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**Church-National Struggle in Sofia until the Secession from the Patriarchate
of Constantinople**

(Summary)

Based on published and newly discovered unpublished sources, as well as the existing historical research on the topic, the author reconstructs the church-national struggle in Sofia in the years after the end of the Crimean War (1856). The events in Sofia are discussed in the context of the national struggle for an independent Bulgarian church and in comparison with the similar activities in Plovdiv at the same time. Two main moments in the church movement in Sofia attract the attention and form the cores around which the source material is focused: the reaction in the city after the secession from the Patriarchate of Constantinople on 3 April 1860 in the Bulgarian church "St. Stefan" in Constantinople - two months later Sofia's Bulgarians also renounced the Patriarchate and reinforced this with relevant changes in the municipal self-government; the dramatic events in Sofia in 1861 when the citizens of Sofia defended their previously stated position on the church issue by refusing to accept the patriarchal bishop - Bulgarian Dorotheos.