

**Sv. Doncheva**

## **The Notebook of the Cattle-drovers' Guild in Odrin**

(Summary)

The life of the Bulgarians in Odrin is not seriously researched by historians. The publications on this matter are showing lack of information about the first half of the XIX century, mostly due to the scant sources. The few documents that are available are short and are related to particular events. Other data about the Bulgarians in Odrin can be found in short articles in the Bulgarian revival press. However the life of the Bulgarians in Odrin is not tightly related to events such as the Bulgarian-Greek church dispute, which has influence in Odrin as well, the forming of the Uniate society, the creation of the Exarchate and the arrival of the Bulgarian bishop in town, the Russian-Turkish War 1877-1878. And this is why every source concerning the Bulgarians in Odrin during the XIX century may give more details about their life. The purpose of this article is to show and analyze a new source of information. The notebook of the Bulgarian Cattle-drovers guild in Odrin gives a picture of the activity of the guild and its influence on the Bulgarians in Odrin. The life of the Bulgarian society is revealed, the elite of the society and its relations with organizations such as the Odrin Bishopric and the Christian community.