

Report on the activities of Bibliotheca biblica in Sofia (July 2007 - July 2008)

From July 2007 till July 2008 were received totally 415 library units. That includes 263 books, 147 periodicals and 5 CD-ROM. Every month a list of the received books etc. is sent to prof. Karl-Wilhelm Niebuhr, president of the Eastern Europe Liaison Committee (EELC) of SNTS.

The book-stock of the library constantly grows up. There are now 6400 library units in it (over 4300 books, 2050 periodicals and 50 CDs). The growth is relatively slow, because of limited finances of the EELC. And all the books received come normally in small parcels. There was not a donation of an entire library, which could bring a large number of books.

Last year the most of the books received came from publishing houses in USA and respectively in English language. In this way was achieved a better balance in the languages of the books in Bibliotheca biblica in Sofia.

The users of the books in BB come as in previous periods from the Faculties of Theology of the Universities in Sofia and Veliko Tarnovo. In the master degree program the professors of OT and NT make the students acquainted with the new literature in the disciplines they teach and give to the students semester thesis, based on the existing literature in the BB. The new is, that colleagues professors from other faculties (of Philosophy, Philology etc.) of Sofia University encourage their students to work on thesis with reference to the new literature in the BB. The main information for the users of the library about the existing books and periodicals provide the Gesamtkatalog, as well as the ready-part of the Allegro-catalogue. Also the catalogues sent to BB by publishers are at the disposal of the users.

In the electronic catalogue system Allegro are catalogued till now 2295 books. With priority the librarian Ivo Yanev includes the new received books. Actually all books, received after 2005 are included in Allegro. He works retrospectively also, giving priority to the commentary series. Because in the book-stock they stay under the description "Commentary series", which is less informative for the users. And in the catalogue description some one could find enough information about the content of the each single book. The librarian makes also an inventory book, sets the library seal on every book, puts the inventory number and the press-mark.

In December 2007 the BB in Sofia received as a donation from the Centre for Patristic Publications in Athens, led by Fr. Ioannis Diotis the yet-published 99 volumes of Patrologia, series Graeca. Hereby we express our deep gratitude to Fr. Diotis and all colleagues (the vice-president of the EELC Prof. Christos Karakolis included) involved in the publication and donation of PG.

Two weeks ago the BB received a new PC from the Sofia University. It was expected for long time, because the old one is not in a position to working with the growing information data of the BB in Sofia.

In July the librarian Ivo Yanev followed an intensive course of studying modern Greek language in Greece with the intention to extend his capacity of worker in a Bibliotheca biblica of SNTS.

2008, July 11th

Director of BB in Sofia – prof. Ivan Dimitrov