

## **Report on the activities of Biblical Library Sofia (*Bibliotheca biblica*) July 2013 - June 2014**

**Ivaylo Naydenov**

The past period was associated with the celebration of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Biblical library in Sofia. With the modest forces of the team that worked hard to build, to organize and to run the library, with the goodwill of the Faculty of Theology of Sofia University as the host and partner, with the generosity and support of the Society for New Testament Studies (SNTS) through its Committee for Eastern Europe the balance in June 2014 is following: library fund has about library 9650 units (54 units electronic media, 7112 books and 2484 volumes of periodicals).

In the last 12 months (July 2013 to June 2014) we received a total of 221 library units: 201 books, 19 volumes of periodicals and electronic media (1 CD). The new received library units are in the following languages: German – 134, English – 25, Greek – 17, French – 8, Romanian – 3, Coptic – 1, Bulgarian – 20, Russian – 7, Polish – 1, Serbian – 5.

Due to collect data can be presented the following information: BB received about 425 visits per year by students, faculty and guests, who have used the 1238 books and periodicals. Some of the users ordered specific pages and content of books to be scanned and these orders were completed by email.

With the support of teaching staff in Biblical Studies at the beginning of the academic year, all freshmen (regular and distance learning) visit an introductory seminar acquainted them with the library and the opportunities for use. It was introduced as part of the learning process.

In November 2013 the Biblical Library in Sofia celebrated its 15th anniversary with a modest ceremony in the context of festive decade, dedicated to the patron of the Faculty of Theology and the University whose memory we celebrate on 11, 25th. The event had three parts. Firstly, it was marked by a week-long exhibition of valuable books of the library, secondly, we organized an “open day” (November 28th) of BB and also, thirdly, a solemn part with brief oral information about the history and the function of BB, as well as a presentation of its editions in the series "Bibliotheca biblica", given by the former and the present directors of BB, prof. Ivan Zhelev Dimitrov and assoc. prof. Ivaylo Naydenov. On this occasion was presented the 10th volume with the monograph of Dr. Anna Marinova “Expression of human sinfulness before the flood” (Sofia 2013, published in Bulgarian).

In February, the Chair of Biblical Studies, the fellowship of biblical scholars in Bulgaria “Collegium biblicum” and Bibliotheca biblica organized a joint seminar on Biblical studies, dedicated to the memory of Prof. Slavtcho Valchanov, our teacher and colleague, prominent OT scholar, who passed away a year ago. Workshop materials will be published and will become part of the library.

Larger personal donations for the period: 70 volumes from the personal collection of the German professor Christoph Dohmen and 39 books from the library of the late professor H. Aldenhoven from Bern, Switzerland. Other donators: proff. K.-W. Niebuhr, U. Luz, H. Klein, R. Kubat (Belgrade, Serbia), W. Thiel, Zdenko Sirka, A. Alexeev, Vitaly Akimov, Ivan Dimitrov. Ivan Naydenov, Anna Marinova, E. Damyanova, Svetoslav Ribolov, Mr. Petar Petkov.

*10<sup>th</sup> July 2014*

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