

**MILAIL APĂVĂLOAIE, CONSTANTIN ARDELEANU, IOAN
MILEA, TEOFIL LEFTER, PÂNGĂRAȚI- MONOGRAPHIC STUDY
– Publisher CRIGARUX, Piatra- Neamț, 2011, 626p.**

This ample study, representing the monographic study of an old administrative unit, situated on Bistrita River Valley, is structured in 8 chapters, completed by a glossary, annex tables and an addendum with old archived photos and...for archive.

The study contains two large sections, one referring to the natural frame with all it's elements, and the second section is related to the social-economic lifestyle, regarding the demographic evolution, education, spiritual-christian lifestyle and also to preservation and perpetuation of the local customs, rites, traditions, handicrafts or specific industries.

Pângărați commune is documentary confirmed since 1432 and 1458, the ulterior data referring to the Pângărați Glade being much more ample; to this old historic land is related the Alexandru Lăpușneanu monastery, an old musatin foundation between which walls will be established after centuries the Biological, Geological and Geographical Research Center “Stejaru “ belonging to “Al. I. Cuza University” – Iași, institution which functioned as a true “nursery” of teachers for universities in the entire country; finally, on the same local - Neamț county lands, separated by only 15 minutes of walking from Stejaru Village, raised the biggest (at the time) hydroelectric Station in the country – “Dimitrie Leonida” Station, named after the projector (initially was named “V.I. Lenin”). Starting from this facts, we consider that in the present study are gathered actually 3 monographs.

This study starts with a short but consistent history determined by the Pângărați - name etymology given to lands older than 500 years, regarding to whom the great Nicolae Iorga said that the name “Pângărați” (approximate translation - Tainted) is not related to the idea of sacrilege.

Chapter II makes scientific references to the natural frame of the commune and are presented: geological aspects, relief, hydrography, biogeography, soils, nature preservation and natural reservations; the first author of the study as a geographer (climatologist) at “Stejaru” Research Center stands out through the scientific study of the environment components, presenting numerous data from the station, different said, filtered by the scientific intellect.

After Chapter II, named Historical Aspects, which highlights the historical moments in which the Pângărați Monastery has plaited her destiny with the country's welter, are presented in Chapter IV – the human and economic frame,

regards to places and population, occupations, education, culture, medical care, administration, spiritual and Christian lifestyle.

In the same chapter are presented the component villages, the traditional peasant house (lodge) until the present architectural style, in a separate underchapter: traditional trades (which include - float crafts, particular to Bistrița River), handicrafts and local traditional art.

To “D. Leonida” hydroelectric station presentation is given a more detailed space which allows data on the hydroelectric projector, to the conceptual layout of the barrage from Bicaz, data on the gallery adduction that goes through Botoșanu Mountain on about 4,7 km, data of the hydroelectric station; also are presented many collection photography.

A special attention is given to presenting the education, in Chapter V, in which are mentioned all the teachers that attended the school in the period 1920-2010. I admit, I have enriched my knowledge about my teachers that I had about 45-50 years ago.

In the subchapter named Historical Moments appear the names of the heroes from The Independence War and from World War I inscribed on a monument in the hall yard in 1921; in 1993 were enrolled the heroes from World War II, from which I recognized one of my uncle – Zaiț N. Neculai (my mother’s brother) – disappeared at “Cotu Donului”. In the same chapter we find referrals on the Research Center “Stejaru”, established in 1956, with the intention of solving the scientific theme determined by the emergence of the accumulation lake – “Izvorul-Muntelui Bicaz”. The study presents the research activity, the founded laboratories, the personalities that lead the Research Center and perfected themselves for the academic activity; are listed a part of the concords, monographs and synthesis from the geonomic and biological domains which have been included in the national scientific patrimony.

The last chapters refers to the spiritual - Christian life, public activities and to the village’s “sons” passed into eternity, or about the contemporary ones.

Through the colossal volume of data, through the surprising plaiting of history with the local geography and with the entire spiritual life of the rural community, the monograph invites you to read it.

Angela Lupașcu