

Abstracts

VICTOR SPINEI

THE ORIGINS OF THE CITIES IN SOUTH-EASTERN MOLDAVIA AND THE TRADE RELATIONS IN THE XIII-XIV CENTURIES

Due to the great migrations the all but few ancient cities in between the Carpathians and the Dniester disappeared altogether and could not be rebuilt for over one thousand years. The overall development of the Romanian society, the intrusion of the Genovese and the Greeks upon the north-western coast of the Black Sea, and the Mongol domination in the regions of the Lower Danube greatly favoured the economic life in the territories east of the Carpathians. The dynamic trade relations were largely responsible for the emergence in the 13th-14th centuries of the urban centres at Cetatea Albă (Asprocastron, Moncastro, Akkerman, Belgorod), Orheiul Vechi and Costești.

J. V. IVANOVA

THE TRADITIONAL SYSTEMS OF LIFE SUBSISTENCE OF DIFFERENT ETHNIC GROUPS IN SOUTH-EAST EUROPE: A GLIMPSE FROM RUSSIA

On the basis of many years' research work on the countries of South-East Europe, using archives and literary sources, the author has come to the conclusion that ethnic culture of the peoples of South-East Europe forms the whole cultural mass, that does not, naturally, exclude the existence of local variants. According to the author's opinion all the region can be defined as a single historico-ethnographic area.

The culture of the peoples of South-East Europe is investigated within the bounds of those theoretical principles, that are followed now by Russian ethnologists (ethnographers, anthropologists). Considering such notions as "historico-ethnographic area", "culture", "traditional culture" and its com-

ponent elements, special attention has been paid to the combination of the natural-geographic conditions and historical and social factors in the process of forming traditions, to the psychological aspects of the inclusion of innovations into traditional cultural complex. These problems are being solved differently by the Russian scientists of our time, the author expresses here her personal point of view.

I. KYZLASOVA

GREEK ICON OF THE XVIII c. WITH THE VIEW OF THE MONASTERY
OF CHRIST PANTOCRATOR ON MOUNT ATHOS

The great collection of the Moscow Historical Museum possesses an unique, never published before, a greek icon that we refer to the middle of the XVIII c. There are some historical characters and the trustworthily drawn architectural ensemble of the monastery of Christ Pantocrator on Mount Athos — the type of “*loca sancta*”. For the Greek standards this type of icon is very rare. We can see on the icon two brothers—founders of the monastery (Stratopedarche Alexis and Great Primikirij John) and St. Callistos I a Patriarch from Constantinople. They lived in XIV c. Among the other bystandings the most important are two Patriarchs: Constantinople’s Anfim II (1623) and Pecz’s Paisios II (about 1755). History left us nothing about the last character and perhaps it is his “portrait”.

ATHANASSIOS CHRISTOU

C. D. SCHINAS AND THE FIRST RECTORSHIP TO THE ATHENS UNIVERSITY
(1837-1838)

The Athens University was established by decree “On the Constitution of the University” of April 22nd, 1837. This was the first institution of higher education not only in the newly established Hellenic state, but in the Balkans and the Orient as well. It aimed at the promulgation and cultivation of the letters in “Our Orient”.

The subject of this paper is the setting-up of the University and the foundation of its administrative structure, as these appear through the works of C. D. Schinas, its first Rector. At the same time, an effort is made to trace the influence of the European universities in general, and those of Germany in particular, on the first institution of this kind in Greece and the Balkans.

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