

History Journal - 2008 Editor's Note



*After all, what is a lie? 'T is but The truth in masquerade; and I defy Historians, heroes, lawyers, priests to put
A fact without some leaven of a lie. Byron, Don Juan, Canto xi, st.37*

Those who have debated the nature of history well know its dilemma. Is history only what actually happened, or is it also what is believed and written about what happened? Should history be narrated as a story, or a chronology? Should historians merely recount history, or account for history? Is it possible to be objective about history, or is the portrayal of history always slanted? These and many other questions arise when discussing the role of history in the world. As times change and different technologies develop, the role of the historian becomes increasingly important and challenging. The knowledge, memories and portrayal of the past is what makes the present- as the Freshman author, Brenda Peterson, reminds us in her article about the American Revolution.

This journal demonstrates many different ways of portraying history from the account-like narration to the chronology style of narrating history. It is an eclectic collection of themes ranging from Asia, Europe, South America, and United States history. The authors have provided the means to broaden a reader's understanding of history, but it is up to you, as the reader, to seek out the better understanding of history presented through these articles. "May knowledge grow" as you read and ponder on the articles included in this edition.

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