



STILPON P. KYRIAKIDES

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1887 - 1964

It is with deep sorrow that the Institute for Balkan Studies announces the death of its President, Professor Stilpon P. Kyriakides.

Stilpon Kyriakides was born in Komotini in Western Thrace. He completed his High School studies at Serres and his University studies in Athens. He first worked as a Gymnasium teacher at Jannina and later became Headmaster of a Gymnasium at Nicosia, Cyprus. In 1918 he became Director of the Folk-lore Archives of Athens and in 1926 was appointed to the Chair in Ancient Greek Religion and Greek Folk-lore in the newly-founded University of Thessaloniki, which Chair he held until his retirement in 1958.

The special field of research of Stilpon P. Kyriakides was Greek Folk-lore which for him meant the study of the life of the Greeks during the whole of their national history. To this study he devoted an astute and discerning mind and his knowledge over the wide field of Greek history was unrivalled.

Following the example of his teacher, Nicholaos Politis, the founder of the Science of Folk-lore in Greece, Stilpon P. Kyriakides published a series of studies on Folk-lore in which he demonstrated the continuity of Hellenism from ancient to modern times.¹ In these works he displayed a thorough and

1. His major Folk-lore studies are: Τὰ κατά τὸν γάμον ἔθιμα ἐν Γκιουμουλτζίνῃ. *Laographia* 2 (1910). Ἄσματα δημοτικά Γκιουμουλτζίνης. *Laographia* 2 (1910). Παρατηρήσεις περὶ τῶν νεοελληνικῶν βαπτιστικῶν ὀνομάτων. *Laographia* 5 (1916). Θυσία ἐλάφου ἐν νεοελληνικοῖς συναξαρίοις. *Laographia* 6 (1917). Διγενῆς καὶ κάβουρας. *Laographia* 6 (1918). Αἱ γυναῖκες εἰς τὴν λαογραφίαν. Athens 1920. Ἑλληνικὴ Λαογραφία. Athens 1923. Ὁ Διγενῆς Ἀκρίτας. Athens 1926. Le folklore en Grèce de 1909 à 1930. *Byzantion* 2 (1931). Αἱ ἱστορικαὶ ἀρχαὶ τῆς δημιάδους νεοελληνικῆς ποιήσεως. Thessaloniki 1934. Die Herkunft der neugriechischen Balladen und ihre Beziehungen zu den deutschen. *Forschungen und Fortschritte* 12 (1936). *Neugriechische Volkskunde, Volksdichtung, Volksglaube, Volkskunst*. Thessaloniki 1936. Volkskunde in Griechenland im

complete acquaintance with the sources and with classical and byzantine scholarship. At an early age his wide interests and his concern for his country led him to study the relations of the Hellenes with their Northern neighbours, especially the Yugoslavs and Bulgarians, from Byzantine times onwards. On this subject he produced a series of monographs which because of his mastery of the sources, his scholarly judgement and his objectivity won for him an international reputation.² He also published a great number of book reviews chiefly of works referring to classical, medieval and modern Greek history. Most of these reviews are monographs in themselves for they include a multitude of original ideas, the product of his extensive knowledge of the subjects to which the books refer.³

Mittelalter, in der Neuzeit. *Unsterbliches Hellas*. Berlin 1938. Die Vorstufe des Vorbildzaubers. *Eugen Fehrle zum 60 Geburtstag gewidmet*. Karlsruhe 1940. *Γλώσσα και λαϊκός πολιτισμός των νεωτέρων Ἑλλήνων*. Athens 1946. Ἡ γένεσις τοῦ διστιχίου καὶ ἡ ἀρχὴ τῆς ἰσομετρίας. *Laographia*, Appendix 4, 1947. Ἡ δημῶδης Ἑλληνικὴ ποίησις καὶ ἡ ἱστορία τοῦ Ἑλληνικοῦ ἔθνους. *Laographia* 12 (1948). Γαμήλιον δημῶδες ἄσμα. *Annuaire de l'Institut de Philologie et d'Histoire Orientales et Slaves* 11 (1951). Κόρη ταξειδεύτρια. *Mélanges offerts à Octave et Melpo Merlier*. Athens 1952.

2. His major studies in this field are: *Ἡ Δυτικὴ Θράκη καὶ οἱ Βούλγαροι*. Athens 1919. *Ὁ Μακεδονικὸς Ἑλληνισμὸς καὶ ὁ νεώτερος*. Athens 1926. *Βυζαντιναὶ μελέται, I: Τὸ μολυβδόβουλλον τοῦ στρατηγοῦ Μελλίου*. Thessaloniki 1932. Τὰ χρυσόβουλλα τῆς παρὰ τὰς Σέρρας μονῆς τοῦ Προδρόμου. *Tomos eis mnemen Spyridonos Lambrou*, Athens 1924. *Θεσσαλονίκια Μελετήματα*. 1: Αἱ περὶ τὸν Στρυμόνα καὶ τὴν Θεσσαλονικὴν σλαβικαὶ ἐποικήσεις κατὰ τὸν μέσον αἰῶνα. 2: Διοικητικὴ ἱστορία τοῦ θέματος Θεσσαλονίκης. Thessaloniki 1932. *Βυζαντιναὶ Μελέται*. II: Ἀπὸ τὴν ἱστορίαν τῶν τειχῶν τῆς Θεσσαλονίκης. III: Πότε συνεγράφησαν τὰ λεγόμενα Ναυμαχικὰ τοῦ Βασιλείου. IV: Τὸ Βολερὸν. V: Σύμμεικτα. Thessaloniki 1939. *Ὁ Ἑλληνικὸς ζωτικὸς χῶρος ἀπὸ τῆς ἀρχαιότητος μέχρι σήμερον*. Thessaloniki 1945. *Ἡ Θράκη κατὰ τοὺς βυζαντινοὺς χρόνους*. Athens 1945. Ἀκριτικαὶ Μελέται. *Studi e Testi* 193 (1946). *Βούλγαροι καὶ Σλάβοι εἰς τὴν Ἑλληνικὴν ἱστορίαν*. Thessaloniki 1946. *Τὰ βόρεια ἐθνολογικὰ σύνορα τοῦ Ἑλληνισμοῦ*. Thessaloniki 1946 (in English under the title *The Northern Ethnological Boundaries of Hellenism*. Thessaloniki 1955). *Βυζαντιναὶ Μελέται*. VI: Οἱ Σλάβοι ἐν Πελοποννήσῳ. Thessaloniki 1947. *Βυζαντιναὶ Μελέται*. VII: Ὁ Μομτσίσις καὶ τὸ κράτος του. *Macedonica* 2 (1950). *Περὶ τὴν ἱστορίαν τῆς Θράκης. Ὁ Ἑλληνισμὸς τῶν συγχρόνων Θρακῶν. Αἱ πόλεις Ξάνθη καὶ Κομοτηνὴ*. Thessaloniki 1960. The Northern Boundaries of Hellenism in the 7th and 8th centuries. *Balkan Studies* 1 (1960). *Eustazio di Tessalonica, La Espugnazione di Tessalonica*. Testo critico, introduzione, annotazioni. Palermo 1961. *Σύντομος ἐπισκόπησις τῆς ἱστορίας τοῦ Μακεδονικοῦ Ἀγῶνος*. Thessaloniki 1962.

3. A detailed bibliography of all his publications, including his reviews of books, has been published in the presentation volume, *Προσφορά εἰς Στίλωνα II*. Κυρια-

But Professor Kyriakides's publications constitute only one of his many contributions to the intellectual life of the Greek nation. He was also a great and inspiring teacher. Moreover he devoted himself both to the organization and administration of the University of Thessaloniki and to the promotion of intellectual life in Northern Greece chiefly through the Society of Macedonian Studies and the Institute for Balkan Studies, of both of which he was President until his death. As President of the Society of Macedonian Studies he encouraged the study of the folk-lore, archaeology and history of Macedonia, while through the Institute for Balkan Studies he created a centre of international scholarship, which, it is hoped, will contribute to the acquaintance and understanding of the peoples of the Balkan peninsula.

Professor Kyriakides was a great patriot and a fine example of an international scholar. He was a man of charming and dignified manner, of great wisdom and of absolute integrity, friendly and encouraging to all. Generations of students and scholars have benefited from their association with him, and all of them will mourn his passing. He leaves to posterity not only the fruits of his scholarship but also a great inspiration. ✓

αίθρη. Thessaloniki 1953. His publications after 1953 will be listed in detail in the forthcoming issue of *Hellenica*, vol. 18.