THE ROLE OF SAINT ANTHIMOS THE IVIRITE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROMANIAN CULTURE

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Abstract. The study presents the life and works of Saint Anthimos the Ivirite interpreting the events of his life and structuring his works into relevant categories and indicating the impressive achievements as priest, moral teacher, typographer, and polyglot. This interpretation emphasizes the role of Saint Anthimos the Ivirite in the development of the Romanian language and Romanian culture. The Didaches (The Teachings) of Anthimos the Ivirite, were extremely valuable in their content, and had also an obvious social character. Through these writings certain mores of society were condemned, such as the injustice to which the peasants were subjected because of their boyars, along with the condemnation of the sins which he determinedly criticized: the dishonoring of the parents by the children, the dishonoring of the Church figures by the members of the "flock", the frequent presence in the drinking houses, the curses, the failure to comply to the respect for Sundays and holidays. The Didaches of Saint Anthimos represent the moral attitude stand that the author infuses in the homily or expresses instead of the usual homily, obtaining a lively sermon, related to everyday life. The name of Saint Anthimos the Ivirite remained inscribed in the Romanian consciousness as a founder of the Romanian Church. This way, Saint Anthimos contributed to the deep foundations of the Romanian culture, not only in what concerns his exceptional discourse, nor solely through the development of a beautiful and expressive Romanian language, but mainly due to the profoundly moral and patriotic contents that he sustained and infused into the religious and cultural activities of the time.

Keywords: Saint Anthimos the Ivirite, Romanian language, Romanian Church, publications, Romanian culture.

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