

Editorial

After a prolonged labour, we finally present the third volume of *Res Antiquitatis*. This issue continues to pursue the goals that its editors have established by including several articles related to the perceptions about Antiquity, namely the contributions of Vasco Resende, Laure Hennequin-Lecomte, António dos Santos Pereira and Elizabeth Garcia i Marrasé. These studies explore various ways by which cultural elements from Ancient times were interpreted and transmitted to Modern and Contemporary Western culture.

Naturally, there is always room for specific studies on Ancient History. Such is the case of Giuseppe Di Stazio's article concerning the use of gloves in Graeco-Roman combat sports; or the one by Alessandra Colazilli, which puts together multiple reflections about missing limbs and ritual prosthetics in Ancient Egypt. Finally, Philippe Benoît extends our geographical and cultural range to India, towards a better understanding of the concepts of *dharma* and *bhakti* in the Indian epic *Rāmāyana*.

With equal pleasure, we also present an interview with Prof. Francolino Gonçalves, the reputed Bible scholar to whom we are obliged for a few hours of conversation about his life, academic career and thoughts.

Finally, we cannot let pass the opportunity to remind the unfortunate situation that Syria and its people are suffering since 2011. The civil war has been destroying the country's rich heritage as a historical crossroad of civilizations. Its museums, depositaries of irreplaceable collections, are being constantly threatened. In many cases, destruction is going to be profound and irreversible. Archaeology is

halted in Syria since 2011, where about two hundred international missions were working, among them the Proyecto Arqueológico Medio Éufrates Sirio, led by the Universidade da Coruña, with the partnership of CHAM and Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa. Yet, despite the consequences of the civil war on Syria's historical and archaeological heritage, our thoughts are directed foremost towards its hospitable and kind people, especially its children.

We are very grateful to all those who contributed to materialize this stage of our project, looking forward to develop it further in the future, step by step.

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