

## CHALLENGE OF NIGHT IN RENAISSANCE DUBROVNIK

### Summary

*On the basis of the modern documentation and works of prominent writers of that period and using the newest researches of those intriguing problems, the author reconstructs the night life of renaissance Dubrovnik, which was everything but not idyllic and desirable. Marin Držić wrote about that in the best way. He compares night with a hell because that is a period of terrible shadows, when every kind of joy and happiness stops and cry gets a special power. Horse jokes of the young noblemen, fights and plays with swords and knives were regular night occurrences. On the scandalous rank-list of the night disturbances of peace usage of sword was incomparably ahead of all other kinds of weapon in the mutual fights of nobility and citizens. The noblemen were not the only participants in disturbances, but - even more - the plebeian youth. People, who were night guards, experienced many inconveniences, because they were not educated for that job and they did not have any kind of authority, especially over the noblemen, so it seemed that the authorities were powerless in this respect.*

**Key words:** *Dubrovnik, renaissance, night, guard, disturbance, fight, maskers, courtesan.*