Call for papers

Urban Folklore and Anthropology, Vol. 3 (2020). #3
“Songs of Struggle” themed issue

Songs tend to be engaged in social confrontations – in all their varieties: revolutions and wars, political struggles and ideological campaigns, resistance and oppression – more than any other form of folklore and popular culture. Songs and singing, culturally vested with not only informational and symbolic, but also with performative potential, are interpreted as an expression of some national character; they function as a symbol of identity and as a representation of group solidarity; they are employed as a form of campaigning and propaganda, as means of indoctrination, as devices of social governing etc.

The upcoming issue of the “Urban Folklore and Anthropology” journal will dwell upon research and data concerning songs in the context of confrontation. This said, the song will be perceived not only as a field of texts, but also as a field of social projects and practices. Theoretical and methodological reflections are especially welcome, as there is a shortage of such in song research. We welcome both anthropologists and folklorists and scholars in other humanities and social sciences: historians, musicologists, philologists, sociologists, psychologists, art and culture historians.

The “Songs of Struggle” themed issue accepts original research papers, preferably (but not exclusively) dwelling on the following topics and issues:

- Songs and singing in a crisis-ridden society: theoretical, historical and cultural aspects
- Song as (de)construction of the norm: ideology, religion, morals
- Song and authority
- Song folklore and song fakelore in political struggle
- Songs of struggle as texts: structure, rhetoric, pragmatics
- Songs of struggle as literature: lyrics, heroics, humor
- Songs of struggle as communication: practices and contexts
- Songs of rebellions, revolutions and social unrest
- War in song and song at war
- Songs of the “extreme groups” (career criminals, prison inmates, military personnel, extreme occupations)
- Struggle for song and struggle against song
- Songs of struggle and songs of love: (un)obvious connections and parallels
- Researching songs about social conflicts

We welcome submissions of papers (up to 60000 characters) based both on fundamental and applied research; of translations of seminal works (up to 80000 characters); field and archival materials with comments (from 1 page to 40000 characters), themed reviews (up to 40000 characters), and reviews of conferences and other notes for the “chronicles of academic life” dwelling on the abovementioned and closely related topics.
We will be happy to receive your applications (paper title and theses) till January 31, 2020 at ufa-ion@ranepa.ru (editorial board) and mlurie@inbox.ru (editor for the issue). We will be expecting completed papers and materials till May 1, 2020 at UFA-ion@ranepa.ru and mlurie@inbox.ru. After the papers are discussed with the editorial board, they will undergo external peer review.

See more about the UFA journal (editorial staff, submission guidelines, publishing ethics, previous issues, etc.) at: http://ufajournal.ranepa.ru

Yours sincerely,
editors for the issue

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