Ethio-SPaRE
Cultural Heritage of Christian Ethiopia: Salvation, Preservation and Research

Project type: ERC Starting Grant (EU 7th Framework Programme)

Project full title: Cultural Heritage of Christian Ethiopia: Salvation, Preservation, and Research

Project acronym: Ethio-SPaRE


Project team: PI (Principal Investigator)
Three research associates
Three PhD candidates
Titles, Rubrics, Tables of Contents: Examples from East Tigray (North Ethiopia)

Workshop of COMSt team 1 „The Shaping of the Page, the Scribe and the Illuminator at Work“
Arles, 9-11 October 2012
Session II.1. „The Structuring of Contents“

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Presentations in 3rd workshop of Team 1, basing on Ethio-SPaRE material


Session I.2: D. Nosnitsin, "Different books from East Tigray (North Ethiopia): layouts, organization of text"

Session II.1: D. Nosnitsin, "Titles, rubrics, tables of contents: examples from East Tigray (North Ethiopia)"

Session III.1: M. Krzyzanowska, "Scribes of East Tigray (North Ethiopia)"

Manuscripts collected by Ethio-SPaRE in 2010-12:
- ca. 1700

Sites visited:
- ca. 100

District Gulo Mäkäda, East Tigray, the most regularly studied
- ca. 630 manuscripts, 31 manuscript collections studied

Manuscripts described in the database of the project:
- ca. 350, dated to 14th – 20th cent. (the bulk of the material dates to the post-16th cent. period)
- ca. 50 mss. in study
Traditional navigation systems

**MY-008: Four Gospels**, 30 x 23.5 x 8, 144 fols., early 15th cent.
Three navigation systems in fol. 28r:
- name of the chapter (no. 25 „On John [the Baptist] and Herode")
- name of the church feast (Commemoration of the Martyrdom of John the Baptist, 11 September), the main annual feast of the church
- coloured thread inserted in the corner of the folium
Table of Titles in the Four Gospel manuscripts

MY-008: table of the Titles for Matthew,
Fols. 10v-11r
Title in the upper margin, Chi-Ro sign at the beginning of the chapter, numbers of Ammonian sections

UM-027: Four Gospels, 29 x 20 x 11.3, 263 fols., late 14th cent.
Fol. 53v-54r
Gospel references in Canon tables, absence of any structuring means in the Gospel texts

MM-001: Four Gospels, 33.5 x 31 x 9.5, 194 fols., 1670-1700
Left: the second Canon table;
Right: Mt. 2:22 – 3:17.
Special presentation of the “Genealogy of Christ” (Gospel of Luke)

MHG-004: Four Gospels, 24.5 x 17.5 x 9.5, 279 fols., early 16th cent., fols. 138v-139r
Titles of the works

a) KY-002: Octateuch, 49 x 35 x 11, 243 fols., 15th cent.  
Title inserted in an ornamental band (Exodus)

b) MA-001: Four Gospels, 23.0 x 19.7 x 9.5, 284 fols.  
Second half of the 17th cent.  
Running title in the upper margins (Gospel of Matthew)
Attempts at structuring content in manuscripts of Canon law works

TKMG-016: Covenant of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
17.5 x 11 x 5.7, 108 fols., 19th cent.
Chapter 13: the number and title are written in the upper margin, the chapter border is marked in the midst of the text.
Table of contents in theological treatises

GKM-003: Commentary of John Chrysostom on the Epistle of Paul to Hebrews
28.3 x 25.5 x 6.5, 158 fols.,
18th cent.
Fol. 4v-5r (esp. 5rc): beginning of the table of contents for the entire work; the
rubricated numbers and titles in the table correspond exactly to those in the text.
Table of contents in theological treatises

NSM-001: Faith of the Fathers, 36 x 28.5 x 8, 152 fols., 18th/19th cent.
Fol. 151v-152r: sub-sections are listed as continuous text, lines are numbered, no rubrication
Table of contents in theological treatises

AMQ-008: Faith of the Fathers, 37 x 31 x 7, 135 fols., 1721-30
Fol. 135r: sub-sections are listed as continuous text, lines are numbered, rubricated numbers are inserted in the intercolumn margins