

ISSUES IN THE HISTORY OF BULGARIAN

TATYANA ALEKSANDROVA

INSTITUTE FOR BULGARIAN LANGUAGE, BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
t_alexandrova_@mail.bg

This issue of *Balgarski ezik* features papers dealing with issues in the history of Bulgarian – its lexicology, medieval manuscripts and their study, Old Bulgarian translations, among others. The issue is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Corresponding Member Prof. Dora Ivanova-Mircheva – a renowned Paleo-Slavist and a talented researcher of the history of the Bulgarian language, who has discovered and published a number of Old Bulgarian manuscripts.

In Tatyana Ilieva's paper titled *Dogmatic Exegesis and the Theological Language in John the Exarch's Enkomion to John the Theologian*, the author discusses the conceptual and linguistic aspects of the theological vocabulary found in the homily and draws conclusions about the development of the terminological layer of the Bulgarian language of Tsar Symeon's age.

In her article *The Medieval Juridical Text in the Translation Laboratory (on Material from the Prochiron / Civil Law)*, Mariyana Tsibranska-Kostova explores regularities in the translation and the Slavic reception of one of the most important Byzantine legal manuscripts – *Procheiros nomos* (870–879/907). The adduced linguistic material supports the hypothesis that the *Prochiron's* translation aimed at forging domestic legal terminology and reducing the use of vocabulary of foreign origin.

Elka Mircheva's paper *The Life of Medieval Man according to the Roman Paterikon (Lexical Sketches)* offers an analysis of four lexemes found in the *Dialogues of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope of Rome*, known in Slavic literature as the *Roman Paterikon*, which reveals interesting information about the life of the Bulgarians during the Middle Ages, as well as about the processes occurring in the Old Bulgarian literary language established by the Preslav Literary School.

In her study on *Homily 11 of Chrysostom's Hexameron in Manuscript Zogr. No. 19 from the Library of the Zograf Monastery*, Maria Spasova presents an unstudied partial Old Bulgarian translation of John Chrysostom's *Hexameron* discovered in the first part of manuscript Zogr. No. 19 from the library of the

Zograf monastery. This so far unknown Old Bulgarian translation of John Chrysostom's exegesis of the *Book of Genesis* is presented for the first time to the scientific community. A study of the grammatical and lexical characteristics of the language of Homily 11 from Chrysostom's *Hexameron* proves that the translation emerged early in the Pliska-Preslav Literary Centre.

Ivona Karachorova's article *Marginal Commentaries on the Psalms in Manuscript NBKM 13* is dedicated to the only known Slavic copy of the Psalter (No. 13 in the Cyril and Methodius National Library in Sofia) in which 120 selected fragments of the exegesis on the psalms by Hesychius of Jerusalem (also ascribed to Pseudo-Athanasius) are written in the margins of the text. These exegetic texts are published alongside with the Psalter text to which they pertain. Comparisons of the differences with other copies of the Psalter are made.

Vanya Micheva's paper titled *The Concept of the Penitent Harlot in the History of the Bulgarian Literary Language* deals with the linguistic and the semantic realisations of the concept of the *penitent harlot*. The author analyses linguistic material from classical Old Bulgarian manuscripts and from other original works from the 9th–11th century, as well as from the lives of women saints in the Bdin Collection (14th century).

Kalina Micheva-Peycheva's article studies *Literary and Dialect Names of Cultural Realia in the History of the Bulgarian Language*. The author explores the literary and dialect names for several cultural realia: *heathen* and *heretic*, *human mediators between the sacred and the profane*, *disease* and *healing*. The studied material includes linguistic data found in different medieval manuscripts, a Bulgarian-Italian dictionary (1845) and the Bulgarian dialects.

✉ *Assoc. Prof. Tatyana Aleksandrova, PhD*

Department of Modern Bulgarian Language
Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
52 Shipchenski prohod, Bl. 17, Sofia 1113, Bulgaria