

THE PRESENTATION OF THE CYRILLIC-METHODIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE IN AN INTERACTIVE MUSEUM ENVIRONMENT – OPPORTUNITIES AND PERSPECTIVES

Tatyana Ilieva

Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria

ПРЕДСТАВЯНЕ НА КИРИЛО-МЕТОДИЕВОТО КУЛТУРНО НАСЛЕДСТВО В ИНТЕРАКТИВНА МУЗЕЙНА СРЕДА – ВЪЗМОЖНОСТИ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ

Татяна Илиева

Кирило-Методиевски научен център – БАН, България

Abstract: *The article presents a concept of the author concerning the creation of a future Interactive Museum of the Endeavours and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius. The aim of the museum is at creating an interactive environment that will communicate and promote the cultural heritage of the Slavic First Teachers and their disciples among diverse audiences through means of the latest information and communication technologies. The proposed idea also envisages putting on a display the historical narrative of St. St. Seven Apostles of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church and the Slavic alphabets using the tools of museum exhibits. The summarized experience of the Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre – BAS in creating various web-based resources would be a great starting point for the implementation of such a large-scale project.*

Keywords: *Cultural Heritage; Cyril and Methodius; Interactive Museum; Museum Pedagogy; Non-Formal Education.*

Резюме: *В доклада ще бъде изложена концепцията на авторката за създаване на един бъдещ Интерактивен музей на Кирило-Методиевото дело и традиции, който ще има за цел да представя и популяризира културното наследство на славянските първоучители и техните ученици сред разнообразни публики чрез възможностите на най-новите информационни и комуникационни технологии в интерактивна музейна среда. Ще бъде предложена*

идея за експониране на историческия разказ за св. Седмочисленици и славянските азбуки посредством инструментариума на музейната експозиция. Ще бъде резюмирана дейността на КМНЦ по създаване на различни уеб базирани ресурси, които биха били една чудесна стартова база за осъществяването на такова мащабно начинание.

Ключови думи: *културно наследство, Кирил и Методий, интерактивен музей, музейна педагогика, неформално образование.*

Introduction

The national and cultural identity has been clearly revealed one of the characteristic features of today's world at a time when more and more people are talking about, "planetary consciousness", "borderless world" and "cultural diversity" – all of those tendencies being directly related to each other. The particularities of civilizational presence and contribution to the culture of each nation is a very important question. Cultural identity is an important prerequisite for the positive acceptance of one union in the consciousness of any society.

It is an undeniable fact that the oldest and most potent symbol of peoples' and national identity is the (own) language and, in some cases, the (own) script. Since as early as the Middle Ages these have been functioning not only as markers of national distinctiveness but also as an instrument of forming identity or of introducing new elements in the traditional perceptions of belonging. Many societies have therefore established their own institutions dedicated to books and letter work: museums, to serve as guardians of cultural identity through showcasing the book and letter work as endeavour with exceptional cultural value with instructive, educational, and aesthetic purpose. To give but two examples, such are the Museum of Cyrillic Word in Moscow and the National Hangeul Museum in Seoul, South Korea. There is also a remarkable self-initiative by a Bulgarian who, using their own means and materials at hand created a museum collection dedicated to the history of script. Furthermore, considering the efforts of certain museums which have already organised educational programmes on the topic of the Creation of Script, we can claim that time has come for Bulgaria too to have its own museum dedicated to the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius.

In response to this public challenge, a large-scale conceptual project is being proposed. Its aim is at creating on the territory of Sofia city an Interactive Museum of St. St. Cyril and Methodius dedicated to their endeavors and traditions.

The proposal corresponds well with the recent endeavors to improve the promotion of the national cultural heritage and the efforts to find new ways of promoting it by using technology and establishing free virtual museums.

The initiative to establish an interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius is inspired by the best examples of the new generation technology-enabled museums in the world. These use various devices, simulation equipment and a wide variety of technology and art-based platforms to exhibit their collections. Notable examples of such museums are the Museum of Computer Art established by the NYS Department of Education in 1993; the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History; the Virtual Louvre; The Vatican Museum complex, etc. Each of these is an example of an uppermost achievement of application of technology in the museum field. Similar good endeavours in Bulgaria are the Interactive Museum of Industry in Gabrovo, Abritus Museum in Razgrad, and the virtual exhibitions in the National History Museum, The Military History Museum and the Archaeological Museum in Sofia.

Objective factors for the success of such initiatives are, firstly, the global use of the Internet which enables easy access to key repositories of items of material culture and art at the leading world museums. It thus enables also direct engagement with individual artefacts which mark key aspects of the development of humanity and represent the material heritage of a country. The second factor enabling the success of such initiatives is the recently developed VIHAP3D programme for scanning of artefacts funded by the EU.

The priority of the project message is the European and world significance of the mission of St. St. Cyril and Methodius as “a cornerstone of the European identity of the emerging Slavic nations”. That requires founding an attractive international cultural center, comparable to the most famous museums in Europe, able to trace the opportunities of the most modern museum aesthetics, i.e. to be a complex historical means through which the work of the brothers from Thessaloniki could be emphasized as a phenomenon having a special significance both for the European and the world civilization that has been lasting more than a thousand of years.

The following references was used in this research (Barlieva, 2015), (Barlieva, 2017), (Barlieva, 2023), (Batalova, 2022), (Bearman (ed.), 1991), (Bilyarska, 2015), (Cheshmedzhiev, 1999), (Cheshmedzhiev, 2001), (Cheshmedzhiev, 2011), (Dževiecka, 2020), (Genova, 1992), (Grigorova, 2020), (Ilieva, 2014), (Ivanova, 2020), (Lees (ed.), 1993), (Mintz and Tomas (ed.), 1998), (Naydenova, 2013), (Naydenova, 2015), (Naydenova, 2017), (Naydenova, 2023), (Rasheva, 2016), (Stanev, 2019), (Tsekova, 2001), (Zhelyazkova, 2012).

Mission of the Interactive Museum of the Endeavours and Traditions of st. st. Cyril and Methodius

The interactive museum dedicated to the endeavors and traditions of Cyril and Methodius would be a magnificent tourist attraction in the capital of Bulgaria – a city of alive spirit, preserved over the centuries despite all the historical changes. The goals set with establishing a museum dedicated to present the deeds of the Holy Brothers St.St. Cyril and Methodius, will be to re-create the history of the Slavic script, offering visitors an exciting journey through four historical eras - Middle Ages, Renaissance, New Times and Nowadays. An unforgettable atmosphere will be created exploiting modern design, rich thematic content, contemporary expository technologies and attractive audio-visual applications. The principle of a virtual museums will be the core of the facility. It will operate on the basis of an interactive environment allowing easy orientation among the huge database and useful information.

The Task of the Museum

The task of the museum will be to offer its guests an innovative interactive experience in the area of cultural-historical life, available traditionally only in archaeological field studies, manuscript sections of world libraries and old archives. That is supposed to be a new form of presentation and perception of information, which will also provoke the visitors' interest in a series of cognitive discoveries. It will create a unique opportunity for an individual journey - beyond conventional museum expositions, where visitors can make their own virtual walk according to their specific preferences. Controlling the digital panels on the virtual decor simply with the touch of his/her hand the visitor, will tour through the expositions and will even revive the history of the Slavic script and the memory of St. St. Cyril and Methodius.

Structure of the Museum

Upon entering the interior of the building, visitors' attention will be focused on the video walls located in separate halls, so that they will be attracted naturally by the

dynamic vision and oriented without unnecessary guidance along the informational axis of the museum, commencing from the hystoric naration about the missions of St.St. Cyril and Methodius and ending with the most recent achievements in the field of St.St. Cyril and Methodiuius studies. Through the incorporation of ultra-modern multimedia tools and the use of holographic effects, impressions of the museum will intensify and, having a strong effect on the senses of visitors, its exhibits produce the desired impact on the audience. The spectators are difficult intrigue: they communicates daily on the global network and are accustomed to three-dimensional images in cinema, architecture and animation. The museum will consist of five video-exposition halls and two more for expositions of artefacts, as follows:

First Hall “St. St. Cyril and Methodius”

The hall will also include two video walls.

The first video wall will provide a virtual walk along the Cyril and Methodius Route. Through it, the visitor will be able to visit the historical places – those connected with the lives and the work of Saints Brothers – Medieval Thessaloniki, Constantinople with the St. Sofia Cathedral, the alleged location of the Polychronion Monastery, Baghdad and its monuments from the time of the mission to the Saracens, Kherson with the ruins of the Khazar Khaganate, Great Moravia (Mikulčice, Velehrad), Blaten Principality (Blatengrad (nowadays Zalavár in Western Hungary), Nitra), Venice, Rome (“Santa Maria Maggiore” and “San Clemente”); In connection with the St. Methodius’ life and activity following the death of St. Cyril: Passau , Elvangen , Regensburg, Reichenau. Interactive historical maps will also mark the missions of the two brothers. One could view 3D images of archeological remains from the time of St. St. Cyril and Methodius, as well as museum expositions dedicated to their memory in the particular locations. The second video wall, named "Memory for St.St. Cyril and Methodius", will also present an organized collection of electronic exhibits and data about the sources for the lives and the work of the Saint Brothers. The collection will offer a compendium of digitized images of the so-called written monuments complimented with a summary. The exhibition will be accessed through an interactive map of the library, where the sources are kept. There will also be several smaller video sections in the First Hall of the Interactive Museum that will be presenting the following virtual collections:

- Pinacotheca Cyrillo-Methodiana:

St.St. Cyril and Methodius in different spheres of the ecclesiastic and secular fine art - iconography, murals, stained glass, mosaics, wood carving, embroidery (banners and school flags), spharagistics (school seals with the images of St.St. Cyril

and Methodius, jubilee coins, medals, plaques), monumental sculpture, plastic and bas-reliefs – in Bulgaria and worldwide (with 3D panoramic model on the exhibits).

- Phonothea Cyrillo-Methodiana:

St.St. Cyril and Methodius in the art of music - audio and video recordings of musical works including church chants, school hymns, pop songs, large music pieces dedicated to St.St. Cyril and Methodius, in different arrangements and performed by different musicians. Audio recordings of recitals about St.St. Cyril and Methodius by distinguished performers of artistic declamation.

- Bibliotheca Cyrillo-Methodiana:

Containing old print, art and scientific section:

St.St. Cyril and Methodius in old printed books (transcription of materials in contemporary language, inclusive);

St.St. Cyril and Methodius in art literature (poetry, prose, drama, respectively from the revival, post-liberation period and

- Audio -Videotheca Cyrillo-Methodiana:

The interpretation of St. St. Cyril and Methodius tradition by modern audio-visual arts (street art, graphics, comics, cinema, performance and flash mob);

St.St. Cyril and Methodius in satire and cartoons; as images in modern graphic design.

The planned attraction in the case is demonstration of a short animated film about the life and work of St.St. Cyril and Methodius.

Second Hall “Disciples of St.St. Cyril and Methodius”

The exhibitions will be developed in a similar way. The first video wall will provide a virtual walk along the road On St. Kliment and St. Naum. Through it, the tourists will visit destinations related to the lives and work of the two disciples of St. St. Cyril and Methodius: Pliska with the archeological complex - momentary condition and restoration²², Ohrid book center, the Monastery St. Panteleimon, and St. Archangels; The Theotokos Peribleptos church, Kutmichevitsa (Devoll), Glavinitsa (Ballsh). An interactive historical map will show the historical topoi, monuments and museum expositions at the memorial sites of St. Clement and St. Naum.

The second video wall will also present an organized collection of electronic exhibits and sources of information about:

- sources about the lives and works of St. Kliment and St. Nahum
- works by St. Kliment and St. Nahum

The disciples of St.St. Cyril and Methodius in fine arts (Pinacotheca Naumo-Clementina);

The disciples of St.St. Cyril and Methodius in belle-letters (Bibliotheca Naumo-Clementina);

The disciples of St. St. Cyril and Methodius in music (Phonotheca and Audio - Videotheca Naumo-Clementina).

A 3D reconstruction of the architectural complex in Pliska to create a sense of space is planned as an attraction in that hall.

Third Hall “Old Slavonic Alphabets - Scribes and Written Monuments”

The interactive museum will acquaint the visitor with the old graphic system created by St.St. Cyril and Methodius and their disciples. It will provide virtual access to some of the main libraries of Slavic manuscripts through collections of electronic exhibits and sources of information - concerning the most famous Old Bulgarian written monuments (Glagolitic and Cyrillic), the medieval writers and their works. A documentary reconstruction film will yet tell in details the creation of a written book.

The planned attraction for that hall is the organization of a medieval scriptorium at the museum with the study of Cyrillic calligraphy. A kaleidoscope with images in glagolitic letters will be offered to the little ones.

Forth Hall “Celebrating the Memory of St.St. Cyril and Methodius and their Disciples”

It will also have two video displays.

The first video wall will be dedicated to the Bulgarian public holiday 24th May dedicated to celebration of St.St. Cyril and Methodius.

The video wall will provide virtual access to the old archives through the collection of electronic exhibits of archival materials and sources of information on the celebration of 24th May during the various periods of the Bulgaria history (Revival, Post-Liberation Bulgaria, totalitarianism, modern days Bulgaria after November 10, 1989). The atmosphere of the 1930s/1940s will come alive before the eyes of the visitor through film screenings and documentary footage of celebrating the holiday.

The planned attraction here is a parallel hologram - a reenactment of the manifestation on 24th May at the time of totalitarianism. Another attraction will be a hologram visualization of the event nowadays. The historical panorama still intensifies the sensory perception of the visitor, bringing him/her into the most real environment.

The second video wall will also present the anniversary celebration of St.St. Cyril and Methodius and their disciples. The visitor will be able to browse the

archives and follow the commemoration of the round anniversary of St. St. Seven Apostles of Bulgarian Orthodox Church.

A separate video section will also present the cultural importance of the Day of Bulgarian Higher Education Students celebrated on the dormation of St. Kliment of Ohrid - November 25/December 8.

Fifth Hall “Scientific Research on St.St. Seven Apostles of Bulgarian Orthodox Church”

The main Cyrillo-Methodian research centers and their most famous representatives will be displayed in that hall. The most important discoveries in Cyrillo-Methodian studies and information about the most prominent researchers will be provided via rich archival material.

Others

The museum will ensure different attractions in each hall. The greatest advantage in the case will be that, the visitor will have the possibility for managing the exhibition him/herself, controlling the time and the place - by touching – or moving the interactive installations, and even becoming a part of them. Assisted by the machine of time to he/she could get into the first Bulgarian capital, Pliska, where the disciples of St. St.Cyril and Methodius worked, or to take part in a manifestation on 24th May at the time of totalitarianism, to participate the production of a handwritten book in the medieval scriptorium, or visit a library, museum and historical place related to the memory of St. St. Cyril and Methodius and their disciples. There will be an option of choosing the background music.

The visitor will have the possibility to touch the display of Phonothea Cyrillo-Methodiana; to perform his/her virtual walk according to his/her specific preferences in celebration of the Slavic First Teachers and their work with music of different character.

In each hall, in addition to the digital video collection, there will be separate real exhibits of art works, coins, medals, plaques, school seals with the faces of St.St. Cyril and Methodius and their disciples, postage stamps, flags of educational institutions, archival documents related to celebrating the memory of St.St. Seven Apostles of Bulgarian Orthodox Church and the homage to their endeavors or documents related to the achievements of prominent scholars in the field of St.St. Cyril and Methodius studies. The thematic decor of the museum space will also award the visitors with the specific spirit that each of the presented historical periods has, enriched additionally with a variety of visual, sound and light effects.

The separate Sixth Hall will provide space for the permanent exhibition "St.St. Seven Apostles of Bulgarian Orthodox Church in fine art", including originals and replicas both from Revival and contemporary art (paintings, frescos, wood carvings, stained glass, embroidery, reliefs, mosaics, etc.).

The Seventh Hall will be the territory for temporary expositions related to St.St. Cyril-Method tradition.

There will be a children's hall in the museum that will be engaging the young visitors in various activities - puzzles, labyrinths, board games, active cards, etc., with which, through entertainment, children will get to know the old Bulgarian alphabets.

Expected Results

The proposal to build the Interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius with the Court of Glagolitic Alphabet is an integral part of the purposeful efforts of the Bulgarian society to upgrade and develop the cultural-historical tourist product and related infrastructure. When situated at a communicative location, the museum is a convenient spot - so its exterior space would provide high-quality leisure entertainment, becoming one of the most relevant parts of the rich cultural and historical product of Bulgaria and Sofia. The establishment will give a chance to the young audience that visit it to self-express via organizing open lessons, extracurricular training and university programs. A welcoming place for young and old, for family and friend visits, it will also offer an interactive environment for educational games and activities related to St.St. Cyril and Methodius heritage, becoming an attractive center for people of different generations and national cultures, who will enjoy an inspiring adventure. Designed in an attractive and provocative way, the Interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St.St. Cyril and Methodius will also preserve, interpret, popularize, develop, educates and disseminate the digital and real resources available in it, among a wide range of audiences locally and regionally, at a national and world level. The goal is to create an effective and attractive for young people cultural establishment, open to all Bulgarian and foreign tourists visiting Sofia, and, guaranteeing high attendance in advance, to become a famous and recognizable place on the map of cultural tourism in Bulgaria. The interactive nature of the museum reveals its great potential to expand continuously its exhibition collections, in cooperation with national and international academic institutions, as the expected results are:

- to enrich the content of local cultural products, joining a wide network of modern museums, dedicated to preserving cultural and historical heritage;
- to give a well-deserved place to Bulgaria in the preservation of Cyrillo-Methodian - divine traditions, highlighting its historical connections with the cultural and educational work in the PanSlavic and PanEuropean plan;
- to meet the modern requirements of the audience using modern technological applications, new perceptions and take part in the research - with active participation of the visitor;
- to play an active social role in the educational process, developing a sense of identity, belonging, value and recognition; to improve access and raise the quality of education and learning of the Bulgarian language and culture by children whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian;
- to raise tourist interest throughout the year as part of a unified strategy for cultural revival and renewal;
- to foster social interactions in society, creating a social platform for cultural-public debate.
- to contribute to the development of the local cultural-historical tourist product and the related infrastructure.
- to support the international visibility of Bulgaria by including the museum in the Trans-European telecommunication network for access to the European cultural heritage.
- It will enable the creation of international partnerships for free exchange of collections and will remove the obstacles to free movement of people and artefacts.

Adapted to the latest scientific achievements of the St.St. Cyril and Methodius studies, but presented through appropriate visual means, the exhibition - digital and real - will be addressed to visitors with academic training and to the general public.

Experience of the Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre – BAS in Creating Various Web-Based Resources

The Cyrillo-Methodian Research Center at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (CMRC) has an indisputable capacity to coordinate and supervise the work of creating such a museum. That is a scientific and educational institution with a well - established position in interdisciplinary research in the field of St.St. Cyril and

Methodius studies being an authority both in our country and abroad. The team has accumulated serious experience in the implementation of large national, international and European projects on the topic of preserving national and cultural identity, among which: Construction and development of the Center for excellence "Heritage of BG"; National Interdisciplinary Research Infrastructure for Resources and Technologies for the Bulgarian Language and Cultural Heritage CLaDA, integrated within the framework of the European infrastructures CLARIN and DARIAH"; National scientific program "Cultural Historical Heritage, National Memory and Public Progress" (CHHNMP).

As a multidisciplinary academic institution, CMRC has the necessary human resources to carry out scientific activities according to the project proposal.

We can point at a number of results already achieved by the scientific section which are directly relevant to the preliminary work on the creation of web-based resources for the Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius. For example, under its 'Heritage BG' project the research team of the Centre has been working on the creation of a digital repository which can naturally develop into a digital collection of artefacts and information resources for the future Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius. At present there are more than 42000 scanned images, and this number is still growing.

For the Virtual Tour 'In the Footsteps of the Slavic First Teachers and Their Disciples'

The proposal for the creation of an Interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius which will constitute a new and modern tourist destination along the Cyril and Methodius' route in Bulgaria and will enable a virtual travel in the footsteps of the Slavic First teachers and their disciples is directly connected with CMRC's membership of St. St. Cyril and Methodius' European Cultural Route Association and its work on the project Places Connected with Cyril and Methodius in the Bulgarian Cultural Memory. It will also contribute to the development of a European Cultural Route 'Cyril and Methodius' under the project Establishment and development of a Centre for supreme achievements Heritage BG. A worth-mentioning preparatory step in the establishment of such a centre of culture and education as the Interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius is the research into the historic places connected with the work of St.St. Cyril and Methodius published in this year's collective monograph entitled Places Connected with Cyril and Methodius in the Bulgarian Cultural Memory. We

aim to turn the various and diverse places about the work of the First Enlighteners discovered in people's memory into elements of the Bulgarian part of the actual European Cultural Route. In future they may even become an integral part of the virtual tour of the Interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius.

For Pinacotheca Cyrillo-Methodiana & Naumo-Clementina Hall

Go to the digital archive with images of Cyril and Methodius and their disciples. Assistant professor at the CMRC Totka Grigorova conducted fieldwork and identified dozens of depictions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius unknown to date. These were uncovered in various churches in Sandanski, Zheravna, around Koprivshtitsa, Shumen, Vidin etc. Particular attention was paid to the images of St. St. Cyril and Methodius from the Bulgarian National Revival period. At the moment, more than two hundred frescoes and icons, created during the period from the middle of the 19th to the beginning of the 20th century, have been found. Their documentation, description and research, as well as further expansion of their list are pending.

The Center has a collection of digitized images of 118 monuments to Cyril and Methodius in Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Italy, China, Macedonia, Portugal, Hungary, Russia, Slovakia, USA, Serbia, Ukraine and Czechia, most of them were raised during the last decades; over 70 examples of philately from Bulgaria, the Vatican, Greece, Macedonia, Mozambique, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine and the Czech Republic; 15 samples from Bulgaria, Macedonia, Slovakia and the Czech Republic; more than 30 examples of faleristics (orders, medals, badges, plaques) from Bulgaria, the Vatican , Greece, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine and the Czech Republic and 13 flags with images of teachers (Zhelyazkova and Naydenova, 2021). The beginning of a collection of cartoons with images of Cyril and Methodius, ridiculing the shortcomings of descendants through the holiness of these two historical characters (Zhelyazkova, 2019). Topic for the status of St. St. Cyril Methodius studies in various Slavic schools.

For Bibliotheca Cyrillo-Methodiana & Naumo-Clementina Hall

At present there are more than 5000 bibliographic entries in the repository of Bibliotheca Cyrillo-Methodiana & Naumo-Clementina which are to be grown further. Five hundred and fifty manuscripts (Slavic and others) have been digitalised as has

been the full record of editions of Palaeobulgarica and Cyrillo-Methodius Studies journals. We have also digitalised other relevant books and journals from the archive of the Cyril and Methodius Research Centre, microfilms and photographic copies of Medieval Slavic manuscripts. Bibliotheca homiletica Balcano-slavica from the research archive of Prof. Klementina Ivanova will also be made available online. Virtual archive has been established of the written works of Neophit of Rila based on the Scientific Archive of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (by Assoc. professor Iva Trifonova).

For the Fontes Section

The digital repository consists of three sub-sections - Slavic sources, Greek sources and Latin sources. The work on these is ongoing. It already has an electronic edition of a map of the Slavic St. St. Cyril and Methodius sources. An interactive digital book on the Slavic Cyrillo-Methodius sources has been created and is accessible on the platform comprising 32 sources, 767 copies, 2432 links, 979 titles of which 486 digitalised primary sources and secondary literature published online, all collected by B. Mircheva (Mircheva, 2014). A digital catalogue has also been created of the primary sources and research materials on the Slavic Cyrillo-Methodius sources entitled Slavic Cyrillo-Methodius sources online.

For the Glagolitic and Cyrillic Alphabet. Scribes and Written Monuments Hall

Two items are of direct relevance to the content of this part in the museum story: the review article by Slava Barlieva on the monuments of pre-Glagolitic graphic culture in the Bulgarian territories from the Neolithic period until 9th century (the beginning of the Bulgarian written culture), the publication by D. Naydenova on the traces of the use of the Glagolitic alphabet in Bulgaria, the richly illustrated and animated course "Writing systems in the Bulgarian lands" by Iva Trifonova, the video lecture "The Medieval Book" by T. Ilieva - both parts of the educational portal of the Center.

For the Section „Cult and Celebration“

A lot of archival and factual material has been collected, affecting the question of the cult of enlighteners and their disciples and the celebration of St. Seven Apostles of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church during different historical periods . The researchers from the CMRC analyse the cult towards Cyril and Methodius in broad time and space ranges: not only within the historic boundaries of Bulgaria but also in the West, in the Catholic world; from the Middle Ages until the Counter-Reformation period.

The archive of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences has been digitalised (library collection 1K, entries 1-2). It contains historic documents from its very establishment in 1869 under the name of Bulgarian Letters Association (until 1944). Documents kept in this institutional archive are: protocols and diaries of the Association; correspondence related to various issues and early celebrations of the St.St. Cyril and Methodius' feast by the Bulgarian emigrants in Braila, Odessa, Turnu Măgurele, Giurgiu and Ploiești etc.

Among these are also documents related to the solemn celebration of the 1000th anniversary of St Kliment of Ochrid (1916); the celebration in Odessa of the millennium of the establishment of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church; documents related to the activities of the committee organising the celebration of the Slavic Enlighteners in 1885 in Sofia and Velehrad; the commemoration of the death of Methodius; the activities of the Kliment Commission (1914-1916), etc. There are also documents connected with the acquisition of Slavic manuscripts by the Academy, through donation or purchase. All these have now formed a unique collection of historic documents (today's collection X).

For Scientific Research on St.St. Seven Apostles of Bulgarian Orthodox Church hall

Work is being done on the archives and contributions of prominent Bulgarian and foreign Cyrillomethodist scholars and the topic related to this knowledge about the state of Cyrillomethodology in the various Slavic schools. More than 5600 relevant archive items have been digitalised including many document unknown to date (manuscripts, notes, working research papers, photocopies, individual parchment and paper sheets from Old Bulgarian written monuments, lectures, and correspondence). These were sourced from the archives of Academicians Yordan Ivanov and P. DInekov, B. Anguelov, Prof. Kl. Ivanova and the Bolondists. We are in

the process of preparing an electronic book entitled Polish philologists, intellectuals, scientific and cultural institutions in correspondence with Academician P. Dinekov between 1930s and 1990s. In the course of the archive work a range of questions about the classification and description of the documents in fund 83 were resolved. These had emerged during the processing and classifying of the fund's items (description 1) and the de visu study of documents.

This thematic route of the Museum is closely related with CMRC's digitalised exhibitions entitled The archive heritage of Academician Petar Dinekov; 100 years of Cyrillo-Methodius studies in Bulgaria as well as the documentary on the work of the CMRC. All of these present in a succinct and accessible way the key stages and aspects of the development of Old Bulgarian Studies and Paleoslavic research as a branch of the humanities.

For Exhibitions Hall

From 2009 to date have been created a number of exhibitions, presenting to the general public the scientific problems of the link and the corresponding milestone anniversaries . Albums and booklets have been made and released on the occasion of some of those events . All this is accumulated experience and material that will be applied to the implementation of the Interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St.St. Cyril and Methodius.

We have digitalised poster exhibitions of the CMRC which introduce and promote Bulgarian cultural and historic heritage as well as the research associated with it. These are: The idea of Cyril and Methodius in Orthodox Christianity; The path through time. 100th anniversary of Acad, Petar Dinekov; 100 years of Cyril and Methodius studies in Bulgaria; 1100 years of the assumption of St Naum of Ochrid, a great enlightener of the Bulgarians; In the beginning there was the letter. Bulgaria land of ancient scripts; St Kliment – the Enlightener; The images of St. St. Seven Apostles of Bulgarian Orthodox Church in the contemporary Bulgarian icon painting; Three epochs of the Bulgarian icon; 'To Him be glory, honour and worship into the ages of ages...'; The archive heritage of Acad. Petar Dinekov; The path of Cyril and Methodius; Monastery libraries in the Southern Slavic and Russian lands 14th-16th Centuries – space and cultural dimensions).

For the Film Library

Various documentaries produced by the CMRC over the years, either independently or in collaboration with other institutions, will also hold an important place in the electronic collection of pictures, diagrams, graphic image, videos, articles, data bases and other sources of information in the future Interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius. The Centre associate Assoc.Prof. Dr Dessislava Naydenova was one of the screenwriters of the documentary series *The path of the letters*. The documentary is a historic narrative of the impact of the work of Cyril and Methodius across time and space beginning in 9th century until today. It follows the long and complex path the Slavic script meandering along the map of Southern and Central Europe across more than 11 centuries and leaving lasting traces in the history of all Slavic peoples: Checks, Slovaks, Bulgarians, Macedonians, Russians and Poles. Another film to mention here is the short documentary entitled *The path of Cyril and Methodius* and directed by Al. Tomov-son. It concluded the celebrations of 2023 as a year in which the CMRC commemorated 1160th anniversary of the creation of the Slavic script.

For the Playroom

Educational games to acquaint students with the history of the Bulgarian writing system have been developed as a part of the project "Inter-disciplinary cluster" *Cyrilometodikon*". The purpose of the project is to popularize the heritage and traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius in Bulgaria amongst the youngest (Some of them were tested for classes at the Sunday School at the Metropolitan Church "St. Sofia") . In connection with the initiative "European Researchers Night" and "Open doors of CMSC", icon painting and calligraphy workshops were organized and held. A number of exhibitions have been created, presenting to the general public the scientific problems of the link and the corresponding milestone anniversaries . Albums and booklets have been made and released on the occasion of some of those events . All this is accumulated experience and material that will be applied to the implementation of the Interactive Museum of the Endeavors and Traditions of St.St. Cyril and Methodius.

Conclusion

In conclusion I would like to say that the creation of a free digital repository is the first step towards the establishment of the Museum of Endeavors and Traditions of St. St. Cyril and Methodius. Such a museum will benefit the contemporary Bulgarian society by enhancing specifically its much needed knowledge of its own cultural history through engagement with the work of St. St. Cyril and Methodius. Drawing on the latest interdisciplinary research and using the possibilities offered by contemporary information technologies the museum will provide access to rich information and scientifically robust knowledge to its visitors. This is especially pertinent in the context of EU enlargement and the position of Bulgaria in it as it will make available to the wide public the scientific achievements in the area of Cyrillo-Methodius studies as well as the research of the CMRC. It will also contribute to the enrichment and development of the knowledge which each Bulgarian should have about their own cultural history. The museum will provide an opportunity to make available to various audiences in a non-discriminatory and inclusive way knowledge about important elements of the old Bulgarian written culture, monuments associated with them as well as some equally significant albeit less known artefacts and archive materials from various historic periods. We will be able to show landmark monuments of the Slavic written word, religious sites and artwork. This new proposal is a continuation of the previous ones presented by the CMRC. It carries a great potential for continuing the various research activities in areas such as art, history, and archive studies.

The publication is financed by the National Scientific Program “Development and Promotion of Bulgarian Studies Abroad” // [Национална научна програма „Развитие и утвърждаване на българистиката в чужбина“] (№ 205/07.04.2022 г.)

References

- Barlieva, S. (2015).** Ad fontes – on the Slavic Letters and the Cyrillo-Methodian Sources from the West Middle Ages, Bulgaria mediaevalis, volume 6, ISBN 1314-2941-11, Publisher: Bulgarian historical heritage foundation, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2015, pp. 47-57

- Barlieva, S. (2017).** The Cult of Saints Cyril and Methodius: The Phenomenon of Shared Identity in the Slavic World, Rewriting Holiness: Reconfiguring Vitae, Re-Signifying Cults (= King's College London Medieval Studies Tom 25), Publisher: King's College, London, Great Britain, 2017, pp. 129-141.
- Barlieva, S. (2023).** Ot neolita do 9 vek – pametnitsi na predglagolicheskata grafichna kultura po bulgarskite zemi, Kirilo-Metodievski mesta na pametta v bulgarskata kultura, Ed. E. Zashev, V. Zhelyazkova, Sl. Barlieva, B. Mircheva, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2023, pp. 211-237. // [От неолита до IX век – паметници на предглаголическата графична култура по българските земи, Кирило-Методиевски места на паметта в българската култура, Ред.: Е. Зашев, В. Желязкова, Сл. Бърлиева, Б. Мирчева, София, България, 2023, стр. 211-237].
- Batalova, S. (2022).** Po sledite na bolandistite ili za parvite prinosi v nauchnoto izsledvane na izvorite za zhivota i deloto na sv. Kiril i sv. Metodiy, Palaeobulgarica, volume 46, issue 1, ISSN 0204-4021, Publisher: CMRC-BAS, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2022, pp. 95-162. // [Стиляна Баталова (2022) По следите на боландистите или за първите приноси в научното изследване на изворите за живота и делото на св. Кирил и св. Методий, Palaeobulgarica (ISSN 0204-4021), Том 46, Брой 1, София, България, 2022, стр. 95-162]
- Bearman, D. (ed.) (1991).** Hypermedia and interactivity in museums. Proceedings of an International Conference (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 14-16, 1991), ISBN 1-885626-03-7, Publisher: Archives & Museum Informatics, Pittsburgh, PA, USA 1991.
- Bilyarska, V. (2015).** Kirilometodievistikata v lichniya arhiv na akad. Petar Dinekov v CDA. Disertatsiya za prisazhd. na ONS "doctor", CMRC-BAS, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2015. // [Василена Билярска (2015) Кирилометодиевистиката в личния архив на акад. Петър Динеков в ЦДА, дисертация за присъждане на образователна и научна степен "доктор", научна специалност, София, България, 2015].
- Cheshmedzhiev, D. (1999).** Za poyavata na 11 may kato pomenalna data za Kiril i Metodiy, Obshtoto i spetsifichnoto v balkanskite narodi do kraja na XIX v. (Sbornik v chest na 70-godishninata na prof. Vasilka Tapkova-Zaimova), Publisher: Гутенберг, Sofia, Bulgaria, 1999, pp. 93-98 // [Димо Чешмеджиев (1999) За появата на 11 май като поменална дата за Кирил и Методий, Общото и специфичното в балканските народи до края на XIX в. (Сборник в чест на 70-годишнината на проф. Василка Тъпкова-Займова), София, България, 1999, стр. 93-98]
- Cheshmedzhiev, D. (2001).** Kiril i Metodiy v bulgarskata istoricheska pamet prez srednite vekove, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2001. // [Димо Чешмеджиев (2001) Кирил и Методий в българската историческа памет през средните векове, София, България, 2001].

- Cheshmedzhiev, D. (2011).** Kultat na sv. Sedmochislenici v Srednovekovna Bulgaria. – Slavica Slovaca, volume 46, issue 1, ISSN: 0037-6787, Publisher: SLAVU SAV, Bratislava, Slovakia, 2011, pp. 24-36 // [Димо Чешмеджиев (2011) Култът на св. Седмочисленици в Средновековна България, Slavica Slovaca (ISSN: 0037-6787), Том 46, Брой 1, Братислава, Словакия, 2011, стр. 24-36]
- Dževiecka, E. (2020).** Yubileyno i moderno. Kirilo-Metodievskiyat razkaz prez sotsializma v Bulgaria, Kirilo-Metodievski studii, volume 29, ISSN 0205-2253, Publisher: CMRC-BAS, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2020. // [Джевиецка, Е. Юбилейно и модерно. Кирило-Методиевският разказ през социализма в България, Кирило-Методиевски студии (ISSN 0205-2253), Том 29, ISSN 0205-2253, Изд. КМНЦ – БАН, София, България, 2020].
- Genova, J. (1992).** Vaprosi na savremennata muzeyno-obrazovatelna deynost, Izvestiya na NIM. volume 9, ISSN 1311–5219, Publisher: National Museum of History, Sofia, Bulgaria, 1992, pp. 250-259 // [Й. Генова (1992) Въпроси на съвременната музейно-образователна дейност, Известия на НИМ. (ISSN 1311–5219), Том IX, София, България, 1992, стр. 250–259]
- Grigorova, T. (2020).** Belezhki kam vazrozhdenskata ikonografiya na Kiril i Metodiy (po materiali ot nauchna ekspeditsiya v Severozapadna Bulgaria), Rod i otechestvo, volume 11. 150 godini bălgarska ekzarhiya, Publisher: „Faber“, Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria, 2021, pp. 40-60 // [Тотка Григорова (2021) Бележки към възрожденската иконография на Кирил и Методий (по материали от научна експедиция в Северозападна България), Род и отечество, Том 11. 150 години българска екзархия. Велико Търново, България, 2021, стр. 40-60]
- Ilieva, L. (2014).** Kirilo-Metodievskoto kulturno nasledstvo na balgarite v grakoezichnite izvori ot HI-HIII v., Bulgaria v svetovnoto kulturno nasledstvo, ISBN 978-954-577-869-8, Publisher: Šum. Univ. „Episkop Konstantin Preslavski“, Shumen, Bulgaria, 2014, pp. 379-390 // [Люба Илиева (2014), Кирило-Методиевското културно наследство на българите в гръкоезичните извори от XI-XIII в., България в световното културно наследство (ISBN 978-954-577-869-8) Шумен, България, 2014, стр. 379-390]
- Ivanova, M. (2020).** Poznatoto i nepoznatoto arhivno nasledstvo na akademik Petar Dinekov, Dzyalo e-spisanie v oblastta na humanitaristikata X-XXI v., volume 8, 2020, issue 18, ISSN 1314-9067, Publisher: IBE, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2020. <https://www.abcdar.com> // [Мая Иванова (2020) Познатото и непознатото архивно наследство на академик Петър Динеков, Дзяло е-списание в областта на хуманитаристиката X-XXI в. (ISSN 1314-9067), год. VIII, 2020, брой 18]. Available at: <https://www.abcdar.com> (last view: 10-04-2023)
- Lees, D. (ed.) (1993).** *Museums and Interactive Multimedia: Proceedings of an International Conference Held in Cambridge, England, 20-24 September 1993*, ISBN-10:090596389X, Publisher: Archives & Museums Informatics, Cambridge, England, 1993.

- Mintz, A., S. Tomas (ed.) (1998).** The virtual & the real: Media in the museum. ISBN 9780931201516, Publisher: American Association of Museums, Washington D.C., 1998.
- Mircheva, B. (2014).** Opis na prepisite na slavyanskite izvori za Kiril i Metodiy i tehните uchenitsi, Kirilo-Metodievski studii, volume 23, Kirilo-Metodievski izvori. Tom 2, ISSN 0205-2253, Publisher: CMRC-BAS, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2014 See also Mircheva, B. Slavyanski kirilo-metodievski izvori, ISBN 978-954-9787-51-1. // [Бойка Мирчева (2014) Опис на преписите на славянските извори за Кирил и Методий и техните ученици, Кирило-Методиевски студии (ISSN 0205-2253), Том 23, София, България, 2014]. Вж. също Мирчева, Б. Славянски кирило-методиевски извори. ISBN 978-954-9787-51-1], Available at: <https://cyrmet-sl.kmnc.bg/index.html> (last view: 10-04-2023)
- Naydenova, D. (2013).** Kirilo-metodievoto delo v političeskata propaganda na XIX vek, Krakowsko-wileńskie studia slawistyczne, volume 8. Publisher: Instytut Filologii Słowiańskiej Krakow, Poland, 2013, pp. 237-253 // [Десислава Найденова (2013) Кирило-методиевото дело в политическата пропаганда на XIX век, Krakowsko-wileńskie studia slawistyczne, Том 8, Krakow, Poland, 2013, стр. 237-253]
- Naydenova, D. (2015).** Hilyadagodishninata ot smartta na sv. Metodiy i evropeyskata politika na Velikite sili, Praznikat na Kiril i Metodiy. Prostranstva na duha, Tom 1, ISBN 9789543262304, Publisher: Paradigma, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2015, pp. 15 –25 // [Десислава Найденова (2015а) Хилядагодишнината от смъртта на св. Методий и европейската политика на Великите сили, Празникът на Кирил и Методий. Пространства на духа (ISBN 9789543262304), Том 1, София, България, 2015, стр. 15 –25]
- Naydenova, D. (2017).** “V imeto na Kiril i Metodiy“. Kirilo-metodievskata ideya v sotsialisticheska Bulgaria, Slavia Meridionalis, volume 17, ISSN: 2392-2400, Publisher: **Institute of Slavic Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences**, Warshava, Poland, 2017, 25 pp. // [Десислава Найденова (2017б) В името на Кирил и Методий“. Кирило-методиевската идея в социалистическа България, Slavia Meridionalis (ISSN: 2392-2400), Варшава, Полша, Том 17, 2017, 25 стр.] Available at: <https://ispan.waw.pl/journals/index.php/sm/article/view/sm.1349/2879> (last view: 10-04-2023)
- Naydenova, D. (2023).** Glagolicheski sledi v Bulgaria, Kirilo-Metodievski mesta na pametta v bulgarskata kultura, Ed. E. Zashev, V. Zhelyazkova, Sl. Barlieva, B. Mircheva, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2023, pp. 237-260. // [Глаголически следи в България, Кирило-Методиевски места на паметта в българската култура, Ред.: Е. Зашев, В. Желязкова, Сл. Бърлиева, Б. Мирчева, София, България, 2023, стр. 237-260].

- Rasheva, I. (2016).** Pochitaneto na sv. sv. Kiril i Metodiy sled Vtorata svetovna voyna, Bulgaria vav Vtorata svetovna voyna i sledvoenna Evropa, ISBN: 978-619-7240-21-4, Publisher: „Poligrafyug“ AD, Haskovo, Bulgaria, 2016, pp. 123-129 // [Ивета Рашева (2016) Почитането на св. св. Кирил и Методий след Втората световна война, България във Втората световна война и следвоенна Европа (ISBN: 978-619-7240-21-4), Хасково, България, 2016, стр. 123-129].
- Stanev, K. (2019).** Kultat kam sv. Kliment Ohridski prez vtorata polovina na XVI v. po dannii na osmanski danachen registar, Palaeobulgarica / Starobulgaristika, volume 43, issue 3, ISSN 0204-4021, Publisher: CMRC-BAS, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2019, pp. 45-53. // [Станев, К. (2019) Култът към св. Климент Охридски през втората половина на XVI в. по данни на османски данъчен регистър, Paleobulgarica / Старобългаристика (ISSN 0204-4021), Том 43, Брой 3, София, България, 2019, стр. 45-53]
- Tsekova, E. (2001).** Muzeyat – komunikativen fokus na nauka, izkustvo i obrazovanie, Nauka, volume XI, issue 4, ISSN 0861-3362 Publisher: Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2001, p. 38 [Е. Цекова (2001) Музеят – комуникативен фокус на наука, изкуство и образование, Наука (ISSN 0861-3362), Том XI, брой 4, с. 38].
- Zhelyazkova, V. (2012).** Elektronnaja kolekciya rukopisej i arhivnyh dokumentov Kirillo-Mefodievskogo nauchnogo centra – sostojanie, problemy i perspektivy, Informacionnye tehnologii i pis'mennoe nasledie. El'Manuscript-2012. IV mezhdunarodnaja konferencija. Publisher: PGU, IGTU, Petrozavodsk, Izhevsk, Russiya 2012, pp. 102–104 // [Веселка Желязкова (2012) Электронная коллекция рукописей и архивных документов Кирилло-Методиевского научного центра – состояние, проблемы и перспективы, Информационные технологии и письменное наследие. El'Manuscript-2012. IV международная конференция, Петрозаводск, Ижевск, Россия, 2012, стр. 102–104]
- Zhelyazkova, V. (2019).** Za Kiril i Metodiy. „Neseriozno“ (po materiali ot bulgarskiya periodichen pechat do 1944 g.), Palaeobulgarica, volume 43, issue 3, ISSN 0204-4021, Publisher: CMRC-BAS, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2019, pp. 123–148. // [Веселка Желязкова (2019) За Кирил и Методий. „Несериозно“ (по материали от българския периодичен печат до 1944 г.), Palaeobulgarica (ISSN 0204-4021), Том 43, Брой 3, 2019, София, България, стр. 123–148]
- Zhelyazkova, V., Naydenova, D. (2021).** Kiril i Metodiy. Obrazi. Pamet, Identichnost. / Cyril and Methodius. Images. Memory. Identity : album, ISBN 978-954-9787-50-4, Publisher: CMRC-BAS, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2021. // [Веселка Желязкова, Десислава Найденова, (2021) Кирил и Методий. Образи. Памет, Идентичност. / Cyril and Methodius. Images. Memory. Identity: албум (ISBN 978-954-9787-50-4), София, България, 2021]

Tatyana Ilieva

Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre – Bulgarian academy of sciences

13 A Moskovska Street, 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria

e-mail: ilieva_tatyana@abv.bg



INIS SERIES

*Онлайн поредица на
интердисциплинарната научна мрежа*

Информационно общество

Том 3, 2024

<http://www.math.bas.bg/vt/inis/series/>

*Online Journal of the
Interdisciplinary Scientific Network*

Information Society

Volume 3, 2024

ISSN: 2815-4231

Редактори

*Галина Богданова
Светослав Косев*

Editors

*Galina Bogdanova
Svetoslav Kosev*

Технически редактори

*Николай Ноев
Весела Георгиева*

Technical Editors

*Nikolay Noev
Vesela Georgieva*

Издание на:

*Институт по математика и
информатика при Българска академия на
науките, България*

Published by:

*Institute of Mathematics and Informatics
at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences,
Bulgaria*

С помощта на:

*Великотърновски университет
„Св. св. Кирил и Методий“, България*

Helped by:

*“St. Cyril and St. Methodius”
University of Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria*