

Report on the activities of Biblical Library Sofia (*Bibliotheca biblica*) July 2012 - July 2013

Ivaylo Naydenov

In the reported period July 2011 – July 2012 are received total 772 library units, namely 574 books, 196 bodies of periodicals and 2 in electronic form (1 CD and 1 DVD). The newly acquired books are in the following languages: English – 197, Greek – 169, German – 129, Bulgarian – 48, Russian – 12, French – 10, the language of the Republic of Macedonia – 3, Romanian – 2, Italian – 1, Dutch – 1, Slovak – 1, Estonian – 1. Received periodicals are 196 volumes, divided into 21 titles, of which 5 are new. Distribution in languages as follows: German – 11, English – 5, French – 3, Romanian – 1, Greek – 1.

Every month a list of newly acquired books is sent to prof. K.-W. Niebuhr, Chairman of the Eastern Europe Liaison Committee of SNTS. A confirmation message with thanks to donors and publishers is sent immediately after receiving the gift. In November 2012 our Biblical Library received 208 books and 180 volumes of periodicals from the personal collection of prof. M. Knib (UK). And during the month of March 2013 the retired professor Ivan Dimitrov (BG) donated part of his personal library, about 260 volumes, among them very rear editions.

The library fund has grown to 9429 library items (53 pcs. electronic media, 6911 books and 2465 volumes of periodicals). Doublet specimens on the recommendation of EELC of SNTS are donated to the library at the Faculty for Orthodox Theology of the University of Veliko Tarnovo.

BB informs the readers about new publications in the field of biblical scholarship, offering catalog sent by publishers themselves, and by the Gesamtkatalog, the catalog of periodicals and of CD, which are now available on-line in the website of the Faculty of Theology http://www.uni-sofia.bg/index.php/bul/fakulteti/bogoslovski_fakultet2/bibliotheca_biblica

Along with registering the books of the Fund priority is serving readers (about 371 visits per year) – students, teaching staff, researchers. There are several places for readers, we offer also options for copying and scanning. A number of 1287 volumes and periodicals were used during the reporting period.

At the beginning of the school year, all freshmen (regular and part-time) were made familiar with the information resources of this specialized theological library. Even some classes on biblical subjects were held in the library itself.

In the last year were issued the new editions of the series *Biblica biblica*, carried by Collegium biblicum, the society of Bulgarian biblical scholars:

- 1) *The Spring of Life* (papers of two conferences of *Collegium biblicum*, held 2009 and 2010 in Nessebar), BB 7, 2012.
- 2) *Biblical Studies – Old Testament. A Bibliography*, prepared by Dr Stefka Kuncheva, assistant professor at the Veliko Tarnovo University. BB 8, 2012.
- 3) Marinova, Anna., *Heart in the Old Testament*, BB 9, 2013.

In December near Sofia was held the annual seminar of the Bible college on "The Period of the Old Testament patriarchs. The Book of Exodus". It was attended by faculty and students from the Universities of Theology in Sofia, Veliko Tarnovo and Shumen. The members of Collegium

biblicum took part also in the seminar on “140 years of the Bible in spoken Bulgarian”, organized by the Bulgarian Bible Society in 2012 at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. A volume was published with a collection of the presentations (already available in BB).

On 28th January 2013 passed away the renowned scholar Dr Slavtcho Valtchanov, professor emeritus of Old Testament, co-founder of BB-Sofia.

Donors during the year are: prof. M. Knibb, prof. K.-W. Niebuhr, prof. U. Luz, prof. T. Nicklas, prof. D. Kirchner, Dr S. Rogalski, prof. M. Ebner, prof. S. Tofana, prof. D. Hellholm, prof. K. Huber, prof. K. Nikolakopulos, prof. I. Dimitrov, assoc. prof. I. Naydenov, dr. A. Marinova, Dr E. Damyanova, Zograph monastery, Dr S. Kancheva, Dr deacon P. Simeonov, Bulgarian Bible Society.

Sofia, 1st July 2013

Prof. Ivaylo Naydenov

Director of BB – Sofia