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Kras, Kraševci in kraška zemljepisna imena v zgodnjih slovenskih besedilih

IZVLEČEK

Dokumentiranost slovenskih zemljepisnih imen v slovenskih besedilih je do 19. stoletja šibka. V slovenščini se je namreč dotlej pisalo malo, kar velja še posebej za uradovavno področje. Prispevek obravnava najzgodnejše pojavitve pojmov Kras in Kraševci, pridevnika kraški ter zemljepisnih imen s širšega območja Krasa v slovenskih besedilih zgodnjega novega veka. Potem ko so pojmi Kras, Kraševci in kraški izpričani v drugi polovici 16. stoletja (med 1555 in 1584), jih dolgo ni več zaslediti. Dokaj dobro je v slovenskih dokumentih zastopan Trst, v 17. stoletju poleg njega samo še Dolina pri Trstu, daleč največ kraških imen (toponimov, hidronimov in oronimov) pa najdemo v opisu sodnih meja gospostva Švarcenek z začetka 18. stoletja.

KLJUČNE BESEDE

Kras, Kraševci, kraški, zemljepisna imena, slovenščina, Trst, Dolina pri Trstu, Švarcenek

ABSTRACT

THE KARST, ITS PEOPLE AND GEOGRAPHIC KARST NAMES IN EARLY SLOVENIAN TEXTS

Before the 19th century, the presence of Slovenian geographical names in Slovenian texts was rare. Namely, until then, very little was written in Slovene, which holds especially true of administration area. The paper discusses the earliest appearances of Slovenian notions »Kras« and »Kraševci«, adjective »kraški« and geographical names from the wider Karst area in Slovenian texts during the early Modern Period. After the notions »Kras«, »Kraševci« and »kraški« first appeared in the second half of the 16th century (between 1555 and 1584), a long time had to pass before they appeared again. Whereas Trieste is fairly well represented in Slovenian documents, followed by only Dolina pri Trstu in the 17th century, by far the greatest number of Karst names (toponyms, hydronyms and oronyms) are found in the descriptions of the jurisdictional boundaries of the Švarcenek seignory from the early 18th century.

KEY WORDS

Kras, Kraševci, kraški, geographical names, Slovenian language, Trst, Dolina pri Trstu, Švarcenek

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S U M M A R Y

The Karst, its people and geographic Karst names in early Slovenian texts

Given that very little was written in the Slovenian language until the 19th century, the Karst, its people and karst geographical names first appeared in Slovenian texts at a relatively late date. The toponyms, either in their original Slovenian or slightly modified form, more often appeared in foreign-language (Latin, Italian and German) sources, for instance, already in medieval land registers and later in church registers of births, marriages and deaths. To our knowledge, however, these sources do not contain Slovenian concepts of *Kras* (the Karst), *Kraševci* (inhabitants of the Karst) and *kraški* (adjective Karst). The discussion confines itself to early modern texts in which such names do not appear as isolated words, but rather as part of Slovenian context.

The notions of *Kras* and *Kraševci* and the adjective *kraški* first appeared in Slovenian texts in the second half of the 16th century, concurrently with important names of landscapes in the Slovenian territory. The landscape name *Kras* first appeared in one of the earliest Slovenian official documents, an edict on new wine tax, issued in 1570 in Ljubljana. The edict has been preserved in three variants and contains four occurrences of the term *Kras*, each time in

locative form: »na Krasu«. It is no coincidence that the notion of *Kras* first appeared in a Slovenian text in direct relation to wine and that the same source also contains the Slovenian term for Teran wine. The edict only refers to the Carniolan part of the Karst. In geographical terms, the same cannot be said of the notion of *Kraševci* denoting the inhabitants of the Karst, which in the form *Krašovci* makes its first appearance fifteen years earlier (1555) in Trubar's *The Gospel According to St. Matthew*. Founder of the Slovenian literary language, Primož Trubar, used the term in a geographical, non-political sense. The notion, as he used it, represented not only the Carniolan Karst, but also a significant part of the then still small County of Gorizia and the territory of Trieste. The second half of the 16th century then finally awaited the emergence of the third key notion in this discussion, the adjective *kraški*, which appears in the register of words accompanying Dalmatin's Slovenian translation of the Bible (1584). Especially significant is Dalmatin's careful consideration of the vocabulary used by Slovenes on the western margins of the ethnic territory. He, too, used the notion of *kraški* in a similar sense as Trubar used the term *Krašovci*, hence, as a designation of landscape type, regardless of provincial and other boundaries.

After Dalmatin, a very long time had to pass before the terms *Kras*, *Kraševci* and the adjective *kraški* would appear again. Similarly, only a few Slovenian administrative documents were produced in the Karst region during the early Modern Period and still fewer Karst toponyms appeared in any Slovenian text before the 18th century. The most important among these is Trst (Ital.: *Trieste*), probably first used in Slovene by Trubar in 1566, then in Trubar's biography penned by Matija Trost (1588), and in Slovenian letters written by a Carniolan noblewoman married and living in Trieste at the end of the 17th century. The only other Karst toponym to be found in Slovenian texts in the 17th century was Dolina pri Trstu, which appeared in the rules of the local church brotherhood (1635). However, by far the greatest number of geographical Karst names (toponyms, micro-toponyms, hydronyms, and oronyms) can be found in the description of the boundaries of the provincial court (*Landgericht*) under the Švarcenek seigniory from 1711.