

AFFILIATED PROJECTS OF THE CBM

Karakallou Catalogue and Library Project, Mount Athos

The primary task of the Mone Karakallou Catalogue and Library Project is to make the holdings of the Karakallou Library more accessible. Besides rearranging the library's holdings, we aim to underline the actuality of its ancient treasures. In this manner, the study of the NT and other Byzantine sources will be encouraged in its authentic environment, i.e. in the Monastery itself and in the liturgical life of the monastic community.

Catalogue of Slavic Manuscripts Project

The setting up of a parallel *Catalogue of Slavic Manuscripts* project is currently being explored with partners in St. Petersburg and Florence.

Catalogue of Byzantine Liturgical Manuscripts Project

A *Catalogue of Byzantine Liturgical Manuscripts* project is under preparation, together with partners in Greece (NWO Internationalisation).

Catalogue of Byzantine Old Testament Manuscripts Project

An exploration is underway to assess the feasibility of a *Catalogue of Byzantine Psalterion Manuscripts* project.

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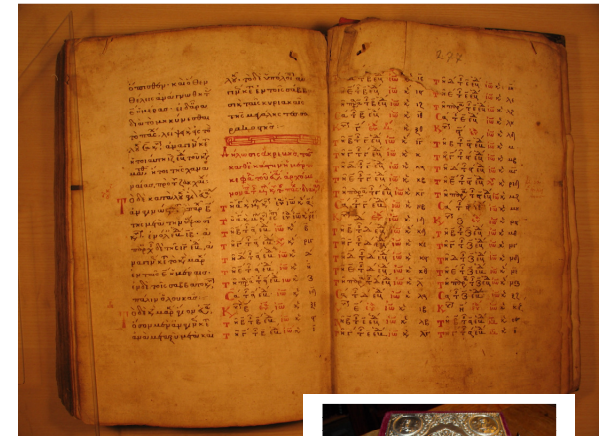
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Catalogue of Byzantine Manuscripts Programme

CBM



The **CBM** programme centres around the construction of a catalogue of Byzantine manuscripts, based on *codico-liturgical* criteria, the leading idea being that the codex forms of the Byzantine manuscripts - which accommodate biblical, patristic and liturgical texts – were determined by their liturgical function and the inherent purpose of the incorporated texts.

The catalogue will be accompanied by an assessment of the *textual* and *hermeneutical implications* of the codico-liturgical approach for Bible research.



Further to cataloguing the Byzantine *NT codex forms*, a start is also being made with the cataloguing of the Byzantine *homiletic manuscripts*, which are the most important source of biblical commentary in the Byzantine tradition and which throw remarkable light on the liturgical context of biblical commentary.



An interesting source for researchers is the *Divine Liturgy* of the Eastern Orthodox Churches, in which one finds that printed editions, still in use today, closely resemble the original manuscript forms. From here one can trace many of the factors that have contributed to forming the codices.

Byzantine manuscript research to date as represented in ‘specialised’ catalogues of NT, OT, homiletic or catena manuscripts, as well as in local library catalogues, provides us with a wealth of information on singular and composed codices and a generally detailed, albeit eclectic picture of the biblical, patristic, liturgical and other textual types contained therein. However, these catalogues do not provide us full insight into the actual content or form of the extant codices. In this programme a path of catalogue and codex research is being set out which we hope will do justice to the manuscripts in all their variety and diversity of form.

The *codico-liturgical* approach can redirect the study of the Byzantine manuscripts to a system of cataloguing that allows for a more inclusive picture of the state of affairs of the manuscripts’ forms, in which the biblical and other ecclesiastical texts were handed down to us. This implies a thorough assessment of existing categorization systems and a reclassification according to codico-liturgical criteria.

At the same time this also implies new hermeneutical and textual implications for biblical research. Thus the **CBM** programme combines Byzantine catalogue studies and codicology, with biblical hermeneutics and liturgical and patristic studies.



The **CBM** programme functions as an academic *platform* where scholars from different disciplines and regions of Europe and beyond can explore and approach each other’s research traditions on the basis of a shared interest in the Byzantine manuscripts. New gateways to this important group of primary sources are thus being formed.

