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15-30 AUGUST 1983: SOFIA
SECOND INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON SLAVIC PALAEOGRAPHY

Four years after the first (cf. Polatsknigopisnaja 3(1980):63-68), CIBAL organised a second seminar to promote the skills of dating, localizing, determining the contents and cataloguing of early Slavic manuscripts. Unlike the first seminar, the second emphasized training: 19 young researchers from Eastern and Western Europe spent most of their time on practical work on original manuscripts from the Cyril & Methodius National Library under the very competent guidance of its helpful staff. Even the 12 lectures were carefully attuned to this training purpose: they reviewed the state of the art in key areas, rather than present original research on specialized topics (although it is to be expected that their printed versions contain many new observations and interpretations). The lectures concerned:

1. The development of Cyrillic script up to the XVth century:
   in Bulgaria (E. Koceva and B. Rajkov, Sofia),
   in Romania (O. Guțu, București),
   in Rus’ (A.A. Amosov, Leningrad) and
   in Serbia (D. Bogdanović, Beograd).
2. The orthography of Cyrillic manuscripts between older antigraphs and contemporaneous regional dialects (E. Dogramadžieva, A. Minčeva and B. Velčeva, Sofia, and W.R. Veder, Nijmegen)
3. The structures of sborniki (K. Ivanova and S. Kožuharov, Sofia)
4. Description of manuscripts (K. Stančev, Sofia)

Cf. also below.

26-27 AUGUST 1983: SOFIA
CONFERENCE ON BALKAN MANUSCRIPT ILLUMINATION UP TO THE 17TH CENTURY

The participants of the seminar above were fortunate enough to be confronted with original research and discussions of detailed problems as well. The Bulgarian Academy and the National Library organized a conference devoted exclusively to questions of decoration and illumination of manuscripts, at which eight eminently qualified scholars presented highly stimulating views on the interpretation and utilization of data from decoration and illumination in general manuscript research. The lectures concerned:

1. The classification of types and styles of ornament and illumination in manuscripts in different languages (A. Džurova, Sofia and Ch. Paschu, Athina)
2. The relation of ornament and text tradition (D. Bogdanović, Beograd and O. Guțu, București)
3. The relation of ornament and time and place of origin (D. Karadžova, Sofia and L. Vassilev, Beograd)