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## GRAPHEMIC PRESENTATION OF THE SLAVIC NAMES IN THE BRITISH DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS FROM 1797—1839 SENT FROM THE BALKAN COUNTRIES

In 1968 the Archives of Macedonia in Skopje edited the first volume of British Documents<sup>1)</sup> composed by various diplomatic representatives and subjects of the United Kingdom accredited in the Balkan Countries. They consist of letters, reports and accounts about the ethnic constitution of the areas, the strategic importance of various places and passes as well as the living conditions of the population in the Balkans during the rule of the Turkish Empire.

Being uncovered to the public eyes for the first time they have attracted the attention of students of history as well as of linguists.

Our primary concern here is with the method of graphemic presentation of the Slavic anthroponimic and toponimic names.

We should like to point out that, since they had been written by various persons, there are many inconsistancies in the presentation of the Slavic names with graphemes of the Roman alphabet; a single place name occurs in several varieties. In some cases the writer presents a name as close as possible to its Slavic pronunciation e.g. Ochrid < o c h r i d > /'o x r i d/; Vidin < v i d i n > /'v i d i n /. Sometimes it has the form of the one of the non-Slavic languages, e.g. Dibra < d i b r a >, /'d i b r a /<sup>2</sup> is given in its Albanian from.

This phonological principle, however, is not everywhere respected and in many cases there are numerous vacillations.

In this paper an attempt is made to elicit the value of the graphemes of the Roman alphabet in respect to the phonological components of the Slavic name.

To avoid repetitions, we are listing the names mentioned in the Documents as they are presented, firstly with the graphemes of the Roman alphabet by means of which they are rendered, put within < >, secondly their phonetic value is given within / /, and thirdly the current form of the Slavic name in Cirilic alphabet.

<sup>1</sup> X. Андонов-Полјански, British Documents on the History of the Macedonian People, vol. I (1797—1839), Скопје 1968.

<sup>2</sup> The phonetic transcription is given according to the IPA alphabet.

- Axius < a xi u s >, /'aks i u s/ *Bapgap*  
 Adrianople < a d r i a n o p l e >, /ad ria' n o pl/ *Одрин*  
 Babá < b a b a >, /b a' b a/ *Баба* (*Планина*)  
 Betolia < b e t o l i a >, /'bit o l i a/ *Битола*  
 Bosnia < b o s n i a >, /'b os n i a/ *Босна*  
 Boshniaks < b o s h n i a k s >, /'bo šn i a k s/ *Босанџи*  
 Bosniaks < b o s n i a k s >, /'bo z n i a k s/ *Босанџи*  
 Boyana < b o y a n a >, /'bo ja na/ *Бојана*  
 Brussa < b r u s s a >, /'br us a/ *Бруса*  
 Castória < c a s t o r i a >, /ka'st o r i a/ *Костур*  
 Cattaro < c a t t a r o >, /k a't a r o/ *Котар*  
 Cavalla < c a v a l l a >, /k a'v a l a/ *Кавала*  
 Chiuprulu < chiuprulu > /'cij eprəly/ *Велес* (*Град на мосӣ*)  
 Conizza < c o n i z z a >, /'kon i tz a/ *Коница*  
 Czerni Georgi < czerni georgi > /'černi Gjeorgi/ *Црни Ѓорѓи*,  
*Kapa Гопѓу*  
 Debar < d e b a r >, /'de b a r/ *Дебар*  
 Dibra < d i b r a >, /'d i b r a/ *Дебар*  
 Demir Cape < demir k a p e >, /de'mir ka'pi/ *Демир Кајија*.  
 Dgiuma < d g i u m a > /d ž u m a/ *Ѓумая*  
 Dupnitsa < d u p n i t z a >, /'du p n i t z a/ *Дүйнница*  
 Giurgia < giurgia >, /'Gjurgija/ *Ѓурѓиа*  
 Jenidge < jenidge >, /jenidže/ *Ениџе*  
 Kiustendil < kiustendil > /'k ȳ justendil/ *Ќустендил*  
 Klisura < k l i s u r a > /'klisura/ *Клисура*  
 Kozani < k o z a n i >, /kozani/ *Козани* (*Кажани*)  
 Kuiprulu < k u i p r u l u >, /'c ȳ j eprəli/ *Велес*  
 Lescovitza < l e s c o v i t z a >, /les'k ov it z a/ *Лесковац*  
 Libanova < liban ova > /li'b a n o v a/ *Лебане*  
 Livadia < l i v a d i a >, /liv a'd i a/ *Ливада*  
 Lychnidus < l y c h n i d u s >, /'l i x n i d u s/ *Oxrug*  
 Mastoritzha < m a s t o r i t z a > /m a s t o r i t z a/ *Мастирција*  
 M  zovo < metzovo >, /'metzovo/ *Мезово*  
 Mitzovo < mitzovo >, /'mitzovo/ *Мезово*  
 Mezzovo < mez zovo >, /'mez o v o/ *Мезово*  
 Monastir < mon a st i r >, /'mon a'st i r/ *Битола*  
 Morikhovo < morikhovo >, /mo'r i x o v o/ *Морихово*  
 Nissa < n i s s a >, /nis a/ *Huu*  
 Ochri < ochri >, /'ox ri/ *Oxrug*  
 Ochrid < ochrid >, /'ox rid/ *Oxrug*  
 Okri < okri >, /'ok ri/ *Oxrug*  
 Orsova < orsova >, /'or sova/ *Орехово*  
 Petolia < petolia >, /pi'tolia/ *Битола*  
 Pristina < pristina >, /'pri st i n a/ *Приштина*  
 Pyrlip   < pyrlipe >, /'pirlipi/ *Прилеп*  
 Scodra < scodra >, /'sk o d r a/ *Скадар*  
 Scopia < scopia >, /'sk o p ja/ *Скопје*

- Serviá < servia >, /'servia/ *Србија*  
 Struga < struga >, /'struga/ *Струја*  
 Tikveš < tikfis >, /'tikviš/ *Тиквеш*  
 Voivode < voivode >, /'voivode/ *Војвода*  
 Vardar Yenigé < vardar yenige >, /'vardar 'jenidže/, *Ениџе*  
*Bapgap*  
 Velisa < velisa >, /'velisa/ *Велес*  
 Vistrítza < vistrízta >, /'vistrítza/ *Бистирица*  
 Vladova < vladova >, /'vladova/ *Владово*  
 Vodena < vodena > /'vodena/ *Воден*  
 Vodhena < vodhena >, /'vodhena/ *Воден*  
 Vranica < vrania >, /'vraniā/ *Вране*

The forms of the above listed names contain many Greek, Turkish or other non-Slavic elements, particularly, in their terminations. The grave accent on *Babá* descloses Vlach pronunciation rather than the Slavic. Similarly accents on *Velisá*, *Pyrlipé* etc. explain the non-Slavic influence.

This may be due to the fact that the pronunciation of the non-Slavic population of certain names differed from the Slavic version, consequently some names were rendered in their hellenized or other forms. Some contribution to this had the interpreters who worked at the Consolates. As we read in the Documents, the British Consulate in Salonika employed dragomans, i.e. interpreters, among whom was a certain Signor Gouta<sup>3</sup> whose name indicates that he was not a Slav.

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### РЕЗИМЕ

Британските дипломатски документи што ги издаде Архивот на Македонија, покрај интересот што го побудуваат кај историчарите, можат да се користат и за лингвистички истражувања.

Во статијава се утврдува начинот на графиското презентирање на словенските имиња од некои балкански земји, потоа се дава фонемската вредност на графемите од латинската азбука со кои се дадени словенските имиња и на крајот формата што тие имиња ја имаат денес.

Се констатира дека многу словенски имиња што ги sprečavame во Документите во својата структура имаат турски, грчки и други несловенски елементи, особено во завршокот на името. Ова го објаснуваме со фактот што изговорот на несловенското население отстапувал од словенската верзија. Свој придонес кон ова имале и драгоманите, т. е. преводачите што работале при конзулатите. Од Документите се гледа дека Британскиот конзулат во Солун запослувал преведувачи, меѓу другите се споменува и некој Синјор Гута чие име зборува дека тој не бил Словен.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 171.