Nely Gancheva
Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre
at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Sofia, Bulgaria
nelly_vasileva@abv.bg
0000-0002-3164-0380
https://doi.org/10.33077/uw.25448730.zbkh.2023.770

Editions of the Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre 
at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences 
for the period 2021–2022

Monographs


The monograph is a contribution to the study of narratives, created in different periods of the Middle Ages and the Early Modernity, and considered as sources of the Cyrillo-Methodian tradition. The author interprets them as phenomena of identity – confessional, political, ethnic, cultural. The basic motifs presented are the national identity, the relics of St Clemens Romanus, and the sacral languages issue, which are used as key concepts in the classification of materials. The phenomenon of turning the worship of St Cyril and Methodius into an instrument of the “national” doctrines of the Slavic peoples, manifested in different epochs and in different degrees, is studied. Important testimonies of the liturgical glorification of St Cyril and Methodius in monuments of the Latin and Greek Cyrillo-Methodian tradition are presented. Sl. Barlieva points
out that the study of mediaeval literary monuments dedicated to Pope Clement of Rome is very productive for enriching the corpus of Cyrillo-Methodian sources with new works or with copies of already known works. Such, for example, is the case with discovered by Slavia Barlieva the Elogium on St Cyril in the *Chronicle* of the Casaurian monastery in Abruzzo (12th c.). An Appendix is added to the main chapters, containing the Long Greek Life of St Naum of Ohrid and its Bulgarian translation (Cod. Atheniensis 827, fols. 25–27; translated by S. Barlieva), and a German sermon on Sts Cyril and Methodius delivered in Vienna in 1720. The book is provided with a general index, an extensive bibliography, and a list of manuscripts and old prints consulted.


The monograph of Iva Trifonova examines the specifics of the earliest Serbian copy of the Book of Revelation of St. John the Theologian and is the first part of an intended three-part study of the South Slavic recensions of the text of the book. The objective is to research the place of their occurrence, as well as to analyse the new evidence that these recensions bring to the overall text history of the Book. The copy is part of miscellany No 474 of the Hilandar Monastery Library from the last quarter of the 14th c. (1380–1390). The monograph includes codicological, linguistic and textological research, diplomatic edition of the text of the copy in parallel with its Greek prototype and Slavic-Greek and Greek-Slavic indexes of the lexemes therein.

**Periodicals and collections**

*Palaeobulgarica* / *Старобългаристика*. Издание на КМНЦ–БАН, редакционна колегия М.-Е. Бланше, Сл. Бърлиева, М. Гардзани, В. Желязкова (главен редактор), К. Иванова, Р. Марти, Х. Миклас, Б. Мирчева, Т. Мострова, Г. Николов, С. Николова (почетен главен редактор), Г. Попов, София 1977–, ISSN 0204-4021 (print);
“Palaeobulgarica / Starobalgaristika” is a specialized international journal for the complex study of the problems of Bulgarian mediaeval written culture since the creation of the Slavic alphabet by St Cyril and Methodius, until the epoch of the Bulgarian Renaissance (the 18th century), as well as of the Cyril and Methodius traditions until this day. These problems in their various aspects (language, literature, history, art, etc.) are closely related to the cultural development of the other Slavic countries, of the neighbouring Balkan countries, as well as of the spiritual and cultural phenomena and processes throughout Europe. The scope of the publications, presented in the journal, is too broad and from various fields of the humanities: Palaeoslavistics, Cyrillo-Methodian Studies, Studies about Culture and History of Slavic people and of people from the Balkan during the Middle Ages, Byzantology, Theology, Art Studies and others. “Palaeobulgarica / Starobalgaristika” is a peer-reviewed journal. For reviewers are invited leading experts from Bulgaria and abroad.

The journal is published without delay in the established periodicity of 4 issues per year. The publication of issues has never been interrupted throughout the entire publishing period (since 1977). The issues are printed in Bulgarian, English, French, German and Russian with abstracts in English. Since 2019 “Palaeobulgarica / Starobalgaristika” has been indexed in Scopus and Web of Science.

In 2021 and 2022, the regular four issues of “Palaeobulgarica/Starobalgaristika” with a total volume of 1440 pages were printed. According to the recently established practice, in the second issue of the journal are published materials with special purpose – dedicated to anniversaries or focused on a particular field, problematic or circle of researchers. The second issue in 2021 was dedicated to the memory of the prominent specialist in Palaeoslavistics Ralya M. Tseytlin (1920–2001), and in 2022 it was intended to present research works of young but proven scholars from Bulgaria and abroad.
The collection of publications, which is published as a special edition of the journal “Palaeobulgarica”, is an expression of the respect of the college for the scientific work of Professor Svetlina Nikolova – one of the doyens of worldwide field of Palaeoslavistics and Cyrillo-Methodian studies. S. Nikolova is the author of a significant number of contributory publications exploring problems related to the development of pateric narratives in Bulgarian mediaeval literature; the state of contemporary Cyrillo-Methodian studies and perspectives in this field; the preparation of editions of the sources about life and work of Cyril and Methodius; the study of the manuscript tradition of the Homilies of Clement of Ohrid and John the Exarch; the analytical description of the Slavic manuscript heritage. The researcher studies and introduces into scientific circulation a large number of copies of Slavic Cyrillo-Methodian sources, and her study on the Greek office of Naum of Ohrid is also contributory. S. Nikolova is the one we ought to thank for a new research field at the Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre at BAS (hereafter CMRC–BAS) – the study of the non-liturgical Bulgarian mediaeval texts of the Old Testament books. Her research on manuscript F.I.461 from the collection of the Russian National Library in St. Petersburg shows that it is the oldest Bulgarian mediaeval manuscript where an attempt was made to consolidate the text of the Old Testament in one book. This discovery made a new beginning in the Old Bulgarian studies – the comprehensive study of the preserved to this day Bulgarian manuscripts containing translations of Old Testament books and the preparation of their editions. Under the general editorship of S. Nikolova at the CMRC–BAS the publishing the series “The Old Bulgarian Translation of the Old Testament” has started.

The collection in her honour contains 51 articles in English, Bulgarian, Croatian, German and Russian written by prominent scholars in the field.
Editions of the Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre...

of Slavic and Bulgarian studies from 12 countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, UK. The articles cover a very wide range of objects of study and are divided into eight sections, dedicated respectively to the early Christian traditions, the Bible and Bible translations, studied with the methods of various scientific disciplines; to the Cyrillo-Methodian sources; to the textual history of mediaeval Slavic literary monuments; to the composition of not yet studied Slavic mediaeval manuscripts; to the vocabulary of Old Bulgarian monuments; to the Cyrillo-Methodian traditions among the Western and Eastern Slavs; to problems of mediaeval music and mediaeval fine arts, dedicated to Cyril and Methodius and their followers; to the projection of Cyrillo-Methodian work and mediaeval Bulgarian culture in modern times. The rich content of the collection and the scholarly contributions of its articles determine its importance in the development of Palaeoslavistics.
The presented volumes contain the proceedings of two International Scholarly Conferences organized by the Cyrillic-Methodian Research Centre at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (hereinafter CMRC). They are part of the CMRC initiative for creation the series “The Bulgarian 14th Century” (within the periodic collection “Cyrillic-Methodian Studies”), intended for medieval studies dedicated to Southeastern Europe and the medieval Slavic cultural and literary heritage of the 14th century.

The volume *Religious bloom: Bulgaria 13th–15th c.* includes the Proceedings of the International Scholarly Conference with the same name, held in Sofia on July 12–13, 2019. The conference was organized by the CMRC in collaboration with the “Byzantine World” (UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée – Monde Byzantin) at the French National Centre for Scientific Research. The event was financially supported by the Embassy of the Republic of France in Bulgaria and Institut Française. The collection of publications contains eleven articles in English, Bulgarian, Russian and French, prepared by established and young scholars in the field of Medieval Studies, Slavistics and Byzantology from Bulgaria, Italy and France. They study the political and cultural development in Bulgaria and the Balkans in the 13th–15th centuries, with a contributory element being the expansion of the source base of research work to include South Slavic texts (Bulgarian and Serbian). New points of view and studies on specific religious, political and ideological processes and phenomena in the Bulgarian environment and their reflection in a number of texts and iconographic evidence are presented. All of them are considered in the perspective of the complex interactions between the Orthodox and the Catholic world in the period 13th–15th century. The collection of publications is publicly available online at link: [https://www.kmnc.bg/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/KMS-30-ft.pdf](https://www.kmnc.bg/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/KMS-30-ft.pdf).

The volume *The Monastery Libraries in the South Slavic Lands and Russia in the 14th–16th c.* includes the Proceedings of the International Scholarly Conference with the same name, held on April 26–28, 2021. The conference was organized by the CMRC in collaboration with Scientific Council “The Role of Religions in History”, Department of Historical and Philological Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The collection of publications contains
twenty-one articles in English, Bulgarian, Russian and Serbian, prepared by scholars from Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Russia and Serbia. Objects of study are libraries and manuscripts kept in them, the copyists who worked in monastery scriptoria, works written or translated in these scriptoria. The role of the fourteenth century for the cultural development of the South and East Slavs, the basis of which are the monastery libraries, is emphasised. Previously unknown evidence are being released, which opens up new scholarly perspectives. The collection of publications is publicly available online at link: https://www.kmnc.bg/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/KMS-32-ft.pdf.


The volume is in honour of the outstanding scholar and lecturer in Russian philology and comparative Slavonic philology in Oxford University Catherine Mary MacRobert. M. MacRobert’s early study of the history of bulgarian syntax gave rise to an enduring interest in the interaction not only of Bulgarian but of the other Slavic languages with their common literary standard. This in turn led her to the study of the Slavic Psalter, upon which she has become the world’s foremost specialist, with many publications concerning its textual tradition, translation technique and linguistic history. M. McRobert’s publications also cover such topics as glagolitic and cyrillic palaeography, hymnography, Slavic historical linguistics and the activity of Maximus the Greek in Russia. Besides her teaching and research, M. MacRobert has been very active in the wider scholarly community. For many years she has been the British representative on the International Committee of Slavists. She is a prominent member of two of its commissions – the Biblical Commission and that on Computer Supported Processing of Mediaeval Slavonic Manuscripts and Early Printed Books. From 1994 to 2000 was one of the editors of Oxford Slavonic Papers.
The proposed volume *Slavonic Texts and Traditions* comprises 23 original papers in Bulgarian, English, Serbian, Slovenian and Russian. The authors are famous scholars from Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. In accordance with M. MacRobert’s research interests the articles are in the field of Slavic Studies. A large part of them are related to the oldest Slavic translation of the Psalter and its further textual tradition among the Slavs in the Middle Ages. Other articles are devoted to the textual tradition of the Gospel, to various medieval collections and hymnographic works, as well as to some current problems in the study of the Church Slavonic language.

**Other editions**


The edition contains previously unexplored secular images of Cyril and Methodius, whose collection and systematisation is a contribution to our knowledge of the Cyrillo-Methodian tradition in all its complexity and diversity. The authors Veselka Zhelyazkova and Desislava Naydenova have chosen as the most appropriate chronological arrangement of the artifacts (orders and medals, flags, stamps, coins, monuments). The samples of phaleristics (orders, medals, badges, plaques) are presented in the beginning as they appeared first in time, and have the greatest institutional weight. At the end of the book are presented the monuments of the Slavic enlighteners, most of which were erected in recent decades. In the individual sections, the samples from Bulgaria are brought to the fore, followed by those in other countries, which reflects the special importance of the Cyrillo-Methodian tradition in the construction of Bulgarian national identity. The corpus with the images is preceded by a study by D. Naydenova, in which she offers a new point of view on the history of the Cyrillo-Methodian idea from the 9th century to the present day.

308
The publication is a handbook on the text of the *Vita Constantini* (*Long Life of St. Constantine-Cyril*) – the main source about the life and work of the Holy brothers Cyril and Methodius. In addition to the reference part, the text of the *Vita Constantini* in new Bulgarian translation is published. The reference book presents 175 names and concepts that are present directly or contextually in the *Vita Constantini*, to each of which a separate heading is dedicated. Personal names, biblical and mythological characters, names of states, regions, rivers, mountains, tribes and nations, sacred books, and institutions are covered. Concepts and expressions that are used in the *Vita Constantini* are also explained. The complete excerpt of the material in the above categories allows for a complete understanding of the literary work and enriches and expands the ideas about the events described in it.

This catalogue includes 29 panels displayed in the exhibition “Monastery Libraries in the South Slavic Lands and Russia in the 14th–16th centuries”, prepared and displayed in 2021 by scholars from Bulgaria and Russia as part of the same-name bilateral project of the CMRC–BAS and the Department of Historical and Philological Sciences at the Russian Academy of Sciences, funded under the Bilateral Co-operation Program by the Bulgarian Research Fund and the Russian Fund for Fundamental Research. The attention is focused on the medieval Slavic literary heritage, kept in the preserved monastery library collections. They play an important role in the relationship between the written
cultures of the Orthodox Slavs in Southeastern Europe and the Russian lands. The pictorial material, explained with short texts, presents the creation, use, distribution and preservation of manuscripts in monastery libraries.


The e-book offers comprehensive information about the inventories, editions and studies on the copies of the Slavic Cyrillo-Methodian sources. Currently, it contains information about 32 Slavic sources in 767 copies, the scholarly literature counts 979 titles, of which 486 digitised and referred to with 2432 links. A significant amount of external (virtual) content is used, turned into an element of the book in the following way: from each source a page with a complete inventory of its copies is opened, from each copy with links its digital image can be accessed (if available), as well as copies of the inventories, editions and studies devoted to it, and links usually direct to the sites, where the relevant resources are freely accessible. By searching and promulgation the e-addresses of the numerous primary and secondary documents in the field of Palaeoslavistics, published on the Internet in full, this publication contributes greatly to accelerating the research on the Cyrillo-Methodius sources.