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THE INSCRIPTIONS TO THE FRESCOES AT THE CHURCH “ST. NICHOLAS” NEAR STANICHENE (1331–1332)

*(Summary)*

“St. Nicolas“ near the village of Stanichene is a small one-nave cemetery church some 10 km away from Pirot. From the donor's inscription (where the year 1331–1332 is read) it becomes clear that the church was built during the reign of Ivan Alexander (in this inscription called Asen – his dynamic name) and Belaur (Mihail III Shishman's brother). Two research papers have been devoted to the church so far – those of R. Ljubinović and S. Gabelić. In both the iconography has been comprehensively investigated.

This study represents a full corpus of all the fresco inscriptions in the church. Each of them is analysed from a linguistic and textual point of view. Some parallels are quoted from other fresco inscriptions, as well as from some Old-Bulgarian manuscripts. Also the Greek equivalents of some of the inscriptions are given, found either in frescoes or in iconographic manuals. All the saints depicted on the frescoes have been identified and their feast days pointed out.