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**TSARIGRAD BULGARIANS, MARIN DRINOV AND THE QUESTION  
OF THE HEAD OFFICE OF BULGARIAN LITERARY SOCIETY  
BEFORE THE LIBERATION**

(Summary)

The study traces the contacts of the founders of the Bulgarian Literary Society (BLS) Marin Drinov and Vasil D. Stoyanov with the Bulgarian community in Istanbul, where a significant Bulgarian literary, spiritual and political center was formed after the 1840s. Ever since the BLS was founded in Braila in 1869 there was the idea to move its head office to some central town in Bulgaria or to Istanbul in order to be closer to the people and to better meet their educational and cultural needs. This plan remained unfulfilled until 1876 because of the opposition of the revolutionary emigration in Romania and the dissent of the Bulgarians in Istanbul. Only after the Liberation BLS transferred its activity in Sofia, the capital of the Principality of Bulgaria, and thus it was under the new conditions that the original idea of its founders was carried out.