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## Editors Note, Volume 1, Number 1

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## Editors Note:

The Northerner Historical Review is a new creation that members of the History Club at Northern Illinois University feel very passionately about. It was created by undergraduate history majors and is meant for undergraduate history students to show off their hard work. For a History Major, or anyone hoping to start a career in history, getting your work out there and getting published is an important step to getting your voice out to the world of history. A number of us have worked long and hard to make this possible for the students here at Northern Illinois University.

This is our first edition for the Northerner Historical Review. Each article has been reviewed by the editors to make sure they meet the requirements and sent to the editing board for blind review, who each chose an order of articles they believed deserved to be chosen for the journal. Then with final edits and reviews the top four articles were chosen. The four articles that appear in this first edition were carefully chosen and we hope it sets the tone for what we hope lays the brick work for a strong and popular journal to last through the ages. The editors all wanted very diverse topics and authors and were lucky that the top four articles happened to turn out that way.

The articles are diverse in their topics and expand across centuries, in the 15<sup>th</sup> century with the Ottoman Empire and ending in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Ron Leonhardt looks at Communism in Cambodia and examines at the United States effects of pushing Cambodia into Communism. In his paper, *The Economics of Genocide: Cambodia's Financial Collapse Prior to Year Zero, 1950-1975*, he argues that the military and economic aid the United States gave to Cambodia in order to improve Cambodia's state building hindered the United State's goal to keep Cambodia away from communism instead of helping. Jeremy Matthew Knake focuses on the reasons behind Chief Justice John Marshall's changes in opinion regarding the rights of states versus Cherokee Indians in two court cases in his paper, *From Ward to Nation*. In the first case, *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*, Marshall ruled in favor of states' rights, while in a case only a year later, *Worcester v. Georgia*, he ruled in favor of the Cherokees. Knake argued that Marshall's change of opinion resulted from Marshall's strong Federalist ideas, the burgeoning interest in the Nullification Crisis revolving around South Carolina's anger over tariffs, and conflicts surrounding the removal of the Cherokee Indians from their territory. Knake further argued that Marshall used the *Worcester* case to give his "judicial commentary" on the issues of the nullification problem, and stated that Marshall had an unfavorable view of nullification. Benjamin Donovan examines the causes of the fall of the Byzantine Empire and the conquest of Constantinople by the Ottomans in *The Means of Destruction*. Donovan argued that those two events resulted from the international

treaties and military defeats of two Ottoman leaders, Bayezid I and Murat II, and technological and strategic influences from the West. Donovan further claimed that Mehmet II, the later leader of the Ottoman Empire, had his own reasons for going after Constantinople and was specifically influenced by the two leaders and used their successes and failures, as well as the proven weaknesses of the Ottoman Empire, to conduct his ultimately successful attack on Constantinople. Ashley Palin looks at feminine imagery during the French Revolution in her paper, *Women, Art and Revolution: Feminine Symbolism and Democracy in Revolution Era France*. She argues that the depictions of females that are used represent the revolutionary ideals of the time and the hopes to use these new interpretations to replace the old monarchy symbols.