

## Abstract

The thesis is especially focused on the Egyptian monasticism during its supremely period in the 4<sup>th</sup> a 5<sup>th</sup> century. As it appears from the title of the thesis it deals about the its beginnings of the monastic movement in Egypt, the end point represents the personality Shenoute the Great that stands at the intersection of the Orthodoxy and Coptic Christianity, meanwhile, in the Coptic Orthodox Church he is the most venerated saint, outside its his names is connected with the authoritarianism. In the thesis the attention is focused to predecessors of the monastic ideal in Egypt, both in within the Ancient Greek philosophy, in Judaism and in the Christian tradition, specifically in the Alexandrian school. In the addition, the thesis deals about early Christian monastic literature, famous monastic centres this period in Egypt and female monastic communities, about which do not exist much information. Main part of the thesis is the chapter about individual monastic leaders, concretely about saints Paul of Thebes, Anthony the Great, Amoun, Pachomius, Macarius of Egypt and Mary of Egypt and about Shenoute the Great, who is revered as saint in Coptic Orthodox Church only. In the various subheads is treatise about each of saints, there are mentioned their disciples, if they had some. I am aware of the selection of these ascetics is confined, each of them is focused shipshape attention, because of all of them, except Shenoute, are revered as saints outside Coptic Orthodox Church as well. The thesis includes also the chapter about Saint Athanasius of Great, the archbishop of Alexandria and disciple of Saint Anthony, thanks him the monasticism was consolidated in the Egyptian Church, he also contributed to the extension of the Egyptian ascetic tradition outside Egypt, not only due his *Life of Anthony*, but also during his second exile in years 339-346 himself. The final chapter is dedicated to the sense of the Egyptian monasticism and its influence outside Egypt and current Coptic monasticism too.