MILOVAN GAVAZZI'S DONATION

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The entire private library of the late professor Milovan Gavazzi was donated to the library of the Department of Ethnology at the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb. It was given by his family after his death in 1992, respecting his wish, because already during his lifetime professor Gavazzi began classifying his books and journals in order to give them to the Library.

All the material he used during his many years of scientific work and teaching is held separately as Milovan Gavazzi's donation. The journals (over 1500 volumes) have “ex libris” signet, and the books (over 1600 volumes) have a label as well. There are several hundred off-prints and about a hundred various catalogues of museums, exhibitions etc. The other materials of the donation are: field-work notebooks, photographs and drawings, correspondence, reviews, bibliographies, conference papers, students, works, department and scientific symposia documentation and notes, letters and other written material.

The contents of the books are various; they mostly contain ethnological themes concerning national and world ethnology and anthropology; there are also books on archeology, history and art, books concerning folk literature and music, folk architecture and folklore in general. There are encyclopedias, dictionaries and reference books. The books are from Croatia and other parts of former Yugoslavia, as well as from all Slavic countries, German and English speaking countries, Hungary, in short from all over the world. The same could be said for the journals. Some journals ceased being published many years ago, while the current ones date from professor Gavazzi's last days.

It is important to mention that many books were given to professor Gavazzi as personal gifts by the authors themselves. The books have dedications from many eminent ethnologists such as: Kazimierz Moszyński, Dimitrij Zelenin, Hristo Vakarelski, Béla Gunda, Petr Bogatyrev, Ludvík Kunz, Sigurd Erixon, Stith Thompson and many other foreign and Croatian scholars of different professions.

The books and journals, and all the other material from the donation can only be used in the library. The only exception was made with some books, field notebooks and other documents which were lent for exhibitions dedicated to professor Gavazzi: “Pokupska sjećanja - etnografska ekspedicija 1923” (The memories of Pokuplje - an ethnographic expedition in 1923) and “Milovan Gavazzi - proživljeno stoljeće” (Milovan Gavazzi - life over century). Both exhibitions were held in the Ethnographic Museum in Zagreb, the first in 1993 and the second in 1995.

I would also like this contribution to be an expression of gratitude and respect to our late professor.