

Abstracts

CHARITONAS KARANASIOS

RESEARCH ABOUT THE GREEK MANUSCRIPTS IN ROMANIA

During my researches in Romania in the last three years (1991-93) I noted the existence of the following collections of greek manuscripts —among them some less known or unresearched collections.

1. Library of the Romanian Academy (Bucharest): 1566 mss; only the mss 1-1066 are described. For the rest there is an unpublished catalogue of M. Carataşu. 2. Library of the Holy Synod (Bucharest): 24 mss, mainly of the 18th/19th cent.; most of them are not described. 3. Art Museum (Bucharest): 11 liturgical mss (14th-19th cent.). 4. Central University Library "M. Eminescu" (Jassy): About 140 mss; I work already on a catalogue of this collection. 5. State Archives (Jassy): 40 mss; a short description was published by Dan Jumara. 6. Literature Museum (Jassy): 4 liturgical mss. 7. Metropolis of Moldavia and Suceava (Jassy): According to informations of the librarians the collection includes about 20 mss. 8. Monastery of Neamţ (Neamţ): 38 mss; an inventory (in manuscript) is kept in the monastery. 9. Monastery of Putna (Putna / Bucovina): 1 ms (Heirmologion of the 15th cent.). 10. Museum of Oltenia (Oltenia): To my knowledge there is an Evangelistarium dated at the 12th cent. 11. Library "A. Urechia" (Galaţi): 16 mss, mainly theological (18th/19th cent.).

According to informations of Romanian librarians and researchers greek manuscripts are possibly to be found also in other places in Romania, as in the cities Cluj, Braşov, Braila etc. During my visit in different monasteries in Moldavia and Bucovina (North Romania) it was not possible to discover any other greek manuscripts.

The most of the greek manuscripts in Romania were copied during the 17th and 18th cent. and they are important for the transmission of post-byzantine and modern greek literary texts.

GEORGIOS VOGIATZIS

XANTHEIA AND DIDYMOTEICHON:
TWO DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE CONTINUITY OF THE BYZANTINE
URBAN POPULATION IN WESTERN THRACE DURING THE EARLY OTTOMAN
PERIOD

Byzantine Thrace has been conquered by Ottomans between the years 1352-1373. This conquest changed the demographic image of the whole area. We can note some important differences between the two medieval towns Xantheia and Didymoteichon (both in Western Thrace) concerning evolutions before and after Ottoman conquest: Political conditions during the late byzantine period influenced their demography before Ottoman invasion. Although the two towns belong to the same geographic area, after the Ottoman conquest they played a completely different military and economical role, which reflects the difference in their demographic status.

MINNA ROZEN

THE CORVÉE OF OPERATING THE MINES IN SIDEROKAPISI AND ITS
EFFECTS ON THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF THESSALONIKI IN THE
16th CENTURY

The pluralistic nature of the Jewish community of Thessaloniki in the early Ottoman era is very well known. The community of Thessaloniki comprised several congregations, each centered on its own synagogue and named after a district or town in the Iberian Peninsula or southern Italy. The *raison d'être* of each congregation was to conduct Jewish life according to the customs and traditions the immigrants had brought with them from the "old country". The congregations vied with one another energetically to win better conditions for the payment of taxes by their members, to induce wealthy individuals to become members, and to prevent wealthy members from leaving. In addition, within each congregation, the social classes fought one another bitterly to achieve optimal arrangements, with powerful individuals struggling to impose their will on the congregation or even the entire community. Nevertheless, the need to ensure the survival of the Jewish presence in the town forced the various elements of the community to cooperate to a

certain extent, in several instances against their will, and certainly against their preferences.

The tension between these opposing forces is mirrored in three important Jewish texts dealing with the efforts of the Jewish community of Thessaloniki to reach an internal agreement governing relations with the Ottoman authorities in regard to the taxes imposed on the community and their collections. The three texts refer to a bill of rights obtained by the Thessaloniki community from the Ottoman authorities in 1568 in regard to the assessment and collection of taxes from the former.

The paper presents a new source which sheds light on the events which took place in Thessaloniki prior to the tax arrangement with the Ottomans. The document is an unpublished letter written in 1567 by Jews from Siderokapısı to Thessaloniki in regard to one of the corvées imposed on the Thessaloniki community, that of operating the mines.

ALEXANDRA YEROLYMPOS

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE TOPOGRAPHY OF 19th CENTURY ADRIANOPLE

A new period opened for the Balkan provinces of the Ottoman Empire since the second third of the 19th century. New national states were gradually formed and the territory of European Turkey was reduced considerably. The 'westernization' which took place modified profoundly the existing urban hierarchies. Major development occurred in cities along new railway lines and in the coast, while traditional inland cities, especially the ones located near the newly traced frontier lines, declined rapidly.

Until then Adrianople had been the most important city of European Turkey, the administration and trade centre of an extended hinterland and had lived in peace since its capture by the Turks, almost five centuries before.

Although there is rich bibliography about the important monuments of Ottoman architecture which made the city famous, on the contrary very little is known of the urban space of Adrianople in general and more specifically of the intra muros city, which perished in a fire in 1905; and almost nothing is known of the everyday places where the various ethnic-religious groups lived and worked.

In 1854-56, during the Crimean War, the French *chef d'escadron* Osmont prepared a detailed plan of the city. This beautiful manuscript, with an index

of 200 buildings in a 1:10.000 scale, is a valuable document for the topography of Adrianople in the middle of the 19th century. The Roman-Byzantine walled city and its very regular street system (orthogonal grid) appear clearly despite the distortions that have happened during long centuries of continuous urban life. Written almost at the same time, a report by the Greek consul in 1858 is an important source of information about the buildings and the urban structure of Adrianople.

With the help of these documents as well as of other sources, this article will trace the stages of urban development as well as the city's evolution after the middle of the 19th century, when an era of major development, demographic and other, came to end.

GEORGIA IOANNIDOU-BITSIADOU

THE BAVARIAN LOANS AND CHANCELLOR BISMARCK'S INTERVENTION IN THE GREEK-TURKISH DISPUTE OVER GREECE'S BORDERS (1878-81)

The unfortunate wording of Article 24 of the Treaty of Berlin gave rise to a number of problems and it was only after three years of talks and meetings that the Greek-Turkish borders were eventually fixed. During the negotiations for the final settling of the borders of Epirus and Thessaly, Chancellor Bismarck decided indirectly to force the Greek government to back down over what had been agreed at the Berlin Congress and to justify his own pro-Turkish stance by making Greece's repayment of the Bavarian loans a precondition of the fixing of the borders.

Harilaos Trikoupis believed the problem could be overcome by simply ignoring the issue. Alexandros Ragavis, however, thought it essential that Greece take immediate and unprompted steps to repay the debt, for there was great political advantage to be gained from the goodwill of the Great Powers, particularly Germany.

The Greek government therefore reached a compromise with Bavaria and agreed to pay the amount requested six months before the borders were eventually fixed.

EVANGELOS KOFOS

THE GREEK MINORITY SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS DURING THE ENVER HOXHA PERIOD

This study examines exclusively the school textbooks used by the Greek community and written in Greek. These texts were selected from three politically distinct periods. The first group is composed of texts used in the mid 1950's, when Albania was a fully integrated satellite of the Soviet Union. The second group includes books published between 1970 and 1972, a period when Albania had disassociated itself from the Soviet Union and had been drawn into the Chinese orbit. The last group of books, which is also the largest, were published in 1973-1975. This was the period when Albania gradually broke away from China, and the ice between Albania and Greece began to melt.

The study, which has examined more than thirty school books, reveals one positive and one negative signpost for the future of the Greek minority. The positive element is that the danger of linguistic assimilation, at least in areas where the minority was recognized and where its children had the right to primary education within their own community, was neither great nor immediate. The negative element is that implementation of the theory of a distinct, self-existent ethnic group, using the Greek language but with no connection with Greece and the Greek world, could eventually, especially in conjunction with the proscription of religion, render problematical the survival of the Greek minority in Albania. However, it is fortunate that political developments since 1990 have halted the decline of the minority before it could vanish. With the overthrow of the communist regime, the Greek community was offered a renewed dynamic lease of life in the land where their forefathers have dwelt for centuries.

YANNIS FRANGOPOULOS

THE GREEK MUSLIMS: A RELIGIOUS MINORITY IN THE BALKANS

This article is based on the field research done at a Pomak village in Thrace (Northern Greece). It presents the *local society* (Pomak village) in relation with the *society of reference* (muslim minority with turcophone

domination) as a whole, which inspite its ethnological variety shows a visible homogeneity vis-à-vis the *global society* (Greek State). The stages analysed in this article are the muslim minority presence in Greece on a historical basis, its ethnic composition, its legal status and its political as well as religious situation.

MICHAEL SORENSON

MAJOR CAUSES OF THE WAR BETWEEN SERBS AND CROATS

The war which is currently raging in the former Yugoslavia between Serbs and Croats has attracted attention throughout the world. As a result, much information is circulating about the reasons for the hatred between these two ethnic groups. Unfortunately, much of the data is misrepresented and misunderstood. This work gives a historical background of the combating ethnic groups individually, and how they have related with each other from the 16th century to the present.