AN ANONYMOUS TREATISE AGAINST THE ICONOCLASTIC PATRIARCH JOHN THE GRAMMARIAN.

1. THE FIRST ANTIRRHETIC

The First Edition of the Manuscript Escorial Y-II-7, F. 200–205

Editorial

With the present publication our periodical continues, after J. Gouillard, the study of the manuscript Esc. gr. Y-II-7 [Nr 262 according to G. de Andrés Martínez, Catálogo de los códices griegos de la Real Biblioteca de El Escorial. T. II (Madrid, 1965) 111–115, dated to the thirteenth century] which contains an important collection of the dogmatic works relevant to the polemics against iconoclasm. The manuscript is written by one main scribe. Gouillard pointed out, in the final part of the manuscript (Nr 31 in de Andrés Martínez’s description still unavailable to Gouillard), two anonymous antirrhetics against John the Grammarian; the first of them is published now, and the second one is now in preparation by Alexandra Evdokimova, the author of the present publication.

The main body of the manuscript is a florilegium of the pre-iconoclastic Fathers but containing as well some quotes from ninth-century authors known by their struggle against iconoclasm. Several pieces of the collection are still unidentified and needed to be studied in future, not exclusively because of their potential interest in respect to the iconoclastic epoch. For instance, an anonymous fragment of the “sermonis tertii contra Manichaeos” (Nr 23, f. 165–171) which is not that of Titus of Bostra, Epiphanius, or Peter Sikeliotes may turn out to be an important and still unknown source. The origin of the whole collection is perhaps revealed by its latest datable piece, the Apodeixis of Leo of Chalcedon (Nr 7, f. 16v–23), late eleventh century; cf.: B. Lourié, Une dispute sans justes: Léon de Chal-

B. Lourié

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«The First Antirrhetic Answering the Main Points in Illegal Speeches by John Heresiarchus, Lekanomantes and Ex-parhedrosii of Byzantium against the Christ’s Image, or Rather against the True Incarnation of God’s Son», written by an anonymous, is preserved in the unique manuscript Escorial Y-II-7, f. 200–205. This manuscript is dated to the thirteenth century; it is made of paper and later stitched and casebound. In some places the ink is washed off, in other places worn out: 200 r — bending downwards, a hole, blotchiness, 200 v — bending downwards, a wiped out region; 201 r — a wiped out region, a piece is torn out of the bottom of the page; 201 v — the bottom is torn out; 202 r — attritions; 202 v and 203 r — attritions, 203 r and 204 v are stitched into each other.

In spite of its late dating, the manuscript follows the alexandrine accentuation system: a shift of the accent to the first part of a diphthong and to the right in some words, which is common in documentary papyri of the sixth–ninth centuries, resulting in appearance of accentuation marks above consonants. In general, the orphography is consistent, the influence of itacism is insignificant, iota subscriptum is omitted almost consistently, in some cases mistakes in spiritus are observed.

Fragments of this text were first published in 1966.iii J. Gouillard published only the fragments authored by John the Grammarian which were contested by the anonymous author of the antirrhetic.

Due to some specific features of the manuscript, a number of special editorial principles were elaborated: 1) preservation of the diacritics and the orthography of the original within the main text; 2) preservation in the footnotes of the authentic punctuation marks omitted for redundancy by the editor. The text was subdivided into paragraphs by the editor.iv

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(ii) Most likely, there is a word-play «πάρεδρος» (advisor) instead of «πρόεδρος» (chairman, here: patriarch)


(iv) The author expresses her gratitude to Lev Lukhovitsky PhD for detailed consultations on the iconoclastic period and his help in proofreading of the final draft of the edition.