Bistra Nikolova (Sofia, Bulgaria)

SERVICE FOR THE CONSECRATION OF A BISHOP, METROPOLITAN, PATRIARCH (To the Medieval Slavonic Prayer-book)

(Summary)

In Prayer-book No. 954 of the "Sts Cyril and Methodius" National Library of the 17th century, Bulgarian redaction, is found a service for the consecration of a bishop, a metropolitan or a patriarch, followed by a Metropolitan's prayer on entering the city. The analysis of the words in the text, and contents of the codex show that these two texts appeared among the Southern Slavs between the early 13th and mid-14th century. The service could be used in a church which was ruled by a patriarch, and such were the Bulgarian Church (after 1235) and the Serbian (after 1346). The service had as an archetype a text from the Byzantine Euchologion, whereas the Prayer is not known in a Greek copy.

The copies of the Service and the Prayer according to Prayer-book No. 954 are published in the article.