

1903. Ο Τζ. Φ. Άμποτ για τους Σλάβους στη
Μακεδονία. Επισολή στην εφημερίδα Manchester
Guardian. «Βουλγαρική ιδέα η απόσπαση της
Μακεδονίας με σκοπό την ένταξη στη Βουλγαρία».
Γράφει ο Σωκράτης Πουλής.

THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION
*The Manchester Guardian (1901-1959); Jan 15, 1903;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers The Guardian and The Observer (1791-2003)*
PE. 10

THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION.
To the Editor of the Manchester Guardian.

Sir,—I thank you sincerely for the appreciative comments in your leading article of the 9th inst. Will you permit me to state that my main object in speaking out on this question was not to propound a policy, but to emphasise facts—facts which, though abundantly testified to by the correspondents of our leading newspapers as well as by the representatives of Reuter's and other agencies in the Near East, are habitually ignored by the champions of the so-called Macedonian "nation"? Such a nation does not exist, save in the manifestoes of the "Macedonian Committee." What does exist in Macedonia is a Slavonic population in the north, a mixture of Slavs and Greeks in the middle, pure Greeks in the south, and Mahometans sprinkled everywhere. Moreover, the Slavs of Northern and Central Macedonia are homogeneous neither in blood nor in sentiment. They are partly Bulgarian and partly Servian, but they themselves do not always know which is which. In the days before 1885 it was Russia's policy to call them all Bulgarians; after the breach between the Principality and the Empire it became Russia's policy to call them all Servians. Lastly, there is also a comparatively small proportion of Wallachs in the province, who, however, are indissolubly bound up with the Greeks and for all political purposes are to be regarded as Greeks.

Now this hotch-potch is labelled a "nation" by the apostles of the Bulgarian idea, who wish to absorb the rival races and, under the cover of the misleading name "Macedonian," really to create a Bulgarian State, destined sooner or later to join the Principality. This is the long and the short of the Macedonian question, as a purely political problem and apart from administrative misrule and all the concomitant evils—inseparable from a land governed by the "Unspeakable." I neither defend nor denounce programmes, policies, solutions, and the rest of the nostrums which go to make up the bulky volume of Macedonian political pharmacopœia. I simply desire to establish historic truth, a thing which in these matters is exposed to at least as grave a peril as the "Macedonian nation" itself.—I am, &c.,
G. F. Abbott.
Emmanuel College, Cambridge, January 12.

Manchester Guardian, 15 Jan. 1903.

Ο Τζ. Φ. Άμποτ ήταν απεσταλμένος του Πανεπιστημίου του Καίμπριτζ και ταξίδεψε στην υπό οθωμανική κυριαρχία Μακεδονία, με σκοπό τη συλλογή λαογραφικού υλικού.

Παρακάτω βλέπετε μια επιστολή του προς τον αρχισυντάκτη της αγγλικής εφημερίδας Manchester Guardian.

A 'Macedonian' Nation does not exist.

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Such a nation does not exist, save in the manifestoes of the Macedonian Committee. What does exist in Macedonia is a Slavonic population in the north, a mixture of Slavs and Greeks in the middle, pure Greeks in the south, and Mahometans sprinkled everywhere. Moreover, the Slavs of Northern and Central Macedonia are homogeneous neither in blood nor in sentiment.

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-I am, &c..G. F. Abbott

Emmanuel College, Cambridge, January 12.

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Ο Άγγλος Τζωρτζ Φρέντερικ Άμποτ (George Frederick Abbott) εκπροσωπεί το κριτικό πνεύμα του 20ού αιώνα, αφού αντικείμενο των ερευνών του ήταν πάντοτε η εύρεση και η αποσαφήνιση της αλήθειας.

Συγγραφέας ο ίδιος και ανταποκριτής σε πολλές εφημερίδες και περιοδικά της εποχής, τελειώνοντας τις σπουδές του στο Emmanuel College του Πανεπιστημίου του Καίμπριτζ το 1899, θα επισκεφθεί το 1900 την αποτελούσα τμήμα της Οθωμανικής Αυτοκρατορίας Μακεδονία, προκειμένου να συλλέξει λαογραφικό υλικό ως ειδικός απεσταλμένος του Πανεπιστημίου.

Καρπός αυτής του της επίσκεψης υπήρξαν δύο τόμοι πλούσιου λαογραφικού περιεχομένου από όλη σχεδόν την τουρκοκρατούμενη Μακεδονία – το “Songs of Modern Greece” (1900) και το “Macedonian Folk-Lore” (1903), αλλά και ο τόμος “The Tale of a Tour on Macedonia” (1903), στον οποίο κατέγραψε με οξυδέρκεια τις ταξιδιωτικές του εντυπώσεις, δημοσιεύοντας απόσπασμα στην εφημερίδα “Guardian”.

Στη συγγραφική του συγκομιδή συγκαταλέγονται επίσης και τα έργα: “Through India with the Prince” (1906), “Israel in Europe” (1907), “Greece in Evolution” (1909), “Turkey in Transition” (1909), “The Philosophy of a Don” (1911) και “The Holy War in Tripoli” (1912).

Πηγή : <http://www.antibaro.gr/>