

# Interdisciplinary Research on Cultural and Linguistic Heritage of Serbia and Production of Multimedia Internet Portal "Glossary of Serbian Culture"

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Scientific research project called *Interdisciplinary Research on Cultural and Linguistic Heritage of Serbia and Production of Multimedia Internet Portal "Glossary of Serbian Culture"*,<sup>1</sup> is supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, and was launched in 2011, as one of interdisciplinary researches.

The aim of the project is to use digital technology in the field of humanities to create a single digital repository of Serbian cultural, historical and linguistic heritage. Development and application of new technologies in fundamental humanistic disciplines in the world enabled the possibility to connect digital humanities and other sciences: ethnology, anthropology, history, archeology, history and theory of literature, musicology, etc.

The project is designed so that the research results of Serbian culture, tradition and linguistic heritage can be presented in an interdisciplinary way. Humanistic approach, with the support of modern technology will be used to preserve cultural and historical heritage, ethnological as well as linguistic. This will expand and modernize the approach to these areas of knowledge.

The final results of this project are two creations. On one hand, the main product will be a multimedia database intended for researchers in the field of humanities. Internet portal called *The Glossary of Serbian Culture*, on the other hand, will be a selection of representative entries

available to the wider cultural community.

Work on the project is designed so that, through a series of stages, a database is developed, with materials from digitized dictionaries of Serbian language and culture. Entries and interpretations of terms in dialect, historical, etymological, onomastic, terminology, encyclopedic dictionaries and glossaries will constitute a searchable and expandable database. Organized in that lexicographical and encyclopedic way, database would have a high possibility of further development by adding new units and multimedia content.

The project is designed to emphasize unification and interrelations of basic, applied and development research on Serbian language and cultural heritage. Modernization of scientific practice in the field of ethnology, linguistics and other humanities through collaboration with experts in the field of digital production is a prerequisite for the creation of a modern information society.

Creating a mechanisms for displaying the results of interdisciplinary research will lay far more approachable access to the knowledge in these fields. The aim of the project is also building the digital infrastructure that will allow researchers from the fields of humanities to work together and combine their theoretical and field studies. Connecting associates from various and diverse fields of ethnology, linguistics and computer science, should be a considerable effort in the development of lexicographical and digital humanities infrastructure in Serbia.

<sup>1</sup> Record number of the project is 47016

The project founders are four scientific research institutes: Ethnographic Institute of SASA, Institute of Serbian Language of SASA, Faculty of Technical Sciences from Kosovska Mitrovica and the Faculty of Philological of the University of Belgrade. Project Manager is Dragana Radojičić, and from December 2012 until February 2014 the project manager was Ivica Todorović. Work on the project is divided into three sub-projects: linguistic,<sup>2</sup> ethnographic<sup>3</sup> and technical.<sup>4</sup>

Within the project *Interdisciplinary Research on Cultural and Linguistic Heritage of Serbia and Production of Multimedia Internet Portal "Glossary of Serbian Culture"* a subproject *The Application of Linguistic Research in the Development of Digital Glossary* is conducted at the Institute for the Serbian Language, SASA.

Several stages and phases are planned. The first step to determine the lexicographical sources for digitization (including dialect, historical, terminology, and other descriptive dictionaries, lexical structure of Serbian folk speech, collected as part of *Dialectological research on Serbian language*, as well as onomastic materials of Onomastic Committee, SASA). Selected material is encoded in XML, as recommended by the Text Encoding Initiative, a standard for marking text in digital humanities. That involves segmenting text by structural-semantic rules: a controlled set of labels is used to mark all the important components vocabulary entries (lemma, grammatical descriptions, meanings, definitions, examples, resources, etc.). As a result of that process, during the next phase of the project, a modern lexicographical database will be formed and it will be searchable by all parameters used in the marking of the text.

After completion of basic coding of dictionaries and their storage in a database, the interconnections will be formed to semantic relations. That will include various forms of Serbian lexical fond.

Unfortunately, during the first three years, due to lack of funds, the main work on the project was conducted with certain difficulties and the main plan had to be adjusted. So far, within the linguistic sub-project, the first phase of digitization of two dialectal dictionaries was carried out: M. Zlatanović, *Vocabulary of Speeches of Southern Serbia*, Vranje 1998 (about 1,070,000 characters) and G. Elezović *Glossary of Kosovo-Metohian Speeches* SDZb 4/1932, 6/1935 (over 3 000 000 characters). *The Platform for Digital Edition and Transcription of Serbian Manuscript Heritage* is formed on the website [www.prepis.org](http://www.prepis.org).<sup>5</sup> The manuscript collection of words from Prizren by Dimitrije Čemerikić was scanned and 23,071 digital documents were made (each document is one side of a card). This collection is fully prepared for electronic publication and is located on the website [www.prepis.org/collections/show/1](http://www.prepis.org/collections/show/1).<sup>6</sup> The exhibition "Prizren – a life in words" was organized (Gallery of Science and Technology SASA, from 14 to 30 October 2013.), and it represented digitizing of these collections.<sup>7</sup> In the future, special attention will be dedicated to making a complete bibliography of works of all collaborators and sources and references used in the preparation of *The Glossary of Serbian Culture*.

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*The Glossary of Serbian culture*,<sup>8</sup> the unique conceptual and linguistic thesaurus, conceived as a result of the linguistic and ethno-anthropological

2 Snežana Petrović, manager, Ivana Bašić, Marta Bjeletić, Jasna Vlajić-Popović, Ana Golubović, Sofija Miloradović, Viktor Savić, Stanislav Stanković and Aleksandar Loma, as adviser.

3 Dragana Radojičić, manager, Nina Aksić, Jadranka Đorđević-Crnobrnja, Milina Ivanović-Barišić, Aleksandra Pavićević, Branislav Pantović, Lada Stevanović, Mileša Stefanović-Banović, Toma Tasovac, Ivica Todorović, Vesna Trufunović, Đorđina Trubarac-Matić и Đurđina Šijaković.

4 Aleksandar Žorić, manager, Kristijan Kuk, Predrag Lekić, Aleksandar Micić, Mile Petrović, Dagana Radosavljević, Jovan Ristić.

5 Tasovac, Toma. Petrović, Snežana (ed.) (2013). Препис.орг: платформа за дигитална издања и транскрипцију српског рукописног наслеђа. Београд: Центар за дигиталне хуманистичке науке. ISSN: 2334-976X.

6 Petrović, Snežana. Tasovac, Toma (ed.) (2013). Збирка речи из Призрена Димитрија Чемерицића. Београд: Центар за дигиталне хуманистичке науке. ISBN: 978-86-82873-43-3.

7 Petrović, Snežana. Tasovac, Toma (2013). Призрен - живот у речима. Београд: Институт за српски језик САНУ. ISBN: 978-86-82873-42-6.

8 [www.pojmovnik.rs](http://www.pojmovnik.rs)

research of Serbian products of material and spiritual culture.

The lexemes of literary language are selected as main entries. Their explanations will lead to other lexemes and expressions, as those archaic or dialect, and those contemporary, and sometimes to those who belong to the technical terminology of other sciences. Selected lexemes will be interconnected by a variety of lexical relations – formative, syntagmatic and paradigmatic (synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, etc.). *The Glossary of Serbian culture* will also include dialectal variants, their origin, as well as lexical iconicity – or motivational appointment. The encyclopedic explanation will involve, above all, an ethno-anthropological one, and will include other scientific disciplines, as well. In addition, the lexemes should be associated with texts, science and art, which will be found in *The Internet Library for Humanities and Arts of Serbia* (Ibis)<sup>9</sup>, and other video and audio contents.

*The Glossary of Serbian culture* will consist of the terms traditional and modern, rural and urban, elite and popular, related to majority and minority culture. It will cover a range of concepts of material and spiritual culture, one quite archaic and universal, and one specifically national, and one modern and international. It will form the visible layers and complexity of concepts belonging to various segments of Serbian culture, and their interconnection, and variability. Digital glossary also enables continuous replenishment and branching, which is included in an interdisciplinary approach to its development.<sup>10</sup>

Editor in Chief of *The Glossary of Serbian culture* is Ivica Todorović. Technical editors are Aleksandar Žorić and Branislav Pantović. Editor of linguistic thesaurus is Snežana Petrović and of ethnological thesaurus is Ivica Todorović.

*The Glossary of Serbian culture* has an international ISSN number 2334-9808.

<sup>9</sup> <http://ibis.mi.sanu.ac.rs/>

<sup>10</sup> The symbol of this approach is the glossary icon which represents a branching tree. The designer is a Branislav Pantović.