

Report on the activities of Biblical Library Sofia (*Bibliotheca biblica*) July 2011 - June 2013

Ivaylo Naydenov

It is a great honor and pleasure to me as the new director of Bibliotheca Biblica in Sofia, recently elected by the Faculty of Theology of St. Climent Ohridski Sofia University, to report to the members of EELC/SNTS about the activities of the BB in Sofia in the period July 2011 – July 2012. The last year was marked by a slow, but constant growth in numbers of books. In the reported period were received a total of 157 library units, namely 90 books, 66 issues of periodicals (collected in 36 volumes) and one CD-ROM. The newly acquired books are in the following languages: German – 26, English – 23, Greek – 8, French – 4, Bulgarian – 14, Korean – 1 (a Bible), Slovenian – 1, Russian – 8, Italian – 2, the language of the Republic of Macedonia – 1, Latin – 2. 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 to donors and publishers is sent immediately after receiving the gift.

The library fund numbers now 8657 library units (51 CDs, 6337 books and 2269 volumes of periodicals). Doublets are offered as a donation to the library of the Orthodox Theological Faculty of the University of Veliko Tarnovo, and other theological libraries. During the reporting period 279 doublet library units (179 books and 100 bodies of periodicals) were donated to the Veliko Tarnovo University library.

BB informs the readers about new publications in the field of biblical scholarship, offering catalogues sent by publishers, 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

All books in the library are in the bibliographic process and 98% of them are introduced in the electronic catalog Allegro. In a second stage our librarian will introduce in the Allegro catalog all periodicals.

Parallel to the cataloging work an important priority of the librarian is to serve the readers (about 400 visits per year) - students, teachers, researchers. There is a special room for readers with facilities for copying and scanning (about 1140 books and periodicals were used during the reporting period).

In the beginning of the school year, all new students are made familiar with the information resources of this specialized theological library. Even some classes in Biblical disciplines were held in the library. In November 2011, the *Bibliotheca Biblica* launched an initiative "transcribe of the Scriptures", which was later moved to the faculty's library. In December by initiative of the *Collegium biblicum* (Bulgarian fellowship of biblical scholars) the book *From the History of the Old Testament canon* was presented, which is № 6 publication of our series "Bibliotheca Biblica". In the same series this year two new books appeared: № 7 - *The Spring of Life* (papers of two conferences of Collegium biblicum, held 2009 and 2010 in Nessebar) and № 8 - *Biblical Studies - Old Testament. A Bibliography* prepared by Dr. Stefka Kuncheva, assistant professor at the Veliko Tarnovo University.

We were pleased to have as donors during the year the following colleagues: Prof. K.-W. Niebuhr, Prof. U. Luz, Prof. D. Kirchner, Prof. Slavtcho Valchanov, Prof. M. Ebner, Prof. Stelian

Tofana, Prof. Rodoljub Kubat, Prof. E. Munteanu, Prof. Ch. Dohmen, Prof. Ivan Dimitrov, Prof. Protopresb. Nikolay Shivarov, Prof. Emil Traichev, Assoc. Prof. Ivailo Naidenov, Dr. Ekaterina Damyanova, Dr. Svetoslav Ribolov.

In conclusion I want to express in front of all of you my gratitude to Prof. I. Dimitrov for his efforts in all 15 years from the establishing of the Bibliotheca Biblica in our Faculty of Theology. He was kind enough to promise to continue his support for BB after his retirement in October 2012.

Sofia, 12th July 2014
Prof. Ivaylo Naydenov
Director of BB – Sofia