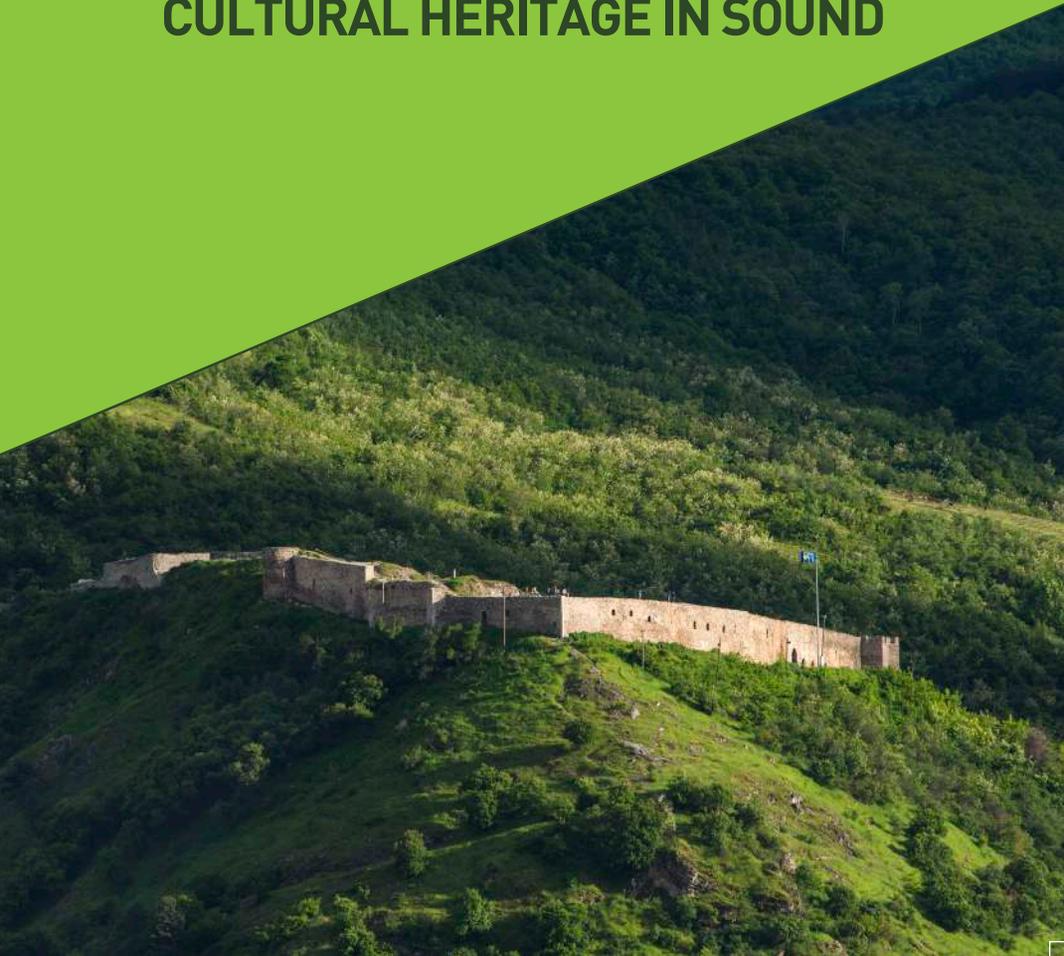




CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SOUND



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Introduction

The region of south, specifically the city of Prizren, is rich in cultural heritage. Archeological sites, fortresses, churches, mosques, tekkes, characteristic residential houses and other high values architectural facilities are some of the jewels that make this part the most visited and attractive one in the Republic of Kosovo.

Archeological sites, especially prehistoric settlements, such as Vlashnje, Reshtan, Hisar and Korishë, present invaluable richness for the history and culture of the country. Architectural facilities of different periods of time add up to this heritage treasures. Churches, mosques, tekkes, bridges and houses, individually or taken as a whole, are features by a range of architectonic styles of different periods, which are interesting for researchers and visitors alike. From a large number of such facilities, we have chosen to present here only the most important ones.

This patrimony convincingly proves and reflects a tradition and culture of co-existence between different languages, cultures and religions.

Spiritual, movable and landscape heritage is also very important, which complement the cultural heritage that we are presenting to you and inviting you to come and visit it.



HERITAGE IN STONE



NICHE OF VLASHNJE

It is located at the place called Mrizi i Kobit. It contains prehistoric paintings, drawn in oker and dominated by 12 circle and oval shaped spirals and a deer. The painting dates back from Neolith, early Neolith and Bronze Age.

SETTLEMENTS

The prehistoric settlement of Vlashnje: Dates back 6500 years. It has a rich archeological material; objects of cult (anthropomorphous and zoomorphous figurines, cult lids, ritones), dishes for daily use; Vlashnje silver coin issued in the year 55 B.C.

Prehistoric Settlement of Hisar: The culture layer is composed of 9 dwelling horizons belonging to the periods of late Neolith and Iron Age. The discovered material is composed of various artifacts: dishes for daily use, tools, cult items, etc.



Prehistoric Settlement of Korishë: It belongs to Bronze Age. Archeological material is mainly composed of pottery made of mud and tools made of stone and mud. This settlement is considered to be one millennium old, dating back from the early Bronze Age through to the late Bronze Age, 2100-1100 B.C.

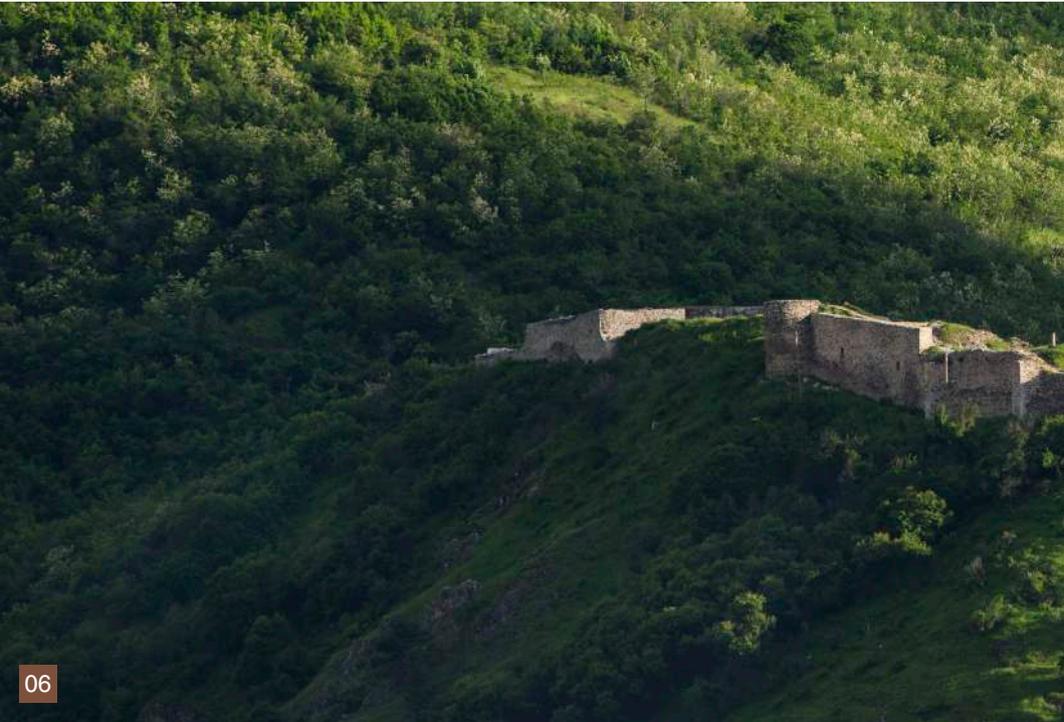
Neolith Settlement of Reshtan: It has 3 dwelling horizons distributed in the cultural layer of 2.00 – 2.50 m. In the late Neolith, we see the co-existence of two large cultural groups in Balkans – the culture of Central Balkans (Vinça) and Adriatic Culture (Danilo).

Settlement of Kasterc: The first period of this settlement relates to early Neolith Age, and continues with Bronze and Iron Age. Emperor Justinian reconstructed it as a fortress and a castle with architectural structures, also bringing to light an early Christian church.

FORTRESSES

Castle of Zatriq –It is a multi-layered settlement. Pottery from prehistoric times and fragments of pottery made of grey mud can be found, including the handlooms from the Helen period. Numerous fragments of amphorae, pitos and ewers, as well as some solene and kalipteri type tiles prove the existence of an intensively inhabited settlement in the Late Antiquity

Korisha Fortress –Numerous fragments of pottery for daily use and solene tiles were found belonging to Roman period and Late Antiquity. Within the Fortress plateau an early Christian Basilica was also discovered.



Prizren Fortress (Kalaja) –It was inhabited since prehistoric times. As fortification it was built in the late Antiquity. It is featured with massive walls and various residing quarters belonging to later stages, such as the medieval and Ottoman period. It is one of the most important tourist attractions in the country.

Upper Fortress (Kalaja) –It is composed of 4 towers. The St. Nicholas Church was discovered within its perimeter. According to the legends, girls serving the Ottoman military were accommodated here, and this is the reason why it is called “Girls’ Fortress” /Kalaja e Vashës/ (Kiz Kalesi).



ROMAJA NECROPOLIS

A total of 16 barrows were found in this site, out of which 3 were excavated in 1970s, and the rest were destroyed. Romaja Necropolis went through 3 construction and utilization stages. This site belongs to the cultural group of Glasinc-Matof the Iron Age.



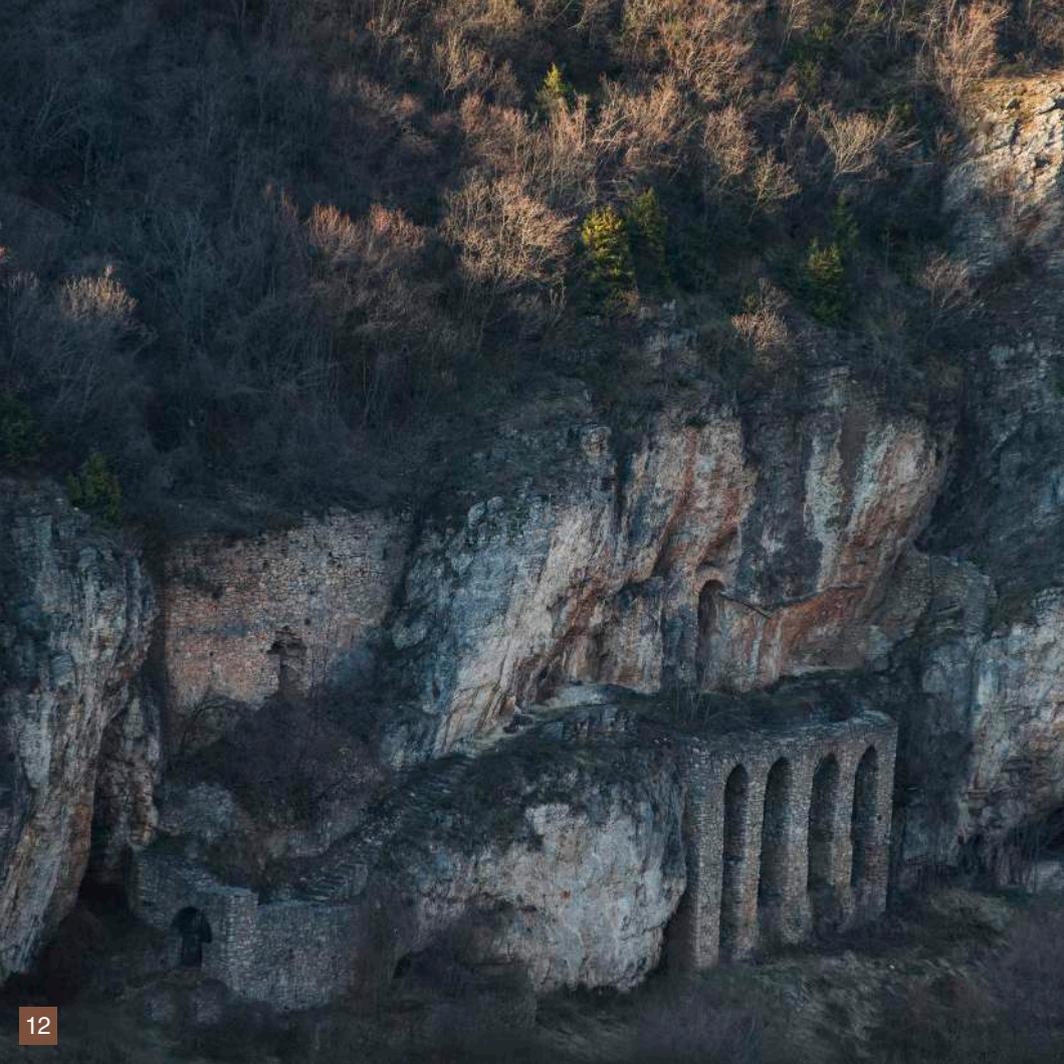
GJINOC BARROW

Its monumental dimensions with the East-West diameter of 84 m, North-South -73 m and 9.80 m height, make this barrow a very special one in Kosovo. It is mainly made of mud. In its vicinity some fragments of pottery that may be related to the Iron Age have been discovered.





HERITAGE IN ARCHES



MONASTERY OF ARCHANGELS

Monastery was built during 1343 – 1352 by Serbian king, Dusan. It is thought that the construction took place on the top of an old settlement. Serb emperor, Dusan, was buried in it in 1355. Dusan's grave was discovered in 1927. In the vicinity of this site other graves were also discovered; one of them had a plaque with the name of Strazimir Ballshaj, ruler of the Shkodër Principality, inscribed in it.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, KABASH

Its construction began at the end of XI century, and lasted until XIV century. It is also called the Bad Church, due to the rugged surrounding terrain. The Church was built on the vertical slope of a rock, with one of its part entering inside the rock. The Church of Holy Virgin is located opposite this church, which is also called the Church of the Cave of Pigeons.

CHURCH OF ST. PARASCHEVA

It has 7 construction or reconstruction stages: the Roman temple of II-III century; three-nave basilica of V-VI century; Basilica built on the foundation belonging to previous construction, XI century; discovered frescoes, such as "Virgin Mary with baby Christ" and "Weeding in Henna", XIII century; reconstruction by king Milutin, XIV century; transformation of the church into mosque, that was called Xhuma Mosque, supposed to have taken place in XV-XVI century; occupation of Prizren by Serbs in 1912, destruction of minaret, placement of belfry and re-transformation into church. This is the only cultural heritage site in Prizren under UNESCO protection.

CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOR (SPAS)

Its construction lasted from 1333-1335. In 1836 Cincars started to build the new church that was called the Church of St. Trinity, with high walls and belfry added. This Church was used by Cincars until 1912. It belongs to Byzantine style. This Church is one of the most characteristic and valuable sites of Prizren.

CHURCH OF ST. SUNDAY

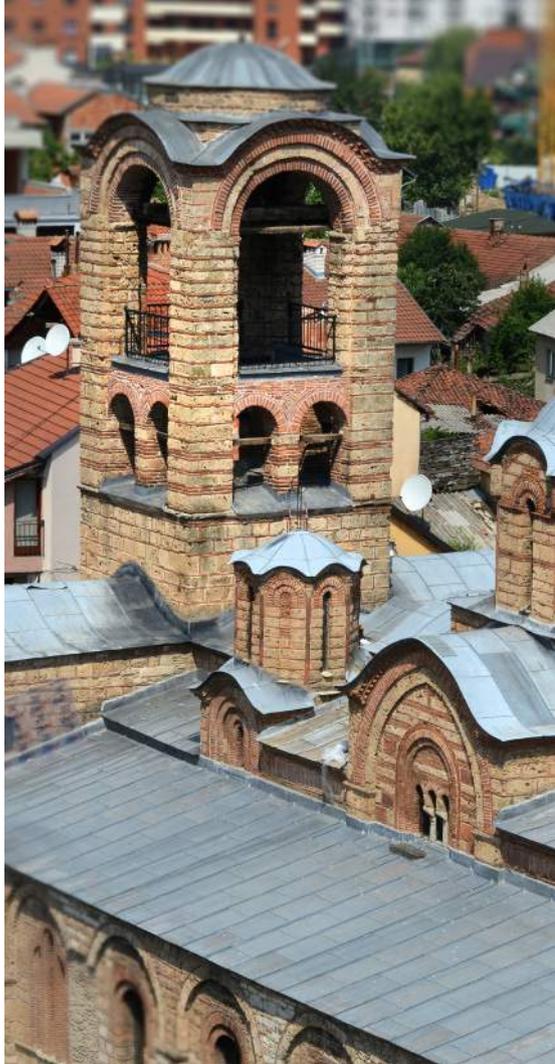
This church is located in the Historical Area of Prizren. Its ruins, apsidal walls and southern walls in the height of 1.5 m have been discovered in 1966. One of the stone fragments has the inscription of the year 1371. The church was reconstructed in 1995-1997.

CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE - SYNODIC

It is located in Shadërvan Square. The church was constructed at the end of XV and beginning of XVI century, by brothers Runovic. The facility belongs to the type of medieval family churches. On the south-western part of the church, the grave of Metropolitan Mihajlo (1733-1818) is located. The frescoes dating back in XVII century can be seen inside the church.

NICHOLAS CHURCH -TUTIC

It was constructed in 1331 by Dragoslav Tutic (priest Nikola) and his wife Bela. Its frescoes are small in numbers and fragmented. A fresco that is in a better shape is the one of St. Nicholas. This church belongs to the type of family churches of Byzantine style.





ST. GEORGE CHURCH, SRECKA

It belongs to XVI century. It is a church of small dimensions, one nave with semi-circled absida. The niche is located on top of entrance door. On its upper part the mural of St. George on the horse can be seen. The frescoes of saints are still preserved in the church interior.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, BOGOSHEVC

It was built on top of a terrace plateau with a steep riverside. It has one nave. The church interior is rich in frescoes. Based on architectural features and frescoes, the church belongs to the end of XVI and beginning of XVII century.

CHURCH OF ST. PARASCHEVA, MUSHNIKOVĚ

Initially it was dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. Frescoes of these two saints are painted in the southern wall of church interior. Based on frescoes, the church was constructed in 1563-1564. The octagonal belfry was built close to it in 1920.

ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, DRAJČIÇ

Frescoes enriching the interior have been painted with a special style, and based on this it is thought that the church belongs to the last decade of XVI century. During the different time periods some restoration has taken place, thus changing the original architecture of church. The belfry was added as special annex in 1925.

NAMAZXHAH, KËRËK MOSQUE

It was built by Isa Beg in 1455; it served for the performance of religious rituals of the Ottoman army. It is also known as Kërëk Mosque, which means broken mosque. It is one of the oldest Muslim religion sites in Kosovo. Its restoration took place in 2002.

SUZIÇELEBI MOSQUE

It was constructed in 1523, and is the second oldest Islamic site in the city of Prizren, and the first one with completely Islamic architecture. Old cemetery of the prominent Muslim leaders is located in its courtyard. The Turbe where Suzi Çelebi and his brother, Nehari in Abdullah, are buried is also situated there. Both of them are also known as the first poets in Prizren.

GAZI MEHMET PASHA MOSQUE

Gazi Mehmet Pasha built the complex with mosque, turbe, madrasa, library, classroom and other supporting facilities during 1563-74. The complex is linked with the Complex of Albanian League of Prizren. Mosque minaret is 40m high.





SINAN PASHA MOSQUE

It was constructed by Sinan Pasha in 1615. The Mosque interior is composed of a unified space with a dome rich in floral and geometrical motifs painted in three stages. Two first stages of mural paintings date back in XVI-XVII century, and are made in Al Seko technique, while the third stage belongs to XX century, and is made in baroque style where the blue motifs prevail.

EMIN PASHA MOSQUE

It was constructed in 1931. It is an imitation of Sinan Pasha Mosque, with smaller dimensions. Except for its historical, artistic and scientific value, it also has a social importance since Emin Pasha belonged to aristocratic family Rrotulli that used to have significant influence in the historical developments of Prizren during XVII-XIX centuries.

MINARET OF ARASTA MOSQUE (EVRENOS BEG MOSQUE)

It was constructed by Evrenos Jakup Beg in 1526 - 1538. In 1960 the mosque was demolished together with the Arasta Complex. The Minaret was the only part saved from the demolition. The David Star is specific feature for this minaret, which is carved in it. People say that the Mosque was built by Jewish construction workers.



KUKLI BEG MOSQUE – BRESANĒ, DRAGASH

It was built by Kukli Mehmet Beg in 1538. The shrine where Kukli Beg with his family is buried is located in the vicinity of Mosque.

STONE BRIDGE, PRIZREN

It directly connects the Shadërvan Square with the old Saraçhane road. Based on construction material and structure, it is assumed that the Bridge was built in XVI century. It has three arches. The length of the former bridge was approximately 30 m, while its today's length is 17 m. Over the time, the Bridge underwent major changes.

GAZI MEHMET PASHA HAMMAM

It was built in 1563-74 by Gazi Mehmet Pasha, Sanjak Beg of Shkodra. In its main gate there is a plaque with inscription dating back in 1883 showing the restoration date of hammam by Mahmut Pasha Rrotulli, Mutesarif of Prizren Sanjak. The Gazi Mehmet Pasha Hammam is of “çifte hamam” – pair type. It has two parts with separated entrances that were used by both men and women at the same time.

SHEMSEDINAHMET BEG HAMAMM AND CLOCK TOWER

It was constructed in 1498. In the mid of XIX century the clock tower was built on top of the warm part of Hammam. Initially the clock tower was made of wood, and in XIX century Eshref Pasha Rotulli built it in stone in Baroque style. In 1912 the clock and bells were stolen and to this date they are missing. In 1975 hammam was transformed into Archeological Museum.





THE COMPLEX OF ALBANIAN LEAGUE OF PRIZREN

On 10 June 1878, the convention of the Albanian League of Prizren was held here. It was organized by Albanian intellectuals of that time. In 1978 the Complex was transformed into Prizren League Museum.



CATHEDRAL OF ZONJA NDIHMËTARE /HELPING LADY

It was built in 1870. The belfry (clock tower) was placed in XX century. It has a basilica with three naves, and it belongs to catholic Albanian neoclassical Latin style. It has a portrait of Gjergj Kastriot – Skanderbeg and Janos Huniadi. This Skanderbeg portrait is the only one presenting him on the frontal position.

TEKKE OF SAADI ORDER

It was established in 1500 by Sheh Sylejman Axhizi. It is also known as Hisar Baba, after the name of the fortress hill under which it is located. There are in total 9 graves with kuburë around the shrine; in the middle, the grave of sheh Sylejman Efendi is located.

TEKKE OF HALVETI ORDER

It was established between 1690-1713 by Sheh Osman Baba. The Tekke complex is composed of the following: Tekke (with some special rooms), semahane – prayer room, shrines where the Tekke leaders (shehs) were buried, cobblestone courtyard with the element of water running from two marble fountains, residential house of Sheh Hasan and commercial premises.

GUEST HOUSE (PANTRY) OF DEÇAN MONASTERY, HOÇË E MADHE

The pantry exists since XIV century, while today's facility belongs to XX century. The pantry drafts 5 m high and 4 m wide are located in the ground floor. Upper floor has several rooms decorated in wood, with a characteristic feature of wooden made balcony.





MAHMUT PASHA'S CLOCK TOWER

It was built by Mahmut Pasha Rrotulli in 1815, as provided on the inscription on top of the gate. The clock mechanism is there, but it is not functional. It used to work until 1979. ederrrr

BIG TEKKE, HALVETI – RAHOVEC

It was constructed in 1732 by Sheh Sylejman Baba Rahoveci. It has the Sheh's room; meeting room where Sheh meets his followers, prayer room “Semahane” and library. This tekke continues to preserve the tradition of Islamic Sufism that is widespread in the municipality of Rahovec and in southern Kosovo region.

CLOCK TOWER – RAHOVEC

It was constructed by Mahmut Pashë Rrotulli. It has an inscription in Ottoman language marking the manufacturing year of 1792. The clock mechanism with the carved inscription LEOPOLD DPABEINGER in SSJENN A793 is there. The old clock is dysfunctional and is kept in Rahovec Museum. During its complete restoration, a new clock has been placed.

PUBLIC FOUNTAINS OF PRIZREN

Shadërvan Fountains – Are the symbol of the city of Prizren. They have four pipes placed in the shape of crucifix. It is assumed that they are the oldest ones in the city.

Fountains of Gazi Mehmet Pasha Mosque: There are eight fountains in total. They were built in 1573-1574. The originality of fountains was lost in 1992, when a restoration intervention in the mosque took place.

Fountains of Halveti Order Tekke – They were built at the same time with tekke in XVI-XVII centuries. Fountains have four bronze pipes pouring water into a marble tub. The originality of fountains is preserved to the present days.

Qorrage Fountain – It is located in the entrance of Haxhi Ramazan Qorrage – Mosque. It was built in XVIII century.





MUSASHEZHADÉ'S HOUSE

It was constructed in XVIII century, and it represents the heyday of vernacular architecture. Each floor has two rooms – one big and one small.



ADEM AGA GJON'S HOUSE

It was constructed in XVIII century, after this family came from Ujmish in Albania. The house has two floors, with large rooms in both floors of a symmetrical type. It has a corridor in its ground floor and balcony in its upper one.

SHUAIP PASHA'S HOUSE

It was built in the beginning of XIX century by Shuaip Pashë Spahiu, Head of the Albanian League of Prizren branch. It has architectural values and dominant position at the city center. In March 1999, the house was completely burnt. It was rebuilt from the scratch in 2012.



SHEH HASAN'S HOUSE

It was built in XVIII century. Over the time, with the purposes of adaptation to the modern residential needs, owners have undertaken several interventions in its interior and exterior that have significantly damaged the originality of the house. Its roof was restored in 2011.

POMAKU FAMILY HOUSE

It was constructed in XVIII century. It has two floors. Kitchen with the fireplace, storeroom and space for tools are in the ground floor.



ABDURAHIMMYTFIU'S HOUSE

It belongs to the years 1859-1860. Now days the house is divided in two parts and its interior continues to preserve the folk items from the time of its construction. It is a family house used for residential purposes and to this date has preserved its originality.

GRAZHDA FAMILY HOUSE

It was built in XVIII century, and restored and adapted in XIX century in a large space with numerous supporting facilities. During 2010-2012 the restoration of roof and façade took place. This house is an example of residential oriental architecture.



AHMET AND SHYQRI REKATHATI'S HOUSE

It was built in XIX century, namely in 1886 as a residential house. It is an example of oriental-local architecture with the influence of Austro-Hungarian architecture. Except for its exterior decorations, the house is also rich with ethnographic elements in its interior.



YMER PRIZRENI'S HOUSE

It was constructed in 1873-1875. The house has architectural, historical and social values.

ISMET SOKOLI'S HOUSE

It was built in the mid of XIX century. It has two floors. The façade has baroque decorations made with a rare artistic style.



SPASIC FAMILY HOUSE – HOÇË E MADHE

This is the most characteristic house of the traditional architecture in Hoçë e Madhe village. It was built in the first part of XIX century. The wide space in the floor is composed from two double sleeping rooms, one bathroom and one so called “Jerusalem Room”. The family icon from the pilgrimage in Jerusalem and other family relicts can be seen there.

HAXHI IZET MASHKULLI'S HOUSE

It is assumed that its construction took place around 1800. It has three floors. In its interior the house preserves the original elements of the time. It is amongst the few houses of the time with three floors. House continues to be used for residential purposes.





MOVABLE HERITAGE



PRIZREN RUNNER FIGURINE

Was discovered in Prizren. Height 11.4 cm. It is cast in bronze and represents the figure of a female athlete in motion. It is from the V century B.C. This sculpture is located at the British Museum in London - Department of Greek and Roman antiquities.



SITTING HE-GOAT

Was discovered in 1939 at Jagleničë suburb of Prizren. The he-goat is cast in bronze. This artifact has the following dimensions: height 6.5 cm, length 6.5 cm, width 3 cm and weighs 0.380 kg. It is assumed that it is related to the Greek God Hermes, respectively Illyrian God Bind. Belongs to I century B.C. Is located at the Vranje Museum.



MESSENGER OF PIRANA

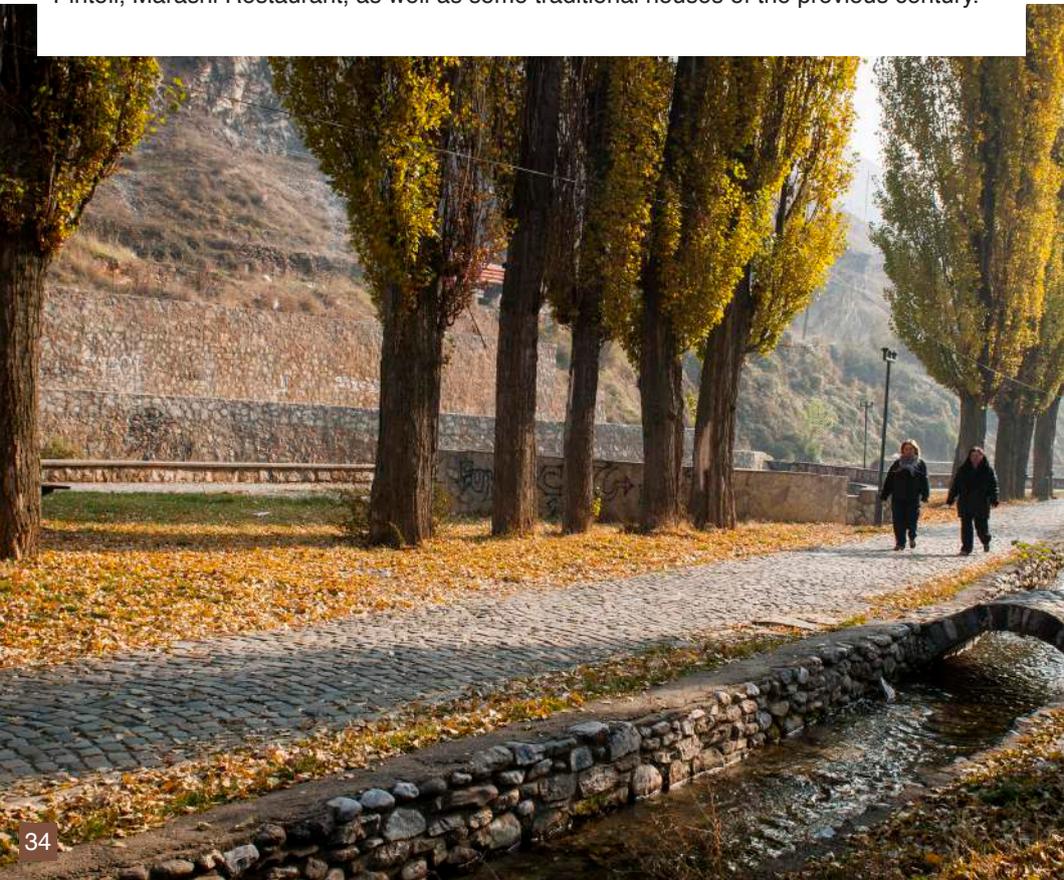
Was found in the village or Pirana. It is cast in bronze. There is a protruding part in his head, which is believed to be a hat. The weight of this figurine is 0.090 kg, height around 9 cm, width around 2-3 cm. It belongs to the antiquity era, around VI-V century B.C. Current location of the figurine is not known exactly.



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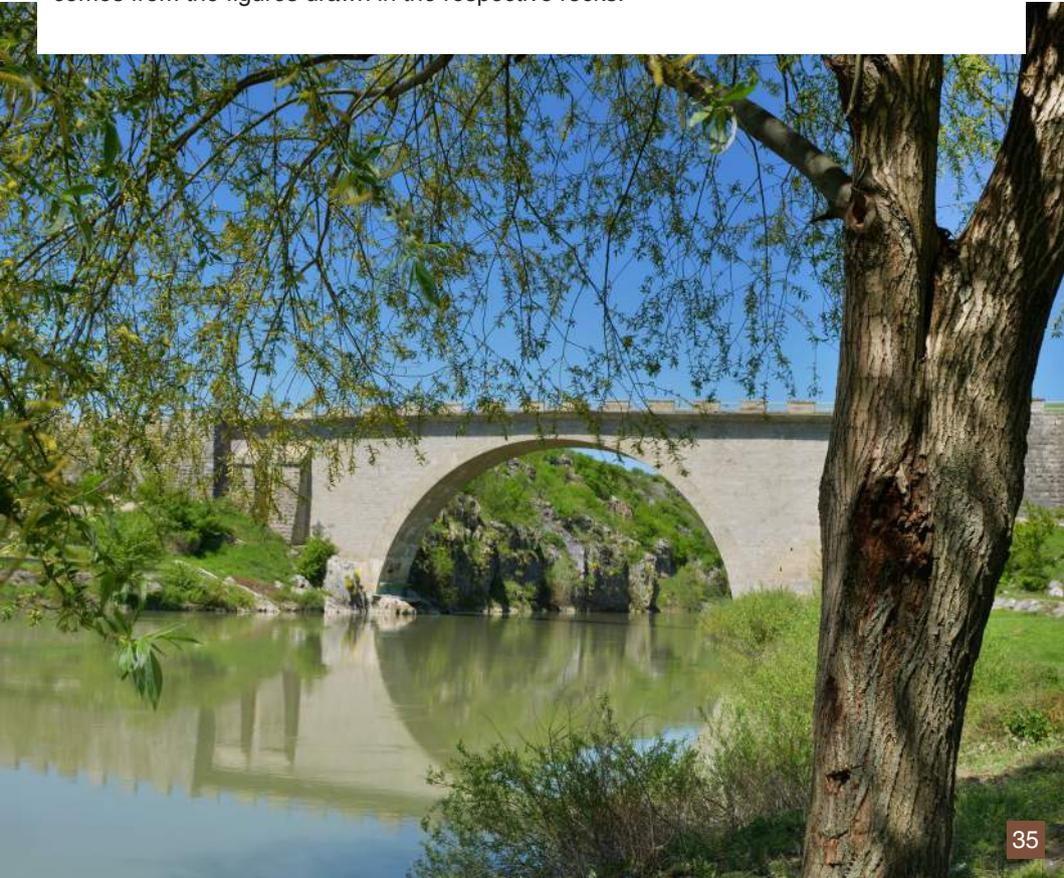
MARASH COMPLEX

Is located to the east of Prizren, next to Lumbardh River. The complex is in visual contact with the Complex of the Albanian League of Prizren and the Fortress of Prizren. The complex comprises of tekke of Saadi Order, the Mosque of Maksut Pasha, the Mill of Pintoll, Marashi Restaurant, as well as some traditional houses of the previous century.



DRINIT I BARDHË RIVER CANYON – HOLY BRIDGE (URA E SHENJTË)

This is protected natural zone. The Bridge is 70 m long. The depth from the arc to the water bed is 30 m. At the mouth of the river there are two rocks known as “Shkëmbi i Skënderbeut/ The Rock of Skanderbeg” and “Shkëmbi i Shqiponjës/The Rock of the Eagle”. This name comes from the figures drawn in the respective rocks.







SHADĚRVAN SQUARE

Is the core of the old urban town of Prizren. In the middle of the square is the fountain of Shadërvan with its four water-bringing pipes, where water flows from them into a circular stone-built bed. The square is paved in cobblestone, “makadam”, and around it are numerous shops and facilities that were constructed during the previous century. Shadërvan is among the most frequented areas of Prizren and the most frequented promenade of the city.



KABASH

Located 7 km north-east of Prizren. There one may see pristine nature comprised of high mountains, a river, which also holds beautiful waterfalls, numerous water sources and a variety of flora and fauna. The cultural heritage of Kabash comprises of settlements from the Bronze age, Fortress, a complex of 16 churches, stone houses from the previous century, as well as numerous farmers' huts.



PREVALLA

Is a tourist village located in Sharr Mountains. Elevation is around 1800 m. This place is visited all year round. Mountainous terrain, wonderful landscape and fresh air make Prevala into one of the most extraordinary areas for hiking, skiing and walking. It also has flora and fauna that made this area to be put under protection.

Prizren

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