

## Bulgarian Ancient History Dating

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**Abstract.** Bulgarian ancient history is a debatable topic today. According geographical location, Bulgaria is situated on the Balkans, where three culturally different nationalities – Arabs, Greeks, and Bulgarians are touching each other. Each of them presents Bulgarian history from his own point of view. In that reason, there are many different versions about ancient history on the Balkans. It is considered that Bulgarian territory is among the earliest settled areas in Europe. More and more evidences about the ancient origin of Bulgarians are emerging in these days. The evidences are various. Such are discovered by archeologists and ethnographers from all over the world. They correspond also with our folklore and traditions in a definite way. The history of Bulgarian land has divided into five periods. We will investigate two of them – prehistory and antiquity. The present work aims to propose a new hypothesis. It includes new dating and arguments found in Bulgarian folklore, traditions and church history.

KEY WORDS: Dating, Ancient, History, Bulgaria, Folklore, Church.

### 1 Introduction

Ancient Bulgarian history is interesting period because there are neither written artefacts nor antique objects. Only huge stone blocks are testifying to human activity. The subject of this study is a new dating method. Existing methods aim to determine age of historical artifacts [1]. Geochronological scale has created to determine geological intervals of the Earth history. We would like to show possibilities for dating the ancient history of Bulgarian lands.

### 2 Dating

New method for dating of a territory is proposed in this work. This method aims to give an idea about the time of the earliest possible settlement of a territory.

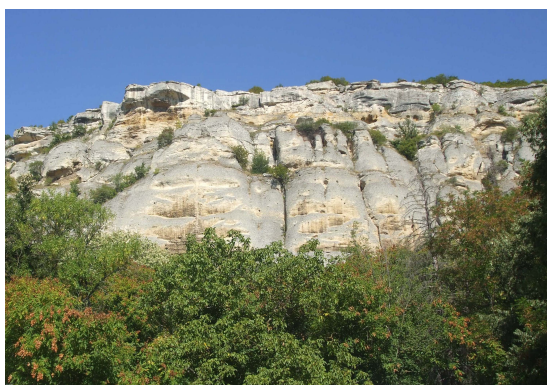
Our method lay on the idea that the level of the world ocean is reduced with constant velocity. First reason for that could to be reduction of quantity of gases

which come out from the Earth interior. Another reason could to be the circumference of the Earth increase which explains continental movement apart. People live near to water. When water level drops down, settlements move to lower altitude too. If we use this indicator, we can determine age of any historical place by its altitude.

The first people have settled on high lands of Western Bulgaria about 136 000 years ago. It is assumed that they were at zero altitude then. Some Bulgarians lives at an altitude of 1360 meters above sea level up to now. Manastir Village near to Asenovgrad (1400 m) and Gorno Ortsevo Village, Belitsa Municipality (1650 m) have similar altitude.

Ancient high rocky complex Perpericum has 470 m altitude. Its earliest settlement must have occurred about 47 000 years ago. Adatepe is an ancient golden mine near to Krumovgrad with altitude 475 m. According historians its age is 5 000 years. Age we determine is 47 500 years.

The Madara plateau has an altitude of 429.8 m. People first settled on the plateau when it emerged above water about 42 980 years ago. The stone bas-relief Madara Horseman is situated about 364 m altitude. It must have been created about 36 400 years ago.



The coast of Kaliakra cope has vertical cliffs with altitude 70 meters above sea level. Considering that the Black Sea has arisen its level between 90 and 120 meters when Mediterranean water come through Bosphorus Strait, then Kaliakra cope has appeared above sea level and earliest people has settled here before about 19 000 years ago.

### **3 Folklore Elements**

We find some information about ancient Bulgarian origin in folklore. Seven different rhythms have in Bulgarian folklore (2/4, 5/8, 7/8, 7/8II, 9/8, 11/8 and 13/16). Herodotus wrote: "*Thracians have individual name in each different*

*area, but their nature and customs of whole nationality are everywhere the same*" [2]. Ancient families have come to the Balkans first, long before the time when Homer lived (in the 8th century BC). Difference between them has been the first letter of their name. The most ancient family has mastered the art of building with stone. The shirt embroidered with colorful threads is general element in the folklore costumes of the Christian peoples on the Balkans, Russia, Romania, Poland, Czech, and Hungary. The costume in one Bulgarian folklore region only does not contain colorful embroidery, but only lace. The characteristic shape of the neckline in the female costume is also found in Austria and in some ancient sculptures. Names in this family begin with the letter S. It is the first letter in the names of Sofia, Samuel, and Simeon. Songs from this folklore region are very special, and dances are "hold Earth on". The ancient Hellenic family put the letter S on the end of their name and this is a tradition they have preserved up to now.

Names of another ancient family start with the letter T, for example: Trace, Troya, Trajan. Today, descendants of this family have preserved typical dialect, folklore costumes, songs with glissando, end a dance by the name "Elenino" with different rhythm (13/16). Bagpipe is traditional musical instrument for this ethnographic region. We find it in Scotland today.

Names in another ancient family start with the letter M. Many folklore songs about "Kraly Marko" have been preserved up to now. This is the family of Orpheus, that carries in their heart music, specific costumes, and folklore rhythm (7/8II). The mandolin is traditional musical instrument for this ethnographic area.

Names of another ancient family start with the letter P, for example: Pliska, Preslav, Petar and Pavel. We find ancient families with names that start with letters N: for example, Nicola, and Niculden; and letter G: for example, Georgi, and Gergjovden; or letter D: for example, Dimitar, Dimitrovden and s.o. Rebeck and kaval are traditional Bulgarian musical instruments too.

The expression "unity gives us strength" is motto of Bulgarian assembly up to now. When Troya has destroyed, all rest families have unified and became one nationality with the name Bulgarians. They accept to put the suffix OV or OVA on the end of the family name. For Serbians, the suffix is ICH. Bulgarian tradition, a newborn child to take the first letter of a grandparent's name, is alive up to now.

#### **4 Church Tradition**

The Christianity is belief in the power of good. This philosophy has based on the idea that positive emotions have important significance for human life. In that reason, Christianity introduces rules and norms for individual behavior. The ten commandments aim to give possibility relationship between people to be positive. The church is the first popular school that exists up to now successfully.

## 5 Conclusion

The method of dating we propose in this work is approximate only. We expect to help for correction some inaccuracies in ancient Bulgarian history. Herodotus has used the name Thracians about families living north of Greece because he has known only the name of the territory conquered after the captured of Troya. After that, all Greek authors use this name too. For us the name is Bulgarians. The Greek name of God is Christos. The Bulgarian name is Christo.

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