



JOSIP JURAJ STROSSMAYER UNIVERSITY OF OSIJEK
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

International Scientific Conference
**EVLIYA ÇELEBI AND
EASTERN CROATIA
UNDER OTTOMAN RULE**

November 14 - 15, 2024

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Osijek, Croatia

Conference Program and
Abstracts of Accepted Papers



JOSIP JURAJ STROSSMAYER UNIVERSITY OF OSIJEK
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**



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BÖLCSÉSZETTUDOMÁNYI
KUTATÓKÖZPONT
TÖRTÉNETTUDOMÁNYI INTÉZET



Croatian Institute of History
Department for the History of
Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja



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The conference is organized by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, the Croatian Institute of History – Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod, the Evliya Çelebi Studies Center of the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf University, and the Research Centre for the Humanities – Institute of History in Budapest



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The conference is financed by the Croatian Science Foundation under the project
IP-2022-10-8014, *Evliya Çelebi and Eastern Croatia in the 17th Century*

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JOSIP JURAJ STROSSMAYER UNIVERSITY OF OSIJEK
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

in cooperation with
the Croatian Institute of History -
Department for the History of Slavonia,
Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod,

the Evliya Çelebi Studies Center of the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf
University
and

the Research Centre for the Humanities –
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Croatian Institute of History
Department for the History of
Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja

Conference Program

Each participant has 15 minutes allotted for presentation

Thursday, November 14, 2024

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Lorenz Jäger 9, Osijek
hall no. 39 (second floor)

09.30	Opening of the conference
10.00-11.30	First Session Moderator: Anđelko Vlašić
	Szabolcs Varga , "Military roads along the middle Danube in the 15th and 16th centuries" Aleksandar Jakovljević , "The Ottoman serhad in eastern Slavonia: the question of the Sancak of Ösek reconsidered" Seyfullah Aslan , "Military significance of the middle Danube and Drava docks in the 16th and 17th centuries" Stanko Andrić , "Edward Brown's travelogue as a source for the history of the central Danube region in the late period of the Ottoman rule" <i>Discussion</i> [Coffee break – 15 minutes]
11.45-13.15	Second Session Moderator: Stanko Andrić
	Danijel Jelaš, Petra Plantosar , "The continuity of medieval settlements after the Ottoman conquest: the case of Vukovo County" Dragutin Šimić , "The geographical-demographic overview of the Ottoman nahiye of Vrhovine – a case study" Anđelko Vlašić , "Tracing Evliya Çelebi's route through western Slavonia and central Croatia in 1660" İlhami Daniş , "17th-century Ottoman geography works on Croatia: a comparison of travel data and bookish knowledge from the perspectives of Evliya Çelebi and Kâtip Çelebi" <i>Discussion</i>
13.30	Lunch for the conference participants
15.00-16.45	Third Session Moderator: Dino Mujadžević
	Marin Blaženović , "The analysis of fortifications in modern-day western Slavonia before and after the Ottoman conquest" Okan Büyüktapu , "The Ottoman military organization in the Sancaks of Požega and Pakrac during the 16th century" Zekai Erdal , "Fortresses in Croatia in the light of the Ottoman archives: the Gradiška fortress" <i>Discussion</i> [Coffee break – 15 minutes]

17.00–18.30	Fourth Session Moderator: Anđelko Vlašić
	Kadir Purde , "The ethnonym Croat in the Ottoman history and geography corpus" Dino Mujadžević , "The use of the ethnonym Croat and related concepts in Evliya Çelebi's Seyahatname" Marta Andrić, Musa Duman, Stanko Andrić , "Reading toponyms of northern Croatia in Evliya Çelebi's Seyahatname" Eldina Lovaš , "Research on Evliya Çelebi's Seyahatname and its reception in the Hungarian historiography" <i>Discussion</i>
19.00	Dinner for the conference participants

Friday, November 15, 2024

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Lorenz Jäger 9, Osijek
hall no. 39 (second floor)

9.00–10.30	Fifth Session Moderator: Stanko Andrić
	Maximilian Hartmuth , "Monumental Islamic architecture along the middle Danube" Miklós Fóti, Gábor Demeter , "A Syrmian dervish colony in the nahiye of Baç: the zaviye of Mecnun Baba" Zlatko Karač , "The Hindi Baba dervish tekke in Vukovar: a comparison of data from Çelebi's Seyahatnâme and other Ottoman and Western sources" <i>Discussion</i> [Coffee break – 15 minutes]
10.45–11.45	Sixth Session Moderator: Dino Mujadžević
	Robert Skenderović , "Evliya Çelebi on palankas and šarampovs as types of wooden and earthen fortifications in Slavonia" Siniša Đuričić , "The Battle of Nagyharsány and its impact on the subsequent reconquest of Slavonia from the Ottomans" Marko Rimac , "Remodeling the landscape of Evliya Çelebi's era: the agricultural transformation of Slavonia and Syrmia in the post-Ottoman period" <i>Discussion</i> [Coffee break – 15 minutes]
12.00–12.45	Final discussion and closing of the conference
13.00	Lunch for the conference participants



**Abstracts of
Accepted Papers**

Marta Andrić

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

University of Zagreb

e-mail: martaandric@yahoo.com

Musa Duman

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf University

e-mail: mduman@fsm.edu.tr

Stanko Andrić

Croatian Institute of History

Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod

e-mail: stanko.andric@hips.hr

Reading toponyms of northern Croatia in Evliya Çelebi's *Seyahatname*

Accurate interpretation of the toponyms in Evliya Çelebi's *Seyahatname* is crucial for its precise Latin transcription and for the planned translation into Croatian of the sections referring to northern Croatia. The research will focus on sections detailing the area of northern Croatia, located within the 5th, 6th, and 7th books of the *Seyahatname*. As is well known, Evliya Çelebi deviated from conventional orthographic norms in the *Seyahatname* to better document the language, rendering it an invaluable resource for reconstructing the phonological and morphological aspects of Ottoman Turkish. It can be presumed that he meticulously recorded toponyms with equal precision. In this study, if necessary, toponyms will be cross-referenced with their variations documented before and after the Ottoman rule in the mentioned region. Such analysis will enhance comprehension of Evliya's orthography, rectify inaccuracies in existing Latin transcriptions of the *Seyahatname*, and facilitate a more accurate interpretation of toponyms in other texts written in Ottoman Arabic script.

Marta Andrić (Strizivojna, 1977) graduated and obtained her master's degree in history, ethnology, and Turkology from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb. She received her doctorate in 2011 in the field of Turkish language history. The thesis was published in 2015 under the title *Rukopisna ostavština na turskom jeziku svećenika Gjüre Adama Büttnera*. Since 2004, she has been employed at the Chair of Turkology at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb. Her research interests include the historical grammar of the Turkish language and historical sociolinguistics. Additionally, she works as a literary translator from Turkish to Croatian.

Musa Duman (Ordu/Korgan, 1962) graduated from the Department of Turkish Language and Literature of the Faculty of Sciences and Literature of the Selçuk University in 1985. He completed his master's degree at the Department of Turkish Language and Literature of the Istanbul University in 1987 and his doctorate at the same department with the thesis titled *Evliya Çelebi Seyahatnamesine göre 17. Yüzyılda Ses Değişmeleri* (1993). In addition to his books titled *Evliya Çelebi Seyahatnamesine Göre 17. Yüzyılda Ses Değişmeleri* (1995), *Vasiyyet-name, Birgili Muhammed Efendi* (Istanbul 2000), *Osmanlı Devleti Tarihi, Abdurrahman Şeref* (2005), *Makaleler: Eski Türkiye Türkçesinden Osmanlı Türkçesine* (2008), and *Evliya Çelebi, Seyahatname, Seçmeler* (2011), his articles on various subjects of Turkish language were published in numerous academic journals in Turkey and abroad. After working as a member of the Department of Turkish Language and Literature of the Faculty of Literature of Istanbul University for 25 years between 1986 and 2010, he worked as the Rector of the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf University. Since June 2018, he has been working as a lecturer in the Department of Turkish Language and Literature at the same univer-

sity and is the director of the Evliya Çelebi Research Centre, which he founded.

Stanko Andrić (Strizivojna, 1967) graduated in Latin and French philologies at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb in 1993 and received his doctorate from the Department of Medieval Studies at the Central European University in Budapest in 1998. Since 1996, he has been employed at the Croatian Institute of History – Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod, where he was the head of the department from 2012 to 2021. His main area of interest is the medieval history of the northeastern Croatian region. Since 2001, he has been the editor-in-chief of the historiographical journal *Scrinia Slavonica*. He has so far published more than 80 scholarly articles in Croatia and abroad, and is the author of the following books (in Croatian): *The Miracles of St. John Capistran: Historical and Textual Analysis* (1999; English edition 2000; Hungarian edition 2009); *A Sunken World: Contributions on the Slavonian and Sarmian Middle Ages* (2001); *Vinkovci in the Middle Ages* (2007); *Rudina: Benedictine Monastery of St. Michael the Archangel* (2020); *Grabovo and Bijela: Benedictine Monasteries of Saint Margaret* (2021); *Srijemska Mitrovica: Basilian and Benedictine Monastery of St. Demetrius* (2022). He occasionally publishes literary prose and translates from several languages. Since 2021, he has been editing the series of world prose literature titled *Per speculum* (publisher Disput, Zagreb).

Stanko Andrić
Croatian Institute of History
Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod
e-mail: stanko.andric@hips.hr

Edward Brown's travelogue as a source for the history of the central Danube region in the late period of the Ottoman rule

The paper will deal with the well-known but insufficiently studied travelogue of the British physician and polymath Edward Brown, first printed in London in 1673 and republished several times in slightly revised or supplemented versions. The full title of the travelogue in the final version – the 1685 edition, which combines this and other Brown's travelogues – reads: *A brief account of some travels in divers parts of Europe viz. Hungaria, Servia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Thessaly, Austria, Styria, Carinthia, Carniola, and Friuli, through a great part of Germany, and the Low-Countries, through Marca Trevisana, and Lombardy on both sides <of> the Po, with some observations on the gold, silver, copper, quick-silver mines, and the baths and mineral waters in those parts, as also, the description of many antiquities, habits, fortifications and remarkable places.* The travelogue contains, inter alia, invaluable information about conditions in the Hungarian Danube region under Ottoman rule (from Esztergom to Belgrade), based on a trip from Vienna to Larissa in Thessaly and back, made in 1669. Brown's observations about the great bridge near Osijek and the living conditions of the rural population in Syrmia are of particular interest to Croatian history. The paper will also discuss the comparative value of Brown's travelogue, particularly regarding the evaluation given by G. F. Cushing: "Few travelers of his age – and certainly not his Turkish contemporary Evlia Chelebi, whose wildly improbable account often rivals Münchhausen – can compare with him in both accuracy and interest."

Stanko Andrić (Strizivojna, 1967) graduated in Latin and French philologies at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb in 1993 and received his doctorate from the Department of Medieval Studies at the Central European University in Budapest in 1998. Since 1996, he has been employed at the Croatian Institute of History – Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod, where he was the head of the department from 2012 to 2021. His main area of interest is the medieval history of the northeastern Croatian region. Since 2001, he has been the editor-in-chief of the historiographical journal *Scrinia Slavonica*. He has so far published more than 80 scholarly articles in Croatia and abroad, and is the author of the following books (in Croatian): *The Miracles of St. John Capistran: Historical and Textual Analysis* (1999; English edition 2000; Hungarian edition 2009); *A Sunken World: Contributions on the Slavonian and Syrmian Middle Ages* (2001); *Vinkovci in the Middle Ages* (2007); *Rudina: Benedictine Monastery of St. Michael the Archangel* (2020); *Grabovo and Bijela: Benedictine Monasteries of Saint Margaret* (2021); *Srijemska Mitrovica: Basilian and Benedictine Monastery of St. Demetrius* (2022). He occasionally publishes literary prose and translates from several languages. Since 2021, he has been editing the series of world prose literature titled *Per speculum* (publisher Disput, Zagreb).

Seyfullah Aslan
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Kırklareli University
e-mail: seyfullah.aslan@klu.edu.tr

Military significance of the middle Danube and Drava docks in the 16th and 17th centuries

The Danube River, the primary waterway in Central Europe, played a crucial role in facilitating Ottoman expansion during the 16th and 17th centuries. Similarly, the Drava River, one of the main tributaries of the Danube, contributed significantly to the Ottoman expansion in Slavonia. The Ottoman Empire transferred its extensive experience on the Danube to the Drava from the 1520s onwards, in line with its strategic objectives of northward expansion. Notably, until the late 17th century, the Ottomans carefully planned logistical operations. It included supplying border fortresses and campaign routes, constructing and maintaining ports, evaluating port capacities, shipbuilding efforts, and scheduling military activities. By relying on Ottoman archival sources and contemporary literature, this study aims to shed light on procedures such as administrative and military protocols for bridge construction, material procurement, labor recruitment, and army passage planning. Additionally, it delves into the logistical advantages of river transportation for campaign supplies and grain distribution to forts, alongside the environmental challenges posed by the rivers throughout history.

Seyfullah Aslan graduated from the Department of History of the Faculty of Letters of Istanbul University in 2009. With his master's thesis titled *Algiers corsairs in the Mediterranean: 1770-1830*, he obtained his master's degree in 2012. In the same year, he began his PhD studies at Istanbul University. He worked as a research assistant at Istanbul University during the last four years of his PhD. He completed his PhD in 2022. His current research interests are Ottoman maritime history, river fleets, Ottoman economic interests on the Danube River, and the military history of the Ottoman Empire. He utilizes technical programs in his research. For example, he enriches the visual aspect of his research by creating the necessary maps using ArcMap. Presently, he works at the Department of History of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences of the Kırklareli University.

Marin Blaženović
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Zagreb
e-mail: marinblazenovic1@gmail.com

The analysis of fortifications in modern-day western Slavonia before and after the Ottoman conquest

The paper discusses the fortifications constructed during the Middle Ages in modern-day western Slavonia and strives to analyze their general condition before and after the Ottoman conquest of the Kingdom of Hungary and Croatia. The focus is on the condition of defensive buildings in that period and on the question of whether the new defensive buildings were built exclusively for this purpose or whether existing fortifications were preserved, renovated, and modified according to the new military and political needs. The research is based on Evliya Çelebi's *Book of Travels*, more precisely, on Hazim Šabanović's translation published in 1973, as well as on other relevant works and sources, such as the 1579 tax register of the Sancak of Požega, Pál Engel's manuscript *Pozsegamegye*, and cartographic sources, e.g., the maps *Tabula Hungariae* by Lazarus Secretarius, *Croatia et Sclavonia* by Nicolo Angielini, and other relevant cartographic sources depicting the Habsburg–Ottoman border area in Croatia.

Marin Blaženović was born in 1998 in Osijek. He enrolled in the study of history and Pedagogy in 2017 and graduated in 2022 with the topic *Medieval Defense Buildings in Vukovska County*. He published papers in the student journal *Essehist* ("From Krbava to Mohaç (1493–1526) – turning point battles in conflicts with the Ottomans" and "Digitalization of archival material in the State Archives in Osijek"). In 2022, he organized the student conference *History and creative industry – a combination of the (in)compatible* in cooperation with the Department of History of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek. In 2023, he won the third prize in the competition of the Croatian Institute of History, the Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod for best young historians researching the history of Slavonia, Syrmia, and Baranya. He works as a pedagogue at the Antun Gustav Matoš Primary School in Čačinci.

Okan Büyüktapu
Faculty of Letters
Ege University
e-mail: okanbuyuktapu@gmail.com

The Ottoman military organization in the Sancaks of Požega and Pakrac during the 16th century

East and central Slavonia gradually fell under Ottoman control between the 1530s and 1550s as the Ottomans conquered territories formerly part of the Kingdom of Hungary. Over the course of a century, Slavonia was incorporated into the Ottoman military, economic, and social structures. This study examines the evolution of Ottoman military presence in the Sancaks of Požega and Pakrac from their establishment until the end of the 16th century. Through analysis of archival sources, this research provides new perspectives on the development of the Ottoman military organization in these sancaks. The paper presents quantitative data on garrison sizes, annual defense costs, and soldier demographics over time, offering a foundation for understanding the local Ottoman military organization and its adaptation to evolving geopolitical circumstances in the region. By tracing changes from the initial establishment of Ottoman control to the challenges faced at the turn of the century, this study illuminates the dynamic nature of Ottoman military administration in a frontier region.

Okan Büyüktapu obtained his bachelor's degree in history in 2009, defended his master's thesis in 2013, and received his PhD in history in 2022, specializing in Croatian–Ottoman history at the University of Zagreb. His research interests focus on exploring the social, military, economic, and demographic dynamics of Croatia and Bosnia during the Ottoman period. Furthermore, he acquires practical experience through involvement in international research projects, museum exhibitions, and historical documentary production. He works at the Department of History of the Faculty of Letters of the Ege University in Izmir.

İlhami Daniş
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf University
e-mail: idanis@fsm.edu.tr

17th-century Ottoman geography works on Croatia: a comparison of travel data and bookish knowledge from the perspectives of Evliya Çelebi and Kâtip Çelebi

On the first page of his book *Cihannümâ*, Kâtip Çelebi states that the science of geography allows people to watch and see the world from their seats like travelers. In fact, according to Kâtip Çelebi, those who read geography books have access to more information than travelers who travel all their lives. Evliya Çelebi, who lived in the same century and introduced himself as a world traveler, spent 51 years of his life traveling and his journeys resulted in a 10-volume book. Evliya Çelebi was advised by his teachers and father to write about his travels. This paper will attempt to examine Croatia under Ottoman rule in the 17th century by comparing travel narrative and bookish knowledge with reference to Evliya Çelebi and Kâtip Çelebi. While Evliya Çelebi provides information about the geography of Croatia in the sixth volume of his *Seyahatnâme*, Kâtip Çelebi includes this region in the section “İklîm-i Rûm” in *Cihannümâ*’s first manuscript. The information given by Kâtip Çelebi in this paper will be compared with the information in the 16th- and 17th-century geographical books, atlases, and translations from Europe (*Levâmi’u’n-Nûr*), as well as with the information in Evliya Çelebi’s *Seyahatnâme*. One of the main outputs of this paper will be to provide a framework for the importance of Evliya Çelebi’s travelogue for the research of Croatia under Ottoman rule.

İlhami Daniş works at the Department of History of the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf University and is deputy director of the Evliya Çelebi Research Center. His academic fields of study include Ottoman geography, travelers and travelogues, urban history, and the Mediterranean world. His selected articles are: “The Cities of İklîm-i Rûm in the 17th Century According to Kâtip Çelebi and Seyyid Es’ad Efendi / Katip Çelebi’den Seyyid Es’ad Efendiye 17. Yüzyılda İklîm-i Rûm Şehirleri”, *Türkiyat Mecmuası*, 2022; “Narrator of the Day and Seeker of the Past: Two Travelers On The Danube River / Günü Anlatan’ Ve ‘Dünü Arayan’: Tuna Nehri Kıyısında İki Seyyah”, *Türk kültürü İncelemeleri*, 2022; “The Development of Ottoman Geography from Translations to Special Works / Tercümelerden Özgün Eserlere Osmanlı Coğrafyacılığının Gelişimi”, *İslam’da Medeniyet Bilimleri Tarihi*, İbn Haldun Üniversitesi Yayınları, 2021; “Second Campaign in Vienna According to Fezâil-i Jihâd: The Menzilname of the Vienna (Nemçe) Campaign of Mehmed IV and the Ottoman Army / Fezâil-i Cihâd Mecmuası’ndan II. Viyana Seferine Bakmak: Dördüncü Mehmed’in Nemçe Seferi Menzîlnâmesi ve Osmanlı Ordusu”, *FSMVÜ İlmî Araştırmalar Dergisi*, 2021.

Siniša Đuričić
independent researcher
e-mail: sdjuricic86@gmail.com

The Battle of Nagyharsány and its impact on the subsequent reconquest of Slavonia from the Ottomans

The paper will try to shed a broader light on one of the crucial battles of the Great Turkish War (1683 – 1699), which resulted in the Habsburg conquest of large areas of the present-day territories of Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, and Romania. The battle took place in August 1687 and was a direct consequence of the failed attempt of the Habsburg army to besiege and retake Osijek. Repulsed by a huge Ottoman force under Grand Vizier Süleyman Pasha, who arrived in the summer of the same year to relieve the city, Habsburg commander-in-chief, Duke Charles of Lorraine, ordered his army to retreat across the Drava River near Mohács in mid-July. Grand Vizier, who was confident in the prospect of victory, crossed the Drava River near Darda and marched towards the newly established Habsburg positions between the towns of Siklós and Mohács in the vicinity of a hill known as Harsány. The battle took place at the foot of the hill, presumably near the present village of Nagyharsány and not far away from the location of another famous battle, the one at Mohács. The victory, documented as such by German, French, and other European sources, was considered a payback for that previous Christian defeat at Mohács and a sad defeat by the Ottoman sources. It was followed by the liberation of Osijek and large parts of Slavonia by the end of 1687.

Siniša Đuričić was born in 1986 in Osijek. He graduated from the University of Novi Sad, obtaining a master's degree in history. His fields of interest are the history of the 17th and 18th centuries, as well as the local history of Slavonia and Baranya in the same period. Researching these topics, he published several papers in specialized journals, magazines, and on internet portals. He recently published a book about the local history of the village of Darda in Baranya. He participated in several conferences presenting papers on the history of Baranya, the history of German settlements in Baranya from the end of the 17th to the beginning of the 20th century, and the memoirs of foreign authors writing about Baranya. He is a member of the Association for Croatian History (Društvo za hrvatsku povjesnicu) in Osijek.

Zekai Erdal
Faculty of Letters
Mardin Artuklu University
e-mail: zekaierdal@artuklu.edu.tr

Fortresses in Croatia in the light of the Ottoman archives: the Gradiška fortress

There is a wide range of information about the lands dominated by the Ottoman Empire. One of them is the construction of new fortresses or the repair of existing ones. An appointed Ottoman official kept detailed records concerning parts of the fortresses that needed repairing. In these records, it is possible to determine the width, length, and height of the walls and bastions, the names of the bastions and gates, and the names and characteristics of the various structures within the fortresses. Since it was conquered in 1537, the Gradiška fortress became one of the significant centers of the Ottoman attacks on the enemy territory. The fortress was also the seat of one of the captaincies in the Eyalet of Bosnia. It was situated on the Sava River and was constantly repaired due to floods, enemy attacks, and other reasons. This study presents detailed information about the Old Gradiška fortress and the New Gradiška fortress in light of the repair data in the Ottoman archives. In addition, the names and locations of various structures within the fortress will be determined and 3D modeling will be revealed through the production of architectural drawings of the fortress.

Zekai Erdal was born in 1975 in Aksaray. He completed his primary and secondary education in Aksaray and Ankara. He completed his undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral education at the Van Yüzüncü Yıl University. In 2012, he started to work at the Samsun Ondokuz Mayıs University. Since 2015, he has been working at the Department of Art History of the Faculty of Literature of the Mardin Artuklu University. His specialty is Turkish-Islamic architecture and art, and he has published numerous articles and books on this topic. He researches especially inscriptions, tombstones, and coins. He frequently utilizes Ottoman archives in his publications. He participated in the Diyarbakır, Siirt, Batman, and Mardin scientific surveys within the Ministry of Culture. He participated in the excavations of the Van and Silifke fortresses. Since 2021, he has been directing the excavations of the Hasankeyf fortress.

Miklós Fóti

Research Center for the Humanities
Institute of History
e-mail: foti.miklos@abtk.hu

Gábor Demeter

Research Center for the Humanities
Institute of History
e-mail: demetergg@gmail.com

A Syrmian dervish colony in the *nahiye* of Baç: the *zaviye* of Mecnun Baba

Strikingly, the huge Sancak of Segedin between the Danube and Tisza rivers was not rich in dervish communities. Only a small *zaviye* of the followers of a certain Mecnun Baba is recorded in the survey of 1560 at the southernmost edge of the sancak. These dervishes lived south of the town of Baç on a *mezraa* called Kaloş, which was surrounded by the river Mostonga like an island. After examining the *tahrir defters* of the Sancak of Sirem (Syrmia, Srijem, Szerémség), we found the same dervishes on the Syrmian side of the Danube, just a few kilometers away from Mostonga island. Even Evliya Çelebi mentions Mecnun Baba during his visit to Ilok, unfortunately without any details. This paper presents the scarce information in Ottoman sources on the followers of Mecnun Baba and their new home in the Mostonga estuary. These pieces of information emerged during a greater collective work of database building based on the Ottoman *defters* (project K 132 609).

Miklós Fóti (research fellow). 1996: MA Turkology, Eötvös Lóránd University Budapest; 1997: MA Iranistik, Eötvös Lóránd University Budapest; 1997–2017: editor of *Turkologischer Anzeiger / Turkology Annual* (Institut für Orientalistik, Wien); 1997–2011: Institute for Linguistics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Oriental Department; 2000–2010: Vikelaia Municipal Library, Iraklion, Crete; 2008–: technical editor of *Archivum Ottomanicum* (Wiesbaden); 2011–2017: Institute for Literature of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Turkology Department; 2017–2023: Research Center for the Humanities, Institute of History, Turkology; 2017: Hungarian Research Network, Institute of History, Turkology.

Gábor Demeter (senior research fellow), 2003: MA History-Geography teacher, geographer (landscape protection), English special translator, University of Debrecen; 2007: PhD, History, Diplomacy of the Balkan Wars, 1912–1913; 2008: PhD, Earth sciences (Morphometric and lithological processes in mountains), University of Debrecen; 2007–2010: Assistant Professor, University of Debrecen, Dept. of Physical Geography and Geoinformatics; 2008–2009: lecturer, College of Eger; 2011–: researcher of the HAS Institute of History (HUN-REN RCH); 2016: habilitated; 2018: senior research fellow. Editorial board memberships: *Hungarian Historical Review*, *Istoricheski Pregled*, *Makedonski Pregled*, *Hiperboreea*. Deputy director of the HAS Bulgarian-Hungarian Joint Committee of Historians, project manager of the Macedonian-Hungarian mobility project. Fields: diplomatic history, socio-economic history of the Balkans and Austria–Hungary, historical geography, historical statistics, hGIS (18–20th centuries).

Maximilian Hartmuth
Faculty of Historical and Cultural Studies
University of Vienna
e-mail: maximilian.hartmuth@univie.ac.at

Monumental Islamic architecture along the middle Danube

This paper reviews studies of the fragmentarily preserved heritage of mosque architecture in present-day Croatia (focusing on Osijek, Đakovo, and Ilok) and neighboring areas in Hungary and Serbia. It enquires about the place of these buildings in Southeast Europe's history of Islamic architecture and revisits historical reconstructions, notably of the Ortahisar/Kasımiye Mosque in Osijek, a somewhat puzzling but potentially meaningful account of which from the early 1600s is contained in Evliya Çelebi's *Seyahatname*.

Maximilian Hartmuth (PhD, Sabancı University, 2011) is a permanent faculty member of the University of Vienna's Department of Art History. His research focuses on the architectural history of Central and Southeast Europe. From 2018 to 2023 he was the principal investigator of the ERC project GA 758099 ("Islamic Architecture and Orientalizing Style in Habsburg Bosnia, 1878–1918", <https://ercbos.univie.ac.at/>).

Aleksandar Jakovljević
The Institute of History Belgrade
e-mail: ajakovljevic@gmail.com

The Ottoman *serhad* in eastern Slavonia: the question of the Sancak of Ösek reconsidered

The Ottomans started to dissolve the Hungarian defense line in 1521 with the conquest of Šabac, Zemun, and Belgrade. In 1526, Syrmia (Szerémség) was invaded, and its main strongholds were captured. As a prelude to the Battle of Mohács in 1526, the same year was echoed in contemporary sources with the crossing of the Drava River at Ösek (Osijek, Eszeg), where the famous bridge was constructed for transferring the Ottomans to the battlefield of Mohács. The town was demolished to the grounds but was soon to be reconstructed as a firm Ottoman stronghold in 1529. Evliya Çelebi's travelogue, which is not always accepted as a truthful source for the period observed, contains interesting observations regarding dates and people involved. According to Evliya, a separate sancak was established based in Ösek, and its first commander was Kasım Voyvoda – later known as Peçuylu Kasım Pasha, Beylerbeyi of Buda (1548–1552) and Temeşvar (1552–1554). The paper compares the Ottoman central registers, separate documents, and narratives to answer the question: Was there an Ottoman Sancak of Ösek? Although the answer is affirmative, it is unclear whether this sancak was a separate entity, a temporary unit in the borderlands, or another name for the sancaks of Sirem or Pojega. The question of Sancak of Ösek is also discussed regarding further extension of the borderland area of the Sancak of Semendire into the territories between the Drava and Sava rivers.

Aleksandar Jakovljević was born in 1976 in Belgrade, Serbia. He graduated in history in 2005 from the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade. At the same Faculty, he enrolled in the PhD program in history. He submitted his doctoral dissertation titled *Trade fairs (panađur) in the Ottoman Balkans. The network of periodic trade and the volatility of the conjuncture*. He has worked at the Institute of History Belgrade since 2012 and holds the title of senior professional associate. He published one co-authored book (*Petrovo polje u vrelima osmanskog razdoblja 1528–1604*) and around twenty scientific articles. He participated in several national and international scientific conferences. He researches the economic and social history of the Ottoman Balkans in the late Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period (15th – 17th centuries), microhistory, and migrations. He speaks English and Turkish.

Danijel Jelaš

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek
e-mail: djelas@ffos.hr

Petra Plantosar

Catholic Faculty of Theology in Đakovo
Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek
e-mail: pkolesaric97@gmail.com

The continuity of medieval settlements after the Ottoman conquest: the case of Vukovo County

The Ottoman campaigns in the first half of the 16th century and the fall of the Kingdom of Hungary significantly changed the demographic and administrative structure of the conquered area, which includes the entire medieval Vukovo (Valkó) County, thus affecting the overall number, status, and functions of settlements. Some settlements were abandoned, some were established or moved to another place, a small number of medieval urban settlements were ruralized or degraded, while certain villages or towns, less significant in the Middle Ages, gained relevance. This paper aims to discuss the issue of the continuity of settlements recorded on the territory of Vukovo County after the Ottoman conquest in the 16th century by analyzing and comparing the data in medieval and Ottoman sources. The paper will suggest several possible determinants that could have affected the continuity and discontinuity of individual settlements, as well as the changes in the structure of central places in the observed area.

Danijel Jelaš (Osijek, 1979) is an assistant professor at the Department of History of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Osijek, where he teaches courses on the Croatian history of the Middle Ages and auxiliary sciences of history. In 2018 he defended his dissertation as part of the Postgraduate Doctoral Study in Medieval Studies at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb. After working as an elementary and secondary school teacher, from 2006 to 2020 he worked as an archivist in the State Archives in Osijek. From 2020 he has been a full faculty member of the Department of History. He is the author of several papers on the topic of the medieval history of the lower Sava–Drava–Danube interfluve, archival science and archival pedagogy, history of Osijek, and cartographic heritage. He is an active member of the Croatian Archival Society and the current president of the Association for Croatian History in Osijek.

Petra Plantosar (Osijek, 1997) is a doctoral student at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb. She received a bachelor's and master's degree in history from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek. She currently works as a teaching assistant at the Department of Church History and Patrology of the Department of Philosophy and History of the Catholic Faculty of Theology in Đakovo, and is an external associate at the Department of History of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek. Her current field of interest is high and late medieval history focusing on church history, as well as medieval topography of the lower Drava and Sava rivers.

Zlatko Karač
Faculty of Architecture
University of Zagreb
e-mail: zkarac@arhitekt.hr

The Hindi Baba dervish *tekke* in Vukovar: a comparison of data from Çelebi's *Seyahatnâme* and other Ottoman and Western sources

Among the score or so of *tekkes* in Slavonia and Syrmia in the 16th and 17th centuries, particular renown was enjoyed by that in Vukovar, a goal of pilgrims to the grave of Sultan Suleiman's prophet, Hindi Baba. Although it was founded perhaps as early as 1526, when the city itself was captured, it was mentioned under this name in the later phase of the Ottoman rule only by Evliya Çelebi, who visited it three times in 1663 and 1664 and left picturesque descriptions of its appearance. Earlier sources, like the *tahrir defters* of the Sancak of Syrmia, refer to the Vukovar *tekke* and its possessions under the name of Gavsi Dede (1566–1568), or indeed without a name (1578–1579; 1588–1595). In the narrative of the Catholic missionary Bartol Kašić of 1612, it is indistinctly described as the place of “the hermit St Elijah who lives in the Turkish manner” (!), but with some compelling data about its location opposite to the city, at the very beginning of the big bridge on the uninhabited left bank of the Vuka River. A more precise location is determined by the first post-Ottoman maps of Vukovar (1687–1688, 1716, 1733), in which it was probably a dervish complex that was shown in this place. Historiographic details from the period of the Court Chamber administration and the early years of the Kuefstein-Eltz estate inform that before it was in the building of the Baroque aristocratic manor house and then palace (1737, perhaps up to 1751), the first seat of the estate was in the former buildings of the *tekke*. Recent cartographic and topographic field research has shown that the *tekke* was on the site of the Eltz Manor I, opposite the castle itself, in Županijska ulica 1; the possible appearance of the *tekke* has been reconstructed.

Zlatko Karač is a full professor and senior research scientist, recently Vice-Dean for Science, of the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Zagreb. His principal interests are the history and protection of Croatian architecture and urban design, as well as town and spatial planning. He has published over 600 scientific, professional, and popular papers. For many years he has been the chief editor of the academic journal *Prostor* (indexed in WoS and Scopus). He founded and teaches the course on Islamic art and architecture at the Chair of Turkology of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb. Of particular interest among his publications concerning the Ottoman heritage in Croatia is the scholarly monograph (co-authored with Alen Žunić) *Islamic Architecture and Art in Croatia – Ottoman and Contemporary Heritage*, which was awarded multiple prizes, including the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Prize.

Eldina Lovaš
Croatian Institute of History
Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod
e-mail: eldina.lovass@gmail.com

Research on Evliya Çelebi's *Seyahatname* and its reception in the Hungarian historiography

Evliya Çelebi traveled through the territory of the Kingdom of Hungary on several occasions between 1660 and 1665. The Hungarian historiography discovered his legacy very early, shortly after his travelogue was published in Ottoman Turkish at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Because of Imre Karácsony's translation, Evliya's work was available to the Hungarian public as early as 1904. Researchers of local history, such as Ottó Szőnyi, Ottomanists, such as Lajos Fekete (who wrote a history of Budapest in the Ottoman era), and archaeologists, such as Győző Gerő researched Evliya's work. The research on the *Seyahatname* in Hungary continued during the 20th century and *inter alia* resulted in certain critical comments of Karácsony's translation. In the first decades of the century, the usefulness of Evliya's accounts was discussed due to a lack of sources that could be used for comparison at the time. Within the scope of present-day Hungarian historiography, Evliya's travelogue is accepted as a valuable historical source. Its latest translation was published by Balázs Sudár in 2012, i.e., the section describing Pécs in 1663. This paper aims to present the results of Hungarian historians' research on the *Seyahatname*, as well as its reception in contemporary Hungarian historiography.

Eldina Lovaš (Sombor, 1991) graduated in 2015 in Croatian Language and Literature and History at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek. She received her doctorate in 2021 at the University of Pécs. Since 2022, she has worked at the Croatian Institute of History – Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod. Her research interests include the historical demography and social history of southern Baranya and Osijek in the 18th and the first half of the 19th centuries and the ecclesiastical history of the Đakovo-Srijem Diocese in the 18th century.

Dino Mujadžević
Croatian Institute of History
Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod
e-mail: dino.mujadzovic@hu-berlin.de

The use of the ethnonym Croat and related concepts in Evliya Çelebi's *Seyahatname*

This paper sets out to analyze the use of the ethnonym Croat (*Hırvad*) and related choronym (*Hırvadistān*) in the *Seyahatname* by the Ottoman traveler and travelogue writer Evliyā Çelebī. It will embark upon three main lines of investigation: 1) which persons and groups were thought to be Croats by Evliyā including their characteristics, associated events, and regions; 2) what was Croatia in the context of Evliyā's travelogue including its borders, history, and associated localities; 3) what were Evliyā's sources for the data on Croats and Croatia, including other Ottoman narrative sources as well as contacts with informants in what is now Republic of Croatia and neighboring areas. For that purpose, the paper will provide an overview of the origin and history of the abovementioned Ottoman exonyms used to denote Croats and Croatia as well as related ones, such as Slavonia, in the Ottoman-Turkish texts from the early 16th century to the 1660s. Equal importance will be allotted to their use in historiographical and other narrative works, as well as in the documents of Ottoman central and regional authorities in the 16th and 17th centuries. Finally, the paper will focus on the occurrences of exonyms referring to Croats and Croatia in the *Seyahatname*. The paper will especially emphasize the use of these terms in the context of Evliyā's description of the localities he visited in the Sava–Drava–Danube interamnum.

Dino Mujadžević graduated in history and Turkology at the University of Zagreb in 2000. Between 2002 and 2007, he was employed at the Miroslav Krleža Institute of Lexicography, and between 2008 and 2013, at the Croatian Institute of History, Department for the History of Slavonia, Baranja and Srijem. He defended a PhD thesis in modern and contemporary history at the University of Zagreb (2010). He published the monograph *Bakarić: Politička biografija* (2011) and edited volumes *Franjevci u Slavonskom Brodu* (2012) and *Annotated Legal Documents on Islam in Europe: Croatia* (2015, Brill). Between 2013 and 2016 he was an Alexander von Humboldt researcher at the Ruhr University in Bochum. His monograph *Asserting Turkey in Bosnia and Herzegovina* was published in 2017 (Otto Harrassowitz). Between 2019 and 2021, he was a visiting researcher at the Humboldt University in Berlin. He edited the volume *Digital Historical Research on Southeast Europe and the Ottoman Space* (2021, Peter Lang). From 2021, he has worked at the Department for the History of Slavonia, Baranja and Srijem in Slavonski Brod.

Kadir Purde
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Bandırma Onyedi Eylül University
e-mail: kadirpurde@gmail.com

The ethnonym Croat in the Ottoman history and geography corpus

Archaeology, linguistics, and history play a principal role in studying nations' ethnic identities. The importance of information and narratives in early modern literature for understanding the ethnic core of national movements should not be underestimated. Strikingly – and surprisingly – almost all national movements share some standard features: an ethnic core that has retained its consciousness of its history and nationality, and a national bourgeoisie influenced by European ideas are standard features in all communities today labeled as “nations”. In this respect, it would be appropriate to consider early modern Ottoman sources as a collection of essential documents that contain direct and explanatory information for many ethnic identities that had existed in the Empire for many centuries. This study will try to explain how the ethnonym Croat found a place in Ottoman history, geography, and literature sources. It will delve into how Croatia (*diyâr-ı Hırvat*), the Croatian language (*lisân-ı Hırvat*), and the Croatian nation (*millet-i Hırvat*) were depicted in Ottoman historical, geographical, and literary works. By meticulously examining the sources, the paper aims to trace the trajectory of these concepts in Ottoman literature. The goal is to gain insight into the Ottomans' perceptions of this enduring ethnic identity, with which they shared a rich history for centuries.

Kadir Purde obtained his bachelor's degree in history in 2009, defended his master's thesis in 2013, and obtained his PhD in history in 2023 at Istanbul University. His research interests include Ottoman military history and ethnic and religious identities in the Ottoman Empire. He also translates academic works from English into Turkish. Currently, he is working at the Department of History of the Faculty of Letters of the Bandırma Onyedi Eylül University in Balıkesir in the Republic of Turkey.

Marko Rimac
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Split
e-mail: mrimac@ffst.hr

Remodeling the landscape of Evliya Çelebi's era: the agricultural transformation of Slavonia and Syrmia in the post-Ottoman period

The expulsion of Ottoman forces from Slavonia and Syrmia in the Great Turkish War ended many settlements in the region. What followed was an amalgamation of townships and the formation of large villages, which are still typical of the area. The medieval and Ottoman dispersed networks of irregularly clustered settlements were reduced to about half or a third of their former number. A great agrarian transformation took place in the second half of the 18th century. The picturesque open fields, which had developed organically for centuries into intricate networks of wiggly roads, water streams, fields, forests, and hedges were reshaped into regular three-field systems with right-angled road and field grids. Clustered irregular settlements were demolished and replaced with regulated linear street villages. This process became known as *ušoravanje sela* (i.e., the formation of villages along streets). The shape of the preceding pre-modern villages and the adjacent pre-modern agricultural landscapes has been little discussed so far. This paper strives to present the analysis of available cartographic and written sources that can help to reconstruct and shed light on the vanished agrarian landscape of Evliya Çelebi's era in Slavonia and Syrmia.

Marko Rimac (PhD) is an associate professor at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Split. His lectures focus on the history of Croatia and eastern Adriatic in the early modern period within the Ottoman, Habsburg, and Venetian contexts. His research covers the history of landscape, warfare, and culture in the early modern Adriatic hinterland. He analyzes sources of Croatian, Venetian, Ottoman, and Habsburg origin.

Robert Skenderović
Croatian Institute of History
Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod
e-mail: rskender@isp.hr

Evliya Çelebi on *palankas* and *šarampovs* as types of wooden and earthen fortifications in Slavonia

During the early modern period, *palanka* and *šarampov* construction techniques were used in Slavonia and the Hungarian Danube region as the basic types of wooden and earthen fortifications. This paper will analyze the examples where Evliya Çelebi mentions *palankas* and *šarampovs* and attempt to determine the typology of these fortifications. Other important terms in connection with this topic are as follows: *palisade*, *hendek*, *parmak*, *parmakluk*, *direk*, and *šarampov-direk*. When describing wooden and earthen fortifications, certain terms often include other, seemingly unconnected terms, which is why this topic is important for a more accurate interpretation of historical documents. Often in historical sources, the term *palisade* includes the entire *palanka*, and the term *šarampov* denotes a simple defensive ditch. The paper will try to show that there were two basic types of wooden-earthen fortifications in the Ottoman era in Slavonia: *palanka*, with defense based on a wooden fence reinforced with an earth embankment, and *šarampov*, with defense based on trenches reinforced with palisades.

Robert Skenderović graduated in philosophy and history at the University of Zagreb in 1997. From 1998 he has worked at the Croatian Institute of History in the Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod. In 2005, he defended his doctoral dissertation at the University of Zagreb. The main areas of his research are church history, historical demography, environmental history, and cultural history of Croatia in the 17th and 18th centuries. He authored three books, two textbooks, edited four conference proceedings and one collaborative book, and published over forty research papers. He was the organizing secretary and a member of the organizing committees of several scientific conferences. From 2021 he has been the principal researcher of the scientific project *S(c)lavoni(j)a: name, scope and border position in the Middle and Early Modern Ages* funded by the Croatian Science Foundation. He won several awards for his work in the field of history.

Dragutin Šimić
independent researcher
e-mail: dragutin.simic154@gmail.com

The geographical-demographic overview of the Ottoman *nahiye* of Vrhovine – a case study

The first half of the 16th century was marked by significant territorial losses for the Kingdom of Hungary. The Ottoman Empire, which had weakened Hungarian defenses for decades with constant raids by the *akıncı*, permanently occupied a significant part of the southern territories of this kingdom, including the lower Drava and Sava river basins. The institution of the sultan's authority in this area implied the organization of an administrative and judicial apparatus, including the division of territories into administrative-judicial units, with the smallest unit being the *nahiye*. The paper examines the *nahiye* of Vrhovine within the *kaza* of Brod, located in the Sancak of Požega. The *nahiye* encompassed twenty villages of the modern-day Brod-Posavina region from the 1540s until the end of the 1680s. By analyzing Ottoman tax registers from the 16th century, as well as the first Habsburg censuses from the late 17th and early 18th centuries, data on the approximate demographic situation of this rural environment are provided, particularly information on population size, religious affiliation, and economic activities. Furthermore, this paper will attempt to locate individual settlements within this *nahiye* or to determine their approximate location in case of a lack of reliable sources. Although the focus of this paper is on the period of Ottoman rule, the first Habsburg sources will also be considered, primarily due to the lack of Ottoman sources documenting the second half of the 17th century in the given area. The paper explains how the *nahiye* of Vrhovine differed from other *nahiyes* of the Sancak in some respects, i.e., how it resembled them in others, providing a basis for future research on Ottoman Slavonia.

Dragutin Šimić was born in Slavonski Brod in 1999. He graduated from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek in 2022 with an MA in English Language and Literature and History. His primary field of interest is the medieval and early modern period of the history of Slavonia.

Szabolcs Varga
Research Center for the Humanities
Institute of History
e-mail: szavarga@gmail.com

Military roads along the middle Danube in the 15th and 16th centuries

In the 16th and 17th centuries, the Ottoman army usually entered the Hungarian theater of war at Osijek. Sultan Süleyman used this route for the first time in 1526 when a wooden bridge was built over the Drava. The Ottoman forts in the Hungarian theater of war were supplied along this route, and the Ottoman traveler Evliya Çelebi also traveled here. Because of him, the main stops along the route are well-known. Little is known about the medieval origins of the Buda–Osijek military road. Therefore, this paper will examine how the Hungarian-Croatian part of the Danube war route developed. Sources indicate that there had been a road here in Roman times, but it had already been destroyed by the Middle Ages. It was not the route used by the Hungarian rulers on their campaigns to the Balkans. Sigismund of Luxembourg and János Hunyadi used the Oradea–Timișoara road instead. Mátyás Hunyadi preferred the Tolna–Pécs–Virovitica road to reach the Bosnian and Croatian theaters of war. In the summer of 1464, the Hungarian armies gathered along the Danube, and the monarch also visited Mohács, but the route between Mohács and Osijek was not used. The swampy floodplain of the Karašica River made this area unsuitable for the passage of large armies, so it was first used by the Ottomans. However, they only started building it after the conquest of Buda in 1541. The Mohács palisade was also erected at that time, although there were no fortifications there. The military road and the Mohács–Osijek section were, therefore, built during the reign of Sultan Süleyman, and their earlier existence cannot be confirmed.

Szabolcs Varga was a professor at the College of Divinity of Pécs (2001–2018) and is now a senior research fellow at the Institute of History, Research Centre for the Humanities in Budapest. His research focuses on early modern religiosity and the history of Slavonia and south Transdanubia under Ottoman rule. He researches popular religiosity, the mutual influence of different cultures, and the local impacts of Catholic revival. Varga has published a book on the history of Pécs under Ottoman rule. His other book was published in Croatian and includes his studies about the Zrínyis. He was awarded the Bolyai-Plakett Prize in 2014. He has been carrying out a research project with the aim of revealing the early modern history of the Erdődy family (Hungarian Research Fund – OTKA, 2012–2016). His studies have appeared in Hungarian, English, German, and Croatian languages.

Andelko Vlašić
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek
e-mail: avlastic@ffos.hr

Tracing Evliya Çelebi's route through western Slavonia and central Croatia in 1660

The paper focuses on Ottoman travel writer Evliya Çelebi (1611 – after 1685) and his travel through the territory of modern-day western Slavonia and central Croatia in 1660, or in Evliya's words, during his mission "from the town of Banja Luka to the forts of the four sancaks to collect *zahîre-bahâ* and to rescue the Bihać captain from Zrinski." The journey is described in the fifth book of his travelogue *Seyahatname* ("Book of Travels"), and it spanned from Banja Luka and forts along the Sava and Una rivers into the regions of Lika and modern-day northern Dalmatia, and from there northwards into modern-day western Slavonia and Međimurje. The paper presents the context, aim, and itinerary of his journey, as well as the mapping of the stops he made, aiming to provide information about the roads traveled, difficulties encountered, forts and towns visited, etc.

Andelko Vlašić is an associate professor at the Department of History at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek. He graduated in History at the Faculty of Croatian Studies in Zagreb and Turkology and French Language and Literature at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb. He received his doctorate in history at the University of Zagreb. He was a postdoctoral visiting researcher at Koç University in Istanbul (2014–2015) and a postdoctoral researcher at the Department for the History of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in Slavonski Brod (2016–2018). He researches the history of Slavonia under Ottoman rule. He collaborated on two projects of the Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ) and is currently the principal researcher of the HRZZ project *Evliya Çelebi and Eastern Croatia in the 17th century*.

Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Lorenz Jäger 9, Osijek

www.ffos.unios.hr



JOSIP JURAJ STROSSMAYER UNIVERSITY OF OSIJEK

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Edited by:

Andelko Vlašić

Proofreading

Barbara Kružić Jovičić

Preparation and Print:

Krešendo, Osijek

Osijek, October 2024