

REPORT

ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ACADEMY IN 1990*

BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY

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The Athens Academy is the only cultural institution of the Greek nation to have survived throughout its age-long history. Founded by Plato in 387 BC, or a little later, it was the foundation dedicated to the systematic pursuit of philosophical and scientific research. Plato presided over this institution for the rest of his life, making it the recognised authority alike in mathematics and jurisprudence. From the allusions of Aristotle we gather that Plato lectured without notes, and we know that 'problems' were propounded for solution by the joint researches of the students. This first Academy survived as an institution for almost a thousand years.

The Byzantine Emperor Theodosius I, concerned about the lack of provision for study in the capital of the Empire, as opposed to the great national centres of Athens and Alexandria, brought about, by three decrees, the founding of what came to be known later as the Theodosian University or Pandidakterion of Constantinople. In these decrees he introduced a ban on teaching by private individuals in public places and set the number of the teaching staff of the University at ten professors of Greek and ten of Latin grammar, five of Greek and three of Latin rhetoric, one of Greek philosophy and two of Roman law.

* Read at the Gala Meeting of 28 December 1990.

The professors of the Pandidakterion after 20 years of successful service, devoted exclusively to education, received the title of 'count, first class'. These decrees also provided for obligatory premises for teaching in the Capitolium portico, while the taking on of professors and students depended upon the approval of the Senate.

Meanwhile, in Alexandria, the Serapeion, consisting of its library and research centre, as well as the Temple of Separis, was converted into a monastery in the year 391 AD, and in 415 Hypatia, daughter of the last known member of the Mouseion, herself a renowned philosopher and mathematician in the national tradition, was murdered by fanatical Christians.

It was in the year 529 that the Emperor Justinian ordered the closing down of the Athens school of philosophy, the last refuge of Greek classical thought. In the same year St Benedict founded the famous Monte Cassino Monastery in Italy. The suspension of the work of the Athens Academy by decree of Justinian did not, however, affect the other great school of philosophy, that of Alexandria, which at that time was in its prime and numbered among its most distinguished members Joannes Philoponus and Cosmas Indicopleustes, fanatical enemies of paganism and upholders of Aristotelianism. Similarly, the schools of Gaza and Berytus, devoted to literature and law, remained unaffected.

The last head of the Athens Academy, Syrus Damascenus, was forced to leave Greece, together with other scholars, and take up residence in Persia, under the protection of King Chosroes I.

In the meantime, intellectual and philosophical activity centred upon Constantinople and the Church. The University of the Magna Aula, which was to be set up later, and the great monastery at Studium were the intellectual poles Hellenism. The achievements of the Studite monks, who were in constant touch with the great monasteries of the West, earned them wide renown. At that period there was a constant exchange of scholarly missions between the Studium Monastery in

Constantinople, the Monte Cassino Monastery and that of Cluny in France.

The fall of the Byzantine State was followed by the setting up of a whole series of academies in Western Europe. The West's first scientific academies began life in 16th century Italy in the form of the *Accademia Secretorum Naturae*, founded by the Italian philosopher and scientist Giambattista della Porta in 1560, and in Madrid as the *Accademia de Ciencias Matematicas*, set up by Philip II in 1575.

Other early academies were the *Accademia dei Lincei* in Rome (1603), the *Societas Ereumetica* in Rostock (1662) and the *Accademia Naturae Curiosorum* in Schweinfurt (1652). The British Royal Society and the French *Académie des Sciences* received their final official form in 1662 and 1699, respectively.

During the 18th century the fame and the achievements of the Royal Society and the Paris *Académie des Sciences* were recognised throughout the world, and many European countries began to found their own academies.

Greece, after the burden of four centuries of the Turkish yoke and then its liberation, refounded the Athens Academy in 1926 as the continuation of the ancient and renowned Academy of Plato. Our Academy, as its natural successor, is regarded throughout the world as *prima inter pares* of all the academies, and strives during these difficult times for mankind to live up to the standards and aims of the ancient Academy.

Thus: "The Athens Academy is", according to the philosopher Ioannis Theodorakopoulos, "the Nation's unique learned institution, cultivating unostentatiously all fields of intellectual life and making its contribution to the advancement of the all-embracing spirit and the historic survival of the Nation and serving as a mighty bastion in its strivings in the course of history."

The Athens Academy now comes, this year as every year, to put before you, in summary form, what has been achieved in the year now ending.

During the past year, the following gala meetings of the Academy have been held:

1. During the celebrations to mark the anniversary of *25 March 1821*, the Academician Mr **E. Moutsopoulos** spoke on *Freedom and Responsibility: Progress towards Europe*.

2. During the celebrations to mark the anniversary of *28 October 1940*, the Academician Mr **N. Valtikos** spoke on *Fifty years after 28 October 1940 — Thoughts on an Anniversary*.

During the year 1990, applications were invited for the following new chairs:

a) Full Members:

In the Class of Letters and Fine Arts: a) Archaeology, b) History of Art.

In the Class of Moral and Political Sciences: a) Theology, b) Corresponding Members:

In the Class of Natural Sciences:

Applications were invited for a chair for a corresponding member drawn from Greek scientists in Greece in Natural Sciences.

During the year 1990, the following Full Members were elected by the Academy:

In the *Class of Natural Sciences*, Mr **Constantine Tountas** to the advertised chair in Clinical Medicine (Surgical Pathology).

In the *Class of Letters and Fine Arts*, Mr **Nikolaos Konomis** to the advertised chair in Classical Literature (Ancient Greek Literature).

b) Foreign Associates:

In the *Class of Letters and Fine Arts:* 1. Mr. **Pierre Amandry**,
2. Mme **Jacqeline de Romilly**.

Both have been Corresponding Members of the Academy for many years.

c) Corresponding Members:

In the *Class of Natural Sciences*, Mr **Anthimos Christoforidis**, Professor and Director of the Radiological Department of the Medical School, State University of Ohio (USA).

During the year now ending, the Athens Academy lost the following members:

a) Full Members:

From the *Class of Natural Sciences* **Georgios Karagounis** and **Othon Pylarinos**.

From the *Class of Moral and Political Sciences*, **Constantine Bonis**, **Georgios Tenekidis**.

b) Corresponding Members:

From the *Class of Moral and Political Sciences*:

Leendert Gerrit Westerink, historian of Byzantine and Ancient Greek Philosophy in various American universities.

From the *Class of Letters and Fine Arts*, The Foreign Associate **André Grabar** and the Corresponding Member **Otto Demus**.

1. Georgios Karagounis

Born in 1905 at Trikala, Thessaly, Georgios Karagounis studied at the Universities of Goettingen and Freiburg in Germany. From 1932 to 1938 he served as untenured professor of Physical Chemistry at the University of Athens, and from 1938 to 1948 as full professor in that department. He also taught at the Universities of Zurich and Freiburg (Germany). In 1966, he was elected Corresponding Member of the Athens Academy and in 1982 Full Member of the Italian *Accademia Mediterranea delle Scienze*, Catania. In 1984 he became a Full Member of the Academy.

2. Othon Pylarinos

Othon Pylarinos was born at Lixouri, Cephallonia. He studied at the Universities of Athens and Munich. He subsequently taught at the National Metsovian Polytechnic, from 1926, and at the School for the Technical Training of Artillery Officers, from 1928, and at the University of Thessaloniki, as untenured professor from 1933 and as full professor from 1940. He was elected a Full Member of the Academy to the chair of Mathematical Sciences (Geometry) in 1966. He was awarded the Cross of the Grand Commanders of the Royal Order of

the Phoenix and the Cross of the Commanders of the Royal Order of George I.

3. Constantine Bonis

Constantine Bonis was born at Astakos, Acarnania, in 1905. He studied for two years at the Athens University Law School, but took his degree from the School of Theology. He subsequently pursued postgraduate studies in Germany, and then served as a secondary school teacher.

In 1938 he was awarded his post-doctoral degree by the School of Theology of the University of Athens and in 1939 became assistant professor. In 1942 he was appointed full professor of the Theological School of the University of Thessaloniki; in 1951 he was invited back to the University of Athens. He was awarded the military medal for outstanding service, that of the Grand Commanders of the Phoenix and other decorations. In 1978 he was elected a Full Member of the Academy to the chair of Theology.

4. Georgios Tenekidis

Born in Smyrna in 1910, Georgios Tenekidis, after the 1922 Disaster, followed his parents to Athens, where he completed his secondary education. He began his undergraduate studies at the University of Aix-en-Provence and then went on as a postgraduate to the Paris Law School.

In 1938 he was awarded his post-doctoral degree by the Law School of Athens University. From 1941 he taught at the University of Thessaloniki, while in 1951 he was appointed professor in the Panteios School of Political Sciences, first in an untenured and then in a tenured post. Between 1968 and 1976 he taught in the Law School of the University of Paris. He served as a member of the Greek delegation to the General Assembly of the United Nations, as a member of the European Committee of the United Nations, as a member of the European Human Rights Committee and at the Institut de Droit International. In 1986 he was elected a Full Member of the Athens

Academy to the chair of International Law - International Relations.

During the year 1990 the following official receptions took place:

a) Full Members:

Mr **Grigorios Skalkeas**. The meeting was opened by the President, Mr Georgios Vlachos, and the speaker was welcomed by the Academician Mr N. Matsaniotis. Mr Skalkeas spoke on *The moral problems of tissue and organ transplants*.

Mr **Nikolaos Valtikos**. The meeting was opened and the speaker was welcomed by the President, Mr Vlachos. Mr Valtikos spoke on *International Labour Law in the contemporary international community*.

The Foreign Associate Mr **Pierre Amandry**. The meeting was opened by the President, Mr Georgios Vlachos, and the speaker was welcomed by the Academician Mr M. Sakellariou. Mr Amandry spoke on *Les Jeux Pythiques*.

b) Corresponding Members:

Class I of Natural Sciences

Mr **Panayiotis Panayiotopoulos**. The meeting was opened by the President of the Academy and the speaker was welcomed by the General Secretary. Mr Panayiotopoulos spoke on *The Mechanics of Fractals*.

Mr **Dimitrios Seferis**. The meeting was opened by the President, Mr Georgios Vlachos, and the speaker was welcomed by the General Secretary. Mr Seferis spoke on *Composite materials in aeronautical construction: past, present and future*.

Class I of Moral and Political Sciences

Mr **Pierre Villard**. The meeting was opened and the speaker welcomed by the President, Mr Georgios Vlachos. Mr Villard spoke on *La Protection des droits du citoyen en France depuis la Révolution*.

Mr **Karl-Heinz Schwab**. The meeting was opened by the Vice President, Mr I. Toumbas, and the speaker was welcomed by the

Academician Mr G. Mitsopoulos. Mr Schwab spoke on *Der Einfluss der Verfassung auf das Zivilprozessrecht*.

During the past year the following anniversaries were celebrated:

1. The Academician Mr **Petros Haris** gave an address, at an extra-ordinary session, on the occasion of the centenary of the birth of Costas Ouranis on the subject: *Costas Ouranis: Poet, prose-writer, traveller*.

2. The Academician Mr **P. Sakellaridis** gave two addresses at public sessions:

a) on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the CNRS; b) on the bicentenary of the foundation of the modern science of Chemistry. The title of his address was: *Antoine-Laurent de Lavoisier*.

3. The Academician Mr **T. Athanasiadis** gave an address at a public session in memory of *Stratis Myrivilis*, on the occasion of the centenary of his birth.

Activities of Academicians

The Academician Mr **Georgios Merikas** took part in conferences and other scholarly gatherings both at home and abroad, giving addresses and papers and co-ordinating meetings on matters connected with socio-medical problems. During 1990 he was awarded the Diplôme d'Honneur of the Union Medicale Balcanienne.

The Academician Mr **Petros Vassiliadis** reports that the *Fluid milk with the use of Rappaport - Vassiliadis* was included in the 1990 bulletin of the International Standards Organisation and is recommended as the best fluid milk.

The Academician Mr **Solon Kydoniatis** undertook the study and supervision of the house of Theodoros Kolokotronis at Libovisi, Mantinea.

He also delivered lectures in Greece and the United States.

He took part in international conferences in Greece, the United States, the USSR, Germany and Poland, at which he read papers.

The Academician Mr **Petros Haris** contributed regularly to *Nea Estia*.

He published two new books entitled: a. A series of new short stories under the title *The Trees*; b. A second series of *Talks with Friends*.

He gave an address on the writer Alexandros Moraïtis and brief talks at a large number of cultural events.

The Academician Mr **M. Sakellariou** was elected a Corresponding Member of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres of France.

He published 12 studies under the auspices of the Centre for Greek and Roman Antiquities of the National Research Centre.

He also took part in conferences. As President of the Society for Odyssean Studies he organised the 6th International Symposium of Odyssean Studies in Ithaca.

As Director of the Centre for Greek and Roman Antiquities of the National Research Centre, he took part in the organisation of the 9th International Conference on Mycenaean and Aegean Texts in Athens.

He delivered a paper at an international gathering in New York on the invitation of the Alexander S. Onassis Center of Hellenic Studies, New York University.

The Academician Mr **Manolis Hadjidakis** published the following books:

a) *The Great Meteoron, History and Art* (with D. Z. Sofianos, Director of the Centre for Mediaeval and Modern Greek Research).

b) *Domenikos Theotokopoulos the Cretan: Texts 1940-1990*, published by the Cultural Foundation of the National Bank of Greece.

He also became a Member of the Antiquary Society of London.

The Academician Mr **M. Manousakas** published five studies in the Minutes of the Athens Academy and other scholarly journals.

He represented the Academy at the 64th Meeting of the International Association of Academies in Brussels.

He also took part in the 3rd History and Art Symposium in Monemvasia.

The Academician Mr **Georgios Michailidis-Nouaros** published in the Yearbook of the Research Centre for the History of Greek Law a study entitled *The grounds for divorce in the case law of the Ecclesiastical Court of Cos*.

He read a paper before the Athens Academy on *The silent commerce according to Herodotus and other ancient authors*, and presented the two volumes of the book by the President of the Academy, Mr Georgios Vlachos, entitled *The institution and problems of contemporary democracy*.

The Academician Mr **K. Despotopoulos** published a book on *Philosophy and Dialectics*. He served during the course of the year as Minister of Education and Religious Affairs. At the meeting of the Executive Bureau of the European Cultural Association, he spoke in Berlin on the political changes in the countries of Eastern Europe. He gave lectures at the War Museum in Athens, and delivered an address honouring the memory of Panayiotis Kanellopoulos at Missolonghi. He completed his work *Philosophy of History in Ancient Greece*, and read a paper from the rostrum of the Academy. He published two studies entitled, respectively, *Civilisation and Democracy* and *Plato's poetics in the dialogue 'Phaedrus'*.

The Academician Mr **Evangelos Moutsopoulos** was elected during the course of the year a corresponding member of three foreign academies: the Pontaniana Academy of Naples, the Academy of Toulouse and the Brazilian Academy. He represented the Athens Academy at the meeting of the European Academies in Amsterdam last March, and gave papers at many international conferences on philosophy, of which the most important were in the United States, Spain, Italy and Bulgaria. He himself chaired a number of international conferences on philosophy in Greece and abroad.

The Academy's **General Secretary** published a total of 22 articles in international learned journals during 1990. Of these, eight were published in the United States, five in Germany, three in Britain and one in Belgium. In addition, he published six studies in Greece, most of which were in the form of papers read to the Athens Academy.

His paper entitled *The Industrial Revolution as the forerunner of the new 'Renaissance' of the modern world*, which was originally read during the celebrations of the 900th anniversary of the University of Bologna at a gathering of representatives of the world's academies, was recently published in the Minutes of the Academy of New York.

He read papers at a whole series of conferences in Greece and abroad, and, among his other duties as General Secretary of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology of the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Technology, he represented his country and signed agreements on scientific and research co-operation with Spain, France, Germany and the Soviet Union.

Since the statistical service at the Engineering Academy of the USA was set up in 1984, the contribution of the General Secretary in the form of articles in the world's learned journals has varied between first and second place. It is to be hoped that in 1990, the statistics which are produced will show the same picture.

During 1990 the Research Centres and Bureaux of the Academy reported the following activities:

— A total of fifteen papers were read by the Academicians Messrs Ioannis Xanthakis, Michail Stassinopoulos, Periklis Theocharis, Loukas Mousoulos and Petros Vasileiadis, and the Corresponding Members Messrs Menelaos Tourtoglou and Roger Milliex. There were also 13 presentations of books and 29 talks on various interesting and topical subjects.

— During the year 1990, the following Greek and foreign books and periodicals were added to the Academy's library:

Books: a. In Greek, 305 b. In foreign languages, 663. Total; 998.

Periodicals: a. In Greek, 134 b. In foreign languages, 909. Total: 1,043.

Total number of volumes added: 2,041.

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— *The Centre for the Study of Greek Philosophy* reported the following:

It enriched its library with a total 197 new books, offprints and periodicals - i.e., 72 books and offprints and 125 periodicals.

The Centre went ahead with its collective work on the preparation of Volume 2 of the Lexicon of the Pre-Socratics; the double volume 19-20 was printed. It is dedicated to the late President of the Academy Constantine Tsatsos.

— *The Centre for the Study of Astronomy and Applied Mathematics* continued its research activities in its various scientific programmes which are being carried out by its Supervisor and staff and its Greek and foreign associates.

As a result of research done during the course of 1990, twelve original scientific studies were published in the Proceedings of the Athens Academy and in foreign specialist periodicals by the Supervisor, Academician Mr Ioannis Xanthakis, and the staff of the Centre in the field of:

1. cosmic radiation, 2. solar wind, 3. the structure of the planets' atmosphere, 4. the study of the Geomagnetic field Variation, 5. the study of the physics of interplanetary space.

The World Meteorological Organisation has placed at the disposal of the Academician Mr Xanthakis all the data of observations concerning the change in the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere. Shortly Mr Xanthakis and his associates will be announcing to the Athens Academy and the World Meteorological Organisation the findings of this extremely interesting study.

It is with pleasure that I can give you the advance information that one of the most important conclusions is that the notorious 'holes' in the ozone, which have frequently preoccupied the world Press, do not in reality exist. There are only changes, periodical and otherwise, the causes of which are being investigated.

At the *Centre for the Study of Atmospheric Physics and Climatology* 17 scientific projects have been carried out in various parts of the Centre's field of study, the results of some of which have been published in international journals. The Supervisor of the Centre, Academician Mr Ilias Mariolopoulos, and his associates at the Centre have been working on a new method of presenting climatological data, with a view to examining the effect of the speed and direction of the wind on sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide, two air pollutants in the Athens region. Two studies on these issues have been published in international journals.

The Centre has worked with professors of Meteorology and Climatology at the University of Minnesota, and of the Universities of Athens, Thessaloniki and Ioannina, in Greece, on subjects related to the work of the Centre and Meteorology and Climatology in Greece generally.

— *The Centre for the Study of Greek Society* was engaged in a series of research programmes financed by the Research Committee of the Academy on the following subjects:

a. The Family in the Peloponnese in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

b. Greece's membership of the European Community - Economic Effects and Prospects.

c. A comparative study of the educational systems of the member states of the European Community.

The Centre, with financing from the Research Committee, has issued the second in its series of publications - a book on *The Demographic Problem in Greece: Low Birth Rate and Ageing in the Popula-*

tion. The book gives the results and conclusions of the research carried out under the supervision of the Centre into the demographic situation in Greece in recent years.

Also in the press are the Minutes of the conference organised by the Centre on *Young People and Senior Citizens*.

During 1990, the *Bureau for Scientific Terms and Neologisms* made some progress with an indexing of neologisms in the daily Press. In this way some hundreds of entries were added to the Bureau's archive of neologisms. It continued its collaboration with associate specialists in various fields and worked on the rendering into Greek of foreign economic terms used in the European Parliament. After the terms had been checked by the Scrutiny Committee of the Bureau, it published double issue 3-4 of the Bulletin of Scientific Terminology and Neologisms.

The Director of the Bureau took part in a special seminar on *Informatics and humanist science*, held by the Academy for Mediterranean Studies in Acragas, Sicily; he also carried out a research mission in southern Italy.

He was also commissioned by the Ministry of Education to visit Czechoslovakia within the context of the programme of cultural exchanges and promoted the idea of the setting up of lectorships in Modern Greek in the Universities of Bratislava and Brno.

— *The Centre for the Study of Antiquity* made improvements to its technical infrastructure by acquiring two computers and a printer. It established research missions all over Greece; these have helped significantly in the implementation of the Centre's research programmes.

The following programmes are now under way:

a) Neolithic Programme. b) Creto-Mycenean Programme. c) Classical Programme.

The international programmes of the Academy which are under the supervision of the Centre are:

a) *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum*. Important progress was made during the past year following the enlargement of the Special Committee and financing of the programme's publications by the Academy's Research Committee.

b) *Tabula Imperii Romani*. Progress was made in 1990 in the supplementation of data and the preparation of the map for the volume on Eastern Macedonia and Western Thrace. The Director of the Centre and its academic associates took part in international and local conferences.

— *The Centre for the Study of Mediaeval and Modern Hellenism* published the 3rd issue of its periodical *Mediaeval and Modern Greek* and continued with the compilation of the 4th volume of the catalogue of manuscripts of the monasteries of Meteora.

The Director of the Centre and its academic associates published a number of articles in authoritative learned journals and took part in various conferences. The Director was engaged on the printing of the 3rd issue of the periodical *Mediaeval and Modern Greek*.

During the year, 365 new books and periodicals were added to the Centre's library.

— *The Centre for the Study of Modern Greek History* was engaged in the following:

a. the micro-filming of documents in foreign state archives which concern the history of Greece in the 19th and 20th centuries; b. the compilation of abridgements to be included in Vol. 4 (1838-1839) and Vol. 5 (1840-1841) of the publications *Abridgements of British Foreign Office Documents*; c. work on the printing of Vol. 1 of the archive of Ioannis Kolettis; d. work on the printing of Vol. 1 of a collection of the reports for the years 1819-1832 of the British Consul in Preveza, William Meyer; e. work on adding to the historical bibliography from 1800 onwards, apart from periodicals, which have been indexed in the catalogue of the Centre's library.

— *The Centre for the Compilation of the Historical Lexicon of the Modern Greek Language* has published the second half of Vol. 5 of the Historical Lexicon with the entries from *γναθάδα* to *δακτυλωτός*. The Centre's compilers are now engaged on the preparation of the entries between *δε* and *δησόφρυδος*, to be included in the sixth volume of the work.

Many missions have visited different parts of Greece for the purpose of recording linguistic data.

Responses have been collected in many areas of research included in the Atlas, with the corresponding questionnaires being completed. The reliability of the data has been checked and processing has now begun.

The Centre's staff have taken part in various conferences.

The introduction of the use of computers to make the work of the compilation of the Lexicon quicker and better co-ordinated has now begun.

— *The Centre for the Publication of the Works of Greek Authors from ancient times to the Fall of Constantinople* produced a critical edition of the *Chronicle of Ephraim Aineios*, as the first work in the Series Atheniensis, which forms part of the international Corpus Fontium Historiae Byzantinae.

Editions of the *Idylls* of Theocritus and the last four books of Arrian's *Anabasis* are in the final stage of preparation.

— *The Centre for the Study of the History of Greek Law* has started upon the publication of the Naxos Code, which is in the General State Archives, and has set in motion a programme to catalogue the books in the library of Georgios Petropoulos.

Three hundred and seventeen volumes and off-prints of studies have been added to the Centre's library. Of these, 49 volumes and off-prints were the gift of the Academician Georgios Michailidis-Nouaros, 267 volumes and off-prints came from exchanges and gifts

on the part of various writers and one volume was acquired by purchase.

The *Centre for the Study of Greek Folklore* works in two main sectors: that of scholarship and that of the technology. The latter covers the technical equipment for the assistance and more effective completion of the scholarly work of the Centre.

In the former area, the Centre acquired a further 145 collections of folklore material, of a total of 4,517 pages and with records of folk and other music, deposited with the Centre by the producers.

Within the scope of the Centre's archival and more general scholarly work, material was entered on 655 filecards, 4,826 cards were checked and manuscript material was assessed. A folklore bibliography for the years 1977-1985 was compiled.

A programme was drawn up to deal with traditional agricultural implements. This was submitted to the Research Committee of the Academy for further investigation and for the purposes of the publication of a special volume.

The Centre published its Yearbook, Vols 26-27 (1981-1986).

The music sector worked on musical material, the photocopying of the texts of songs from the islands from manuscripts and the transcription of songs and melodies from tapes to cassettes. Two hundred volume and twenty seven volumes were donated to the Centre's library.

The Director and the academic associates of the Centre took part in conferences, at which they read papers.

— The service engaged in the compilation of an index of Byzantine monuments continued its work in the following fields:

a) *Compilation of a general index of Byzantine murals in Greece.*

In 1990, the work of adding new material to the general index from file-cards continued. In this way, minutes of conferences, books and 39 volumes of periodicals were processed. During the course of the year, a fair copy was made of a large part of the personal notes of

the Supervisor of the index, the Academician Mr Manolis Hadjidakis, which concern records of the monuments of Euboea (Evia).

b) *Compilation and publication of a special index of Byzantine murals in Greece, Vol. 1: Cythera (pilot-project)*. c) *Compilation of an index of Byzantine murals in Greece dated by inscription*. d. *Compilation of a bibliographical bulletin on Byzantine art and archaeology*.

During 1990, work continued on the two initial projects of the Service: the general index, which includes all churches in Greece with murals dating from the 7th century to 1500, and the special index on the churches of Cythera, which is a pilot-project. Furthermore, two new research programmes were embarked upon: the first concerns the publication of dated murals in Greece, and the second the publication of a bibliographical bulletin on Byzantine art and archaeology. A research mission spent 13 days in Cythera, with a view to preparing for the publication of the volume in question.

Four research projects, financed by the Academy's Research Committee, are fully under way.

— *The Research Committee of the Academy*, set up by virtue of Presidential Decree 432/1981, subsidised and supervised the following research projects within the Academy:

During the year when the Committee was first set up, 1988, it subsidised three important research programmes on the country's demographic problem, Greece's membership of the European Communities and the economic and social effects and prospects of membership, and the Greek educational system, as compared with the systems of the other member states of the EC.

All these projects were continued during the year 1990.

During 1989, 12 research projects were approved in various fields of activity of the Academy's Centres and of its Members, all of which will continue until the end of 1991.

In all, seven research programmes were approved during the course of 1990, to be completed in between one and three years. Some

ten proposals, costing 34 million drachmas, are before the Committee for approval for the first half of 1991.

The financing of these projects during 1989 came from the provision of public investments to the extent of 10m. drs, in 1989, from the public investments of the Ministry of the National Economy and the Ministry of Education to the extent of 30 m. drs and from the Academy's budget to the extent of 10 m. drs, and in the year 1990 from the provision of the investments of the Ministry of Education to the extent of 25 m. drs and from the Academy's budget to the extent of 30 m. drs. That is to say that during the period 1988-1990, a sum of 105 m. drs was spent on the development of the Academy's research.

Particular attention should be drawn to the results of research which falls within the financing programme for the Academy's research into illiteracy in the EC and in Greece. This study is the Academy's contribution to the international campaign in 1990 to combat illiteracy, following a UN resolution. The author of the study is Mr K. Soumelis, an OECD researcher in Paris. It is to be published in 1991. It is expected that the data which it contains, drawn from Greece, Europe and beyond, will prove extremely useful in the battle against illiteracy in this country, which, however, in this matter finds itself better placed than the other countries of the European South.

It is expected that during 1991 the subsidisation of the Academy's Research Committee from the Public Investments will be established as an institution, so that in future the continuation of its research by the Academy will be ensured.

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The Athens Academy, during the year 1990, decided to equip itself with an information technology centre. The computerisation of the Academy, in view of its organisational structure, the geographical spread of its premises and its special needs, has taken the following final forms; the award of the contract has already been made and installation is to take place at the beginning of January 1991.

This plan provides for local networks in the buildings which house the Academy's services and research Centres. All the Centres will have access to the local network through a terminal, which will also operate independently as a personal computer. Each network will have at least one printer to serve the terminals. The information equipment which the Academy already possesses will be linked to the networks.

The following is a brief description of the individual systems:

Central building: A network with a 4MB central unit and an 80MB hard disk. Four terminals, a laser printer and an ordinary printer are linked with the network.

Solonos St building: A network with a smaller central unit and four terminals, two for the research Centres and two for the financial services, with two printers.

Anagnostopoulou St building: A network within a central unit, similar to that in the central building, and eight terminals, with a laser printer and ordinary printer.

The Centres in Syngrou Ave will be equipped with two powerful personal computers with autonomous data capacity and one printer.

The Centre for the Study of the Atmosphere in 3rd September St will be equipped with a powerful personal computer with autonomous data storage capacity and a printer.

The Athens Academy during the past year has given fresh consideration to what has long been a wish of its Members — the setting up of a centralised foundation, to embrace all the research activities of its Academicians and of its research Centres. The creation of a foundation for research in medical biology, now under way, falls within its efforts in this direction. A sum of four billion drachmas has already been included in public expenditure for this purpose, thanks to the complete understanding and unstinting assistance of the Ministers Mr Vasileios Kontoyiannopoulos and Ms Marieta Yiannakou - Koutsikou.

Thus, there can be no doubt that the setting up of a modern research centre of a kind which Greece has hitherto lacked will contribute to the development of the medical and biological sciences. For that reason, we would like to express our warm thanks and gratitude to the concerned and to the Government as a whole.

At the same time, efforts are being made to acquire a site of approximately five acres in the Attica region for the accommodation of the Academy's research complex.

I now come to the announcement of the prizes and honours awarded by the Academy.

The Athens Academy during the past year has awarded the following prizes and honours:

A. On the recommendation of the *Class of Natural Sciences* and by resolution of the *Plenum*:

A1. *Two Constantine Ktenas Prizes*, to Messrs (a) **Efstathios Steiros**, (b) **Georgios Christoforidis**, with their associates Messrs **T. Soldatos** and **A. Koronaios** for studies submitted. Both prizes are accompanied by an award of 400,000 drs.

A2. *An Eleni and Theodoros Sinaniotis Prize*, in memory of their mother, Zoi Tzavella, to the seaman **Efthymios Raptis**, because of the self-sacrifice which he showed in saving two fellow-men from certain death by drowning in the area of Rio, Achaia. The prize is accompanied by an award of 300,000 drs.

A3. *An Aristidis Pallas Prize*, in memory of Alekos Avdelis, to the blind student **Michail Aslanoglou**. The prize is accompanied by an award of 200,000 drs.

A4. A prize each to: **Dimitrios Papanastasiou**, with a cash award of 200,000 drs, **Platonas Kehayias**, and **Michail Gravvanis**, for their books *Trawlings from the Deep*, *Urology for the Family Doctor* and *Cardiovascular Pathophysiology*, respectively.

A5. *Citations*:

a. to Navy Commander **Ioannis Rouskas** for his publication *Poros - Naval Base and Training School of the Navy*.

b. posthumously, to **Nikos Tenekidis** for his publication *A New Collection of Shells from the Greek Seas*.

B. On the recommendation of the *Class of Letters and Fine Arts* and by resolution of the *Plenum*:

B1. A *Silver Medal* to Mr **Dimitrios Pieridis** for his major contribution to the promotion of Greek and Cypriot art in Greece and abroad.

B2. A *Bronze Medal* to Mr **Vasilis Maros** for his work as a whole. A film director who enjoys international recognition, Mr Maros has not concerned himself as much with making ordinary cinema films as with the production of documentaries on the culture, religion and folklore of his country, which he has thus promoted by the favourable impression created on millions of television viewers.

B3. A *Prize* to the **Ioannis and Ekaterini Sainopoulos Foundation** for its public welfare and cultural activities.

B4. A *Prize* to Ms **Dido Sotiriou** for her literary work as a whole.

B5. A *Spyros Motsenigos Prize*, with a cash award of 200,000 drs, to the distinguished Greek musical performer Mr **Leonidas Kavakos**.

B6. An *Eleni and Panos Psimenos Prize*, with a cash award of 400,000 drs, to Ms **Louisa Loukopoulou** for her monograph *Contributions à l'histoire de la Thrace Propontique*.

A *G. Athanas Prize*, with a cash award of 400,000 drs, to Mr **Thanasis Papathanasopoulos** for his work *Digenis Akritas*.

A *Sotirios Matrangas Prize*, with a cash award of 300,000 drs, to Mr **Costis Frangoulis** for his book *The Bifers*.

A *prize* to Mr **Ioannis Papachristodoulou**, with a cash award of 300,000 drs, for his book *The Ancient Rhodian Demes: A Historical Review - Ialysia*.

B7. A *prize* to the Very Reverend **Nektarios, Bishop of Leros, Kalymnos and Astypalaea**, on whose initiative important conservation work on the Church of Our Lady 'Kera' at Kastro, Leros, has been

carried out, and, secondly, because the results of this work provided the material for the compilation and publication of the book *Our Lady of Kastro on Leros*.

B8. A *prize* to the **Hellenic Architectural Association** for its 45 years of constant scholarly and social endeavour.

B9. A *prize* for antiquarianism, with a cash award of 200,000 drs, to **Mr Ilias Diakakis**, for his contribution to the arrest of a thief stealing antiquities, his many years of concern for the protection and care of monuments and his daily service to his country by raising and lowering the Greek flag on the border island of Castellorizo.

B) Citations

a) to **Mr Georgios Damalas** for his work in editing the publication: *Kalamoti: A traditional mediaeval mastich-producing Chiot village*.

b) to **Mr Minos Komninou** for his book: *Kasiot Sea Captains in the 19th and 20th Centuries - The Contributions of Kasos to World Shipping*.

c) to **Mr Panos Kontellis** for his book: *This Little World ... Mesopotamos, Lesvos, History and Folklore*.

d) to **Mr and Mrs Georgios Belesis** for providing a Folklore Museum in the Community of Richia (Zaraka, Laconia).

e) to Messrs **Ilias Bourniotis, Georgios Syros** and **N. Niourakis** for acts of concern for antiquities. **Mr Ilias Bourniotis**, a resident of Aiani, Kozani, is an ardent admirer of antiquity. Thanks to the concern which he has shown, a large number of antiquities have been discovered and collected. **Mr Syros** pointed out to the Inspectorate ancient structures in six locations near Arachova and received a reward of 250,000 drs -- a quarter of the value of the antiquities which he had discovered. **Mr Niourakis**, a retired schoolteacher, and the primary school at Hamalevrio, Rethymna, have shown great concern and sensitivity in the protection of the antiquities of their area.

f) to **Paraskevi Markou** for her book *The Ever-Beginning, the Ever-Ending Branch*. The title's reference is to the tree of Cycladic culture, which begins, begins again and never ends. The rich bucolic vocabulary which the poetess draws from the past, with its thousands of unfamiliar words, make this book difficult for readers of contemporary poetry, who, anyway, often regard this style as outdated. Nevertheless, this book, whose action seems to take place in some strange dream, is a treasury of linguistic features, folklore and customs which once formed the axis on which social life in those parts turned; there are even items of biological lore.

C. The following awards have been made on the recommendation of the *Special Committee of the Costas and Eleni Ouranis Foundation* and by resolution of the *Plenum*:

C1. A *Costas and Eleni Ouranis Foundation Prize*, with a cash award of 400,000 drs, for narrative prose, to Mr **Costas Sardelis** for his book *And there was Light: Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs*. This is Mr Sardelis' third historical novel. The other two are *The Saint of the Slavs (Cosmas the Aetolian)* and *Maximos the Greek — Missionary to the Russians*.

This book is a composite literary picture of that period of Byzantine history, of great cultural and intellectual importance, which was rendered illustrious by the brothers Cyril and Methodius from Thessaloniki, as well as the great Photius, the inspirer and organiser of the cultural mission of Byzantium to the western Slavs.

The author succeeds in imposing order on a wealth of historical material, in shaping it and giving it life. He has thus managed by means of circumstantial descriptions and convincing and vivid dialogues in conveying to the reader the atmosphere and, above all, the feeling of everyday life of the period, so that he feels that he is living in those times, that he is a 'hero' of the book, in that whirlwind of events which in the 9th century swept through Constantinople and the whole of the Empire.

C2. A *Costas and Eleni Ouranis Foundation Prize*, with a cash award of 400,000 drs, for poetry, to Ms **Efi Ailianou** for a codified collection of poems in two volumes entitled *Poems I, II*.

Efi Ailianou made her first appearance in the Greek literary world with her collection of poetry *The Songs of the Black Captain and Iliogenniti*. This was followed by *Twelve Variations on the Bridge of Arta*, *Elegies*, *Sea of Horror*, *Reflections*, *Eurydice in the Light*, *Sea of Cythera* and *The Gaze of Medusa*. She has codified these collections in two volumes, of which the first came out in 1989 and the second in 1990.

There has been a development in the lyrical plasticity and denseness of her poetry, achieved by a corresponding tightening of its expression. Her concerns are the concerns of the common, contemporary and timeless man, who sees, thinks and feels in the general phenomenon of life, seeking an escape route, in a secular or metaphysical light. Her poetry is darkened by sadness, by the idea of the unattainable, which leads her to express herself as a rule elegiacally, transmuting her tone in accordance with the variety of her subject matter. Often it is marked by discreet religious feeling, especially when faced with death and fear. Initiated into the pain which is shared by all, she enfolds her fellow human beings with tenderness, she protests and hopes. But hope is succeeded by despair, and this makes her feel that even 'love' is in vain and confine her expression between the counterbalancing forces of eros and death, thus finding a path towards the metaphysical 'divine dream', the other side of death.

C3. A *Costas and Eleni Ouranis Prize*, with a cash award of 400,000 drs for a critical essay to Mr **Christos Malevitsis** for his book *Prosperity*.

Christos Malevitsis made his first appearance on the Greek literary scene in 1965 with his book of essays *Prospects*. Since then, he has published 14 books, mostly of essays. For this work he was awarded the Second State Essay Prize in 1974 and the Academy Prize in 1978.

He has also translated major works by Heidegger, Jaspers and Berdiaev. He is a regular contributor to the periodicals *Nea Estia* and *Efthyni*, and has a regular column, each Saturday, in the newspaper *Kathimerini*. He has painstakingly cultivated the genre of the philosophical essay, with a marked personal, and often poetic, approach, where the undeviating interest centres upon the fate of contemporary man and the essence and history of Hellenism.

His latest book of essays, entitled *Prosperity* (1989), concentrates on the deeper eschatological mystery of man and, with a wealth of argument, which testifies to conscious experience of the involvements of the life of our times, throws light, by means of a faultless and powerful prose style, on the progress of man through our world to its very end.

D. The following awards have been made on the recommendation of the *Class of Moral and Political Sciences* and by resolution of the *Plenum*:

D1. A *gold medal of the Academy* to the **Society for Macedonian Studies** for 50 years of intellectual endeavour in the interests of its country and for its major contribution to the promotion of its national rights, particularly in the area of northern Hellenism. The activities of the Society, apart from a miscellany of publications, some of which have already received prizes from the Academy, include the organisation of conferences, on both a national and an international scale, the recording of monuments, traditions and linguistic data, the awarding of scholarships, the establishment of a Macedonian library with rare material and a variety of other undertakings which put it at the very centre of the intellectual and cultural life of Macedonia. The promotion of Macedonian culture, and more generally that of Greece, worldwide is the Society's particular concern, and it is this fact which has weighed with the Academy in deciding upon this award.

D2. A *silver medal* to the brothers **Nikolaos and Leonidas Papa-georgiou** for their generous benefactions to their birthplace, the town of Siatista, and to the city of Thessaloniki.

Their generosity has financed the completion of the indoor gymnasium at Siatista and the construction of its secondary school. The gymnasium project cost some 150 m. drs, and the laying out of the surrounding area at Ayios Dimitrios 100 m. drs. The brothers Papa-georgiou are also building a church in Frankfurt, whilst they have recently donated the considerable sum of 30 m. dollars (five billion drachmas) for the purpose of building a 600-bed hospital on a 38-acre site in northern Thessaloniki, an area in need of such aid.

D3. An *Eleni Constantopoulou Prize*, in memory of her daughter, the heroine Ira Constantopoulou, posthumously and accompanied by a cash award of 300,000 drs, to the 17-year old **Polyxeni Tountziou** for an act of self-sacrifice. Polyxeni Tountziou lost her life in an attempt to save her sister from certain death by drowning in the Prespa Lake.

D4. An *Athens Lions Club Prize*, with a cash award of 150,000 drs, to Mr **Theodoros Kalyvas** for an act of self-sacrifice. Mr Theodoros Kalyvas managed to save five of seven children who were in danger of drowning in the flood waters of the River Arachtos.

D5. A *Nikolaos Carolou Prize*, with a cash award of 500,000 drs, to the **Community of Nea Kallikrateia, Halkidiki**, for a philanthropic act to the nine-year old Argyro Fotiadou, a victim of Wilson's disease, who, thanks to the generosity of the Community, was able to have a successful liver transplant in Brussels.

D6. A *Glyfada Rotary Club Prize*, with a cash award of 200,000 drs, to the seamen Mr **Cosmas Voutsinas** and Mr **G. Kaitatzis** for an act of protection of the environment.

D7. A *Constantine Kriezis Prize*, with a cash award of 200,000 drs, to the schoolteacher Mr **Evangelos Dimitriadis**, who has served for four school years at a special school on Samos, for showing exemplary zeal in the teaching of his pupils and responding in the fullest way to the needs of this difficult and sensitive form of support to our fellow human beings.

D8. A *prize* to the **Drug Dependency Therapy Centre** for the constant arduous struggle which it has carried on in providing therapy for the drug-dependent and to re-integrate them into the community. The prize is accompanied by a cash award of 1,000,000 drs for the needs of the Centre.

D9. A *prize* to Mr **Sotirios Persidis**, professor at the University of Thessaloniki, for his heroic conduct during the events of 27 November 1990 at the Research Centre of the University of Crete, Irakleio. Prof. Persidis was very seriously injured when the 32-year old postgraduate student Yannis Petrodaskalakis burst into the Physics lecture theatre firing a shotgun and killing two professors of the University and seriously injuring two others.

His two victims were Stefanos Pnevmatikos, 37 years of age, from Halkida, professor of Physics, and Vassilis Xanthopoulos, 45, from Drama, professor of Astrophysics. Those injured were Sotirios Persidis and Thomas Efthymiopoulos, both 50 years old and both professors of Physics, while a 23-year old girl student was less seriously wounded.

What is particularly striking is the fact that Prof. Persidis, alone of some 25 persons present, showed the heroism, courage and *sang froid* to tackle the murderer, when Petrodaskalakis attempted to reload his weapon, and to thrust him out of the lecture room. In doing so he was very seriously wounded himself when Petrodaskalakis fired at him virtually point blank. This courageous university teacher, although so badly injured, managed to find the strength to close the door and urge his colleagues to bar it by jamming furniture behind it to prevent the murderer from doing any more harm. He subsequently underwent lengthy surgery and was for some days on the danger list.

D10. A *Katingo and Giorgis Lemos Prize*, with a cash award of 300,000 drs, to Mr **Georgios Moutzouridis** for his gift of 3,000 exhibits to the Natural History Museum of the town of Elassonas, Larissa, and *Georgios T. Foteinos Prizes*, with cash awards of 400,000 drs in each

case, to Mr **Christos Terezis** and Messrs **Panayiotis Athanasoglou** and **Georgios Zombanakis** for award-winning unpublished studies, as this bequest requires.

D11. A *prize* to the **Leonidion Association** on the completion of 100 years of social welfare and cultural endeavour to the benefit of the residents of the town of Leonidi, Arcadia.

D12. A *prize* to the honorary ambassador Mr **Dimitrios Velissaropoulos** for his two-volume book *Greeks and Indians: The Meeting of two Worlds*. In this work, published in 1990, the author examines in great depth and in a keenly critical manner the degree to which there was ever reciprocal influence between the two civilisations — the Greek and the Indian — and convincingly defends, quite correctly, the view that the Greek spirit, and particularly Greek philosophy down to Aristotle, was not an appendage of Indian culture, while giving an account on the various relations between Greeks and Indians during the three centuries which followed the campaigns of Alexander the Great.

D13. A *prize* to Mr **G. Alexiadis** for his book *Ancient Greek Law*.

D14. A *prize* to the 85-year old Mr **Haralambos Katsoulis** for his contribution, over more than 60 years, to the art of gold and silversmithing in his native Stemnitsa, Arcadia.

The news of the Academy's award to Mr Katsoulis has prompted Mr Panayiotis T. Angelopoulos to donate the sum of 300,000 drs to Mr Katsoulis personally and 500,000 drs to the School of Gold and Silversmithing at Stemnitsa, at which Mr Katsoulis teaches.

D15. A *S. and A. Agapitidis Prize*, with a cash award of 300,000 drs, to Mr **Kyriakos Finas** for his unpublished study *The Economy of the Dodecanese from Liberation to the present*.

D16. The *Athens Academy*, on the recommendation of the same Class, has awarded the following citations: a) to the **Friendly Society of Graduate Artists** on the completion of 50 years of endeavour in the

field of art; b) to the **Alexandroupolis Ladies' Club** on the completion of 70 years of constant social welfare and intellectual endeavour in this border area of Thrace; c) to **Ekaterini Tzelepi**, posthumously, for her major benefactions to her birthplace, Manesi, Kalavryta; d) with a cash award of 200,000 drs each, from the *Georgios D. Foteinos Prize*, to the award-winners Mr **Ennanouil Vasilakis** for his unpublished study *The Continental Shelf in Treaty Law and International Case Law - with Special Reference to the Aegean*, and Mr **Athanasios Delikostopoulos** for his unpublished study *The Development of Mystical Theology in the Eastern Orthodox Church*.

The Athens Academy has great pleasure in announcing that Mr **Dimos Diamantidis** has informed the President by letter of his intention of giving a sum of five million drachmas to support the work of the Institute of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies in Venice, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the birth of his parents.

Furthermore, the **Costas and Eleni Ouranis Foundation** has informed the Athens Academy that it has made available the following sums for the Institute of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies in Venice, in order to meet its working needs:

a) a sum of one million drachmas, b) a sum of 15 m. drs which has been deposited with an Athens bank, from the interest of which the Institute will be able to meet its current needs.

The Athens Academy thanks and congratulates both benefactors on their most generous gifts.

The Academy is also happy to be able to announce the acceptance of the following gifts and endowments of awards:

The joint stock cigarette-manufacturing company **Papastratos** has given the sum of 600,000 drs to revive the awarding of the Epameinondas Papastratos Prize.

The **Samourkian Foundation** has endowed a prize of 600,000 drs to be awarded to individuals or a group of individuals who have contrib-

uted to the protection of nature and the natural environment or the improvement of the quality of life in Greece.

The **Bishopric of Kalavryta and Aiyialeia** has endowed a prize of 500,000 drs for the writings of a study on *The contribution of the Mega Spilaion Monastery of Kalavryta to the national and spiritual life of the Nation down to the time of the Second World War*.

The **Central Union of Municipalities and Communities** has endowed a prize of 500,000 drs to be awarded to a writer who has contributed to the study and resolution of the problems of local government in Greece.

The **War Museum** has endowed two prizes of 800,000 drs each for the writing of studies on the following subjects:

a) 'The Macedonian Question from the Second World War to the present'.

b) 'Proposal for the delimitation of the Continental Shelf of the Aegean'.

The **Leon Lemos Charity Corporation** has endowed the following two prizes, worth 1,000,000 drs each:

a) a prize for the writing of a book to deal with 'Memorials of literature and art of the Aegean'.

b) a prize for a disabled person for conspicuous achievement.

The **Kyriakidis Bros** publishing company has endowed a prize of 1,000,000 drs to be awarded for a documented study on the history of the Greeks of Pontus from 1821 to 1923.

Mr **Georgios Tarnatoros-Anagnostou** has endowed a prize worth 1,000,000 drs for the writing of a documented study dealing with the history of Macedonia and of the Macedonian Question from 1800 to the present.

The Academician Mr **Ilias Mariolopoulos** and his wife, Mrs **Nina Mariolopoulou**, have donated rare and extremely useful old books to the Centre for the Study of Mediaeval and Modern Hellenism.

Ms **Kaiti Manou** has donated 10,000 drs for the Academy's purposes in memory of the Academician G. Tenekidis and 10,000 drs on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the death of the poet Academician Georgios Drosinis.

Sanyo (Hellas) SA has donated fax machines to the Academy.

Other prizes established with the Academy will be announced in the Press.

To sum up, the Athens Academy would also like to take this occasion to thank all those who have made gifts or endowed prizes. This support greatly assists the Academy in its work. Moreover, the fact that these gifts and endowments continue to flow in is a demonstration of the great interest of the Greek people in the Academy and the trust which it reposes in it.