

## **THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BYZANTIUM TO THE NATURAL SCIENCES - BYZANTINE ASTRONOMERS AND SCIENTISTS**

Byzantine philosophy, whose main characteristic was its theological orientation, continued the tradition of ancient Greek philosophy by preserving a lot of information about it and many ancient philosophical texts, which in addition were commented and explained. Byzantine Christian theology cannot be considered as a science, since the logical method was questioned or even abandoned. Only during the last period of the Byzantine Empire attempts were made to introduce the dialectic method to theological inquiry, but this was rather the result of influences from the Western scholasticism. On the other hand, in Byzantium there was no lack of original ideas, contributions in mathematical and astronomical methods, or practical applications of scientific knowledge to the daily life in the empire. In this paper, the natural sciences in Byzantium and the contribution of distinguished scholars are considered.