

## THE IX<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THRACOLOGY

Formed as a science at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century – '20 of the 20<sup>th</sup> century through the fundamental works of Wilhelm Tomaschek, Gabriel Kazarow, Vasile Pârvan, etc., Thracology knew in the postwar period a special development. It was created a situation when was felt the need to coordinate the efforts of specialists from different countries. Consequently the idea of International Congresses of Thracology appeared. From 1972, when in Sofia-Bulgaria was held the first International Congress of Thracology, was decided each 4 years to organize such scientific reunions, every time in a different country that has specialists in the field, renowned in the world through their valuable studies.

At the session of the International Council of Indo-European and Thracian Studies from 29<sup>th</sup> September 2000 from Sofia was taken the decision to organize the IX<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Thracology in the Republic of Moldova.

Actually, the preparation began earlier, when are undertaken ample researches in the filed of thracology. But more effectively and intensively were the investigations from the last period when the specialists from the Republic of Moldova had the possibility to involve themselves in the European scientific and research structures and to collaborate with the International Council of Indo-European and Thracian Studies, the International Consulting Commission for the Promotion of Indo-European and Thracian Studies, the Romanian Institute of Thracology, the Institute of Thracology from Bulgaria, the Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the Institute of Carpathology at the University of Użgorod, the Center of Archaeology and the Museum of Archaeology from Odessa-Ukraine, etc.

In the framework of these collaborations, in which the leading role was assumed by the Romanian Institute of Thracology, were realized common moldo-romanian-ukrainian researches at the most important monuments in the steppes of Bugeac – Ukraine, ending up with remarkable results published in the journal of the same institute – „Archaeological researches in the north-Thracian area”.

The Chair of Archaeology and Ancient History and the Laboratory of Thracology of the State University of Moldova have organized several international symposiums where were approached different aspects of thracology. The materials of these symposiums were reflected in the following publications: “Actual problems of national and universal history” (Probleme actuale ale istoriei naționale și universale) and “The romanity and romanianity to the north of Balkans” (Romanitate și românităte la nord de Balcani). Were also organized international colluviums with the participation of specialists from Romania, Russia, Ukraine where have been proposed to discussion problems related to the origins of Thracians, their relations with the Cimmerians and Greek civilization. During the '90 of the 20<sup>th</sup> century were researched circa 10 monuments by the specialists of thracology or by their participation: Butuceni, Potârca, Stolniceni, Hlinjeni, Saharna Mare, Saharna Mică, Trinca, Ciobrucci, Saharna-Revechin, Saharna-La Șanț, among which Butuceni, Hlinjeni and Trinca – exhaustively. A considerable

number of studies and materials were published. It is more than enough to mention than only in 4 years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century appeared 10 monographic studies dedicated to different aspects of thracology. We can add to that also the Plied of young specialists prepared lately. All these represented a serious and solid support in the preparation of the IX<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Thracology.

Around 160 participants registered for the Congress and 114 presented the thesis for publication. Circa 90 specialists participated at the works of the Congress. The results of the Congress are the 3 volumes of publications.

In accordance with the thematic of the IX<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Thracology „Thracians and circumponctic world” the works were splits in three sections.

The first section „Indo-Europeans and early Thracians” included the materials dedicated to the prehistoric communities from the north-western space, comprised in the first volume.

In the second section „Traco-geto-dacians form the Balkan-carpathian-pontic space” were introduced the researches dedicated to different aspects of the thraco-geto-dacian history. They form the second volume.

The materials of the third „Thraco-geto-dacian traditions reflected in the material culture and spirituality of Balkan peoples” were introduced in Volume III.

The redaction, besides some minor corrections, didn't intervene in the text of the presented materials. The responsibility on the content, argumentation and the style of publications lays on authors.

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