

ABSTRACT

Under the title *The Antiquity as the Future. A History Page of Contemporary Classical Philology (Classics)*, this thesis aims to achieve two purposes, which the author considers essential for his activity exposure.

On the one hand, the habilitation thesis is meant to provide a clear picture of the most important and relevant areas of scientific interest that I have took into account along my formative path.

On the other hand, I equally intended to provide, at the same time, a living page in the history of Romanian contemporary classical philology while being fully aware that I needed to correlate my own scientific training background, in constant progress, to the various directions that scientific research in the field has known in these last four decades.

Besides the summary, the thesis consists of two major sections - *B. Research Directions and letter* and *C. Synthetic Conclusions. Research Projects*. The paper concludes with bibliographical references, a selective list of landmarks in the research reviewed under Section *B*.

B. THE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS is the first chapter which includes three component sections:

I. *Thraco-Dacian Antiquities* presents the researches concerning the history, culture, language and civilization of Geto-Dacians and Thracians, the linguistic studies being most often correlated with an account of the early historical development of the Romanian language.

This was the first solid direction of my research projects as a student and a young graduate. Between 1979 and 1989 I published a total of 10 studies in periodicals and conference volumes, together with six reviews and reading notes, representing my personal expert interventions in the public and cultural space which exceeds that of the community of specialists.

In the last decade of the former millennium (1990-1999/2000) I undertook an adjustment of scientific interests and instruments. As a result, Latin classicism became predominant, for me and I replaced comparative historical linguistics with cultural-literary studies.

Between 1990 and 2001 I published a total of seven studies and articles in journals, magazines and books devoted to ancient sources of Romanian history, to which I added in 2004 and in 2008, notes and reading impression on the Romanian ethnogenesis.

II. *Classical Antiquity and The Classicism of Antiquity*, a chapter which is further divided into *1. Classical Antiquity* and *2. The Classicism of Antiquity*, regards my studies on classical culture and its paradigmatic and formative value which I have detailed in subsections

1.1. *The Classical Literary Culture*, 1. 2. *The Poetics of Classical Latin*, and 1. 3. *Latin language*, all three for the first section; and in subsections 2. 1. *The recovery of Classical Antiquity as a model* and 2. 2. *The foundress paradigm*, for the second section.

I embarked on my own on a voyage of creative discovery regarding Classical Antiquity, with a joint perspective offered by Latin and Greek culture, significantly predetermined by the Mediterranean space. My personal scientific concern lied predominantly with the literature and the literary culture of classical antiquity, without ever intending to disregard or eliminate completely the linguistic tools for literary expression.

My contributions in this dual direction, *Classical Antiquity* as the constant and permanent target, on the one hand, and its model – "classical" par excellence – *The Classicism of Antiquity* as an exemplary formative paradigm are orderly distributed in this second chapter of the thesis according to a criterion that one may conventionally call the area of classicist preoccupations.

In the first subsection, *Classical Literary Culture*, the primary target is the literature from both areas of classical antiquity, the Greek and the Latin. I approach texts by different authors with a view to providing an entirely or at least partially new reading key, whether the texts of my choice are famed or obscure.

In this chapter, I also consider the theory of the literary text and the practice of translation. I review contributions concerning the literary text from the perspective of the theory of its interpretation and translation with reference to my preoccupations regarding the practice of translation.

III. *The Antiquity as the Future.* The third and final direction of my research, which revealed my whole scientific preoccupations, has been intended as a bridge between the panoply of perennial and unalterable values of classicism as an axiological code and the spiritual horizons of contemporaneity.

The bridge between classicism and contemporaneity is the title of the first subchapter of this last line of research which reflects my constant preoccupation to integrate my classicist expertise in the landscape of contemporary ideas of the literature and culture of Romania, as well as of the world.

The other subchapter, *The recovery and consolidation of classical culture in Romania*, refers to the most famous and valuable classicists of the recently ended century. To N. I. Herescu (1903-1961) I have dedicated the first volume of a reborn collection *Primordialia*, which I initiated in 2011 at the Publishing House of the Romanian Literature Museum. The volume was entitled *Destiny without Death (for Classicism)*. The second coryphaeus was Constantin I. Balmuş (1898-1957) on whom I wrote the comprehensive monographic study (*A Classicist in Agora*) at the beginning of the volume devoted to his life and work.

C. SYNTHETIC CONCLUSIONS. RESEARCH PROJECTS

This habilitation thesis ends with a section containing my conclusions (Chapter *I. Synthetic Conclusions*) followed by the institutional research that I intend to develop in my future work at the Doctoral School of Literary and Cultural Studies in our Faculty (Chapter *II. Research Projects*).

D. THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

They constitute the last section of the thesis and the natural and necessary conclusion of my work.