

BOGOMILS IN VIEW OF THE LIFE OF HILARION OF MOGLENA BY EUTHYMIUS
OF TARNOVO

(Summary)

Hilarion, the 12th century bishop of Moglena, fought against three groups of heretics in his diocese. One of these were Bogomils. The heresy is mentioned three times in the *Life of Hilarion of Moglena* by Euthymius of Tarnovo. Although fragments relating to two other heresies, i.e. paulicianism and monophysitism, are much more voluminous the bogomil matter attracted the attention of mediaevalists much more. However, the text of the life does not provide clear information on the practices and beliefs of the Bogomils. Some scholars associate the mentioning of the Bogomils with the story regarding monks settled by Hilarion near the church of the Holy Apostles. It is known that after their protector's death they began to rebel against hegumen Peter and did not obey the rule. If we consider the identification of monks and heretics to be correct, we would have to acknowledge the probability that Euthymius used the name "bogomil" not to refer to dualists, but to monks breaking the rule. The 14th century provides several examples where the name "messalian" is sometimes treated as a synonym of "bogomil".

*Jan Mikołaj Wolski,
University of Łódź*