

## INTERNATIONAL REVIEWS & SCHOLARLY REFERENCES

### *A selection*

Reviews and references to *Archaeus* have appeared since 1997 in dozens of periodicals, journals and newspapers. Here is a selection which includes some of them, printed in major publications worldwide, and written by some of the finest contemporary scholars of religion:

Arion Roșu, Review of *Archaeus* 1 (1997), in *Bulletin d'Études Indiennes*, Paris : Association française pour les études sanskrites, 15 (1997), pp. 369-370.

Claude Sterckx, Review of *Archaeus* 1 (1997), in *Ollodagos. Actes de la Société belge d'études celtiques* 11 (1997).

“At the end of 1997 there appeared suddenly in Bucharest a new journal called *Archaeus. Studii de istorie a religiilor*. [...] The sheer quantity of the material published in the nine fascicles that have been issued to date — totalling approximately 2000 pages — is astonishing, as is likewise the variety the subject matter. Space does not permit a listing of these articles here, but suffice it to say they are in no way inferior to those found in other scholarly journals. [...] In short, with these recent developments promoted by the ‘*Archaeus* group’, the study of the history of religions has reached a stage of maturity never before attained in Romania, a field eager to take its place alongside HR studies in other European and in North American universities. And now that *Archaeus* is being published in major languages, it should be made available in libraries where other periodicals of its type are found. [...] Today these studies are flourishing as never before and bidding to attract worldwide attention.” | Mac Linscott Ricketts, “The History of the History of Religions in Romania”, *Religion* 32 (2002), pp. 71 and 81-82.

“La tradition de la recherche roumaine dans le domaine de l'histoire des religions, laquelle se réfère incessamment à Eliade, Couliano et quelques autres, assez peu nombreux au demeurant, a été brutalement interrompue avec l'occupation communiste et devra se reconstruire avec ténacité et patience. Néanmoins, sur ce terrain encore si vierge en Roumanie, une telle entreprise ne peut que susciter l'admiration. L'enthousiasme dont ces chercheurs font preuve paraît bien de nature à surmonter maints obstacles.” | Radu Dragan, review of *Archaeus* 1-4 (1997-2000) in *Aries. Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism* (Leiden-Boston: Brill), vol. 2 (2002), no. 1, pp. 188-191.

“We salute at this point the presence of the periodica[1] *Archaeus. Studii de istorie a religiilor* (edited by the Centre for the History of Religions, University of Bucharest) [...]. We believe that periodicals like these can contribute both to the configuring of networks of specialists in the science of religion and to the coagulation (curdling) of the horizon of expectance of the readers, activating the need of historical and religious research and stimulating the development of the critical attitude in this domain.” | Bogdan Neagota, “Argument”, in *Orma. Revista de studii istorico-religioase* [Cluj-Napoca] 1 (2004), pp. 5-9 (transl. into several languages).

**“Archaeus. Studies in the History of Religions** ranks as one of the leading periodicals in the field. Its specialist contributions and scholarly reviews cover the entire field of religious studies. They often combine solid historical research with new approaches, a fact that makes the journal an eminently pleasant and instructive reading. All research libraries should have it.” | **Bernhard LANG**, University of Paderborn, Germany/University of St. Andrews, UK, editor of **International Review of Biblical Studies** (Brill).

“If one examines the journals devoted specifically to the study of religion [...] find[s] also that these journals, although open to foreign scholars, tended to publish work produced in a specific language [...] This is a trend that continues in the case of periodicals established later in the twentieth century [...] some of which are the publications of national associations. [...] Another exception, although in the opposite direction, is **Archaeus: Études d’histoire des religions / Studies in the History of Religions** (1997), a Romanian journal that publishes studies in English, French and Italian.” | Gustavo BENAVIDES, “Periodical literature”, in Lindsay Jones (Editor in Chief), **Encyclopedia of Religion, Second Edition**, Detroit, etc.: Thomson Gale (Macmillan Reference USA), 2005, vol. 15, pp. 10056a-10057b.

“[O]ne may find definitively noteworthy for the scientific study of religion in recent years the activity of two international journals devoted to the broad field of the history of religions: **Archaeus. Studies in the History of Religions** (founded 1997, new international series since 2001) and *Studia Asiatica. International Journal for Asian Studies* (founded 2000). Both of them are edited by the Romanian Association for the History of Religions and the Centre for the History of Religions at the University of Bucharest.” | Dragoş Mîrşanu, **Journal of Eastern Christian Studies** [Leuven: Peeters] 58 (2006), p. 118.

“The success of the conference in Bucharest had underlined the importance of EASR annual conferences for furthering the European study of religions, and notably for drawing in members from Eastern Europe and promoting the work of younger scholars. It had been attended by some 250 delegates from more than thirty countries, and was the first of its kind in Romania. The conference organising committee, with representatives from the Romanian Association for the History of Religions, and in particular the energetic young organisers [...], were warmly thanked for their hard work in planning and running the conference so well, and in obtaining excellent support and sponsorship from the Romanian government, other public bodies and from further afield. The conference will be remembered for its focus on the legacy of Mircea Eliade and the historical study of religions.” | **Kim Knott**, “Report of the General Secretary of the European Association for the Study of Religions, 2005-2006”.

[http://easr.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/content/pdfs/2006\\_general\\_secr\\_report.pdf?PHPSESSID=d9cb9b72e666939317712cb91f285df9](http://easr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/content/pdfs/2006_general_secr_report.pdf?PHPSESSID=d9cb9b72e666939317712cb91f285df9)

“I would also to express my personal and heartfelt thanks to the President and all the Colleagues of the Romanian Association for the History of Religions for their hard work and care in organising this important meeting in Bucarest, as a forum for discussion of the fundamental problems and methods of our discipline. On this occasion is my duty and pleasure to remember the valuable contribution made to the progress of historical religious research by Mircea Eliade. I am also proud to remember the amicable and scientific ties between the great Romanian Scholar and

the Master of Italian religious historical studies, Raffaele Pettazzoni. This relationship is a proof of the need and usefulness of the dialogue between scholars and different research methods for the development of our discipline. [...] The Congress which has just ended, with its rich and authoritative variety of voices intervening in the debate on the “Religious History of Europe and Asia”, showed effectively that this objective can be pursued and indeed achieved. For my part, I am happy to conclude by once more expressing my heartfelt thanks to the Romanian Association for the History of Religions which hosted this magnificent Congress”. | **Giulia Sfameni Gasparro**, “Report of the President of the European Association for the Study of Religions, 2005-2006”.

[http://easr.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/content/pdfs/2006\\_president\\_report.pdf?HPSESSID=d9cb9b72e666939317712cb91f285df9](http://easr.org/fileadmin/user_upload/content/pdfs/2006_president_report.pdf?HPSESSID=d9cb9b72e666939317712cb91f285df9)

“En plus de huit conférences plénières sur des sujets aussi variés que les disputes théologiques du Moyen Âge ou le mysticisme juif, les religions et la violence ou la place des penseurs espagnols dans la réflexion historico-religieuse de Mircea Eliade, nous avons l’embarras du choix lors des sessions en parallèle : religions gréco-romaines, religions de l’Antiquité tardive, monothéismes au Moyen-Âge, religions indiennes et études bouddhiques, religions iraniennes, Eliade et son héritage, interactions religieuses entre l’Europe de l’Est et l’Europe de l’Ouest, réception de l’Orient en Occident, religions et modernité, courants hermétiques et ésotériques. [...] les jeunes organisateurs roumains [...] ont fait un brillant travail. C’est en effet la première fois qu’un congrès d’histoire des religions avait lieu en Roumanie. [...] Le trilinguisme du congrès lui a donné une touche vraiment européenne, et ce dès la séance d’ouverture qui a eu lieu à l’Athénée roumain, en plein cœur de Bucarest. [...] Tant le cadre que le contenu des conférences ont fait que le déplacement jusqu’à Bucarest en valait vraiment la peine.” | Florence PASCHE, “Echos du sixième congrès de l’EASR et conférence spéciale IAHR Bucarest, 20-23 septembre 2006”, *La Lettre d’information du Département Interfacultaire d’Histoire et de Sciences des Religions* no. 17 (2006), pp. 7-8.

“These young people who organized excellently [the 6<sup>th</sup> EASR/ IAHR Special Conference in Bucharest] are not a few. For this reason I say you have them. You have competent scientific journals, edited by researchers who know the languages and have international relationships and are of organizing such things – this means you have them. [...] But if you have no individuals, you have nothing! That exist the journals *Archaeus* [...] and *Studia Asiatica* are things you have, you can see them.” | **Moshe Idel** (interview, *Adevarul literar si artistic*, November 29, 2006, pp. 8-10).

Lara SANJAKDAR, “*Storia religiosa dell’Europa e dell’Asia. Il Sesto Congresso Annuale della European Association for the Study of Religions*”, *Studi e Materiali di Storia delle Religioni* 73 [n.s. XXXI, 1] (2007), pp. 215-222.

“Ce fut enfin [...] la réunion à Bucarest en septembre 2006 du Congrès de l’Association Européenne d’Histoire des Religions, où les savants de nos disciplines de recherches reçurent l’honneur d’une allocution de bienvenue [...] qui formula publiquement le voeu que la recherche roumaine en sciences humaines s’appuie fortement sur les solidarités francophones. Ce qui est le cas aujourd’hui grâce au travail assidu de jeunes initiateurs, parmi lesquels j’eus le plaisir de rencontrer fréquemment à Paris Mihaela Timuş et Eugen Ciurtin. L’excellente tenue des deux revues qu’ils ont contribué à créer, *Archaeus* et *Studia Asiatica*, leur a valu de figurer

en 2005 parmi les lauréats du Prix Hirayama de notre Académie.” | **Jean LECLANT**, secrétaire perpétuel de l’Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, Institut de France, Paris – « Allocution », séance d’ouverture de l’Institut d’Histoire des Religions de l’Académie Roumaine, le 20 octobre 2008.

[http://www.aibl.fr/IMG/pdf/aibl\\_lettre\\_information\\_decembre\\_2008\\_n72.pdf](http://www.aibl.fr/IMG/pdf/aibl_lettre_information_decembre_2008_n72.pdf)

“Post-World War II scholarly journals and reference works. Among the international journals launched after World War II [...] **Archaeus** (1997-), edited [...] on behalf of the Romanian Association of the History of Religions [...] operates as an international journal, effectively crossing the boundaries between Eastern and Western Europe (and the rest of the world).” | Michael STAUSBERG, “The Study of Religion(s) in Western Europe [III]: further developments after World War II”, **Religion** [London: Elsevier] 39 (2009), p. 262.

“In the European context of the last ten years various journals on the history of religions have come to life [...] in 1997, the Rumanian journal of the history of religions, **Archaeus**, also came to be [...] Published by the Romanian Association for the History of Religions, *Archaeus* was ‘the first Romanian journal for the history of religion after the collapse of Communism in 1989. [...] each volume of *Archaeus* is the result of collaboration between scholars of religion across the world. [...] Being a forum of international debate, *Archaeus* is issued in five major languages (English, French, Italian, German, and Spanish), including only occasional brief notes or book reviews in Romanian.’ (from the Website of the journal). [...] Here is not the place to enter in a discussion on the organisation, the editorial guidelines and on the scope of these journals; what is perhaps more interesting, for our intent, is to ask ourselves what could be the reasons for this newfound academic bloom. Some of these reasons will fall under the more general process of enlargement at the European level of the International Association for the History of Religions, which, as Gregory Alles has pointed out in a recent collection of essays, is part of an establishment of a *global view* in this field of study – this is the case [...] of *Archaeus*.” | Giovanni FILORAMO, “What Future for a Review of History of Religions?”, **Historia Religionum. An International Journal of History of Religions** 1 (2009), pp. 159-160.

“*Gli ultimi vent’anni. Le storie e le enciclopedie generali delle religioni*. Quanto alle riviste specializzate, si devono registrare la fondazione [...], nel 1997, di **Archaeus. Studii de istorie a religiilor**, rivista romena promossa da un comitato di redazione presieduto [in 1997] da Andrei Timotin (n. 1976) [1997-2000] e composto da Teodor Baconsky (n. 1963) [1997-1999], Dan Slușanschi (1943-2008) [1997-2004], Eugen Ciurtin (n. 1975) [1997-], Bogdan Tătaru-Cazaban (n. 1977) [1997-1999] e sviluppatasi particolarmente grazie agli ultimi due, ad Andrei Oişteanu (n. 1948) [2001-2006] e a Mihaela Timuş (n. 1975) [2000-].” | Natale SPINETO, “Religioni”, in A. Melloni (a cura di), **Dizionario del sapere storico-religioso del Novecento**, Collana "Fuori collana", Bologna: Il Mulino, 2010, vol. 2, p. 1294.

Other critical references to **Archaeus** have also appeared in:

**Comptes rendus de l’Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres**, Institut de France, Paris: De Boccard.

**Encyclopedia of Religion, Second Edition**, ed. Lindsay Jones, Detroit, etc.: GaleThomson, Macmillan, 2005.

**Indo-Iranian Journal**, Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publisher.

*Numen. International Review for the History of Religions*, Leiden-Boston:  
Brill.

*Religion*, London: Elsevier/Routledge.

*Studi e Materiali di Storia delle Religioni*, Roma.

**Citations:** at present, hundreds of citations of most of the articles published since its inception are easily available by the best **international scholarly databases** (as EBSCO, JSTOR, ProQuest, Scopus, etc.) as well as freely with Google Book Search & Google Scholar.