tasks in the social apostolate. In this article we propose to investigate the social problems that the women members of the Mexican Catholic Action detected in society during the 1930s and the strategies they implemented to solve the social issue.

KEYWORDS

Social issue – catholic women – catholic feminism – Mexican Catholic Women's Union – Mexican Catholic Feminine Youth – Mexican Catholic Action

Paolo Valvo

Pugna por las conciencias

La Santa Sede y la cuestión educativa en el México de los años Treinta (pag. 196-233)

ABSTRACT

Since the beginnings of the Thirties, freedom of education became a benchmark for assessing the situation of Mexican Catholicism from the Holy See's perspective. The essay sheds light particularly on the *enseñanza socialista* (socialist education) actively promoted by president Lázaro Cárdenas' government following the reform of Article 3 of the Querétaro Constitution, focusing on the attitude shown by the Vatican Secretariat of State in the confrontation between the intransigence of the Apostolic Delegation and the more pragmatic stance adopted by some Mexican bishops.

KEYWORDS

Vatican Diplomacy – Cardenism – Freedom of education – Socialist education – Church-State conflict in Mexico

Julia G. Young

Creating Catholic Utopias

The Transnational Catholic Activism of Mexico's Unión Nacional Sinarquista
(pag. 234-256)

ABSTRACT

This chapter investigates the formation and activities of the Unión Nacional Sinarquista (and its predecessor organization, Las Legiones) in both Mexico and the United States. It examines the life and activities of UNS founder Salvador Abascal, and traces his and his colleagues' efforts to establish a Catholic political movement on both sides of the border that would undermine and replace Mexico's Revolutionary project. Then, it focuses on the U.S. Mexican community, describing the activities of Catholic sympathizers within the diaspora. Using archival sources from both Mexico and the United States, as well as on the UNS's weekly newspaper, El Sinarquista, this chapter offers a more complete description of the UNS, which has heretofore been understood as a national organization, and provides a more comprehensive explanation for the financial and organizational strength of Mexican lay Catholic activism after the Cristero War.

KEYWORDS

Cristero War – Unión Nacional Sinarquista – Las Legiones – Salvador Abascal – sinarquismo – El Sinarquista

Salvatore Corso *Sicilia: modernismo diffuso* (pag. 259-333)

ABSTRACT

The article is based on several previous studies, written by the author and partially published in local journals. It highlights the Sicilian priests, little known to scholars, who, from the 1890's to the 1920's, were involved in the local Catholic social movements or acted as agents of religious reformism. Among these were the leading figures of Sicilian modernism, Antonino De Stefano and Giorgio La Piana. The article highlights their influence on different cultural circles and their relationships with Ernesto Buonaiuti. The article illuminates several personalities and episodes, with a particular focus on local traditions. As such, it presents a new and unusual portrait of the religious history of Sicily at the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th, focusing its attention on the various traditions of religious reformism which the author considers at the origins of the Sicilian modernism.

KEYWORDS

Sicily – Antonino De Stefano – Giorgio La Piana – Ernesto Buonaiuti – Religious Reformism – Catholic Social Movement

Mario Gnocchi *L'ecumenismo di Geremia Bonomelli* (pag. 337-392)

ABSTRACT

The original Italian text of the message sent in 1910 from the bishop of Cremona, Geremia Bonomelli, to the World Missionary Conference has been recently recovered. This text, previously unpublished, brings back to light the important ecumenical value of Bonomelli's actions – together with the correspondence between Bonomelli and the American Episcopalians Silas McBee and Robert Gardiner, actively engaged in the groundwork for the "Faith and Order" World Conference. Bonomelli's message could have led to further consequences if he hadn't died in early August 1914. Bonomelli's letters reveal the dramatic tension he felt between the desire for unity among divided Christians and the awareness of all the existing theological and institutional differences.

KEYWORDS

Geremia Bonomelli – Ecumenism – World Missionary Conference – «Rassegna Nazionale» – Inter-Christian dialogue