



GETOV Dorotei, *A Catalogue of Greek Manuscripts in the Scientific Archives of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences*. Sofia: Boyan Penev Publishing Centre, 2010, 59 p. + 31 plates.

This book offers a thorough description of the eighteen Greek manuscripts kept in the Archives of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. It opens with an introduction on the history of this collection followed by the descriptions of the particular manuscripts. Among the manuscripts catalogued are fragments of the famous homilies of John Chrysostom (11th c. copy) and Basil the Great (early 15th c. copy), Gregory of Nazianzos' orations (11th c. copy), Aetios of Amida's *Libri medicinales* (12th c. fragment) and liturgical books of various periods (e.g. a Lectionary Gospel with ekphonic notation of the 11th c., and a Triodion of the 14th c.). Some manuscripts contain writing in demotic Greek, such as the Nomocanon of Manuel Malaxos (a copy of 1600), Mathematariion of 1807 with Plutarch's and Synesius' texts with a running translation *supra lineam* in demotic Greek.

Dorotei Getov, as in his previous works - for instance *A Catalogue of Greek Liturgical Manu-*

scripts in Ivan Dujčev Centre for Slavo-Byzantine Studies - consistently follows the format of description chosen by Herbert Hunger, Otto Kresten, Christian Hannick, Wolfgang Lackner in the catalogue of the Greek manuscripts kept in Vienna, since it allows an exhaustive and clear analysis of all aspects of different types of manuscripts. Every description of a particular manuscript or fragment includes the following information: dating, material (parchment or paper), number of folios, dimensions (of the folios and of the written area), number of columns, lines per page, preservation, quire structure, binding, illumination, watermarks (if paper manuscript), ruling system, characteristics of the hand (scribe), detailed description of the texts copied, marginal notes and colophons, provenance and bibliography. Every text is identified and its published versions are quoted together with its number in the most authoritative reference books, as F. Halkin's *Bibliotheca hagiographica graeca* (Brussels, 1957) or M. Geerard's *Clavis partum graecorum* (Turnhout, 1974-1980). The titles of the texts are given in Latin or English but, in the cases of narrative texts, also the original titles and incipits (first sentences of the texts) in Greek are quoted.

Further, the later notes in Greek and Bulgarian, if not well-known troparia or the like, are also reproduced in the catalogue. They shed light on the circulation of the manuscripts in the region (the present-day northern Greece and southern Bulgaria), on historical events and everyday life, and on the attitudes of the scribes towards texts and events.

The catalogue is structured in a reader-friendly manner: the same rubrication is consistently used; the information is exact and clearly formulated. There is a general index of personal and place names, of types of books and texts, of the titles of the texts, of liturgical and calendar terms, and watermarks. Also, an incipitarius for unedited and unrecognised texts is provided and thirty plates in black-and-white and two in colour illustrate all script style peculiarities of the manuscripts described.

Margaret Dimitrova,
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