

Ύστερη Βυζαντινή Αγιολογία Συγγραφείς και κείμενα

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Abstract

The work with the title "Late Byzantine Hagiography" and the subtitle "Writers and texts" deals with the hagiographical production of the late Byzantine period. In the beginning there is an introduction with the most important events (political, military, economic, ecclesiastical, etc.) of the era. Moreover, emphasis is given on the importance of these years within the intellectual field (developments in Letters and Arts) and the reasons behind the development of hagiography. There are chapters dedicated to both the most important representatives of the hagiographical production of the period (for instance, Kyprios, Raoulaina, Stavrakios, Constantine Akropolites, Xanthopoulos, Metochites, Gregoras, Hyrtakenos, Kalothetos, Lazaropoulos, Kokkinos, Symeon of Thessaloniki, Makris) and the categories of texts (e.g., Collections of Miracles – Old or New Saints – Lives, Speeches, Praises, known and anonymous writers). Each chapter begins with important facts

about the life and work of the writers and continues with characteristic excerpts from their hagiographical works with informative facts about persons or events. Linguistic interpretation or paraphrasing and various annotations come next. It is of our interest to highlight elements such as the characteristics of the persons who wrote hagiographical texts during this period (e.g., social status, education), the saints to whom the works are dedicated and the criteria for their selection, as well as the reasons for writing the texts, their structure, language, and style features. Emphasis is given to issues such as the preservation of the ancient Greek, the connection with rhetoric, the distinction of cities and regions with religious significance, the possibility of utilizing hagiography as a historical and archaeological source and the gathering of evidence for the scientific knowledge of the time. The last chapter summarizes the conclusions.

