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*170th Anniversary of the Creation of „Първичка българска граматика“
WHICH IS IN FACT THE FIRST BULGARIAN GRAMMAR?*

The first three grammar books that have the adjective “Bulgarian” in their titles are constructs combining features of Church Slavonic and contemporary Bulgarian. They were published in the middle of the 1830s. Their authors were clerics, originating from the western parts of the Bulgarian linguistic territory. The first grammar which in fact reflected the basis of the Bulgarian literary language, developing at that time and which was written in line with the current state of that language, is Ivan Bogorov’s „Първичка българска граматика“ [‘First Bulgarian grammar’], published in 1844 and reprinted in 1848. The author described his observations on urban speech in the eastern part of the Bulgarian linguistic territory, which was going to become over time a unified national literary language. This article was written to celebrate the 170th anniversary of the creation of Bogorov’s grammar and aims to explain some of the features associated with it and with the history of grammatical thought in Bulgaria in general.

Keywords: Bulgarian language, grammar books, Ivan Bogorov, Slavonic-Bulgarian grammar books, Neophyte of Rila
