

14 . BYZANTINE STUDIES ABROAD

In another new section, *BBBS* aims to provide annual reports on Byzantine Studies in foreign countries or institutions. Our first report was written by Dr Małgorzata Dąbrowska of Łódź, Poland:

Polish Byzantine Studies started as a continuation of the field of Classical literature. The interest in Byzantium was first promoted by Leon Sternbach (1864-1940), professor of Classics at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. Known as an expert on the writings of Gregory of Nazianzus, Sternbach was also author of studies concerning George of Pisidia, Psellos and Constantine Manasses. Sternbach's research programme was continued by his students: Tadeusz Sinko and Jan Sajdak, professors at Jagiellonian University. Sinko focused on Gregory of Nazianzus, Basil the Great and John Chryostom. He also wrote a manual entitled *Greek Literature*, the third section of which (4th-8th c. AD) covered Byzantine literature. J. Sajdak also followed his tutor and concentrated on the writings of Gregory of Nazianzus. It was Sajdak who wrote *A History of Byzantine Literature* published before the Second World War. Sternbach had one more famous student, Kazimierz Kumaniecki, who pursued his scholarly career at the University of Warsaw. Kumaniecki published studies of Procopius's *Anecdota*. Moreover, he devoted his attention to the obscure monody on Hagia Sophia and to Theophanes's *Chronicle*.

Polish historians took an interest in Byzantine Studies in the course of their research on late medieval Poland. In the 14th century, Poland gained sway over Ruthenia. Quite a few scholars focused on the relations between state power and the Ruthenian church, which had owed its allegiance to the Patriarch of Constantinople. Accordingly, Father Jan Fijalek wrote about the Orthodox sees in Ruthenia before the Polish-Lithuanian union (1897), whereas Kazimierz Chodyncki wrote the famous monograph, *Orthodox Church and Polish State* (1932).

The first historian to take up Byzantine Studies as a separate field was Oskar Halecki, professor of Warsaw University. Following his predecessors' interest in religious issues, Halecki dealt with John V Paleologus's journey to the West and with the emperor's conversion to Roman Catholicism. The first Polish department of Byzantine History was established in Warsaw in 1935. Its head, Professor Kazimierz Zakrzewski, worked on the early Byzantine Empire, e.g. the rule of Emperor Arcadius. Zakrzewski started a seminar in Byzantine Studies at the University of Warsaw, but his work was stopped by the war. It was only in 1957 that a Department of Byzantine History was set up at the University of Łódź. Its head was Professor Halina Evert-Kappesowa, Zakrzewski's former student. At the beginning of her career, Prof Kappesowa focused on the Union of Lyon. After the war however her major interest became the Byzantine village between the 7th and the 9th centuries.

The Department of Byzantine Studies in Łódź is composed of historians, whereas the Byzantine Studies in Warsaw group includes philologists, historians, art historians and theologians. The head of Classics, Prof Oktawiusz Jurewicz, is Kumaniecki's former student. Professor Jerewicz is known not only as the author of a thesis on Andronicus I but also as the translator of Byzantine texts by Photius, Psellos and Anna Komnena.

He also wrote 'A History of Byzantine Literature'. His interest in promoting Byzantine and Modern Greek literature is shared by his former students, now colleagues: Prof Helena Cichočka, expert on Byzantine rhetoric and author of a work on Zosimos, and Dr Małgorzata Borowska, who has been working on a translation of 'Basil Digenes Akrites'. Other historians working in the field are Prof Ewa Wipszycka, who focuses on monasticism in Egypt (6th-7th c) and Prof Tadeusz Wasilewski, whose major interest is Byzantine administration. Other Byzantine scholars in Warsaw are Prof Elżbieta Jastrzębowska, historian of early Byzantine art, and Father Marek Starowieyski, author of numerous works in the field of Patristics.

The University of Poznań is famous for its research on Cyril and Methodius. The subject has been explored by Prof Tadeusz Lehr-Spławiński and by his students, now lecturers, Prof Jan Leśny and Prof Leszek Moszyński, currently teaching at the University of Gdańsk. The junior staff connected with Byzantine Studies are as follows: Dr Kazimierz Ilski, who deals with Theodosius II, and Dr Jerzy Prostko-Prostyński, who works on the reign of Justinian.

The Jagiellonian University in Cracow also set up a Department of Byzantine History, whose head is Prof Maciej Salamon. His major field of research is Byzantine numismatics. Other representatives of Byzantine Studies in Cracow are Prof Maria Dzielska, whose research centres on early Byzantium and Prof Hanna Różycka-Bryzek, who studies Byzantine art.

At the Catholic University of Lublin Byzantine Studies are promoted by Prof Barbara Filarska, a historian of early Christian art.

In Łódź Byzantine Studies have been continued by the former students of Prof Halina Evert-Kappesowa: Prof Waldemar Ceran, Dr Piotr Krupczyński and Dr Małgorzata Dąbrowska. Prof Ceran is researching the position of lawyers and doctors in Byzantium. His other subject is the relationship of the Church with Julian the Apostate. Dr Krupczyński deals with the Byzantine army, while Dr Dąbrowska focuses on the reign of the House of Palaeologus. The junior staff follow Prof Ceran's interests; thus M. Kokoszko, Sławomir Bralewski and Teresa Wolirńska are all studying early Byzantium.

In the introduction to her students' and her translation of Ostrogorski's manual, Professor Kappesowa expressed her concern about the future of Byzantine Studies in Poland. In her opinion, the difficulties in gaining materials restrict the choice of subject matter. Nevertheless, in spite of these problems, the number of publications concerning Byzantium has been steadily increasing. What is more, Byzantine Studies have gained the status of a regular subject within the university curricula. Apparently, the limited access to source materials does not render the quest less worthwhile and attractive.

Byzantine scholars in Poland already form a numerous group. Most of them belong to the Committee of Byzantine Studies within the Polish Academy of Sciences. The Committee in turn belongs to the Association Internationale des Etudes Byzantines. Professor Jurewicz is Head of the Committee, with Prof Ceran as its Deputy Head. Sessions with the participation of foreign scholars are held three or four times a year.

Byzantine scholars in Poland look forward to the edition of the Encyclopaedia of Byzantine Culture, which was submitted for publication some years ago. No journal for Byzantine Studies in Poland has been set

up yet. However, the contributions of Polish scholars are published abroad, due to the kindness of editorial staff of *Byzantinoslavica*. Every year Prof Ceran prepares a bibliography of Polish contributions to Byzantine Studies for this journal.

The information concerning Byzantine Studies in Poland before the second world war was taken from the introduction to Ostrogorski's manual edited by Prof H. Kappesowa. I hope that this text will show how particular Byzantine interests were passed on from tutors to students, gradually involving the staff of prominent Polish universities.

(Dr Małgorzata Dąbrowska, Łódź)
