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NATIONAL CULTURAL-HISTORICAL VALUES AS PART OF EUROPEAN CULTURAL HERITAGE AND MODERN METHODS FOR THEIR PRESERVATION

In the face of new challenges Europe is aware of not only its geographic borders – it should give a new meaning to its political and economic, spiritual and cultural boundaries.

Europe of the 27 is an open, pluralistic, ideologically neutral value, where the language of European policy cannot resort any more to identity understood as a code of a cultural-historical community.

New policies and programs of the European Union for the period of 2007 – 2013 make special accent on relations between culture, education, youth, sports and European citizenship. Co-existence of peoples with different history and culture as a united harmonious community of 460 million Europeans more than ever requires from them to have the necessary knowledge and skills to communicate efficiently and to come easily to mutual understanding. Dialogue between cultures is the main instrument for forming closer relations between the European peoples.

Values and characteristics such as antique heritage, Christianity, Roman law, European humanism, enlightenment, democracy and tolerance are among indicators of European cultural identity. Implementation of the whole complex of these elements shows that there exists historical and cultural community setting its stamp on Europe, on its cultural traditions and heritage. At the same time the way in which separate cultures are formed shows that not all peoples adopt and express them in the same degree.

Bulgaria as a new member of the European Union determines its leading research spheres on the basis of priorities of the national plan for development and European trends. Financial resources of the state are not sufficient for steady and efficient maintenance of all spheres of scientific investigations, so establishing of certain priorities is the right approach in view of the program financing of scientific research. The needs of economic and social development of Bulgaria and availability of the necessary "critical mass" as infrastructure, material basis and human potential for the respective scientific investigations are taken into consideration.

"National identity and cultural heritage" is one of the priority spheres for conducting research investigations during the recent five years.

Major goals of this national priority are:

Building up and renewal of the modern scientific and information infrastructure – physical and human potential, guarantying creation of favourable conditions for investigation of the national cultural-historical heritage and for development of new methods for its preservation.



NACID

National Centre for Information and Documentation

MAIN OBJECTIVES

NACID is a governmental institution affiliated to the Ministry of Education and Science. NACID collects, processes, maintains and disseminates reference and analytical information to support the national policy in the field of education, science and innovation as well as to support Bulgarian research bodies, individual researchers and SMEs

PRIMARY FIELDS OF ACTIVITIES

- Processing and disseminating bibliographic, reference data and analytical information.
- Maintaining specialized databases of scientific production and research resources in Bulgaria.
- Providing information about national, European and trans-European research programs.
- Providing information to support the process of harmonization of the Bulgarian education and research legislation with European Union ones.
- Performing the role of institutional contact point of the Sixth Framework Program in Bulgaria.

INFORMATION PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

- ❑ NACID offers a large range of information products, including:
 - Subject profiles;
 - Reviews;
 - Bibliographic references.
- ❑ NACID offers a great variety of information services through its own databases as well as information brokerage to external databases. Online access to two information blocks of *locally maintained own databases* in English:

"Bulgarian Science" Databases

- "SIRENA", R&D reports and dissertations;
- "Scientific and Technical Publications in Bulgaria";
- "Who is Who in Bulgarian Science" ;
- "Papers" .

" Science and Industry" Databases

- "Partnership for Innovation and Development", Information about the national research units.
- "Knowledge for Innovations and Development" , Information about Bulgarian R&D activities.

The information brokerage services are available upon request, providing access to over 1200 databases from major international commercial host centers, thus providing the research community with a wealth of S&T information.

- ❑ *Central Research and Technical Library services*
 - Library collections - more than 4 million items/reference books, monographs, serials, dissertations, CD ROM, DVD etc;
 - Online access to the library catalogues since 1980;
 - Searching in electronic catalogues and databases;
 - Lending of library materials;
 - Electronic Document Delivery;
 - Interlibrary loan;
 - More than 9000 users per year.

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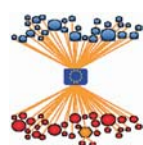
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NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMMES WITH EUROPEAN DIMENSIONS

CULTURAL HERITAGE: EDUCATION – SCIENCE – PRESERVATION – INTEGRATED IN TOURISM (*HERITAGE: ESPRIT*)

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PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The project's main objective is the *development of a scientific and informational infrastructure integrating research, education, preservation, promotion and sustainable tourist use of the cultural heritage.*

The project's objectives are based on the contemporary understanding of preservation of the cultural heritage and the internationally acknowledged corner-stones: the ICOMOS Charters and the Recommendations of its International Scientific Committees; the Council of Europe Conventions, Recommendations and prognoses, etc. On this base, the Project's objectives aim at the following up-to-date tendencies in the approach to the cultural heritage:

- New vision of the extended content of the cultural heritage, which includes new types of tangible and intangible values – historic towns, cultural landscapes, cultural routes, etc.;
- Implementation of new information methods and technologies for research, preservation, promotion and use of cultural heritage;
- Integration of research and preservation of cultural heritage with the process of education and formation of specialists on different levels; development of heritage pedagogy;
- Integration of preservation and use of cultural heritage, especially in the field of cultural tourism; expression of the cultural heritage as a resource for sustainable development;
- Providing a wide public access to informa-

tion about cultural heritage, especially by means of the new Internet technologies; creation of open public information systems for cultural heritage;

Development of international cooperation in the field of conservation, especially of the regional cooperation in networks that could express the belonging of the national cultural values to the common European cultural heritage.

The approach to cultural heritage in Bulgaria does not correspond in sufficient degree to the indicated tendencies. The implementation of information methods and technologies in the research and conservation work is extremely inadequate. There is a shortage of sufficient links between the research, educational and conservation spheres on different levels, as well as with the sectors of the promotion of cultural heritage and cultural tourism. Nowadays the indicated spheres are comparatively closed and have no sufficient communication between each other.

On this background an ineffective use of the existing human and material resource for research, preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage is outlined; the real resource of the cultural heritage for sustainable social and economic development and for the expression of the identity of our country in the globalising world is not being revealed.

The objectives of the Project provide for realisation of a pilot model of scientific and information infrastructure capable of supporting in-

tegration of the research work with education, preservation, promotion and sustainable tourist use of the cultural heritage. The model provides for the opening of the scientific sphere to the live educational, conservational and tourist practices, with positive consequences to the image of our country.

The project's objectives cover a wide scope of immovable properties of the cultural heritage of different kinds and on different levels: architectural, archaeological, artistic, urban and landscape values.

The objectives refer above all to research and education in the field of the preservation of the immovable cultural heritage and its sustainable use, especially for the purposes of cultural tourism.

The objectives mobilise the human and material resources of the two unique Bulgarian science and education centres for research and preservation of immovable properties of cultural heritage (the University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy and the National Academy of Art) in partnership with two non-governmental organisations (the Association for Cultural Tourism and the Bulgarian National Committee of ICOMOS) specialised in the sphere of preservation, promotion and use of cultural heritage, with a considerable scientific and expert international capacity namely in the present field.

On this basis, in mid-term perspective the Project provides for widening by stages of the scientific, educational and information network regarding the cultural heritage on two levels: on national level – with the beneficent partners of the present competition, of MES (Ministry of Education and Science), and on European level.

The Project has the following objectives stated in a measurable and verifiable form:

1. Provision of technical equipment for realisation of an information infrastructure for research, preservation and promotion of different types of cultural heritage. It is an important fact that for the purpose primary information outfit already exists in the Multimedia Laboratory for Cultural Heritage (further called shortly the Laboratory) at UACEG established with the help of the British Council Bulgaria in 2005 and maintained by the University. The

present Laboratory of UACEG, established with the help of the British Council is a very good unit but insufficiently adequate according to the contemporary requirements, especially with regard to specialised hardware and software. Extended and developed with additional specialised equipment and open to other users, the Laboratory will acquire considerably greater effectiveness as a core for modern scientific and information infrastructure.

2. Research and creation within the framework of the Project of a series of pilot information products. For this applied scientific activity a considerable resource of students, post-graduates, young scientists and professors of both universities will be used, along with involved specialists and scientists in this field. Of special value is the possibility of using the students' scientific and practical potential in the educational process without any financial burden to the Project.

3. Wide public dissemination of the outcomes of the Project on European level for the needs of cultural tourism and the educational sphere. In this case it is important to point out that three of the partners of the Project (ACT, UACEG and BNC of ICOMOS) have already realised multimedia products in this field: a multimedia exhibition in 2005 within the framework of the Regional Forum in Varna and two websites about the Region's cultural heritage in 2006 directed to cultural tourism and to different age groups (www.heriquest.com и www.seecorridors.eu). Hence, the Project will not be burdened with resources for creation of new web spaces in the Internet but can use already existing and popular websites by extending and further developing them with new attractive information. Of special importance is the fact that thus the scientific results from the Project will have direct impact on the tourist and educational sectors, even on European level in accordance with the recommendations of the pointed regional forums of South East Europe. The project also provides for the dissemination of the outcomes by means of organisation of a press conference and a series of publications.

The following three objectives aim at consolidation and development of a future expert net-

work within the framework of the scientific and information infrastructure: formation of experts, provision of conditions for scientific exchange and debate, integration within the frameworks of Regional and European networks for cooperation.

4. Establishment of a summer school "Heritage and Information Technologies" (HIT School) for young scientists and specialists in preservation of cultural heritage. The School is designed in two stages: the first stage is situated in the Laboratory at UACEG and the second stage will be on-the-spot training on concrete properties of the cultural heritage of the international BNC of ICOMOS programmes (e.g. the experience of the successful experiment of the summer school of students from UACEG and NAA held in 2006 on the international ICOMOS project for Ancient Plovdiv Reserve could be further developed). The outcomes from the Schools will be disseminated within the framework of Objective 3.

5. Organisation of a round table and a multimedia exhibition "Information Technologies and Cultural Heritage". The aim is to popularise the outcomes of the Project and to support creation of the future scientific infrastructure in this field.

6. Integration in national and international network of centres of science and education in the field of preservation of cultural heritage. Here the Project refers to a national network consisting of the beneficent centres of the present MES Project, as well as integration within the network of international scientific committees of ICOMOS, in the expert network of the Council of Europe's and European Commission's Regional Programme for Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe; European scientific and university centres, etc. Scientific exchange between potential partners and drawing their attention to future cooperation will be realised within the framework of the Project. The participants in the Project BNC of ICOMOS and ACT have already considerable experience along these lines and keep in touch with a variety of potential partners. The link with the European Institute of Cultural Routes in Luxembourg is of special importance for possibilities to

popularise Bulgarian cultural values as a part of the European cultural heritage.

The last objective refers to the Project's management process with vision to its future development.

7. Realisation of a management model of the Project: scientific programming, coordination, assessment and validation of the results, monitoring. The aim is to experiment on a management model that could be applied also in the management of a future scientific and information infrastructure in this field in the following stages of the development of the Project.

POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROJECT AND MID-TERM PLAN FOR EXPLOITATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

The Project refers to the following problem situation of the current state of the activity for preservation of the Bulgarian cultural heritage, upon which it aims to have impact:

1. Insufficient implementation of new information methods and technologies in the research and preservation of the cultural heritage, especially in the following directions:

- For digitalisation of valuable properties of the cultural heritage – a huge work on digitalisation of historic cadastres, graphic data of monuments – layouts, facades, etc., and photo documentation lies ahead;
- For GIS mapping of cultural-historic areas – at the present moment even the obligatory, according to the requirements of UNESCO, GIS mapping of the seven Bulgarian World Cultural Heritage sites is not realised;
- For building an information database of the monuments of culture – it is not present even in the official Scientific Documentary Archive of the Monuments of Culture;
- For 3D modelling of properties of the cultural heritage, especially in connection with the scientific reconstruction research of ruined archaeological and architectural monuments that are abundant in our country;
- For photographing and scanning of the entire interior or exterior cultural-historical ensembles and spaces, panoramas, cultural landscapes, cultural routes, etc., for which in the present day the necessary equipment is lacking;

2. Insufficient link between the centres of science and education for preservation of cultural heritage – on national level (sufficient links are missing even between the two unique educational institutions for preservation of the immovable properties of cultural heritage – UACEG and NAA), as well as on international level. The research activity on the cultural heritage is separated into comparatively isolated scientific centres, differentiated by types of heritage (architectural, archaeological, artistic, etc.) with no network links between them (as should be according to the new vision of the cultural heritage) and with no sufficient links with the conservation activities (e.g. the links between archaeological research and archaeological conservation are broken);

3. Insufficient links between scientific activities and education in this field; insufficient development of the heritage pedagogy in the schools;

4. Insufficient links between preservation, promotion and use of the cultural heritage for cultural tourism. Bulgarian cultural heritage remains to a great extent unknown to Europe and the world and even to Bulgaria;

5. Absence of open information systems (including in the Internet) that should provide a wide public access to the values; the existing scientific documentary archives of the monuments of culture are relatively closed and difficult to access. This also influences the insufficient popularity of the cultural heritage;

The Project provides for its impact on the indicated problem situation by proposing an innovative model of its consecutive overcoming by means of by stage building of scientific and information infrastructure with participation of national and international partners, including the ones that are not participants in the very Project. The ambition is to reach a certain stability of the Project. For the purpose a mid-term (3-5 years') plan is proposed.

MID-TERM (3-5 YEARS') PLAN FOR EXPLOITATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE ON THE PROJECT

Use, maintenance and development of the Multimedia Laboratory at UACEG.

- Extension and development of the Laboratory at UACEG in order to turn it into a modern

multimedia centre for research, documentation, preservation and promotion of a wide range of immovable cultural heritage: architectural, archaeological, artistic, urbanistic, landscape, etc.

- Opening of the Laboratory to all the participants in the scientific and information infrastructure for preservation of the cultural heritage as well as for supporting other units working in similar directions: the two basic centres of science and education UACEG and NAA; to the official Scientific Documentary Archive of Monuments of Culture at the National Institute for the Monuments of Culture; to the network of institutes at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (the Institute of Archaeology with Museum, the Institute of Art Studies, the Institute of Folklore Studies, the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics); to the local authorities together with the private sector in partnership with public organisations.

- Provision of the necessary conditions of the Leader Organisation's side, assuring steady function of the equipment engaging the extremely valuable human resource of students, young scientists (interns, post-graduates and professors from the centres of science and education); work teams of external specialists.

Realised research and practical work in the Laboratory.

- Creation of a Virtual Catalogue – database of the Bulgarian immovable cultural heritage including digitalised information for single properties of the cultural heritage (archaeological, architectural, artistic, historic, etc.), ensembles, urban areas, territories, landscapes, etc.

- Creation of 3D models of all the monuments of culture of national importance with special attention to: 3D modelling of ruined monuments with the purpose of researching their scientific reconstruction for future conservation and restoration; to the integral documentation of the interior of architectural artistic monuments;

- Geodesic measurement and creation of GIS mapping of all the Bulgarian World Heritage sites.

Creation of an open information system for Bulgarian cultural heritage in the Internet.

- Extension of the existing websites for cul-

tural heritage created by the participants in the Project ACT, UACEG and BNC of ICOMOS (www.heriquet.com и www.seecorridors.eu). At the present moment, these websites include extremely limited amount of information about monuments of culture in the countries of South East Europe (e.g. for Bulgaria there are about 60 monuments) regarding the cultural corridors of South East Europe. On this basis, the Virtual Catalogue of Monuments of Culture information data in its totality will be released in the Internet included in GIS maps in the context of the European continent.

- Realisation of direct address to the tourist sector for the development of cultural tourism. In respect to this aim, the basis of the existing website www.seecorridors.eu, which will be extended and further developed is of great value.

- Including the information of the Virtual Catalogue in GPS network as a forthcoming perspective of great importance for the development of cultural tourism.

- Development of multimedia products regarding the heritage pedagogy in the system of elementary and secondary education. A stable base for that will be the already realised project of website www.heriquet.com and CD, directed to these age groups, which was highly estimated by MES but needs to be further extended and developed.

Training of young scientists and specialists in heritage informatics.

- Organisation of a permanent annual summer course should be realised at the Laboratory in connection with the international projects of BNC of ICOMOS. The aim is to provide permanent influx of competent specialists for the scientific and information infrastructure.

Organisation of a system of annual forums – round tables on Information technologies and cultural heritage along with exhibitions-competitions of the achievements in this field during the year for support and stimulation of the national scientific and information network in this field.

Development of the network of centres of science and education for research, preservation, promotion and sustainable use of the cultural heritage on two levels:

- National level: realisation for the first time of partnership between the two major centres of science and education for preservation of cultural heritage (UACEG and NAA) in partnership with two non-governmental organisations (ACT and BNC of ICOMOS). On this basis a connection will be set up with other beneficent participants in the MES Project for the formation of a national network.

- International level: the Project's intention is, on the basis of the realised contacts within the Project's framework and with the commitments of the countries of South East Europe and the major international organisations in this field (from the Regional Forums in Varna and in Opatija in 2005 and 2006), to realise firm international links with:

- o the centres of science and education for cultural heritage in the countries of South East Europe;

- o European research centres in this sphere;

- o the European Cultural Routes Network – with special attention to the future partnership with the European Institute of Cultural Routes in Luxembourg.

Adequate management of the scientific and information infrastructure with following implementation of the positive experience accumulated during the Project management, with special attention to the monitoring of the Project's results in coherence with the Project's objectives.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROJECT

The choice of the partnering participants is motivated by their scientific, expert and technical capacity, capabilities, real achievements and resources in this field. Their past personal achievements have been taken into account as well as their past partner experience in the presently treated sphere.

The project includes the following partner organizations:

» **The University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy (UACEG)**

Leading science and education centre in architecture, civil engineering and geodesy including research, documentation and geodesic measurement, preservation of heritage (architectural, archaeological, urbanistic, landscape). It has at its

disposal a specialised department of preservation of architectural, archaeological, urbanistic and landscape heritage, which conducts a specialisation course in this field. The University has also specialised departments of geodesic documentation of cultural heritage. UACEG possesses a unit of material equipment: a Multimedia Laboratory for Cultural Heritage within the framework of a computing centre.

» **National Academy of Art (NAA)**

Leading science and education centre in fine and applied arts – including research, documentation, conservation and restoration of artistic monuments of culture. The Academy possesses specialised ateliers for conservation activities.

» **The Association for Cultural Tourism (ACT)**

A non-profit association specialised in the field of preservation, promotion and use of the cultural and natural heritage as a resource for tourism. It aims at the development of cultural tourism and promotion of Bulgarian identity throughout the world. ACT has realised many funded national and international projects in this field.

» **The Bulgarian National Committee of ICOMOS (BNC of ICOMOS)**

A non-profit association specialised in the field of preservation of cultural heritage; branch of the largest international non-governmental organisation for preservation of cultural heritage ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), which unifies competent scientific and expert resource in the field of preservation of cultural heritage connected in a network of international scientific committees.

Three of the participants (UACEG, ACT and BNC of ICOMOS) already have considerable experience in realisation of common projects in the presently treated field:

- The project "Encouraging the Use of the New Methodology in the teaching, Preservation and Promotion of Cultural and Environmental Heritage – establishment of the Multimedia Laboratory at UACEG" realised with the help of the British Council Bulgaria in 2005;
- The project "Organisation of a Multimedia Exhibition "The Heritage of South East Europe" within the framework of the Regional Forum "Cultural Corridors of South East Europe" (Varna, 2005);

- The project "Creation of a website and multimedia product "Children and Cultural Heritage of South East Europe" (www.heriquet.com) realised with the help of the British Council Bulgaria in 2006, Grand Prix of the Media Festival in Albena, 2006;

- The project "Creation of a website "Cultural Corridors of South East Europe" (www.seecorridors.eu)", realised with the help of the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the European Institute of Cultural Routes and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria in 2006.

The last three projects have also been realised in connection with an experts' and scientist's network from the South East Europe countries and in partnership with the European Institute of Cultural Routes – network that will be basic for the present project as well. These achievements are an excellent foundation for upgrading and development in the spirit of the aims of the present project.

Within the framework of the consecutive realisation of the Project, the participants will complement each other according to their specific abilities. Thus, different shares of the resources come into action following a specific scheme.

CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

As indicated, the research project follows one strategic objective: *Development of a scientific and information infrastructure integrating research, education, preservation, promotion and sustainable tourist use of the cultural heritage*. The general logics and consistency of the Project activities are subordinated to the process of realisation of the pilot model of such a scientific and information infrastructure, capable of integrating the indicated spheres, which are comparatively closed today without sufficient communication between them. Exactly following this logics, the selection of participants in the Project has been carried through. They include both of the Bulgarian science and education centres for preservation of cultural heritage (UACEG and NAA) and two non-governmental organisations specialised in the field of preservation of the immovable cultural heritage and dissemination of information about it regarding the tourist sector. The participants-representatives of the indicated

spheres will complement each other within the framework of the general integration process in accordance with the strategic objective.

What was stated above defines the complex nature of the Project, of the system links between its components and their successiveness in time where each successive stage upgrades the results of the preceding ones.

Thus, the general structure of the Project connects in a complex way the four of its basic components:

1. Provision of specialised technical equipment that would develop and extend the capacity of the existing Laboratory for Cultural Heritage at UACEG by turning it into a modern multimedia centre for research, documentation, preservation and promotion of a wide range of types of cultural heritage (architectural, archaeological, artistic, urbanistic and landscape), open to all the participants in the scientific and information infrastructure. This component of the Project is fundamental for all the others. It mobilises the critical mass of resources, concentrated in the Leader Organisation.

2. Research and realisation of a series of pilot information products (digitalised monuments of culture, 3D models, GIS map of a historic territory). For this purpose all the resources of the Project participants will be used, including the valuable and effective potential of young scientists and students. At this stage of the Project the pilot exploitation of the new resources is carried out by mobilising the human and material resource of UACEG and NAA with the participation of the two non-governmental organisations.

3. Wide public dissemination of the pilot products in an open information system on European level with the help of the already created by Project participants websites in the Internet directed namely to the European information space. Thus, the scientific results of the Project will have a direct impact on the tourist and educational sectors and will play a role for raising the national image and popularity of Bulgarian cultural values as a part of the European heritage. This component is an immediate continuation of the preceding ones and provides wide dissemination of their scientific and practical re-

sults with the help of the ACT resources.

4. Consolidation and development of the basic network of Project partners by means of: summer school for young scientists and specialists, round table and exhibition, integration in the European network of science and education centres for preservation of the cultural heritage. The quality of the concrete Project results of preceding stages is a precondition for the effectiveness of this component. At this stage, the conditions for consolidation of the scientific and information infrastructure on national and European level within the framework of the mid-term Project development plan are prepared.

Thus, the proposed project should be considered and evaluated also as a process of consecutive consolidation of important modern tendencies in the field of preservation of cultural heritage for overcoming the current problem situation. The Project management aims to support and stimulate this process in accordance with the strategic objective.

The indicated structure of Project activities defines the number and the nature of the proposed work packages. The number of the used work packages corresponds fully to the indicated complex character of the work and to the total costs of the Project. Each work package comprises structurally defined sub-parts of the Project in the respective consecution and includes verifiable endpoint and intermediate products about which decisions must be taken.

There are six proposed work packages of support activities and one work package of the project management.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The concrete objectives of the Project management are aimed at achieving its results in the provided two-year final date of accomplishing. Parallel with this, the management system is designed with a view to its implementation in the frames of the indicated mid-term plan for exploitation, maintenance and development of the built project infrastructure.

There are two main project management activities:

Scientific programming

This activity takes place during the first two months of the Project implementation and aims

at the elaboration of:

- A Scientific Programme for realisation of the Project work packages, with the participation of the scientific team;

- A Management Plan of the Project, which should specify the interrelations between activities, time for their realisation and resources (human, material and financial);

Project implementation coordination

- Scientific coordination – conducted by a core of the scientific team with a scientific leader in the frames of each work package as well as in the general totality of work packages according to the adopted Scientific Programme. The elaboration of periodic scientific reports addressing the Consortium and the Advisory Board has been taken into account.

- Administrative coordination – it will implement the administration of the Project according to the adopted Management Plan. The elaboration of periodic scientific reports addressing the Consortium has been taken into account.

- Financial coordination – it will be conducted by the financial-auditing unit of the team (in this case – the personnel of the Science and Research Sector of UACEG) in close connection with the monitoring unit of MES. Periodic financial reports, required according to the regulations, will be provided.

The Project's Coordinator will exercise permanent general coordination according to the Project's objectives.

Assessment and validation of the results

Each intermediate (milestone) and final products (deliverables) of the project will be subject to assessment and validation. This will be realised on two levels:

- Advisory Board level – advisory body of the project, including respected scientists and specialists in the field. The Board will evaluate the results and will make validation proposals.

- Consortium level – body including authorised representatives of the leader Organisation and the Project partners, with right to take intermediate or final decisions for validation of the Project results.

Monitoring

The Consortium will set up a Project monitoring group, which will follow its development in

accordance with its objectives. Monitoring will be conducted within the framework of the indicated mid-term plan of exploitation and maintenance of the project.

As a result of the Project management periodic reports addressed to MES will be composed in accordance with the adopted regulations. A Final Report will be made after the accomplishment of the Project.

EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE PROJECT

Contribution to RTD capacity building in the country and to national image

- Provided conditions for scientific research in the field of preservation of the cultural heritage by means of new information methods and technologies in the spirit of the Frame Convention of the Council of Europe (2005);

- Provided conditions for expression of the cultural heritage as a resource for sustainable development by setting up connections with the cultural tourism;

- Enhanced consolidation of the national image by means of up-to-date forms of promotion of the Bulgarian cultural heritage in an open public information system and its expression as a part of the European cultural heritage;

Enhanced participation of the country in the national and European programmes and initiatives

- More active integration of Bulgaria in the Regional Programme for Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe of the Council of Europe and the European Commission;

- More active participation in the international regional cooperation in South East Europe for preservation of cultural heritage in accordance with the Varna Declaration and the Opatija Strategy (the Regional Forum "Cultural Corridors of South East Europe", Varna 2005 held under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Director General of UNESCO and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe as well as the Regional Forum "Cultural Heritage and Communications, a New Vision of South East Europe", Opatija, 2006);

- Facilitating the participations in common programmes and projects with European centres of science and education and institutes;

- Expression of the commonwealth of the

Bulgarian cultural values with the European cultural heritage by means of integrating information about the Bulgarian cultural heritage within the European Cultural Routes network (contacts with the European Institute of Cultural Routes)

Increased scope (regional coverage, subjects, activities) with increased linkage with the economic and social environment

- Creation of increased possibilities for wide public approach to the cultural heritage by means of its integration in contemporary open information systems (Internet, GPS);
- Dissemination of scientific knowledge about cultural heritage and its preservation in the educational system on different levels;
- Facilitating the formation of links between research/preservation of the heritage and cultural tourism stimulating the economy;

Increased networking – mobilising the existing human and material resources, facilitating communication between centres having similar scientific interests)

- Pilot integration of the resources of the two Bulgarian centres of science and education for preservation of the immovable cultural heritage: UACEG and NAA;

- Development of a network of Bulgarian centres of science and education for cultural heritage informatics open to future widening – for a start with the beneficent project teams in the competition of MES;

- Realisation of contacts within the framework of the expert network of the Regional Programme for Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe of the Council of Europe and the European Commission and with European centres of science and education for preservation of cultural heritage;

Increased job opportunities in the country for young scientists

- Creation of increased possibilities for realisation of young scientists on the basis of integration of science with education and conservation practice;
- Creation of attractive modern technical conditions for formation of young scientists (masters of science, postgraduates, interns and explorers) in the field of preservation of cultural heritage;
- Provision of increased opportunities for scientific and academic mobility within the European network of educational and scientific centres in the field of cultural heritage.

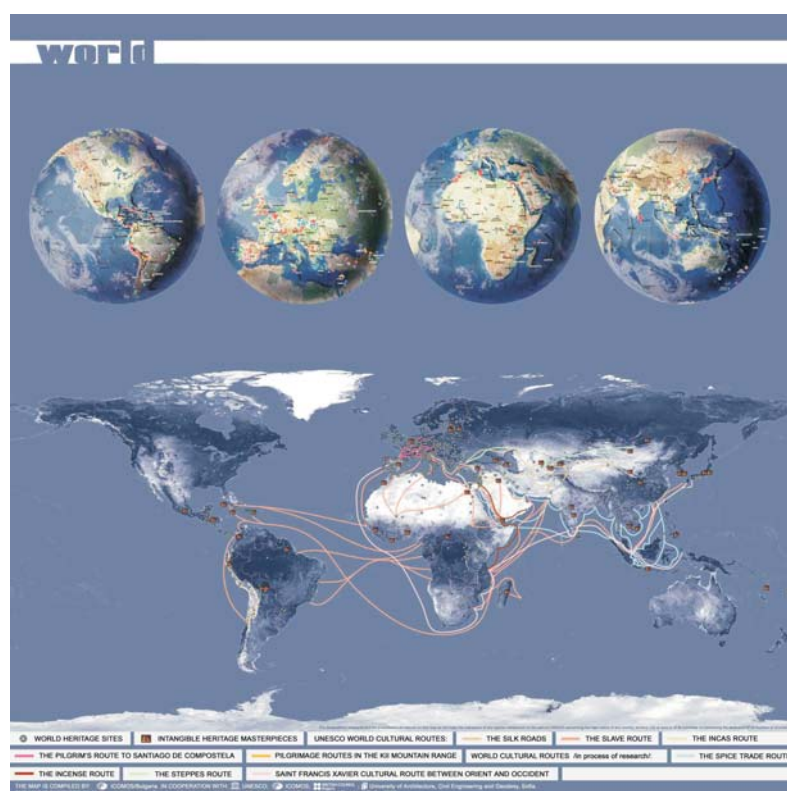


Fig. 1. The Heritage of the World,
Map from the Multimedia Exhibition:
The Heritage of South East Europe,
Varna, May 2005, developed in the
Multimedia Laboratory for Cultural
Heritage in UACEG

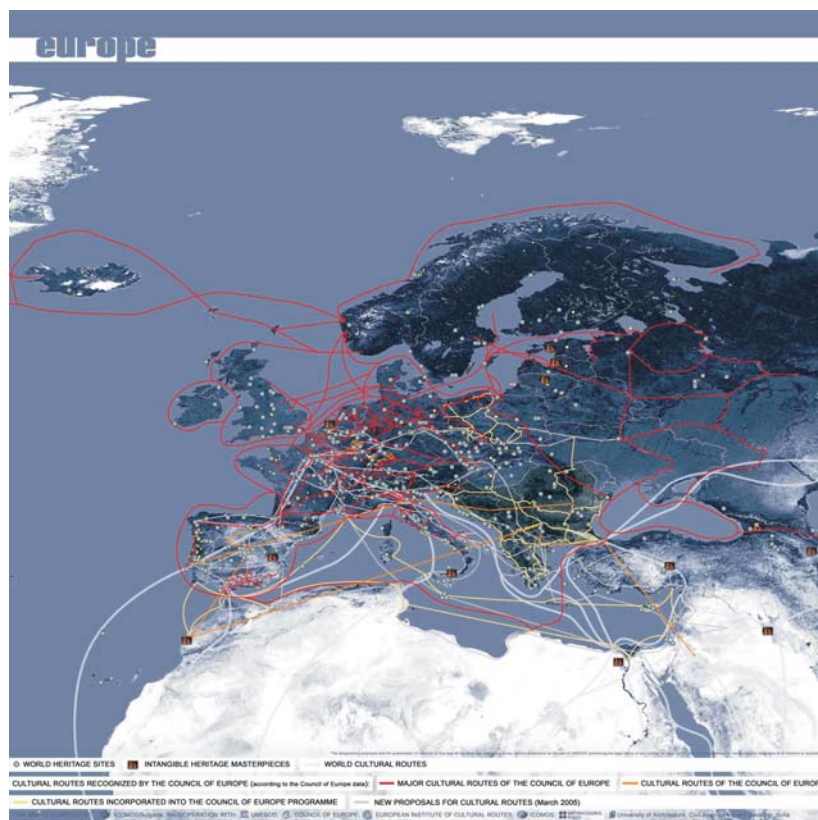


Fig. 2. The Heritage of Europe, Map from the Multimedia Exhibition: The Heritage of South East Europe, Varna, May 2005, developed in the Multimedia Laboratory for Cultural Heritage in UACEG



Fig. 3. The Heritage of South East Europe, Map from the Multimedia Exhibition: The Heritage of South East Europe, Varna, May 2005, developed in the Multimedia Laboratory for Cultural Heritage in UACEG

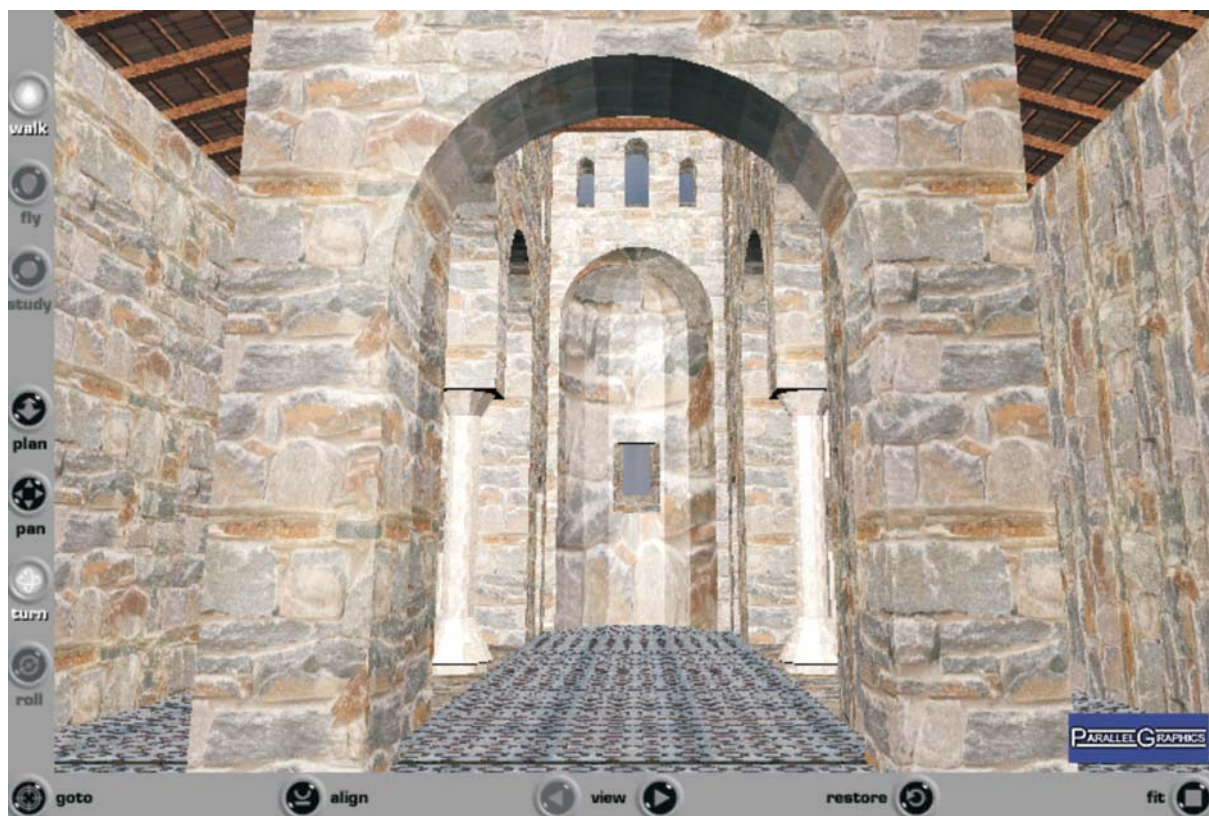


Fig. 4. 3D Model of the Church of St. Stephan in Nessebar, Bulgaria, D. Delchev,
Assoc. Prof. Arch. B.Georgiev, UACEG



Fig. 5. 3D Model of a church interior, Scheme of the restoration works, Digital methods and means
for digital documentation of mural paintings; leader - Assist. Prof. St. Tupanov, NAA

DIGITAL ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTS: PRESERVATION, INFORMATION, SCHOLARSHIP (*DAPIS*)

Prof. Stoyanka Kenderova, PhD & Assoc. Prof. Elissaveta Moussakova

National Library „St.St. Cyril and Methodius“

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The National Library „St. St. Cyril and Methodius“ possesses the largest in the country collections of Slavonic, Greek, Latin and Oriental manuscripts, archival documents in Bulgarian, Ottoman Turkish, Arab and other languages, old printed and rare books, most of which represent an essential part of the national cultural heritage. Their preservation and ensuring the access to them are among the Library's main tasks. To fulfill these tasks the Library uses the service of the Direction of restoration, conservation and preservation of the book funds, the work of which will run parallel to the process of digitization during the term of the project. This is one of the best-equipped laboratories for restoration of written records and it is where in the past years many relics of the Bulgarian historical heritage were restored. Among them are the archives of Vasil Levski, Hristo Botev, Georgi Sava Rakovski, the records in Ottoman Turkish of V. Levski and his accomplices' interrogations in court, etc. Unique manuscripts were restored, too, as one of the four full copies of the famous Arab geographic work of al-Idrisi (12th c.) containing text and 70 colour maps. The Laboratory in the National Library processes written records kept in other scientific institutes, museums and archival depositories.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE(S) ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT *DAPIS*

- Establishment of National Digital Library of the Written Cultural Heritage, involving in it the Bulgarian library institutions and adding the digitized written and documentary heritage kept in the National Library to the *European Digital Library* on the long run.
- Prompting in real time the activities related to building of the national program for digital preservation of the national cultural heritage.

- Preservation by modern technologies of endangered national funds of medieval, late-, post-medieval and modern manuscripts, books, periodicals and documents, and provision of access to them.

- Enhancing of the research scope in the fields of Slavonic and Oriental studies in Bulgaria and Europe and promoting them as cooperating disciplines investigating the specific European cultural, historical and political legacy, created in the Modern times.

THE PROJECT *DAPIS* AIMS TO:

- **Restoration of endangered documents on paper** with modern equipment for leaf casting in order to preserve them for the generations to come and enhancing the capacity of the Direction of restoration, conservation and preservation of the book funds at the National Library.

- **Digitization of both endangered and re-stored monuments** (manuscripts, old printed and rare books, periodicals, historical documents) aiming at their best archival preservation and broader access to them; revealing their historical, cultural, educational and aesthetical content; establishing the standards and methods of work for the envisaged massive digitization in the Library.

- **Opening of new automated readers' place (work-station) in the Specialized reading room *Marin Drinov***, supplied with software and hardware equipment ensuring direct access to Internet and to the digitized documents of the Library and of other libraries for research purposes.

- **Enhancing the capacity of the Centre for digitization at the Library** in order to foster the digitization of the Library funds and to make possible the more active cooperation with other libraries in the country having no such equip-

ment; completing the technical equipment needed for digitization.

- **Supplying the National Library and its scholar personnel with specialized databases for input and retrieval of information** about the digitized special collections; for the envisaged electronic cataloging to provide the Department of Manuscripts and Old Printed Books and the Oriental Department at the National Library with the needed research equipment, allowing fast work and cooperation between the departments through the library network.

- **Opening more possibilities during the project and afterwards for exchange of expert opinion**, including visits to similar scientific institutions (for example: on-line consultations with the Institute of Literature at the Bulgarian Academy of Science (BAS) and the University of Pittsburg, BAS Central Library, Bavarian State Library, State Scientific Library in Banska Bistrica, Czech National Library, National Library of Serbia, The British Library, Centre for Eastern Languages and Culture at the Sofia State University, the St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Ottoman Archives of the Republic of Turkey, Skilliter Centre for Ottoman Studies in Cambridge and others).

- **Establishing of the methodological basis for the future digitization and electronic cataloging of national written heritage.**

- **Ensuring by the digitized documents, which also include yet unpublished items, of possibilities via Internet (the web-page of the Library) to make thorough investigation** of them; broadening of the research perspectives in the fields of Slavonic and Oriental studies, of the European general and cultural history, in the aspect of the political and cultural contacts of Bulgaria with the European countries from the Middle Ages to the National Renaissance.

- **Giving start of the *National Digital Library of the Written Cultural Heritage*** as part of realization of the plans set in the *National Program for the Preservation of Library Collections* (1997), prepared by the Union of Librarians and Information Services Officers /ULISO/ and approved by the Library Council at the Ministry

of Culture in November 1997.

- **Promoting** among cultural institutions which keep national treasure (libraries, museums, archives etc.), among potential sponsors and general public **the ideas about the *National Digital Library*** in order to coordinate the efforts for establishment of the national program for digitization of the national heritage; opening a separate page in the website of the Library for regular information and discussion of the aims and the target groups of the project and its stages of realization; promoting the project, its issues and goals through *Biblioteca* magazine, ULISO activities and the mass media; promoting the results of the project by an exhibition in the National Library at the closing of the project.

POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROJECT AND MID-TERM (3-5 YEARS) PLAN FOR EXPLOITATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

Further restoration of endangered documents on paper with the purchased modern equipment for leaf casting (the library collections of Ottoman Turkish documents and newspapers are envisaged in the first place); real possibilities to answer the needs of leaf casting of other libraries or similar institutions in the country.

Enhancing the capacity of the Centre for digitization at the Library in order to foster the digitization of the Library funds and collections; ensuring new possibilities for active cooperation with other libraries in the country having no such equipment.

Further digitization of endangered, restored or fragile documents, aiming at both preservation of the Library funds and including of more material to the *National Digital Library* and to the *European Digital Library*. One of the immediate outcomes of this activity will be the further proceeding with the digitization of the newspapers from the time of Bulgarian Renaissance, considered as priority by the Library's authorities.

Improvement by the opening of new readers' automated place in the Specialized reading room *Marin Drinov*, of the preservation of the documents while used for research and consultation; improvement of the quality of research work of the readers, especially if considering the poor

quality of the present microfilm stock; enabling and fostering the modern research work of both the readers and the scholarly engaged personnel; enhancing the scope of cooperation with similar institutions in the country and abroad in the sphere of exchange of information about special collections and single documents.

Further input in the specialized library databases which will support and develop the already started pilot project for digitization of special documents; it will serve also to the creation of the envisaged electronic catalogs of the Library. It will ensure more active cooperation on the basis of shared expertise and experience between institutions, keeping collections of the same or similar documents. These activities are directly aiming at further development of the *National Digital Library* and its incorporation into the *European Digital Library* in the nearest future.

The digitized documents will provide the users of the Library with new material for research, opening new perspectives in Slavonic and Oriental studies; the national prestige of the Library as the most important keeper of written national and European heritage will be increased.

The work on description of written and printed documents will mobilize and coordinate the efforts of the Department of Manuscripts and Old Printed Books and the Oriental Department in the Library, in the process of establishing the structure of the electronic formats for description. It will bring to clarification of the paleographical and codicological terminology, the classification scheme for processing the Ottoman-Turkish documents, issues most often discussed at international forums of librarians. Thus the Library will bring to the establishing on a large European scale of standardized terminology used in electronic cataloging of medieval manuscripts and other documents belonging to different language traditions. It will also bring to perfection of the electronic cataloging of old printed books and periodicals. In particular, the achievements in these activities will be beneficial for the National Library as the expert research institution having the methodological basis for sharing experience in electronic cataloging of written heritage with other libraries in the coun-

try and in the Balkans.

The making of special databases will serve as a basis for their further development to lead to formation of special databases of Bulgarian historical archives, not included into the project but having no less importance from the point of view of preserving with modern tools of the documents witnessing the political history at the time of Bulgarian Revival.

The project will raise the awareness of the large public and potential sponsors of the National Library of the cultural and historical value of the importance of the special collections kept in the Library. A next stage, after the completing of the project, will be translation of the descriptions in English in order to enhance the intellectual value of the project and to make the databases accessible to other than Bulgarian speaking people. In this way the project will serve to making the European public aware of the heritage kept in the National Library of Bulgaria and its integrity with the common European heritage.

PARTICIPANTS

All the participants are selected according to the main objectives of the project. The Financial Director of the Library will manage the finances of the project.

Seven persons altogether of the consortium are members of the Department of Manuscripts and Old Printed Books and the Oriental Department at the National Library, of which three with doctoral (PhD) degrees – one is Senior Research Fellow, first degree, the other two are Senior Research Fellows, second degree; two of the habilitated persons are Heads of the respective departments. One person is Junior Research Fellow. Two persons are specialists in Slavonic philology, one - in Oriental studies, two - in Ottoman-Turkish diplomatics, one - in Classical philology and one in art history.

Four people from this team have previously participated in national or international teams for cataloging of manuscript collections and of editing of documents; one has participated in the retro-conversion of the Bulgarian old-printed books, adapting the standard ASBD (A) to the Bulgarian material, and one has participated with

expert opinion in projects for electronic cataloging of Slavonic manuscripts. All they will work on the selection of material for restoration and digitization, and on the putting in the descriptions of the documents; they will be testing the product parallel to the input processes.

During the project the lead-contractors will be promoting the project and its strategic and main objectives through various media; at the end of the project they will organize an exhibition in the National Library as an outcome of the project, showing the restored and digitized heritage kept in the Library.

The added value to this part of the project will be: enhancing the intellectual knowledge in the Slavonic and Oriental studies, of the modern paleography, codicology and electronic description of various types of documents; disposal to scholars of unknown and unpublished documents; disposal to the general public of essential written and visual information about key monuments reflecting the Bulgarian history, cultural, political, and economic contacts with the European countries during the Middle Ages and the period of Bulgarian Renaissance; the educational value of the documents is in the possibility to use them in digital format in the programs for high and higher schools.

Three persons from the Direction of Conservation, Restoration and Preservation of the Funds at the National Library are involved in the whole process of restoration of the endangered documents. The lead-contractor is a graduated microbiologist. Also three persons are involved in the process of digitization. The lead-contractor is an art photographer and specialist operating with Photoshop, CorelDraw, Power Point, and Word.

Two persons are involved in the work on special databases for different types and kinds of documents. The lead-contractor has MA in mathematics and is a specialist in software technologies; the other participant has secondary education in Earth sciences, and is specialized in soft- and hardware, photography and photography techniques, network databases, etc. The final program products will supply the Library with a needed tool for electronic cataloging of special collections, will provide basis for further development of the software; the products could be

tested against similar products already used in other libraries (mainly abroad).

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The project is organized in several main divisions in the National Library, which are directly involved in the preservation, scholar research and popularization of the historical and cultural written and printed heritage. These are the Direction of Conservation, Restoration and Preservation of the Funds, the Department of Manuscripts and Old Printed Books, and the Oriental Department. With the establishment in 2005 of the Digital centre at the Library it became the cross-point of the mentioned activities. The service of the entire network in the Library is in charge of the Department of Automatization, also included into the project. The organizational structure of the project corresponds to the main library structure. A person with long experience in administration, who is also a recognized scholar in the Oriental studies is appointed as coordinator of the project. The lead-contractors are in charge of the corresponding departments and directions at the Library, each of which has specific functions and requires specific skills for managing them.

Four reports are envisaged within the two-year term of the project. The first is to be presented at the end of the sixth month, and the other three will follow with the same regularity, the last one being the concluding report, summarizing the achievements and issues of the project, as well as its impact on the activities of the Library and on the social environment.

RESEARCH PROJECT

The project envisages the following main activities: selection of documents for restoration and digitization; description of the written records and putting the information in special databases; making of special databases in accordance with the individual specifics of various groups of documents and putting them on Internet in order to make the documents accessible to a large public; promotion of the objectives of the project among the large public. These activities are interrelated and dependent on each other, and are supportive to the librarian tasks to fulfill the criteria for modern restoration

and preservation and electronic cataloging, and for turning the Library into multi-functional cultural and informative institution.

Selection of documents is based on assessment of their cultural and historical value, on the already proved scholar and public interest to them and of their physical condition. Part of this work has been done preliminary in order to outline the character and the scope of the group of documents and the approximate number of items to be proceeded: Slavonic and Greek manuscripts, Ottoman-Turkish documents, Greek and Latin printed books, Bulgarian newspapers from the time of the Bulgarian Renaissance. A longer process of selection is envisaged for the Ottoman-Turkish documents, which are numerous and in a very bad physical condition (endangered by humidity, fungi or worms). The final number of items will be decided after the observation of the documents by the lead-contractor of the restoration work.

Preliminary selection of the Slavonic and Greek manuscripts, based on the regular annual checking of the funds lead to the conviction that there are few documents that will need leaf casting. Instead, more material for digitization is considered, part of which consists of fragile parchment fragments, which are not given to the users. Regarding their physical condition and their intellectual value three Slavonic manuscripts were selected for leaf casting: one from the 14th century, another from the second half of the 15th century, and the third from 1567. The selection of Slavonic manuscripts for digitization is made among some of the most endangered parchment manuscripts, including such rarities as the oldest in Bulgaria Slavonic manuscript – the Enina Apostolos from the 11th century, which is the earliest surviving copy of the Slavonic translation of the Apostolos and witness to the parallel usage of the glagolitic and the Cyrillic scripts.

After the first checking of the old printed books several items were suggested for digitization, among which is the bibliographic rarity of Nicolo de Nicolay, *Le navigationi et viaggi, fatti nella Turchia di Nicolo de Nicolai del Delfinato...Novamente tradotto di Francese in Italiano da Francesco Flori...*, printed in Venice in 1580.

It is of paramount significance for the national culture to preserve the newspapers and magazines edited during the period of Bulgarian Revival (1806 - 1878). The paper on which they are printed is fragile and is easily being worn out so the real risk exists to lose the originals forever. The digitization of the annual series of *Bulgaria Newspaper* (1859 - 1863) and *Dunav Newspaper* (1865 - 1877) is a question of emergency, as the documents are often demanded by the readers.

The National Library is also in the possession of the largest in the country collection of Greek old printed books, some of them not known to the public, which is the reason to include them into the list of books for digitization.

The restoration is a permanent task of the Library but it demands new modern equipment to answer the increased demands for restoration of endangered documents.

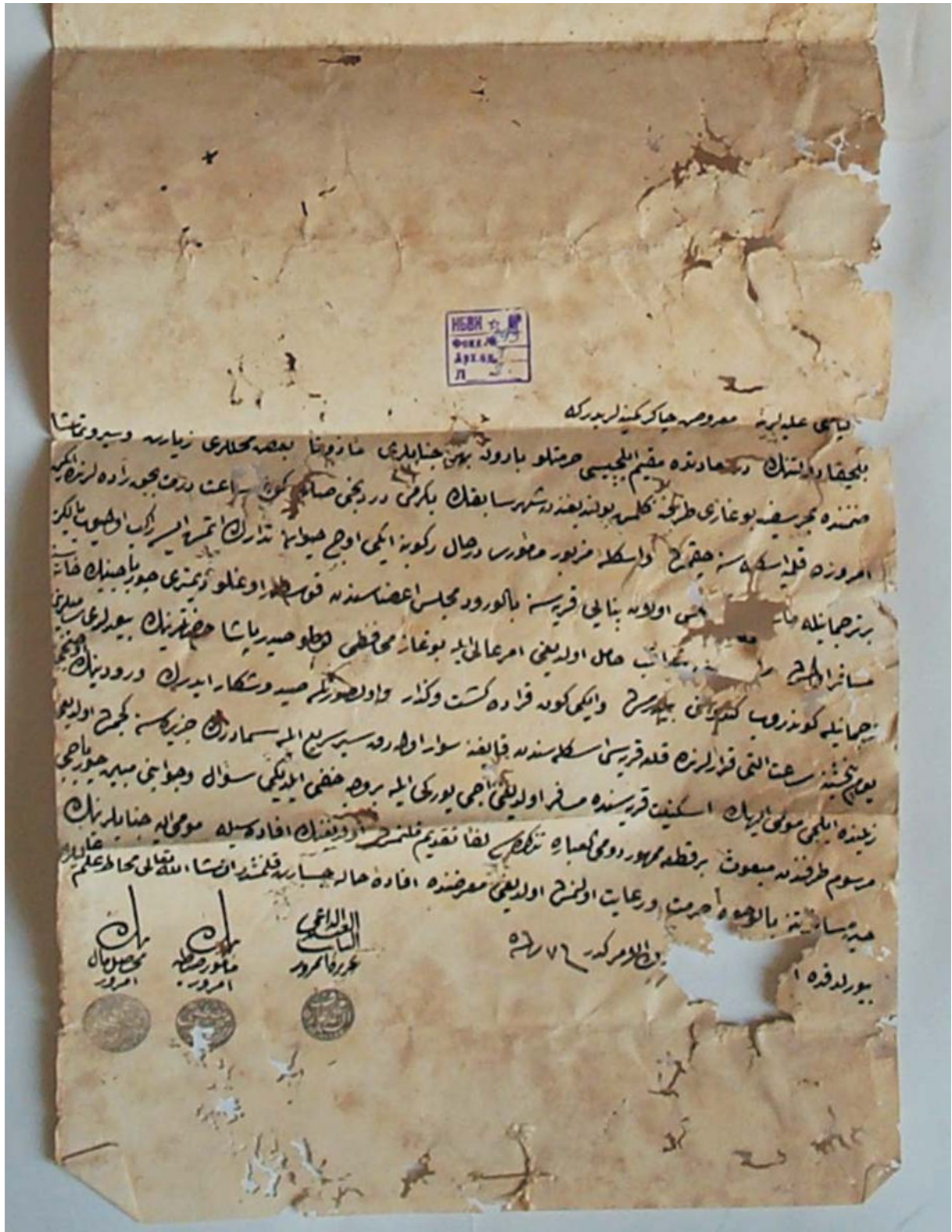
Digitization has been only recently given start and is in its initial stage at which a pilot project of digitization has been initiated, but the activities are envisaged as a long-run process. Therefore the project is planned to support these activities but also to foster them and to help in accomplishing the needed experience, including that of the electronic cataloging of old documents. In the same time the project is regarded as a means to present to the national and to the European public an essential part of the national written heritage and to raise general awareness of its importance. The project is also regarded as a tool to initiate the creation of the *National Digital Library* through which selected written monuments will be included into the funds of the *European Digital Library*.

With our membership in the European Union we have no doubts that the responsibilities and the requirements to our work grow up, modern technologies and equipment of the Laboratory will be implemented in the procedures and technique used.

The professionals in the National Library have a very good expertise in restoration. Meanwhile in comparison with similar laboratories in the European countries we are behind in restoration processing as concerning new technologies and equipment. The classical method still in use in our

Laboratory is very expensive, as are the materials, too. Putting in practice a new leaf casting machine manufactured in Denmark and a laminator

of the latest class will result in important achievements.



BULGARIAN ART ARCHIVES AND ADVANCED RESEARCH TECHNOLOGIES (*BAAART*)

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The Institute of Art Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences has existed for over 60 years. Its major assets are the scientists that have worked and are still working, as well as the exceptional archives that it possesses. Each year bright young people start their post-graduate studies and doctorate theses at the institute. With each new year the archives, which contain material going back 100 years, become more valuable and important for further research. However, time has taken its toll; thus, some of the archive materials are threatened by the aging of the different materials they are kept on: paper, photographic plates and materials, recording and film materials, gramophone records, etc. Using these materials as they now exist is becoming more and more difficult. For all of these reasons, the managing body of the institute has developed a program for preservation, protection and modern presentation of these valuable assets: the Bulgarian Art Archives. Thanks to a grant provided by the Ministry of Education and Science for the support and presentation of the archives, the Institute can now use advanced research technologies. Starting at the beginning of 2007, the two-year project Bulgarian Art Archives and Advanced Research Technologies (*BAAART*) has been underway.

The project emphasizes the necessity for the collection, selection, processing and preservation of the rapidly vanishing traces of Bulgarian art culture, which is part of a national and European heritage. The highly qualified team from the Institute of Arts Studies has undertaken this activity. The process of preservation both of the already existing art archives, belonging to the Institute and other organizations, and of important contemporary art events includes urgent recording, scanning and digitalization. In addition, collection of books related to the project, periodicals,

discs, audio-visual records, etc., is necessary for the supply and actualization of the archives.

Creation of such an interdisciplinary database in the fields of fine arts, music, theatre and cinema aims at the provision of better conditions for using the archives, including organization of a computer info centre as well as internet access for scholars, students and all those interested in the field of art studies. The latter might increase the networking and collaboration not only between all scholars and specialists in art studies in Bulgaria from different institutions, but also might assist in popularisation and increase of foreign scholars' interest in Bulgarian artistic heritage, resulting in new international joint research. The project also contributes to the development of better career opportunities for young scholars and specialists in art studies.

The urgent and timely collection, restoration and preservation of rare and valuable, yet rapidly vanishing cultural artifacts in the field of fine arts, music, theatre and cinema from different historical periods (including antiquity) as well as contemporary *hic et nunc* art events by using advanced technologies has not only local (i.e. national) importance, but also contributes to the research on the development of technological capacity, which is an initiative of the European Union. It should be emphasized that digitalization of old or already partially destroyed materials may lead to easier, safer access to them, which in some cases is currently very difficult.

According to the project's two-year schedule of planned activities, it will be possible to process only part of the existing archives of the institute, as well as the archives of other organizations, personal archives and archives of contemporary art events. Work on the further development of the archives as well as their public popularization might continue during the following years.

The main aims of this project are to digitalize the following materials in a short period of time:

- currently existing archives
- to initiate creation of archives of important contemporary art events

Realization of these difficult tasks is facilitated by the fact that an enormous amount of data collected by the research fellows of the Institute of Art Studies already exists in four fields:

- fine arts (ancient, medieval, and modern art)
- music (folklore, liturgical songs, contemporary music)
- theatre (20th century, contemporary theatre)
- cinema (fiction movies, documentary films, animation)

These archives are divided into:

- photo-archives,
- bibliographical catalogues,
- textual archives,
- audio-visual archives,
- micro-film archive

The Institute of Art Studies has two libraries, where rather old and valuable cultural artifacts are kept. The libraries have a rich collection of over 50,000 volumes, including unique editions published at the end of the 19th century. Their digitalization will facilitate access to them, which is currently impossible. Other materials also need urgent restoration and preservation by new technologies.

The Institute is the only academic institution in the country that owns rich photo, audio and video archives, consisting of unique records in different areas of Bulgarian art and culture. These records have been collected during field research for a period of more than a hundred years.

The sound archive of the Institute of Art Studies has about 800 original recordings of Bulgarian folk music. These recordings were made between 1938-1953 for research purposes. There are also about 600 commercial records featuring popular and folk music from the first half of the 20th century. In addition, the institute owns about 3,500 records of music of different genres, dating from the 20th century that were released in Bulgaria. There are also approximately 3,000 musical recordings on tape. The oldest re-

corded music in Bulgaria is currently not accessible to public because it has not been preserved and processed using contemporary advanced technological methods.

The Folk Music Archive of the Institute of Art Studies documents Bulgaria's folkloric heritage, which has been collected by ethno-musicologists for almost a century. Written materials number over 250,000 pages, while there are over 750 films and about 100 video cassettes.

The photo archive consists of approximately 100,000 photographs, mainly of different objects of the fine art, dating from antiquity up to the present times. Some of the photographed monuments do not exist any more or have been heavily damaged.

Integration of working materials is organized in two main ways, according to a historical chronology of events and in accordance with the geographic nature of the materials. This opens up new horizons for presentation of the general landscape of Bulgarian culture from ancient times until the present day.

The process of preservation both of the already existing archives and of important contemporary art events includes recording, scanning and digitalization. Processing of the collected archives needs technical description, scientific recognition, and validation; also, a general database needs to be created.

Accumulation and actualization of the archives is achieved through integration of parts of the archives of other organizations, documentation of contemporary art events, the collection of books related to the project, as well as periodicals, discs, audio-visual records, etc.

Creation of such an interdisciplinary database in the field of fine arts, music, theatre and cinema aims to provide better conditions for using the archives, such as organization of a computer information centre, as well as Internet access for scholars, students and all those interested in the field of art studies.

What is planned in the framework of this two-year project BAAART?

Japan has already provided the institute with unique equipment for re-recording of records, the ELP Laser Turntable LT-2XRC with an ELP declicker. It "takes down" sound information

through five specially designed lasers.

The Laser Turntable has *no contact* with the vinyl disc, thus there is no danger of damaging the old discs. Therefore, it can reproduce music and sound as close to its original recording on vinyl as possible. The LT's beam of light can read the record's groove in places that a conventional stylus cannot. This means that the LT performs high quality sound reproduction even on vinyl that has been worn by a needle. The Laser can also read below the depth of surface scratches, which improves playback. The LT is able to read some scratched and even warped records which may not be played on a conventional turntable.

With the help of the Laser Turntable the transfer of valuable discs onto digital carriers will be carried out. During this operation the sound will be restored, cleaned of noise and in general its quality will be improved. It is hoped that other institutions and individual collectors that own valuable old records will use this equipment, which is unique for Bulgaria. In this way the phonographic archive will be enriched with recordings that are easily accessible for researchers and everybody interested in improving the quality of old records. If financial resources are found, the institute might publish on CD some of the most interesting and valuable items from its phonographic archive.

In the framework of the BAAART project, the Institute of Art Studies will also have a large-format book scanner. This will make it possible to scan a number of different types of publications from the two libraries, including books, newspapers and magazines that are in very bad physical condition and are threatened by destruction, as well as some rare and valuable publications that are very frequently used. The program provides for the special digitalization of the two magazines published by the Institute, one of which, *Problemi na izkustvoto* [Art Studies Quarterly], will celebrate its 40th anniversary this year. Some leading Bulgarian periodicals in the sphere of fine arts, music, theatre and cinema will also be scanned.

An important element in this initial stage of the Bulgarian Art Archives is the creation of an integrated database covering and representing the archives, as well as the book fund of the In-

stitute of Art Studies.

The Institute has valuable experience in working with and researching art archives. The database of musical folklore and academic musicology on the Internet was finalized in 2004 and consists of 17,000 analyzed items. Something much larger, more encompassing and complex is now being planned, which nevertheless has to be user friendly. The basis of the integrated database will be software developed under the auspices of UNESCO, which has become the standard for all larger and important libraries and cultural centers: WinISIS. In order to achieve this aim we have engaged in partnership with SoftLib, a leading company with over 12 years of experience. The company works in the sphere of information technology in the field of bibliography and documentation systems. It has experience in the automation of over 130 libraries and institutions. Special software has been developed for the automation of library-information activities. For better presentation of information and improvement of the institute's website, (www.artstudies.bg) we have joined efforts with Verax/Jobs.bg, a company specializing in administrative maintenance and development of software technologies for web-based decisions. The company was founded in 1997 and specializes in offering complex Internet marketing, software and design solutions. Clients of the company include leading European news companies, as well as leaders from the American education sector. Over 100, 000 lecturers and teachers around the world use software developed by the company.

Besides preservation of the archives of the Institute of Art Studies through production of a second digitized copy of the archive units, another important aim of BAAART is improvement of possibilities for user's access to them. Part of the information will be accessible through the website of the institute. Another part will be accessible through an established network and special user's sites, which will be created at the moment when there is enough digitized material to be included in the integrated database. The Hobit system, which allows access to information from remote places, will be used.

The BAAART project is just an initial two-year step in the Institute of Art Studies' general pro-

gram of preservation, conservation and modern presentation of the Bulgarian art archives. However, this is a very important step, since it is being performed with up-to-date methods and the use of advanced research technologies.

The potential impact of the project lies in the following main areas:

- The urgent and timely collection, restoration and preservation of rare and valuable, yet rapidly vanishing cultural artifacts in the field of art, music, theatre and cinema from different historical periods (including antiquity), as well as contemporary *hic et nunc* art events by using advanced technologies, has not only local (national) importance but might also contribute to research on the development of technological capacities, which is an initiative of the European Union;
- The digitalization of old or already partially destroyed materials might allow easier, safer access to them, which in some cases is currently impossible;

- The project will contribute to bridging the past, present and future of Bulgarian art, music, theatre, film studies within the framework of a strategy initiated by the Institute of Art Studies for popularization of Bulgarian cultural heritage as a part of European heritage;

- The advanced methods for preservation of Bulgarian artistic heritage will create opportunities for coordination of Bulgarian art studies projects with the European programmes and initiatives and will increase their relevancy;

- Collected materials will be used by research fellows and post-graduate students at the Institute of Art Studies for presentation of lectures, courses, articles, collected papers, monographs, books, etc.,

- All these archives assist with the research work and practice of students, teachers, post-graduates, scholars and all those interested in arts in Bulgaria, viewed in a contemporary European cultural context;

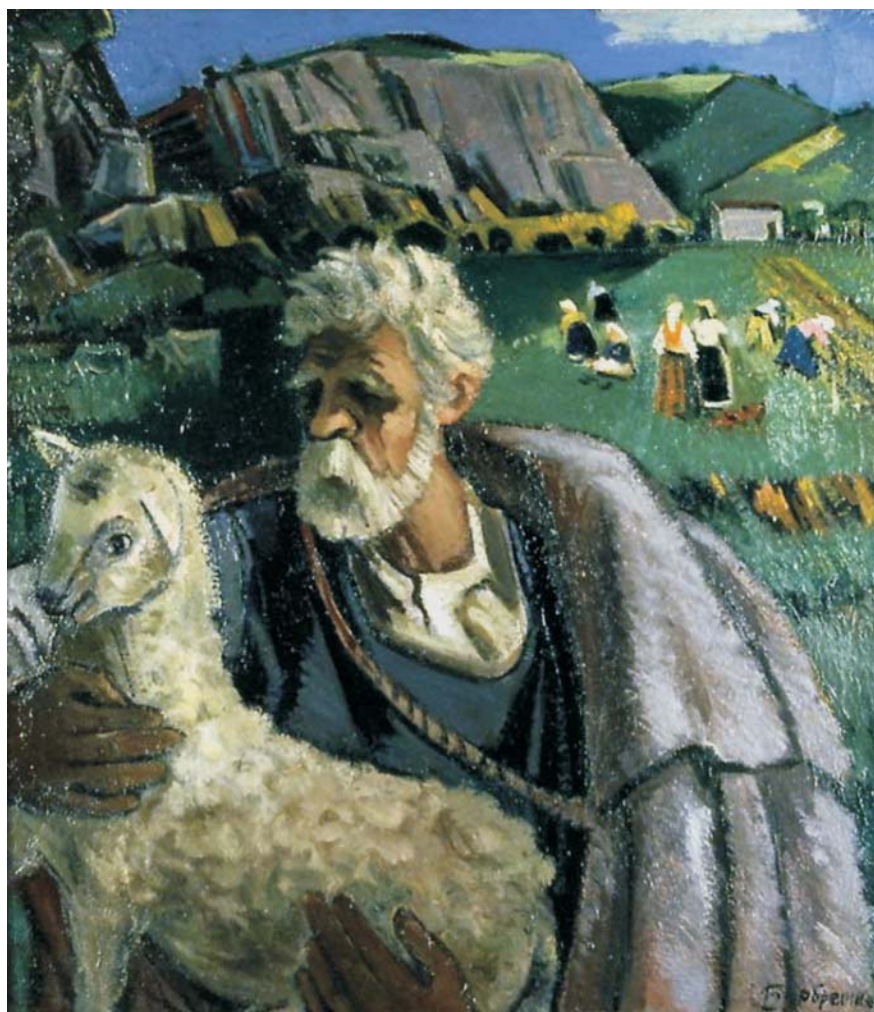


Fig. 1. Bencho Obreshkov (1899-1970). *Shepherd*. The end of 1940s, oil on canvas. Property of the Institute of Art Studies



Fig. 2. Petko Staynov (1896-1977): Paydushko, Mechkarsko – from *Dances Thraces*. Performance of the Academic Symphony Orchestra, conductor Sasha Popov. A gramophone record from the late 1930s. Musical archive of the Institute of Art Studies

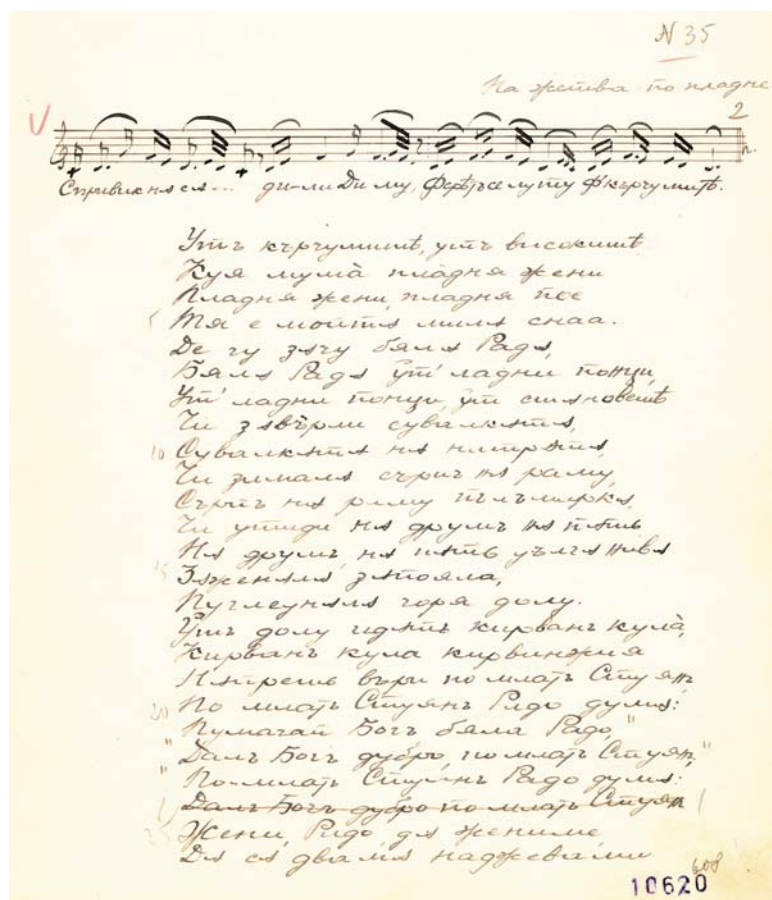


Fig. 3. Folk song (performed at harvest-time) from the village of Shtruklevo, Ruse region. Recorded and notated in 1928 by Ivan Kam-burov (1883-1955). Musical-textual archive of the Institute of Art Studies

- Creation of such an interdisciplinary database in the field of fine arts, music, theatre and cinema will provide for better conditions for using the archives, including organization of a computer reading room as well as internet access for scholars, students and all those interested in the field of art studies.

Social and cultural impact of the project will be able to be observed as early as the end of the second year of its realization with the first public presentations of the achieved results through the web site of the Institute and computer info centre, which will be opened in the Institute of Art Studies. According to the project's two-year timeline and schedule of activities, only part of the existing archives of the Institute will be processed, as well as the archives of other organizations, personal archives, and the archives of contemporary art events. Work on the further development of the archives as well as their public popularization might continue during the following years.

The project provides access to hi-tech infrastructures. In this respect this easier access to the documents might attract public attention toward Bulgaria's historical and contemporary cultural heritage. It will serve as a resource not only for those who work in specialized arts research institutes, universities, academies, colleges, schools, clubs, but also for a broader circle of interested parties, including certain social institutions, organizations, foundations, individuals, etc.



BULGARIAN ADDED VALUE TO ERA

THE "ST. ST. CYRIL AND METHODIUS" NATIONAL LIBRARY

Traditional Values and Contemporary Trends in the Field of Gathering, Storage
and Popularization of the National Literary Cultural Heritage

Assoc. Prof. Alexandra Dipchikova, PhD



The St. St. Cyril and Methodius National Library is the oldest and largest depository of Bulgarian national literary cultural

heritage. Established in the very first months of the foundation of the new Bulgarian state, from its beginnings it assumed and maintained throughout the 129 years of its existence the noble task to search for printed matter, written monuments, and documents from the Bulgarian lands, store them in its collections and make it accessible to the public. Beginning as a public library with one librarian and a limited number of donated books, in the following year the library was declared a public institution. From the first Act on the Press, and a few years later the Law for the Legal Deposit of Printed Matter in National Libraries (1897) the library became the principle institution for the storage of Bulgarian printed matter. In the first Guidelines for the Management of the Bulgarian National Library its primary task was defined thus: *gathering of Old Bulgarian and contemporary MS as well as old printed books, gathering of older and more recent printed materials regardless whether in the Bulgarian language or by Bulgarian writers in other languages*. Almost 130 years this task has been realized resulting in a collection of over 7.5 million library units, consisting of books,

journals, prints and maps, scores, audiovisual documents, manuscripts, archival documents, old printed books, rare and valuable publications, official editions, dissertations, microforms, Brail editions, and electronic resources. A copy of editions from 1878 to the present is kept on a collection known as the Archive of Bulgarian Literature, whose main function is to store in one place and provide access to the overall printed production in Bulgaria for the period of the new Bulgarian state.

From its very foundation the National library became a centre for gathering and preservation of the heritage of manuscripts and documents. The search for manuscripts and documents has not ceased, resulting in the accumulation of 5532 manuscripts (Bulgarian, Slavic, Oriental, etc.), over 2,2 million documents and over 34,000 copies of old printed books, rare and valuable editions.

Besides Bulgarian editions, library collections also include a representative collection of foreign scientific literature from all fields of knowledge. The main body comprises reference literature, encyclopedias, bibliographies and bibliographic databases, representative collection of foreign monographs, in separate branches of science and interdisciplinary fields, scientific journals, as well as the leading press of various countries and international organizations, together with specialized literature in the field of library information science.

Preservation of the national written cultural heritage, including its present-day expression, to-

gether with the compiling and publication of bibliographic information and other information accessible to the public constitute the two main activities of the library. An institution with over a century of its existence is connected with the incessant efforts to ensure the best conditions for preservation of the library collections. The construction of the library building over fifty years ago is a major achievement and in spite of the shortage of sufficient space for the growing collections, it provides good conditions for their preservation and use. Recently one of the main defects of the library building - the absence of an air-conditioning installation in the book-depositories - was overcome within the framework of a long-term energy efficiency program. The reconstruction of the central water heating system was carried out, replacing it with a system of direct evaporation, which maintains a stable round the year temperature and at the same time excludes damage to the collection, in the event of leaks from the central heating. Air conditioners in the specialized storerooms for unique MSs, as well as for rare and valuable editions are a guarantee for the preservation.

Research in the field of preservation technology of written monuments has successfully been carried out in the Conservation and Restoration Laboratory of the Library since 1956. Alongside with the daily tasks of restoration of library units threatened with destruction, contemporary methods for chemical and biological treatment of paper have been applied, together with observations on collections, suggesting conservation methods. Specialists in restoration and conservation frequently have been drawing up expert opinions on conservation problems of other library collections in Bulgaria.

The library has also been developing the most recent trends in the field of preservation of collections - their digitalization. A project for the establishment of a *Digital Centre for the Bulgarian National Library*, with a main aim the protection of cultural and historical heritage of the country is carried out since 2005. Seen in a long-term plan, these activities are expected to arrive at digital resources for the national literary heritage, applying contemporary technology for preservation and conservation of literary monu-

ments, to ensure a quick and effective access of the Bulgarian public to them, and presenting them further on in a European digital library on a global scale.

The concerted work in preserving the literary heritage in the National library calls for integration of traditional research activities. Present-day projects include groups of specialists, uniting specialists with scientific interests in the field of technological aspects of conservation and restoration, up-to-date information and communication technologies, as well as bibliography, paleography and archive studies. The traditional development of these fields in the National library is a precondition for the successful combination of experience, specialized knowledge, leading to the achievement of practical results. Examples of such work are the DAPIS Project *Contemporary Methods for Restoration and Preservation of Written Monuments*, a project which received funding from the Ministry of Public Education and Science and the broad participation of library personnel in determining index fields for the pilot project of the Digital Centre for the creation of several independent documentary databases consisting of various kinds of digitalized valuable or threatened library material.

A major part of the practical work and research at the National Library consists of creation and publication of bibliographic information and other information it contains, making it accessible to the public. These activities comprised compilation, editing and publication of inventories, reviews, repertoires, documentary editions, reflecting unique MS, old printed books, and archival material, compiling and publishing the current and retrospective bibliography, presenting the entire wealth of the library collections in the system of catalogues. Thanks to research and practical contributions of several generations of bibliographers, archivists, and paleographers, today specialists researching the literary wealth have at their disposal a number of bibliographic and reference editions brought out by the library.

Bulgarian and Slavic MSs are included in 6 volumes of inventories, the first coming out in 1910, and the last in 1996. Another volume is being completed with a scientific description of the MSs from the 19th century. Nevertheless research

in the library does not remain only in publications, presenting the literary works kept there. After the creation of the Archeographic Commission (1977), with the main task of tracing, studying and describing Bulgarian MSs in Bulgaria and abroad, the National Library became the focus of the efforts of the Bulgarian academic community, working on tracing, studying and describing Bulgarian MSs from the 10th to the 18th century, together with other Slavic literary works, which contain information on Bulgarian literature, history, language and art. As a result of activities of this commission a number of editions came out, presenting Bulgarian and Slavic MSs, preserved in other major book depositories, organizing research abroad and describing Bulgarian MSs abroad; editions of significant works were prepared.

Oriental MSs in the library are presented in several thematic catalogues of Arabic copies of the Koran, treatises on grammar, history and geography, etc. Persian MSs are included in a separate list. The inclusion of much of the bibliographic information on these MSs, which still exists only in catalogues, and the card indexes of the Oriental Department of the library is forthcoming in reference editions.

Archival documents from the library collections are given in catalogues, card indexes of the Department of Oriental MSs and inventory list. Work on the Bulgarian Historical Archive was the basis of a series of nine volumes: Review of the Collections of the Bulgarian Historical Archive, which offers detailed information on the contents of the archive collections. Compilation work on this edition has been continuing to the full exhaustion of archival collections and separate archival documents. *The Portrait and Photographs Collection* falls in a list of three volumes, issued between 1975 and 1989. The collection of documents from the Oriental archival documents partially falls in thematic inventories dedicated to the National-liberation struggles of the Bulgarian people, the struggle for an independent Bulgarian church, the history of trade and crafts within the Ottoman Empire, etc. A number of documentary editions reflecting the life and work of major historical figures or significant events resulted from the research in the Library.

Bibliographic information on Bulgarian old

printed books and periodicals are given in *the Repertoire of Bulgarian Revival Period Literature*. After its publication (1957-1959) the newly found book titles are currently registered, as a preparation for a second enlarged and revised edition.

The information on the availability of the editions included in the system of catalogues and card indexes maintained currently are a guarantee for access to operative library collections. Bibliographic registration of the overall national printed subject matter and part of the non-paper carriers is subject of the editions of current and retrospectives national bibliography, which is carried out in the National Library. The compilation and publishing of the three basic printed repertoires, namely *Balgarski knigi 1878-1944* (Bulgarian books), *Balgarski periodichen pechat 1844-1944*, (Bulgarian Periodicals) and *Balgarski periodichen pechat 1944-1969*, is the outcome of decades of bibliographic research in the Library. The current national bibliography covers various printed and non-book editions, brought out in Bulgaria, in several periodical bibliographic publications. The development of the system of current national bibliography is based on an optimal model, based on theoretical bibliographical studies. Recently this model has been enriched not only with the inclusion of new objects of bibliographic registration, but also through the application of new information and communication technologies, which allow for the provision of more efficient bibliographic information. The integration of the current national bibliography with central cataloging of Bulgarian books has been providing a unification of bibliographic practice in Bulgaria through the provision of bibliographic records for libraries and bibliographic institutions. Automation in the National Library after 1992 has allowed the passing on of these records in a machine-readable format. The changes in the structure and content of the current national bibliography, called for through the advancement of bibliographic science and information technology, have been implemented after the study of international requirements in the field, and directed towards their implementation in the national network for bibliographic information and presenting them for use on an international scale. Throughout the 1995-2001 period

the Project *The Building up of a Bibliographical Database of Bulgarian books (1878-1991)*, through which a standardized machine-readable format of cumulative bibliographic information for Bulgarian books for the period was completed and became the basis of automated bibliographic databases and electronic catalogues in Bulgaria. Through the application of contemporary information and communication technologies, the task of gathering, storing and providing Bulgarian literary monuments, documents and publications assumed new dimensions. Successive inventories of MSs, reviews of archive collections

and bibliographies, all drawn up over decades with the work of several generations, have become the entrance to the content of this enormous wealth of the national heritage. Their overall presentation in a machine-readable format and the plans of the library to introduce in the near future an integrated automated library system shall make this information even more accessible to the user. Combining it with the process of digitalization of threatened rare and valuable library collections will allow their effective use for research and for propaganda of the written Bulgarian cultural heritage.

INSTITUTE OF ART STUDIES

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The Institute of Art Studies, founded in 1948 by a group of academicians, is one of the ten humanitarian institutes within

the framework of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and an impressive academic center of culture and art in Bulgaria. The administration building of the Institute is located in the central part of Sofia, at 21 Krakra Street, dating from the beginning of the 20th century, when Mr. Andrey Liapchev, Prime Minister of Bulgaria (1926-1931), donated it to the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The Institute of Art Studies has two more buildings at its disposal, one that houses the Library on Art Studies and another where most of the institute's archives are located.

At present about 100 people work at the Institute of Art Studies, including approximately 70 researchers. Annually about 25-30 scholars get their doctorate degrees at the Institute.

The Institute has four main sectors: Fine Arts, Music, Theater and Film. Each sector covers a number of different groups that work on the history and theory of a particular art field. The

groups include research fellows, doctoral students and experts.

The Institute publishes two academic journals: *Problemi na izkustvoto* [Art Studies Quarterly] and *Bulgarsko muzikoznanie* [Bulgarian Musicology], in addition to other prestigious publications.

The Institute of Art Studies organizes numerous academic forums in cooperation with other cultural institutions, universities and foundations from around the world.

The main activities of the Institute are devoted to scholarly research in all fields of art. Research priorities range from identifying and documenting to analysing and conceptualising art traditions, as observed in Bulgarian territories from ancient times up to the 20th and 21st centuries. Employing a variety of advanced historical, theoretical and interdisciplinary approaches, the academic work in the Institute meets high criteria and has had a profound impact on the development of scholarship in art studies. The Institute also offers educational Ph.D. programmes. Ph.D. students have all of the institute's facilities at their disposal and are encouraged to take part in various academic activities, including seminars, conferences, fieldwork expeditions, collaborative research projects, publications, etc.



MADE IN BULGARIA WITH EUROPEAN SUPPORT

ARCHAEOLOGICAL OCEANOGRAPHY IN BULGARIA

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As a result of the joint American-Bulgarian research of the Black Sea, Bulgaria is one of the countries that has already made the first steps in development of the latest scientific direction in oceanography – archaeological oceanography.

During the period 2001-2002, in the framework of a joint American-Bulgarian project “Black Sea-Noah” - and particularly with the financial support of National Geographic, NOAA, Institute for Exploration in Connecticut and Institute of Archaeological Oceanography of Rode Island University and Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, the available technical sea equipment was used (R/V Akademik and the submersible PC-8B owned by BAS), as well as scientific potential of the Institute of Oceanology BAS in Varna.

The American party provided their high technologies and experts for the implementation of the planned tasks for the purpose of discovering deep-sea (out of scuba diving-traditional depths, down to 50 meters) artifacts.

The world-famous explorer oceanographer Prof. Robert Ballard, discoverer of the sunk liner Titanic, director of the Institute of Archaeological Oceanography of the University of Rode Island, explorer-in-residence of National Geographic and national coordinator for oceanographic explorations in USA, leader of the American team and Prof. Petko Dimitrov, head of Marine Geology and Archaeology Department of the Institute of Oceanology of BAS in Varna, leader of Bulgarian team with highly qualified specialists, took part in this joint project.

Two American-Bulgarian expeditions on Bul-

garian shelf were carried out:

The first expedition was carried out in August 2001 and 100 underwater objects were discovered. It was the stage of charting of the discovered targets. The aim of the first stage of this joint project was to discover artifacts and ancient settlements as potential underwater objects in the area of old sunk coasts of former freshwater lake, which existed long before the contemporary pattern of the Black Sea was finally shaped. The search for the objects was implemented by scanning of sea bottom with side scan sonar ECHO (USA) and bottom profiler from the board of R/V Akademik.

The second expedition was carried out in July-August 2002. The aim of the second stage of the project was to check in situ any already found underwater object, discovered at the first stage and to be identified as a possible deepwater artifact. Out of the planned 8 artifacts with sonar with circle scope from the board of submersible PC-8B 4 artifacts were discovered. One of those artifacts became world famous thanks to National Geographic, which officially presented to the world on 16 January 2003 “The oldest shipwreck ever found in the Black Sea” aged V-III c. BC. The dating of the object was carried out in Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (Connecticut, Massachusetts, USA) by radiocarbon analyses (^{14}C) of found fish bones in one of the amphorae of the found deepwater artifact by the National Geographic and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences together with the discovery. The discovery was widely cov-

ered by many world media (Washington Post, CNN, National Geographic Channel Europe, Asia, Africa and 64 European TVs).

Bulgarian Academy of Science's policy is to continue explorations consistently at the national level by financing of First National Deep-water Archaeological Expedition (2004) with efforts of the Institute of Oceanology and the Institute of Archaeology and Museum of BAS, R/V Akademik, as to this end BAS bought a sonar with circle scope. In 2006 BAS bought ROV Mariscope F-200 for control of underwater objects. With this step BAS finally completed the process of protection of deep-sea cultural heritage of our country on the eve of Bulgaria's EU accession. Bulgaria is already developing archaeological oceanography.

Bulgaria is already one of the countries in

Europe, having all necessary conditions and readiness to protect (searching, identification and control) deep-sea underwater cultural heritage. Bulgaria is closing the south arc of EU (France, Portugal, Spain, Italy and Greece) The north arc has more traditions and experience (Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland). The countries from the north arc started joint research into the protection of underwater cultural heritage within the framework of the big European project CULTURE-2000.

With the available renewed material facilities, registered in the net of EC (ERVO4), Bulgaria is ready to face the challenges of the incredible interest of EU and UNESCO (British Academy Initiative and Black Sea Center (Denmark) in the objects of our deep-sea cultural heritage in the Black Sea.

THE EARLIEST SALT EXTRACTION CENTER IN EUROPE

Prof. Vassil Nikolov, DSc

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A team of the Institute of Archaeology and Museum - BAS made extremely interesting discoveries at an archaeological site located near Provadia and called Solnitsata, whose shape and dimensions were until quite recently not very well defined.

The archaeological excavations, which ended recently, confirmed the hypothesis and produced sensational evidence for the earliest salt extraction in Europe. It happened ca. 5400 BC, in the Late Neolithic, when a group of people from Thrace crossed the Stara Planina Mountain and settled down at the salt springs near the present-day town of Provadia. The settlers started to boil the water running out of the salt mirror, containing 160-190 g of salt per litre. Evidence for this way of production is the large amount of briquetage. Numerous shards of thin-walled though roughly smoothed ceramic bowls, 40-45 cm in diameter, which are typical for this site only were found. They were used for boiling and evaporating the water at special facilities.

The final product was an ingot with standard dimensions, which was ready for exchange or trade. The study of Prof. Ivan Havezov (Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry - BAS) on a number of these fragments revealed the presence of a considerable amount of salt on the shard interior as well as inside the shard. The importance of the discovery at Provadia is related to the compulsory daily intake of salt necessary for the normal functioning of the human body - 12-18 g. The animals, especially the domestic ones, have the same needs. Until quite recently there was no data on the salt extraction from the Balkans and this problem was omitted by the studies. However simple calculations reveal that the early agriculturals from Thrace only, the place where the settlers at Provadia came from, in the 6th millennium BC needed at least 500 tons of salt per year (including the needs of the domestic animals). The salt producing "colony" apparently traded the salt and supplied the population

of Thrace with salt and probably got in return food and other necessary products. The discovery of the salt extraction center in the present-day North-eastern Bulgaria opens possibilities for a study on a vital aspect of the economy of the earliest European civilization.

It is especially important that a hypothesis proposed by us was confirmed during this season and it is that the production of salt continued at the same place in the Chalcolithic period (the 5th millennium BC) as well, in the time of the spectacular Varna Chalcolithic necropolis inclusively. The necropolis is situated only 20 km to the east of the salt extraction center. The reason for the accumulation of an extreme wealth consisting of prestige objects made of gold, copper, flint, horn/bone, sea shells, etc. was not properly explained for more than 30 years, but now we could state with a high level of probability that it was directly related to the continuing extraction of considerable amounts of salt near Provadia and the salt trade. It is exactly the time when the salt extraction center, which has a regular round shape and was 105 m in diameter, was surrounded by a ditch and a stone rampart behind as well as with a palisade, which was solidly constructed of vertical wooden posts, plas-

tered with a thick layer of clay. Apparently the salt producers had firm reasons to build up this labour-consuming defensive system, which was aimed to protect their wealth.

The migrations of nomadic tribes coming from the North and the demographic changes on the territory of the Eastern Balkans at the end of the 5th millennium BC marked the end of the Chalcolithic civilization in the region.

A mound, 12 m high and 80 m in diameter, was made after a long break, in the 4th millennium BC. The mound was made of soil, 8 m high, accumulated during the functioning of the salt extraction center. It was a very impressive Thracian cult center, whose height exceeded 20 m. The "burial" mound is situated to the north so that the rest of the terrain forms a terrace, up to 22 m wide to the south and paved with small stones. Apparently it was the place aimed for the participants in the rituals. In this direction the "burial" mound faces a stone structure, whose function is still unknown. The Thracian cult center functioned ca. 1 millennium.

The continuing archaeological excavations will soon outline Provadia-Solnitsata site as one of the most interesting archaeological sites in Bulgaria.



EQUAL IN EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

BULGARIAN VIPs

The Professor of Architectural Heritage Preservation

Prof. Arch. TODOR KRESTEV, Doctor of Sciences in Architecture

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Honorary member of ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Cultural Routes, a winner of a number of international awards, Arch. TODOR KRESTEV.

Prof. Todor Kretev starts his higher education in 1957 after finishing his secondary education in the town of Burgas. In 1962 he graduates from the University of Architecture, Construction and Geodesy, Sofia (as a PhD in Architecture). Since 1982 Mr. Kretev is a D.Sc. in Architecture.

The professional career of Todor Kretev starts in 1962 as a Head of Architectural Bureau, Burgas and includes a number of positions: Research fellow I, Research Institute of Architecture, Sofia; Head of department, Research Institute of Urban and Regional Planning, Sofia; Deputy General Director, Committee of Culture; General Director of the National Institute for Cultural Monuments; Deputy Minister of Culture; Bulgarian representative in ICCROM; Member of ICOMOS Executive Committee (elected for 3 terms of office); President of the Eleventh General Assembly of ICOMOS; President of ICOMOS Bulgarian National Committee. Since 1991 he is a Bulgarian representative on the Steering Committee for Cultural heritage (CD-PAT) to the Council of Europe (since 1991), and since 2002 he is a Member of CDPAT Bureau.

The current positions of Prof. Todor Kretev are:

- Professor of Architectural Heritage Preservation, University of Architecture, Construction and Geodesy, Sofia (since 1992)
- President of the Cultural Tourism Association (since 2001)
- Honorary member of ICOMOS INTERNATIONAL (elected on the 15th General Assembly of ICOMOS, 2005)
- Honorary President of ICOMOS Bulgarian National Committee
- Member and Secretary of ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Cultural Routes (since 1998)

The professional experience of Prof. Kretev can be described in several broad areas:

- **Urban and Regional Planning**
 - » Slaveykov Residential Complex (40 000 people), Burgas (1964 - 1968)
 - » Ivan Vazov Residential Complex, Burgas (1967)
 - » Urban plan of historical center of Burgas (1966 - 1968)
 - » Renovation of historical town zones in Rousse (1971 - 1972) and Pazardzhik (1973)
 - » Town plan of Antonovo (1974 - 1979)
 - » Unified Territorial Development Plan of the Republic of Bulgaria (1973 - 1980)
 - » Territorial Development Plan of the Black Sea Littoral (1973 - 1980)
 - » National Cultural Heritage Scheme, National

Scientific Institute on Territorial Development and Urbanism (1990)

» Regional plans of Sofia District, the Black Sea Coast, Antonovo town and village system, etc., (1973 - 1980)

» Master plan of Sofia and Sofia Municipality - Cultural Heritage section (2001)

• **Buildings Architecture**

» Cultural centre - opera-house, Burgas (1965)

» Cultural centre, town of Obzor (1967)

» Youth centre, town of Pazardzhik (1968)

» Shopping centre, Varna (1970)

» Many public and residential buildings in Burgas and Burgas Region (1962 - 1970)

• **Preservation of the Cultural Heritage**

» Adaptation of architectural ensembles and monuments in Burgas (1965 - 1970)

» Pilot project for preservation of the cultural heritage of Blagoevgrad District – network of cultural routes (1983)

» Parvenetz - Hrabrino Pilot Project (1977)

» Memorial complex and park in the town of Antonovo (1975 - 1988)

» Urban plan of Pautalia-Velbudj – Architectural and Archaeological Reserve, Kjustendil (1993)

» Urban plan for the archaeological area Adjunar, town of Kjustendil (1993)

» Restoration and development of an ensemble of cultural monuments around the Assumption Church, Kjustendil (1993)

» Restoration and adaptation of a cultural monument, 18 Tsar Osvoboditel Str., Sofia (1993)

» Restoration and development of a group cultural monument, Slavianska Str., Burgas (1995)

» Urban plan for the area of ensemble - group cultural monument around the Central Mineral Bath, Sofia (1996)

» Restoration of historical pavilion in the public garden in Sofia (1998)

» Restoration of a cultural monument - the native house of Elias Kaneti in Rousse (1999 - 2000)

» Cultural and Historical Heritage System in the Master Plan of Sofia (2001 - 2003)

» Program concept for conservation and development of Old Plovdiv Architectural and Historical Reserve (2002)

» UNESCO and ICOMOS international missions for evaluation and monitoring of World Heritage in: Avignon (1993), Lyon (1994), Berlin (1999), the Ferrapont Monastery (2000, Russia), Budapest (2001), Baku (2002), Berat (2006).

• **Cultural routes and Cultural Tourism**

» National cultural routes, PHARE BG9606, 1999 - Project manager

» Opening to the public of the Thracian tomb near the village of Sveshtari as a complete tourist product, 1998-2000; sponsored by Headley Trust, ICOMOS BNC - Project manager

» International project "Cultural Itineraries of South-Eastern Europe" within the "Europe, a Common Heritage" Campaign of the Council of Europe; European award *PRIX EHD* 2000 (2000), - Winner of the First Prize and the Culture Award of the European Commission Delegation to Bulgaria (2002) - Project manager; www.culture-routes.lu/cisee/

» Internet site "Cultural Itineraries of South-Eastern Europe", 2000, www.culture-routes.lu/cisee/; www.cisee.hit.bg

» National Strategy for Bulgarian Eco Tourism, 2002 - Working Group member, author of the section on cultural heritage and cultural tourism

» Branding Bulgaria Project (2001-2003) financed by the British Council - Initiative Group member www.image.bg

» Project for integrated development of cultural and eco tourism in the Russenski Lom Natural Park, 2002 - selected in the tender for innovative projects under the Bio-diversity Preservation and Economic Growth Project (2002), sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development and the Bulgarian Government, ICOMOS BNC - Project manager

» PHARE Programme, Project BG 0102.03 Development of Cultural Tourism in Bulgaria; selected projects for Russe, Gabrovo and Assenovgrad, 2003/2004

» Expert co-coordinator of the Regional Forum "Cultural Routes of South-East Europe" (Varna 2005);

» Multimedia exposition "Cultural Heritage of South-East Europe" (Regional Forum, Varna 2005) – author and manager.

» Leader of the project "Children and the Cultural heritage of South-Eastern Europe", fi-

nanced by British Council Bulgaria – multimedia product “Treasure quest” – website www.heriquest.com and CD (2006)

» Leader of the project “Virtual Cultural Corridors of South-Eastern Europe” (2006) – website www.seecorridors.eu

» Expert coordinator of the *Strategy* and the *Action plan* for identifying, preserving, sustainably using and promoting cultural corridors of South-Eastern Europe (Regional Forum “Communications and Cultural Heritage”, Opatija, Croatia, 2006)

Prof. Kretev has an international expert background including:

» Expert to the Economic Commission for Europe - UN (1973 - 1980)

» Expert in historical centres to UNESCO (since 1988)

» Council of Europe expert included in the Expert Database (since 1998)

» ICOMOS and UNESCO expert on evaluation and monitoring of World Cultural Heritage (since 1993)

» Expert of the European Commission for evaluation of the projects under the Program CULTURE 2000 (2006)

Mr. Kretev is a winner of a number of competitions and awards, including:

» National competition for Slavevov Residential Complex, Burgas - First Prize (1964)

» National competition for the inner city of Burgas - First Prize (1967)

» National competition for youth centre, Pazardzhik - First Prize (1967)

» National competition for the urban plan of Lovech - First Prize (1968)

» International competition for the historical centre of Karlsruhe, Germany - Second Prize (1970)

» National competition for shopping centre, Varna - First Prize (1970)

» National competition for creative work base of the Union of Bulgarian Architects in Varna - First Prize

» National competition of UBA for living environment - First Prize (1980)

» Gold medal at the World Biennale of Architecture, Sofia (1980)

» Gold (1979) and silver (1980) medal of UBA for creative achievements

» Ministry of Culture Diploma for contribution to the development of Bulgarian culture (1997)

» European prize PRIZ EHD 2000 of King Baudouin Foundation, Belgium (2000) - in his capacity of Project manager

» Winner of the First Prize and the Culture Award of the European Commission Delegation to Bulgaria (2002) – as manager of the awarded project.

The research activity of Prof. Kretev can be summarized in the following way:

» Over 60 scientific publications, works, monographs, papers, articles, etc. published in Bulgaria and abroad; lectures in the universities in Calyari, Graz, Ljubljana, Zagreb, Budapest, and Colombo

» Contributions at international congresses, symposiums, etc.: Turku, Finland (1977), Athens (1978), Damascus (1980), Basle (1983), Dresden (1984), Washington (1987), Montreal (1988), Edinburgh (1989), Colombo (1993), Nara, Japan (1994), Berlin (1995), Naples (1996), Czechki Kremluv (1995), Veria (1996), Sofia (1996), Thessaloniki (1997), Sibiu, Romania (1998), Ibisa, Spain (1998), Krems, Austria (1998), Guadalajara, Mexico (1999), Oslo, Norway (2000), Madrid, Spain (2002), Zimbabwe (2003), Xi An, China (2005), etc.

The Director of the National Library "St. St. Cyril and Methodius"

Prof. BORYANA HRISTOVA, Doctor of Philological Sciences

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Professor, Doctor of Philological Sciences with 14 books and more than 15 studies and articles published in national and international periodicals.

Laureate of the Order of merit "Sts Cyril and Methodius" 1st degree for contributions to Bulgarian education and science in 2006.

Mrs. Boryana Hristova graduates from University of Sofia in 1975 with majors in Bulgarian Philology, English Philology and Classical Philology. She defends her Ph. D. Thesis in 1983, and since 1996 becomes a Doctor of Philological Sciences with a post-doctoral thesis on Vladislav Gramatik, one of the greatest 15th century scholars on the Balkans. An associate professor since 1997 and professor since 1998.

Boryana Hristova starts her career in 1975 at the Bulgarian National Library "St. St. Cyril and Methodius", Department of Slavic and Foreign Language Manuscripts. During the period 1987 – 1995 she is the Head of the Department of Slavic and Foreign Language Manuscripts at the Library. Since May 1998 she is a director of the Bulgarian National Library "St. St. Cyril and Methodius".

Her professional interests are connected with a number of activities, including:

- Secretary of Science of the Bulgarian Archeographic Committee – the supreme interdisciplinary body directing the documentation of the manuscript heritage on the territory of Bulgaria;
- Member of the editorial board of "Biblioteka", the only Bulgarian periodical specializing in the problems of Library science;
- Chairwoman of the Research Council at the Bulgarian National Library since 1995;
- Member of the Specialized Board for Litera-

ture within the Supreme Certifying Commission at the Council of Ministers, Republic of Bulgaria;

- Lecturer at the University of Sofia "St. Kliment Ohridski": courses in the history of special library collections (manuscripts, early printed books, archive documents, old photographs, etc.);
- Initiator of the celebrations of 2000 years of Christianity in Europe;
- Expert in the Institute for Cyril and Methodius Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences;
- Visiting lecturer in Pittsburgh, USA;
- Visiting lecturer in Columbus, USA;
- Curator of a number of representative exhibitions visiting Russia, Japan, Yugoslavia and others;
- Member of the Public Forum "Bulgarian Woman"
- Mellon Research Fellow at the Warburg Insitute, London;
- Chair of the Association of the Balkan National Libraries;
- Listed in "Who's Who in the World 2000", International Biographical Directory of National Archivists, Documentalists and Librarians; European Biographical Directory.

Mrs. Boryana Hristova has won the following awards:

- "Special merits in the development of Bulgarian National Library" Award in 2003
- Order of merit "Sts Cyril and Methodius" 1st degree for contributions to Bulgarian education and science in 2006.

Mrs. Boryana Hristova's major research areas include the following fields:

Slavic paleography and diplomacy; archive studies; scholarly and spiritual history of the Balkans as an inseparable part of Europe; documentation and referencing of the early written her-

itage on the Balkan peninsula; comparative religion and problems of religious tolerance; alternative cultural phenomena (history of European apocrypha); history of the cults of women saints in the Christian world; history of the cults of east orthodox saints; fundamental research in monastic libraries during the Middle Ages. She discovered and for the first time published a number of texts related to the ancient history of the South and South-eastern Slavs. Participation in many national and international conferences (Krakow, London, Leeds, Belgrade, Saint Petersburg and others). Organizer of many national conferences devoted to the culture of the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th centuries.

The activities of Mrs. Boryana Hristova as an expert for research programs and other projects include:

- all national research programs related to the role of the book and library in the modern world;
- many international programs, such as UNESCO's "Memoire du monde" and "Reading for All"; program for preservation of library resources; programs of the Open Society Foundation, of the International Library Association IFLA and others.

Mrs. Boryana Hristova has published 14 books and more than 15 studies and articles in national and international periodicals since 1978.

The Director of the Institute of Art Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Assoc. Prof. ALEXANDER MILKOV YANAKIEV, Doctor of Art Sciences

Phone/Fax: +359-2 983-2791, E-mail: yanakiev@artstudies.bg



Mr. Alexander Milkov Yanakiev graduates from the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts, Sofia as M.A. In 1988 he defends his Ph.D. dissertation titled: "Space and Time in Cinema and TV" and in 2005 becomes a DSc with a thesis on the "Cinema in Bulgaria in the First Half of the 20th Century". Publisher of "Bulgarian Cinema. Encyclopaedia".

Mr. Alexander Milkov Yanakiev starts his career in 1978 at the Bulgarian National Film Archives as a program director. Since 1984 he is a researcher at the Institute of Art Studies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. In the period 1993-2007 he is the Head of Department *Cinema and TV* at the Institute of Art Studies and from 1996 to 2000 he is a Deputy director of the Institute. Since 1989 he is a part-time lecturer at the National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts, Sofia leading the Courses: *History of Cinema in Bulgaria; Documentary Films*. In the period 1995-

2006 he is a part-time lecturer at the New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Department of Mass Communications, reading lectures within the courses: *Information and Documentation, Film Communication, Management in Cinema*. From 2000 to 2005 he is a publisher and editor-in-chief of the Internet magazine *Cinema.bg* (ISSN 1311-6819). Since 2004 he is the Director of the Institute of Art Studies, and since 1995 he runs his own Publishing House "Titra".

Mr. Yanakiev is a member of a number of professional associations, councils and unions, including:

- Union of Bulgarian Filmmakers (chairman of Critics guild – 2002-2007)
- Union of Bulgarian Journalists
- The Society for Animation Studies, California, USA, (1990-1992)
- The Bulgarian Studies Association, USA, (since 2003)
- National Cinema Council, deputy chairman (since 2004)

The Expert background of Mr. Yanakiev includes:

» Selection Committee member of the First International Filmfestival for Children and Young People, Sofia, 1988

» Selection Committee member of the Sixth International Festival of Animated Film, Varna, 1989

» Jury member of the National Film Festival, Varna, 1994

» Member of the National Committee for Animation at the National Film Centre 1992, 1994-1995, 1999

» Member of FIPRESCI jury at the International Documentary Filmfestival, Amsterdam, 1998

» Member of jury at the International Film Festival "Faces of Love", Moscow, 2001

» Member of the Selection Committee at the Bulgarian National Television, 2001

» Chairman of the Selection Committee at the International Television Festival "Golden Chest", Plovdiv, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006

» Member of FIPRESCI jury at the International Festival of New Film, Split, Croatia, 2002

» Sofia International Film Festival - member of Programme Advisors' Board (2002), Main Programme Advisor (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007) and Main consultant of the festival (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007)

» Chairman of the Selection Committee at the Competition for the Best Bulgarian Short Film ("Jameson" Award) at Sofia International Film Festival, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

» Member of FIPRESCI jury at the International Film Festival, Sochi, Russia, 2003

» Member of jury at the *Sofia Prize*, 2003, 2004

» Member of the National Committee for Feature films at the National Film Centre 2004

» Member of FIPRESCI jury at the 5th European Cinema Festival, Lamezia Terme, Italy, 2004

» Member of FIPRESCI jury at the International Film Festival, Thessaloniki, Greece, 2004

The two major book publications of Mr. Yanakiev are:

• Bulgarian Cinema. Encyclopaedia, 2000, (ISBN 954-90486-2-4)

• Cinema.bg. 2003, (ISBN 954-90486-3-2)

AWARDS

"EVRIKA" FOUNDATION AWARDS FOR THE YEAR 2006

On January 23, 2007 a ceremonial bestowing of "Evrika" awards for 2006 took place. Prizes were handed in the following categories: for achievements in science, for young inventor, young manager and young farmer.

The award "For Achievements in Science" was delivered to Dr. Eng. Svetoslav Petrov Savchev from Technical University – Sofia.

Since 2003 Svetoslav Savchev is a full-time doctorand in "Theory of Machines and Mechanisms" department at the Machine-technological faculty of Technical University – Sofia. Svetoslav Savchev has 17 scientific publications as well as three patent applications for inventions. He participated in three contract projects with the Ministry of Education and Science and Ministry of Economy. He takes active part in the designing of the produced by the German company "SPECIMA" specialized robots SPEEDMAT, FEEDMAT 2 and FEEDMAT 3 designed for servicing horizontal founding machines. For his participation in the design of the foundry dozing robot FEEDMAT 2 a Silver sign of the Bulgarian Industrial Association was adjudged to him in 2004.

Svetoslav Savchev got the joint award of "Evrika" Foundation and the Supreme Certifying Commission at the Council of Ministers for brilliant defence of dissertation "Synthesis of Manipulation Machine Mechanisms – Automatic Machines and Specialized Robots", for which educational and scientific degree "Doctor" was conferred on him in competition with 10 dissertations nominated by scientific commissions.

The "Evrika" award for 2006 for young inventor was adjudged to assoc. prof. PhD eng. math. Nikolai Lyubenov Nikolov – the head of "Theory of Mechanisms and Machines" department at the Machine-technological faculty of Technical University – Sofia.

Nikolai Nikolov starts his professional activity in 2001 as an assistant professor at "Theory of Mechanisms and Machines" department of Technical University – Sofia. In 2006 he is elected for head of the department. Basic spheres of Nikolai Nikolov's research and lecturer's activity are: theory of mechanisms, machines and automatic lines, synthesis and analysis of mechanisms, special and specialized robotics. He is the author of over 75 scientific publications and took part in research teams of 8 research projects.

He is was honored with the Charter of the "Scientific Research" National Council at the Ministry of Education and Science as a participant in a research team that achieved essential results in development of research project during the Fifth competition session 1995-1999. In 2005 he was awarded a Silver sign of the Bulgarian Industrial Association for designing, patenting and serial production of the foundry dozing robot FEEDMAT 2. He is a member of the National scientific-technical society on theory of mechanisms and machines, which is a collective member of IFToMM. He is co-author of 5 inventions referring to mechanisms and specialized robots.

"Evrika" award is adjudged to Nikolai Nikolov for the invention "Foundry dozing manipulator". The patented original mechanism is practically tested in the foundry dozing robot FEEDMAT 2 produced by the Bulgarian-German company "SPESIMA" and successfully presented at the National youth exhibition "EXPO intellect", as well as at the International Foundry Trade Fair GIFA in Düsseldorf, Germany.

"Evrika" award for young manager for 2006 was adjudged to Pavel Ezekiev – manager of the Deutsche Bank representation in Bulgaria.

Pavel Ezekiev starts his professional career in the Microsoft Corporation Campus in Redmond, USA, as a financial analyst in the new markets

department. In 1998 he starts working for Deutsche Bank - London, in 2002 is a counsellor of the Minister of Economy of Bulgaria on involving foreign investments. In March 2006 Mr. Ezekiev assumes management of the newly opened representation of the Deutsche Bank in Bulgaria.

Pavel Ezekiev has won a number of international academic and professional distinctions, such as: special award of BIBA (Bulgarian International Business Association) for exceptional contribution to the development of Bulgarian economy through involving foreign investments to Bulgaria; The Wall Street Journal Award – for the best student in finance at Northeastern University in Boston; NU's Annual Student Award for exceptional achievements during the probation program; two corporative distinctions from John Hancock company for improvement of business process.

Maya Bobeva – executive manager of "Manager" magazine is awarded a honorary diploma

for excellent presentation in the competition.

"Evrika" award for young farmer for 2006 was adjudged to Krasimir Netzov Minev from the town of Stara Zagora.

Krasimir Minev is busy with farming since 2001 and is one of the founders and managers of "Agrozlatex" Co. Ltd. having agricultural products for its basic activity. The firm cultivates 12 380 decares of agricultural land in the Chirpan region, Cherna Gora and Gita villages.

Krasimir Minev's great ambitions, accumulated practical experience and theoretical knowledge are a precondition for permanent development of "Agrozlatex" as a leading European firm friendly to the environment and contributing to improvement of the fields and settlements in the regions where he works

Marin Tanev Marinov, beekeeper from the town of Kazanlak, is awarded a diploma for excellent presentation in the competition among young farmers.

ARTICLES

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF BULGARIAN SCIENTISTS

Title **Chemical and Lead Isotope Compositions of Lead Artefacts from Ancient Thracia (Bulgaria).**

Authors Kuleff, I.¹ *kuleff@chem.uni-sofia.bg*,
 Iliev, I.¹ *i.iliev@chem.uni-sofia.bg*,
 Pernicka, E.¹ *ernst.pernicka@uni.tuebingen.de*,
 Gergova, D.² *dianagergova@abv.bg*

Source Journal of Cultural Heritage; Vol. 7, 4, (Oct. 2006), 244-256

Document Type Article

Author Affiliations ¹Institut für Archäometrie, TU Bergakademie Freiberg,
 D-09596 Freiberg, Germany,
²Archaeological Institute of Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, ul. Saborna 2,
 BG-1000 Sofia, Bulgaria

ISSN 1296-20

Title **Re-packaging Identities: History Textbooks, European Travel and the Untarnished Bulgarian 'Europeanness'.**

Authors Davidova, Evguenia

Source East European Quarterly; Vol. 40, 4, (Winter 2006), 429-441

Document Type Article

Author Affiliations

ISSN 0012-8449

Title **Country Update: Recent Practices of Intercultural Education in Bulgaria.**

Authors Davcheva, Leah¹ *leah.davcheva@gmail.com*,
 Katsarska, Milena²

Source Intercultural Education; Vol. 17, 5, (Dec.2006), 517-521

Document Type Articles

Author Affiliations ¹British Council, Bulgaria,
²Plovdiv University, Bulgaria

ISSN 1467-5986

Title **Competing Priorities, Ambiguous Loyalties: Challenges of Socioeconomic Adaptation and National Inclusion of the Interwar Bulgarian Refugees.**

Authors Nikolova-Houston, Tatiana¹ *gabrovo61@yahoo.com*

Source Nationalities Papers, Vol. 34, 5, (Nov. 2006), 549-574, 2 charts

Document Type Articles

Author Affiliations ¹Department of History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, U.S.A.

ISSN 0090-5992

Title **Discovery of the Hidden Manuscripts**

Authors Nikolova-Houston, Tatiana¹ *gabrovo61@yahoo.com*

Source Art Libraries Journal; Vol. 31, 2, 2006, 35-40,

.....

Document Type Article

Author Affiliations ¹Doctoral Candidate, School of Information, University of Texas at Austin,
2100 Rio Grande, Austin, Texas 78705, USA

ISSN 0307-4722

.....

Title **My Quest Across the Digital Divide to Save the Slavic Manuscripts
(cover story).**

Authors Nikolova-Houston, Tatiana

Source Computers in Libraries; Vol. 22, 4, 10-15

Document Type Article

Author Affiliations ¹Doctoral Candidate, School of Information, University of Texas at Austin,
2100 Rio Grande, Austin, Texas 78705, USA

ISSN 1041-7915

DEFENDED DISSERTATIONS ON THE SUBJECT: "CULTURAL HERITAGE"
"SIRENA" Database- NACID

Author Grancharova, Kameliya Georgieva

Degree PhD

Title The National Costumes along the River Valley of the Struma River

Affiliated Organization Institute of Ethnography and Museum (BAS), 6-a A. Battenberg Str., 1000 Sofia

Abstract In the dissertation complete and precise characterization of the structure of the traditional men's and ladies' national costumes along the river valley of the Struma River is done in the chronological boundaries from the end of the XIX to the middle of the XX century. The costumes along the middle and lower valley of the Struma River are represented on the grounds of personally collected terrain material among the local Bulgarian population and Bulgarian settlers from the lower river valley of the Struma River, located in the southwest part of Bulgaria. The national costumes in this region are represented from a new position – as a part of the Bulgarian cultural heritage, and the costumes of the geographically differentiated groups along the river valley - as separate local variants.

Depository Library Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Science

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Author Georgiev, Galin Georgiev

Degree PhD

Title The Gift Exchange in Bulgarian Traditional and Contemporary People's Culture

Affiliated Organization Institute of Ethnography and Museum (BAS), 6-a A. Battenberg Str., 1000 Sofia

Abstract The dissertation work is dedicated to the problems of giving presents in Bulgarian traditional and contemporary folk culture. It is the first more complete attempt for gathering, systematizing and analyses of the rich ethnographical material on the theme of exchange of gift. The function and symbolism of a gift and its connection with a number of other elements of culture: things, clothes, view of life, ritual system, etc. are traced rather fully. In the work the Bulgarian specificity of giving presents is outlined as a universal cultural phenomenon and it is looked for its meaning from scientific and social-practical point of view. The ethnological look on a gift shows its multiple manifestations as means for communication and exchange of goods and sing forms in society.

Depository Library Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Science

-
- Author** Simeonova, Galya Gateva
Degree DSc
Title Bulgarian Theatre through the Eyes of an Ethnographer /Attempt of an Analysis of Theatre as an Institution/
Affiliated Organization Institute of Ethnography and Museum (BAS), 6-a A. Battenberg Str., 1000 Sofia
Abstract The study follows the Theatres evolution /its emergence 150 years ago/ from amateur to professional to date. Professional Bulgarian theatre has basic types of organizations /companies/ for theatrical activity and financial and legal regulations rooted in which are the theatre - state and theatre - society relationships. These are directly associated with the formation of the community of actors and actresses and of their cultural unions. Specific features of the theatre as an institution have also been sought in the material culture servicing theatrical activities and festivals. By turning it into a Bulgarian theatre the founders of our theatre intended to make this institution assume the functions of something reaffirming the ethnic features, and creating and putting into circulation new elements of ethnic identification in Bulgarian society.
Depository Library Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Science
-
- Author** Shukerov, Peter Todorov
Degree PhD
Title Patterns of Priesthood in Bulgarian Culture 19th - the Beginning of the 20th Century
Affiliated Organization Sofia University "St.Kliment Okhridski", 15 Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd., 1504 Sofia
Abstract In the present work the phenomenon of people's priesthood has been considered in view of its original locality. The priest as a "place" in this imagery appears as the center of the community, which becomes possible due to the flock, which maintains him. In this way their mutual determination is being realized, which also makes the existing of the community in general possible. The priest appears as the visibility itself of the community as a fulfillment. He is being accepted on a local level with all his faults unlike the "representatives of the Enlightenment" in Bulgaria, for whom the priest is possible only as ideal, without any local features, and in the "new" world he becomes a symbol of the outdated, unnecessary and the "old".
Depository Library Central Research and Technical Library
-
- Author** Petrova, Viktoria Dragoeva
Degree PhD
Title Karanovo VI Culture Pottery Assemblage in Thrace
Affiliated Organization Institute of Archaeology with Museum (BAS), 2 Syborna Str., 1000 Sofia
Abstract The main goals of the research were a comprehensive study of the pottery assemblage and its periodization. For that purpose, a uniform system for studying pottery assemblages was developed, based on analysis of wares, shapes and ornamentation. This made the derivation of the main characteristics of the Karanovo VI pottery assemblage possible. Adequate criteria were used for distinguishing the specific stages of its development. The development of the Karanovo VI pottery assemblage was divided into three main phases; two subphases were distinguished for phases I and II (Ia, Ib and IIa, lib), while the latest phase was divided into three subphases (IIIa-c). It is possible that future studies of other pottery assemblages from Thrace would give reasons to define the IIIc subphase as a new

	phase (phase IV) of the development of the Karanovo VI culture.
Depository Library	Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Science
Author	Ivanov, Emil Vassilev
Degree	PhD
Title	Das Bildprogramm des narthex im Rila-Kloster, Bulgarien unter besonderer Beruecksichtigung der Wasserweihezyklen
Affiliated Organization	Abroad
Abstract	The thesis shows, by examples, an iconography program from the late period of the Byzantine mural painting, which has not been taken into consideration before. Grounds for the establishment of such a type of iconography are searched for in written sources as well, and its dissemination is traced in the available records of the past. Such records were localized in the Monastery of Atone and in some Bulgarian monasteries as well. Photographic documentary evidences, items of general conclusion and descriptions are adequately applied. The presentation of the inscriptions of all cycles - not only of the head ones, but also of those on the prophets' scrolls - deserves special consideration. All of them are classified by records, origin and contents in separate tables. The texts, which accompany the effigies of the saint prophets, serve as a substantial basis of proving the relationship between a certain iconography and a part of the annual liturgical cycle. In the thesis special attention is paid to possible direct minute archetypes of water consecration iconography, i.e. paper illustrations in different liturgical books.
Depository Library	Central Research and Technical Library
Author	Hristova, Tanya Tsvetanova
Degree	PhD
Title	Bronze Age Cultural Models in North Bulgaria (Second Half of the 3rd - First Half of the 2nd Mill. BC)
Affiliated Organization	Institute of Archaeology with Museum (BAS), 2 Syborna Str., 1000 Sofia
Abstract	In the dissertation the Early Bronze Age III and Middle Bronze Age sites and grave complexes as well as pottery and metal artifacts from the territory of the present-day Northern Bulgaria are analyzed. The discussed archaeological material is compared with the neighboring territories and first of all with those to the north of the Danube. Based on the analyses, for the first time the presence of Glina-, Tei- and Verbicioara - archaeological cultures in Northern Bulgaria is sufficiently proved. The term "cultural model" is introduced and theoretically analyzed for the first time in Bulgarian archaeological literature. Its connections and relationship with other archaeological terms, such as archaeological culture, cultural group etc., are discussed. Particular "micro-models" are differentiated in the discussed territory such as Glina culture settlement model; Tei - Verbicioara cultures settlement model; "Kurgan" funeral model; metal-working model. They take part in bigger models including the territory north of the Danube and south of the Carpathians. Based on the particular micro-models and archaeological artifacts, four cultural models are differentiated with their characteristics: cultural model "Cotofeni-Kostolac-Vuce dol"; "Glina" cultural model; "Nomadic" cultural model; "Tei-Verbicioara" cultural model. Their interactions in terms of chronology and territory are discussed and put in the context of the cultural-historical development in Central and Southeastern Europe during the discussed period.
Depository Library	Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Science

Author	Jordanova, Ivanka Gergova
Degree	DSc
Title	The Cults of Bulgarian Saints during the Bulgarian National Revival
Abstract	The dissertation studies the cults of the saints, worshipped as Bulgarian ones during the 18th and 19th centuries. A research work has been made on their function within three spheres: the church, folk Christianity and in the urban area where the cults were being secularized. A research work has been done on the objects of worship: personalities of the saints, their relics, cult places and the forms of worship, among which special attention is paid to images. The appendix contains the collected data that is known about the Bulgarian saints, worshipped during the 18th and 19th centuries; a list of Bulgarian saints from the Manual of Nikola Obrazopisov and a few poetical texts.
Depository Library	Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Science



EVENTS

Bulgarian Science – Part of the European House of Knowledge

Bulgaria joins European Union not simply as a consumer of safety, economic opportunities and prospects for infrastructure development. Bulgaria becomes a part of European Union with self-confidence of a state having its real thousand-year contribution to the development of European civilization, science and culture.

On February 19, 2007 in Brussels Daniel Valchev, Minister of Education and Science, opened special exhibition on the occasion of the acceptance of the country in the European Union. It was displayed in the Royal Museum of Natural Sciences. The exhibition presented Bulgarian science as a part of the European research area and was organized by the Ministry of Education and Science of Bulgaria together with the Bulgarian Embassy in the Kingdom of Belgium with the assistance of the Belgian Royal Academy of Natural Sciences. The guests had an exceptional opportunity to get acquainted with Bulgarian scientific discoveries of world significance, with priority trends in the development of our science, with modern up-to-date research projects, with our recognized research centers distinguished by the European Commission, with "golden children" of Bulgaria, etc.

European commissars in charge of science, education and innovations in the European Union, ministers of science and innovations of the member states, ambassadors and attachés in Embassies of European countries in Brussels, representatives of Directions of the European Commission in charge of research and innovation activities were present at the opening. Among the guests there were also members of working groups on science and technological development at the European Commission, Council and Parliament, members of administration of differ-

ent European programs and others.

The major aim of the exhibition was directed to popularization of achievements of Bulgarian science.

The following subject areas were presented:

Scientific Research and Development in Bulgaria:

Development of scientific research in Bulgaria, as well as conditions and measures for improvement of the investment climate for science and innovations in the country were traced. Separate graphs and statistical tables showed fast development and changes occurred in the sector. Institutional structure of science in Bulgaria was presented – scientific organizations, created high competence centers financed by European and national research programs.

Inventions, Patents, Technological and Innovative Models in Bulgaria:

Modern technological decisions and innovative models, telling examples of Bulgarian scientists' progress in technological and innovative aspects were demonstrated. Separate inventions in the field of medicine, information technologies, robotics, energy efficiency and nanomaterials were presented. During the recent years Bulgarian scientists and inventors are in search of protection for their intellectual rights at national, European and world level. According to the European Patent Office (EPO) Bulgaria ranks among the 10 new EU members ahead of Romania and Slovenia.

Famous Bulgarian Discoveries:

The guests were acquainted with scientific and creative careers of a number of Bulgarian scientists, authors of discoveries with world significance. Bulgaria is a small country, but it is

unique with its natural resources, cultural heritage and scientific discoveries that contributed to a better way of living and left to future generations some of the most-used technologies as a copying machine, electronic watch and many others. In the beginning of the XX century doctor Stamen Grigorov discovers "bacterium bulgaricus" (yoghurt) and makes other phenomenal discoveries that led to invention of anti-tuberculosis vaccine.

Fifty years later Dr. Mitov discovers the sixth tone of the heart, overturning the investigations in cardiology and known as a phenomenon of the century. The discovery of the sixth tone allows to study the heart entirely and to avoid a number of erroneous diagnoses.

The inventor of a six-stage gear-box bought by the most famous automobile companies in the world, and the inventor of the first Bulgarian plane, also known as one of Neil Armstrong's teachers, were presented.

Life Sciences, Genomics and Biotechnologies for Health:

Bulgarian participation in projects financed within the Sixth Frame Program was presented in such key spheres as: tissues, age cells, increasing the longevity of cells; development of a new approach to risk assessment in medicine or reproductive toxicity, in-vitro technologies, sensor technologies, etc. Bulgaria takes part in six thematic networks on this priority of the Frame Program..

Quality and Safety of Food:

Bulgarian participation was mentioned in more than 16 international networks in key spheres of quality and safety of food, such as genetically modified food, development of efficient biological system, new strategies for improvement of food, etc.

Information Society Technologies:

Information and communication technologies were presented as a traditionally strong sector of Bulgarian economy. The accent is made on software technologies, applications and services in the sphere of electronic education, E-government and E-learning.

Nanotechnologies and Nanoscience, Materials Based on Knowledge:

The importance of nanoscience for the future

development of electronics, mechanics, and medicine is recognized in the whole world. Establishment of the National Center on Nanotechnologies at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in 1998 was mentioned. More than 20 European networks are financed with Bulgarian participation in this priority sphere.

Aeronautics and Space:

The role of Bulgarian scientific research in the field of aeronautics and space was pointed out. Information was given about the unique infrastructure and telescopic equipment of the astronomical observatory in Rozhen.

Sustainable Development, Global Changes and Ecosystems:

Protection of the environment and biodiversity was considered as the major factor of sustainable development and preservation of land and sea resources for future generations.

EURATOM

Bulgarian participation in more than 15 big projects financed within the Sixth Frame Program in the field of nuclear safety, nuclear waste management and nuclear protection was pointed out. In 2006 Bulgaria was successfully associated with FUSION program for construction of thermonuclear reactor in Europe.

Bulgarian Participation in ERA-NET Schemes Within the Frame Program:

Participation of the Ministry of Education and Science in two schemes was mentioned, as well as participation of Bulgaria as a whole in seven schemes in key branches – genomics, outer space, sustainable development, etc.

Bulgaria in COST Program:

Participation of Bulgaria in over 140 projects of COST program for European cooperation in the field of science and technology was noted.

Bulgarian Participation in Joint Research Centers of EU:

Attention was drawn to successful participation of Bulgarian scientists in these European institutions, as well as to the fact that annually more than 140 Bulgarian scientists take part in joint workshops and seminars.

Young Talents of Bulgaria:

Investment in young talents in science was

presented as one of the major priorities of the Bulgarian government. Since 1999 annual competition of young talents is conducted in the country. In 2005 Petar Todorov from Varna won the first prize at the European competition of young scientists and was distinguished by a visit to the largest observatory in Chile. In 2006 Georgi Dyankov from the National High School of Mathematical Sciences (NHSMS) won the second prize in the same competition.

During the exhibition a documentary film about the history of science in Bulgaria entitled "Bulgarian Science – Part of the European House of Knowledge" was shown to European politi-

cians and the leading scientists in Belgium who were present at the exposition.

In his special interview for the documentary film minister Daniel Valchev declared his intention to take measures for involving young people in making scientific career in Bulgaria. These measures will be integrated into the national strategy for development of science in Bulgaria, which will be initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science in 2008. „Bulgaria today believes that her scientists will be leaders of the present and future national revival“, said minister Valchev about the role of young scientists in the development of the future scientific life in Bulgaria.

1 – 6 September 2007

XVII EuCheMS Conference on
Organometallic Chemistry

Sofia, Bulgaria

Address:

Institute of Organic Chemistry with Centre of
Phytochemistry, BAS
Acad. G. Bontchev Str., Bl.9
1113 Sofia, Bulgaria
Phone: (+359) 2 9606 157, 9606 159
Fax: (+359) 2 8700 225
E-mail: *comc17@orgchm.bas.bg*

12 – 17 September 2007

12th International Workshop on
Transport Phenomena in Two-Phase Flows

Sunny Beach Resort, Bulgaria

Address:

University of Chemical Technology and
Metallurgy,
8, Kliment Ohridsky Blvd.
1756 Sofia 1756, BULGARIA
E-mail: *jordan.hristov@mail.bg*,

16 – 18 September 2007

International Conference **EMF 2007**
Resort house of TU-Sofia, Sozopol

Address:

8, Kliment Ohridsky Blvd.
Technical University of Sofia,
Office of the Dean of EMF
Faculty of Power Engineering and Power
Machines,

Phone/Fax: (+359) 2 965 3294

E-mail: *mzlat@tu-sofia.bg*

19 – 23 September 2007

4th BLACK SEA BASIN CONFERENCE ON
ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

Sunny Beach, Bulgaria

Address:

Faculty of Chemistry,
University of Sofia,
1, James Boucher Blvd.
1164 Sofia, BULGARIA,
Phone: (+359) 2 8161318,
Fax: (+359) 2 96254
E-mail: *tsalev@chem.uni-sofia.bg*

19 – 21 September 2007

ELECTRONICS 2007

Sozopol, Bulgaria

Address:

Faculty of Electronic Engineering and
Technologies,
Technical University of Sofia,
1756 Sofia, 8, Kl. Ohridsky Blvd.,
Phone: (+359) 2 965 32-63,
E-mail: *elecs@tu-sofia.bg*

21-23 September 2007

International Conference on
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES
Info-tech 2007

International Home of Scientists
"Fr. Joliot-Curie" (IHS),

Varna, St. St. Constantine and Elena Resort

Address:

IT-2007 International Conference (Program Committee)

P.O. Box 33, 1756 Sofia, BULGARIA

27-29 September 2007

International Conference

RANLP – 2007

**"RECENT ADVANCES IN NATURAL LANGUAGE
PROCESSING"**

Borovets, Bulgaria

Address:

E-mail: *ranlp07@lml.bas.bg*

27 – 29 September 2007

3rd Balkan Conference on Informatics (BCI'2007)

Sofia, Bulgaria

Address:

E-mail: *bci2007@fmi.uni-sofia.bg*

18-20 October 2007

XVI National Scientific and Technical Conference with
International Participation

"ADP – 2007"

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