

THE OPPOSITION OF VISION AND BLINDNESS (ВИДѢНИЕ – СЛѢПОТА) IN THE WORKS OF PATRIARCH EUTHYMIUS

KALINA MICHEVA-PEYCHEVA

INSTITUTE FOR BULGARIAN LANGUAGE, BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
k.micheva@gmail.com

The study analyses the semantic and verbal realisations of the concepts of vision and blindness in the original works of Patriarch Euthymius. The selected opposition correlates with fundamental binary oppositions such as *light – darkness*, *health – illness*, *truth – error*, and *sacred – profane*. It is further related to the literal and metaphorical meanings of **видѣние** и **слѣпота** “vision” and “blindness” established in Old Bulgarian and in the Cyrillo-Methodian translation tradition. Specific uses of these terms are also attested in Patriarch Euthymius’ works, where they are linked to Hesychasm as the dominant theological doctrine in Orthodoxy during the second half of the 14th century. From an axiological perspective, vision is interpreted as fidelity to Christian doctrine and as an expression of theological insight into Hesychasm, while blindness functions as its anti-value, signifying ignorance, delusion, and heresy.

Keywords: diachronic linguoculturology; the concept of vision; the concept of blindness; medieval concept sphere

REFERENCES

- Eliade 1997 – 2009: *Eliade, M.* Istoriya na religioznite idei i vyarvaniya. Tom 1–3. Sofia, Hristo Botev.
- Kalužniacki 1901: *Kalužniacki, E.* Werke des Patriarchen von Bulgarien Euthymius (1375–1393). Wien, C. Gerold.
- Micheva 2015: *Micheva, V.* Kartinata na sveta v ezika na novobalgarskite damaskini. Sofia, DioMira.
- Micheva 2016: *Micheva, V.* Svet i t'ma, svoe i chuzhoe v hristianskoi paradigme. Saarbrücken: LAP LAMBERT Academic publishing.
- Micheva 2020: *Micheva, V.* Tsennostite svetlina i tamnina v originalnite proizvedeniya na Patriarh Evtimiy. – In: *Aksiologichni problemi v slavyanskite ezitsi (traditsii i savremennost)*. Sofiya, Izdatelstvo na BAN, pp. 55–84.
- Micheva-Peycheva 2016: *Micheva-Peycheva, K.* Sakral'naia chistota i profannaia nechistota. Saarbrücken, LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing.

- Micheva-Peycheva 2017: *Micheva-Peycheva, K.* Etnokulturnata binarnost v sred-novekovnata balgarska literatura. Sofia, DioMira.
- Starobalgarski rechnik 1999, 2009: Starobalgarski rechnik. T. 1. A–N. T. 2. O–U. Sofia, Izdatelstvo „Valentin Trayanov“.
- Staroslavianskii slovar' 1999: Staroslavianskii slovar'. Moskva, Russkii iazyk.
- Tsibranska-Kostova 2011: *Tsibranska-Kostova, M.* Pokaynata knizhnina na Balgar-skoto srednovekovie IX–XVIII v. (ezikovo-tekstologichni i kulturologichni aspekti). Sofia, Izdatelstvo “Valentin Trayanov”.
- Tsibranska-Kostova 2021: *Tsibranska-Kostova, M.* Lingvokulturologichna interpre-tatsiya na turtsizmite v hristiyanski religiozni tekstove. – *Zeszyty Cyrylo-Meto-dianskie*, 10, pp. 7–19.

✉ *Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kalina Micheva-Peycheva*
Department of History of Bulgarian Language
Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
52 Shipchenski prohod, Bl. 17, 1113 Sofia Bulgaria