

# ICONOCLASM

Papers given at the Ninth Spring Symposium of Byzantine Studies

University of Birmingham

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Edited by

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## FOREWORD

These papers are substantially those presented at the University of Birmingham's Ninth Spring Symposium of Byzantine Studies, which was devoted to 'Iconoclasm'. It was held on 22–24 March 1975 under the direction of Dr Neville Birdsall, Dr Anthony Bryer and Professor Cyril Mango. These symposia are sponsored by the University of Birmingham Committee (now Centre) for Byzantine Studies and Department of Extramural Studies.

This is the first spring symposium to be published. The coherence of the subject, the interest aroused by the papers, as well as clear demand for a report on current work on Iconoclasm, encouraged the new University of Birmingham Centre for Byzantine Studies to make these papers its inaugural publication.

All but one of the sixteen contributions to the Symposium are presented here. Apart from inviting historical and theological introductions from Professor Cyril Mango and Dr Leslie Barnard respectively, there has been no attempt to make the volume comprehensive (though we have added a chronology and anthology of texts in translation). This is obviously a partial survey of Iconoclasm. Neither the papers nor the scholars represented claim to cover the entire field between them, and it is only natural that their conclusions vary.

In order to offer the volume at a price which we trust will enable it to reach the readership it deserves, the Centre has acted as its own publisher. We are grateful to Mr Tom Davis for designing the volume and to John Goodman and Sons Ltd., Printers, for the care they have taken over an unusual order. For additional editorial help we are most grateful to Dr Leslie Barnard and Dr Robin Cormack. It is a pleasure to acknowledge Dr Philip Whitting's unfailing encouragement and practical help. Our principal thanks, however, must go to the 250 symposiasts from thirteen countries who discussed Iconoclasm and, especially, to the contributors to this volume for preparing their papers for publication.

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