Mediterranean Social Sciences Network

Some M.I. Activities during Sept.-Dec. 1988

Man and History: The Mediterranean and its Role in the World

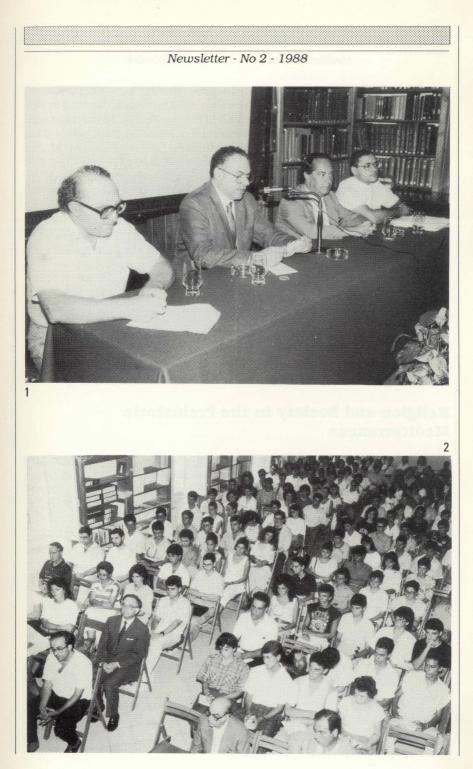
* An evening course in Mediterranean studies was organised by the Mediterranean Institute with the support of the Foundation for International Studies and the University of Malta. The course held between the 5-30 September attracted over 150 participants, the majority being sixth form students. Lectures revolved around the central theme "Man and History: The Mediterranean and its Role in the World". The four-week course adopted an interdisciplinary approach, thus allowing students to appreciate the roots of Mediterranean ways of thinking, of modes of living and of systems of interpreting the world. Experts were invited to talk about the social, historic, artistic and economic aspects of the Mediterranean region from palaeolithic to modern times. The programme dealt with four main areas of studies:

- a. Philosophy, History, Education and Cultural Identity
- b. Religion and Social Institutions
- c. The Arts, Literature, Music and Architecture
- d. International Relations, Economy and Current Affairs

Photo 1 (p. 43) features the Minister of Education, the Hon. Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, at the official inauguration of the course together with the Director-General of the Foundation for International Studies, Prof. Salvino Busuttil, the University Pro-Rector, Rev. Prof. Peter Serracino Inglott, and the Deputy-Director of the Mediterranean Institute, Dr. James Calleja. *Photo 2 shows a section of the participants.*

European Workshop on Cultural Tourism in the Mediterranean

* Under the auspices of the Council of Europe, the University of Malta in collaboration with the Mediterranean Institute and the Foundation for International Studies organised, between 4-6 October 1988, a European workshop on Cultural Tourism in Mediterranean Islands. The workshop was organised within the framework of the Mediterranean University Regional Transfrontier Cooperation and the European Postgraduate Training Development Programme of the Council of Europe.



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The workshop dealt with the following themes: The significance of Cultural Tourism; Problem identification; Evaluation and Analysis; Training in the field of Cultural Tourism and Reflections of Future Needs. In each session papers and short communications were read followed by discussion. The workshop was officiated by the Hon. Minister for Development of the Tertiary Sector, Dr. E. Bonnici. The Minister of Education, the Hon. Dr. U. Mifsud Bonnici, inaugurated the second day of the workshop (*Photo 3-p. 45*). A policy statement by the Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism Dr. M. Refalo concluded the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to identify the new needs arising from the development of cultural tourism in the Mediterranean islands and make proposals for a training programme in this sector which could separate in the framework of interregional university cooperation in the Mediterranean.

Among those addressing the workshop were the Director-General of the Foundation for International Studies Professor Salvino Busuttil, the Mediterranean Institute Chairperson Professor P. Serracino Inglott and the Institute Director Dr. A. Chircop. Mr. John Schembri of the University of Malta and Dr. James Calleja coordinated the workshop. Mr. J. P. Massue, Head of the Division for Higher Education, and Mrs Francoise Tondre were the overseas coordinators from the Council of Europe.

Religion and Society in the Prehistoric Mediterranean

* The Second International Conference on the "Archeology of the Mediterranean" was held in Malta on 19 - 22 December 1988. This conference forms part of a programme of activities undertaken by the University of Malta and the Mediterranean Archeology Centre of the Foundation for International Studies to promote fora for a scientific discussion and diffusion of learning in various fields, particularly those concerned with the Mediterranean region.

The theme for discussion this year was "Religion and Society in the Prehistoric Mediterranean". The aim of the Conference was to study the interaction, within the different prehistoric societies of the Mediterranean, between Man's religious beliefs and the basic, as well as the more sophisticated, needs of the community in which he lived, in particular social organization. An effort was made to identify archetypal models. The Conference consisted of six half-day sessions of about six papers (15 - 20 minutes) followed by discussion.

Photo 4 (p. 45) shows Prof. Salvino Busutil presenting a copy of the book "Education in Malta: A Look to the Future" to the Minister of Education Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici. Also in the picture are Dr. James Calleja. Mro. Charles Camilleri and Prof. Charles Farrugia.

