

Summary

The Monastery of the Assumption Of Holy Merry (Uspenija) in Veta

The national tradition indicates that this temple dates back to the Byzantine period. It was destroyed and reconstructed many times. In its close surroundings many important events took place, important not only for the Niš eparchy, but also for the history of the city of Niš as a whole. The monastery had a spiritual, educational and the national-liberating role under the Turkish reign. After that, in the period of freedom, the temple was one of the centres of spiritual and moral rebirth of the nation, which lasted until the First World War when the monastery was destroyed by the Bulgarian occupational forces. In the period between the two World Wars, the monastery life was revived again and this sacred place became one of the centres from which the sanctimonious movement was being spread, and whose protector was the bishop Nikolaj Velimirović, for the whole territory of the Kingdom of the time. The Second World War brought new destructions. Bulgarians ruined the church building and belfry, as the monastery was the headquarters of the Ravnogorski movement in the region of Suva planina mountain. After the war, the monastery was physically restored but experienced new destructions by the communist authorities. It was deserted for more than thirty years, spiritually neglected and completely plundered. It is only now, in the last few years, that the process of its spiritual and physical reconstruction has been started.