

## **A CONTRIBUTION TO THE HISTORY OF MAJDIČ'S FAMILY IN ZGORNJE JARŠE**

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The aim of our research work was to recognize the Majdič family (from written source) and establish their contribution in the development of the village. We found the information in the regions chronicle (Stane Stražar) and the Schools chronicle. We reviewed on microfilm from the Historical records in Ljubljana, and the diplomas work of Bojana Omersel from 1996. We interviewed Mrs Albina Podlesek, the neighbour of the Majdič family. The Majdič family were very wealthy up until the second world war. Peter Majdič (1823 – 1908) was the owner of the big flour mill in Zgornje Jarše. His contributions for the building of the railway through Jarše and Domžale. In 1906 his contributions for the building of the school in Jarše. He also had built the chapel in Zgornje Jarše. He donated valuable chandeliers to the church in Groblje and Mengeš. Frequently he donated money for school children. The Majdič family lived in a beautiful furnished mansion. He had men and women that helped in the maintenance of the property and the flour mill. After the fire in 1922 which destroyed the Majdič flour mill. They later built on that site, the factory of linen articles and the Majdič family become shareholders. In 1945 because of the threats to close them down they moved. Today the building of the former Majdič mansion is in good condition and denationalised.

## **THE LIFE AND WORK IN THE OSOLIN'S MILL IN SREDNJE JARŠE**

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The research work deals with the so far unknown characteristics of Osolin's mill which is to be completely dismantled. We have measured the abandoned mill and drawn sketches of each room, situated on three floors. All devices have been photographed and listed. After nationalisation in 1948 the mill industry had control over the working of the mill for ten years. Then it operated as an independent "Farmer's mill Jarše" for the next ten years. After 1968 the mill was under the control of »Farmer's test center Jablje«. After denationalisation in 1995 it was taken over by the descendants of Mihael Osolin. They were running the mill until October 2000. In the first period the mill workers worked in three shifts, with the mill working around the clock. Later on, it operated in one or two shifts, according to the customer needs.

In the mill the enginemen or the so-called "vahtarji" ran the machines, whereas workers, also named "the reserves", loaded grain and flour and also filled up the bags with flour and weighed them. By 1975 the mill had reverse milling that demanded a lot of knowledge and caution for they had to catch the meal and put it back into roller machines to mill it again until flour was ground. With automatic milling machines the milling ran smoothly. The workers at the mill got on well and helped each other. They weighed the grain and flour in front of the customers so that they did not complain. Due to a quick process of converting the grain into flour, they were more competitive than the other mills in the neighbourhood. Consequently, the latter closed down soon after World War II.

## **WOMEN IN ISLAM TODAY AND THE PRESERVATION OF THE RELIGIOUS TRADITION OF THE MUSLIM IMMIGRANTS IN SLOVENIA**

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The equal status between Muslim women and men in everyday private life has been the object of our research work. Furthermore, we wanted to find out whether Muslim immigrants in Slovenia preserved their religious tradition. All of the inquired Muslims live in the area of Jarše and Rodica near Domžale, and came here from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The poll results have shown that there are no major differences in sharing the family responsibilities between the Slovene and Muslim families. As expected, the modern Muslim women now are more involved in household decision-making than their mothers were. Women are dressed in traditional Muslim clothes when they pray and on Islamic holidays, while in everyday social life they wear casual clothes. The preservation of the religious tradition is most reflected in carrying out the five pillars of Islam. It has been found out that the majority of questioned people participate strictly in the Muslim religious duties. This is especially true for declaring the so-called "shahadah", which is frequently stated in prayers.

Performing the obligatory ritual prayer called Salah five times a day is hindered by the Slovenian lifestyle. Therefore they pray mostly in the evenings. Every year in the month of Ramadan, all Muslims fast from dawn until sundown. Ramadan ends with a day long celebration known as Eid ul-Fitr, the biggest Islamic holiday. Charity is a necessity for every Muslim that is why all immigrant Muslims give zakah (the obligatory annual alms to the poor). None of the questioned persons has gone on pilgrimage to Mecca yet, but they have desire to go there.

Eid ul-Adha (also called »The Festival of Sacrifice« or »Kurban Bayramı«,) accompanies the pilgrimage to Mecca, and is celebrated by Muslims worldwide as a commemoration of Prophet [Ibrahim](#)'s willingness to sacrifice his son for [God](#) (Allah). Then they sacrifice a lamb and eat it with family and friends. The religion and its preservation is very important to the Muslims for their God (Allah) gives them support and helps them, and above all encourages them to respect their parents, relatives and all people around them.