

### ***TREE LETTERS OF YURIY VENELIN FROM BULGARIA***

*The Russian scientist Yuriy Venelin plays an important role in the Bulgarian Renaissance (revival). After he wrote and published his book *The Ancient and Present Bulgarians* (1829) in Russian language, in 1830 he was sent by the Russian Academy to an exploring expedition to Bulgaria. There he had to collect documents, monuments and artifacts related to the material and spiritual culture of the Bulgarians and to prepare a grammatical description of the Bulgarian language. Yuriy Venelin visited a few settlements in the northeast part of the Bulgarian ethnical territory. The collected materials allowed understanding the state of the Bulgarian society after the recent consecutive Russia-Turkish war (1829). As a result of this visit later on he manages to compile a *Bulgarian Language Grammar* which however was not published until 1997. In *Език и литература* (2007, vol. 3–4, pp. 184–189.) we published the instruction which the Russian Academy prepared with the tasks given of the young scientist. Here we are publishing his three letters from Bulgaria in which he is describing his journey.*