

ZBORNİK

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KORENINE SLOVENOV IN EVROPEJCEV**

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ORIGIN OF SLOVENES AND EUROPEANS**

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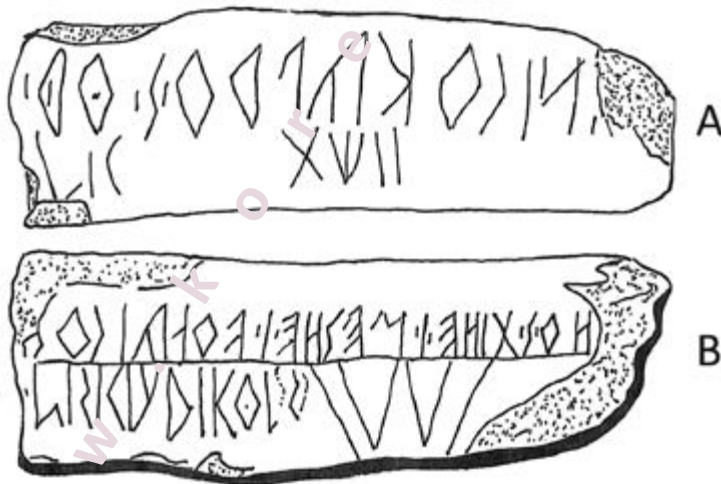
landslides and other external agents moved the stele here, from the neighborhood? Today it's kept in the civic museum of Bolzano and (a cast) in museum "V. Cazzetta" (Selva di Cadore).

Description of stele

It dates back to the VI-V (?) century B.C. (Iron Age), it's made of local greyish sandstone. Size: about 38x11x10 cm. The stele shows engravings on two faces, both in boustrophedical writing and ancient venetic language.

It should be excluded there

- An human settlement (no archeological findings; the site is too high).
- Necropolises (no necropolis has been found; the discovery site was too far from villages).
- A boundary station (there were no administrative entities; the ownership of lands and woods was common; only sacred places had impassable boundaries).



2. Reproduction of the stele (adapted from *Archeologia bellunese*)

Possible key-words bound to the site

- Goddess **Pora** (slavic name of Reitia, venetic goddess of passing time).
- Religious astonishment (for the **spaciousness** and grandeur of the landscape;
- animism of ancient Veneti was very deep; moreover writing was an exclusive activity of the priests).

- **Abundant snow** (a long time ago the site was covered with snow for several months a year).
- Iron **mines** (providing of well-known from antiquity, high quality, iron).
- Summer pasture for **livestock** (there they bred sheep, pigs; cattle was scarce and costly).
- **Haymaking** (a farmer mowing found the stele; there it's full of barns).
- Informations about the **paths** to take (In fact three paths are engraved at the end of side B).

Transcription and translation

Transcription in latin alphabet and translation in slovenian language of engravings of stele of Mountain Pore. Venetic alphabet is adapted from VENETKENS (Marsilio, 2013).

Side A (?)NIKOKAPROSΘR (*first line*) (?)

ΤΨΙΙ (*second line*)

1. First hypothesis (a. "K" too large corresponds to IČ?; b. Θ = T)

(S)I	NIČO	KA	PROSTR	TXII
Ti si	ničnost	k-ka ¹	prostori	tiho ²

You're nothing towards immensity; silence! (religious message)

2. Second hypothesis (a. "K" too large corresponds to IK?

b. TX II are two separate words)

(S)NIK	OKA	PROSTR	TX	II
sneg	oko (<i>poglej na</i>)	prostor	tiho	jdi ²

Snow, look at the immensity, go slow! (message about abundant snow)

3. Third hypothesis (a. "K" too large corresponds to IŽ?; b. Θ = O)

(S)NIŽO	KA	PROSOR	TX	II
sneženo-snježno ¹	kot	prozoren	tiho	jdi ²

Full of snow, ice like glass, go slow! (message about abundant snow)

Side B ΔCSTIZEIMESDEIVOLAJKOS (*first line*)

NISKARIKΘI (*second line*)

1 Croatian

2 Slovenian

1. First hypothesis: $\Theta = T$

DO STIZEI MESDE I VOLAJ KOS NIS KA RIKTI
 (Do stezi vmes i velj poševno-kos¹ nisko k(da) ríti)²

Go by middle path, and choose oblique, down, to go to dig (message about mining site)

2. Second hypothesis (a. $\Theta = O$; b. VOLA I are two separate words)

DO STIZEI MESDEI VOLA I KOS NIS KA RIKOI
 (Do stezi vmes voly (volove) in kôso nisko k rudnikam²)

Go by middle track with cattle and sickle; by an oblique path down, to the mines (message about mining site).

Lexical remarks

1. The equality of ancient venetic words and slavic words surprises: **it was the same language**. Reading and understanding of these engraved texts have been possible only by **slavic languages, especially slovenian**. Obviously we're making only hypotheses, but well founded. 2. An archaic slovenian word *rukos* (K RIKOI), diggings, is conceivable, based on current words like *rudar* (miner), *ri(k)ti* (to dig), *rudniki* (mines). 3. "Tih" is a key-word; it means "quiet", but also "calmly, slowly". It appears in all slavic languages.

Orthographic remark:

1. Letter Θ (= T) appears in the alphabet of Padova from VIth century B.C. It doesn't appear in the north-eastern venetic engravings; therefore we accept two hypotheses: $\Theta = "T"$ or $\Theta = "O"$.
2. In the ancient slavic languages many vowels are implied, they will be added over time (*prostr* will be *prostor*, space; *snk* will be *snek*, snow... *kos* will be *kôsa*, sickle, etc).

Conclusion

The stele informed about abundant snow in the winter months (on side A) and about paths to take, depending of the activities (on side B). In fact, at the end of side B a drawing appears that represents three paths, one medium and two lateral.

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Abstract

This engraved stone, found in 1866 at the foot of Mount Pore (province of Belluno) in north-eastern Italy, expresses a religious message on the one hand and an indication on the paths to use, on the other. This find dates back to 5th century B.C.

**Korenine Slovenov in Evropejcev
Origin of Slovenes and Europeans**

www.korenine.si

info@korenine.si

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Tel. +386 (0)1 722-07-70

E-pošta / *Email*: info@promin.si