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**ACADEMICIAN DIMITAR KOSSEV AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF  
BULGARIAN HISTORICAL SCIENCE IN 1960S**

(Summary)

As a consequence of its participation in the Second World War as an ally of Nazi Germany, Bulgaria experienced yet another national catastrophe. After the war, the country fell within the Soviet zone and practically lost its independence. One of the dimensions of the loss of sovereignty in the spiritual realm is the eradication of nationalism as the basis of Bulgarian identity. The study examines the important role played by Academician Dimitar Kossev for the gradual release of Bulgarian society from the suffocating embrace of nihilism. This happened at the end of the 1950s and during the 1960s when Dimitar Kossev stood at the head of Bulgarian history - Rector of Sofia University, founder and director of the Institute of History at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Vice-President of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.