

Annual Meeting of Postgraduates in Ancient History (AMPAH): “Mobility and socioeconomic dynamics”

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Short biography: Davide Vago graduated in Classical philology and History at Università degli Studi di Genova (supervisor Prof. Clara Fossati). He is currently working on a research project to be submitted for Phd. His researches are based on latin historiography related to late antiquity and humanism.

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Title: *Changes of Gaul in late antiquity: Gregory of Tours as an exceptional witness of social and political mobility?*

Abstract:

In books II-IV of the *Historia Francorum*, Gregory of Tours (538-594), born George Florentus, tells the events that characterized Gaul in the late antiquity, narrating the great mobility that characterized people and barbarian armies of this period..

Social, political, economic and religious changes are described by Gregory as fundamental elements of Gaul – and not only – of the late fifth century AD: one of the historical moments in which some of the most important changes, that upset the face of the Romanized West, became evident. In this period, in fact, social and political mobility is an essential feature of change.

The aim of this paper is to analyze the important political and economic changes and the political and social mobility that involved Gaul through the testimony of Gregory of Tours and to compare the author's analysis with what has emerged from recent archaeological-historical studies on Gaul in late antiquity.

Late antiquity has been reevaluated in recent years thanks to several case studies that shed light on the events and contradictions that are typical of politics and economy of this period; an important contribution has been given by archaeological researches, however up to date a comparison between Gaul of late antiquity described by Gregorius and data collected in the most recent researches is lacking.

On the basis of my analysis I will provide useful information about the following questions: 1) how much Gaul, that was the most romanized region, changed in the fifth century? 2) How did the worldview and politics evolve? 3) The economy changed due to relevant upheavals? 4) How is the social and political mobility of this period analyzed by Gregorius?

Essential bibliography:

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