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on connaît l'extrême complexité du sujet et l'ignorance tout aussi grande dans lequel celui est tenu en Occident ; mais la réussite de l'entreprise est complète et remarquable à tous égards. Bataković possède, en effet, une souveraine maîtrise de toutes les données historiques ; il l'a démontrée dans ses livres précédents publiés en français chez le même éditeur depuis 1993 (d'abord « Yougoslavie. Nation, religions, idéologies », puis « Kosovo. La spirale de la haine » et enfin l'ouvrage collectif « Histoire du peuple serbe »). Avec le temps, son savoir ne repose plus seulement sur les livres et les archives, mais aussi sur les réalités brutes qu'il a éprouvées, dans le cas du Kosovo, comme conseiller de l'Église orthodoxe serbe à propos du projet portant sur le statut de la région et la protection de l'héritage culturel serbe ; comme membre aussi de l'équipe de négociation

de Belgrade dans les derniers pourparlers de Vienne ; et aussi comme ambassadeur de son pays.

Le livre « Kosovo : un conflit sans fin ? » couronne, en vérité, un travail de plus de vingt ans au service de deux passions : celle que l'historien a nourrie pour son métier, et celle que l'auteur éprouve pour le Kosovo, dont sa famille est originaire et qui est demeurée pour lui la plus belle des provinces serbes en raison de ses trésors spirituels et artistiques. C'est par le Kosovo que Bataković a entamé, en 1983 (il avait alors 26 ans), sa carrière d'historien, et c'est sur ce terrain qu'il a livré ses batailles les plus rudes contre ce qu'il a appelé avec pudeur : « La manipulation des faits historiographiques à des fins politiques ». Son livre constitue à cet égard une somme qui défie toute concurrence et mérite d'être largement connue.

*IN MEMORIAM* IOANNIS A. PAPADRIANOS (1931–2009)

by Milan Ristović\*

Ioannis A. Papadrianos, a historian and balkanologist, passed away in Thessaloniki on the second day of 2009. Throughout his career, from 1961 when he chose to discontinue his postgraduate studies in Munich undertaken a year before and to resume them at the School of Philosophy in Belgrade, Ioannis Papadrianos was closely connected with the Serbian academic community, where his outspoken, warm-hearted nature and unconcealed sympathies for Belgrade and Serbia earned him a wide circle of colleagues and friends.

Papadrianos was born in 1931 at Drepano near Nafplion in the Peloponnese. His early youth and school days in his birthplace and Nafplion were marked by the hardships and deprivation of the Second World War under the Italian and German occupation, and of the en-

suing civil war (1946–1949). In 1951 he enrolled at the Faculty of Philosophy in Thessaloniki to study history and archaeology, and graduated in 1956. What greatly contributed to the thoroughness of his education was the fact that he had the opportunity to attend the lectures of some of the then leading Greek professors of history and archaeology, such as Vakalopoulos, Laskaris and Politis.

Papadrianos completed the postgraduate programme in Byzantine studies in Belgrade (1961–1963), as one of the first Greek holders of a Yugoslav government scholarship. For a few years (until 1967) he was an employee at the Greek Embassy in Belgrade. In early 1968 he was elected a member of the Institute for

\* School of Philosophy, University of Belgrade

Balkan Studies (IMXA) in Thessaloniki, the institution that most of his activity as a researcher and scholar was associated with. For a time, he taught Serbian at the IMXA School of Balkan Languages.

He was appointed lecturer in Balkan history at the Department of History and Archaeology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in 1988, and later on continued his academic career at the Democritus University of Thrace in Komotini, wherefrom he retired.

Papadrianos's scholarly interest shifted from the late Byzantine towards later periods, but his focus had always been on relations between the Greek-speaking world and its northern South-Slavic neighbourhood. After the initial interest in Byzantium, he embarked upon lifelong and wide-ranging research into the history of the Greek diaspora in South-Slavic areas. Thus the Greek community in Zemun in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries was the central subject of his doctoral thesis defended in 1985 at the Department of History and Archaeology of Aristotle University.

Serbian historiography is indebted to Papadrianos for the many reviews of the

books of Serbian authors he published in Greek specialist journals. He was among the initiators of cooperation between the Serbian and Greek historians and balkanologists, and a contributor to most of their six joint conferences. Furthermore, his texts published in the Greek press during the 1990s helped the Greek public to understand the complex historical backdrop against which the Yugoslav crisis was unfolding.

In addition to the numerous studies and articles Papadrianos contributed to Serbian scholarly journals, in 2007 he published the monograph *Greeks on Serbian soil* translated into Serbian by M. Stojanović (*Grci na srpskom tlu*). He devoted the last years of his life to working intensively on a multi-volume history of the Balkans, which he unfortunately was unable to finish. Energetic and dynamic both in private and in academic life, he was a true lover of the history of the Balkans. What he leaves behind are not only significant scholarly results, but also many friends and colleagues. His Belgrade friends will remember him with affection and respect.