

B Y Z A N T I N O S L A V I C A
REVUE INTERNATIONALE DES ÉTUDES BYZANTINES

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Bibliography on Byzantine Material Culture and Daily Life

Michael GRÜNBART (Vienna – Münster)

Byzantine material culture and daily life is one of the main topics in Byzantine studies since the 1980s. In a new open access database all relevant secondary sources concerning objects and topics of Byzantine daily life are collected and annotated. It should serve as a tool for all branches of study of the medieval period.

The Seals Module of the *Prosopography of the Byzantine World*

Michael JEFFREYS (London)

Seals are important for many branches of Byzantine studies, but they are hard to use. Their edited texts are often improved by new readings or the discovery of better copies, and redating is common. But there is no sure way of discovering whether any such corrections have been published for an edition you wish to use. A website under construction to help with this problem already contains details of nearly 10,000 seals.

Byzantine Themes and Sigillography

Olga KARAGIORGOU (Athens)

The project “Byzantine themes and sigillography” aims to bring together for the first time all the known published and unpublished sigillographic material belonging to state officials and (using the latest dating criteria, as well as evidence from other sources) to create prosopographic lists in chronological order, according to the theme and the particular public sector (military, civil, financial, ecclesiastical) where these officials served.

Editing and Exploring Byzantine Encyclopaedies

Peter VAN DEUN – Caroline MACÉ (Leuven)

When this short paper was given at the 21st International Congress of Byzantine Studies in London (August 2006), it was intended as an announcement of a research project on Byzantine *Summae* and *Florilegia* which was just about to start. Three years later this project has already borne some fruits: several articles were published and a colloquium entitled „Encyclopaedic Trends in Byzantium?“ was held in Leuven in May 2009 (the proceedings will appear in 2010).

The Contribution of Architectural Sculpture in Cilicia to Early Byzantine History

Gabriele MIETKE (Berlin)

Some Early Christian churches in Rough Cilicia have been ascribed to the patronage of the Byzantine emperor Zeno (476-491), native of Isauria, based on their rich decoration, their unusual centralized plans, and on historical considerations. A comprehensive study of the architectural sculpture of Rough Cilicia aims at scrutinizing this theory, contributing to the economic history of the region, and clarifying the relation to the capital, Constantinople.

The Archaeology of Northern Russia's Urban Sites as a Source for the Study of Middle and Late Byzantine Culture

Alexander MUŠIN (St. Petersburg)

The article deals with the problem of the Byzantine components in the archeologically attested material culture of the urban communities of Russian North such as Novgorod, Russa, Ladoga and Pskov of 750-1450 AD. This archeological assemblage could contribute to the better understanding of Byzantine material culture, its chronology and socio-archeological context of different type of every day life objects, to revealed the anthropological mechanism of Byzantine-Russian cultural exchange and to show the transformation and adaptation of Byzantine culture in Russian milieu.

Old Byzantinists and the Place of Byzantine Studies Today

Ihor ŠEVČENKO (Cambridge)

At first, the author deals in retrospect with the Old Byzantinists and their world and, secondly, the article deals with the position of Byzantine studies in the present day intellectual world.

The Wisdom Iconography of Light The Genesis, Meaning and Iconographic Realization of a Symbol

Priscilla HUNT (Amherst, MA)

This article demonstrates that the iconography of light around the image of Christ as Wisdom in Byzantinoslavlic tradition is a two dimensional representation of a three dimensional sphere. This modeling reflects the hidden meaning of a passage from Dionysius the Areopagite based in Neo-Platonic and Neo-Pythagorean concepts, geometrical and numerical symbolism. In the 13th and 14th centuries, this modeling became more explicit to contribute to the Orthodox Church's defense of mystical theology, and the generic circle with rays evolved to include first, the single rhombus and then, the doubled rhombus or Wisdom star.

New Remarks on the History of Byzantine-Bulgar Relations in the Late Eighth and Early Ninth Centuries

Panos SOPHOULIS (Athens)

This article is devoted to one of the most turbulent periods in history of Byzantine-Bulgar relations –the late eighth and early ninth centuries. It examines the driving factors behind the growing Byzantine involvement in the Balkans, which slowly escalated into a full-blown conflict with Bulgaria for political mastery over the diverse inhabitants of the region. It also discusses in detail the ways in which the Bulgars, led by a ruling elite with the skills naturally bred by a nomadic way of life, not only resisted Byzantine pressure, but were also able to move on to the offensive, becoming under the leadership of *khan* Krum in the early 800's the most dangerous adversary the Empire had to face.

The Byzantine Theologians on Muḥammad and Zaynab b. Jahsh: Marriage or Adultery?

Tarek M. MUHAMMAD (Cairo)

The marriage of Muhammad to the divorcee of Zayd Ibn Hârithah, Zaynab b. Jahsh, was a favorite subject for the Byzantine polemicists. The Byzantine theologians criticized the way by which Muhammad married her and proclaimed that he committed adultery with her. The rationale for this paper stems from a pressing need to examine

the primary sources, Byzantine, Armenian, and Arabic, a lot of which were edited and published recently, to search for whether the relation of Muhammad with Zaynab was a legal marriage or adultery. By the end of this article it will be concluded that there was confusion among the Byzantine polemicists and a contradiction among the Arabic sources, too, and that the adultery of Muhammad with Zaynab is a false or invented story.

Michael the Grammarian's Irony about *hypsilon*

Frederick LAURITZEN (Bologna)

Poem IV of Michael the Grammarian edited by Mercati may be dated to ca. 1030 because of a reference to Philip of Amorion. Since the poem contains clear references to the different pronunciation of the letter iota and hypsilon one may deduce that at that time they effectively represented two different sounds. This is also confirmed by the near contemporary evidence of Church Slavonic. If hypsilon represented a sound similar to a French u or a German ü there are important consequences for the study of Anatolian dialects as well as codicology.

Sacred Emperor, Holy Patriarch: A New Reading of the Clash between Emperor Isaakios I Komnenos and Patriarch Michael Keroularios in Attaleiates' History

Dimitrios KRALLIS (Vancouver, BC)

This paper revisits the colliding careers of patriarch Michael Keroularios and emperor Isaakios I Komnenos as they are presented in the work of historian Michael Attaleiates, and proposes a review and correction of Alexander Kazhdan's dominant reading of Attaleiates' text, which placed Attaleiates in the camp of Keroularios' supporters. A new reading of Attaleiates' narrative exposes his complex methodology, cautiously deployed critique and nuanced approach to the politics of his times. If Kazhdan's influential article on Attaleiates needs re-examination, Attaleiates' place within Byzantine courtly circles has to be carefully re-assessed.

The Identification of the Scythians in the Service of Romanos IV'S First Expedition to Anatolia

Antonios VRATIMOS (Cardiff University)

The present article reviews a passage from the *Historia* of Attaleiates concerning the armies which the emperor Romanos IV Diogenes assembled before his first campaign against the Seljuks (1068). It discusses the author's accuracy in the use of the names of Scyths, but also extends the analysis to how other ethnic minorities are addressed in the *Historia*.

The Guild-Organized Candle Manufacturing Industry in Constantinople – Tenth-Twelfth Centuries

George C. MANIATIS (Bethesda, MD)

This article provides an in depth analysis of the organization and *modus operandi* of the guild-organized candlemaking industry in the 10th-12th centuries. It examines important issues that remain unexplored, misconstrued, or unsettled, and analyzes the structure and degree of competition in the distinct production and distribution of candles, edible and inedible oil markets. It concludes that potent countervailing forces in a multi-layer setting restrained market power and fostered pro-competitive pricing patterns.

Molybdo Bull of Nikephoros Protosynkellos from Varosh, Prilep

Robert MIHAJLOVSKI (Melbourne)

The present text intends to bring to light a recently discovered lead seal found near of the church of St Demetrius at Varosh, Prilep. It provides an insight into the ecclesiastical history of the Pelagonian diocese. The seal can be dated to the last decades of the eleventh century and according to its inscription on the reverse it can be attributed to the unknown prelate, Nikephoros the Protosynkellos. On the obverse a bust of Mother of God Orans holding a medallion of infant Christ is depicted.

Liturgische Gewänder im byzantinischen Ritus

Elisbeth PILTZ (Uppsala)

In this paper the origin and symbolic significance of the Greek Orthodox liturgical vestments are presented, relying on pictorial evidence and literary sources and testifying to the fact that Byzantine customs are withheld with meticulous care up to modern times recently shown by the last enthronisation of the Russian patriarch where the ecclesiastical authority prevailed over the official delegates as was the case in Byzantium.

Byzantine „Holy“ War – a Methodological Reconsideration

Jannis STOURAITIS (Wien)

The goal of this study is to present a certain methodological approach to the question of “holy “ war in Byzantium. The author analyses the theoretical distinction between the concepts of just and “holy” war and uses that analysis as a starting point in order to demonstrate the absence of a concept of “holy” war by the Byzantines.

Prolegomena on the Contribution of the Judaeobyzantine Kabbalah to the Italian Renaissance Humanism: Gilles of Viterbe and the *Sefer ha-Temunah*

Philippe Gardette (Oxford)

The contribution of the judaeobyzantine culture to the European Renaissance has not been studied systematically. This article try to deal with the context of such relation between Byzantine Jews and the Italian Renaissance. More particularly, the translation from Hebrew into Latin of the *Sefer ha-Temunah* by Gilles of Viterbes is the visible part of the iceberg! I hope a future study will enlighten this very rich field of study.

On Historicity and Meaning of the Jerusalem Council in 1443

Alexander ZANEMONETS (Moskva – Jerusalem)

The article is devoted to the problem of authenticity of the Council and its definition. The author makes a survey of studies of this ambiguous text and tries to prove that the Council really took place in Jerusalem in April 1443, but its agenda was limited and local. It was one of many local councils, that made possible the rejection of Florentine decisions by the Orthodox world. Russian translation of this definition is applied.

The Slavic Theory of the Byzantine Rural Community in Soviet and Post-Soviet Historiography

Danuta M. GÓRECKI (Urbana-Champaign, Ill.)

This article presents excerpts from the works of Russian historiography, in English translation by the author. It covers the time from around 1850, when Zachariä pub-

lished his thesis on the Slavic origins of the Byzantine rural community, through the Stalinist period, until the recent developments after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. The discussion concentrates on the roots of the rural community, its organization, its fiscal liability, and its relation to feudalism. The article also sheds light on the personalities of the authors, some of whom were courageous enough to enrich their articles with their own thoughts, judgments, and analyses. Since the tsarist regime until today, those who had, in contrast, been opportunists and conformists began to revisit their own political and ethical attitudes toward the creation of history only in the recent times. However, while changing their views in some points, they retained their pro-communist preferences in other respects. This diversity of the authors' viewpoints has resulted in a variety of new questions, and in conflicting judgments and interpretations. The exception here is one point of the history of the Byzantine agrarian community: despite their disagreements, all scholars agree that it was the closeness, solidarity, and mutual help of the members of that community which guarded it against the destructive aggression of feudal landlords.