

***BULGARIAN AND OLD SLAVIC LEXICAL ELEMENTS IN THE 19TH CENTURY  
LITERARY ROMANIAN (THE BANAT LITERARY DIALECT) TO NICOLAE STOICA DE  
HATEG, CHRONICLE OF BANAT***

**Maria Micle**  
**Lecturer, PhD, West University of Timișoara**

*Abstract: The present day, Romanian literary language has had a natural historical course, unifying the regional literary variants along the sixteenth and twentieth centuries, corresponding to the historical provinces of the current geographic space of Romania, well represented in this respect: Muntenia, Moldova, Transylvania, Banat, Maramures, Oltenia. The process of unification of these literary variants was particularly intense, especially in the nineteenth century. Our interest in this article is directed to the regional terms of the dialect in Banat, found in written texts, of Bulgarian origin and old Slavic. We used as a method the content analysis, passing the Banat Chronicle, written over several years and finalized in 1825-1827, by Nicolae Stoica de Hateg.*

*Keywords: Romanian literary language; literary version of Banat (18th-19th centuries); lexical elements of Bulgarian origin; lexical elements of old Slavic origin in Nicolae Stoica de Hateg, Chronicle of Banat*

From the specific terms of the Romanian region Banat, area found in the written texts, the present day Romanian literary language has kept very few, but they remain preserved in the present local language. The persistence in the current Banat subdialect of many words mentioned in the texts of the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries shows the close dependence of the regional literary variant on speech. The unique literary norm has been detached by regionalisms, in favor of the terms with a greater spread or those promoted by the great writers of the 19th-20th centuries. In old literary Romanian, however, spoken words were an essential source for the means of communication in writing; the territorial literary dialects are impregnated with the phonetic, morphological, lexical features of the speech corresponding to their area of manifestation.

The regional speech spontaneously and naturally penetrated into the written language, manifesting its influence in all its compartments. The linguist Gheorghe Bulgăr argues for this inevitable intromission of subdialects in the language that the persons involved in the production of written documents often belonged to the popular environment<sup>1</sup>. Dominant are the lexical elements naturally entered into the Romanian language due to the cultural interferences of the ethnic groups living in Banat over time, among them the Bulgarians, even if not very numerous, compared to the Germans or Serbo-Croats, for example. The Bulgarian communities are currently well established in the Banat region. Their religion is Roman Catholic and settled here

---

<sup>1</sup>Gh. Bulgăr (1962). *Despre limba documentelor administrative la începutul secolului trecut (1800-1820)*, în volumul *Contribuții la istoria limbii române literare în secolul al XIX-lea*, vol. al III-lea. București: Editura Academiei, 1962, p. 92.

in the seventeenth century, coming from a group in northern and north-western Bulgaria (around Nicopolis, Ciprovtsi, Svishtov).



Source: *Wikipedia. Banat Bulgarians*. Available

at: [https://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulgari\\_b%C4%83n%C4%83C8%9Beni](https://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulgari_b%C4%83n%C4%83C8%9Beni) [12.10.2017].

### Words of Bulgarian origin

*bordeli*, s.n. "hut, temporary shelter" / SH, p. 286, 286 (< bg. *bordel'*, DA, DSB, IV; et. nec., MDA);

*gavăt*, s.n. "crowd (of lice, parasites)" / SH, p. 264; (< bg. *gavet*, MDA);

*năroadă*, adj. "crazy, turbulent" / SH, p. 218; (< bg. *neroda*, NODEX, MDA);

*odini*, a ~, vb. "to restore forces (physical and / or intellectual) by resting; to rest" / SH, apud Todoran; (< bg. *otdihna*, NODEX, MDA);

*oriz*, s.n., "rice" / SH, 281, ex. „gratis vor căpăta dimineța ... șoncă, slănină, varză acră, *oriz*”, SH, p. 58; (< bg. *oriz*, NODEX);

*pită*, s.f. "bread" / SH, p. 221/ SH, p. 232; (< bg. mg., ngr. *pita*, NODEX, MDA);

*pricină*, s.f. "quarrel, dispute; cause, reason" / SH, p. 300; 246, 293; ex. „Știl-standu în Piemont fu primejdia *pricinii* de căzu craiul Sardiniei”, p. 300; (< bg. *prițina*, NODEX);

*pripor*, s.n. "slope" / SH, apud Todoran; (< bg. *pripor*, TDRG);

*răni*, a ~, vb. "to clean the waste with a shovel; clean up something on the top layer (waste, snow)" / SH, glosar; (cf. bg. *rina*, MDA);

*sămar*, -ă, adj. "saddle (without stirrup) for donkeys and mules" / SH, p. 274; (< bg. *samar*, ngr. *sagmária*, NODEX).

### Words of old Slavic origin

- blid*, s.n. "deep plate (made out of clay, metal, etc.) of various shapes and with different uses" / SH, p. 264; (< v.sl. *bliudŭ*, DSB IV; NODEX);
- boz*, s.n. "weed; herbaceous plant with unpleasant odor, with white flowers and black fruits (sambucus ebalus)" / SH, p. 294, ex. „În carele de pădure nu numai lobodă de 2 stânjăni crescută, știr, *bozu*, alte buruieni, ce și spini svineaci, de 5 ani, mari, nu puteam descurca de-a străbate”, p. 294; (< v.sl., bg. *boz*, scr. *baz*, ucr. *boz*, DSB IV);
- capiște*, s.f. "temple (pagan) dedicated to the ancient deities; decorative construction in the form of an ancient temple; a place considered worthy of praise and worship" / SH, p. 66; (< sl. *kapište*, NODEX);
- colibi*, *a se* ~, vb. "to settle" / SH, p. 69; (< sl. *kolēbiti*, TDRG);
- cosor*, pl. *cosoară*, s.n. "blade with a bended top (used in viticulture and pomiculture" / SH, p. 292; (< sl. *kosor*, NODEX);
- crâznic*, s.m. "verger" / SH, p. 275, 195; (< sl. *kristŭ* „cruce”, cf. bg. *krăstnik*, DEX);
- gloată*, s.f. "(Ban.) children, offspring, family" / SH, p. 176; pl. *gloatele* / SH, p. 202; (< v.sl. *glota*, MDA, NODEX);
- golâmb*, s.m. "(Ban.) peageon" / SH, apud Todoran, ex. „doi *golâmbi* sălbateci aci văzându-i, luai pușca”; (< v.sl. *golâbŭ*, DA);
- ialoviță*, s.f. "barren cow, big and fat cow" / SH, p. 295, 296; (< sb. *jalovica*, MDA, TDRG);
- iubomnică*, s.f. "mistress; amour" / SH, p. 71 (< v.sl. *ljubovnikŭ*, MDA, NODEX);
- joardă*, s.f. „stick, whip” / SH, p. 67, 230; (< sl. *žrŭdi*, NODEX);
- lobodă*, s.f. "herbaceous plant of the Chenopodiaceae family, with edible red or yellow leaves" / SH, p. 294, ex. „În carele de pădură nu numai *lobodă* de 2 stânjăni crescută...”; (< sl. *loboda*, NODEX; scr. *loboda*, MDA, menționat și în Gl. Munt., consemnat de Frățilă, *Târnave.T.G.*);
- lovi*, *a se* ~, vb. "to fit; to blend harmoniously (one with the other)" / SH, glosar; (< sl. *loviti*, NODEX);
- mită*, s.f. "reward, a sum of money" / SH, p. 76, 175, ex. „sumă de bani, *mită* a-i făgădui” / SH, p. 300; (< sl. *mito*, NODEX, MDA);
- nădragi*, s.n. "a trouser made of white cloth, tight on the body, worn in the past by men in the countryside; pants" / SH, p. 197; (< sl. *nadragy*, mg. *nadrág*, NODEX);
- năimi*, *a se* ~, vb. "(pop.) (about people) entering a service in return for a payment; to bargin; to get employed" / SH, „viind cu oameni *năimiți*”, p. 295; (< sl. *naimŭ*, NODEX, TDRG);
- năpusti*, *a se* ~, vb. "leaving something to go elsewhere; leave; to abandon" / SH, ex. „... case, sălașe *năpustite* ardea”, p. 176; (< sl. *napustiti*, NODEX);
- obraz*, s.n. "face" / SH, p. 207; (< sl. *obrazŭ*, NODEX, MDA);
- ocări*, *a* ~, vb. "to deal with shameful words; to argue; to mock" / SH, p. 295; (< sl. *ocarjati*, NODEX);
- ostănit*, adj. "tired" / p. 147; (< sl. *ustanon*, NODEX);
- pimniță*, s.f. "cellar" / SH, p. 193, 233; cf. Șandru, FR (Ban.); (< v.sl. *pivŭnica*, TDRG);
- pleș*, adj. "bald, hairless" / SH, apud Todoran; (< sl. *pliš*, NODEX);

- poliță*, s.f. "a plank stand placed horizontally on a wall or in a closet on which different objects are held; shelf" / SH, p. 298; (< sl. *polica*, NODEX);
- pomană*, s.f. "the feast in memory of a dead" / SH, apud Todoran; (< sl. *pominŭ*, NODEX);
- popistrit*, vb. part. "speckled; given in broth (grapes)" / SH, p. 273; (< v.sl. *pŭstrŭ*, TDRG);
- prau*, s.n. "powder (gunpowder)" / SH, p. 176; (< v.sl. *prahŭ*, NODEX, MDA); sinonime: *pulfer*, *prau-pulver* / SH, p. 136;
- pripi*, a ~, vb. "to warm something up, spread heat" / SH, p. 265 „deasupra soarele *pripea*”, p. 265; (< sl. *prispeti*, NODEX);
- săliște*, s.f. "the place where the village is situated, the hearth of the village" / SH, p. 292; (< v.sl. *selište*, MDA);
- sărac*, adj. "orphan" / SH, glosar; (< sl. *sirakŭ*, NODEX);
- scoc*, s.n., "(here) river bed; a channel made of planks through which water flows to move the wheel of the mill, pit that happens when the water falls from this channel; channel for draining a liquid; sloping gutter, used for sliding transport of materials (logs, ores, etc.)" / SH, p. 182; „Au abătut râul Eufratului, ca din patu-și a nu să umfla, nici din *scoc* a ieși”, p. 66; (< sl. *skokŭ*, NODEX);
- scopit*, vb., part. substantivizat "eunuch" / SH, glosar; (< v.sl. *skopiti*, Mihăilă<sup>2</sup>, MDA);
- slobod*, adj. "free", ex. „*sloboda* voie a noastră” / p. 132 (< sl. *slobod*, NODEX);
- sminti*, a ~, vb. "to wrong; to disturb" / SH, glosar; (< sl. *sŭmensti*, *sŭmenton*, DEX, NODEX);
- sobol*, s.m. "rat" / SH, apud Todoran; (< sl. *sobol*, TDRG; < bg. *sobolet*, NODEX, MDA); menționat și în Frățilă, *Târnavă.T.G.*, p. 41, cu sensul de „cârțiță”;
- stog*, -uri, s.n. "haystack" / SH, *stog de paie*; (< sl. *stogŭ*, NODEX);
- șafra*n, s.n. "Coloring substance obtained from the flowers of the saffron plant and used for various purposes (food, industrial and medicinal)" (< sl. *șafra*nŭ, NODEX);
- tălmaci*, s.m. "translator; interpreter" / SH, p. 60, 250; (< v.sl. *тълмачь*, NODEX, MDA);
- tăvăli*, a ~, vb. "Fig. pop. (people) to lose their authority; to compromise; to discredit" / p. 122; (cf. sl. *povaliti*, NODEX);
- tâmpănă*, pl. *tâmpene*, s.f., "(Teaching) small, darble drum" / SH, p. 163, 274; (v.sl. *тѣпань*, MDA, s.v. *tâmpină*);
- teligă*, s.f., "Light wagon" / SH, p. 205, 214; (< sl. *teliga*, NODEX);
- udi*, a ~, vb., "(Banat, Transilvania) Remains in a certain way; (Banat, Oltenia) To stay with someone" / SH, p. 260 (v.sl. *uiti*, MDA);
- val*, s.n., "Amount of fabric wound on a special wooden or cardboard cylinder; wailing, trump" / p. 212 (sl. *valŭ*, DEX);
- vârh*, s.n. "Peak" / SH, apud Todoran; (< sl. *vrŭhŭ*, NODEX);
- vrednic*, adj. "hard-working" / SH, „Eu voiu întrebuița toate puterile, ca să-l fac om *vrednic* și de omenie”, p. 218-219; (< v.sl. *vrédinŭ* (MDA) + suf. *-ic*, Skok, III, p. 625, s.v. *vrijedan*; cf. scr. *vrèdnĭk*, Skok, III, p. 625, s.v. *vrijedan*);

<sup>2</sup> G. Mihăilă (1960). *Împrumuturi vechi sud-slave în limba română. Studiu lexico-semantic*. București, Editura Academiei, p. 194.

*zătoni*, s.n., "Barrier, made to deviate or stop water from its course" / SH, p. 179 (< v.sl. \**zatonĭ*; scr., rs., ucr. *zaton*; mg. *zátony*, MDA, DLR).

The specific rules that allow us to talk about territorial literary variants come, in particular, from two directions: regional speech and languages from whom the borrowing in an area was made. The origins of the words from the Banat subdialect taken, from Stoica de Haţeg texts refer to the following sources: Latin, substrate elements, old Slavic, Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian, Turkish, Hungarian, German, Neo-Greek, Ukrainian, Russian, Polish, French, Italian as well as words formed on Romanian land (by derivation and composition). From the statistical point of view, the terms extracted and analyzed by us from the work of the chronicler Nicolae Stoica de Haţeg, Chronicle of Banat, of Bulgarian origin, respectively old Slavic, fall in 2%, respectively 1.5% and 8.5%, respectively.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bulgăr, Gheorghe (1962). *Despre limba documentelor administrative la începutul secolului trecut (1800-1820)*, în volumul *Contribuții la istoria limbii române literare în secolul al XIX-lea*, vol. al III-lea. București: Editura Academiei.
- DEX (1996). *Dicționarul explicativ al limbii române*, 2ed. București: Univers Enciclopedic.
- Frățilă, Vasile (2005). *Graiul de pe Târnavă*, Blaj, Editura Astra. Despărțământul „Timotei Cipariu”.
- MDA (2001-2003). Academia Română, Institutul de Lingvistică, Institutul de Lingvistică „Iorgu Iordan – Al. Rosetti”: *Micul Dicționar Academic*, vol. I, Literele A–C, 2001; vol. II, Literele D–H, 2002; vol. III, Literele I–Pr, 2003; vol. IV, Literele Pr–Z, 2003. București: Univers Enciclopedic.
- Mihăilă, G. (1960). *Împrumuturi vechi sud-slave în limba română*. Studiu lexico-semantic. București: Editura Academiei.
- NODEX (2002). *Noul dicționar explicativ al limbii române* [CD]. București: Litera.
- SH (1981). Stoica de Haţeg, Nicolae. *Cronica Banatului*. Timișoara, Facla.
- TDRG (1985-1989). Tiktin, H. Rumänisch-deutsches Wörterbuch [Band I: A-C; Band II: D-O; Band III: P-Z], 2. überarbeitete und ergänzte Auflage von Paul Miron, Wiesbaden, Otto Harrassowitz, I: 1985; II: 1988; III: 1989.
- Wikipedia.* *Banat* *Bulgarians.* Available  
at: [https://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulgari\\_b%C4%83n%C4%83%C8%9Beni](https://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bulgari_b%C4%83n%C4%83%C8%9Beni)  
[12.10.2017].