

NEW!

Corpus of Byzantine Seals from Bulgaria Volume 3: part 1-2 Sofia 2009

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CORPUS
OF
BYZANTINE SEALS
FROM BULGARIA

Volume 3

Part Two
Text and Illustrations

Edited by Ivan Jordanov



Bulgarian Academy of Science
National Institute of Archaeology with Museum
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Following the publication of the Corpus of Byzantine Seals from Bulgaria, vol. 1: Byzantine Seals with Geographical Names (Sofia 2003) and vol. 2: Seals with Family Names (Sofia 2006), we offer to the attention of the scholars and students the third and last volume. Actually it includes all Byzantine seals found in the territory of modern Bulgaria – more than 3,200 specimens.

The material is arranged in keeping with the existing classifications and serves as an illustration of the administrative and rank hierarchy in the Byzantine Empire.

Chapter one includes the seals from the Palace, beginning with the imperial seals going through those of various officials in the Palace and finishing with the title-holders (nos. 1-715).

Chapter two deals with the seals of the central civil administration located in the capital Constantinople (nos. 716-965).

Chapter three is devoted to the seals of the Byzantine army garrisoned in the capital Constantinople (nos. 966-1089).

Chapter four encompasses the seals of the provincial civil administration. The seals of the respective provincial administrative units are arranged in alphabetical order. Seals of provincial offices without toponyms inscribed on them are also included here (nos. 1090-1617).

Chapter five is devoted to ecclesiastical seals. It illustrates the church hierarchy in the Empire – capital and provincial (nos. 1618-1796).

Chapter six contains the seals of private persons bearing only their names without titles and positions. It is divided into four sections: seals of persons with family names, with homonyms, monogram and anonymous seals (nos. 1797-2585).

Due to the nature of the documented material, the author felt his obligation to include a seventh chapter or Supplement comprising seals with incomplete texts or texts posing difficulties for reading (nos. 2586-3200). Their inclusion is also based on the fact that the find-spots of many are known, and thus they appear to be major sources for the history of the respective settlements. There is also the hope that better preserved specimens will be found in Bulgaria or abroad so that the complete reading can be established.

According to established tradition, the Corpus is provided with indexes of proper, family and geographical names as well as of the titles and positions inscribed on the seals. An iconographic index and an index of the seals with metrical texts are also included. One new index deals with the provenance of the seals. The specific advantage of the seals from Bulgaria is that information on find-spots is available for a large number of them. This index is perhaps the beginning of a future investigation of the settlements, towns and regions in medieval Bulgaria as based on the sigillographic data.

The book is intended for specialists, students and collectors in the field of Byzantine administration and society, Byzantine sigillography, prosopography and art history.

Other books available by the same author (<http://jordanovcorpus.hit.bg/Books.htm>)

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