

FROM THE NOTEBOOKS OF JOVAN CVIJIĆ
– Selected Pages and Interpretations –

ИЗ БЕЛЕЖНИЦА ЈОВАНА ЦВИЈИЋА
– прикази и тумачења –

PUBLISHERS / ИЗДАВАЧИ
Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts /
Српска академија наука и уметности
Geographical Institute "Jovan Cvijić" SASA /
Географски институт „Јован Цвијић“ САНУ

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DESIGN AND PREPRESS / ДИЗАЈН И ПРИПРЕМА ЗА ШТАМПУ
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COVER PAGE DESIGN / ДИЗАЈН КОРИЦА
Dragana Lactanović / Драгана Лацмановић

PRINTED BY / ШТАМПА
Službeni glasnik, Belgrade

CIRCULATION / ТИРАЖ
300 copies / 300 примерака

ISBN 978-86-7025-792-4 (SASA)
ISBN 978-86-80029-75-7 (GIJC)
Special issues, No 94



SERBIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS
GEOGRAPHICAL INSTITUTE "JOVAN CVIJIĆ" SASA



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Belgrade, 2019

15.

koje se zove Radurstone i obde
 se u jednoj kući suszavaju corabe
 ušove, u ožvein kraju kodanina
 do Rudarida ima man. žna Reva,
 u netim kanik na man. Ocafor i
 u meny je vo verobauy tubov sv. Pinda
 Korimkov. Kao su kasovna ugra
 brenena oko trasprena vada su se
 kodaninu koji u vama dnu kosari
 ipreem sa jednim kamufenom u obzi
 done rambutein kraj i sklovanin u
 ugrbu koja je bit uosovjana. Obde su
 besovni sabozni koji se drže o vikne
 prasovna, karomiro o Petrovudne,
 u vemu se sklovanin subi ne samo
 u kodanina bit u Lovovne, u Šarisko
 Muae i u ramkov noja. Na kosovinu
 je obde isovrujeko selo brkajin, na
 velikoj visini od 900-1100 m, rasuon
 na kojedine kute, ožvare slavom
 uopruvine, kao u u celome kraju,
 pravos amujskog avovaja, u kome
 isovrujno mivage i vame i reovke
 male kavnice od obca i ede, reje
 jerna, za koje se veruju isovrujeko
 ušovene o pravom železu. Mnoge
 od isovrujeko ušovene imaju kosovne
 i isovrujeko o karotodivom
 ušovinu. Znaj da su Mijaju kod
 karotodiv izemni Petrovud. Zo
 sela bude na levo. sužam noja.
 Mijajima su zvan sve sklovaninke
 kine suže isovru. Sofoblaumna krajna.

In the book *The Balkan Peninsula and the South Slavic Lands: Basics of Anthropogeography* (1922a), Cvijić stressed two dialects of the Serbo-Croatian language in the Ibarski Kolašin, since this area represents a transitory area from the Kosovo variety to the Dinaric type. In his manuscripts, he stated that *“from Ribariće to the lowest village of Zupče near Mitrovica everyone speaks one dialect, whilst the Kosovo dialect is spoken only in several villages around Mitrovica, but already in Bugarić it is not pure because I found certain words of the southern dialect.”* He pointed out that the boundary between the Dinaric type and the Kosovo-Metohija variety is the Lab River.

Due to its characteristic position and ethnic compactness, this secluded area had a significant transit role for Serbian emigrants from Metohija, representing a part of the Kosovo-Metohija drift. *“Therefore, as a Serbian oasis, Kolašin has played the role of a retreat”*, Cvijić wrote. During the migrations, Serbs from Metohija crossed Mount Rogozna and descended to the Ibar valley near Sočanica, in order to bypass the Turkish oasis in the Ibar Župa. They settled in Serbia, first in Župa and Rasina, and then in Toplica.

There are not many preserved material or other traces of old life in Kolašin. Cvijić stated that *“the remains of the old town of Klopotnik can be found on a head-shaped hill on the left bank of the Ibar River.”* There are also several forts, presumed to have been medieval castles. Across Pridvorica locality *“old ruins are being studied”* in the vast field of Radič. According to Milisav Lutovac (1954), these are the remains of a former royal court. The most important cultural property is the Crna Reka Monastery, located in a cave, just like the Ostrog Monastery, containing the reliquary of Sveti Petar Koriški [Saint Peter of Koriša]. According to a popular belief, *“when hard times (Ottoman invasion – T/N) befell the city of Prizren, the reapers of Kolašin, who were working therein, transferred, together with a monk, the relics of St Peter of Koriša to this secluded area, and sheltered them in a church that already existed.”* Cvijić paid special attention to the historical site of Brnjak (Brnjaci), associated with the historical memory of Jelena Anžuska [Queen Helen of Anjou]. Namely, Lutovac stated that this is the location where the town of Jeleč once stood, with the court of Queen Helen, the consort of King Stefan Uroš I, who died there in 1314.

As noted above, after J. Cvijić, this area became the focus of attention of other researchers who studied it from a geographical, historical and ethnographic perspective. These include the authors such as Milisav Lutovac (1954; 1978) and Miloš Macura (2005), but also Gligorije Elezović (1931; 1998), Grigorije Božović (1998), Slobodan Jakšić (1996), Biljana Sikimić (2009; 2010), Milan Luković (2009), Milan Ivanović (2005), Borislava Ilić (2005) and others.

Today, the area of the Ibarski Kolašin administratively corresponds to the territory of the municipality of Zubin Potok, which comprises 64 settlements. Among others, it is bordered by the municipalities of Istok and Srbica, which are now fully inhabited by the Albanian population. Therefore, the Ibarski Kolašin continues to be an Orthodox oasis of *“people with the character of the Dinaric Serbs, with strong traditions and traits centering on Kosovo”*, which is of particular importance in light of the current socio-political situation in our Southern province.