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271.222(497.11)-726.2-36:929 Николај Велимировић, свети(045)

From Editor: Introducing the 1st Issue of the *Nicholai Studies*

Dear readers,

With the first issue of the new international journal dedicated to the research of Bishop Nicholai Velimirovich's¹ legacy, the circumstances and the context in which he lived and created, and the issues of reception of his ideas and his contribution, we would like to say a word on the main editorial and publishing policies.

We fully endorse academic rules on publishing and publication ethics. Our journal is published both in English and Serbian language; we apply the double-blind unbiased peer-review, including internal review by the Editorial Board and external reviewers, experts on the topic.

We support the principle of international diversity — diversity of the Editorial Board, reviewers, and authors. Editorial

¹ **Nicholai Velimirovich**, in Serbian: **Николај Велимировић** (before taking monastic vows: Никола Велимировић), in Russian and Bulgarian: Николай Велимирович, in Greek: Νικόλαος or Νικόλαϊ Βελιμίροβιτς. His name in English and other languages written in Latin script can be found in following transcriptions: Nikolaj, Nikola, Nikolai, Nicola, Nicolai, Nicolay, Nicholay, Nicholai, Nicolae, Nicholas, Nikolas, Nikolaus, and his surname as Velimirović, Velimirovic, Velimirovich, Velimirovitch, Velimirovich or Velimirovitz: this can be confusing, but there was not one standardized form of a transcription of his name from the beginning of publishing of his works in English and other languages written in Latin script. In our journal, we will attempt to use the most common transliteration of his name from Serbian, and also according to his signature — as **Nicholai Velimirovich**, which is the same as he used to write his own name in English.

The only exceptions could be transliterations of his name in quotations and in references, where we will attend to keep the original form of a transcription of Velimirovich's name and surname.

Board invites and welcomes submissions from around the region and all around the world. In this issue — the first issue of *Nicholai Studies* — we are publishing a guide to authors, where you can find all necessary information for submitting your articles. We would like to underline that our journal follows the publication ethics principles to prevent scientific or ethical misconduct or plagiarism. Therefore authors are required to fill and submit the signed Authorship Statement, and also a brief academic biography along with their manuscripts.

We encourage you to submit responses and reactions to the authors or the editors discussing the results of published studies, communications, and reviews. We are opened to challenging opinions and discussions. We invite you to send your responses regarding debates on different topics — theology, spirituality, history, philosophy, and social sciences in general. We believe that if we all together took responsibility as authors, reviewers, and editors, we could reach our goal and bring your research to the attention of the international scientific community and contribute thus to a better understanding of Bishop Nicholai's role and contribution, as well as to better knowledge and understanding of the contemporary Church history and streams of theological thought.

Now we will mention the main reasons why we decided to publish a new international peer-reviewed journal, and why we dedicated our journal to the study of Bishop Nicholai's thought and influence.

December 23rd (O.S.) i.e. January 5th of the year 2021 marks the 140th anniversary since the birth of Nicholai Velimirovich. March 5th / 18th of 2021 marks the 65th anniversary of Bishop Nicholai's death.

In our opinion, Bishop Nicholai Velimirovich was a remarkable figure in his theological and mystical insights, spiritual reflection and literary creativity, caritative and missionary activity, promotion of Christian ideals, service and witness to Christian unity, and even to an all-human fraternity. His critics would point to certain controversial aspects of his life.

However, he was a remarkable churchman, who influenced the life and mission of the Serbian Orthodox Church a lot. His thought and his reflections and homilies also impacted many Orthodox theologians, authors, priests, monks. His books are interesting to religious people in a wider sense, and also to devoted churchgoers. St. Nicholai continues to motivate people to accept Christian identity, to read the Word of God, to practice Christian virtues even today. More than a half-century after his death, his writings are published and respected worldwide. New translations of his works are produced both in the East and in the West, and collections of his works are published in German, French, Russian, English, Spanish, Romanian, Greek, etc. And Velimirovich's readership is not limited to Orthodox Christians. He enjoys a reputation as a sort of universal Christian sage. He has impacted the lives of Christians for more than 100 years.

The year 2021 is a year to celebrate his legacy. To mark the 2021 anniversary and to motivate critical research of Bishop Nicholai's contribution, the Editorial Board of the present journal is launching *Nicholai Studies*, an international journal focused primarily to research the legacy of Bishop Nicholai Velimirovich. Therefore, we are looking forward to your contributions.

The *Nicholai Studies* are an international journal for the research of theological and ecclesiastical contribution of Nicholai Velimirovich (1881–1956), as well as the wider context in which he lived and created, i.e. the reception of his ideas and his heritage in general. *Nicholai Studies* are open for research of philosophy and theology, for works on the subject of ecclesiastical and social history, for ecumenical treatises, literary analyses, political science research, sociological and religious studies, and in principle, for every critical research of theological-ecclesiastical, socio-political and cultural climate in which Nicholai Velimirovich lived and worked.

Besides Nicholai Velimirovich, *Nicholai Studies* also focuses on the individuals who were his friends and associates,

as well as on the people who criticized him and on those people he was connected to, such as Archpriest Aleksa Ilić (Алекса Илић, 1842–1920), Serbian Patriarch Dimitrije Pavlović (Димитрије Павловић, 1846–1930), historian and diplomat Čedomilj Mijatović (Чедомиљ Мијатовић, 1842–1932), Christian Catholic bishop of Switzerland Eduard Herzog (1841–1924), Archpriest Vojislav Janić (Војислав Јанић, 1890–1944), philosopher and theoretician of modern painting Dimitrije Mitrović (Димитрије Митровић, 1887–1953), journalist and novelist Stephen Graham (1884–1975), Metropolitan of Skopje Josif Cvižović (Јосиф Цвијовић, 1878–1957), politician and diplomat Nikola Pašić (Никола Пашић, 1845–1926), Archbishop of Canterbury Randall Thomas Davidson (1848–1930), ethnologist and religious history scholar Veselin Čajkanović (Веселин Чајкановић, 1881–1946), doctor and suffragist Elsie Maud Inglis (1864–1917), Scottish divine and Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland Rev. Alexander Whyte (1836–1921), diplomat and writer Jovan Jovanović Pižon (Јован Јовановић Пижон, 1869–1939), Oxford Anglo-Catholic theologian Rev. Leighton Pullan (1865–1940), Archimandrite Justin Popović (Јустин [Благоје] Поповић, 1894–1979), Bishop of Chichester George Kennedy Allen Bell (1883–1958), Bishop of Gloucester Arthur Cayley Headlam (1862–1947), Archimandrite Sebastian Dabovich (Севастијан [Јован] Дабовић, 1863–1940), Canon John Albert Douglas (1868–1956), scientist and inventor Mihajlo Idvorski Pupin (Михајло Идворски Пупин, 1858–1935), inventor and engineer Nikola Tesla (Никола Тесла, 1856–1943), pedagogist and psychologist Pavle Raja Radosavljević (Павле Раја Радосављевић, 1879–1958), Anglican bishop Herbert Bury (1854–1933), Archimandrite Rafailo (Stevanović) of Hilandar (Рафаило [Радосав] Стевановић Хиландарац, 1886–1937), Hegemon Rafailo (Topalović) of Nikolje (Рафаило [Бошко] Топаловић, 1899–1982), Serbian theologian and a historian Archpriest Stevan M. Dimitrijević (Стеван М. Димитријевић 1866–

1953), Slovenian ethnologist and anthropologist Niko Županič (1876–1961), philosopher and theologian Archpriest Basil Zenkovsky (Василий Васильевич Зеньковский, 1881–1962), Christian Catholic bishop of Switzerland Adolf Kury (1870–1956), Episcopal Bishop of New York City William Thomas Manning (1866–1949), linguist and academic Aleksandar Belić (Александар Белић, 1876–1960), humanitarian Gertrude Carrington Wilde (c. 1865–1945), pioneer of ecumenism Robert Hallowell Gardiner III (1855–1924), humanitarian Dame Louise Margaret Leila Wemyss Paget — Lady Paget (1881–1958), Metropolitan of Thyateira Germanos Strinopoulos (Γερμανός [Γεώργιος] Στρηνόπουλος, 1872–1951), political activist and historian Robert William Seton-Watson — also known as *Scotus Viator* (1879–1951), missionary and ecumenical pioneer Clara Ruth Rouse (1872–1956), evangelist and activist John Raleigh Mott (1865–1955), Archbishop of Canterbury William Cosmo Gordon Lang (1864–1945), Canon Tissington Tatlow (1876–1957), activist Ruth Frances Woodsmall (1883–1963), Rev Henry Joy Fynes-Clinton (1875–1959), activist and humanitarian Grace Helena Saunders (1874–1970), founding First Hierarch of ROCOR Metropolitan Antony Khrapovitsky (Антоний [Алексей] Павлович Храповицкий, 1863–1936), Canon Oliver Chase Quick (1885–1944), Hegumen Cassian Korepanov (Кассиан [Константин] Тимофеевич Корепанов, 1867–1946), feminist and author Rebecca West — Dame Cicily Isabel Fairfield (1892–1983), King of Yugoslavia Alexander I Karađorđević (Александар Карађорђевић, 1888–1934), Queen of Yugoslavia Marija Karađorđević (Marie von Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, Марија Карађорђевић, 1900–1961), Elder Silouan the Athonite (Силуан [Семён] Иванович Антонов, 1866–1938), sculptor and architect Ivan Meštrović (Иван Мештровић, 1883–1962), translator and journalist Luka Smodlaka (1869–1956), Rev. Lloyd Burdwin Holsapple (1884–1959), philosopher and paleontologist Branislav Brana Petronijević (Бранислав Петронијевић, 1875–1954),

politician and Roman Catholic priest Anton Korošec (1872–1940), Hegumenia of Kuveždin Melanija Krivokućin (Меланија Кривокућин [пее Белегишанин], 1886–1942), Archimandrite Kirik Maximov (Кирик [Константин] Никифорович Максимов, 1864–1938), writer and critic Isidora Sekulić (Исидора Секулић, 1877–1958), the Sitters family — Chaplain Percy Henry Sitters and his wife Kathleen M. Sitters, Metropolitan of Sofia Stefan [Stoyan] Popgeorgiev Shokov (Стефан I [Стоян] Попгеоргиев Шоков, 1878–1957), Bishop of Chicago and seventeenth Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church Charles Palmerston Anderson (1865–1930), philosopher Ksenija Atanasijević (Ксенија Атанасијевић, 1894–1981), Bishop of Gibraltar and Bishop of Guildford John Harold Greig (1865–1938), Bishop of America and Canada Mardarije Uskoković (Мардарије [Иван] Ускоковић, 1889–1935), Bishop of Gibraltar and Bishop of Lincoln Frederick Cyril Nugent Hicks (1872–1942), general Milan Nedić (Милан Недић, 1877–1946), politician Dimitrije Ljotić (Димитрије Љотић, 1891–1945), professor Arnold Gilg (1887–1967), Serbian and Yugoslavian politician and economist Milan Stojadinović (Милан Стојадиновић, 1888–1961), general Dragoljub Draža Mihailović (Драгољуб Дража Михаиловић, 1893–1946), publisher Jovan Sekulović (Јован Секуловић, 1879–1950), a poet and diplomat Jovan Dučić (Јован Дучић, 1871–1943), activist and politician Vasilj Grđić (Васиљ Грђић, 1875–1934), hegumenias of Jovanje Irina Stefanović (Ирина Стефановић, 1908–1939) and Ekaterina Stanković (Екатерина Станковић, 1906–1943), Bishop of Gibraltar Harold Jocelyn Buxton (1880–1976), diplomat and statesman Winston L. S. Churchill (1874–1965), Archimandrite Andronik Elpidinskiy (Андроник [Андрей Яковлевич] Елпидинский / Эльпидинский, 1894–1959), Archbishop of Canterbury Geoffrey Francis Fisher (1887–1972), historian and lawyer Slobodan Jovanović (Слободан Јовановић, 1869–1958), Metropolitan of Zagreb Damaskin Grdanički (Дамаскин [Драгутин] Грданички, 1892–1969), Archimandrite Syprian

Kern (Киприан [Константин] Эдуардович Керн, 1899–1960), Bishop of Catania Kassian Bezobrazov (Кассиан [Сергей] Сергеевич Безобразов, 1892–1965), philosopher Leo [Lev] Zander (Лев Александрович Зандер, 1893–1964), Archbishop of Kamchatka Nestor Anisimov (Нестор [Николай Александрович] Анисимов, 1885–1962), Bishop of Washington and Florida Gregory Grabbe (Григорий [Юрий (Георгий) Павлович] Граббе, 1902–1995), Archbishop of San Francisco John Maximovitch (Иоанн [Михаил] Борисович Максимович, 1896–1966), Hegumenia of Vračevšnica Ana Adžić (Ана Аџић, 1900–1975), Serbian Patriarch Varnava Rosić (Варнава [Петар] Росић, 1880–1937), first general secretary of WCC Willem Adolph Visser 't Hooft (1900–1985), Bishop of Banja Luka Platon Jovanović (Платон [Миливоје] Јовановић, 1874–1941), executive of the International YMCA Paul Bernard Anderson (1894–1985), Orthodox theologian and historian Protopresbyter Georges Vasilievich Florovsky (Георгий Васильевич Флоровский, 1893–1979), Hieromonk Mihailo Đusić (Михаило Ђусић, 1911–1945), Protosyncellus Jovan Rapajić (Јован Рапajiћ, 1910–1945), Metropolitan of Zagreb Dositej Vasić (Доситеј [Драгутин] Васић, 1877–1945), diplomat Hermann Neubacher (1893–1960), monk Jakov Arsović (Јаков [Радоје] Арсовић, 1894–1946), secretary of WSCF and ecumenical activist Pastor Henry-Louis Henriod (1887–1970), Romanian Orthodox theologian Archimandrite Iuliu Scriban (1878–1949), Serbian Patriarch Gavriilo Dožić (Гаврило [Ђорђе] Дожић, 1881–1950), Bishop of Dalmatia Irinej Đorđević (Иринеј [Милан] Ђорђевић, 1894–1952), Bishop of Bačka Irinej Ćirić (Иринеј [Јован] Ћирић, 1884–1955), Hegumenia of Korporin Sara Đuketić (Сара Ђукетић, 1904–1964), Bishop of Žiça Vasilije Kostić (Василије [Тихомир] Костић, 1907–1978), Hegumenia of Ljubostinja Varvara Milenović (Варвара Миленовић, 1910–1995), Bishop of Hvosno Varnava Nastić (Варнава [Војислав] Настић, 1914–1964), Hegumenia of Drača Jelena Jokić, Bishop of America and Canada Dionisije Milivojević (Дионисије [Драгољуб]

Миливојевић, 1898–1979), Canon Edward Nason West (1909–1990), artist and iconographer Ivan Melnikov (Иван Иустинович Мельников, 1896–1969), iconographer Nicholas V. Meyendorff (Николай Теофилович (Богданович) Мейендорф, 1887–1969), Metropolitan of Eastern America and New York Anastasius Gribanovsky (Анастасий [Александр] Алексеевич Грибановский, 1873–1965), historian Vladislav Al'binovich Maevskii (Владислав (Владимир) Альбинович Маевский, 1893–1975), the Zernov family — philosopher and theologian Nicholas (Николай Михайлович Зёрнов, 1898–1980), his sister, humanitarian Sophia (Софья Михайловна Зёрнова, 1899–1972) and his wife, iconographer Militza (Милица Владимировна Зёрнова, 1899–1994), Archbishop of San Francisco and Western America John Shahovskoy (Иоанн [Дмитрий] Алексеевич Шаховской, 1902–1989), Bishop of Edmonton Sava Saračević (Сава [Јован] Сарачевић, 1902–1973), Archpriest Dušan Šukletović (Душан Шуклетовић), Archpriest Dušan Popović (Душан Поповић, 1921–1972), Archpriest Dimitrije Najdanović (Димитрије Најдановић, 1897–1986), Priest Mirko Maksimović (Мирко Максимовић), Bishop of Šabac and Valjevo Jovan Velimirović (Јован Велимировић, 1912–1989), Archpriest Aleksa Todorović (Алекса Тодоровић, 1899–1990), Archimandrite Sophrony Sakharov (Софроний [Сергей] Семёнович Сахаров, 1896–1993), Bishop of San Francisco Basil Rodzianko (Василий [Владимир] Михайлович Родзянко, 1915–1999), psychologist Ratibor Đurđević (Ратибор Ђурђевић, 1915–2011), Archpriest Vlastimir Tomić (Властимир Томић), photographer Milan M. Karlo (Милан М. Карло (Карајловић)), historian Đoko Slijepčević (Ђоко Слијепчевић, 1907–1993), Hegemon Kalist Milunović (Калист [Добривоје] Милуновић, 1896–1991), Metropolitan of Libertyville and Chicago Christopher Kovacevich (Христофор [Велимир] Ковачевић, 1928–2010), biblical scholar Veselin Kesich (Веселин Кесић, 1921–2012) and others. The list of individuals that are of special interest for the *Nicholai Studies* journal is not concluded, of course.

The journal *Nicholai studies* is focused on the work and thought of Nicholai Velimirovich and on the whole context in which he created and worked — starting with his education and service in the Kingdom of Serbia (1881–1904), then his studies in Western Europe (1905–1909), the beginning of his monastic life, his service in the seminary and study times in Russia (1909–1912), his activities during war times (1912–1918), serving as a diocesan bishop (1919–1940), his destiny during World War II (1941–1945), to his life in exile (1946–1956), and his legacy.

In the eyes of his venerators, Nicholai Velimirovich is one of the most notable figures in the history of the 20th century. Velimirovich is recognized as a saint in the Orthodox Church and he is venerated as an exceptional preacher and outstanding pastor. On the other hand, Nicholai's critics see him as an anti-Semite, Nazi, misogynist, barbaric and primitive person, and a dark and retrograde figure. His name is entered in the *World Fascism: A Historical Encyclopedia*, and that is not the only place where he is described as a notorious anti-Semite, collaborationist of Nazis, etc. Since his personality is the subject of controversy, the Editorial Board of the journal *Nicholai Studies* addresses the authors to shed the light on his contribution — primarily his theological and ecclesiastical contribution and then his cultural and social contribution in the wider sense, i.e. on the authentic insight of Velimirovich's role in the history of the 20th century and to do so objectively, by studying the life and work of Nicholai Velimirovich. The critics and apologists of Velimirovich's personality and opus are also invited to contribute. In this regard, the journal *Nicholai Studies* can be a platform for dialogue and comparison of different research results and different conclusions and opinions to acquire a more objective idea and clearer insights. In the past couple of decades, the life of Nicholai Velimirovich has been actively researched and a lot has been written about him (in the meantime two doctoral theses have been defended, several masters and bachelor theses on Nicholai Velimirovich,

and a few dozens of monographs and thousands of articles about him and his contribution), but it seems that the groups of researchers who made different conclusions did not communicate between themselves enough and had not compared their insights in a critical manner.

The desire to change this and to promote dialogue between researchers was one of the key motives for starting the journal *Nicholai Studies*. The Editorial Board of the journal is facing a great challenge, having an idea like that in mind. As a logical step forward, one of the main tasks of the journal would be to collect and organize current Nicholai's bibliography. As there are unanswered questions in regard to the authorship, editions, and versions of Nicholai's work, as well as the materials which are about to be published, creating a bibliography of Nicholai's work, as well as the articles and journals published in Nicholai's surroundings, then the work attributed to him, translations, and articles on Nicholai and individuals connected to him, would be a necessary step towards establishing a more systematical methodological framework for the research of Nicholai Velimirovich's work. The Editorial Board of the journal will make sure that domestic and foreign literary and scientific production is being tracked and to collect and organize bibliographical materials relevant for research of Bishop Nicholai's contribution.

Srećko Petrović, Editor

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