Ἡ διακίνηση ἕνως ἀντιτύπου τῆς ἀρχέτυπης ἐκδόσεως τῆς «Γραμματικῆς» τοῦ Θ. Γαζῆ (1495) στὴν Πάτμο (18ος-19ος αἰ.): Ἀπὸ τὸ «κατὰ Πάτμιον φροντιστήριον τῶν ἐλληνικῶν μαθημάτων» στὴ βιβλιοθήκη τῆς Μονῆς τοῦ Θεολόγου

Ἰωάννης Μελιανός
Γραμματεὺς Βιβλιοθήκης Ἰερᾶς Μονῆς Αγίου Ἰωάννου τοῦ Θεολόγου, Πάτμος.

Οἱ πρωιμότερες μαρτυρίες σχετικὰ μὲ τὴν ὑπάρξει ἐντύπων στὴ μονὴ Αγίου Ἰωάννου Θεολόγου τῆς Πάτμου ἐντοπίζονται μόλις στὸ δεύτερο μισὸ τοῦ 16ου καὶ στὶς ἀρχὲς τοῦ 17ου αἰῶνα — πρόκειται κυρίως γιὰ βιβλία που ἀνήκαν στὶς προσωπικὲς συλλογὲς λόγων μοναχῶν ἢ βιβλία που προορίζονταν νὰ καλύψουν λειτουργικὲς ἀνάγκες.

Ἡ πρώτη μαζικὴ παρουσία ἐντύπων ὠφείλεται στὴν ἱδρυσι (1713) τῆς Πατμιάδας Σχολῆς ἀπὸ τὸν πάτμιο διάκονο Μακάριο Καλογερᾶ. Στὰ τέλη τοῦ 18ου αἰῶνο τὰ βιβλία τῆς μεταφέρθηκαν στὴ μονὴ καὶ ἀφομοιώθηκαν βαθμιαία στὸ χώρο τῆς μοναστηριακῆς βιβλιοθήκης πολλαπλασιάζοντας τὸν όγκο τῆς, ἐνῶ στὴ διάρκεια τοῦ 19ου ἀκολούθησε ὁχὶ μόνον ἡ ἁλματώδης ἀὔξησι τοῦ βιβλιακοῦ ὑλικοῦ ἀλλὰ καὶ ἡ βιβλιοθηκονομικὴ ὀργάνωσή του.

Σήμερα, στὴ βιβλιοθήκη τῆς μονῆς ἐντοπίζονται ἐντεκα ἀρχέτυπες ἐκδόσεις· μεταξὺ αὐτῶν ἡ «Γραμματικὴ Εἰσαγωγὴ» τοῦ Θεόδωρου Γαζῆ (1495), κτῆμα τῶν πρῶτων διδασκάλων τῆς σχολῆς.

Μὲ ἀφορμὴ τὸ ἀντίτυπο αὐτὸ ἀνακεφαλαιώνονται κάποιες εἰδήσεις σχετικὲς ὡς πρὸς τὴν πρόσληψι τοῦ ἔργου ἀπὸ τοὺς διδασκάλους τῆς σχολῆς κατὰ τὸν 18ο αἰῶνα, τὴ συνένωσι τῶν δύο βιβλιοθηκῶν ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν μέριμνα γιὰ τὴν ὑποδομὴ καὶ τὴ λειτουργία τῆς μοναστηριακῆς βιβλιοθήκης κατὰ τὸν 19ο αἰῶνα.

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The circulation of a copy of the incunable edition of Theodore Gaza’s Grammatica (1495) in Patmos (18th-19th centuries): from the “Patmos ‘frontisterion’ for Greek studies” to the Library of the Monastery of St John the Theologian

Ioannis Melianos
Secretary of the Library of St. John’s the Theologian Monastery, Patmos

The earliest printed books in the monastery of St. John the Theologian at Patmos are attested in the second half of the 16th and the early 17th century; they were books that either belonged to the personal collection of learned monks or they were intended to cover liturgical needs.

The first bulk of systematically-gathered printed books is connected to the foundation (1713) of the Patmias School by Makarios Kalogerias, a local deacon. In the end of
the 18th century the books of the School were transferred to the monastery, thus increasing significantly the number of volumes of the library; in addition to that, the number of books in the monastery’s library was further augmented during the 19th century and the collection was organized.

Today, eleven incunabula have been located in the library of the monastery; a prime example among them is the Introduction to Grammar of Theodoros Gazis (1495), an acquisition of the first teachers of the school.

By taking lead from this specific incunabulum, the present paper sums up the information concerning the perception of book-collecting by the teachers of the school in the 18th century, the unification of the two libraries, as well as the care for the infrastructure and function of the monastery’s library during the 19th century.