

International conference  
Biblia Slavorum Apocryphorum. III. Varia

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In October 2006 the Department of Southern Slavic Studies of the University of Łódź organized an international conference entitled *Biblia Slavorum Apocryphorum. I. Vetus Testamentum*, planned as the first in a series of meetings devoted to the study of the Slavic apocryphal legacy. The event, attended by 18 scholars from Poland, Austria, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Russia, resulted in the publication of the presented papers in the following year, in the journals *Fundamenta Europaea* (special issue, vols. VI-VII, Gniezno 2007) and *Południowostowiańskie Zeszyty Naukowe* (vol. IV, Łódź 2007).

Founded in March 2007 as a subdivision of the Department of Southern Slavic Studies at the University of Łódź, the Section of Palaeoslavistic Studies and Folk Culture proceeded to organize another conference in the series, entitled *Biblia Slavorum Apocryphorum. II. Novum Testamentum*. A continuation of the previous event on the one hand, the meeting was also a possibility to present and review the results of the latest research pertaining to pseudo-canonical Slavic New Testament and Inter-Testament texts. The conference was attended by 30 scholars from Poland, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Italy, Macedonia, Russia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom, indicating a surge of interest in the range of topics put up for discussion by the organizers. The papers presented were subsequently published in the volume *Biblia Slavorum Apocryphorum. Novum Testamentum* (Łódź 2009).

The participants of the second conference suggested that the series be continued so that issues related to pseudo-canonical literature and culture falling outside the scope of the Old and New Testament might be discussed. Addressing their expectations, the Professor Waldemar Ceran Research Centre for the History and Culture of the Mediterranean Basin and South-East Europe, *Ceraneum* (founded in 2011 at the University of Łódź) together with the Department of Southern Slavic Studies as well as the Department of Byzantine History have the honour and pleasure to invite you to the third conference in the series *Biblia Slavorum Apocryphorum*.

Proposed topic areas:

The international conference *Biblia Slavorum Apocryphorum. III. Varia* will, in the first place, be an opportunity to advance the discussion of the problems of pseudo-canonical Old, New and Inter-Testamental literature.

At the same time, we hope to broaden the topic area of the two previous meetings to include the following issues:

- pseudo-canonical Christian literature not directly connected with the Old and New Testament sacral history;
- the relics of pagan cults in pseudo-canonical literature;
- heretical literature (Manichaean, Paulician, Bogomil, Cathar etc.) and anti-heretical literature (treatises, council decisions etc.);
- cultural communities, interreligious and interdenominational relations in the Mediterranean Area and South-East Europe.

In view of the breadth of the topics covered, the discussion is to be organized around the following points:

- pseudo-canonical literature: current state of research, available text editions, catalogues, thesauri; textual criticism (the original vs. translations, revisions, variants); the language of pseudo-canonical texts, the relations between originals and translations; Biblical text vs. pseudo-canonical text; issues in poetics (narration, composition etc.); the theology of pseudo-canonical texts;
- the relation between literary texts and folklore texts (legends, songs, rituals); mythology vs. literature vs. folklore; folk Christianity and pseudo-canonical literature;
- the relation between Old and New Testament pseudo-canonical texts and commentaries on post-biblical events;
- the relation between pseudo-canonical and heretical texts; anti-heretical literature as a source of information about alternative religious movements in the Middle Ages;
- iconography depicting broadly understood pseudo-canonical works.

Organization details and participation requirements:

- place and time: 3–5 October 2013 r., University of Łódź Training and Conference Centre (*Centrum Szkoleniowo-Konferencyjne Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego*), Rogowska 26, 91-529 Łódź;
- conference languages: Polish, English, Russian;

- presentation topic submissions to be sent by 15 December 2012 to [ceraneum@uni.lodz.pl](mailto:ceraneum@uni.lodz.pl) or [skowronek.malgo@gmail.com](mailto:skowronek.malgo@gmail.com), with a note 'conference – apocrypha';
- confirmation of participation and abstract (in Polish, English or Russian, up to 1000 characters) to be submitted by 30 April 2013;
- the 250 PLN / 70 EUR conference fee (100 PLN for graduate students and other pre-Ph.D. level participants) is to be paid upon arrival at the conference. The fee is meant to cover of the publication of the proceedings.

Presentation time is limited to 20 minutes.

The papers presented at the conference will be published (upon favorable review) in the subsequent volume of the yearly *Studia Ceranea*.

Further information regarding accommodation and meals will be provided by the end of January 2013. The organizers cannot cover the costs of travel and accommodation.

Conference Organizing Committee

dr hab. prof. UŁ Georgi Minczew (president)

dr Małgorzata Skowronek (academic secretary)

dr Karolina Krzeszewska (secretary)

Łódź, 1 December 2012