The Digital Scholarly Edition of Paulinus Minorita's Compendium



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INTRODUCTION

I will propose a digital critical edition of Paulinus Minorita's Compendium. The latter stands as one of the most original pieces of evidence regarding the growing interest in historiography within the Franciscan milieu during the 14th century. In fact, Paolinus authored three historiographical compilations: the *Epithoma*, the *Compendium*, and the *Satirica Ystoria*. These universal chronicles served as inspiration for later writers, including the doge-chronicler of Venice, Andrea Dandolo, and Giovanni Boccaccio.

SOURCE MATERIAL

Paulinus Minorita (1272 - † 1344) served as the bishop of Pozzuoli in 1324, and in 1328, he assumed the role of councillor to Robert of Anjou. His Latin work is remarkable from multiple perspectives. The Compendium, a linear synopsis of universal history, commences with Adam and is enriched with diverse information, including geographical and descriptions, mythological topographical meticulously arranged chronologically, and accompanied by indexes. What sets this work apart is its combination of textual content with diagrams and visual representations. The Compendium employs a system of parallel "lines" that simultaneously visualize the diachronic (historical) and synchronic (contemporary) development of events. Horizontal "lines" denote individual time units, signifying contemporaneity, while vertical "lines" measure time by encapsulating generational successions. Additionally, the text is enriched with images, including portraits of key characters, genealogical tables, descriptive scenes, diagrams, and city plans.

MANUSCRIPTS:

I REDACTION or FORM:

• Venezia, Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana, Lat. Z. 399 (1610).

II REDACTION or FORM:

- Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Lat. 4939;
- Firenze, Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Banco rari 50 (II.II.327) «Zibaldone Magliabechiano».

III REDACTION or FORM:

- Città del Vaticano, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Vat. lat. 1960;
- Kraków, Biblioteka Jagiellonska, 445.

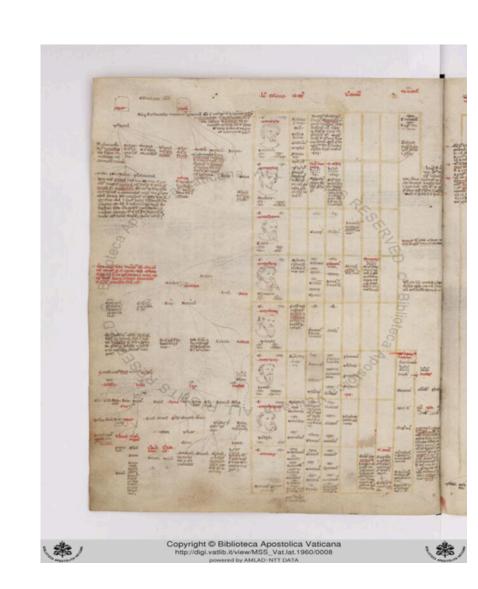
METHODOLOGY:

The initial step involves conducting an extensive bibliographical investigation focused on the manuscripts and secondary literature related to the *Compendium* of Paulinus Minorita. Currently, I am meticulously collating the texts to ascertain the textual relationships among the various witnesses, with the aim of identifying potential textual families.

A traditional critical edition presents challenges for this type of work, particularly concerning the concise version, which is rich in tables, illustrations, and genealogies. The primary difficulty lies in representing the textual, iconographic, and diagrammatic elements in a different medium while adhering to the chronological framework provided by the author.



Città del Vaticano, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana Vat. lat. 1960, 1r. https://digi.vatlib.it/view/MSS_Vat.lat.1960



Città del Vaticano, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Vat. lat. 1960, 2v. https://digi.vatlib.it/view/MSS_Vat.lat.1960

However, one potential solution could be to propose a digital critical edition. Such an edition imposes no restrictions on describing the textual, iconographic, and diagrammatic elements of the work. Consequently, for my PhD project, I opted to utilize *Edition Visualization Technology* (EVT) 2 or 3 (in its alpha state). EVT is a lightweight, open-source tool specifically designed to create digital editions from XML-encoded texts. By doing so, it relieves scholars from the burden of web programming and enables end users to navigate, explore, and study digital editions through a user-friendly interface.

CONCLUSIONS/IMPLICATIONS

Once potential affinities have been established, I will employ cutting-edge digital tools to bolster my research and formulate independent conclusions. The overarching objective of this research project is to produce a scholarly edition of the *Compendium* of Paulinus Minorita, accompanied by a digital rendition in TEI-XML format, adhering to LOD and IIIF standards. Consequently, a thorough examination of the manuscripts, including textual, diagrammatic, and iconographic variations, assumes paramount importance.

A few examples of digitisation results:

