

JASMINKO MULAOMEROVIĆ, MIRNES HASANSPAHİĆ

THE TRADITIONAL WAY OF DETERMINING THE DAILY TIME IN DREŽNICA NEAR MOSTAR

The importance of water for irrigation of agricultural areas in Herzegovina for the life of its inhabitants is best demonstrated by the system of irrigation canals in the Drežnica valley north of Mostar. About 60 km of canals were built, and the "čelo" measure was used to distribute the water. To determine the time of irrigation, primitive gnomons were used, which were the corners of some prominent objects (buildings, trees) and stones driven into the ground on which the shadow fell. There was also a central stone that acted as a gnomon. During the night, the "midnight" stars and "joldašići", the stars of the Big Dipper (Ursa Major), were used to measure time. The gnomon was removed because it obstructed the entrance to the garage!

Keywords: history of astronomy, time determination, gnomon, Drežnica, Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina