

presents other examples proving the dual loyalty of some people of the Church, but this should not give the impression of duplicity or pretense. On the contrary, their actions should be seen as an aspiration towards the manifest unity of the Church, according to the author.

In the last chapter, “The Second Vatican Council and the Catholic East” (pp. 225–251), the author briefly presents all the stages of the Second Vatican Council of 1962–1965: the preliminary stage, the sessions, and the effects of the decisions adopted, especially upon the Eastern Churches (*Orientalium Ecclesiarum*).

In conclusion, the work of Vasile Barbolovici is a historical theological exegesis that follows the central investigative line of the Council of Ferrara-Florence (1438–1439), an event of great ecclesiological, but also historical significance. The decisions adopted at this Council had echoes especially in the Eastern part of the continent, among the Christian peoples of Greek rite. All of these evolutions and transformations caused by the Council were approached by the author from a dual perspective, historical and theological, which is the defining feature of this work.



ROBERT-MARIUS MIHALACHE

ADRIAN ONOFREIU and CLAUDIA SEPTIMIA SABĂU, eds.

**“Despre împlinirea celor neîmplinite”
în districtul Năsăud: Condițiile admin-
istrative de la Măgura (1866–1868) și
Șanț (1874)**

(“On the fulfillment of that which had been unfulfilled” in the district of Năsăud: The administrative records of Măgura, 1866–1868, and Șanț, 1874)

Foreword by IOAN BOLOVAN,
Cluj-Napoca: Academia Română. Centrul
de Studii Transilvane, 2018.

THE EDITORS, Adrian Onofreiu and Claudia Septimia Sabău, are accomplished researchers whose comprehensive, utterly professional, and through endeavors have managed to bring to the attention of scholars an impressive amount of documents concerning the historical area of Năsăud.

The Năsăud District, a political-administrative entity created in 1861 in the region of the former Năsăud Border Regiment, had a majority Romanian population (mainly Greek Catholic), Romanian public officials in all administrative fields, and schools with Romanian as their teaching language.

This book contains documents and regulations recorded by local mayoralities in two villages of Năsăud District, Rodna-Măgura (for the timeframe 1866–1868) and Șanț (for 1874). These are important documents that help us understand the work of the Romanian authorities in that area, containing essential information about the mechanisms underpinning the administration of such villages. The documents show that, at local communities level, an important role was played by the mayors, with attributions regard-

ing the execution of the ordinances issued by the district authorities, the collection of taxes, conscriptions for the army and the local guards units, the monitoring of foreigners in the area, forest exploitation, road maintenance, and the supervision of the schools.

The information about the administrative process covers a wide variety of aspects, such as the election of village mayors and of local representatives, the disciplinary investigations against some village or district officials, the use of the Romanian language in the district administration, the official correspondence, the issuance of certificates, the mediation between parties in minor disputes, the issuance of civil status papers, building permits, etc.

The documents in this books also contain official answers given to imperial patents, government circulars, or imperial orders, which shed light on the relations between the larger administrative entities that encompassed several villages and the higher authorities: the regional government in Cluj (Kolozsvár/Klausenburg), the Transylvanian Imperial Chancellery of Vienna, etc.

The authors aim to find answers to questions such as: how were the decisions of the authorities communicated to the people in these communities? What was the reaction of ordinary people, how did they comply with these measures? What was their relationship with the local authorities?

In the rural society of that time, the most important officials were the priest and the mayor, who had to work together on a regular basis for the wellbeing of the community. The administrative apparatus also included a notary, a tax collector, a clerk, a village council, a courier to trans-

mit the documents between the authorities, and a few guards. Their attributions and behavior were strictly regulated.

The registers included in this book also contain valuable information regarding the daily life of the inhabitants of these two villages, highlighting the particularities of the collective mentalities of that time. People were putting all their resources and efforts in the cultivation of land as well as in raising cattle. Agriculture was the most important occupation of the inhabitants and the main source of food; for this reason, it was highly regulated by the state and local authorities. Many documents in this book deal with issues regarding the crops and the cattle, as shown in the few samples presented below: “Following a medical investigation, it was found that the hemp left to melt in water had poisoned the water so much that by drinking it many people became ill; nowadays, when cholera is ravaging the neighboring countries, this dangerous disease has appeared in some smaller villages in the Rodna circle too; therefore, in order to prevent the disease from spreading, the police has decided as follows: all the hemp that needs to be left to melt in the water has to be placed in running waters only, and for no longer than 12 ours; it is forbidden to place it in lakes, because of the risk of poisoning the cattle. Those who will not comply will be fined 5 florins, according to the Imperial Patent of 20/4/1854.”

The documents also show other measures taken by the local authorities in order to prevent the spread of contagious diseases: both the people and their houses should be kept clean; all the garbage should be disposed of properly; the people were to take care not to catch a cold or the flue, which might weaken them; the

people had to keep a proper diet, avoiding fatty foods.

Small mundane events, like petty thefts, birds invasions and such are also included in these documents: “19-years-old Ion Moise, from Măgura, after stealing a pair of boots from his parents’ house, ran away, destination unknown. This matter needs to be thoroughly investigated.”

“According to the complaints made so far by many people, it now manifest that birds of all kinds have become too numerous, and they do damage to the harvest of the villagers throughout the year. There is great need of measures to get rid of these birds, and therefore all men have to kill at least 150, and prove it by presenting the heads of the birds to the authorities.”

As can be seen, the documents included in this book contain a wealth of information referring not only to the administrative activities that ensured the smooth running of the community, but also to daily life, to the concerns and problems of ordinary people in the area. In their transcription of the documents the editors also kept the original language, making them a true window into the past, a valuable source of information for researchers concerned with the various aspects of Romanian life in Transylvania in the modern era.



DANIELA MĂRZA

IOAN DEGĂU et VIOREL FAUR, dir.
Beiușul și lumea lui. Vol. 5,
Lupta pentru unire (1918-1919).
Oameni, fapte, întâmplări din Bihor
 (Beiuș et son monde. Vol. 5,
 La Lutte pour l’union, 1918–1919.
 Gens, faits et événements de Bihor)
 Cluj-Napoca, Academia Roumână,
 Centrul de Studii Transilvane, 2018

LA CÉLÉBRATION du centenaire de l’union des Roumains a offert en égale mesure des opportunités significatives et de grandes provocations pour l’écriture historique. Les spécialistes impliqués dans l’effort de restitution du passé ont mis en valeur le revirement intervenu au niveau de l’intérêt public pour certains aspects de l’identité nationale et ont privilégié des recherches visant les manifestations de la conscience nationale chez les Roumains des provinces historiques, son impact sur l’évolution de l’État ou le rôle des personnalités dans les événements politiques à la fin de la Grande Guerre. Ce changement intervenu au niveau des priorités des lecteurs a stimulé les plaidoyers des historiens professionnels en vue d’une restauration de l’histoire comme étant l’une des composantes essentielles du processus instructif-éducatif, statut justifié par l’importance sociale de celle-ci. D’un autre côté, la production historiographique a dû faire face à une compétition dure avec les acteurs politiques et institutionnels intéressés à identifier le travail de l’historien à la propagande patriotique. Le contrôle des ressources économiques indispensables au niveau actuel des recherches de spécialité risque de se transformer en une sorte de patronage exercé sur l’historien, difficile à concilier avec les exigences scientifiques.