

Description of the research stay in Cologne

In October and November 2011 during my stay in Cologne, financed by Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung, I worked on creation of a corpus of inscriptions containing epigraphic attestations of cult of saints in Asia Minor, Syria and Palestine. This undertaking is strictly connected with my PhD thesis.

The forthcoming corpus will be followed by a detailed descriptive study of the cults of saints in mentioned regions, patterns of its expansion and main forms. Another aspects, which are taken into consideration include lexical analysis of the terms appearing in epigraphical sources and a prosopographical research on less known local martyrs and holy men. The overall character of the study is a continuation of idea expressed in publications dealing with cult of saints in Eastern Roman provinces and underlining the extraordinary value of epigraphic sources for this area of research, for example: the series of articles published by F. Halkin in “*Analecta Bollandiana*” in the 1950s: *Inscriptions grecques relatives à l'hagiographie* (for Asia Minor, Syria, Palestine, Araby, Greece, Egypt and others); A. Papaconstantinou, *Le culte des saints en Égypte des Byzantins aux Abbasides. L'apport des inscriptions et des papyrus grecs et coptes*, Paris 2001 (for Egypt) and two complementary works of G. Kiourtzian: G. Kiourtzian, *Pietas insulariorum*, [in:] *Eupsychia. Mélanges H. Ahrweiler* (Byzantina Sorbonensia, 16), Paris 1998 and *Recueil des inscriptions grecques chrétiennes des Cyclades, de la fin du IIIe au VIIIe siècle après J.-C.*, Paris 2000 (for the Aegean Islands).

The basic editions I took into consideration were:

Asia Minor – *Inscripfen griechischer Städte aus Kleinasien; Tituli Asiae Minoris; Monumenta Asiae Minoris Antiqua; Steinepigramme aus dem griechischen Osten* (ed. R. Merkelbach, J. Stauber); *Les églises rupestres de Cappadoce* (ed. G. de Jerphanion); *Recueil des inscriptions grecques-chrétiennes d'Asie Mineure* (ed. H. Gregoire).

Syria and Paletine – *Corpus Inscriptionum Iudaeae/Palaestinae* (ed. H.M. Cotton, A. Yardeni, L. Di Segni, Y. Tsafir; W. Eck, W. Ameling, H. Misgav and others); *Les inscriptions grecques et latines de la Syrie; Dated Greek Inscriptions from Palestine* (ed. L. Di Segni); *Les pavements des*

églises byzantines de Syrie et du Liban (ed. P. Donceel-Voûte); *Die griechischen Inschriften der Palaestina Tertia* (ed. A. Alt); *Inscriptions from Palaestina Tertia* (ed. Y.E. Meimaris); *The Greek Inscriptions from Negev* (ed. A. Negev); *Hellenistic, Roman and Early Byzantine Mosaic Pavements in Israel* (ed. R. & A. Ovadia); *Il mosaico pavimentale in Giordania come fonte storica di un'epoca* (ed. M. Piccirillo); *Villages antiques de la Syrie du Nord* (ed. G. Tchalenko); *Khirbet es-Samra I* (ed. P. Gatier and others).

A detailed set of secondary literature was also checked. The query in journals was carried according to data from *Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum* (1923-2006) and *Bulletin Épigraphique* (1938-2006).

I would like to thank all the scholars of the University of Cologne, who greatly helped me with realisation of my aims. The abundant libraries of the University of Cologne (especially the library of: Institut für Altertumskunde with its Byzantinistik und Neogräzistik Abteilung; the library of Archäologisches Institut and of Orientalisches Seminar) allowed me to gather material for more than 700 entries for the forthcoming corpus. I also benefited from participation in regularly held Subkolleg, which creates great opportunities for discussion on research projects developed by faculty members.