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Development of urban settlements in the Kingdom of Bosnia - case study Visoko

Summary

The article seeks to show development of the urban settlement in the area of medieval Visoki and its suburb which is known as Podvisoki. It tracks development of the settlements in the period from the 13th to 15th century. In the mentioned period Visoko became one of the most important centers of the Kingdom of Bosnia. In the first three decades of the 15th century the settlement reached the peak of its development not only in the economic and social sense but also political since Bosnian rulers built their palace in Visoko and stayed there from time to time. Overview of the urban development of Visoko is observed through the well-known theory of central settlements or theory of centrality, for which it can be said that it has been neglected in the Bosnian-Herzegovinian medieval studies. Special emphasis is put on the importance of spatial distribution of settlements in the vicinity of Visoko, as well as on the importance of certain social functions which were developed in Visoko and set it apart from the environment as the urban place.

Keywords: Middle Ages; Visoko; urbanization; theory of centrality.