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Nicholai Studies, Vol. III, No. 6 (2023): 391–394.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.58199/nicholaistudies/ns.2023.3.6.391-394>

UDC: 271.222(497.11)-722.52-36:929 Николај Велимировић, свети:005.745”2022/2023”
016:929 Николај Велимировић, свети”2022/2023”

Nicholai Studies Notices, November 2022 — May 2023

***Nicholai Studies* — the first Serbian title in *Atla Religion Database*® (*Atla RDB*®) and *AtlaSerials PLUS*® (*Atlas PLUS*®)
Chicago, IL, November 14, 2022**

As it is announced at the end of last year on the website of the ATLA [American Theological Library Association], the *Nicholai Studies* journal is added to *Atla Religion Database*® (*Atla RDB*®) and *AtlaSerials PLUS*® (*Atlas PLUS*®).

As it is stated on the ATLA website, the *Nicholai Studies* journal is the first Serbian-language title available as full text in Atla’s research tools.

More information at <https://www.atla.com/blog/announcing-additions-to-atla-products-november-2022/>.

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**Promotion of the book *Bishop Nikolaj Velimirović: Old Controversies in Historical and Theological Context*
Belgrade, March 14, 2023**

On Tuesday, March 14th, 2023, in the Atrium of the National Museum of Serbia in Belgrade, the presentation of the book *Bishop Nikolaj Velimirović: Old Controversies in Historical and Theological Context* took place.

The editorial collection was edited by Dragan Bakić, Ph.D., and Vladimir Cvetković, Ph.D., and published by the Institute for Balkan Studies SASA and Sant Sebastian Press.

The book was presented by Vojislav G. Pavlović, Ph.D., director of the Institute for Balkan Studies SASA, Bishop Maksim (Vasiljević), Bishop of Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Western America, Prof. Zlatko Matić, Ph.D., Faculty of Orthodox Theology at the University of Belgrade, one of the peer reviewers of the book, and the editors — Dragan Bakić, Ph.D., Institute for Balkan Studies, SASA, and Vladimir Cvetković, Ph.D., Institute of Philosophy and Social Theory, who addressed the gathering from Bogotá, Colombia, via video link.

The presentation of this book was also attended by the His Eminence Bishop Ignatije of Braničevo, several clergymen from different dioceses of the Serbian Orthodox Church, several professors of the University of Belgrade, members of the scientific community and other admirers of Bishop Nicholai Velimirovich.

This publication is available online at DAIS — Digital Archive of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, at the address <https://dais.sanu.ac.rs/handle/123456789/13967>.

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The Third Annual St. Nicholai Lecture

St. Tikhon's Seminary, South Canaan, PA, March 21, 2023

At St. Tikhon's Seminary, on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, a student of St. Nicholai shared an evening of stories about the Saint, his professor. Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Geeza, who was St. Nicholai's student in 1955–1956, was a lecturer at the Third Annual St. Nicholai

Lecture. The Lecture was live-streamed on the YouTube Channel of the St. Tikhon's Seminary and is available for watching online (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYSqdH5jMIA>).

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Bishop Nicholai Velimirovich and the Czech-Moravian Diocese Belgrade, April 27, 2023

On April 27, 2023, at the Faculty of Orthodox Theology of the University of Belgrade, archpriest Saša Antonijević successfully defended his doctoral dissertation entitled “The Czech-Moravian Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church 1921–1942: A Historical-Canonical View of the Establishment, Resolution of the Jurisdictional Issue and Organization” [in Serbian: „Чешко-моравска епархија Српске Православне Цркве 1921–1942. године: Историјско-канонско гледиште на оснивање, решавање јурисдикцијског питања и устројство“].

The three-member Commission in front of which the dissertation was defended consisted of scientific advisor Dr. Radmila Radić, Prof. Dr. Vladislav Puzović, and Prof. Dr. Radomir V. Popović, also a mentor during the preparation of the dissertation.

The report of the commission was read, in which it was emphasized that the candidate has exhaustively researched and successfully presented the history of the Czech-Moravian Diocese for the period from 1921 to 1942, reaching this result by researching materials from fourteen archives in several countries. In his presentation, Antonijević emphasized the effort in terms of multi-year exhaustive research in numerous church, state, and private archives in Serbia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Croatia, but also on the basis of archival material obtained from Germany and Russia. He emphasized that this work was written so that the reader sees the creation of the Czech-Moravian Diocese not as a coincidence, but as a work of God that quietly anchored the Church of God in the Czech Lands.

In his Ph.D. thesis, Antonijević mentioned the contribution of Bishop Nicholai Velimirovich — on pp. 16, 25–27, 39, 41, 43,

47, 85, 97, 124, 162, 183, etc. This Ph.D. thesis is available online, at <https://uvidok.rcub.bg.ac.rs/handle/123456789/5126>.

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Political Activity and Diplomatic Mission of Nicholai Velimirovich

Belgrade, May 9, 2023

On Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Belgrade, in the presence of mentor and members of the Commission, Dr. Ljupka Katana defended her doctoral dissertation on the topic “Political Activity and Diplomatic Missionary Work of Nicholai Velimirovich in the United Kingdom and the United States of America during of the First World War” [in Serbian: „Политичко деловање и дипломатско мисионарство Николаја Велимировића у Уједињеном Краљевству и Сједињеним Америчким Државама током Првог светског рата“]. The President of the Commission was Prof. Bogdan Lubardić from the Faculty of Orthodox Theology of the University of Belgrade.

The members and the President of the Commission agreed that this doctoral dissertation deserved the highest grade. The topic of this dissertation, which refers to the diplomatic mission and political practice of Nicholai Velimirovich, is a pioneering one at the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Belgrade.

The results of the research led to the conclusion that Nicholai Velimirovich, as a representative of the Church and the state, an intellectual, and a cosmopolitan, could provide excellent diplomatic practice in the world and contribute to his country. His role as a spiritual leader in the Great War was irreplaceable in the political structure of the Kingdom of Serbia as well as in the relationship of inter-state and inter-Church respect. This Ph.D. thesis is available online, at <https://phaidrabg.bg.ac.rs/o:30484>.

Srećko Petrović

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