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NOVAC VUKA BRANKOVIĆA (1389-1397)



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Rezime

Vuk Branković je bio najmlađi sin Dušanovog podanika Branka Mladenovića, namesnika Ohrida. Tesno je sarađivao sa tastom knezom Lazarom priznajući mu starešinstvo. Znatno je proširio svoju vlast koja je bila samo u Drenici, ratujući sa Balšićima, Dejanovićima, kraljem Markom i Nikolom Altomanovićem. Povlačenjem Bajazitove vojske posle Kosovskog boja, pogibija kneza Lazara i slabost njegovih naslednika naveli su Vuka, koji je takođe učestvovao u Kosovskoj bitci sa svojom vojskom, da samostalno nastupa. Od 1392. plaća danak Bajazitu I, ali ne sudeluje u njegovim vojnim operacijama. Po nepotvrđenim izvorima biva proteran ili zarobljen 1395. da bi dve godine kasnije umro, po nekim izvorima u zatvoru. Njegove oblasti Bajazit je ustupio Lazarevićima a 1402. na upravu Vukovim sinovima: Grguru, Đurđu i Lazaru.

Na njegovoj zemlji bilo je brojnih rudnika srebra, olova, cinka, bakra, gvožđa i zlata kao što su: Brskovo, Gluhavica, Trepča, Janjevo i Novo Brdo. Kovanjem novca Vuk je počeo da se bavi i pre Kosovskog boja. Na njegovom novcu prvi put se pojavljuje umetnički kombinovan monogram i lav kao heraldička oznaka porodice Branković.

Ključne reči: Vuk Branković, knez Lazar, Kosovski boj, Bajazit I, rudnici, kovnice, topionice, zlato, srebro, gvožđe, cink, bakar, olovo, novac, monogram, heraldički znak, imitacije novca, supruga Mara, sinovi Grgur, Đurađ i Lazar

JEL klasifikacija: N01, N23

Dinar, Ag, težina 0,45 grama, prečnik 12 mm

Lice: Monogram.

Naličje: Isus Hristos stoji u mandorli. U levoj ruci drži jevanđelje a desnom blagosilja.



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MONEY OF VUK BRANKOVIĆ (1389-1397)



Summary

Vuk Branković was the youngest son of Emperor Dušan's regent in Ohrid, Branko Mladenović. He closely cooperated with his father-in-law, Prince Lazar, recognizing his supremacy. He considerably expanded the territory under his rule, which was originally only in Drenica, by fighting against the families of Balšić and Dejanović, King Marko and Nikola Altomanović. The retreat of Bayezid's army after the Battle of Kosovo, the demise of Prince Lazar and the weakness of his successors, led Vuk, who also took part in the Battle of Kosovo with his army, to act independently. In 1392 he started paying a toll to Bayezid I, but did not take part in his military operations. According to some unconfirmed sources, he was banished or imprisoned in 1395, and died two years later, some sources say, in prison. The regions under his rule were assigned by Bayezid to the family of Lazarević, and in 1402 to Vuk's sons: Grgur, Djuradj and Lazar.

In his region, there were numerous mines of silver, lead, zinc, copper, iron and gold, such as: Brskovo, Gluhavica, Trepča, Janjevo and Novo Brdo. Vuk started minting coins even before the Battle of Kosovo. His coins featured for the first time an artistic combination of a monogram and a lion, as the heraldic sign of the family of Branković.

Key words: Vuk Branković, Prince Lazar, Battle of Kosovo, Bayezid I, mines, mints, smelteries, gold, silver, iron, zinc, copper, lead, money, monogram, heraldic sign, coin imitations, wife Mara, sons Grgur, Djuradj and Lazar

JEL Classification: N01, N23

Dinar, Ag, weight 0.45 grams, diameter 12 mm

Obverse: Monogram.

Reverse: Jesus Christ standing in mandorla. In his left hand he is holding the Holy Gospel, while blessing with his right hand.

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Mapa država iz 1389. godine
Map from 1389

The map illustrates the political landscape of the Balkans in 1389. Key regions and their rulers are labeled:

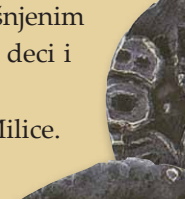
- UGARSKA** (Hungary)
- BOSNA** (Bosnia), ruled by **LAZAR HRABEJANOVIC**
- DUBROVNIK** (Dubrovnik), a coastal city-state
- VUK BRANKOVIC**, ruler of a central Balkan territory
- KARLO TOPIJA**, ruler of a southern Balkan territory
- VLASHKA** (Wallachia)
- BUTARSKA** (Serbia), ruled by **KONSTANTIN DEJANOVIC**
- TURSKA** (Turkey)
- VIZANTIJA** (Byzantium)

Other notable locations include **Beograd**, **Skopje**, **Sofija**, **Triglav**, **Prizren**, **Udine**, **Ris**, **Jela**, **Maglin**, **Eremita**, **Kruzevac**, **Nini**, **Velbuđa**, **Strumica**, **Solun**, **Hadžidar**, **Blagaj**, **Drifena**, **Kotor**, **Budva**, **Gorazd**, **Ulcinj**, **Scutari**, **Ljubljana**, **Medina**, **Pes**, **Tringina**, **Čučer**, **Žrnica**, **Triglavi**, **Udine**, **Ris**, **Jela**, **Maglin**, **Eremita**, **Kruzevac**, **Nini**, **Velbuđa**, **Strumica**, **Solun**, **Hadžidar**.

The **Jadransko more** (Adriatic Sea) is visible along the coast.

U želji da zadrži vlast Turcima je 1392. predao Skoplje i počeo da plaća danak. Međutim, ni to nije bilo dovoljno. Sultan Bajazit I prognao ga je iz zemlje. U nerazjašnjenim okolnostima umro je 1397. godine a njegove oblasti sultan je dao Lazarevoj deci i udovici a Vukova žena i deca dobili su samo prostor oko Vučitrna i Trepče.

nak. Međutim,
razjašnjenim
revoj deci i
oče.
nje Milice.



The earliest data about Vuk Branković and his brother Grgur date from 1365, when they owned a domain in Drenica. In the following years Vuk considerably expanded his domain by fighting against the families of Balšić and Dejanović, King Marko and Nikola Altomanović, and in 1370 became a regional ruler in the Kosovo area, including Priština, Vučitrn and Zvečan. From 1377 the region under his rule included Skopje, and from 1378 Prizren and its surroundings up to the river of Lim.

1397 under mysterious circumstances, and his regions were assigned by the Sultan to Prince Lazar's sons and widow, whereas Vuk's wife and children only got the region surrounding Vučitrn and Trepča.

A photograph of the ruins of the Novo Brdo Fortress, showing stone walls and towers on a hillside. The text "Novo Brdo" is visible in the top right corner.





In all parts of his domain, there were numerous, rich mines of silver, lead, zinc, copper, iron and gold. The biggest mines were: Brskovo, Gluhavica, Trepča, Janjevo and Novo Brdo. In these regions, in particular in Priština, craftsmanship and trade were flourishing. The main suppliers and buyers were the people from Dubrovnik, Kotor, Bar, Venice, Greece, etc. The mine owners, tradesmen and leaseholders from Venice, Dubrovnik and Kotor, along with the local tradesmen and feudal lords, were obliged to allot one tenth of the excavated and smelted ore to Vuk. Vuk also benefited from the development of mining, agriculture, craftsmanship and trade, given that he collected considerable taxes in this respect.

There are no data indicating when exactly Vuk started minting coins. A large number of various mints points to the conclusion that he started minting coins even before the Battle of Kosovo. Coins bearing the name of Vuk Branković were minted ten years after his demise. They were minted by Vuk Lazarević, his younger brother-in-law, hence there is no difference between the coins minted in the reign of Vuk Branković and those issued by Vuk Lazarević. Interestingly enough, the coins of Vuk Branković featured for the first time an artistic combination of a monogram and a lion, as the heraldic sign of the family of Branković.

During the lifetime of Vuk Branković, in addition to domestic ones, other coins could also be found in circulation, such as: the Byzantine gold coins (hyperpyron), ducats from Venice and Austria, copper coins from Dubrovnik, French "ismoray" coins and the coins of Prince Lazar.

The mints of certain medieval Serbian rulers also produced the imitations of foreign coins. Thus, for instance, the mint of Novo Brdo, during the reign of Vuk Branković, produced the imitations of the Venetian coins.

U svim delovima njegove države nalazili su se bogati slojevi srebra, olova, cinka, bakra, gvožđa i zlata. Najveće rudnici bili su: Brskovo, Gluhavica, Trepča, Janjevo i Novo Brdo. U ovim oblastima, posebno u Prištini, cvetalo je zanatstvo i trgovina. Glavni snadbjevači i kupci bili su Dubrovčani, Kotorani, Barani, Mlečani, Grci i dr. Vlasnici rudnika, mletački, dubrovački i kotorski trgovci i zakupci kao i domaći trgovci i feudalni gospodari, bili su u obavezi da Vuku daju desetinu od iskopane i izlivenne rude. Od razvoja rudarstva, poljoprivrede, zanatstva i trgovine Vuk je takođe imao koristi jer je od toga u vidu poreza ubirao značajne prihode.

Nema podataka kada je Vuk počeo sa kovanjem novca. Veliki broj različitih kovanica navodi na zaključak da je sa kovanjem počeo i pre Kosovske bitke. Novac sa imenom Vuka

Brankovića kovao se i deset godina posle njegove smrti. Kovao ga je Vuk

Lazarević, njegov mlađi šurak

te se ne razlikuje novac nastao u vreme Vuka Brankovića i onog kojeg je emitovao Vuk Lazarević. Interesantno je da se na novcu Vuka Brankovića javlja prvi put umetnički kombinovani monogram i lav kao heraldička oznaka porodice Branković.

Za života Vuka Brankovića u opticaju su pored domaćeg novca bili: vizantijski zlatnici (perperi), mletački i austrijski dukati, dubrovački bakarni novac, francuski izmorej i novac kneza Lazara.

Kovnice pojedinih srednjovekovnih srpskih vladara bavile su se i izradom imitacije stranog novca. Tako na primer, u novobrdskoj kovnici u vreme Vuka Brankovića izrađivane su i imitacije mletačkog novca.



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