

**GA 043**

(a.k.a. Tirana, State Archive 1)  
(a.k.a. Albania National Archive, Kod. Br. 1)

***Kurzgefasste Liste* description:**

MS number: 043  
Contents: eP+: Mt, Mc  
Date: VI  
Material: parchment, purple  
Leaves: 190  
Columns: 2  
Lines per page: 17  
Dimensions: 31 x 27 cm

*Corrections to K-Liste description:*

K-Liste description appears to be based on the facsimile, not the originals.

***CSNTM* description:**

MS number: 043  
Contents: eP+: Mt, Mc  
Date: VI  
Material: Purple parchment, silver and gold text. Facsimile: Purple light weight paper.  
Columns: 2  
Lines per page: 17 (not all are visible on most leaves)  
Dimensions: Original: 24 x 23–24 cm. Facsimile: 31 x 27 cm. (Facsimile cover: 32 x 28.2 x 6.1 – 7.1 cm.)

**Leaves:** 197 + cover material

Page Count: 394 pages

Cover material: Original (9 vols. [see description below]) front and back x 2.

Facsimile, front and back x 2. Ruler shots; typewritten description in Albanian. 8 images total.

Text: 197 leaves

UV (MS pages, not ours): None.

Interesting images: None.

**Other notable features:**

Multi-volume (9) work in brown cover.

Volume 1: 20 leaves, each one sealed in glass and then bound in a plastic envelope with sheet of hard (non-acidic, almost waxy finish) paper in a plastic envelope. Leaves are bound in lots of ten tied together to binding with brown ribbon.

Leaf quality ranges from very fragmented to readable. All margins are jagged. Top and bottom margins are missing borders making line count uncertain. Inner margins, when extant, often reflect a text that is mirrored (see 28r, cf. 27v!). Based on observation of tan leaves with dark borders, it appears that each leaf was written on flesh side and hair sides were attached (glued) to each other. Some pages are clearly tan and light compared to others, which range from completely dark (purple dye?) to partially dark where the dye is worn off. However, there is no sign of hair follicles.

28r is a good example of a tan leaf on a dark leaf background and is a mystery – the text in the border does not seem to correspond to the text on the page. It looks like two hair sides were attached; the inner margin of the flesh side is very straight, leading one to postulate that it was not an even match with the page below it and only after it was attached was the text added (explaining the forward facing text in the inner margin). But does this marginal text go with the text of the main page?

Could the process of sealing pages have taken text from one side or another? What was the original condition of the MS before it went to China? Could any textual mixing have taken place (i.e., could there be text not from the leaf, the opposite side [bleeding] or from the facing page [mirroring])?

Based on sewn corner in 32v, leading to a closer observation of color differences and clear margin differences in other leaves (see 28r,v), we believe that each leaf was made of two (or more) sheets of parchment attached to each other.

Leaf one is well worn. The preservation process included laying it on a fine sheet of tissue (plastic) on verso, which helps spread out the leaf for better viewing.

Pagination: Page numbers are marked on the glass for each leaf. Page numbering is inconsistent.

Volume 1. Leaf 1r is page 1, 1v is page 1; leaf 2r is page 2; leaf 2v is page 3; leaf 3r is page 4; 3v, 5; 4r, 6; 4v, 6; 5r, 7; 5v, 7; 6r, 8; 6v, 9; 7r, 10; 7v, 11; 8r, 12; 8v, 12; 9r, 13; 9v, 14; 10r, 15; 10v, 15. At this point there is a second binding tied by brow. Leaf 11r, 16; 11v, 16; 12r, 17; 12v, 17; 13r, 18; 13v, 18; 14r, 19; 14v, 20; 15r, 21; 15v, 22; 16r, 23; 16v, 23; 17r, 24; 17v, 24; 18r, 25; 18v, 25; 19r, 26; 19v, 26; 20r, 27; 20v, 28.

Volume 2. Leaf 21r, 29; 21v, 29; 22r, 30; 22v, 30; 23r, 31; 23v, 31; 24r, 32; 24v, 32; 25r, 33; 25v, 33; 26r, 34; 26v, 34; 27r, 35; 27v, 35; 28r, 36; 28v, 36; 29r, 37; 29v, 38; 30r, 39; 30v, 39; 31r, 40; 31v, 40; 32r, 41; 32v, 41; 33r, 42; 33v, 42; 34r, 43; 34v, 43; 35r, 44; 35v, 44; 36r, 45; 36v, 46; 37r, 47; 37v, 47; 38r, 48; 38v, 48; 39r, 49; 39v, 49; 40r, 50; 40v, 50.

Volume 3. Leaf 41r, 51; 41v, 52; 42r, 53; 42v, 53; 43r, 54; 43v, 54; 44r, 55; 44v, 56; 45r, 57; 45v, 57; 46r, 58; 46v, 58; 47r, 59; 47v, 59; 48r, 60; 48v, 60; 49r, 61; 49v, 61; 50r, 62; 50v, 62; 51r, 63; 51v, 63; 52r, 64; 52v, 64; 53r, 65; 53v, 65; 54r, 66; 54v, 66; 55r, 67;

55v, 67; 56r, 68; 56v, 68; 57r, 69; 57v, 70; 58r, 71; 58v, 71; 59r, 72; 59v, 73; 60r, 74; 60v, 74.

Volume 4. Leaf 61r, 75; 61v, 75; 62r, 76; 62v, 76; 63r, 77; 63v, 77; 64r, 78; 64v, 78; 65r, 79; 65v, 79; 66r, 80; 66v, 80; 67r, 81; 67v, 81; 68r, 82; 68v, 82; 69r, 83; 69v, 83; 70r, 84; 70v, 85; 71r, 86; 71v, 86; 72r, 87; 72v, 87; 73r, 88; 73v, 88; 74r, 89; 74v, 89; 75r, 90; 75v, 90; 76r, 91; 76v, 91; 77r, 92; 77v, 92; 78r, 93; 78v, 93; 79r, 94; 79v, 94; 80r, 95; 80v, 95.

Volume 5. Leaf 81r, 96; 61v, 96; 62r, 97; 62v, 97; 63r, 98; 63v, 98; 64r, 99; 64v, 99; 65r, 100; 65v, 100; 66r, 101; 66v, 101; 67r, 102; 67v, 102; 68r, 103; 68v, 103; 69r, 104; 69v, 104; 70r, 105; 70v, 105; 71r, 106; 71v, 106; 72r, 107; 72v, 107; 73r, 108; 73v, 108; 74r, 109; 74v, 109; 75r, 110; 75v, 110; 76r, 111; 76v, 111; 77r, 112; 77v, 112; 78r, 113; 78v, 113; 79r, 114; 79v, 114; 80r, 115; 80v, 115.

Volume 6. Leaf 101r, 116; 101v, 116; 102r, 117; 102v, 117; 103r, 118; 103v, 118; 104r, 119; 104v, 119; 105r, 120; 105v, 120; 106r, 121; 106v, 121; 107r, 122; 107v, 122; 108r, 123; 108v, 123; 109r, 124; 109v, 124; 110r, 125; 110v, 125; 111r, 126; 111v, 126; 112r, 127; 112v, 127; 113r, 128; 113v, 128; 114r, 129; 114v, 129; 115r, 130; 115v, 130; 116r, 131; 116v, 131; 117r, 132; 117v, 132; 118r, 133; 118v, 133; 119r, 134; 119v, 134; 120r, 135; 120v, 135.

Volume 7. Leaf 121r, ;

Volume 8. Leaf 141r, ;

Volume 9.

Leaf

161r (assumed), 177; 161v, 177;

162r, 178; 162v, 178;

163r, 179; 163v, 179;

164r, 180; 164v, 181;

165r, 182; 165v, 182;

166r, 183; 166v, 183;

167r, 184; 167v, 185;

168r, 185; 168v, 185;

169r, 186; 169v, 186;

170r, 187; 170v, 187;

171r, 188; 171v, 188;

172r, 189; 172v, 189;

173r, 190; 173v, 190;

174r, -1; 174v, -1;

175r, -2; 175v, -2;

176r, -3; 176v, -3;

177r, 1; 177v, 2;

178r, 5; 178v, 4;

179r, 7; 179v, 8;  
180r, 9; 180v, 10;  
181r, 12; 181v, 13;  
182r, 18; 182v, 19;  
183r, 20; 183v, 21;  
184r, 26; 184v, 27;  
185r, 36; 185v, 37;  
186r, 42; 186v, 43;  
187r, 49; 187v, 50;  
188r, 54; 188v, 55;  
189r, 68; 189v, 69;  
190r, 70; 190v, 71;  
191r, 81; 191v, 82;  
192r, 85; 192v, 86;  
193r, 90; 193v, 91;  
194r, 110; 194v, 111;  
195r, 112; 195v, 113;  
196r, 167; 196v, 168;  
197r, 181; 197v, 182.

Volume 9 is in typical form until leaf 190. The final leaves appear to be 174–176, which have different small precise Greek hand and the evidence of a stamp (circle) on 174r. These leaves are very fragmented and laid in plastic. The rest of the images are not in the hard plastic (hermetically sealed) volume or separated by tissue. I suspect that these are somehow random leaves out of order. Some are consistent in nature (no dye, similar quality ink imprint and parchment, some different. The last leaf (197) is clearly not the last leaf of a MS (I suspect 173r is last leaf of actual MS, but see comments below on contents of 173r).