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**THE LIFE OF RADA OF PLOVDIV AND NATIONAL
EMANCIPATION OF BULGARIANS DURING THE NATIONAL
REVIVAL**

(Summary)

The article is dedicated to a written monument from the time of the Bulgarian Revival, which is relatively little known to scientists – Life of St. Rada of Plovdiv written by Hadji Dimitar Panichkov. It seeks the place of this literary monument in the context of hagiographic literature created in the XIX century, and among other literary interpretations of the legend. Life of St. Martyr Rada of Plovdiv is not only a literary monument from the nineteenth century, but also an interesting source of information about important events and persons in the history of the city during the 1820's and 1830's, and in a broader context – about the historical environment in which Bulgarians build their national identity. It is a valuable documentary evidence of the mentality of Bulgarians from the time of their National Revival. Between attempts at reforms in the empire, military conflicts and liberation movements of the neighboring Balkan nations Bulgarians obtained their national emancipation, with their saints, heroes and role models, national myths and national identity based on them.