

FOLKLORIC ORNAMENTS OF THE COMPLEX OF GODS FOUND AT HOUSES OF THE VILLAGE VËRMICA

Flamur Doli

Abstract

At the beginning of this scientific paper the geographical position of the village Vërmica and its settlement typology is discussed. According to its morphological and urban structure, the village Vërmica is considered a dispersed type of settlement. In the further elaboration of the above-mentioned subject, as the scientific methodology dictates it, the cult of the Highlands, namely the pagan honoring of the Peaks is discussed. The broader realm of this village includes the peaks of the mount Koritnik, the mount Pashtrik and the mount Gjallica. These mountain peaks are connected to the ancient Albanian cults, namely the pagan honoring of the Peaks. The pagan honoring of the Peaks, namely the cult of the Highlands is linked to the cult of the Sun. From the ancient times up to the recent history, among the Albanians as well as among other people, the Sun was considered an object of adoration. According to the ancient pagan beliefs, people would pray to the Sun, in the mornings when it would rise, and in some places they would also pray to it when it would set. Since the people of this village have lived for centuries at the feet of these mountains, it is very certain why the cult of the Sun is preserved up to the recent days. The cult of Sun as a proof of pagan beliefs or as a proof of ancient cults is preserved, abundantly, in different interesting artistic presentations and in popular architecture of this village. Further in this paper, ornaments from the complex of protective Gods of the house are discussed, including the cult of the Sun, chthonic cult of the serpent, the cult of women breasts and other motives that are found applied in the stonework of the houses of village Vërmica. In this analytical study, among other things, it is proved that the applied ornaments of the Albanian popular architecture of this village, the Illyrian artifacts of the pre-historic times and of the antiquity and the artifacts of the early medieval Arbërians are in full compliance, since they express the natural continuity of spiritual and material Albanian culture.

Key words: *The cult of the sun; pagan; ornament; The cult of motherhood; relief; shape; symbol.*