

ON THE ANALYSIS OF EARLY MEDIEVAL ETHNOGENETIC TRADITIONS
REGARDING THE BULGARIANS

(Summary)

According to the opinion of the author the ethnogenetic tradition presented in the so-called “excursus on the Bulgarians” was written by a high-ranking representative of Byzantium during the lifetime of Asparukh or shortly thereafter. The archetype of another ethnogenetic tradition to be found in the chronicle of Michael the Syrian stems from the ruling family of the Danubian Bulgarians. This is witnessed by the fact that it contains a number of elements that can be identified as autostereotypes of the Danubian Bulgarians. The differences between this tradition and well-known historical facts can be explained as a result of a slight reworking by a Syrian author in the second half of the 8th or the first half of the 9th century.

*Igor Semyonov,
Institute for History, Archeology and Ethnography of
the Dagestan Scientific Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences*