

**A UNIQUE HYMNOGRAPHICAL WORK
OF A MOLDAVIAN METROPOLITAN
AND ONE OF THE LAST BYZANTINE *KANONES*
ON THE DORMITION:
Κανὼν εἰς τὴν κοίμησιν τῆς θεοτόκου
τοῦ μητροπολίτου Μολδοβλαχίας Ἰωακείμ
(TEXT EDITION)**

Deac. PhD Ilarion M ARGATU
Orthodox Theological Seminary "St. Basil the Great", Iasi

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Abstract

This study presents an edition of the text of the single Greek hymnographical composition of a Moldavian Metropolitan, preceded by a short introductory study concerning the author and a discussion of the notable features of the manuscript and of the Kanon text itself.

Keywords: Joachim of Moldova, Moldovlachia, Kanon on Dormition, Greek text edition, hymnography

The Kanon on the Dormition of Mary comes from the middle of the XVth century, and its author, as the manuscript under consideration names him, is Joachim of Moldovlachia¹. We encounter biographical notices about this metropolitan in three Greek sources and two Latin sources from the XVth century. The Greek texts, chronologically rearranged, are: „Πρακτικόν“, „Βασιλικὸν πρόσταγμα εἰς μετάρθειςιν“ and „Γράμμα περιεκτικόν“, all of them edited by the monk Spyridon of Lavra and published in the journal of the Metropolitanate of Thessaloniki². The Latin texts consist of two letters sent from Poland, one to the Pope and another to the cardinals, probably by the archbishop of

¹ Ποίημα τοῦ ταπεινοῦ μητροπολίτου Μολδοβλαχίας Ἰωακείμ; Cf. Ms. gr. 943, BAR, f. 435^r.

² Γρηγόριος ὁ Παλαμᾶς, II (1918), pp. 78-81.