

## THE CULTURAL MEANING OF THE *BUGARŠĆICA* IN THE WORKS OF VLADIMIR NAZOR

### SUMMARY

The article considers the presence of the *bugaršćice* popular ballad in the literary opus of Vladimir Nazor. Making use of the poetic *bugaršćica* model, Nazor created his own poems. He published them in independent form (*Ban Dragonja*, *Galiotova pesan*), but also integrated them into his epic poems (*Živana*, *Utva zlatokrila*) and his tales (*Veli Jože*, *Stoimena*, *Halugica*). Nazor's *bugaršćica* is linked with regret for the past *Golden Age* of national liberty and well-being (the content-related level), reflects closeness with the ancient land-tilling culture (the social level), contains an awareness of the lack of national maturity (the ethical level), and the linguistic level nurturing the heritage of Croatia's oldest Čakavian dialect or the Štokavian *popular vernacular*, while the use of the *bugaršćica* poetic model links Nazor's work with Croatian oral literary heritage. The *bugaršćica* in the context of Nazor's work has two cultural dimensions: it appears as a metonymy of the Croatian national spirit and historical beginnings or is linked with the mystic Slavic world (as a cosmogonic poem).

Key words: *bugaršćica*, Nazor, national past, mythological heritage, Secession stylisation, neo-Romanticism