

1.02 Pregledni znanstveni članek

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Antični prebivalci Spodnje Savinjske doline ali kdo se skriva za imeni na epigrafskih spomenikih

IZVLEČEK

Avtorica v grobem predstavi epigrafske spomenike Spodnje Savinjske doline, ki so ostali v dokaz rimske kulture in pismenstva na naših tleh. Sami nosilci spomenikov na tem mestu stopijo v ozadje, pozornost je usmerjena predvsem na tisto, kar je na njih zapisano. Besedila na spomenikih nam namreč omogočijo globlji uvid v takratne prebivalce in njihovo razslojenost; s pomočjo njihovih imen spoznavamo, kdo so bili, od kod so prišli, s čim so se ukvarjali, kakšna je bila njihova starost ob smrti in še veliko več.

KLJUČNE BESEDE

epigrafika, onomastika, nagrobniki, božanstva, antika, Spodnja Savinjska dolina.

ABSTRACT

INHABITANTS FROM THE ROMAN PERIOD OF THE LOWER SAVINJA VALLEY OR WHO IS HIDDEN BEHIND THE NAMES ON EPIGRAPHIC MONUMENTS

The authoress presents an outline of epigraphic monuments in the Lower Savinja Valley, which still testify to the presence of Roman culture and early literature on Slovenian soil. The contribution addresses not so much the people to whom these monuments were dedicated as the inscriptions on them. The texts on monuments provide us with a greater insight into the then population and its stratification; their names reveal who they were, where they came from, what they did for a living, how old were they when they died, and much more.

KEY WORDS

epigraphy, onomastics, tombstones, deities, Antiquity, Lower Savinja Valley



 S U M M A R Y

Inhabitants from the Roman period of the Lower Savinja Valley or who is hidden behind the names on epigraphic monuments

Even though the Lower Savinja Valley cannot boast a large number of epigraphic monuments, especially if we disregard the necropolis in Šempeter, it features the earliest preserved texts from the territory concerned, which take us into the world of individuals and their families and present us with the ordinary man, who has for a long time remained an obscure part of history.

The contribution presents persons referred to in inscriptions found in the said area, which are the first ever written records of individuals. The vast majority of monuments are tombstones featuring a number of personal data, whereas votive monuments reveal much about religious and cult practices performed by the said individuals. Even though the area under examination is a relatively small one, it provides us with a cross-section of Roman provincial society: here we encounter people who possessed three names (*tria nomina*) and who may be claimed to have had Roman citizenship or at least ties with the municipal elite, i.e., the ruling class of the nearby Celeia, which held jurisdiction of the area under examination: Ulpiae, Bellicius Victor, Spectatii, Vindonii, Aenii, and Statutii. The richly adorned aediculae in Šempeter mention those who held the highest offices in Celeia: decurions – members of the city council (*Bellicius Victor*), aedils (*Caius Vindonius Succesus*) and *duumvirs* (*Caius Spectatius Priscianus*, *Caius Specta-*

tius Finitus). The fragmentarily preserved monument from Petrovče mentions another *duumvir* and his family. Furthermore, the inscriptions from the Lower Savinja Valley mention Italic demonyms that convey information regarding the immigration of Italic colonists from northern Italy: Trocii, Rufii, Spectatii, Aenii, etc.

There are also records of persons belonging to lower social strata: some freedmen and a slave Albanus (*Albanus Hespani servus*) with his wife Sura, whose slavery status is not recorded, but can nevertheless be inferred as such. A richly adorned monument erected by freedman Maxim (former slave of Antonio) and his wife Vercila (*Vercilla*) testifies to the fact that many freedmen became rich. The names of two freedmen are inscribed on tombstones from Galicia (*Gaius Rufius Symphonus*) and a freedman from Celeia. The preserved monuments only include two altars, both originating from Šempeter or its immediate surroundings; an altar that has been preserved in Dobrteša vas was most likely dedicated to autochthonous Carvonia, which may be deemed on a par with the Greek-Roman goddesses Artemis and Diana. The second altar, which can be dated with precision thanks to the mention of Emperors Macrinus and Diadumenian, was dedicated to Jupiter Optimus Maximus Dolichenus. The altar also mentions three priests, *Aurelius Bassus*, *Aurelius Aquila* and *Varinus*, with Aureliuses already being known from other areas. Moving forward in this context for approximately four hundred years, when the Christian ecclesiastical administration established itself with diocesan centres, mention should also be made of Bishop Gaudentius and the monument dedicated to him. One of the most striking features of the latter is the epigraph featuring metrically correct hexameters and even an acrostic.