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Bosnian Medieval State – Western or Eastern Model?

Geographical position of today's Bosnia allowed it to exist as a sort of a bridge between East and West, as a transit area where instances of heritage belonging to different and many times very distant civilizations were free to roam. Consequently, these instances had to have impact on various aspects of the social landscape of the Bosnian area, including the formation of the state. With the Treaty of Aachen from 812 the Eastern border between the Byzantium and the Carolingian empire was established exactly in the Bosnian area, on the river Drina, thus starting the shaping process of the medieval Bosnian state. The example of the medieval Bosnia is therefore even more important and interesting regarding the fact that it was the only area where Italian, Hungarian and Western European influence intertwined with the influence of Byzantium and its direct civilisational zonal dependencies – Serbia and Bulgaria, resulting in quite specific social standards and classes. In this document we will attempt to analyze all the aspects shaping the medieval Bosnian state (dynasty, insignia, parliament, church, society) and through comparison with similar institutions, both eastern and western, try to provide the answer whether it belongs to the eastern or western model of state.