

SOKOLISM IN LESKOVAC AND VLASOTINCE

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SUMMARY

The Sokol movement originated in Prague on February 16, 1862, under the then Habsburg Monarchy, as a form of awakening Czech national consciousness through sporting activities. The conceptual creator of this concept was Miroslav Tirsh, and together with him the founders of the Exercise Organization "Soko" were Jindrich Finger and Emanuel Toner. Serbian sokolism developed later, on several sides, according to circumstances and circumstances in which the situation was different in the free Principality, then in the Kingdom of Serbia, and differently in the areas where Serbs under the Austro-Hungarian monarchy lived. Sokolism in the south of Serbia arose from gymnastics, which was the „key point” of the work of both the Gymnastics and later Sokol society. A special impetus for mass membership in southern Serbia was given by Uros, son of Proka Crnilovic, from Vlasotince at Belgrade studies, who in 1911 participated with the sokols from Belgrade at the All-Sokol Slet in Zagreb, and even more by participating in the All-Sokol Slet in Prague 1912, when he won the medal in the long jump. The aim of this research was to find out and present historical facts about the occurrence of sokolism in the south of Serbia, especially in Leskovac and Vlasotince.

Key words: Sokolism, Miroslav Tirsh, Kingdom of Yugoslavia, physical exercise, Leskovac, Vlasotince.

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INTRODUCTION

The Sokol movement originated in Prague on February 16, 1862, under the then Habsburg Monarchy, as a form of awakening Czech national consciousness

through sporting activities. The conceptual creator of this concept was Miroslav Tirsh, and together with him the founders of the exercise Organization "Soko" were Jindrich Finger and Emanuel Toner. Sokolism promoted liberal philosophy and the strengthening of national identity through physical exercises, primarily gymnastics and athletics.¹

Serbian sokolism developed later, on several sides, according to circumstances and circumstances in which the situation was different in the free Principality, then in the Kingdom of Serbia, and differently in the areas where Serbs under the Austro-Hungarian monarchy lived. Sokolism of the Serbian people in the countries under Vienna and Pest (in the territories of Croatia and Slavonia, Vojvodina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Dalmatia) begins with the founding of the first Sokol society "Serbian Soko" (1904) and the first "Serbian Soko Parish of Fruska Gora" (1905) in Sremski Karlovci.²

Sokolism in the south of Serbia arose from gymnastics, which was the „key point” of the work of both the Gymnastics and later Sokol society. Leskovac is one of the first cities in the center of Serbia to have a gymnastic society. It was a Civic gymnastic society „Dusan the Mighty”, founded in 1896 by Zika Obrenovic, a bookstore from Leskovac. Later, in 1904, it changed its name to the „Knight society of Dusan the Mighty”.³ Under the influence of new political circumstances and with the favor of the new dynasty, such societies took place in Serbia on February 2, 1910, and united under the name Alliance of sokol society „Dusan the Mighty”. So the Leskovac society was named the Sokol society „Dusan the Mighty”.⁴

Until the outbreak of World War II, there was a Serbian sokol society in Vlasotince, founded in 1909. At its founding, this society was called „Dusan the Mighty”, and later changed its name to „Soko”. The founders of this society are considered to be property owners from Vlasotince, teacher Petar Miljkovic-Pastrkulja and law student Aleksandar Crnilovic.⁵ Sokol society of Vlasotince, true

¹ Путник, Владана. Соколски домови у контексту развоја Југословенске архитектонске сцене (1918-1941).

² Vukašinović, Vladan; Mijatović, Slađana; Kocić, Sonja. Falcons' patriotism: 'One state, one nation, falconry'. *Fizička kultura*, 2014, 68.2: 163-175.

³ Звездан Савић. *Соколство и Моравска жупа Ниш (1920-1941)*. 2011. Универзитет у Нишу, Факултет спорта и физичког васпитања, стр. 113.

⁴ Исто, стр. 113.

⁵ Исто, стр. 124.

Interesting facts:

„Sokolism is today national, common to all Slovenian peoples, therefore, a Slavic institution, which goes after it, to raise healthy and solid sons and daughters to the people, which inseparably integrates with the upbringing of the body the spiritual. Sokolism was founded to protect the homeland, it breeds

to tradition, restores work within the newly formed Moravian sokol parish in Nis, under a new name „Sokol society Vlasotince”.

METHOD OF WORK

The subject of this research is sokolism in southern Serbia, its historical origin and development, especially in Leskovac and Vlasotince.

The aim of this research was to find out and present a historical fact about the formation of sokolism in southern Serbia, especially in Leskovac and Vlasotince, as the most respected societies within the Moravian parish in Nis, to which fraternal societies from Boljevac, Kursumljia and Aleksinac belonged.

The **method of theoretical analysis** of historical facts related to the development of sokolism in the south of Serbia, especially in Leskovac and Vlasotince, was used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Sokolism in the south of Serbia arose from gymnastics, which was the „key point” of the work of both the Gymnastics and later Sokol society. Until World War II, it developed within the Sokol organization. Gymnastics, or popularly called „Czech gymnastics”, was synonymous with sokolism. It is particularly important to point out that among the first countries in Europe, Serbia, on March 31, 1892, passed the Law on assistance to gymnastics and shooting society and five riders in the Kingdom of Serbia, which contributed significantly to extracurricular physical

a body to fight and win”- Miroslav Tirsh (Благојевић, Марија. *Визуелна култура сокола*. 2003. Дипломски рад. Универзитет у Београду, Филозофски факултет).

Interesting facts:

One of Tirsch's close associates, Emanuel Toner, proposed in 1862, the same year that the society was founded, to name Sokol, because it liked the symbolism that bird had in the Serbian people. He observed that a folk poet, a guslar, links a hero to a bird Sokol when he wants to highlight his best features. The bird was taken by the Serbian people as a symbol of heroism, speed and boldness. The Czechs felt that it was these traits that should adorn members of their society (Благојевић, Марија. *Визуелна култура сокола*. 2003. Дипломски рад. Универзитет у Београду, Филозофски факултет).

education.⁶ With the southern Slavs, the first Sokol society was founded in Ljubljana in 1863, under the name „Southern sokol”.⁷

A special impetus for mass membership in southern Serbia was given by Uros, son of Proka Crnilovic, from Vlasotince at Belgrade studies, who in 1911, participated with the sokols from Belgrade at the All-Sokol Slet in Zagreb, and even more by participating in the All-Sokol Slet in Prague 1912, when he won the medal in the long jump. The first All-Sokol Slet in the Balkans was organized in 1922 in Ljubljana, two years later it was held in Zagreb with the participation of practitioners from the south of Serbia.⁸



⁹ Public class, preparation for the slet in Prague, 1938. On the gymnastic bar Blaško Parunović, assistant R. Ćukalović.

The strong penetration of sokolism in the Kingdom of Serbia could not stop even the divisions within the movement that magnetically attracted the youth of Serbia. Member of the Academy of sciences, later president of the Sokol in Belgrade, Stevan Todorović (otherwise a painter), founded in Belgrade 1857 the „First serbian gymnastics and wrestling society”. The only society of its kind worked in Serbia until 1865.¹⁰

⁶ Милосављевић, Драгомир. *Партизан*. Лесковац, 1978, стр. 11.

⁷ Исто, стр. 11.

⁸ Ђукаловић, Слободан. Соколско друштво Власотинце. *Власотиначки зборник* 1. Власотинце, 2003, стр. 65.

⁹ Лична архива Слободана Ђукаловића.

¹⁰ Милосављевић, Драгомир. *Партизан*. Лесковац, 1978, стр. 12.

It was not until the end of 1881 (December 26), that dr Vladan Djordjevic held an electoral Assembly at the Civic casino where he formed the first Society (January 3, 1882)¹¹, and at the Assembly on April 7, 1891, the name „Belgrade gymnastics society Soko” was established.¹² In order to overcome different interests and to adopt a common policy for the development of sokol ideas, the Serbian sokol association changes its name to „Alliance of sokol societies Dusan the Mighty”.¹³

The formation of sports sokol societies, including in Leskovac, is moving in many places. At the founding Assembly of the „Sokol society of Dusan the Mighty” in Leskovac, March 22, 1896, the importance of sokolism was spoken by Emilio Kralovec, who was elected to the Subcommittee of the Radical party in February 1897, which included Radoje Domanovic, then a teacher at the Lower gymnasium in Leskovac.¹⁴ Not coincidentally, the members of the society were high school students, and the Gymnasium building was the main location for young sokols.¹⁵



¹⁶ 1934. Sokols from Leskovac in the park in front of Sokolane.

¹¹ Милосављевић, Драгомир. *Партизан*. Лесковац, 1978, стр. 15.

¹² Исто, стр. 16.

¹³ Исто, стр. 16.

¹⁴ Исто, стр. 12.

¹⁵ Исто, стр. 17.

¹⁶ Исто, стр. 39.

On December 1, 1918, Crown Princ Aleksandar Karadjordjevic proclaimed the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes at the Krsmanovic house in Belgrade. The first government of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes was formed on December 20, 1918, and the temporary national Presidency met on March 1, 1919. The ruler who led Serbia in the three wars, Aleksandar Karadjordjevic, belived a great deal in the new Kingdom.¹⁷ The new ruler favorably viewed and supported the idea of sokolism and the renewal of the work of numerous societies in Serbia, including in Leskovac, Nis and Vlasotince.

The Federation of Sokol of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia otherwise carried out its programs through the sokol parishes. Sokol societies from Leskovac and Vlasotince belonged to the sokol parish in Nis.¹⁸ Already since 1921, under the chairmanship of the renowned bookstore Zika Obradovic and the material assistance of industrialist Milan K. Ilic, engineer Vlada Popovic and the oldest sokols created the conditions, equipped the Gymnasium of Leskovac for the work of about 150 members. The brilliant results at the slets in Ljubljana, Sarajevo and Nis spoke of their high value.¹⁹

Sokol society has become the pride and admiration of Leskovac, so it is not surprising that in 1926, the local authorities granted them land in the heart of the city for the construction of the Sokolana. It is interesting that in the same year, an initiative was started in Vlasotince, for the construction of a common sokols House, Reading room and the Esnaf association.

The following year, and especially in 1928, much was done to close the financial structure. After the refusal of the Vardarska Banovina, which included Vlasotince district, to provide financial assistance, money and support came from the birthplace of Belgrade, from industrialist Vlado Ilic, otherwise born in Vlasotince. The home was completed and consecrated on October 19, 1929, when the well-equipped Sokolana began to be used.²⁰ In 1930, Sokolana in Leskovac was moved a hundred meter closer to the city center, where the National theater is today.

¹⁷ Исто, стр. 17.

¹⁸ *Лесковачки гласник*, 1921, бр. 18, стр. 4.

¹⁹ Исто, стр. 4.

²⁰ Ђукаловић, Слободан. Соколско друштво Власотинце. *Власотиначки зборник*1. Власотинце, 2003, стр. 66.



Leskovac-park with a Sokol home

At that location, a new Sokol home was built, in which the society had its own library, dressing rooms, music flag and more. For the affirmation of sokolism in Vlasotince, the arrival of the married couple Velasevic in 1922, otherwise experienced sokols, dr Radul and dr Ana (the first dentist in this part of Serbia), is of great importance. The work is being modernized, and in addition to the male generation and children, dr Ana is beginning to work with the female population. By nationality of Czechs, Ana Velasevic introduced changes in rhythmic exercises and games, which is why she was honored by the Elder of the Moravian sokol parish in Nis.²¹

Slets, actions and manifestations

The participation of members of the Sokol society of Leskovac and Sokol society of Vlasotince on the slets was noticeable and satisfactory, despite the fact that most of the costs were borne by the sokols themselves. This was also the case on 30 June, 1928, at the big slet in Skopje, at which the exercisers from Leskovac made a very striking impression. Of the many slets that took place across the country, the following should be noted, Parish slets in Subotica (1935), Nis (1936), Belgrade (1937), Provincial slet in Skopje (1937), All-Sokol Slets in Sofia (1935 and 1939) and Prague (1938).²² The Sokol parish of Nis organized in Negotin from May 31, to June 2, 1931, its parish slet.

²¹ Исто, стр. 68.

²² Лесковачки гласник, 1921, бр. 18, стр. 4.



Предљачки течај Моравске соколске жупе у Нишу 1936. год.
у средини старешина Моравске жупе, брат Радован Димитријевић

²³ The leading course of the Moravian parish in Nis 1936. In the middle of the elders of Morava parish, brother Radovan Dimitrijevic.

The Sokol society published a call to its members in the local newspaper: „The Sokol parish of Nis is organizing a grand slet in Negotin. Sokol society of Leskovac is inviting its members who intend to go on this slet, to report it to their brother Relja Katanic, for registration and notification. The rail benefit is 75 percent”.²⁴ The people of Leskovac celebrated the centenary of the birth of dr Miroslav Tirsh, the founder of sokolism.

The society’s solemn session, at the Sokol’s house, was attended by more than 150 invitations, which read: 500 sokol societies are preparing to join with the czechoslovak people in a dignified manner and with the greatest pride, the centenary of the birth of the great collector and organizer of the national and slovenian forces, great cleaner of national and slovenian education from the harmful effects of germanicism, the great prophet of slovenian liberation and unification.²⁵

The wife of the industrialist of the goverment of Ilic, Olga Ilic Dundjerski, accepted the godparents at the Sokol society in Vlasotince and in 1932, donated

²³ Ђукаловић, Слободан. Соколско друштво Власотинце. *Власотиначки зборник*1. Власотинце, 2003, стр. 75.

²⁴ *Лесковачки гласник*, 1931, бр. 20, стр. 4.

²⁵ Милосављевић, Драгомир. *Партизан*. Лесковац, 1978, стр. 33.

the flag and financially assisted the establishment of the Equestrian Section and the Section of Volleyball of the society.²⁶



²⁷ Equestrian Section of the Sokol society in Vlasotince

They also provide a donation for departure of the sokols from Vlasotince, Ana and Radul Velasevic, to the All-Sokol Slets 1932, in Prague. One of the most beautiful promotions, members of the Equestrian Section had in 1933, at a slet event organized in Leskovac, when they performed with seven great horses and seven skilled riders.²⁸

In spite of neighborly arguments and open problems, the Sokol parish from Nis organized on March 27, 1933, 10-day sokol seminar for teachers of Leskovac, Masurica, Jablanica and Vlasotince district. The lecturers were dr Vladimir Pijade, dr Jovo Kasikovic, professor-educator Vladica Maglevski, captain first class Dragic Bogdanovic and Sergej Golvokov, parish forerunner of sokolism.²⁹

In the Sokol home in Leskovac, in front of the full hall, 7 April 1933, examinations for village leaders were conducted. In 1935, a parish seminar was organized in Vlasotince for village leaders. The head of the seminar was educator

²⁶ Тукаловић, Слободан. Соколско друштво Власотинце. *Власотиначки зборник*1. Власотинце, 2003, стр. 72.

²⁷ Исто, стр. 71.

²⁸ Исто, стр. 65.

²⁹ Исто, стр. 65.

of Society Ferdo Vigel. At that time, new groups were activated in Dadince and Lipovica, with the existing ones in Svodj, Darkovac and Konopnica.³⁰

At the beginning of 1935, the Sokol society in Vlasotince received a loan from the Sokol parish in Nis, in the amount of 7,000 dinars for the purchase of mattresses and gymnastic equipment.

Which with the gift of the Vlasotincans Society from Belgrade in training equipment, improves the working conditions and preparation of the members for participation in the All-Sokol Slets of the Bulgarian „Hero” in Sofia. In addition to dr Radul Velasevic, the slet also included Djordje Stankovic, Cedomir Stamenkovic and Bozidar Cvetkovic.³¹

During the August 26, 1935, members of the Sokol society of Leskovac achieved a commendable result. In five days, a group of seven sokols „flew over” 510 kilometers from Leskovac to Oplenac on bikes. Performing the decision of the January Assembly, the Sokol society in Leskovac in June 19, 1938, celebrated on the fortieth anniversary of its founding. One of the best sokol public lessons was held at the „Momčilo” playground in Leskovac, where selected and attractive rhythmic and symbolic exercises were performed.³² These exercises were performed by the sokols of Leskovac in Prague at the Tenth Slovene sokol slet, which took place in the summer of 1938. The couple Radula and Ana Velasevic and Bozidar Cvetkovic traveled from Vlasotince to Prague.³³

Members of the Sokol society of Leskovac participated in several major slets in the country, and were also guests at the bulgarian „Hero” slet in Sofia. With a large number of members, the Leskovcans participated in the Parish slet in Krusevac on May 28 and 29, 1939. The slet was organized as part of the celebration of the 550th anniversary of the battle of Kosovo. Sokols from Nis and Kragujevac parishes participated in slet.

On Vidovdan, June 28, 1939, the Sokol society from Leskovac was represented at the Ljubljana slet. From 8 to 12 July 1939, they were guests of the bulgarian „Hero” in Sofia. The best exercisers from Vlasotince participated in that slet.³⁴

Weapons began to rattle in the late 1930s, and thirty more years after the Great war threatened new, even greater tragedies in the world. The occupation of Leskovac in April 1941, after 45 years of existence and fruitful work, the Sokol

³⁰ Исто, стр.65.

³¹ Ђукаловић, Слободан. Соколско друштво Власотинце. *Власотиначки зборник1*. Власотинце, 2003, стр. 65.

³² Милосављевић, Драгомир. *Партизан*. Лесковац, 1978, стр. 47.

³³ Ђукаловић, Слободан. Соколско друштво Власотинце. *Власотиначки зборник1*. Власотинце, 2003, стр. 75.

³⁴ *Лесковачки гласник*, 31.07.1939, бр. 53, стр. 53.

society in Leskovac stopped working.³⁵ Preparations for the planned All-Sokol Slet in Belgrade, scheduled to take place in 1941, were also interrupted in Vlasotince, where after the occupation there was a cessation and public work of the Sokol society in Vlasotince, which did not continue after the end of the war in 1944.³⁶

Interesting facts about sokolism in Leskovac

The first public physical exercise class was held at the „Kruna” hotel, which was the site where the „Kostic” hotel was later erected, across from the Leskovac liberation monument in 1914-1918. It was held December 10, 1896.³⁷ The spacious hall of the „Kruna” hotel was, according to the sokols survivors, full of curious onlookers even though tickets for this first appearance by Leskovac gymnasts were charged. Exit of the exercisers in gymnastics equipment and performed exercises made an unforgettable impression on the attendees. The impression was recounted for days the viewers had taken that evening from the smoky hall „Kruna”.³⁸

The First World War left behind large ruins and bloody footprints. The Sokol society of Leskovac was also devastated and dead. In this war, the young sokols of Leskovac could not work to spread the sokol idea. All gymnastic equipment available to the Society, as well as exercise equipment, disappeared. When the war ended, as if from ashes, the idea of rebuilding society began to emerge. The youth

³⁵ Милосављевић, Драгомир. *Партизан*. Лесковац, 1978, стр. 47.

³⁶ Ђукаловић, Слободан. Соколско друштво Власотинце. *Власотиначки зборник* 1. Власотинце, 2003, 75.

Interesting facts:

The term „slet” was chosen as it meant the grouping of birds in flight in Czech and other Slovenian languages, which had a perfect symbolic meaning for the Sokols. The slet was a type of political ceremony, located in the open air of the stadium - „landing”, with a large number of participants (Путник, Владана Б. *Архитектура соколских домова у Краљевини Срба, Хрвата и Словенаца и Краљевини Југославији*. 2014. Докторска дисертација. Универзитет у Београду, Филозофски факултет).

Interesting facts:

The first sokol homes were built during the second half of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but most of them were erected during the interwar period. In the Kingdom of SCS, later Yugoslavia, about 270 sokol homes were built, some of which are among the top achievements of Yugoslav architecture. The first buildings of the sokol societies were erected in the spirit of academicism and eclecticism, so that the architects during the third decade slowly turned to the variants of national style, which remained until the beginning of the Second World War (Путник, Владана Б. *Архитектура соколских домова у Краљевини Срба, Хрвата и Словенаца и Краљевини Југославији*. 2014. Докторска дисертација. Универзитет у Београду, Филозофски факултет).

³⁷ Звездан Савић. *Соколство и Моравска жупа Ниш (1920-1941)*. 2011. Универзитет у Нишу, Факултет спорта и физичког васпитања, стр. 113.

³⁸ Исто, стр. 161.

began to revive the Society.³⁹ At that restoration in 1920, Milutin Tasic, Petar Mitic, Gavra Petkovic, Branko Tasic, Ljuba Zivkovic, Aleksandar Tasic, Vlada Miletic and others worked actively.

Society then practiced in the gymnasium in the backyard of Realka. For the first four years of Realka's existence, the number of her students, who were members of the Sokol society, ranged between 116 and 181.⁴⁰ In addition, the Sokol society of Leskovac received in September 1922, as an instructor, principal, teacher of gymnastics F. Nejedlija. In those years, the students of the Leskovac Realka, especially those from the lower classes, belonged massively to the Sokol society.⁴¹

The first public exercises were held on June 28, 1922 (on Vidovdan), in the St. Elias park, when the sokols completed the entire program of the celebration. The first public class was held in the same park on July 12, 1922, on Petrovdan. Representatives of Moravian parish with Jasa Nenadovic at the head and brigade commander Momcilovic attended the public class, military music and one troop of soldier and sokols.⁴² In the fall of that year, they also received a Czech gymnastics teacher. It was gymnastics teacher Frantiseh Nejedli.

On October 8, 1922, the society hosted an academic evening with sokols exercise. At the public sokol performances held in the period 1922-1928, the audience was delighted with the gymnastics exercises on the devices, especially on the gymnastic bar, by two excellent gymnasts: Gorce Krazic-sales assistant and Adam Ilic- printing worker, as well as group exercises of sokol young-students and male pyramid groups.⁴³

Interesting facts about sokolism in Vlasotince

When it was founded, this society was called „Dusan the Mighty” and later changed its name to „Soko”. The founders of this society are considered to be the teacher from Vlasotince Petar Miljkovic-Pastrkulja, and law student Aleksandar Crnilovic.⁴⁴ At the end of World War I, first as president and than as head of this society, was Uros Crnilovic. During this period, the society gained full momentum with its activities, which is why many consider it the founder of the society.

³⁹ Исто, стр. 161.

⁴⁰ Исто, стр. 161.

⁴¹ Исто, стр. 161.

⁴² Исто, стр. 161.

⁴³ Исто, стр. 162.

⁴⁴ Звездан Савић. *Соколство и Моравска жупа Ниш (1920-1941)*. 2011. Универзитет у Нишу, Факултет спорта и физичког васпитања, стр. 124.

Among the founders, the following are mentioned: Gligorije Seizovic, Uros Janic, Radomir Djukalovic, Petar Celic, Dusan Stojanovic and Stevan Djikic-Dzudic.⁴⁵

Therefore, the first Sokol society in Vlasotince was founded back in 1909. It worked successfully until the end of World War II. He was considered unnatural by the communist regime, banned from work and confiscated by the magnificent Sokol home. The idea to reactivate the work and renew the Sokol society in Vlasotince, was realised by professor of physical culture Sasa Djikic.⁴⁶

Enthusiasm passed into the first half of the XX century, so it was at the initiative of Aleksandar P. Crnilovic, who studied in Belgrade, as well as his younger brother Uros and teacher Lazar Miljkovic, founded in 1909, by the „Gymnastic and patriotic Soko society”.⁴⁷

In early 1911, the society accepted the rules of the Union of sokol societies „Dusan the Mighty”, founded in 1910, by the merger of the gymnastic societies „Soko” and „Dusan the Mighty” (All-Slavic Sokolism, 1930) and changed its name to the Sokol society „Dusan the Mighty-Vlasotince”.⁴⁸ All members were trained except the instructor, who closely followed the practitioners, corrected perceived errors in individuals, and very often practiced with members who were lagging behind in training. In addition to the exercise equipment, extraordinary attention is paid to simple exercises and exercises on floor.⁴⁹

Sokol society in Vlasotince, true to tradition, renews its work within the newly formed Moravian sokol parish in Nis, under the new name, the „Sokol society of Vlasotince”. Laza Cirkovic was elected head of the society, for mayor Uros Crnilovic, and for secretary Uros Janic.⁵⁰

Ninety years of the Sokol society in Vlasotince

On Sunday, October 21, 2001, at Holy Trinity temple, was held the Founding Assembly of the Serbian Sokol society „St. Great Martyr Serbian Prince Lazar”. With this act, the sacred tradition of Serbian sokolism in Vlasotince continued, started eight centuries ago.⁵¹ After the liturgy of St. John Chryostom, the deputy head of the All-Serbian Sokol, prof. dr Petar Pavlovic, in the presence of prof. dr Nenad Zivanovic, head of the Serbian sokol society „St. Despot Stefan Lazarevic” in

⁴⁵ Исто, стр. 124.

⁴⁶ Исто, стр. 125.

⁴⁷ Исто, стр. 125.

⁴⁸ Исто, стр. 125.

⁴⁹ Исто, стр.126.

⁵⁰ Исто, стр. 167.

⁵¹ *Власина, лист општине Власотинце*. 2001, бр. 103-104 (169-170), стр. 12.

Nis, named Sasa Djikic, a professor of physical culture, as the head of the Vlasotincan sokols.⁵²



⁵³ Sanctification of the flag and society icons, donated by Mr. Bozidar Vucic, the godfather of this society. With the priest of Vlasotincans church are (left): Sasa Djikic, Nenad Zivanovic and Petar Pavlovic. The author of the photo is Petar Pesic.

The assembly was held in the presence of former sokols and descendants of the founder of Sokol society in Vlasotince from 1911, Sreten Djekic, Dragoljub Susulic, Dusan Crnilovic. Slobodan Djukalovic, local government officials and others, appointed the seniority of the Society: elected deputy officers are Nikola Adamovic, a student of theology, Dejan Djikic as a student of design, Milovanka Pesic, professor of literature and Biljana Dragojlovic, teacher.⁵⁴ For the secretary of the Society, was elected Marinko Djordjevic, an informatics engineer, for the treasurer Irena Cirkovic, economy student and for the priest, the archpriest Zoran Stojanovic.⁵⁵

⁵² Исто, стр. 13.

⁵³ Власина, лист општине Власотинце. 2001, бр. 103-104 (169-170), стр. 13.

⁵⁴ Исто, стр. 12.

⁵⁵ Исто, стр. 13.

„We, serbian patriots in Vlasotince, we are descendants of the Nemanjic imperial lineage, which God privileged, but our knightly ancestors obliged us to adore the life of our people, multiply, and advance our people in every respect. Purpose and content of the activities of the Serbian Sokol society „Prince Lazar” are: restoration and nurturing of serbian culture and tradition, physical and moral construction serbian youth and enhancing the quality of her life in every way”, he said, among other things, in the welcoming word, the elder of Vlasotincan sokols Sasa Djikic.⁵⁶



⁵⁷ The Founding Assembly of Vlasotincans, present and former sokols. From left: Petar Pavlovic, Sasa Djikic, Sreten Djekic, Dragoljub Susulic, Dusan Crnilovic, Slobodan Djukalovic and Dragan Vidosavljevic. The author of the photo is Petar Pesic.

According to the Statute of the All-Serb Sokol adopted 1994, this organization is a social, non-partisan, patriotic and knightly organization, which deals with the physical, cultural and moral education of serbian youth, and a historical and legal follower Serbian Sokol, the Yugoslav Sokol of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia and Serbian Sokol restored in the former of Bosnia and Herzegovina.⁵⁸

⁵⁶ Исто, стр. 13.

⁵⁷ Власина, лист општине Власотинце. 2001, бр. 103-104 (169-170), стр. 12.

⁵⁸ Исто, стр. 13.

„After degades of trying to stifle every trace and every thought of one fine and conciliar knightly organization, Serbian Sokol, here is our new Serbian Sokol with us. To the joy of those who trusted in God, because they knew that-He is always close, and that man is far away, we rebuild and restore this organization among us in Vlasotince. I hope for the benefit of us all and the benefit of the serbian people in general”, he said, among other things, Nenad Zivanovic, president of the Serbian sokol society in Nis, St. Despot Lazarevic.⁵⁹

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⁵⁹ Исто, стр. 12.

СОКОЛСТВО У ЛЕСКОВЦУ И ВЛАСОТИНЦУ

САЖЕТАК

Соколски покрет је настао у Прагу 16. фебруара 1862. године, у оквиру тадашње Хабзбуршке монархије, као вид буђења чешке националне свести кроз спортске активности. Идејни творац овог концепта био је Мирослав Тирш, а заједно са њим су оснивачи Организације за телесно вежбање „Соко“ били Јиндрих Фигнер и Емануел Тонер. Српско соколство развијало се нешто касније, на више страна, према приликама и околностима у којима је одвијање било другачије у слободној Кнежевини, потом у Краљевини Србији, а другачије на просторима где су живели Срби под Аустро-Угарском монархијом. Соколство је на југу Србије настало из гимнастике, која је била окосница рада како Гимнастичког, тако касније и Соколског друштва. Посебан подстрек омасовљењу чланства на југу Србије дао је Урош, син Проке Црниловић, Власотинчанин на студијама у Београду, који је 1911. године са соколцима из Београда учествовао на Другом свесоколском слету у Загребу, а још више учешћем на Свесоколском слету у Прагу 1912. године, када је освојио медаљу у скоку удаљ. Циљ овог истраживања је био сазнати и изнети историјске чињенице о настанку соколства на југу Србије, посебно у Лесковцу и Власотинцу.

Кључне речи: соколство, Мирослав Тирш, Краљевина Југославије, телесно вежбање, Словени, Лесковац, Власотинце.

СОКОЛИЗМ У ЛЕСКОВАЦЕ И ВЛАСОТИНЦЕ

АННОТАЦИЈА

Движение "Сокол" возникло в Праге 16 февраля 1862 года, при Габсбургской монархии, как форма пробуждения Чешского национального самосознания посредством организации спортивных мероприятий. Создателем этой концепции был М. Тирш. Мирослав Тирш, Джиндрих Фингер и Эмануэль Тонер стали основателями организации ученых "Соко". Сербский Соколизм развивался позже, и его развитие зависело от обстоятельств, в которых ситуация была иной в свободном княжестве, затем в Королевстве Сербии и в тех областях, где жили сербы при Австро-Венгерской монархии. На юге Сербии Соколизм возник из гимнастики, которая была "ключевой точкой" как гимнастики, так и общества Сокола. Особый импульс массовому членству в Южной Сербии придал Урош, сын Проки Крниловича из Власотинце, который в 1911 году участвовал вместе с белградскими соколами в общекомандном зачете в Загребе, и даже больше – в общекомандном зачете в Праге в 1912 году, когда завоевал медаль в соревнованиях по прыжкам в

длину. Цель данного исследования – выяснить и предоставить исторические факты о Соколизме на юге Сербии, особенно в Лесковаце и Власотинце.

Ключевые слова: Соколизм, Мирослав Тирш, Королевство Югославия, физические упражнения, Лесковац, Власотинце.

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