

**LIVES OF THE SERBIAN  
SAINTS. TRANSLATIONS  
OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURE  
SERIES VII**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649745722

Lives of the Serbian saints. Translations of christian literature series VII by Voyeslav Yanich & C. Patrick Hankey

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**VOYESLAV YANICH & C. PATRICK HANKEY**

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TRANSLATIONS OF CHRISTIAN LITERATURE

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SERIES VII

LIVES OF THE  
SERBIAN SAINTS

ST. SAVA  
ARCHBISHOP



ST. SAVA

*Frontispiece*

*Lives of the Serbian Saints*

BR 989  
L5

BR 989  
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## CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	vii
A NOTE ON SERBIAN HISTORY . . . . .	xii
SAINT JOHN VLADIMIR, SERBIAN PRINCE . . . . .	I
SAINT SIMEON, GIVER OF THE OIL . . . . .	6
SAINT SAVA (1169-1236). . . . .	12
OUR HOLY FATHER ARSENI, SERBIAN ARCHBISHOP . . . . .	31
SAINT SIMON PRVOVENCHANI, SON OF STEPHEN NEMANYA . . . . .	37
THEOPHOROS STEPHEN MILUTIN, KING OF ALL SERBIA AND THE COASTLANDS . . . . .	46
THE SAINT AND GREAT MARTYR, STEPHEN DE-CHANSKI. . . . .	56
THE HOLY AND BLESSED MARTYR, TSAR UROSH . . . . .	65
THE SAINT AND MOST BLESSED MARTYR, TSAR LAZAR, RULER OF THE SERBIAN LAND (1372-1389) . . . . .	70
THE HOLY FATHER EPHREM, PATRIARCH OF THE SERBIANS . . . . .	76
THE SAINTLY AND JUST STEPHEN, SERBIAN DESPOT . . . . .	79
SAINT JOANNICIUS OF DEVITCH . . . . .	85
THE HOLY FATHER MAXIM, ARCHBISHOP AND SERBIAN DESPOT . . . . .	87
OUR MOTHER, SAINT ANGELINA, DESPOTITZA OF THE SERBIANS. . . . .	91
SAINT JOHN, DESPOT . . . . .	94
THE HOLY AND JUST STEPHEN SHILANOVITCH . . . . .	96
SAINT BASIL . . . . .	102
GLOSSARY . . . . .	106
INDEX . . . . .	107

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

SAINT SAVA . . . . .	<i>Frontispiece</i>
THE MONASTERY OF PECH . .	<i>Facing p. 32</i>
SAINT MILUTIN . . . . .	" " 46
SAINT LAZAR . . . . .	" " 70

## INTRODUCTION

THIS collection of lives is taken from what we should call the martyrology of the Church in Serbia. There were, at one time, a number of these martyrologies in use in Europe containing different lists of saints, together with their lives. In the West these tended to give place to a calendar and lives of a more or less official character; but in the East the monasteries in particular seem to have kept their own calendars and their own special traditions about their saints and special offices in their memory. This was the case in Serbia, where many monasteries preserved their own separate collection until the middle of the last century. In all these old office books certain great national saints would be sure of a place. No Serbian martyrology would be complete without a life of St. Sava, for instance. But the stories of their lives, affected by local tradition or by some contact of the saints with the monastery in his lifetime, would often show considerable variety. Other saints would be included only in the commemoration of churches of a particular district because their fame had never sufficiently penetrated beyond it. Two classes of difference thus arose in these various collections. There was the variety in the list of saints included; and there was sometimes considerable variety in the stories of their lives.

In the middle of the last century, however, there was issued one martyrology for the use of the Church