



ACADEMIC YEAR 2010-2011

THEOLOGY, POLITICS & CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

With Special Reference to the Christians
in Palestine and the Middle East

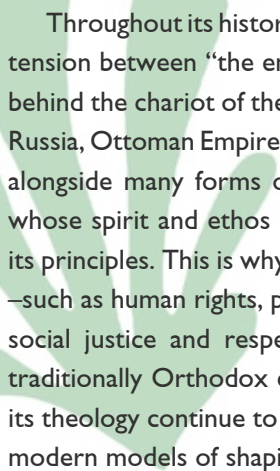
PROGRAM AND PARALLEL EVENTS



HOLY METROPOLIS OF DEMETRIAS
VOLOS ACADEMY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES



Orthodoxy as an ecclesial community has from its beginning been conscious of living and moving in the world, but not being a product of this world (*in the world but not of the world*). Its eschatological and Eucharistic nature has always attributed to its identity a paradoxical character. Likewise today, Orthodoxy seems to be once more at a crossroads, having to confront various challenges that rise sharply before it.



Throughout its history, Eastern Christianity, even though marked by the tension between “the empire and the desert”, often chose to be dragged behind the chariot of the empire or state authority (eg. Byzantium, Tsarist Russia, Ottoman Empire, Balkan national states). In doing so, it drew closely alongside many forms of power, often authoritarian and undemocratic, whose spirit and ethos could hardly be in harmony with the Gospel and its principles. This is why fundamental achievements of modern civilization—such as human rights, political liberalism and the demands of democracy, social justice and respect of otherness—appear still to sit uneasily in traditionally Orthodox environments. In these contexts, the Church and its theology continue to be fascinated by the nostalgic recollection of pre-modern models of shaping and organizing society.

In addition, the harsh contemporary economic reality has emerged as an unprecedented challenge to prevailing ecclesiastical perceptions and attitudes. The financial crisis, a phenomenon with European and global dimensions, has pushed a significant part of society toward marginalization, misery and poverty, causing strong turbulence that threatens social cohesion. At the same time, this tragic situation is aggravated by the increase of immigration from African and Asian countries, which we might term a global, and irreversible phenomenon (due to policies followed and international dynamics). It is also indeterminate, as it concerns the agonized search of people for a more secure and hopeful future. Instead of understanding and facing this new situation, the Church is often enslaved in a sterile moralistic, conformist rhetoric by repeatedly abolishing through its choices the catholicity and ecumenicity of its message. This rhetoric does not practically confront the pain and suffering of the victimized human person, who is in danger of being lost in the obscurity, anonymity and social maelstrom of economic deprivation, but it often justifies anti-Christian attitudes and practices.

And yet, the challenges for Orthodoxy do not end here. A number of conflicts and disputes have arisen in the Middle East and North Africa,

threatening once again the fragile peace in the region, including the very survival of the Christian populations, whether Orthodox or not. This situation offers a great opportunity to the Orthodox Church and theology to enter a self-critical dialogue with their recent past, allowing them to re-examine choices and practices that have resulted in impasse. The “Promised Land”, Jerusalem and Palestine, the cradle of Christianity and of all monotheistic religions, appears to be back at the heart of this debate, always ground for tough political, cultural and religious disputes and controversies. In contrast, however, to what happened in the past, Christians now seem to be confronted with their survival and continuing presence in these early centers of Christian faith. They have become victims of conflict for various reasons: the continuing occupation of Palestine and the various rising fundamentalisms (Islamic and Jewish); the imperialistic interventions of various forces in the wider region; the authoritarian and dictatorial regimes which now collapse in the midst of popular and youth uprisings; their adherence to a closed communitarian and national model—which is incompatible with the fluidity and changeability that characterizes our era—allied to high living standards and good quality education, all of which affords mobility and flexibility, often resulting in emigration.

In this context, the Orthodox Church, despite its significant presence in the region throughout history, and, in many cases, its reconciliatory role, seems to be ineffective (not necessarily by its own fault), as are all the other Christian churches, in working toward the inculturation of the Gospel and faith in local communities, as well as toward the respect of human rights and religious freedoms. It seems often powerless to successfully promote the issues at stake on the international level, and thus contribute to a culture of cooperation, concord and reconciliation that aims at broader peace in the region.

Critical questions emerge with regard to these various challenges. What is the role of the Church in consolidating global peace and social

justice? Can there be a kind of “political theology” or “liberation theology” in an Orthodox perspective? How can the catholicity and ecumenicity of the Church be compatible with it being reduced to merely an element of ethnocultural identity, and identification with communitarian/parochial standards and models? How could the notion of “sacred geography” be understood theologically, especially the notion of the “Holy Land” together with the “election” of the “chosen people”? Does occupation “de-humanize” both the oppressor and the oppressed? How is resistance theologically justified, and what does love for one’s neighbor and for one’s enemies mean in this context? Is Orthodox theology ultimately incompatible with the modern models of organization of life, with political liberalism, religious freedom and otherness, and the improvement of conditions for women in traditional societies? How should the Church and its theology contribute toward confronting the economic crisis and social injustice? What is the stance of the Church toward the challenges that emerge from the achievements of biotechnology and bioethics on the one hand, and growing global emigration on the other?

The Volos Academy for Theological Studies will address the above questions during the forthcoming International Conference on “Living the Christian Faith in Palestine and the Middle East. Theological and Political Challenges in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective”. This conference will take place June, 20-22 in Volos, in collaboration with the WCC Program on “Churches in the Middle East: Solidarity and Witness for Peace”.

In parallel, from March to November 2011, the Volos Academy will also host a series of events, conferences, seminars and book presentations on topics such as: “Orthodoxy and Political Theology”; “Economic Crisis, Poverty and Social Justice: the Word of Theology and the Church”; “Theological Portraits: P.N. Trembelas: Between Tradition and Renewal, Between Academia and Mission”; “Being Human, Becoming Divine: Elisabeth Behr-Sigel’s Contributions to the Church”; “Theology and History. Reflections upon Contemporary Anthropological Challenges”;

“Teaching Ecumenical Theology in the Orthodox World”; “Experiential Learning as a Tool in the Courses on Religion: Using Techniques of Drama Education”; “*And on Earth Peace...*A Vision and A Demand for Societies and Churches Today: An Orthodox Contribution”; “Theology in Dialogue: the Work and Publications of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies”; a workshop on Bioethics, etc.



1

Theology in Dialogue: The Work and Publications of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Participants:

DR MILTIADIS KONSTANTINOU, *Professor at the School of Theology,
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

DR KONSTANTINOS NTINAS, *Professor at the School of Elementary
Education, University of Western Macedonia, Kozani, Greece*

THEOPHILOS AMPATZIDIS, *MTh, PhD Candidate in Theology,
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

PANAYIOTIS VOLAKIS, *MA Hagiology, PhD Candidate in Theology,
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

Moderator:

KATERINA ZAHARAKI-PENIRTZI, *Teacher of Religious Education*

Welcome-Introduction:

H. E. METROPOLITAN OF SERVIA AND KOZANI PAVLOS AND

DR PANTELIS KALAITZIDIS, *Director of the Volos Academy for
Theological Studies*

Monday, April 4, 2011, 7.00 p.m.

Location: Katafygi Vivliofilon, Kozani, Greece

The event is organized in collaboration with *Leimonarion*, the
bulletin of the Holy Metropolis of Servia and Kozani

2

Orthodoxy and Political Theology

Lecture and Roundtable Discussion

Main speaker:

DR PANTELIS KALAITZIDIS, *Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Teaching at the University of Thessalia, Visiting Professor at Saint Sergius Theological Institute (Paris)*

Roundtable Participants:

DR THANOS LIPOWATZ, *Emeritus Professor of Political Psychology, Panteion University of Athens*

DR HELIAS PAPAGIANNOPOULOS, *Assistant Professor of Political Philosophy, University of Piraeus*

DR DEMETRIOS MOSCHOS, *Lecturer at the School of Theology, University of Athens*

Saturday, April 9, 2011, 10.00 a.m.

Location: Armos Bookstore, Athens, Greece

This roundtable discussion is organized in collaboration with Armos Publications

3

Stem Cell Research: Ethical and Theological Reflection

A presentation of the Program on Bioethics, made possible through a collaboration between the WCC Program on "Faith, Technology and Science" and the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Friday, May 13, 2011

Location: School of Theology, Sofia, Bulgaria

The event is organized in collaboration with the School of Theology in Sofia and the Bulgarian Center for Bioethics. For the list of participants, and details on the location and time of this event, please visit: www.acadimia.gr

4

Book Presentation***And on Earth Peace... A Vision and A Demand for Societies and Churches Today: An Orthodox Contribution***

A publication of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in collaboration with *Indiktos* Publications, Athens 2010

The volume is presented by:

H. E. METROPOLITAN OF NIGERIA ALEXANDROS

DR DIMITRA PAPADOPOULOU, *Emeritus Professor at the School of Psychology and Head of the UNESCO Chair at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

DR PETROS VASSILIADIS, *Professor at the School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

Introduction-moderators:

DR STYLIANOS TSOMPANIDIS, *Assistant Professor at the School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

DR ELENI KASSELOURI-HATZIVASSILIADI, *Teaching at the Hellenic Open University, Member of the Academic Team of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies*

Monday, May 9, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Hall A, School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

The event is organized in collaboration with the School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki



1

This year the Volos Academy for Theological Studies inaugurates **"Theological Portraits"**, a series of theological conferences dedicated to some of the most important figures in Modern and Contemporary Greek theology. The first conference is on:

**Panayiotis Trembelas:
Between Tradition and Renewal, Between Academia
and Mission**

Saturday, March 19, 2011, 9:00 a.m.

**Location: Hall of the Association of Daily Newspapers
Reporters, Akadimias 20, Athens**

Speakers:

ATHANASIOS KOTTADAKIS, *Theologian-Writer*

The Spiritual and Academic Journey of Panayiotis Trembelas

DR IOANNIS KARAVIDOPOULOS, *Emeritus Professor at the School
of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

**Jesus of Nazareth: P. Trembelas and the Contemporary
Quest for the Historical Jesus**

DR CHRISTOS KARAKOLIS, *Assistant Professor at the School of
Theology, University of Athens*

The New Testament Commentaries of P. Trembelas

STAVROS ZOUMBOULAKIS, *Director of the literary journal Nea
Hestia, President of the Artos Zoes Foundation*

P. Trembelas as a Translator of Biblical Texts

DR PANAYIOTIS KALAITZIDIS, *Teacher of Religious Education*

P. Trembelas as an Editor of Liturgical Texts. An Evaluation of His Work

Rev DR DEMETRIOS TZERPOS, *Associate Professor at the School of Theology, University of Athens*

The Contribution of P. N. Trembelas to the Renewal of Liturgical Life in Greece

GEORGIOS VLANTIS, MA, *Academic Staff of the Orthodox Academy of Crete*

The Apologetic Work of Panayiotis Trembelas

Rev ANTONIOS PINAKOULAS, *BA in Theology and Law, Rector of the Church of St. Panteleimon at Halandri, Athens*

The Theory and Praxis of Preaching in the Work of P. Trembelas

Rev DR DEMETRIOS BATHRELLOS, *Visiting Professor at the Orthodox Institute of Cambridge, Academic Staff of the Hellenic Open University*

Dogmatics in the Work of P. N. Trembelas

DR PANTELIS KALAITZIDIS, *Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Teaching at the University of Thessalia, Visiting Professor at Saint Sergius Theological Institute (Paris)*

Mysticism, Apophaticism and Cataphatic Theology

DR GEORGIOS GALITIS, *Emeritus Professor at the School of Theology, University of Athens*

P. Trembelas: an Ecumenical Teacher

Rev EVANGELOS GANAS, *BA in Theology and Mechanical Engineering, Rector of St. Meletios Greek Orthodox Church, Athens*

Panayiotis Trembelas: "The Shadow of His Era" Upon His Work



2

Living the Christian Faith in Palestine and the Middle East Today: Theological and Political Challenges in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective

International Conference, with simultaneous translation into Greek / English.

The conference will include the following issues:

A- Living as Christians under Occupation

- Occupation as a Sin: Dehumanizing the Occupant and the Occupied
- Fundamentalist/Christian Zionist Interpretations of Related Biblical Accounts
- The Post-holocaust Theology and its implications on the Israeli/Palestine conflict
- Orthodox approaches to Non-violent Resistance
- The "Promised Land" in Orthodox theology
- "Election" and the People of God: an Orthodox theological perspective.
- Neighbor and Love of Enemies
- KAIROS Document for Palestine
- The Place of Jerusalem in Christian Theology

B. The Situation of Christians in the Middle East Today

- Citizenship, Secularization, Democracy
- The Presence of Christians in the Arab World: A "Role Syndrome"
- The Place of Women in Middle Eastern Societies
- Human Rights and Religious Freedom
- The Emigration of Christians from the Middle East
- Violent regional conflicts and their impact on Christians in the Middle East
- Christians in the Middle East: Between protected minority status and full citizenship



- The Recent International Awakening and Interest in the Situation of Christians in the Middle East: between solidarity and exploitation

C. Witnesses from Lived Experience

- Iraq, Southeastern Turkey, Israel/Palestine/Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria

The following presenters, among others, will participate in the conference:

Rev DR PHILIP LE MASTERS, *Priest of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, Dean of the School of Social Sciences and Religion, McMurry University, USA)*

Vivian Fahmy, *Coptic Center for Social Studies, Cairo*

DR NICOLAS ABU-MRAD, *Assistant Professor at "St John of Damascus" Institute of Orthodox Theology, University of Balamand, Lebanon*

DR EKATERINI TSALAMPOUNI, *Lecturer at the School of Social and Pastoral Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

Rev DR JAMAL KHADER, *Professor at Bethlehem University, Co-author of the Document "KAİROS-Palestine"*

DR ELENİ KASSELOURI-HATZIVASSILIADI, *Teaching at the Hellenic Open University, Member of the Academic Team of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies*

DR ASSAAD ELIAS KATTAN, *Director of the Center for Religious Studies and Chair of Orthodox Theology, University of Münster, Germany*

DR ELIZABETH PRODROMOU, *Assistant Professor at Boston University, Vice Chair of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom*

DR TAREK MITRI, *Former Minister of the Government of Lebanon*
J.-F. Colosimo, *Teaching at St Sergius Institute of Orthodox Theology, Paris*

DR MARY MICHAEL, *President of the Near East School of Theology, Beirut*

STAVROS ZOUMBOULAKIS, *Director of the literary journal Nea Hestia, President of the Artos Zoes Foundation*

The conference is organized in collaboration with the WCC Program: "Churches in the Middle East: Solidarity and Witness for Peace"

20-22 June 2011

Location: Thessalia Conference Center, Volos, Greece

Opening: Monday, June 20, 2011 at 9.00 a.m.

For additional information and to register, please contact our Secretariat:

Tel. +30 2421093553, 93573 or by e-mail: info@acadimia.gr

FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2011

1

Being Human, Becoming Divine: Elisabeth Behr-Sigel's Contributions to the Church

International Conference in English

Speakers:

DR KYRIAKI KARIDOYANNIS-FITZERALD, DR ELISABETH PARMENTIER, OLGA LOSSKY, DR ANTOINE ARJAKOVSKY, REV DR MICHEL EVDOKIMOV, DR VALERIE KARRAS, DR MARIA McDOWELL, TEVA REGULE, DR SARAH HINLICKY WILSON, AMAL DIBO, etc.

Moderators:

DR SARAH HINLICKY WILSON, DR TAMARA GRDZELIDGE, DR FULATA MOYO, DR ELENI KASSELOURI-HATZIVASSILIADI

August 31 to September 3, 2011

Location: St. Thomas Centre, Strasbourg, France

CONFERENCES

The Conference is jointly organized by the Institute of Ecumenical Research (Strasbourg), the Commission on "Faith and Order", the Program "Women in Church and Society" of the WCC, and the Volos Academy for Theological Studies.

Further information and to register in May on our website:
www.acadimia.gr or by e-mail: info@acadimia.gr

2 **Economic Crisis, Poverty and Social Justice: the Word of Theology and the Church**

November 2011

Location: Thessalia Conference Centre, Volos, Greece

For further information, visit our website in September:
www.acadimia.gr





1 Teaching Ecumenical Theology in the Orthodox world

Preparatory meeting on the publication of a collective volume, in collaboration with the Program of Ecumenical Theological Education (ETE) of WCC and various Orthodox Institutions and Schools of Theology

The date of the meeting is to be announced on our website:
www.acadimia.gr

2 Experiential Learning as a Tool in the Courses on Religion: Using Techniques of Drama Education

Training Program, under the auspices of the Pedagogical Institute, for teachers of Religious Education

Trainers:

APOSTOLOS BARLOS, *MTh, Director of the School for Adults in Larissa, Greece, co-author of textbooks for religious education*

VASO GOGOU, *BA in Theology and Literature, Teacher of Cultural and Aesthetic Education at the School for Adults in Larissa, Greece*

The number of participants is limited. For further information and dates, contact our Secretariat:

Tel. +30 24210 93553, 93573; e-mail: info@acadimia.gr

3

Theology and History: Reflections in Light of Contemporary Anthropological Challenges

Seminar and Roundtable

Main speaker:

DR KONSTANTINOS AGORAS, *Assistant Professor at the Hellenic Open University*

Roundtable Participants:

DR MARIOS BEGZOS, *Professor at the School of Theology, University of Athens*

DR IOANNIS KOUREMBELES, *Associate Professor at the School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

DR HARALAMBOS VENTIS, *Member of the Academic Team of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies*

Saturday, May 28, 2011, 10.00 a.m.

Location: Thessalia Conference Centre, Volos, Greece

**For further information and to register, contact our Secretariat:
Tel. +30- 24210-93553, 93573; e-mail: info@acadimia.gr**

FROM SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2010

1

The Story of an Icon: the Icon of Pentecost

Lecture by the *Rev Dr Nikolas Ozoline*, *Protopresbyter and Professor of Orthodox Iconology at Saint Sergius Theological Institute (Paris)*

October 4, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Cultural Centre of the Municipality of Nea Ionia, Volos, Greece

The lecture was organized in collaboration with *Dia Heiros*

School of Iconography of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias on the occasion of the inauguration of its eleventh exhibit

2

Facing Contemporary Needs in the Religious Education of Pupils: Broadening Our Perspectives on Teaching

Trainers:

PIGI KAZLARI, *Former school advisor for secondary school religious educators, Author of textbooks for religious education*

APOSTOLOS BARLOS, *MTh, Director of the School for Adults in Larissa, Author of textbooks for religious education*

VASO GOGOU, *BA in Theology and Literature, Teacher of Cultural and Aesthetic Education at the School for Adults in Larissa*

October 22-24, 2010

Location: Center for Environmental Education-KPE, Velvendo, Kozani, Greece

3

Experiential Learning in Pupils' Religious Education

Training workshop for teachers of Religious Education. The event was organized in collaboration with the Association of Religious Teachers of Imathia under the auspices of the Holy Metropolis of Veroia, Naousa and Kambania.

Trainers:

APOSTOLOS BARLOS, *MTh, Director of the School for Adults in Larissa, Author of textbooks for religious education*

VASO GOGOU, *BA in Theology and Literature, Teacher of Cultural and Aesthetic Education at the School for Adults in Larissa*

Saturday, February 5, 2011, 10.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.

Location: Veroia, Greece



The Academy for Theological Studies of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias functions as an open forum of thought and dialogue between the Orthodox Church and the broader scholarly community of intellectuals worldwide. In its effort to foster interdisciplinary and inter-religious understanding, the Academy has been organizing a series of studies, international seminars, conferences, roundtables and publications. In order to meet this objective, the Academy for Theological Studies has collaborated with numerous other institutions, jointly addressing problems and challenges of our time, in a spirit of respect for each other's differences. Thus, the Academy has collaborated with institutions such as

the Boston Theological Institute, the French Institute in Athens, Drury University (USA), the School of Theology at the University of Thessaloniki, the Department of Orthodox Theology at the University of Munich, the Faculty of Theology at Heidelberg University, the Bossey Ecumenical Institute and the World Council of Churches, the Society of Oriental Liturgy (SOL), the Orthodox Theological Faculty at the University Babes-Bolyai (Cluj-Napoca, Romania) and the University's Centre on Bioethics, the Department of History-Archeology and Social Anthropology at the University of Thessaly, the Chair of Orthodox Theology at the University of Münster (Germany), the Program of Orthodox Studies at Fordham University (New York), the Romanian Institute for Inter-orthodox, Inter-confessional and Inter-religious Studies (INTER, Cluj-Napoca), Saint Sergius Theological Institute (Paris), the Journal and the Ecumenical Center *Istina*, French Orthodox Journal *Contacts*, the Athens Pedagogical Institute, the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy, the Association of Orthodox Women in Europe, the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC), the Ecumenical Youth Council of Europe (EYCE), the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF), the Forum of European Muslim Youth Student Organizations (FEMYSO), the Association of Religious Teachers of Imathia (Greece), the Municipal Center





of History in Volos, the School of Iconography *Dia Heiros*, the French website on Orthodox news www.orthodoxie.com, and a number of journals, academic periodicals and publication houses (*Nea Hestia*, *Synaxis*, *Analogion*, *Leimonarion*, etc). As a result of this scholarly activity, the Diocese of Demetrias and the city of Volos have become an international meeting place for encounter and dialogue.

Among the topics addressed by the Academy for Theological Studies in previous academic years were: “Orthodoxy in the 21st century,” “Church and Culture,” “Church and Eschatology,” “Orthodox Christianity and Modernity,” “Islam and Fundamentalism – Orthodox Christianity and Globalization,” “Orthodox Christianity and Otherness,” “Gender and Religion – The Place of Women in the Church,” “Women and Religion: The Problem of Violence and Fundamentalism,” “Theology and Literature,” “Theology and Modern Church Architecture,” “The New Synaxarion: The Lives of the Saints of the Orthodox Church,” “Toward an Ecumenical Declaration of Just Peace and Reconciliation: An Orthodox Contribution,” “Biblical Liberation Theology, Patristic Theology, and the Ambivalence of Modernity in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective,” “Orthodox Christianity and Education: Religious Instruction as a Lesson in Identity and Culture,” “Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism,” “Lay Participation in Ecclesiastical Life,” “Critical Approaches to the Theology of

the '60s," "Church and State," "Orthodox Christianity and Islam: Islam in Europe," "Orthodox Christianity, Tradition, and History," "Wittgenstein and Apophatic Theology," "Forgiveness, Reconciliation, and Peace," "Eucharist, Church, and the World" "The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, and Future," "Neo-Patristic Synthesis or Post-Patristic Theology: Can Orthodox Theology Be Contextual?," "The Place of Religion in the Public Sphere," "Issues of Renewal and Reform in Orthodoxy," "Refugees, Immigrants, and the Church," "Shifting Versions of Helleno-Christianity (19th -20th centuries)," and more.

The scholarly fruits of these conferences have been published under the following titles: *Church and Eschatology*, (Athens: Kastaniotis Publications), 2003; *Islam and Fundamentalism—Orthodox Christianity and Globalization*, (Athens: Indiktos Publications) 2004; *Gender and Religion. The Role of Women in the Church*, (Athens: Indiktos Publications) 2004; *Religion and Literature* (Parts I, II, and III) in the literary journal *Nea Hestia* (March 2004, March 2005, and September 2009 respectively); *Orthodox Theology in the 21st century*, by Metropolitan of Diokleia Kallistos Ware, Senior Lecturer at Oxford University, (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2005; *Prolegomena on Orthodox Christianity and Modernity*, by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies (Ath-





ens: *Indiktos Publications*), 2007, also translated and published in Romanian by *EIKON Publications*; *Orthodox Christianity and Modernity* (collected works), (Athens: *Indiktos Publications*), 2007; *Critical Approaches to the Theology of the 60's* (Athens: *Indiktos Publications*), 2009; "And on Earth Peace"... A Vision and A Demand for Societies and Churches Today. An Orthodox Contribution (Athens: *Indiktos Publications*), 2010; *Church and Culture in Contemporary Greek Theology* (published in French on *Istina*, issue January-March 2010), *Biblical Theology of Liberation, Patristic Theology and the Ambivalences of Modernity in Orthodox and Ecumenical perspective*, (Athens: *Indiktos Publications*), 2011; *Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, Future* (Geneva/Volos: WCC Publications/Volos Academy), 2011.

Forthcoming publications of papers presented at our Academy's previous conferences include, among others: *Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism*, *Church and Culture*, *Neo-Patristic Synthesis or Post-Patristic Theology: Can Orthodox Theology Be contextual?*, *Lay Participation in Ecclesiastical Life*, and *Church and State*.

For the Academic Year 2010-11, the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, continuing the tradition of timely and high-level academic events, has organized a major international conference on the subject: "Living the Christian Faith in Palestine and the Middle East. Theo-

logical and Political Challenges in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective”. This is an issue of vital importance for the future of Christianity in the region. Further, the Volos Academy is inaugurating a series of theological conferences under the general title “Theological Portraits”, which aim to study the work and contributions of the most significant figures of modern and contemporary Greek theology. The first of these conferences is: “Panayiotis Trembelas: Between Tradition and Renewal, Between Academia and Mission”. By the Grace of God, in the coming years, more conferences will follow on great figures of 20th century Greek theology such as Nikos Nissiotis, Hamilkas Alivizatos, Ioannis Karmiris, Fr. John Romanides, Nikos Matsoukas, and more. Various individual conferences, seminars, workshops, book presentations, and training seminars are also organized in parallel, in which the Academy will address issues as: “Theology in Dialogue: The Work and Publications of the Volos Academy”, “Orthodoxy and Political Theology”, “Theology and History: Reflections in Light of Contemporary Anthropological Challenges”, “Stem Cell Research: Ethical and Theological Reflection”, “*And on Earth Peace...A Vision and a Demand for Societies and Churches Today: An Orthodox Contribution*”, “Economic Crisis, Poverty and Social Justice: the Voice of Theology and Church”; “On the Way to *Likeness*: The Theo-



ACADEMY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

logical and Anthropological Contribution of Elisabeth Behr-Sigel to the Church”; “Teaching Ecumenical Theology in the Orthodox World”. Additionally, the Volos Academy has organized, for the fifth time, a training seminar for the secondary education religious teachers under the title: “Experiential Learning as a Tool in the Courses on Religion: Using Techniques of Drama Education”.

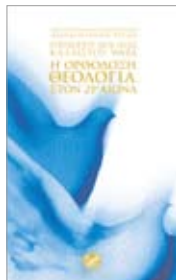
Lastly, the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, in collaboration with the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, has established an online digital Orthodox theological library (www.imdlibrary.gr), with free access to books, scholarly reviews and periodicals, collected works, monographs and theological essays, and also links to other online digital libraries and websites. Abstracts of all this material are available in Greek, English, and very soon in French, as well as links to other online libraries and websites.



By Indiktos Publications:

**BISHOP OF DIOKLEIA KALLISTOS WARE,
ORTHODOX THEOLOGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

While in the 20th century the main problem of theology was the ecclesiological one, that is the issue of the identity and nature of the Church, in the 21st century -due to rapid and startling developments in the area of biotechnology, genetic engineering and computer science- the major problem that orthodox theology will deal with is anthropology.



**ISLAM & FUNDAMENTALISM – ORTHODOX
CHRISTIANITY AND GLOBALIZATION
(COLLECTED WORK)**

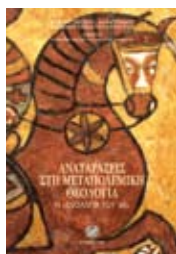
The rise of political Islam and the reactions of many Orthodox Christians against globalization raise the possibility that despite their significant differences, neither Islam nor Orthodox Christianity, which both find themselves today facing the dilemma “fundamentalism or globalization”, have in fact solved (each for different reasons) the issue of their relationship with modernity.



**GENDER AND RELIGION –
THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH
(COLLECTED WORK)**

A serious theological study -and basically a self-critical discussion- about the whole range of standpoints of orthodox theology and tradition on the critical issue of the place of women in the Church: from the radical questioning and overcoming of any kind of discrimination (including that based on gender) to the undermining and hierarchical subversion of women to men.





1. ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY & MODERNITY (COLLECTED WORK)

2. PROLEGOMENA: PANTELIS KALAITZIDIS

Did Orthodox Christianity stop before modernity? Has Orthodox Christianity come to terms with modernity and its consequences at the social and cultural level? Are human rights compatible with the orthodox ethos and to what extent is the emergence of the subject necessarily linked to individualism and negation of communion of persons? Are Orthodox Christianity and Enlightenment necessarily mutually exclusive? What does the Church have to say in the postmodern and multicultural age? What is Orthodox Christianity after all: a religion of the past and a struggle to preserve “historical privileges” or a way of life for the present and the future?

CRITICAL APPROACHES TO

THE “THEOLOGY OF THE ’60s” (COLLECTED WORK)

This volume includes the papers (and the discussion) presented at the conference on the “Theology of the ’60s”, which took place in Volos in May 2005, under the auspices of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies and the theological journal *Synaxis*. This collected volume attempts, for the first time, a multi-faceted and critical evaluation of the meaning and the quest of a whole theological generation, which marked the direction of contemporary Orthodox theology in Greece.

“AND ON EARTH PEACE...” A VISION AND A DEMAND FOR SOCIETIES AND CHURCHES TODAY:

AN ORTHODOX CONTRIBUTION (COLLECTED WORK)

This volume contains the papers from a seminar organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in the frame of the DOV program of the WCC and the “International Peace Convocation,” which will take place May 2011, in Kingston, Jamaica. The papers of the volume emphasize the necessity of an Orthodox contribution to

a culture of peace. This contribution should not focus on a mere description of the phenomena of violence and war, but offer a prophetic theological word and vision for the transformation of the whole world and the foretaste of what is not yet fulfilled.

BIBLICAL LIBERATION THEOLOGY, PATRISTIC THEOLOGY AND THE AMBIVALENCES OF MODERNITY IN ORTHODOX AND ECUMENICAL PERSPECTIVE

A collected work based on the lectures addressed at the seminar for graduate students organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in collaboration with the School of Theology, University of Heidelberg and the School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki. The volume attempts to open, for the first time, a debate between patristic and liberation theology and additionally to consider the challenges and ambivalences of modernity, from an Orthodox and ecumenical theological perspective.

WCC and Academy for Theological Studies Publications

"MANY WOMEN WERE THERE..." THE PARTICIPATION OF ORTHODOX WOMEN IN THE ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE, WCC AND VOLOS ACADEMY PUBLICATIONS

The volume includes the papers presented at the international consultation which took place in Volos in June 2008 and was a joint organization of the "Women in Church and Society" Program of the WCC and the Volos Academy for Theological Studies. This collection of articles shows off the multifaceted participation of Orthodox women theologians in the ecumenical movement and at the same time the theological challenges they faced in this framework. The questions raised in the ecumenical context regarding the role of women in theology and the life of the Church offered a good opportunity to the Orthodox to start an internal, self-critical discussion, which is still necessary and apropos.





Literary journal *Nea Hestia*:

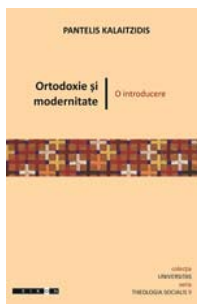
RELIGION AND LITERATURE (COLLECTED WORK)

1st, 2nd and 3rd part,
March 2004, March 2005 and September 2009
respectively.



CHURCH AND CULTURE IN CONTEMPORARY GREEK THEOLOGY (ISSUE OF THE JOURNAL *ISTINA*)

The well-known French theological and ecumenical journal “Istina” dedicated a whole issue (No 1, January-March 2010) to the International Conference of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, “Church and Culture”, which took place in Volos in 2009. The volume includes the French translation of the papers of seven Greek Orthodox theologians (Metropolitan of Nigeria Alexander, Rev Dr Lambros Kamperidis, Rev Dr Dimitrios Barthellos, Prof. Niki Papageorgiou, Prof. Chrysostomos Stamoulis, Prof. Dimitrios Moschos, and Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis) and attempts to expound the theological discussion on the relation between Church and Culture, Church and world, Church and local traditions, and Church and mission in Greece nowadays.



PANTELIS KALAITZIDIS, ORTHODOXIE ȘI MODERNITATE. O INTRODUCERE

Traducere din neogreacă de Florin-Cătălin Ghiț, Prefață de Radu Preda, Colecția Universitas, Seria Theologia Socialis 9, Eikon, Cluj-Napoca, 2010

The Romanian translation of Pantelis Kalaitzidis' book: *Orthodoxy and Modernity. Prolegomena* (Indiktos Publications, 2007).

- * **Forthcoming publications of papers presented in previous conferences in our Academy include: *Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism, The participation of Laity in Church life, Church and State, etc.***

LOCATION

Thessalia Conference Center
Melissiatika, Volos, Greece

You can participate in our meetings online through the Radio Station
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