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**THE RUSSIAN LITURGICAL BOOK IN THE BULGARIAN LANDS
AFTER THE CRIMEAN WAR (BASED ON MATERIALS FROM THE
ARCHIVES OF NAYDEN GEROV)**

(Summary)

After the defeat of Russia in the Crimean War (1853–1856), under conditions of international isolation and internal crisis, its support for orthodoxy became a system of political activity, a way of establishing relations with the Slavic orthodox peoples and keeping its influence among them. The Hatt-I hümayun, issued by the Ottoman Empire under the pressure exerted by the Western Powers, and the unfolding Bulgarian-Greek religious strife stimulated the repair of old Christian churches and building of new ones, which necessitated liturgical books. The danger of Western religious propaganda also explains the influx of requests for imports from Russia. The article furnishes an overview of an array of documents mainly from the unpublished archives, as well as from the published correspondence of the Russian vice consul in Plovdiv Nayden Gerov that contain data about imported from Russia liturgical books for Bulgarian churches after the Crimean War.