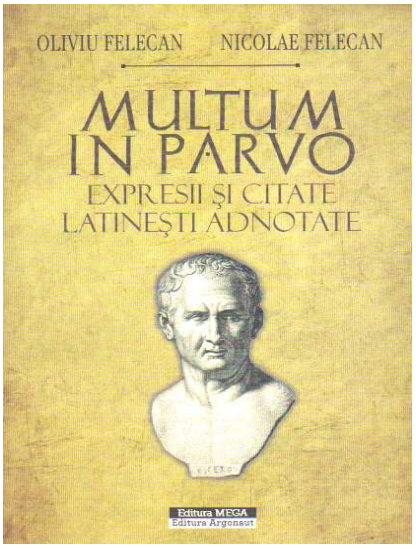
Oliviu Felecan, Nicolae Felecan – *MULTUM IN PARVO. Expresii şi citate latineşti adnotate*, Cluj-Napoca, Editura Mega, Editura Argonaut, 2013, 295 p. (Laviniu Lăpădat)



Oliviu Felecan and Nicolae Felecan's *MULTUM IN PARVO. Expresii şi citate latineşti adnotate* published by Editura Mega, Editura Argonaut in Cluj-Napoca masterfully (re)unites patterns of convergence which present a threefold system of intent based on facilitating access to information linked to Latin quotes and expressions once more confirming the pertinent establishment of a culture which has reached a superior level of development. Their work provides the readership not only with an accurate and sophisticated translation but also with explanations and multidisciplinary contextualisation demonstrating how modern cultures owe a great debt of gratitude to the cultural legacies of Antiquity.

In their studies of Latin culture and civilisations, scholars discerned between fundamental constructs such as time, space, divinity, nature, and society, utilising three applicative methodologies which were loosely based on pragmatism, religiousness, and anthropocentrism. Pragmatism was regarded as a unique and effective mobiliser seeking to render concrete measurement with respect to specific land areas or provinces, thus allowing the Romans to excel in practicality, subsequently redeeming them as great organisers and structural analysts. This rigorous nature enabled the Romans to create clear and unequivocal systems of rules which came to govern almost every aspect of life in the Latin world including morality, administration and justice.

According to the authors' book, religiousness was yet another paramount characteristic of each and every Roman. This transcendental transference secured an indivisible connection between state and divinity, between social status and destiny.

Anthropocentrism, which was an inherent aspect of both the Roman and the Greek collective mentality, based on the philosophy of Protagoras which stated that "Man is the measure of all things", underscores a winning mentality which provided the motivation in overcoming any obstacles.

The present work views the Romanian language and culture as absolutely worthy and legitimate heirs of the Roman culture. For Romanians, Latin cannot and must not be regarded as a foreign language but rather as our ancestral mother tongue which has been adapted and recalibrated so that it may serve the cultural needs of its future children. It is not a burden or a forgotten page in history, it is the source of our identity and spiritual survival. The spirit of our Antiquity is a source of robust pride and natural intelligence, attesting not only to pure historical truth but also to the enduring resilience of our forefathers who transformed their knowledge into light and used it to navigate through the darkness of history, forging a better, brighter tomorrow; and it is now our duty to carry the torch and bring honour to our ancestral legacy.

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The purpose of the book is to support all those who seek to know the beauty and worth of the Latin spirit, tracking it from Antiquity all the way to contemporary times. The present dictionary of Latin expressions and quotes also comes with comments and notes, identifying symbols and significations relating to authors from various époques in order to provide us with a complete, comprehensive imagery of Latin culture through time and space. It is a chronicle which serves a vast national and cultural patrimony which followed an incommensurable spiritual wealth throughout various themes, ideas and ideals.

This book is not a simple gathering of information, it is pure conviction, a generous unsullied attachment to the true values of Roman life, allowing modern generations the luxury of connecting themselves to the splendour and vitality of the Greek and Roman culture.

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