

new hereditary states, which would gradually slip into interior problems, economic crises and open up a path to dictatorships and nationalism.

The author Pieter M. Judson has written a praise-worthy monograph without which we cannot imagine the study of the history of the Habsburg Monarchy and which represents an inspiration for thinking and researching the place of national historiographies when this complex issue is concerned, and especially when national historiographies in the region of the Balkans and Central Europe are concerned. On the basis of this research and writing, a whole new school of historiography can be based which tackles the Habsburg Monarchy and its strong foundations and basis were laid by Pieter M. Judson with his book and research.

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Nenad Ninković, *Mitropolit Pavle Nenadović*, Novi Sad – Sremska Mitrovica: Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, Historical Archive Srem, 2017, pp. 536.

(Nenad Ninković, *Mitropolit Pavle Nenadović*, Novi Sad – Sremska Mitrovica: Filozofski fakultet u Novom Sadu, Istorijski Arhiv Srem, 2017, 536 str.)

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Assistant professor Nenad Ninković, PhD, has already published several monographs and capital books of Serbian historiography as a coauthor (*Istorija Srba u Crnoj Gori 1496-1918* [History of Serbs in Montenegro 1496-1918] with G. Vasin and D. Mikavica, *Srbi u Habsburškoj monarhiji 1526-1918* [Serbs in the Habsburg Monarchy 1526-1918] vol. 1-2, with D. Mikavica, N. Lemajić and G. Vasin) and now he has made an additional effort to present to the scientific public the result of several years of research in a valuable and monumental monograph (previously his PhD thesis) on Metropolitan Pavle Nenadović. Ninković invested a lot of effort, time and energy in archive research in order to find out all the details on the life and several decades of work of

the great Serbian Metropolitan, whose biography is at the same time the history of the Serbian church and society in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The monograph is organized chronologically and thematically so that it follows Nenadović's biography in detail. On dozens of introductory pages the author writes about and meticulously analyzes the data on Nenadović's birth, childhood, how he became a monk, his first church missions and many political problems that marked the life of Serbs in the Monarchy. Ninković expertly contextualizes Nenadović, his life and the church mission with respect to the position of Serbs in the Monarchy, thus painting a unique whole. He retains this manner of writing throughout the entire monograph, thus completing the image of the Church and Serbs in the Monarchy, which only increases the value of the book. Let us also add that the author has used archive documents in German and Serbian on every page of the monograph, as well as all available and relevant literature, which completes the image of a monograph important for Serbian historiography.

The first large segment, *On the way to the metropolitan throne* (pp. 11-79), offers information on the family, childhood and education of young Nenadović, as well as his first steps in the church organization, his first problems in life and relationships with other people he had as a young Exarch in the Metropolitanate. Devoted, persistent and thorough, Nenadović spared no strength or energy to try to transform the Church as an institution, to try to improve the living conditions of priests, to provide better education for monks and help Metropolitan Vićentije (1731-1737) to calm down vain bishops. The path of Nenadović, who was seen as one of the most talented Serbs of his generation, inevitably led to the position of a bishop, which would be his first great church position in the important diocese of Upper Karlovci. Since the first day after his ordaining by Patriarch Arsenije Šakabenta in 1742 Nenadović demonstrated that he would fiercely and energetically defend Serbian privileges and bring order among priests and monks, but he also showed great ambition for the highest position of

the archbishop – metropolitan, on the path to which stood his bitter opponent bishop Isaija Antonović. With a lot of nuances, conclusions and picturesque examples the author describes the period when Nenadović was a bishop, especially painting a picture of antagonism with the future metropolitan Antonović, who remained in that position for only a few months. As the author himself emphasized, Nenadović got the opportunity after Antonović's death and took it to run the Serbian church for entire 19 years. The elective synod and the events concerning the confirmation and enthronement of Nenadović are presented very vividly by the author.

The second large segment, *More than an archbishop, less that caput nationis* (pp. 79-171) describes the essence of Nenadović's church and political battle for Privileges, but for much more as well, having in mind the trouble that would befall the metropolitan after he sat on the church throne – Kijug's rebellion, migration of Serbs to Russia, the Severin rebellion and unrest in Slavonia. Nenadović successfully coped with all of these obstacles, positioned himself as an avoidable factor in solving the Serbian issue, he built authority and imposed himself as a crucial figure of Serbs in the Monarchy in the eyes of the Court, Ninković states substantiating his claim with hundreds of archive sources from Vienna, Zagreb, Budapest and Sremski Karlovci. The period of the Seven-year war (1756-1763) led to new pressure on the Karlovci Metropolitanate. The reforms that Kaunitz started gave reason to the wise and rational Nenadović, on the basis of the participation of the Serbian army in the victories of the Austrian army, to ask from the Court, Empress Maria Theresa and Baron Bartenstein the respect for the church and Privileges as well as to resolutely refuse all attempts of the Court to interfere with the church-canon affairs. Nenadović's resoluteness was often misunderstood by the high court, which is the state that would last for many decades – a fight for one concession after another, the author concludes. The very effort of Maria Theresa to reform and finally centralize the Monarchy, to turn it into an efficient system, to modernize it, which the author writes in detail about, provided

an opportunity for Nenadović to assume the position of a spiritual and secular leader of Serbs in the Monarchy. Ninković devotes a lot of attention to this issue and this phase of Nenadović's life considering it important for understanding this turbulent period of Serbian history.

The author devotes the third chapter, *How much do they like faithful non-Unites* (pp. 171-255), to the process of Uniation and attempts by the Catholic church to take over monasteries, churches, land and the congregation from the Karlovci Metropolitanate, against which Nenadović fiercely fought for two decades. Using the examples of the monastery of Marča and the union in Žumberak the author demonstrated that the Court often used double standards with the support of General Petazzi to convert under pressure the few Serbs or steal some of their important holy places. What is especially symptomatic is that these first big examples could be noted in the territory of Croatia and Slavonia, which would symbolically resonate during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A great challenge lay in the Arad diocese, where Nenadović together with bishop Sinesije Živanović tried to protect the Orthodox people, very often Romanians, from the attacks of Hungarian noblemen and the Catholic church. The author verifies this process with dozens of archive documents. Ninković especially emphasizes that Nenadović managed to completely protect Romanians from Erdély and preserve their national identity thus later enabling the creation of a modern Romanian nation although the Court did not allow him to bind this great church area more permanently under his jurisdiction.

*The evangelical meekness of a rigid autocrat* (pp. 255-371) is an inspiring title of the next chapter in which the author mostly tackles the canonic issues from the history of the Karlovci Metropolitanate and the important relationship between Nenadović and the Patriarchate in Peć, as well as the Greeks in the Habsburg Monarchy. With a lot of care and details the author analytically approaches this subject and assesses correctly the position of the Karlovci Metropolitanate in the Orthodox world. He pays

special attention to Nenadović's attitude to the Greeks in the Monarchy, who were under his jurisdiction. He firmly held onto the canonic principles and did not allow the possibility to lose his congregation through the decisions of the state government, which he made clear to the Court. In a similar fashion the author writes about the renewal of the Serbian diocese, the problems that Nenadović had with the Court during the selection of new bishops, the persistence of the Serbian Metropolitan in these problems that spanned several years, as well as the difficulties within the diocese itself and the conflicts among bishops. The author presents in detail the finances of the Metropolitanate during the rule of Nenadović clearly stating that the Metropolitan left full vaults and a plethora of funds which solved many problems in churches, monasteries and newly founded schools.

The fifth large chapter *Organization and reorganization in the Archdiocese* (pp. 371-427) reveals information on the organization of religious life within the very Metropolitanate of Karlovci. The author analyzes in detail the state of affairs in Serbian monasteries and among the monks, especially presenting information on their education, way of life and many anecdotes which stemmed from interpersonal relationships in the monk communities. The author applies a similar pattern when he writes about the priests and their daily life, as well as the enormous efforts of Metropolitan Nenadović to bring order into the system, to educate monks and priests and to motivate them to perform their service with diligence and devotion. Nenadović spared no time nor knowledge to visit monasteries, talk to the priests and do anything in his power to repair the situation and establish a better church organization which he would leave to his heirs.

The last great chapter *For people to look mindfully through their sons* (pp. 427-490) contains descriptions and events from the final years of the life of Metropolitan Pavle Nenadović. The author offers a retrospective of Nenadović's ideas – the establishment of schools, his great effort to maintain those schools, his great desire to fit Serbs as well as possible into the system of the Habsburg Monarchy, followed by his

insistence that priests know theology and numerous epistles that he wrote for his priests and congregation. Theological issues were a particularly important point in Nenadović's rule in the church. The author emphasizes that the Metropolitan especially respected canons, knew them well and did everything in his power to bring them closer to the priests and the congregation as part of the Serbian church legacy. The Metropolitan invested as much time and energy in church painting, the restoration of monasteries, in the creation of Serbian baroque ideology which relied on the tradition of the Middle Ages, thus providing a basis for the development of the Serbian national thought and ideology, which would inspire the idea on the renewal of the Serbian state at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The author Nenad Ninković in his book about the Metropolitan Pavle Nenadović shifts the borders of the familiarity with church history in Serbian historiography in every sense with his exquisite analysis of historical sources, his approach to writing the book, a modern methodology, and his familiarity with the language of original documents. For those reasons the book about the Metropolitan Pavle Nenadović is absolutely unavoidable when it comes to knowing the Serbian national history of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the history of the Karlovci Metropolitanate and the history of south-eastern Europe in the period when Pavle Nenadović sat on the throne of Serbian Metropolitans (1749-1768). For those reasons we recommend the book with a belief that this valuable work of Serbian historiography is the author's introduction to a great new task which, we are sure, he will tackle with great success, and that is the biography of Metropolitan Stefan Stratimirović.

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