
“History is the discourse of power”

Two traditional functions of history (up to XVIth c.) – two aspects of power

- justification of power
- reinforcement of power

juridical function of power
magical function of power

Two things historical discourse does to reinforce power:
- the yoke of the law
- the luster of glory

In the Middle Ages, the twofold function of historical discourse can be found in three tasks:

- genealogical function of historical narrative
- memorialization function
- put examples into circulation

In the Middle Ages, the twofold function of historical discourse can be found in three tasks:

- Roman history
- history of sovereignty and kings
- memory used to preserve the law and enhance the luster of power

biblical history (appears in the XVI-XVIIth c.)
counterhistory
discourse of race and the race struggle
history of servitude and exiles
discourse of rebellion and prophecy
articulated around the great biblical form of prophecy and promise
discourse of those who have no glory (those who were in darkness and silence, have no rights)
misfortune of ancestors, exiles and servitude