

ON THE RHYTHMIC ORGANIZATION OF THE SLAVIC HYMNOGRAPHIC
TEXTS

(Summary)

The article deals with an issue of the skill of Slavic translators working with Greek texts, namely the metric structure of hymnographic Slavonic texts in comparison with the Greek originals. It is a long-standing discussion whether the Slavic translators perceived hymnographic texts as poetry, how consciously they approached the translation of such texts and how adequate the transmission of the Byzantine hymnography in the Slavonic translation is. On the basis of the analysis of several stichera the author shows that Slavic translators strove towards translations that were as close as possible to the Greek originals. Obviously they at least realized the presence of a poetic component in hymnographic texts. However, since in the course of word-for-word translation it is quite difficult to reproduce fully the original metric, only isolated cases of full conservation of the number of syllables of the Greek colon can be found in the Slavonic translation.

*Mariya Malygina,
Russian Language Institute – RAS*