Sources and Authors of Sources Referred to in the Text


Benjamin of Tudela: Jewish traveler who wrote an account of the Jewish communities he visited in 1168 in the Byzantine Empire (including many in Greece). (English translation in Jewish Quarterly Review 16–18 [1904–06].)

Blasates, Matthew: compiled in 1335 a syntagma (an encyclopedic compilation of ecclesiastical and secular legal decisions) that, soon translated into Serbian, had considerable impact on Serbian law.

Camblak, Gregory (ca. 1365–ca. 1419): Bulgarian-born cleric, abbot of monastery of Dečani, and later a bishop in Russia, who wrote a saint’s life of King Stefan Dečanski.

Cantacuzenus, John: Byzantine emperor, 1347–54, who after his forced retirement wrote a detailed history (and memoir) of his times covering the period 1320–62. (Bonn corpus, 3 vols., 1828–32.)

Chalcocondyles, Laonikos: Byzantine historian who in the 1480s wrote a world history from ancient times to 1463, important for his coverage of the period from the 1360s. (J. Darko, ed., Laonici Chalcocondylae historiarum demonstrationes, 2 vols. [Budapest, 1922–27]. Also older Bonn edition.)

Choniates, Michael: Brother of Niketas and Archbishop of Athens (1182–1204) whose letters are a major source on Athens at that time.


Constantine the Philosopher (Konstantin Filozof, Konstantin Kostenečki): Bulgarian-born scholar and writer who came to Serbia in 1411, was active at the court of Stefan Lazarević, and wrote a biography of Stefan Lazarević in about 1431.

Cydones, Demetrius (died 1410): Byzantine statesman and author whose treatises and numerous surviving letters provide important data, particularly about ecclesiastical affairs, Thessaloniki, and the Peloponnesus in the second half of the fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries.
Danilo (ca. 1270–1337): Serbian monk, active in court and Church politics. Archbishop of Serbia from 1323. Author of *The Lives of the Serbian Kings and Archbishops* (in medieval Serbian) containing biographies of the Serbian kings from Uroš I through Milutin and of the eight contemporary archbishops.

Danilo Continuatus: An anonymous Serbian cleric who continued the work of Danilo, writing biographies of Dečanski and Dušan to 1335 as well as of four heads of the Serbian Church including Danilo.

Domentian (ca. 1210–ca. 1265): Serbian monk on Hilandar who wrote biographies of Saints Sava and Simeon (Nemanja).

Ducas: First name unknown. Fifteenth-century Byzantine historian who chronicled the fall of the empire in a work covering the period 1341–1462. (Greek text: V. Grecu, ed., *Ducas, Istoria turco-bizantina* (1341–1462) [Bucharest (Romanian Academy of Sciences), 1958]. English translation: H. Magoulis, trans., *Decline and Fall of Byzantium to the Ottoman Turks* by Ducas [Detroit, 1975].)


Gregoras, Nicephorus (1290/91–1360): Byzantine scholar and historian whose history covers the years 1204–1359. (Greek text: Bonn Corpus, 2 vols., 1829–30.)

Jannina, Chronicle of: An anonymous chronicle, written in Greek in Jannina early in the fifteenth century, covering the years 1357–1400.


Luccari, Jacob: Renaissance historian who published in 1605 a history of Dubrovnik, including much material on the Slavic interior, entitled *Copioso ristretto degli annali di Ragusa di Giacomo di Pietro Luccari*. He made use of the Dubrovnik archives and the works of various earlier historians. Some of the material from them is no longer extant.

Metohites, Theodore: Byzantine statesman and diplomat who left an account of his embassy to the Serbian court of Milutin in 1298/99.

Morea, Chronicle of: Written in the first quarter of the fourteenth century by a Hellenized Frank, it survives in French, Italian, Aragonese, and two Greek versions. It covers the period of Frankish rule. (For the different editions, see G. Ostrogorsky, *History of the Byzantine State* [New Brunswick, N.J., 1969], p. 419 n. 2.)

Mutaner: Catalan who participated in the Catalan Company’s expedition to Byzantium and Greece at the beginning of the fourteenth century and wrote an account of it.

Orbini, Mavro (ca. 1550–1611): Historian who published in 1601 *Il Regno degli Slavi*, an important history of the South Slavs that makes use of many earlier sources no longer extant.

Pachymeres, George (1242–1310): Byzantine scholar and historian whose important history covers the years 1255–1308. (Greek text: Bonn Corpus, 2 vols., 1835.)

Philes, Manuel: Byzantine poet whose panegyrics to high state and military officials contain some important, but sometimes difficult to interpret, material.
Pius II, Pope (Enea Silvio de Piccolomini, 1405–64, pope 1458–64): His major work in thirteen books, a combination memoir (based on diaries) and history of his times known in English as the Commentaries, contains much material on Hungary and Bosnia. (See bibliography for English translation and specific references.)

Resti, Junius (1669–1735): Wrote a chronicle of Dubrovnik (including material on the Slavic interior) from the town’s origins to 1451. Basing his chronicle on Dubrovnik’s archives, Resti had access to many documents no longer extant. Sava, Saint (1175–1235): Son of Stefan Nemanja. Tonsured as a monk in the early 1190s, and Archbishop of Serbia (1219–33), he wrote a life of Saint Simeon (Nemanja).

Spahrtztes, George (1401–77): Byzantine official and historian close to the imperial family. He wrote a chronicle covering the period 1413–77. His actual work is what is now known as the Short Chronicle (Chronicon minus). The long version formerly attributed to him is actually an expansion of his work done in the sixteenth century. (Greek text: V. Grecu, ed., Chronicon minus [Bucharest, 1966]. English translation of the short version: M. Philippides, ed. and trans., The Fall of the Byzantine Empire: A Chronicle by George Spahrtztes, 1401–1477 [Amherst, Mass., 1980].)

Stefan Prvovenčani (“The First-Crowned”): Son of Stefan Nemanja, King of Serbia (1196–1227), and author of a life of Nemanja.

Theodosius of Hilandar: A Serbian monk on Hilandar who in the second half of the thirteenth century wrote a life of Saint Sava based on the earlier Life of Sava by Dometian.

Theodosius of Trnovo, Life of: The surviving Bulgarian text is probably a fifteenth-century re-working of the no-longer-extant Life of Theodosius written in Greek by Kallistos, Patriarch of Constantinople (1350–54, 1355–63). The text has much material on the Hesychast movement in Bulgaria and Bulgarian Church history.

Thomas the Archdeacon of Split (died 1268): Author of a history of Split (Historia Salonitana) covering the period from the seventh century to his own time. An expanded version of his work from the sixteenth century, known as Historia Salonitana maior, also exists. (N. Kluić has recently published critical editions of both texts.)

Turoschi, John: Hungarian historian, active in the late fifteenth century, author of Chronicon regnum Hungariae.

Villehardouin, Geoffrey de (died 1213): Participant on the Fourth Crusade whose chronicle on the crusade and its aftermath is probably the best single source on that major event. He was the uncle of the Geoffrey de Villehardouin who created the principality in the Morea. (The original is in French; several English translations exist.)