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Desislava Uzunova

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

✉ spicedesi@abv.bg

*THE STORY OF THEOPHILOS OF ADANA  
IN SOUTH SLAVONIC MANUSCRIPT TRADITION*

Abstract:

*The motif of the contract between the mortals and the supernatural is well attested in the ancient mythological systems. The narrative about the repentance of Theophilus who made a contract with the devil and was released from the engagement with the Theotokos' help appeared in Byzantium probably in the second half of the 6<sup>th</sup> century. It shows how the magicians and their clients were stigmatized after the Christianization of Byzantine society and culture. The narrative was translated in Bulgaria in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. This story became popular among the South Slavs through the translation of the series Miracles of the Theotokos (the third part of Agapios Landos' collection Solvation of the sinners, published in 1641 in Venice) made at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century by the Athonite monk Samuil Bakachich.*

Keywords:

*Theophilus, devil, Theotokos, Samuil Bakachich, South Slavonic manuscripts*

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