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FOR LEGAL-POLITICAL ENDEAVORS AFTER THE 1850 UPRISING IN NORTHWESTERN BULGARIA. (PRECONDITIONS, FACTS, ASSUMPTIONS)

(Summary)

People’s sufferings and victims during the mass uprising of 1850 gave impetus to strong peaceful pressure from the Bulgarians to the Sublime Porte. The insurgent Christian population obtained authorization to send a delegation to Constantinople, consisting of elected representatives of Bulgarian municipalities, equipped with a letter of attorney confirming its legitimacy. The delegation carried collective memorandums and waged verbal negotiations with the central authorities in the capital raising number of requests for actual enforcement of the civil rights promised by the 1839 Edict of Gülhane, calling for wide municipal self-government, for the eradication of spahi tenure, the abolition of tax abuse etc. At the same time delegates expressed the firm desire of the until recently rebellious districts - of Belogradchik, Lom and Vidin (without the city of Vidin) – to be separated from the vali of Vidin and unite into a single administrative unit with an autonomous status under the suzerainty of the Sultan.