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ABSTRACT

The Beirut icon and the Shroud

Among the abundant documents for the Mandylion, there are some of them dated at the end of its story in Constantinople that lead to the incompatibility between its image and the Shroud of Turin. However, with the combination of ancient documents, we have reconstructed a trace of the Shroud of Blachernae from Jerusalem to Constantinople through Beirut. It was an image of Christ that represented his whole body with the wounds of the Passion. It was transferred to Constantinople shortly before the Christ's representation as depicted in the Shroud of Turin image (i.e. the Man of Sorrows). It disappears after the Fourth Crusade. Gervase of Tilbury links the Icon of Beirut with the image of Christ imprinted on His Shroud. Due to such data, the Icon of Beirut corresponds perfectly with the Holy Shroud of Turin.