

was not yet in use; it was first employed by the Sicilian historian Timæus c. 264 B.C. ([142], p.224). According to S. Lur'e, Timæus first introduced this chronology 512 years after the first Olympic games, now referred to as being 776 B.C. Thus, each time a counting of years with respect to Olympiads is encountered in a source, we should specify from exactly which date the author proceeds. According to which reference point is chosen, a date oscillation of not less than 500 years is possible even within the framework of tradition. It is important that there exists no correct substantiation of a reference from the Olympic count to that since the birth of Christ. Meanwhile, it was conjectured in [13] that counting of the years of the Olympiads (or 4-year period) was equivalent to the Julian calendar, with its leap-year system, which started not earlier than the 1st c. B.C.

2) Furthermore, *counting the years since the foundation of the City (Rome?)* started, as is normally assumed, in 753 B.C. ([74], Table 5). This was established by Varro assumingly in the 1st c. A.D. This way of counting off years ended in the 3rd c. A.D., viz., in 250–260 A.D., the period of civil wars in Rome and Italy. J. Blair asserts that most chronicles stop counting years since the foundation of Rome at that time ([74], Table 15). The identification of the City with Rome in Italy is not unambiguous, and admits the identification of New Rome on the Bosphorus, founded c. 300 A.D., and consecrated in 330 A.D. (*ibid.*). It is important that counting years since the foundation of the City stops precisely at the boundary between the Second and the Third Roman Empires, while overlapping the former and not being extended to the latter. Recall that the statistical dependences were discovered between the chronological data concerning them.

3) Further, *the counting of years since the birth of Christ* first came into use in 742 A.D., 700 years after the 1st c. A.D., and 200 years after the first calculations of Dionysius Exiguus (6th c. A.D.), who assumingly established more or less precisely the year of Jesus' death. Besides, having been first mentioned in an official document dating from 742 A.D., referring to years A.D. went out of use again, and started being employed from time to time only in the 10th c. A.D.

"It is only with 1431 A.D. (i.e., the 15th c.—A. F.) that the use of the term "Christian era" regularly started to be used in popes' epistles, though along with counting years since the 'Creation of the World'" ([88], p.52).

However, the term "Christian era" came into use in secular chronicles even later, being established only in the 16th c. in Germany, 16th c. in France, 1700 in Russia and 1752 in England [88]. Thus, we can speak of the regular use of "Christian era" starting only with the 16th c. A.D. The two principal ancient year counts, with respect to Olympiads and since the foundation of the City, stopped (as a minimum) 500 years before the first and unique official mention of "Christian era" in a document of 742 A.D.

4) Further, *the counting of years since the Creation of the World* is purely biblical and, hence, completely dependent on the dating of the books of the Old and New Testament.

5) The *Arabic year count since the Hejira* started in 622 A.D. ([74], Table 19).

It is important that all but two kingdoms are divided into two sets: those wholly existent before the start of the first millennium A.D., and those existing afterwards. The interval from 1 to 260 A.D. is intersected only by the Parthian kingdom and the