

ANOTATION OF SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION

of Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Ivelina Nikolova Nikolova for participation in a competition for an associate professor of Moral Theology – religion and moral education (2. Humanities, 2.4. Religion and theology)

MONOGRAPHY

1. Nikolova, Ivelina. MULTIPLE OF CHRISTIAN HOPE. IM „Paisii Hilendarski“, Plovdiv, 2015, ISBN: 978-954-423-819-3 (486 pages).

The study is the second part of the aretological trilogy, dedicated to the three Christian virtues of faith, hope and love.² It can be seen as an extensive introduction to the structural and substantive axes of the theme, revealing the multifaceted manifestations of Christian hope in the context of Christian anthology and systematics. The presence of these axes also helps to verify the theological and ethical criteria itself, against which the subject is structured, and on the other hand they ensure the possibility of specific problematization of the individual elements, building its overall structure. They emerge as argument lines in the essay and highlight the following main units in its conceptual design: the place of the theme of hope in the thematic and structural boundaries of modern Bulgarian science of morality; the question of the reception of the main guidelines in the study, criteria for choosing an approach, methodology, structure, etc.

The monograph contains two parts. The first is a chronological and meaningful introduction to the topic, which aims to set the basis on which the writing will be built meaningful. In the beginning we try to think about the philosophical and theological parameters of the theme in antiquity, in the Middle Ages, through the prism of the more interesting directions in Protestant and Roman Catholic theology. The second part of the essay begins with the biblical grounds of the subject, based on Old Testament and New Testament preconditions and finally complementary to the experience of eschatological interpretation of the subject. Last but not least, the topic is fixed around the basic development of Prof. Dr. Eve. Panchovski, thus aiming on the one hand to suggest the

² **Nikolova, Ivelina. LOVE – CENTER OF CHRISTIAN ARETOLOGY. IM „Paisii Hilendarski“, Plovdiv, 2023, 300 pages**

The monograph on Christian love is the third part of the aretological trilogy. Taking into account the structural and meaningful design of the previous two works, the present tries to complement and enrich the topic of love in the context of the Bulgarian theological and ethical thought, in view of modern more important approaches to it. Structurally, the theme moves from the aretological introduction to some more important aspects of the varieties of the three kinds of love in ancient Greek philosophy. The monograph on Christian love is the third part of the aretological trilogy. Taking into account the structural and meaningful design of the previous two works, the present tries to complement and enrich the topic of love in the context of the Bulgarian theological and ethical thought, in view of modern more important approaches to it. Structurally, the theme moves from the aretological introduction to some more important aspects of the varieties of the three kinds of love in ancient Greek philosophy.

The topic could not pass the in-depth research on the love of Prof. Dr. Ivan Panchovski – the founder of Christian amongology in Bulgarian theological and ethical thought. Without claiming that we can evaluate or comment on his research, we try to analyze and synthesize it in an ostrich form, in order to cover the more important conceptual guidelines

in the work of the theologianethical. In this way, the achievements so far in the Bulgarian theological and ethical thought and the modest contribution to the topic from the point of view of today are unfolding in a two-part perspective.

contribution of the Bulgarian theologian to the aretological issues, and on the other hand – to build on what he started. The theme ends with „Moduses of Christian Hope“ – more extensive reflection on more important theological-philosophical accents.

Outlined guidelines are important because they guide the reader in the true design of the essay, its content aspects and determinants and most importantly remain embedded in the perspective of theological-ethical thought. On the other hand, they do not allow the topic to be viewed fragmented – without a clear conceptual design, or localized – as isolated from the general plan of modern theological-ethical matter.

TEACHING AIDS AND METHODOLOGICAL GUIDES ON RELIGION (ORTHODOXY) FOR ELEMENTARY

EDUCATION

1. Nikolova, Ivelina. **TEACHING AID IN RELIGION FOR 1. CLASS.** Plovdiv: University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-488-8, 64 pages.

2. Nikolova, Ivelina. **TEACHING AID IN RELIGION FOR 2. CLASS.** Plovdiv: University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-489-5, 66 pages.

3. Nikolova, Ivelina. **TEACHING AID IN RELIGION FOR 3. CLASS.** Plovdiv: University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-490-1, 66 pages.

4. Nikolova, Ivelina. **TEACHING AID IN RELIGION FOR 4. CLASS.** Plovdiv: University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-491-8, 70 pages.

5. Nikolova, Ivelina. **METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE FOR THE TEACHER OF RELIGION**

FOR 1. CLASS (TO THE RELIGIOUS TEXTBOOK FOR 1ST CLASS). Plovdiv: University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-492-5, 128 pages.

6. Nikolova, Ivelina. **METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE FOR THE TEACHER OF RELIGION FOR 2. CLASS (TO THE RELIGIOUS TEXTBOOK FOR 2ST CLASS).** Plovdiv: University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-493-2, 128 pages.

7. Nikolova, Ivelina. **METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE FOR THE TEACHER OF RELIGION FOR 3. CLASS (TO THE RELIGIOUS TEXTBOOK FOR 3ST CLASS).** Plovdiv: University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-494-9, 144 pages.

8. Nikolova, Ivelina. **METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE FOR THE TEACHER OF RELIGION FOR 4. CLASS (TO THE RELIGIOUS TEXTBOOK FOR 4ST CLASS).** Plovdiv: University of

Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-495-6, 136 pages.

9. Nikolova, Ivelina. **MY FIRST INTERACTIVE BOOK OF RELIGION.** UI „Paisii Hilendarski“, Plovdiv, 2019, ISBN 978-619-202-498-8, 48 pages. (Application to the initial stage literature)

The set of teaching aids and methodological manuals for the initial stage of the high school from

the series “Little sunflowers“ were created by a project of the Fund „Science Research“ (MES) “Christian and cultural and historical heritage of Northwestern Bulgaria (Strategies and transfer of local identities)”

(KP 06 OPR 05/6). The study literature belongs to the set „Little Sunflowers“, along with the eponymous magazine for Orthodox children's work. In this way, the overall training system for the transfer of the Orthodox heritage, intended for children, is formed. In fact, the „Little Sunflowers“ has its history and structure. Methodically, it is a continuation of the series for educational literature on Religion „Path to good“, developed by the Municipality of Kyustendil. At the same time, it is the eponymous with the magazine for Orthodox children's work, which the Municipality publishes for the fifth consecutive year.

Based on the mentioned facts and above marked considerations, the idea was born to set a good start in the field of religious education in the country.

The reason for their writing is the need in the Bulgarian school education, according to the new curriculum under Religion (Orthodoxy) from 2018 to provide the training on the subject with appropriate literature.

The goal is to determine the need for primary school students to have training aids in the period before the approval of the Holy Synod Religion textbooks, to be used in view of the needs and opportunities of the respective school.

Structurally, the tasks in the textbooks are based on *inter-sub-subject links* with basic disciplines from the initial stage, and for this purpose a preliminary reading of these programs (BLL, Environmentally friendly world, Man and nature, etc.). The requirement for inter-sub-sub-sub-sub-sub-substantial relations in the conceptual design of the methodical units is also met.

A characteristic element in the teaching aids is the interaction and development of the methodical units in dialogical form, with the inherent entertaining games, illustrative material and saturation of the images, according to the age characteristics and specifics of the children. A second characteristic element is the incorporation of interesting facts and information about saints, events, personalities, etc., directly related to Northwestern Bulgaria (Vidin and Vidin regions), in the context of the above-mentioned project.

Structurally and contentively, the textbooks follow exactly the descriptor to the methodical units of each of the classes in order to accurately apply the elements of the new curriculum.

The illustrations were painted specifically for this purpose by an artist who combines artistic elements, icon painting and Christian ideas in his work. In this way, they further affect the mind of the little kids.

Application: as a result of the work on the teaching aids in the 2019 school year, more than 16,000 students have been sold to date. school network aids. They can currently serve as a standalone study unit or supplement to the textbooks of Religion.

In the methodological manuals we have tried to offer options for the development of the curriculum as it is presented in the textbooks on Religion from 1 to 4. classes. We have tried to follow the familiar structure of the lesson: updating the old knowledge, presenting the new knowledge, consolidating.

The main method is provocation. This method can be seen in most of the tasks in the curriculum. It gives the Religious teacher complete freedom to creatively enrich, supplement or modify what he deems appropriate.

The tasks developed in the topics are diverse and aim to change several types of activities within one

lesson. They are also selected in view of the annual hours of the subject. The tasks are structured with a view to creating a good pedagogical orientation through which the teacher can practice differentiated training according to the level of the intellectual, cognitive and other abilities of the children. New knowledge is also offered in the lessons intended for exercise. This approach aims to compensate for the lack of a textbook in cases where the teacher does not use a religion textbook. The textbook should be sufficient to provide the methodical unit with at least the necessary information on the proposed topic. In this way, a number of key competencies and skills can be covered, which are set as expected results in the curriculum.

The development of the individual methodological units is detailed and includes: 1) Sample thematic framework, in which the individual elements are explained in detail as they are developed synthesized and pictorially in the teaching aids; 2) Methodical development of the lesson with the following sub-topics: general characteristics of the methodological development, tasks and methodological activities.

„My first interactive book on Religion“ is a creative addition to the practical and applied activities of students from an initial stage. It is applied to each of the teaching aids. Its purpose is to offer children options for interactive play of the taught matter. The activities can be performed by the children, or with the help of the teacher.

Both teaching aids and methodological developments must be seen as an attempt to contribute, given our many years of experience in pre-school and primary, and should not be thought of in a competitive environment of religion textbooks. He who is familiar with the purposes and characteristics of the auxiliary literature can understand both the motives for writing the teaching aids, and evaluate their application in the practical activities of the Religion teacher.

ARTICLES

- Issued in journals with impact factor

1. Nikolova, Ivelina. THE INNOVATIVE EDUCATIONAL MODEL FOR TRAINING ON THE SUBJECT RELIGION, DEVELOPED ON THE TERRITORY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KYUSTENDIL – A “PATH TO GOOD” ABOUT OUR “LITTLE SUNFLOWERS”. – In: Socio Brains, ISSN 2367-5721 (online), 71, JULY 2020, pp. 20 – 31

The article seeks to follow the development of the educational model for religious education „Path to good“, developed on a project and initiative of the Municipality of Kyustendil, on whose territory the subject has been studied strategically for more than 10 years. The text presents the specific highlights of the project's educational activities: 1) teaching of the subject Religion with an innovative methodology; 2) organization of the educational activity on the subject from preschool to junior high school stage; 3) project preparation „Religion – Kyustendil“, including the writing and publication of a concept for the training in Religion, teaching aids and methodological manuals from the pre-school stage to the junior high school stage; 4) children's educational religious literature. The purpose of the proposed design in a structural attitude is to discuss and present in the scientific space a theoretical profile of an already multiannual practically established strategy for organizing and teaching the subject Religion, thus incorporating it into a conceptual diagram with the following content units:

The organizational and conceptual parameters of the project „ Religion – Kyustendil “ were initially described and analyzed, taking into account the status of the subject in the territory of the Municipality, as well as the innovative training model, which for years is aprotected outside the Municipality of Kyustendil. The accepted and approved concept for teaching Religion and the curriculum for high school from 1. to 12. classes are presented in detail. The relations between the thematic areas and the thematic flows in the context of the tradition of Orthodox theology in the country are visualized in a schematic form. Last but not least, attention is paid to the project's teaching literature (teaching aids and methodological manuals). Schematically, the upgrade of the project in a new research project to the Fund „Science Research “ (MES) „Christian and cultural and historical heritage of Northwestern Bulgaria – strategies for storage and translation of local identities“ (KP 06 / OPR 05/6) and the result: preparation of teaching aids and methodological manuals, according to the new curriculum under Religion 2018. (MES). The article also places an innovative solution for the application in the educational activity of elements of puppet-theatrical art. Last but not least, a brief analysis of the ideas underlying the drafting of the Journal of Orthodox Childhood Creativity „Little Sunflowers“ has been published for six years.

In recent years, the Municipality of Kyustendil has also issued a CD entitled „In Orthodox Faith to abide“, which contains 26 original Bulgarian folk songs with Orthodox and religious content related to Christian holidays, wheat of saints and moral lessons. Each holiday song is supplemented with the corresponding tropar. This department is an addition to the educational model built in the Municipality of Kyustendil.

2. Nikolova, Ivelina. THE PLACE OF THE KEY COMPETENCES IN THE CURRICULUM IN RELIGION FOR THE BEGINNING STAGE (MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE, 2018). – In: Socio Brains, ISSN 2367-5721 (online), Issue 73, September 2020, pp. 42-48

The text related to the place and importance of the key competencies in the religion training is a response to the new educational messages and needs arising from the European Union, which all levels in the education system must take into account. This also affects the subject of Religion to some extent. In any case, we are part of European education reform; we have a duty to comply with it if we want the subject of Religion to have an adequate place in the school space. It must develop appropriately, preserving its function, goals and objectives, but in accordance with the modern educational environment. There has also been a lot of talk lately about the application of key competencies, as one of the important components in reformed education and in the structure of curricula. Whether and how modern religion training has been taken into account in the package of competencies is a matter of increased attention that can be talked about for a long time. However, given the importance of the topic of the place of key competences in reforming education, the recommendations and requirements of the EU should be at least theoretically discussed and shared. These are the more important starting points on the basis of which the study unfolds. It touches on the more important ideas related to the issue.

After a brief definition indicating the substantive framework of key competencies, the normative standards for integrating key competencies in the curriculum under Religion are considered. European Reference Framework (ERF), National Lifelong Learning Strategy (2014 – 2020), Preschool

and School Education Act (PSEA) 5 of 30.11.201. for general education. Last but not least, an attempt is being made to discuss the possibilities for including key competencies in the curriculum on Religion.

3. Nikolova, Ivelina. MORAL ISSUES IN THE RECENT HISTORY OF THE BULGARIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH. In: OPREE, Vol. 34, 5, 2014 (pp. 24-42)

Over the past centuries, the Bulgarian people have experienced severe ethnic and religious threats, which is why they have developed protective mechanisms and developed a strong sense of empathy for persecuted ethnic groups and social groups. In our new history, this reflex is most pronounced in the behavior of the Bulgarian Orthodox Church in the protection of Bulgarian Jews. At the same time, however, two other events reveal another contradictory image of her, which inflicts severe damage on her. In recent years, many Bulgarians have sought the moral dimensions of these phenomena, which affect the spirituality and morals of young generations. In view of these and other similar indicators, the article aims to present more broadly a concrete ethical reflection on the mentioned events with a specific ethical profile. We briefly dwell on the situation of the BOC during communism and the – hatched on the schism. The aim is to describe some moral defects and challenges, thus placing another touch on the moral state of the problem. The article ends with the marking of some moral challenges before the BOC, with an emphasis on religious education in the country.

- Issued in other journals

4. Nikolova, I. THE INTERACTION IN THE TRAINING BY THE RELIGION. – In: PREPROCIPAL AND SCHOOL EDUCATION, no. 1, 2022, ISSN2535-0692 <https://obrazovane.org/sadarzhanie/spisanie-organizatziya-i-upravlenie-na-uchilishteto-i-detskatagradina/536-broi-1-2022-g> - c. 23 - 42.

The article addresses issues related to the place of interaction in the – religion training the challenges, prospects, goals and actual results of its implementation. In this way, an attempt is made to consider the need to apply a correct and modern approach to the teaching of matter. Properly mastered, pedagogical interaction gives one of the signals for highlighting the difference between traditional passive learning and innovative, related to active communication. An important element in the article is the importance of speech communication. Attention is paid to reflection on the technique by which we know from experience that children naturally assimilate complex matter into Religion just as they themselves participate in the teaching of new knowledge, and not when they assimilate it externally by the teacher. The result of the application of the interaction – the establishment of a minimum competence in relation to religious issues is monitored on the basis of speech communication. Emphasis is placed on the „religion – communication – experience – experience“. Last but not least, we briefly discuss the difficulties that accompany the application of the interaction in the religion training: appropriate terminology, not always successful application of the matter to their personal experience, etc.

5. Nikolova, Ivelina. ON THE PLACE OF THE BULGARIAN NATURAL SONG WITH CORRECT REGULAR-REGIGIOUS CONTENTS: THE TRIP OF COMMON CUSTOMS. – IN: Venets: The Belogradchik Journal for Local History, Cultural Heritage and Folk Studies Volume 11, Number 2, 2020, c. 207- 212.

The training activity developed through the project „ Religion “ of the Municipality of Kyustendil includes an interesting and little-known segment – the creation of a CD with Bulgarian folk songs with Orthodox-religious content. This segment is mastered by the musical approach: children's (and not only) are offered a view of Christian matter in the context of our folk song folklore. The lyrics, music and arrangement of the songs is prepared especially for this, tropars and short acclamations are added. This innovative approach deserves to be discussed theoretically and to consider the challenges, ideas and solutions in its application.

The article begins with a broader introduction, dedicated to the place of Bulgarian folklore in the general culture of the modern generation. This question is raised in view of the many foreign and not completely adequate models of thinking, behavior, but also of musical culture in the growing generation. Hence a transition to reflection on the subject in the context of Christianity: but what extent is the „ folk song – Christianity “ possible and adequate relationship. In short, the more important ideas in the idea of creating a CD, revealed in the inter-subject links between the objects Music and Religion, the application of such results, as well as a short analysis of Bulgarian folk songs with Orthodox-religious content.