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NAŠ *KUŠE* OUR DEAR *KUŠE*

Skoro će pet desetljeća od kada poznajem prijatelja i kolegu dr. sc. Slobodana Čaču, redovitog profesora u miru. Brojne su uspomene na naše susrete i dugogodišnju suradnju. Upoznao sam ga na I. godini moga studija na Filozofskom fakultetu u Zadru 1969. godine. Te i naredne godine privremeno je radio u Arheološkom muzeju, postavši doskora kustos (“kuše”) područne arheološke zbirke koja je djelovala u sklopu Arheološkoga muzeja u Zadru. Na to mjesto ga je izabrao njegov profesor i tadašnji direktor toga Muzeja dr. sc. Šime Batović. Rado se sjećam velikih arheoloških istraživanja u Ninu 1970. koja je izvodila hrvatsko-američka ekipa na čelu s dr. sc. Matom Suićem, redovitim profesorom na Filozofskom fakultetu u Zagrebu, a prije toga dugogodišnjim direktorom Arheološkoga muzeja i profesorom na zadarskom Filozofskom fakultetu. Posebice se radilo oko crkve sv. Križa i na položaju Mijovilovac, gdje se nalaze ostaci monumentalnoga rimskog hrama. Prof. Čače je bio zadužen za istraživanja liburnskih slojeva u jednom većem dijelu unutar

Soon it will have been five decades since I first became acquainted with my friend and colleague Dr. Slobodan Čače, a full professor, now retired. Numerous are the memories of our friendship and long-time collaboration. I got to know him as a freshman at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zadar in 1969. That and the following year he worked in the Archaeological Museum, having become the curator (“kuše”) of the Regional Archaeological Collection in the Archaeological Museum Zadar. He had been appointed to the position by his former professor and then the director of the Museum, Dr. Šime Batović. I have fond memories of the 1970 large-scale archaeological excavations carried out in Nin by a Croatian-American team headed by Dr. Mate Suić, then a full professor at the Zagreb Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and formerly the long-time director of the Archaeological Museum Zadar and a professor at the Zadar Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The excavations were particularly intensive around the Church of the Holy Cross and at the Mijovilovac location, where



Sl. 1. Slobodan Čače sa sinom Branimirom, iznad Radomir Jurić, Smiljan Gluščević, Ivo Fadić, Aldo Krizman, te Miljenko Pekić (1982. godina).

Fig. 1. Slobodan Čače with his son Branimir; above: Radomir Jurić, Smiljan Gluščević, Ivo Fadić, Aldo Krizman and Miljenko Pekić (1982)

hrama. Ja sam se s osobitim zadovoljstvom našao u njegovoj ekipi s još nekim studentima Filozofskoga fakulteta u Zadru. Uz ostalo, bio sam zadužen da svako jutro, prije 6 sati, prije početka radova, podijelim alat fizičkim djelatnicima, a na koncu radnog vremena, u 14 sati ih razdužim. Zvali su me Mladi skladištar. Posebice sam se brinuo i za skupocjeni nivelir, kojega sam zajedno s letvom donosio i odnosio s hrama. Divota je bila raditi s našim Kušom, a tek koliko sam naučio i na mnoga pitanja dobio kvalitetne odgovore. Pozorno se pratio svaki zamah i iskop mašklinom, lopatom i sitnim alatom.

remains of a monumental Roman temple could be found. I was very happy to be part of his team, together with some other students of the Zadar Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. One of my tasks was to distribute tools to the laborers every morning before 6am and to collect it from them at 2pm, after the work had been done. They called my Young Storage Clerk. I was also supposed to take good care of the very expensive level and an appertaining rod, which I would bring to the excavation site at the temple and then bring it back. Working with our Kuše was a true pleasure, not to mention his high-quality

Kao student početnik, uz njega sam naučio mnoge vrste i oblike domaće i uvezene keramike, naučio sam istraživati podnice i ognjišta liburnskog sloja, kao i prepoznavati razne prapovijesne slojeve. Bilo je mnoštvo, mnoštvo ulomaka od pečene zemlje, tako da je jedna osoba tijekom cijelog radnog dana, naša baka Stoja, u škipu na glavi prenosila takvu građu u dvorište same zbirke, gdje su je u hladu prale naše kolegice, studentice arheologije koje smo zvali Peračice.

Velike su bile vrućine tijekom srpnja i kolovoza 1970. Trošilo se mnogo tekućine. Nin je tek 1969. godine dobio vodovodni sustav. Voda je bila mlaka i puna klora, pa smo pili onu vodu iz ninskih bunara i pokoje gusterne. Imali smo sreće jer se uz hram nalazila kuća nezaboravne bake Matije koja nam je za cijelo vrijeme istraživanja na rapolaganje stavila svoju gusteru iz koje smo kantom (sićem) vadili vodu i halapljivo je pili. To se odnosilo na cijelu, mnogobrojnu ekipu. Možete zamisliti koliko se dnevno popilo vode. Znalo je na teren doći i poneko Karlovačko pivo. Do tih ljetnih mjeseci sam pio samo vodu i sokove. Moram reći da me je naš Kuše tada naučio piti pivo, naravno u malim količinama. Slobodan je s velikom pozornošću i preciznošću vodio Dnevnik istraživanja. Često sam u njega često zavirivao i čitao što je sve zabilježeno. I opet učio. Brzo me naučio raditi niveliranjem, na što sam kao student I. godine bio ponosan. Nakon rada na terenu uslijedio bi odmor. Međutim i poslijepodne se radilo u Zbirci. Prof. Suić nas je znao voditi po terenima i kod hrama i posebice kod Sv. Križa, objašnjavati nam rimsku arhitekturu i na što se treba usredotočiti prilikom njezina istraživanja. Drugi studenti su crtali keramiku

answers to my numerous questions. I keenly observed every sway and every move of his pick-axe, shovel and fine tools. As a freshman, I learned a lot about the types and forms of local and imported pottery, examining the floors and hearths in the Liburnian layer and recognizing various prehistoric layers. As there were so many fired pottery fragments there, one person – our dear Mother Stoja – kept carrying the freshly unearthed material in a basket on her head to a backyard where our colleagues, female archaeology students (we called them “Washers”) would wash it in the shade.

July and August 1970 were exceptionally hot. We had to drink a lot of water. As Nin had gotten its water supply system only in 1969 and the water was lukewarm and chlorinated, we used to drink from local wells and cisterns. We were lucky because the house of the unforgettable Mother Matija was right next to the Roman temple; she allowed us to use the water from her cistern. We would pull it out in a bucket and drink it greedily. As the whole large group had to quench their thirst, you can imagine how much water we drank. True, an occasional bottle of beer would also reach the hands of the hard-working team members. Until those summer months I had only drunk water and sodas. It was our Kuše who taught me how to drink beer – not in large quantities, of course. Slobodan kept a very detailed and precise excavation log. I would often glance at it, reading all the notes. And learning, again. He quickly taught me how to use a level, which made me – a freshman – very proud. After the field work we would rest. However, even in the afternoon, we would work in the Collection premises. Professor Suić would take us

ili izrađivali drugu tehničku dokumentaciju, a naš Kuše, okružen hrpama keramike sortirao je i obrađivao, da bi je drugi dan tako izdvoje-
nu studenti signirali. Za večerom i poslije nje
smo se gotovo svi, srdačno i veoma otvore-
no družili, pričali viceve, pa i odlazili u disko
koji se nalazio u dvorištu Osnovne škole „Pe-
tar Zoranić“. Događale su se u ekipi i ljubavi,
ali i izvan nje. Odlazili smo na zajednička ku-
panja na Ždrijac. Pamtim da se rodila ljubav
između studentice Ives Šic i Slobodana Čače.
Osobito je bilo dirljivo kada su se vjerali kod
crkve sv. Nikole, koja se nalazi na prapovi-
jesnom grobnom humku, u Prahuljama pred
Ninom. Poslije se to završilo brakom i dje-
com Jasminom i Branimirom. Bio je brižan
suprug, ali i brižan otac. Kao i mnoge druge
mlade zadarske obitelji, posebice one zapo-
slene u kulturi, obrazovanju i znanosti, bili su
podstanari. Nakon puno muke dobio je svoj
stan. Godinama sam ga posjećivao u njegovu
domu, gdje me je sa suprugom uvijek lijepo
primao i imao vremena za razne vrste razgo-
vora. Osobito mi je potporu pružio u vrijeme
moga studiranja.

Tijekom proljeća i dijela ljeta 1971.
trajala su sustavna arheološka istraživanja
sa sjeveroistočne strane zadarskoga foruma,
odnosno na prostoru parkirališta preko puta
hotela Forum. Teško su se Zadrani odrekli
toga prostora, koji im je služio i za pokazi-
vanje automobila raznih marki koje su vozili
mlađi i stariji Zadrani. Neki su tu nastavili
smještati svoja vozila i više dana nakon što
je stručna ekipa Arheološkoga muzeja zapo-
čela istraživanja. Nominalno je radove vodio
prof. Batović. Ipak, sustavno na terenu bio
je Slobodan Čače. Fizički radnici na terenu
su bili iz okolnih sela zadarskoga zaobalja

around – e.g. to the temple and to the Church
of the Holy Cross – and explain Roman archi-
tecture and the things we should concentrate
on when examining it. Other students would
make sketches of the pottery or other techni-
cal documentation and our Kuše, surround-
ed by heaps of pottery, would sort it out and
analyze it so that, thus separated, it could be
marked by the students the following day. At
dinner and after it, almost all of us would have
a great time together, tell jokes and even visit
the discotheque located in the backyard of Pe-
tar Zoranić Elementary School. We would also
go swimming to Ždrijac Beach. Love would
happen, too – both within and outside the team.
I remember when Slobodan Čače fell in love
with Ives Šic, a student. It was very moving
to see them exchange their betrothal vows at
St. Nicholas' Church, located on a prehistoric
burial mound in Prahulje near Nin. Later they
got married and had two children, Jasmina and
Branimir. He was a carrying husband and a
carrying father. As many other young families
in Zadar, particularly those with jobs in cul-
ture, education or science, they lived a subten-
ant's life. After lots of efforts, he managed to
get his own apartment. I would visit him at his
home for years; he and his wife would always
welcome me and we would talk about all sorts
of things. He gave me lots of support during
my studies.

In spring and part of summer in
1971, systematic archaeological excava-
tions were taking place on the northeast-
ern side of Zadar's Forum, at the parking
area opposite Hotel Forum. The locals had
a hard time giving up this area for a while
because they had used it for showing off
their attractive cars. Some left their cars



Sl. 2. Istraživanje na antičkoj nekropoli T. C. Relja u Zadru 1989. godine. S lijeva na desno: Radomir Jurić, Zdenko Brusić, Slobodan Čače i Ivo Fadić. Okrenut leđima: Josip Vlahović, tadašnji gradonačelnik Grada Zadra.

Fig. 2. Excavations at ancient necropolis T. C. Relja in Zadar (1989). From left to right: Radomir Jurić, Zdenko Brusić, Slobodan Čače and Ivo Fadić. With his back to camera: Josip Vlahović, then Mayor of Zadar

(primjerice Zemunika, Vrsi). I ovaj put sam bio ponosan što sam se našao u toj istraživačkoj ekipi, opet zajedno s našim Kušom. Od studenata u ekipi bili su još: Nikola Jakšić (Fant), Franjo Smiljanić (Hary), Sineva Kukoč, Vladimir Alavanja (Mladi). Iz Arheološkoga muzeja su bili: Branka Nedved, crtačica i Frano Nedved, fotograf. Naporan je to bio rad, osobito po suncu, ali uz brojna, svakodnevna pitanja mnogih Zadrana i turista. Polučeni su iznimni stručno-znanstveni rezultati, od željeznog doba do novog vijeka.

there for days even after the expert team from the Archaeological Museum had begun excavations. Nominally, the excavations were headed by Professor Batović. However, the one who was present at the site daily was Slobodan Čače. The laborers came from the villages in Zadar's hinterland (e.g. Zemunik, Vrsi). Once again I was proud to be a member of an excavation team – and once again with our Kuše. Other students also took part in the team: Nikola Jakšić (Fant), Franjo Smiljanić

Redovito su nas posjećivali zadarski arheolozi i konzervatori. Na marendu smo obično išli u tada poznati *buffet* Jadera, vlasništvo Mire i Alberta Štrmelja. Za nas se uvijek našlo ponešto dobro, ali prihvatljive cijene (višeputo uz popust). U taj prostor su na marendu dolazili i Zadrani, i Boduli i Vlaji. Marende su tada bile hit, kako bi se reklo u današnjem žargonu.

Brojni nalazi keramike su se prali i svrstavali na terenu, u jednom improviziranom prostoru uz crkvu sv. Donata. Muzej se tada nalazio u zgradi Zavoda sv. Dimitrija, dok je izgradnja novog, na sadašnjem mjesu, tek započela. Slobodan je mnogo radio na obradi keramike, koja se poslije prenosila u upravnu zgradu.

U jesen 1971. bio je na Svjetskom kongresu za prapovijesnu i proto povijesnu arheologiju u Beogradu. Tamo smo ga sreli Fant i ja, koji smo došli stjecajem okolnosti, kao studenti. Tijekom trajanja Kongresa lijepo smo se družili, bili na izletima u Vinči, Gomolavi i Novom Sadu te išli na objede i večere na Skadarliju. Sjećam se da sam s Fantom posjetio njegova djeda profesora G. Ostrogorskog, poznatog svjetskoga bizantologa. Razgovarali smo u njegovu domu prepunom knjiga. Nisam zaboravio da smo se nas dvojica vratili u Zadar preko Sarajeva, gdje smo u Skenderiji pogledali izložbu „Umjetnost na tlu Jugoslavije“ koja je prethodno bila postavljena u Parizu. To je za nas studente bio veliki, neponovljiv kulturni događaj. Veći dio vremena proveli smo i u zbirakama Zemaljskoga muzeja.

Mnogi su nas za održavanja Kongresa, pitali što se događa u Hrvatskoj u toj nezaboravnoj 1971. godini. Govorili smo

(Hary), Sineva Kukoč and Vladimir Alavanja (Mladi). Branka Nedved, a sketch artist, and Frano Nedved, a photographer, came from the Archaeological Museum. It was an arduous work – toiling under the sun and answering numerous questions of the locals and tourists. The scientific results were exceptional, spanning Iron and Modern Ages. We were regularly visited by Zadar archaeologists and conservationists. We would have our midmorning snack in the then well-known diner Jadera, owned by Mira and Albert Štrmelj. They would always serve us something good at a discount. All the locals frequented the diner then. It was the time when midmorning snacks – or brunches, as we would probably call them today – became popular.

Numerous pottery finds were washed on the spot, in a makeshift space next to St. Donatus' Church. The Museum was still located in the Institute of St. Demetrius Building. The construction of its present-day building had only begun then. Slobodan meticulously analyzed the pottery that would later be carried to the administrative building.

In autumn 1971 he attended the World Congress on Prehistoric and Proto-historic Archaeology in Belgrade. Fant and I, who went there as students, met him there. We had a great time during the congress, we went on trips to Vinča, Gomolava and Novi Sad and enjoyed meals and dinners in Skadarlija. I remember Fant and me visiting Fant's grandfather, Professor G. Ostrogorski, a world-acclaimed Byzantine scholar. We talked with him in his home crammed with books. We traveled

im istinu, ne bojeći se ničega. Tako je to kad ste mladi i više ili manje buntovni. O tim događanjima sam višekratno u Zadru razgovarao sa Slobodanom, dobivši niz njegovih savjeta.

Do 1974. bio je zaposlen u Arheološkom muzeju. Spominjem da je prije prelaska na Filozofski fakultet u Zadru s prof. Batovićem radio na istraživanjima prapovijesnih grobnih gomila u Vrsima. Kada nije bio na terenu radio je na inventiranju i obradi prapovijesne arheološke građe u jednoj omanjoj prostoriji na I. katu u tadašnjem muzeju, u zgradi nekadašnjeg Zavoda sv. Dimitrija gdje smo se često znali sastajati i razgovarati, uglavnom o raznim arheološkim temama. I nakon zaposlenja na zadarskom Fakultetu nastavljena je naša sustavna suradnja. Posebice se to tiče našeg rekognosciranja šire okolice Metkovića, kada smo evidentirali brojna, najviše prapovijesna nalazišta. Radili smo bez ičije financijske potpore, ali uz pomoć mojih najbližih. Više su nas puta moj stric Ivan i brat Joze do određenog područja dovezli svojim automobilima, a onda smo satima pješачili i bilježili ono što smo od arheoloških nalazišta i nalaza pronašli.

Vlasnik gostionice „Lopoč“ u Momićima, Ivo Dragović Crta, koji je sedamdesetih godina imao i svoju farmu krava, ovaca i koza, odveo nas je jednom prilikom na Gnječev dolac, na brdu Osoju. Brdskim stazama popeli smo se na navedeni položaj. Opremu nam je prenosio jedan vrijedni tovar. U jednoj drvenoj baraci smo „prespavali“. Spremili smo i večeru na otvorenoj vatri, veselo razgovarali pa onda pošli na spavanje. Međutim od toga nije bilo ništa, jer su se pojavili rojevi komaraca, koji su nas nemilosrdno napadali i ujedali. Iako

back home via Sarajevo, where we went to the Skenderija Hall to see the exhibition “Art on Yugoslav Territory” that had been staged in Paris before that. For us students, it was a huge, priceless cultural events. We also spent a lot of time examining the collections displayed in the National Museum.

During the Congress, many inquired us about what was going on in Croatia (as it was 1971). Young and rebellious as we were, we fearlessly told them the truth. A number of times I discussed those events with Slobodan in Zadar and he gave me some advice as regards the issue.

He worked in the Archaeological Museum until 1974. Before moving to the Zadar Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, he and Professor Batović carried out research of the prehistoric burial mounds in Vrsi. When not working in the field, he would spend his time in a small room on the first floor of the then Museum premises in the former Institute of St. Demetrius Building, inventorying and analyzing prehistoric archaeological material. We would often meet there and discuss various archaeological subjects. Our regular cooperation continued even after he had been awarded tenure at the Faculty. This particularly refers to our joint reconnaissance of the greater area of Metković, when we recorded numerous, mostly prehistoric, sites. We had no financial support whatsoever, but we had the assistance of my family. My uncle Ivan and my brother Joze drove us to some destination a number of times. We would hike the rest of the way and take notes about the archaeological sites and finds discovered.

nenaspavani, drugi dan smo sustavno obišli taj prostor i evidentirali više kamenih gomila, posebice na istaknutim mjestima, kao primjerice na Orlovu kuku. Odatle se pruža prekrasan pogled na mitsku neretvansku dolinu. Bilo je to ljetno vrijeme. Dobro smo bili pripremljeni na veliku vrućinu, s dosta tekućine. Sada sam svjestan da taj položaj, u mojim godinama, neću više nikada posjetiti. Međutim rezultati toga našega obilaska su objelodanjeni.

Naš intezivni rad u neretvanskom kraju započeo je 1973. godine, ali je nastavljen i kasnijih godina, napose pripremajući se za Znanstveni skup Hrvatskoga arheološkoga društva u Metkoviću 1977. godine. Obojica smo imali referate o tim prapovijesnim nalazištima. Skup je održan u tadašnjem Domu kulture. Bio je to moj prvi nastup na jednom znanstvenom skupu, pa ga stoga dobro pamtim. I nakon slušanja brojnih referata naših kolega iz Hrvatske i Bosne i Hercegovine, lijepo smo se družili te bili i na izletima. NezaBORAVAN je bio susret i velika fešta u već spomenutoj gostionici „Lopoč“ u Momićima. Organizirao sam posebnu večeru s neretvanskim specijalitetima, što je 28 sudionika izvrsno primilo. Uz veselje i pjesmu ostali smo dugo u noć. Prisjećam se da su, uz ostale, s nama bili naši kolege i prijatelji profesori Zaninović, Belošević, Čače, Medini, Rapanić, Vilhar, Fadić, Kirigin, Petrić, Milošević, Gluščević, Zglav, Lončar, Kolega, Smiljanić (Hary)

S. Čače je volio odlaziti u Neretvu i ondje boraviti. Rado je isticao da mu je majka iz Metkovića. U taj kraj nas je znala voziti automobilom i njegova supruga Ives. Nas dvoje bismo ostali tamo, a ona bi produžila

Ivo “Crta” Dragović, the owner of Lopoč tavern in Momići, who also had his cattle, goat and sheep farm in the 1970s, once took us to Gnječev dolac location on the Osoj Hill. We climbed there using mountain paths. A diligent donkey carried our equipment. We spent a night in a wood cabin. We cooked dinner on the camp fire, had a chat and then went to bed. However, we were then repeatedly attacked and mercilessly beaten by swarms of mosquitoes. Although in need of sleep, we systematically looked up the area the following day and recorded a number of mounds, particularly on prominent places such as Orlov kuk, which commands breathtaking view of the mythical Neretva Valley. It was in summer and we were well-prepared for high temperatures. I am aware now that, given my age, I will never visit that place again. However, the results of our visit to the place were published.

Our intensive work in the Neretva region began in 1973 and continued in the years that followed, particularly in the context of the preparations for the symposium of the Croatian Archaeological Association held in Metković in 1977. Both of us read papers about those prehistoric sites there. The symposium took place in the Cultural Center. I remember it well because it was the first paper I ever read at a scientific meeting. After numerous papers of our Croatian and Bosnian colleagues had been presented, we had a great time together and went on trips. Unforgettable were the get-together and party we had in the already mentioned Lopoč tavern in Momići. I organized a special dinner with local specialties, which was heartily welcomed by all 28 participants.



Sl. 3. Slobodan Čače na Aseriji 2015. god.

Fig. 3. Slobodan Čače at Asseria (2015)

u Dubrovnik odakle je bila podrijetlom. Moji roditelji (Marta i Grgo) i druga bliža rodbina, prijateljski su ga dočekivali, što je on sa zahvalnošću prihvaćao. Iznimno dobro se uklapao u tim sredinama. Po hladnoći i vrućini prošli smo, uglavnom pješice, veći dio okolice Metkovića. Lijepo nam je bilo i na Rujnici, visokom brdu s nešto obradivog zemljišta i sa crkvom sv. Roka. S nama je bio i moj mnogo mlađi brat Marijo koji je tada išao u osnovnu školu. I tu smo evidentirali više grobnih gomila.

Naš Kuše mi je mnogo pomogao i kod objave članka s navedenog Znanstvenog

The rejoicing and singing kept us up long into the night. The colleagues and friends present there included professors Zaninović, Belošević, Čače, Medini, Rapanić, Vilhar, Fadić, Kirigin, Petrić, Milošević, Gluščević, Zglav, Lončar, Kolega, Smiljanić (Hary)

S. Čače loved touring the Neretva. He often pointed out that his mother was from Metković. His wife Ives would often drive us down there. He and I would stay there and she would proceed to her native Dubrovnik. My parents (Marta and Grgo) and other family members would always give him a warm welcome, which he appreciated and felt very

skupa HAD-a u posebnom zborniku „Dolina rijeke Neretve od prapovijesti do srednjeg vijeka“. Bio je to ujedno i rezultat našeg višegodišnjeg rada na izradi prapovijesne topografije Doline Neretve. Pomagao je godinama, ne samo meni već i Ivi Fadiću, Smiljanu Gluščeviću i drugim štovanim kolegama s Odsjeka za povijest Filozofskoga fakulteta, odnosno Sveučilišta u Zadru. Prijatelj je na kojega se moglo uvijek osloniti. Čitao je naše stručne i znanstvene članke, ukazivao na propuste i zapravo ih stručno i znanstveno filtrirao za objavu u raznim zbornicima i časopisima u Zadru i izvan njega. Bio je i ostao naš znanstveni uzor, zasigurno naš znanstveni mentor.

Od kada smo, nakon osam godina 1988. obnovili izdanje „Diadore“, muzejskoga glasila Arheološkoga muzeja, tada i narednih godina bio je redoviti ocjenjivač mnogih znanstvenih i stručnih članaka, te predstavljajući toga glasila u mnogim prilikama, posebice tijekom Domovinskog rata. Ne samo to, već je bio i naš stalni suradnik. Zajedno s kolegom Ivom Fadićem od 1. sveska periodičke publikacije „Asseria“ bio je njezin urednik, sve do naših dana. Prof. Čače je godinama bio i član Izdavačkog savjeta Zadarske revije. Rado se sjećam 1978. godine kada smo zajedno bili u nakladničkom savjetu novopokrenutog Studentskog lista Filozofskoga fakulteta u Zadru. Uz ostale, tu su bili Luko Paljetak, Nenad Mišćević, Mislav Kukoč i Igor Gluić. U tom listu su uz studentice i studente, svoje članke objelodanjivali i profesori zadarskoga Fakulteta.

S referatima je sudjelovao na mnogim našim kongresima, znanstvenim skupovima, simpozijima i kolokvijima, više

good in their company. In cold or in heat, we toured Metković's surroundings, mostly on foot. We had a great time on Rujnica, a high hill with some fertile land and with St. Roch's Church. We were accompanied by my (much younger) brother Marijo, who was a school kid then. We also recorded a number of burial mounds there. Our Kuše helped me a lot to publish the paper in the special proceedings of the above mentioned CAA symposium entitled *The Neretva Valley from Prehistory to Middle Ages*. It was also a result of our long-year work on the prehistoric topography of the Neretva Valley. He kept helping for years, not just to me, but also to Ivo Fadić, Smiljan Gluščević and other esteemed colleagues from the Department of History of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zadar. He was a friend one could always rely upon. He would go through our papers, pointing at omissions in them and actually filtering them scientifically for publishing in various proceedings and journals in Zadar and beyond. He has remained our scientific role model and our mentor.

Ever since the publishing of *Diadora* – the journal of the Archaeological Museum – was reassumed in 1988 after an eight-year break, he has regularly assessed many a scientific article and promoted the journal in numerous occasions, particularly during the Homeland War. He has also been a regular contributor. Together with his colleague Ivo Fadić, he has edited the periodical *Asseria* since its inception.

For years, Professor Čače has been a member of the advisory board of *Zadarska revija*. I have fond memories of 1978, when



Sl. 4. Slobodan Čače na Aseriji 2015. god
Fig. 4. Slobodan Čače at Asseria (2015)

puta u organizaciji Filozofskoga fakulteta u Zadru, Hrvatskoga arheološkoga društva, Arheološkoga muzeja u Zadru i drugima. Sjećam se da je na njima rado raspravljao, iznimno kvalitetno, uvijek sa činjenicama. Nikada, baš nikoga nije uvrijedio ili ponizio.

Omiljen među kolegama redovito je bio pozivan na rekognosciranja i arheološka istraživanja izvan Zadra. Primjerice s kolegom B. Kiriginom je surađivao na više projekata (Palagruža, Vis, Biševo, Svetac, Brač, Hvar, Šolta, Rogoznica), zatim s

both of us were members of the advisory board of the newly-launched *Studentski list* of the Zadar Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Other members included Luko Paljetak, Nenad Mišćević, Mislav Kukoč and Igor Gluić. Besides the students, professors of the faculty were also the magazine's contributors.

He read his papers at numerous congresses, symposiums and colloquiums, organized by the Zadar Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Croatian Archaeological Association, Archaeological Museum

Tončijem Burićem više godina na Putalju, s Antom Miloševićem na sinjskom području, s Anamarijom Kurilić i Ivom Fadićem u Caski na otoku Pagu i na Aseriji. Zajedno smo istraživali prostor Šetnice uz Forum u Zadru 1996. i 1997. godine, a o rezultatima izlagali na Znanstvenom skupu Hrvatskoga arheološkoga društva u Zadru (1997.), u prigodi 165. obljetnice Arheološkoga muzeja. Znao je obilaziti terene na kojima su radili stručnjaci toga muzeja. Primjerice u prigodi arheoloških istraživanja velikoga rimskog groblja na Relji i Sv. Dominika u Zadru, zatim u Aseriji, Velimu i drugdje. Više puta smo sudjelovali u njegovim znanstvenim projektima kada je bio profesor na zadarskom sveučilištu. Višekratno mi je pričao o arheološkim istraživanjima na poznatom arheološkom nalazištu u Obrima u Bosni i Hercegovini koja je vodio poznati arheolog, kasnije akademik Alojz Benac u suradnji s američkim arheolozima. Na tim istraživanjima Slobodan je sudjelovao s prof. Batovićem, dugogodišnjim kolegom i prijateljem prof. Benca.

Ne smijemo zaboraviti spomenuti da je naš Kuše višekratno bio član Upravnog odbora i Upravnog vijeća Arheološkoga muzeja kao i njegov predsjednik u vrijeme kada sam ja bio ravnatelj te značajne zadarske muzejske ustanove. Tada smo najizvravnije surađivali i kreirali mnoge projekte, naravno i s drugim štovanim članovima Upravnoga vijeća. I tada sam se mnogo puta s njim savjetovao, posebice tijekom Domovinskoga rata i kasnije do 2005. godine. Na zadarskom Fakultetu, a poslije Sveučilištu, napredovao je od asistenta do redovitoga profesora u trajnom zvanju, a

Zadar and others. Always ready to take part in discussions on an exceptional level, he would always rely on facts and never insult or humiliate anyone.

Popular among colleagues, he was often invited to take part in reconnaissance and excavations outside Zadar. For example, together with B. Kirigin, he participated in several projects (Palagruža, Vis, Biševo, Svetac, Brač, Hvar, Šolta, Rogoznica). He also worked with Tonči Burić on Putalj for a number of years, with Ante Milošević in Sinj area and with Anamarija Kurilić and Ivo Fadić in Caska on the island of Pag and in Asseria. Together we explored the Promenade along Zadar's Forum in 1996 and 1997 (and presented the results at the 1997 symposium of the Croatian Archaeological Association in Zadar, marking the 165th anniversary of the Archaeological Museum). He would often visit the sites where the Museum's experts were carrying out excavations, e.g. the large Roman cemetery in Relja and near St. Dominic in Zadar, Asseria, Velim and elsewhere. During his tenure at the University of Zadar, we would often participate in his scientific projects.

He often told me about the excavations carried out at the well-known archaeological site at Obri in Bosnia-Herzegovina by the acclaimed archaeologist and member of the Academy Alojz Benac and some American archaeologists. Slobodan took part there together with Professor Batović, Professor Benac's long-time colleague and friend.

We must not forget to mention that our Kuše was a member of the Archaeological Museum's Managing Board and Governing Council on several occasions. He was also

uz ostalo u nekoliko navrata bio mu je i prodekan. Omiljeni je profesor zadarskih studenata povijesti. Oni su uvijek o njemu govorili s poštovanjem. Odgojio je mnoge naraštaje povjesničara, od kojih je više njih napredovalo i u stručnom i u znanstvenom smislu. Nekolicini njih bio je mentor u izradi magistarskih i doktorskih radova. Naravno, kvaliteta nije izostala. Bio je i gostujući profesor na nekoliko fakulteta (primjerice Zagreb i Ljubljana). Stručno i znanstveno se usavršavao u Hrvatskoj i u inozemstvu. Kako zna više stranih jezika, bez poteškoća je pratio i poznao relevantnu literaturu iz raznih zemalja. Nama, njegovima kolegama i prijateljima poznato je da je noći i noći provodio radeći za knjigom, pisanim strojem ili za računalom.

Izvršno smo surađivali u Povijesnom društvu Zadar čijeg smo Upravnog odbora bili članovi više godina, a onda je on postao predsjednik, a ja tajnik i voditelj javnih predavanja. U Zadar smo doveli mnoge poznate, ali i mlađe predavače (primjerice iz Zagreba, Rima, Graza, Sarajeva, Novog Sada...). Naravno na našoj tribini su nastupali i brojni zadarski povjesničari, arheolozi, povjesničari umjetnosti, čak i filozofi. Tako je sve bilo do Domovinskog rata. Kad spominjem taj rat valja istaknuti da se prof. Čače posebice angažirao na mnogim dežurstvima na Filozofskom fakultetu zajedno s drugim profesorima i djelatnicima. Nije napuštao Zadar, nego je s građanima, profesorima i svojim studentima dijelio ratnu sudbinu Grada. Zapaženo je njegovo djelovanje u zadarskoj sredini tijekom i poslije demokratskih izbora u Hrvatskoj, kada je bio i vječnik u Gradskom vijeću.

the Council's president when I was the director of this relevant Zadar museum. We had the closest cooperation then, co-creating many projects together with other members of the Council. Then – particularly during the Homeland War – and later, until 2005, I would seek his advice. At the Faculty – and later at the University – he advanced from an assistant to a full professor. Also, he was a vice-dean on several occasions. He is very popular among the history students in Zadar, who always talk about him with great respect. He raised numerous generations of historians, many of whom distinguished themselves in that field. He mentored several master's and doctoral theses. Of course, all that yielded high-quality results. He was also a visiting professor at a few faculties (in Zagreb and Ljubljana, for instance). He underwent advanced training in Croatia and abroad. As he speaks several foreign languages, he has never had any problems reading relevant literature from various countries. We, his colleagues, are well aware of the long nights he spent reading and writing.

We had great cooperation in the Zadar Historical Society in the years we spent as members of its Managing Board. Then he became its president and I became its secretary and lecture moderator. We brought to Zadar many lecturers, both acclaimed and young ones, from Zagreb, Rome, Graz, Sarajevo, Novi Sad. Naturally, numerous local historians, archaeologists, art historians, even philosophers, also took part at our forums. It went on until the Homeland war. Speaking about the war, I should also mention here that Professor Čače was regularly on duty at the Faculty, together with other



Sl. 5. Slobodan Čače na Aseriji 2015. godine
Fig. 5. Slobodan Čače at Asseria (2015)

Privedimo ovaj naš vremoplov koncu. Još bi se mnogo, mnogo toga moglo reći o našem Kuši, iznimnom znanstveniku i čovjeku. Možda u nekoj drugoj prigodi. Već je nekoliko godina bolestan i nije u svom voljenom Zadru. I dalje ga krasi optimizam, duhovitost i vjera u daljnji život. Sretno prijatelju.

professors and employees. He did not leave Zadar then; instead, he shared the City's fate with the citizens, professors and students. During and after the first democratic election in Croatia, he was a councillor in the City Council.

Although we are now bringing this "time travel" to an end, so much more could be said about our Kuše, an exceptional scientist and person. Some other time, perhaps. He has been ill for a few years now and he is not in his beloved Zadar. He is still optimistic, witty and full of faith. Good luck, my friend.