



ERC Horizon 2020 AdG-883219-TYPARABIC

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Arabic Books Printed in the 18th Century in Moldavia, Wallachia, and Greater Syria. New Research Outcomes

The 45th Conference of
MELCOM International
Aga Khan Library, London
May 14th–17th, 2024

Ioana Feodorov, PhD, Principal Investigator
TYPARABIC Project
Institute for South-East European Studies
Romanian Academy



TYPARABIC

ERC Advanced Grant at the Institute for South-East European Studies (ISEES) of the Romanian Academy

[Home](#)

[Sources](#)

[About Us](#)

[Projects outcomes](#)

Early Arabic Printing for the Arabic-Speaking Christians

Cultural Transfers between Eastern Europe and the Ottoman Near East in the 18th Century

About Us

The Project members are researching the context and the outcomes of printing liturgical, patristic, and polemical works in Arabic, in the 18th century, in the Ottoman provinces of the Eastern Mediterranean, for the Christian Arabs who followed the Byzantine rite and for the Catholics. They are achieving an in-depth analysis of the connections between the Romanian Principalities and other East-European states, on one hand, and the Arabic-speaking Christians of the Ottoman Empire, on the other, in the perspective of the social progress brought to the Near East by the printing culture, to which the Romanians essentially contributed. First, the research focuses on the printing-technology transfer from Wallachia and Moldavia to the Eastern lands governed by the Sublime Porte, for the benefit of the Arabic-speaking Christians. Second, a systematic, commented catalog will be prepared for the Arabic books printed between 1701 and 1800 in the Romanian Principalities, in present-day Syria and Lebanon, and the neighboring countries.



European Union



European Research Council
Executive Agency
Established by the European Commission



Academia Română
Institutul de Studii Sud-Est Europene

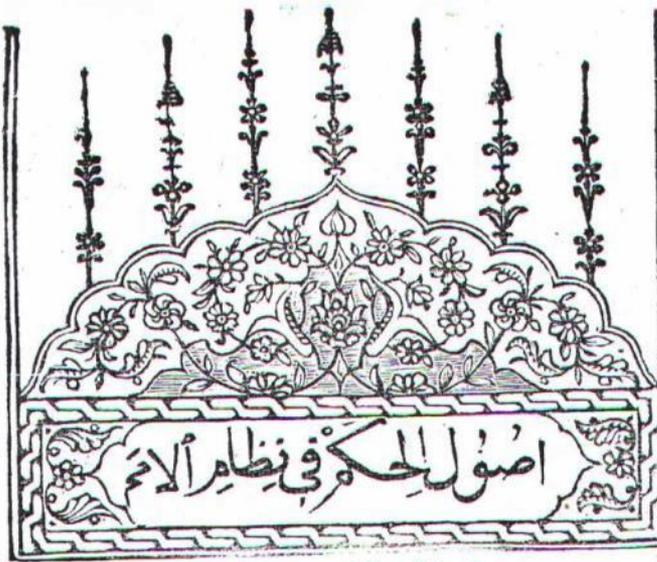
Early Arabic Printing for the Arab Christians. Cultural Transfers between Eastern Europe and the Ottoman Near-East in the 18th Century

TYPARABIC PROJECT, Horizon 2020, ERC Grant Agreement AdG-883219-2019, duration 2021-2026

Website: www.typarabic.ro

Facebook: typarabic

- In Moldavia and Wallachia: Snagov (1701), Bucharest (1702), Iași (1743-1746), and Bucharest (1747)
- In Greater Syria: Aleppo (1705-1711), Deyr el-Šuweyr in Ḥenšāra (1734-1800), Saint George Church in Beirut (1750-1753)
- Qozhāya, 1610
- Istanbul, after 1727



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ وَبِسْمِ اللَّهِ

حمد وثنا وشكر بنى انتها اول مالك الملك والملوك
صاحب الكبرياء والجبروت تقدس وتعالى درگاهنه
شایاندرکه تدبیر نظام عالم و تنظیم امور بنی آدم انک ارادت
علیه سنه منوط و تعدیل و تسویه احوال ام مشیت
ازلیه سنه موقوف و مربوط در و درود بنی پایان اول پیغمبر
آخر زمان دولنینه اهل ایمان جنبانه شایسته درکه
قانون سیاست شرع مبینی اصلاح مزاج دولته سند کافی
طب نبویسی اولان سنن سنیه سی نهج قوای قواعد دین
وملته دواى واقیدر و ترضیه و تعظیم آل و صحاب نصفت
نصابه لایقدرکه مسلك حیت انصاف برینه سلوک تقوم کارگاه
ملکه دستور ابدی و آثار میمنت احتوا برینه تمسک تمشیت

Ibrahim Müteferrika,
Usūlü'l-hikem fī Nizāmi'l-ümem,
Istanbul, 1732





Ioana Pseudov
Principal Investigator

Ioana Pseudov is a Senior Researcher with the Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy in Bucharest. She was granted a Ph.D. in Philology title from the University of Bucharest in 1999 for a thesis concerning *The Expression of Crossing in Romanian and Arabic*, and a Dr. Habil. title in 2018.

Archim. Policarpu Chizaleacu
Senior Researcher



Archimandrite at Radu Vorii Monastery, patriarchal counselor and director of the Library of the Holy Synod in Bucharest. He holds a Ph.D. in Theology and Christian Literature. He is an expert in early printing and rare books.



Hasan Çolak
Senior Researcher

Hasan Çolak is Associate Professor of Ottoman History at TOBB University of Economics and Technology in Ankara, Turkey. He completed his Ph.D. in 2015 with a dissertation about the interaction between the Eastern Patriarchates and the Ottoman central administration.

Charbel Nassif
Senior Researcher



Ph.D. in the History of the Art (2017, Sorbonne University), Ph.D. in Theology (2017, Catholic Institute of Paris). He is an archivist and chief librarian of the Greek Melkite Catholic Patriarchate in Rabouah (Lebanon) and a researcher at CSDRAC – Saint-Joseph University of Beirut.



Oana Iacobovschi
Junior Researcher

Oana Iacobovschi is an art historian with the Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy. She received her Ph.D. from the National University of Arts in Bucharest with a thesis on the *Iconography of the Moldavian churches between the 15th and the 16th centuries. The program of the naos*.

Habib Ibrahim
Junior Researcher



Habib Ibrahim is a research associate at the University Saint-Joseph, Beirut, and Assistant Professor at the Lebanese University. He wrote his thesis on John of Damascus two treatises against the Nestorians. He works on different projects connected to the study of Christian Arabic literature, especially the Arabic Translation of Graf's *Geschichte der Christlichen arabischen Literatur*.



Vera Tebensova
Senior Researcher

Vera Tebensova received her Ph.D. from the Institute of General History of the Academy of Sciences of Russia in Moscow (1995), where she started to conduct research specializing in Byzantine history. She is maître de conférences at RPHB and member of UMR 8167 Orient et Méditerranée / Monde Byzantin.

Yulia Petrova
Senior Researcher



Specialist in Arabic Philology with the "A. Krymsky" Institute of Oriental Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv. She completed her Ph.D. in 2007 at the same institute, with a dissertation on the phonological and morphological system of Egyptian Arabic.



Rami Wakim
Senior Researcher

Rami Wakim is a priest of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church and the Head of the Patriarchal Chancery in Rabouah, Lebanon. He holds a Ph.D. title in Patristic Theology from Centre Sévras (Jussif Faculties of Paris) for a thesis on Saint Maximos the Confessor's logocentric anthropology in *Arabesque 41*.

Alina Kondratuk
Senior Researcher



Alina Kondratuk has a Ph.D. title in Art History from the National Academy of Visual Art and Architecture in Kyiv (2003), where she conducted research on the early modern Ukrainian art. She is a Senior Researcher with the National Preserve Kyiv-Pecherik Lavra.



Octavian-Adrian Negoiță
Junior Researcher

Octavian-Adrian Negoiță is a Junior Researcher with the Institute for the History of Religions (Romanian Academy). He obtained a Ph.D. title from the Faculty of Orthodox Theology (University of Bucharest). He studies the cultural history of early modern Eastern Europe, focusing on the production and circulation of knowledge, Christian-Muslim encounters, and Greek polemical literature.

David Neagu
Junior Researcher



David Neagu holds a BA and an MA from the Faculty of History, University of Bucharest. He is a Ph.D. student in Armenian studies. He works as Research Assistant at the Institute for South-East European Studies. For the TYPARABIC project, his research focuses on the history of Armenian printing under the Ottoman.



Mihai Tîpîri
Senior Researcher

Ph.D. in History (2006, University of Bucharest), Ph.D. in Political Science (2005, National and Capodistrian University of Athens). Mihai is a Senior Researcher at the Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy. His main fields of research are Byzantine and Post-Byzantine history and Medieval and early Modern Greek historical writing.

Orlin Sabev
Senior Researcher



Orlin Sabev is a Professor of History at the Institute for Balkan Studies and Centre of Thracian Studies of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. In 2000 he obtained his Ph.D. degree with a doctoral thesis on the Ottoman education institutions of Bulgaria in the 15th-18th centuries.



Samuel Noble
Senior Researcher

Samuel Noble, MPhil (2005, Yale University), obtained a Ph.D. at KU Leuven in 2022 in Religious Studies. His research focuses on the social and intellectual history of Arab Christians, particularly in the Patriarchate of Antioch.

Radu Dîprea
Junior Researcher



Radu Dîprea is a historian with the Institute for South-East European Studies of the Romanian Academy in Bucharest. He completed his Ph.D. in 2017 at the Faculty of History, University of Bucharest, with a dissertation on the religious articles of Ottoman capitulations in the 17th century.



Nicholas Băgara
Ph.D. Student

Nicholas holds a BA and an MA from the Faculty of Orthodox Theology "Justinian Patriarchal" of the University of Bucharest, with a specialization in Christian History and Heritage. He is a Ph.D. student, working on the cataloging of Christian Arabic manuscripts preserved in Romanian collections.

Adela Rîșca
IT Support

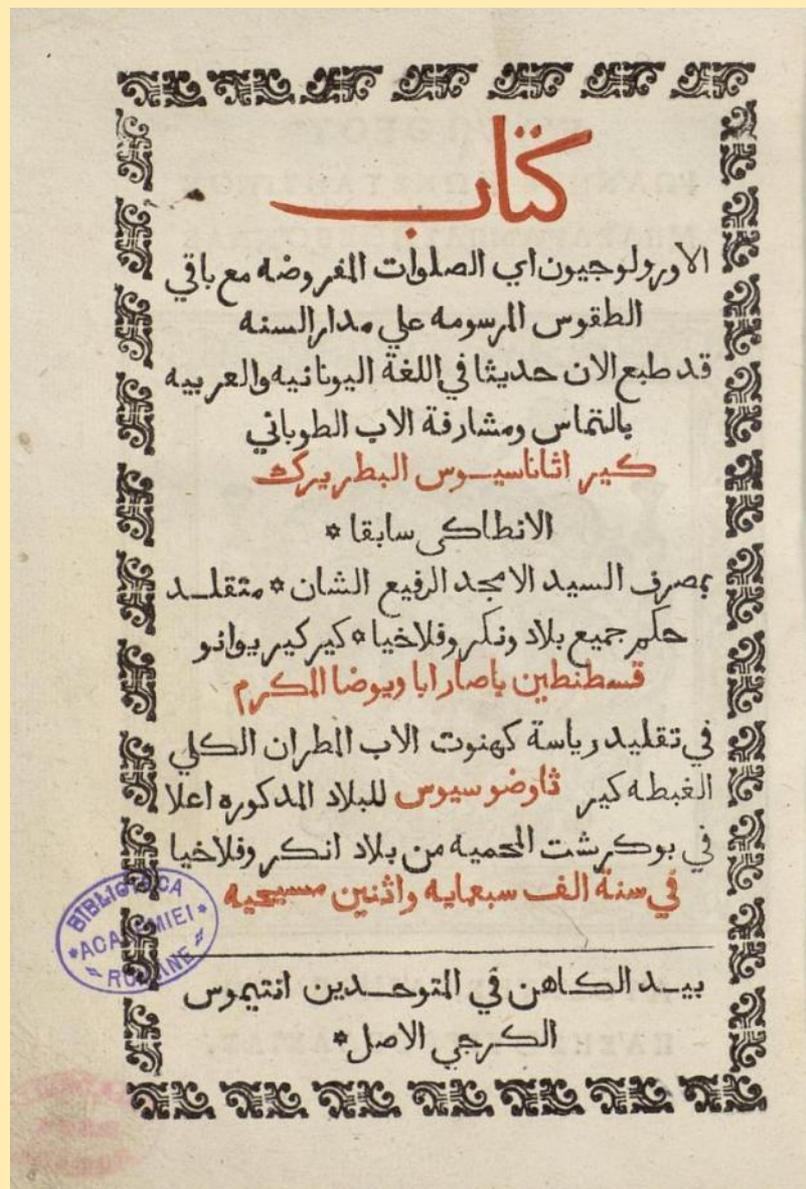


Graduate of the Faculty of Automatics and Computers of the Polytechnic University in Bucharest. She worked on the editing of many works published by well-known Romanian editing houses. She has over 25 years of professional experience in book publishing and IT-assisted printing.

*Liturgikon /
Kitāb al-
quddusāt
al-ṭalāta al-
ilāhiyya,
Snagov, 1701
(BAR
Bucharest)*



*Horologion /
Kitāb al-
'Urūlūḡiyūn
Bucharest, 1702,
(BAR Bucharest)*



خدمة القداش الالهى

البرويجيا سمانا ابي المقدم تقديسه *

Ο Διάκονος λέγει, Εὐλόγησον
Δίασπον.

Ὁ ἱερεύς, ΕΚΦΩΝΩΣ.

Υλογημένη ἡ Βασί-

Ελσία τῷ Πατρὸς, καὶ
τῷ Υἱῷ, καὶ τῷ ἁγίῳ

Πνεύματι, νῦν καὶ ἀεὶ, καὶ εἰς τοὺς
αἰῶνας τῶν αἰῶνων.

Καὶ ὁ προσημιακὸς παρὰ τῷ τα-

χθέντος μοναχῷ, καὶ ὁ ἱερεύς λέγει
πρὸς ἀγῶνας τῷ λυχνικῷ.

يقول الشماس اقلوجيىصن
دا سبوتا *

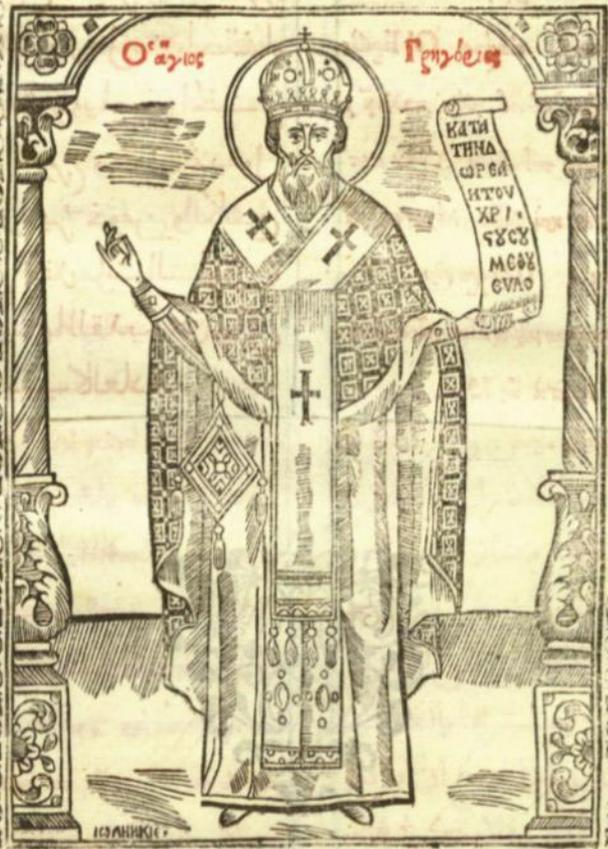
والكاهن يعلن *
وهي ملكة الاب

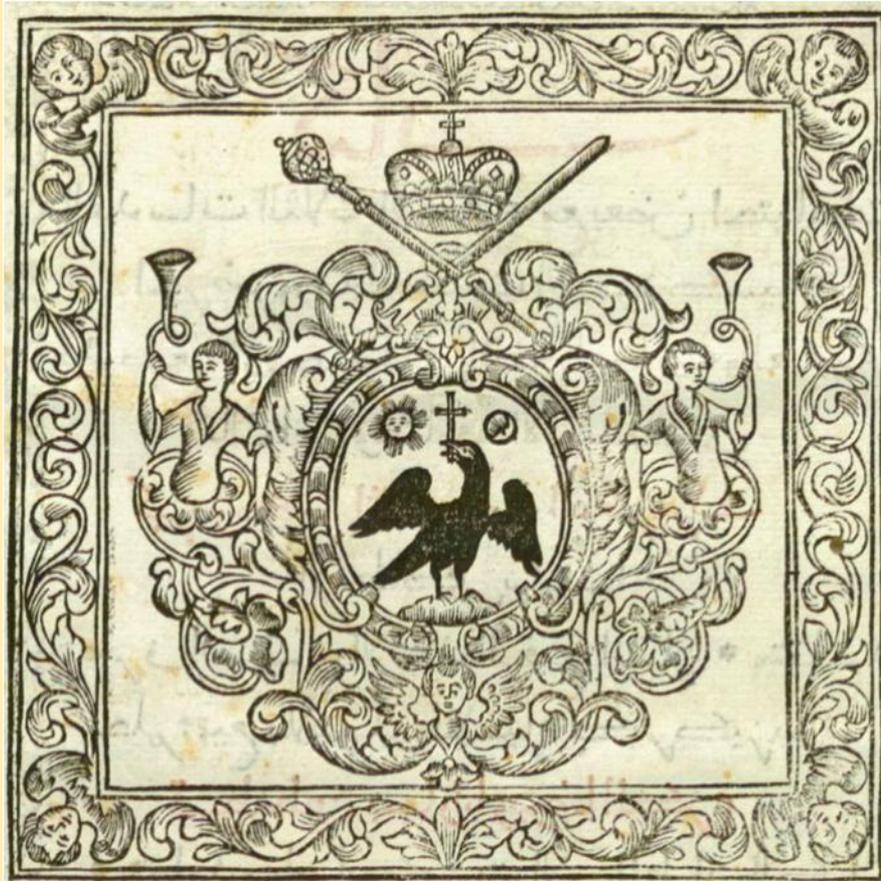
مباركه * والابن والروح
القدس من الان

والي كل اوان * والى دهر
الداهرين *

والاكليسياري شيس يقول
باركي ياتنفسى للرب سب
والكاهن يقول افاشين

الغر





Prince Constantin Brâncoveanu's coat of arms,
Greek-Arabic Book of the Divine Liturgies, Snagov,
 1701 (BAR Bucharest)



Prince Constantin Brâncoveanu's coat of
 arms, *Psalter*, Aleppo, 1706 (BAR
 Bucharest)



فهرس

الفصل الخامس في كرم يكون لا بدى معتبرا جلا من حيث ان
 الله اراد ان يكون هو الواسطه ليرحمه ورسر سر جسك ودمه
 الاظهر من عربونا علي ذلك
 الفصل السادس في اننا ينبغي ان يكون موضوع صلواتنا
 الخيرات لا بدىنا
 الفصل السابع في ان الذين يهدوا الخيرات الزمينا ليرجوا
 الخيرات الابديا المسعدون جلا
 الفصل الثامن في ان كثيرين قد احتقروا الاشيا الزمينا كلها
 وهدوا بها

الفصل التاسع في ان محبة الله تقتضى منا الـ

رضاه وحبنا قدع انفسنا ان تحب الاشيا
 الارضية



J. E. Nieremberg, *Kitāb mīzān al-zamān*, ed. 'Abdallah Zāher, Khenchara, 1734

والا ان قد طبع عند بشام صرف ومشاركة الاب
الطوباني كير يوكير سيلبسترس البطريرك
الانطاكي الكلي الغبطة ❖

بالتقاس السيد الامجد الرفيع الشان متقلد حكم
بلاد البغداد ان يو اي بك ابن فقو لابل كالمحترم ❖
في تقليد وباسة كهنوت الاب المطران الكلي
الغبطة كير زيبا كيقورس باو بو نيماس ابغون
مورة للبلاد المذكورة اعلاه في محروسة ياش
الحمية التي هي مقر حكومة بلاد البغدانية ❖
في سنة ١٧٤٢ مسيحية ❖

❖ بيد توابع البطريرك الانطاكي
❖ المذكور اعلاه شماس جرجس الحلبي
❖ وميتايبيل بنري راهب ❖



كتاب

قضا الحق وزقل الصدق وتاليفه الاب الغاضله
والغياسوف الجنر بل الحكمة الكامله كير يوكير
ذهبتا ريس البطريرك الاورشليمي الكلي
الغبطة في الرد على رهبان اللاتينيين
المرسايين الي الواحي الشرقيه المتوطنين في
الارض المقدسه المحاولين بكل اجتهادهم علي
انعكاس ديانة الروم الارثوذكسية وتفنيدها
وفي بيان بعض غلطات كنيسة روميه مترجمين
لغتي اليونانية واللاتينية الي اللغة العربية ❖

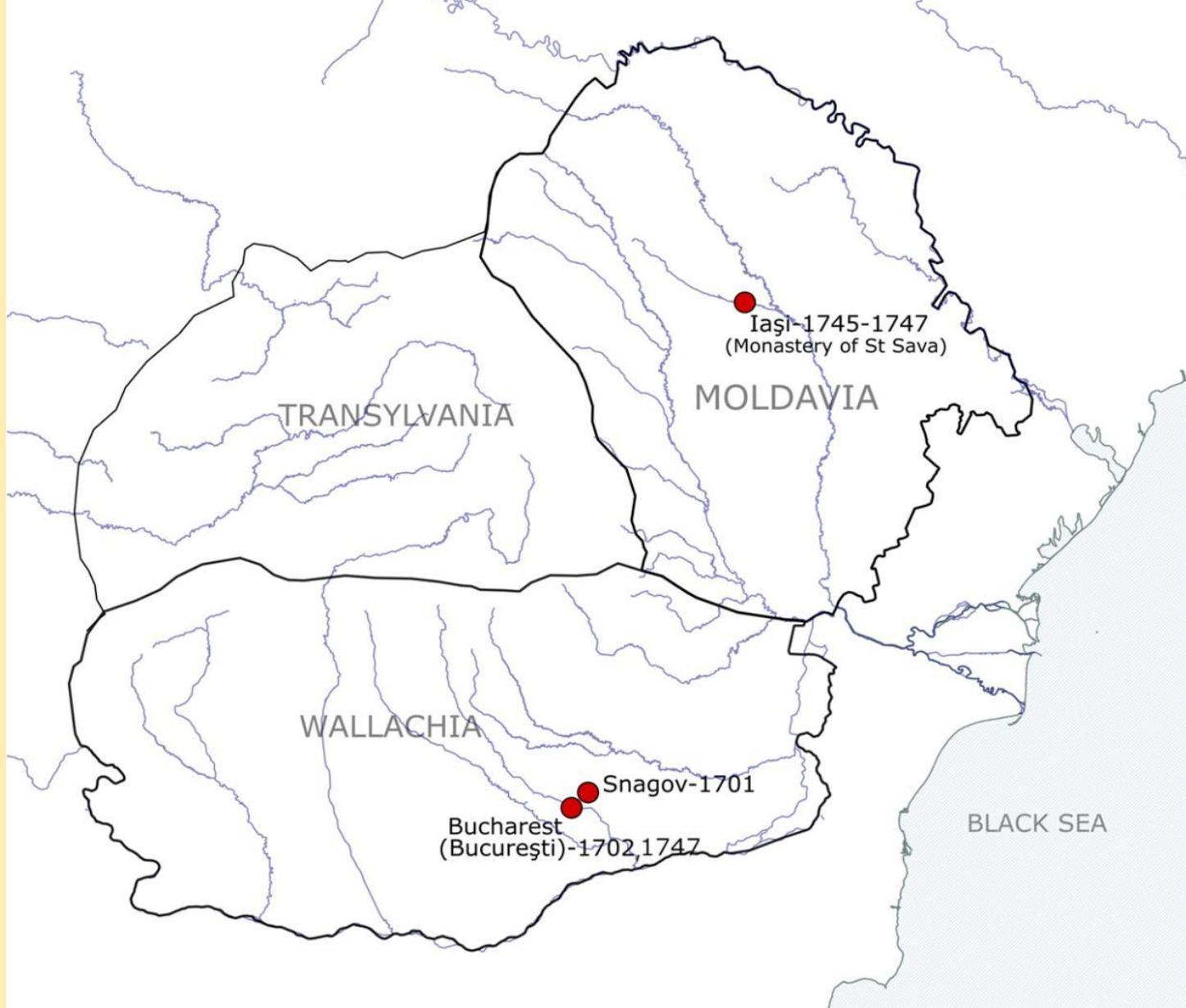
❖ طبق نسخته الاصلية ❖

❖ في سنة ١٧٣٣ ❖

❖ مسيحية ❖



Nektarios of Jerusalem, *Qaṭā al-Ḥaḡq*, Iași, 1746 (BAR Bucharest)



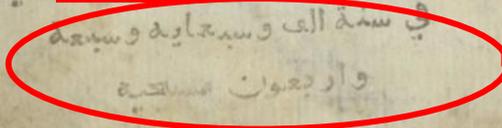
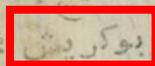
The Arabic presses of Moldavia and Wallachia, 18th century

الحمد لله دائماً
 ❖ سيلاسترس بوجمة الله تعالى البطريرك
 الانطاكي وصاير المشرق
 الحمد لله الذي تسامي بجلاله علي العالمين العلوي
 والسفلي، تفرد بالقدره والسلطان الكلي واقام
 لذكرا ديس المرتلين من النورانيين واجواق
 المسيحيين من الترابيين، فهم لايزالون هاتفين
 علي الظفر وها رخين وقايلين، قدوس قدوس
 قدوس الرب الصابوت كل وقت وكل حين، وجهل
 الارض سما بواسطة المباركين والمجدين، وجعل
 البشر ملايكة بواسطة التكريم والتكليم وايدهم
 بمنحة روح قدسه حتي اذ شدوا بالميزامير مرتلين
 ومترنين سبحوا الرب من السموات في علمين فتمسك
 علي الايه وانعامه قايلين، باركي يا نفسي للرب
 وجميع ما في باطني لاسمه القدوس
 الي الابد الابد
 ❖ امين ❖

وبه



لزيم الشريف المنطوق به من الروح القدس
 لي قم النبي والملك داود وعدته مائة وخمسون
 زمر راء ويتلوا عشرة تسابيح الان قد
 طبع حديثا بحرف بوكريش
 في سنة الف وسبعمائة وسبعة
 واربعون مسقطه



The
 Psalter,
 Bucharest,
 1747

Būkrīş

In the year one
 thousand and
 seven hundred
 and seven and
 forty of the
 Christian era (= 1747)

طبع حديثاً في مدينة
 بوكر شيت الحراسه سنة سبع
 واربعين وسبعماية والى
 سنة ١٧٤٧ مسلكه

1747

Būkurīšt
(with wrong
order of the
letters)

“Newly printed in the city
[of] Bucharest the well-protected in the year seven
and forty and seven hundred and one thousand
the year 1747 of the Christian era”

...by the will of the above-mentioned
patriarch Sylvestros, by the grace of
Almighty God, patriarch of Antioch and All
the East

الكنيسة في شمالي هيكل سيدتنا
 والدة الاله وعك هي اعضا
 البطريرك المذكور
 اعلاه
 سيبلستروس برحمه الله تعالى
 البطريرك الانطاكي وسائر
 المشرق

كتاب و

الزبور الشريف المنطوق به من
الروح القدس على فم النبي والمليك داود
وعلى تسميته و خمسون من موراً
ويتلوه عشرتسا بيج قد طبع حديثاً في
مدينة بيروت في سنة الف وسبعمائة
و واحد و خمسين مسيحية
في ايام رياسة الاب الاقدس كبير يوكير
سيلبسترس البطريرك الانطاكي
الكلي الغبطة الانفس بملاحظة
وكيله المكرم الشيخ يونس
تقولاً المحترم فلتنكن
سنتينها مديك
امين

Beirut
1751.

ابتث جح خ د د م ر م ش
ص ض ط ظ ع غ ف ق ك ل
م ن و لا ي
اي ب ل ا ت و ث ه ج ن ح م خ ل د ك
ذ ق م ر ف ز غ م ع ش ط ص م ط ص *
* قدوس الله * قدوس القوي * قدوس
الذي لا يهوت * ارحنا *
المجد للاب والابن والروح القدس والان
وسكل اوان والي دهر الدهر بن امين *
ايها الثالوث القدوس ارحمنا يارب اغفر
خطايانا * ياسيدنا تجاوز عن سيئاتنا *
يا قدوس اطلع واشفي امراضنا من اجل
اسمك * يارب ارحم ثلث ملار
والمجد للاب بكالها
ابانا الذي في السموات يتقدس اسمك

Psalter, Beirut,
1752 (UUL)



Greek and Arabic Book of the Divine Liturgies,
Snagov, 1701 (BAR Bucharest)

DE GRUYTER

Ioana Feodorov

ARABIC PRINTING FOR THE CHRISTIANS IN OTTOMAN LANDS

THE EAST-EUROPEAN CONNECTION



EARLY ARABIC PRINTING
IN THE EAST

DE
G

DE GRUYTER

ARABIC-TYPE BOOKS PRINTED IN WALLACHIA, ISTANBUL AND BEYOND

Collected Works of the TYPARABIC Project
Volume 1

Edited by Radu Dîpratu and Samuel Noble



كتاب

الانجيل الشريف الطاهر والمصباح المنير الزاهر
طبع حديثاً بمدينة حلب المحمية
سنة الف وسبعمائة وستة
مسكية



EARLY ARABIC PRINTING IN THE EAST

DE
G



EAPE-1

[Arabic Printing for the Christians in Ottoman Lands
\(degruyter.com\)](https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110786996/html)

<https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110786996/html>

EAPE-2

[Arabic-Type Books Printed in Wallachia, Istanbul, and Beyond
\(degruyter.com\)](https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783111060392/html)

<https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783111060392/html>

[Scrinium Volume 19 Issue 1 \(2023\) \(brill.com\)](https://www.brill.com)

BOOKS PRINTED BY ATHANASIOS DABBAS AT ALEPPO

1706

- *The Psalter (Kitāb al-Zabūr aš-šarīf al-manṣūq bi-hi min al-Rūḥ al-Quds ʔalā fam al-Nabiyy wa-l-Malik Dāwūd)*
- *The Holy Gospels (Kitāb Al-ʔInḡīl al-šarīf al-ʔʔhir wa-l-miʔbʔʔ al-munīr al-zʔhir)*
- *The Holy Gospels with Comments (Kitāb Al-ʔInḡīl al-šarīf al-ʔʔhir wa-l-miʔbʔʔ al-munīr a-zʔhir)*

1707

- *Book of the Chosen Pearls (Kitāb al-durr al-muntahab min maqālāt al-Qiddīs Yūʔannā Famm al-ʔahab)*

1708

- *The Holy Gospels (Kitāb Al-ʔInḡīl al-šarīf al-ʔʔhir wa-l-miʔbʔʔ al-munīr al-zʔhir – 2nd release (binding sponsored by Ivan Mazepa).*
- *The Holy Gospels (Kitāb Al-ʔInḡīl al-šarīf al-ʔʔhir wa-l-miʔbʔʔ al-munīr al-zʔhir – 2nd release (binding sponsored by Daniel Apostol).*
- *Al-Mawā ‘īz al-sharīf.*

1711

- *The Octoechos (Kitāb al-Bāraklītīkī)*
- *Kitāb al-Nubū ‘āt al-šarīf*
- *Fuṣūl min al-ʔInḡīl al-muqaddas*
- *The Apostle (Kitāb al-Rasā ‘il al-muštamil ʔalā ʔamal al-Rusul al-Qiddīsīn wa-rasā ‘il Būloḥ al-Rasūl)*
- *The Psalter – 2nd edition*
- *Mawā ‘iz Aʔanāsiyūs (al-Baʔriyark al-ʔʔrušlīmiyy) + Maqālat li-l-Qiddīs Yūʔannā Famm al-ʔahab fī ‘īd al-Faṣṣ*
- *Kitāb Al-Bāraklītīkī, ʔayy al-Mu ‘azzī*
- *Risāla waṣīza tūʔiṣu kayfiyyat al-tawba wa-l-iʔtirāf*



1708, Aleppo

CRV 255, 1747, CRV 262
1747 (BAR Bucharest)



Iași 1745

National Museum of Qatar, exhibit HC.FB.04454



Bible, New Testament

Translator: Faḍl Allah ibn al-Anṭāki (d. 444 AH/1052 CE)

Aleppo, 1706

This is the first book printed in Arabic in Islamic territories. It was printed by the Greek Melkite Christian community of Aleppo, which founded the press to print their religious and liturgical texts. Around 1720, Aḥmad Efendi Chalabi established an Arabic press in Istanbul.

الإنجيل، العهد الجديد (الترجمة العربية)

المترجم: فضل الله بن الأنطاكي (ت. ٤٤٤ هـ / ١٠٥٢ م)

حلب، ١٧٠٦ م

هذا هو أول كتاب طبع باللغة العربية في الأراضي الإسلامية على الإطلاق. وقامت بطابعته جماعة مسيحية إغريقية كاثوليكية من الملكيين الذين أقاموا في حلب وأسسوا مطبعة لطباعة نصوص الطقوس والشعائر المسيحية. وفي عام ١٧٢٠ تقريباً، أسس أحمد أفندي شلي مطبعة عربية في إسطنبول.



Facebook announcement of the inauguration of the restoration unit of the Library of the Greek Patriarchate of Alexandria (Egypt). The book presented here is the *Divine Liturgies* of Snagov, 1701, printed in Greek and Arabic by Antim the Iberian and Athanasios Dabbas