Ioannis Papadopoulos

The Idea of Rome in Late Antiquity

From Eternal City to Imagined Utopia

This book approaches the manifestation and evolution of the idea of Rome as an expression of Roman patriotism and as an (urban) archetype of utopia in late Roman thought in a period extending from AD 357 to 417. Within this period of about a human lifetime, the concepts of Rome and Romanitas were reshaped and used for various ideological causes. This monograph unfolds through a selection of sources that represent the patterns and diversity of this ideological process. The theme of Rome as a personified and anthropomorphic figure and as an epitomized notion 'applied' on the urban landscape would become part of the identity of the Romans of Rome highlighting a sense of cultural uniqueness in an era when their city's privileged status was challenged. Towards the end of the chronological limits set in this thesis various versions of Romanitas would emerge indicating new physical and spiritual potentials.

BIOGRAPHY
Ioannis Papadopoulos is a post-doctoral researcher at the department of History of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, focusing on identity issues in Roman Greece and on traces of anti-Roman discourse in the works of the Second Sophistic.

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