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*BULGARIAN LANGUAGE IN CHINA*

*The text traces out the phases in the development of Bulgarian studies in China from the moment of their creation in the 50s through the periods of their strengthening to their condition today of becoming a respectful discipline with substantial teaching and research experience, traditions and prospects. By describing the initial difficulties and the stages of maturing, the text pays tribute to the founding father prof. Yang Yanjie, as well as to his disciples and successors. A substantial space is allotted to the contemporary condition of the Bulgarian studies in China and by the same token to the Beijing Foreign Studies University. By presenting the methodical preferences with a special emphasize on the comparative approach, the author underlines the connection between theory and practice, the work in class and the extracurricular activities, the feasts and the workdays of the people dedicated their lives to Bulgarian language, literature and culture. By pointing out the long-lived labour of an entire team of Chinese scholars, crowned recently with the appearing of the big Bulgarian-Chinese dictionary, containing over 60 000 entries, the text wraps up by outlining the needs and the prospects in the light of contemporary technically provided teaching. The need for direct contact and for immersing into the foreign linguistic environment turn out to be guaranteed by the deepened institutional relations and the growing exchange of students and teachers between Bulgaria and China.*