

ON THE STUDY OF THE CONTACTS OF BULGARIANS WITH
ST. CATHERINE'S MONASTERY ON MOUNT SINAI

(Ms. Sin. Slav. 15)

(Summary)

The article presents the analysis of a Slavonic manuscript from the Library of St. Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai, Egypt (№ 15). This is a Leitourgikon, written in the first half of the 17th century. It is a carefully executed and richly ornamented manuscript, containing the texts of the three main liturgies as well as some other texts. In addition to the description the bilingual marginal notes as witnesses of the fate of the manuscript are published as well. They are further proof of the importance of St. Catherine's monastery as a meeting point for the peoples of Eastern Christianity during Ottoman rule. From these notes we learn that the manuscript was written in the city of Nicopolis on the Danube by the scribe Dimitar and was sent to Sinai in AD 1627 by the priest Ignatius, the son of the priest hajji Daniel from the same city. These data can be correlated to the historical circumstances of the end of the 16th and the beginning of the 17th century and allow for the conclusion that Nicopolis remained an important urban centre in Northern Bulgaria even after the disaster of the wars between the Ottoman Empire, the Walachian principality and the Hapsburg Empire.

Ivan Biliarsky
Institute for History – BAS