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**Unidentified Medieval Settlements in Southeastern  
Hungary:**

*Bozvár, Castellum Cikóvásárhely, Castrum Cseri, and Sugya*

One of the questions yet to be solved in connection with medieval Southeastern Hungary is the delineation of the administrative boundaries in that area at that time. Thus, for instance, the exact borders of *Keve*, *Krassó*, *Temes*, and *Torontál* counties are yet to be drawn. In the Middle Ages these counties were arranged along what one may call a horizontal line: *Krassó* and *Keve* on the Danube, with *Temes* and *Torontál* bordering them from the N, and *Arad* and *Csanád* separating them from the *Maros* River. Of the latter, *Csanád* County extended in an almost equally proportioned triangle over territories N and S of the *Maros* River and E of the Theiss. In later times, *Keve* was incorporated into the neighboring *Temes* and *Torontál* counties. As a result, in the Modern Period only three counties were in existence in the general area: *Krassó-Szörény*, *Temes*, and *Torontál*. Furthermore, having absorbed all territories S of the *Maros* River previously belonging to *Arad* and to *Csanád* counties, the three counties now were arranged along a more vertical line.

Though the how and why of this rather important change has by now been established in its broader outlines, many of the questions of detail, such as the exact borders of the medieval counties, the territory they once covered, the distribution of the then existing settlements among the then existing counties, etc., are still awaiting answers, answers which can be given in a more or less conclusive form with the help of Ottoman sources. As I have pointed out repeatedly, and most recently in my "Unidentified Medieval Settlements in Southeastern Hungary: *Alba Ecclesia*, *Castrum Ér-Somlyó*, *Castrum Somlyó*, and *Maxond*" (*Hungaro-Turcica, Studies in Honour of Julius Németh* (Budapest, 1975), 28 pp.), the Ottoman domesday books

form an especially valuable link between the Middle Ages and the Modern Period, providing information vital to a better understanding of both Medieval and Habsburg-era Hungary. Their testimony is of the greatest importance, for instance, in the establishing of administrative boundaries.

Administrative boundaries, in the Ottoman Empire as elsewhere, vary depending on the nature and function of the unit they limit. The most important administrative units in the Ottoman Empire were the *eyalets* / *beylerbeyliks*, the *sancaks* / *livas*, and the *nahiyes* / *kazas*. Though a comprehensive study of Ottoman administrative units and structures is yet to be written and, with time, relevant terminology has changed in its semantic content, sometimes even to the extent of a full reversion, it can safely be stated that, at the height of its supremacy, the Ottoman Empire consisted of about thirty–forty *eyalets* and, solely by deduction, of about six to eight-hundred *sancaks* and six to eight-thousand *nahiyes*. It is obvious that for the study of administrative boundaries in Southeastern Hungary in Ottoman times Ottoman *eyalet* (province) boundaries are of little or no relevance and, thus, no attention will be given to them here. The situation is somewhat different with respect to the *sancaks*, the Ottoman administrative units next in size. The *sancaks* having been units of a military nature, their boundaries, in most cases, were not stable enough to make a good base for comparison since they were subject to frequent territorial changes, especially when they were located in the vicinity of enemy territory. It follows from the same military considerations that inside of the Empire proper the *sancaks* were of bigger extension, diminishing in size, and often considerably, in border territories. Nevertheless, there were instances where the Ottoman *sancak* coincided with or was a continuation of a pre-Conquest administrative unit of the area. Examples for the latter are given by B. Cvetkova in her “Early Ottoman *Tahrir Defters* as a Source for Balkan History”, (*Archivum Ottomanicum* 8 (1976), p. 83 (manuscript), E.g. the Vidin czardom of Ivan Stratsimir = *Sancak* of *Vidin*; the domain of Konstantin Dragash = *Sancak* of *Kostandili*; the land of Brankovich = = *Sancak* of *Vilk-İli*; the territory of Bulgaria at the time of Shishman = *Sancak* of *Nikopol*; etc. Further to the north, in the area along the Danube, the question seems to be far more complicated. E.g., while the *Sancak* of *Sirem* was the exact continuation of medieval *Szerém* County<sup>1</sup>, the medieval *Bánát* of *Macsó* constituted only one part, the northern one, of the *Sancak* of *Simendire*<sup>2</sup>, and the boundaries of the *Sancak* of *Segedin* included the whole of *Bács*, *Bodrog*, and *Csongrád* counties and part of *Fejér* County<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> B. McGowan, *Defter-i mufasssal-i Sirem*, (*An Ottoman Revenue Survey Dating from the Reign of Selim II*), Ankara (in press).

<sup>2</sup> Communication by A. Z. Hertz from his *Defter-i mufasssal-i Semendire*, 517 (1571; in preparation).

<sup>3</sup> T. Halasi-Kun, *Sixteenth-century Turkish Settlements in Southern Hungary*, “*Belleten*”, 28, pp. 1–72, 10 plates. See esp. map on pp. 16/17.



In contrast to the *sancaks*, the *nahiyes*, which are the next in size among the Ottoman administrative units, show, at least in the northern parts of Danubian Europe, a remarkable stability in their boundaries. And, since in most cases not only their territories remained unchanged for long periods of time but even their strong ties to their medieval predecessors, they lend themselves extremely well to comparative studies.

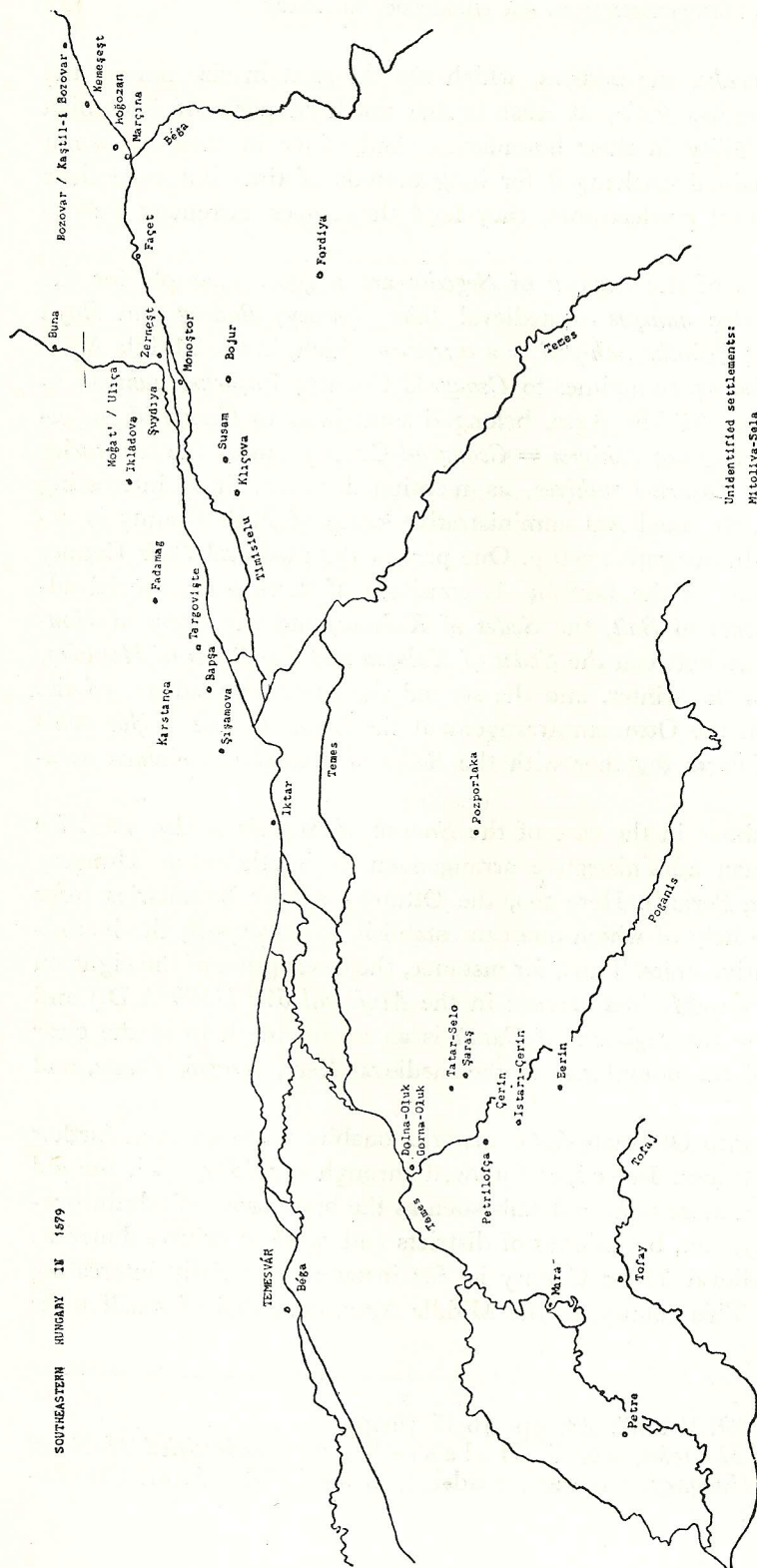
The *nahiye* boundaries of the *Sancak* of *Segedin* are a good example for the above<sup>4</sup>. E.g., *Titel* and *Baç nahiyes* = medieval *Bács* County; *Bodrog* and *Baya nahiyes* = *Bodrog* County; *Sobotka nahiyesi* = a territory which, in the Middle Ages, belonged sometimes to *Bodrog*, sometimes to *Csongrád* County; *Vaşarhel nahiyesi* = a territory which, in the Middle Ages, belonged sometimes to *Csongrád*, sometimes to *Csanád* County; *Segedin nahiyesi* = *Csongrád* County minus the territories attached to *Sobotka* and *Vaşarhel nahiyes*, as mentioned above. It is interesting to see how, for instance, the medieval administrative setup of *Fejér* County is reflected in the Ottoman administrative setup. One part of the medieval *Fejér* County extended over the left bank of the Danube. It consisted of three *sedes*, special administrative units: the *Sedes* of *Solt*, the *Sedes* of *Kalocsa*, and the *Sedes* of *Hontoka*<sup>5</sup>. There were close ties between the *Sedes* of *Kalocsa* and the *Sedes* of *Hontoka*, the first one having been the winter, and the second the summer residence of the archbishop of *Kalocsa*. In the Ottoman arrangement the *Sedes* of *Solt* = *Şot nahiyesi*, and the *Sedes* of *Kalocsa* together with the *Sedes* of *Hontoka* = *Kalaça nahiyesi*.

What we have seen above in the case of the *Sancak* of *Segedin* is also valid for the medieval and Ottoman administrative arrangement in Southeastern Hungary (= *Bánát* of the Modern Period). Here too, the Ottoman *nahiye* boundaries offer valuable criteria with the help of which one can establish, in retrospect, the boundaries of earlier administrative units. Thus, for instance, the description of the eighteen *nahiyes* of the *Timişvar* and *Modova sancaks* in the *Mufasssal* 579 (1579 A.D.) and of the southern *nahiyes* in the registers of *Çanat* is an invaluable help in the clear and detailed definition of the boundaries of the medieval *Keve*, *Krassó*, *Temes*, and *Torontál* counties.

Deeper investigation into Ottoman *defter* material enables us to go even further with such comparative studies. Indeed, if followed through carefully, with the aid of it one can also establish more minute details such as the boundaries of administrative sub-units of a county, e.g., boundaries of districts and royal or private domains. The eastern part of medieval *Temes* County is, for instance, especially interesting from this point of view. This county, in the Middle Ages, consisted of small units

<sup>4</sup> Halasi-Kun, "Belleten", 28, pp. 16/17 (map).

<sup>5</sup> For the location of *Hontoka*, see, T. Halasi-Kun, *Unidentified Medieval Settlements in Southern Hungary, Ottoman: nezd-i..., et socii*, "Archivum Ottomanicum", 3 (1971), p. 58.



Unidentified settlements:

- Mitoliya-Sela
- Ober-Slud'a
- Rakova

Settlements not indicated on the map:

- Baj-i Borvari Yareq
- Baj-i Borvari Andrag
- Karga-Selo
- Istari-Targovite
- Macovite
- Radulova
- Seliqte



centered usually either around a *castrum* or around an *oppidum*. Some of these units were regular royal or private domains, while others — be they royal or private — were special, so to say military units. The latter were called in Hungarian historiography *districti volahales*. Many of these units in *Temes* County were once in the hands of no less a person than John Hunyadi. As interesting as they may be, the border descriptions of these sub-units are, in most cases, vague and inconclusive, if known at all, and even specialists like D. Csánki<sup>6</sup> and B. Milleker<sup>7</sup> are often faced with insurmountable difficulties when trying to define their outline or to locate or identify the center to which they once belonged.

A detailed listing of the Hunyadi domains is given by B. Hóman<sup>8</sup>. If we select from this list only the domains which were in the eastern part of medieval *Temes* County, our special interest at this point, the following table can be set up:

Domain	Stronghold	City	Village
Borzlyuk	1	1	31
Bozsor	—	1	?
Ikus	—	1	12
Monostor	—	1	?
Suggya	—	—	15
Zsupán	—	—	5
Turd	—	—	15

A second list of domains in eastern *Temes* County, domains not in Hunyadi hands, can be obtained from data given by Milleker (op. cit., pp. 149, 153, and 178) and can be set up in a table as follows:

Domain	Year	Settlements
Cseri	1387	6
	1459	62
	1473	23
	1501	31
Doboz	1462 <sup>9</sup>	67
Hodos	1471	31
Czikó-Vásárhely	1488	29

Though in both cases the borders of the domains or districts are generally little known or vague and, as can be seen from the above tabulation, the number of settlements in a given unit can fluctuate, increase and decrease considerably, the greatest difficulty still lies in the fact that not too infrequently even the focal points, the

<sup>6</sup> D. Csánki, *Magyarország történelmi földrajza a Hunyadiak korában*, Budapest 1894, ii.

<sup>7</sup> B. Milleker, *Délmagyarország középkori földrajza*, Temesvár 1915.

<sup>8</sup> B. Hóman — Gy. Szekfű, *Magyar történet*, Budapest 1936<sup>3</sup>, iii, pp. 440/441 (map).

<sup>9</sup> Csánki, op. cit., pp. 33—34.

centers of these units are not clearly established. Such unidentified centers are, for instance, *Cseri*, *Cikóvásárhel* and *Sugya*.

The Ottomans, according to the *Mufasssal* 579, divided the eastern part of *Temes* County into ten *nahiyes*: *Çerin*, *Iktar*, *Bojur*, *Ferdiya*, *Tırgovişte*, *Şuydiya*, *Monoştor*, *Façet*, *Marçına*, and *Bozovar*. This is an unusually high number for such a small area (not even 100 kms long and hardly 20 kms in width), yet, as is evident from the available data, these miniature *nahiyes* are the reflections of medieval administrative formations: regular domains or special military units. The question of what considerations prompted the Ottomans to preserve these miniature medieval administrative units would call for investigations out of the scope of this study. Still, it is interesting to see that, while on the one side the Ottomans preserved these administrative units, on the other they eliminated the centers of these units if they were strongholds or castles. It was in the best of Ottoman traditions to tear down enemy strongholds considered unnecessary<sup>10</sup> once the area had been conquered. Most of these strongholds tracelessly disappeared, but their memory in many instances lived on in the name of the nearby *oppidum* (Ottoman *varoş*) or village (Ottoman *kariye*), or in the name of the pertinent administrative unit itself.

The general data furnished by the *Mufasssal* 579 on the ten *nahiyes* can be tabulated as follows:

The ten *nahiyes*

Name of <i>nahiye</i>	Origin of name of <i>nahiye</i>	<i>Varoş</i>	<i>Kariye</i>	<i>Mez- raa</i>	Total
1. Çerin	Kariye-i Çerin	1 Berin	26	47	74
2. Iktar	Varoş-i Iktar	1	29	9	39
3. Bojur	Varoş-i Bojur	1	30	3	34
4. Ferdiya	Kariye-i Ferdiya	—	16	—	16
5. Tırgovişte	Varoş-i Tırgovişte	1	37	4	42
6. Şuydiya	Kariye-i Şuydiya <sup>11</sup>	—	14	1	15
7. Monoştor	Varoş-i Monoştor	1	18	1	20
8. Façet	Varoş-i Façet	1	19	—	20
9. Marçına	Varoş-i Marçına	1	57	1	59
10. Bozovar	Kariye-i Bozovar	—	8	1	9
					328

<sup>10</sup> H. İnalcık, *Ottoman Methods of Conquest*, "Studia Islamica", 2 (1954), p. 107; H. İnalcık, *The Conquest of Edirne (1361)*, "Archivum Ottomanicum", 3 (1971), pp. 198—199.

<sup>11</sup> On the border of *Şuydiya* and *Monoştor* sub-counties. Though *Şuydiya* Sub-county undoubtedly was named after it, in the register it is mentioned in *Monoştor* Sub-county as abandoned village.



With the exception of a small section of *Iktar*, the first four *nahiyes* were located S of the *Béga* River. The next three (5—7) were to the N, and *nahiyes* 8, 9 and 10 were around the headwaters of the same river. Comparing further the medieval material with information furnished by the *Mufassal 579* we find that in some instances not only the names of the *nahiyes* (or *nahiye* centers) and their medieval predecessors are identical (e.g., *Bojur* = *Bozsúr*, *Ferdiya* = *Turd*, *Tırgovişte* = *Cikó-vásárhely* (one is translation of the other)), but also their territories, and, occasionally, even the number of settlements they comprise. The register lists as many as 328 placenames in this very small area. The rich material offered by the *Mufassal 579* will make, among others, a detailed description of the various administrative boundaries in the general area, a major undertaking beyond the scope of this article, possible. Here, as a first step in this direction, I want to locate and identify the centers of the ten *nahiyes* in the eastern *Temes* County-area. With the help of the tabulations given above six of the ten centers can readily be identified with their medieval and/or modern equivalents. As can be seen, three of the remaining four *nahiye* centers, e.g., *Çerin*, *Tırgovişte*, and *Şuydiya*, appear as unidentified, while *Bozovar* is entirely missing from the medieval tabulations.

The methodology used in this article will be that employed in my previous articles dealing with similar problems. First, the available pertinent Hungarian medieval material, complemented in a few instances by modern relevant material, is given. Next the pertinent Ottoman data of the *Muffasal 579* are quoted. Finally, the data of the two source groups are combined in annotated conclusions. A map and indices of the Hungarian and Ottoman placenames mentioned complete the material<sup>12</sup>.

As already mentioned, the four settlements of interest to us here are:

### 1. *Bozvár*

Csánki (op. cit., ii, p. 30) and Milleker (op. cit., p. 169) mention *Bozvár* in the medieval *Temes* County. They place the settlement on the Transylvanian border, but without identifying it in particular. Milleker (op. cit., p. 205) also mentions a *Lukácsfalva* in medieval *Temes* County which occurs in connection with

<sup>12</sup> For references and abbreviations used in this article, see T. Halasi-Kun, *Unidentified Medieval Settlements in Southern Hungary, Ottoman: nam-i diğer, Studia Turcica*, Budapest 1971, pp. 213—230.

For transcription and transliteration used in this article, see Halasi-Kun, "Belleten", 28 (1964), pp. 1—72.

For remarks on Ottoman-Hungarian and South-Slavic placenames, if not given in particular, see T. Halasi-Kun, *Avrupa'daki yer adları üzerinde araştırmalar*, Peşte, انكروس, "Türk Dili ve Tarihi Hakkında Araştırmalar", 1 (1950), pp. 63—104, esp. pp. 99—104.

*Bozvár* and *Nemesest*<sup>1</sup> and is also known under the alias *Kastély*. He identifies this *Kastély* with modern *Kostej*/*Felsőkastély*<sup>2</sup>.

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In the *Bozovar* Sub-county (*Bozovar nahiyesi*) of the *Mufassal* 579 the following pertinent entries can be found:

a) At the beginning of the *nahiye*, before *Selişte*<sup>3</sup>: “Kariye-i Kaştil-i Bozovar. Tâbi-i mezbur... Mezraa-i Maçovişte<sup>4</sup>, nezd-i kariye-i mezbure. Halkı ziraat edip tasarruf ederler... Hassa: Bağ-i Bozvarı Yanoş, 200... Diğer hassa: Bağ-i Bojvarı Andraş, 200” (p. 237).

b) After *Roğozan*<sup>5</sup> and before *Nemeşest*<sup>6</sup>: “Kariye-i Bozovar. Tâbi-i mezbur... Asiyab-i Mehmet ağa, hâlen der yed-i Oruç başe, hâli, der hudud-i yar-i kaya” (pp. 238—239).

c) On pp. 237—239, under the heading “Nahiye-i Bozovar. Der liva-i Tımişvar” nine settlements (eight *kariyes* and one *mezraa*) are mentioned N of the *Béga* River, reaching from the headwaters of the *Kostej* River as far as *Temeresty*. In the south, *Nahiye-i Bozovar* bordered on *Marçina* Subcounty.

This would mean that *Bozvár* formed a cluster with *Kastély* and, consequently, the two settlements can be considered identical. To the Ottomans *Bozvár* was known as *Kaştil-i Bozovar* while the other section (modern *Kostej*/*Felsőkastély*, medieval *Lukácsfalva*) they called simply *Bozovar*. An interesting example of Hungarian-Ottoman symbiosis is also offered by the above entries: on the one side, some of the vineyards of *Kaştil-i Bozovar* were still in the possession of the *Bozvári*-family, on the other, the mill in *Bozovar* was in the hands of a Mehmet ağa.

Medieval *Macás* was known as *Maçovişte* to the Ottomans. It is listed in that time as a *mezraa* in the vicinity of *Kaştil-i Bozovar*.

## 2. Castellum Cikóvásárhely

Csánki (op. cit., ii, pp. 12, and 17: s.v., *Czikó-Vásárhely*) and Milleker (op. cit., pp. 150: s.v., *Patkócz*, and 153: s.v., *Czikó-Vásárhely*) mention an *Oppidum Czykowasarhel cum castello*, sometimes also known as *Patkolc*, in the medieval *Temes*

<sup>1</sup> Modern: *Nemesest* (*Nemcse*), NE of *Marzsina* (Facset 22 XXVI; Lugos 40° 46°); ancient: *Nemesest* (Milleker, op. cit., p. 214).

<sup>2</sup> Modern: *Kostej* (*Felsőkastély*), N of *Homosdia* (Maros-Illye 22 XXVI; Lugos 40° 46°); ancient: *Kostie* (Kriegs-Charte des Temeswarer Banath, plate 73).

<sup>3</sup> Ancient: *Szeliste*, in the *Nemesest*-area (Milleker, op. cit., p. 242).

<sup>4</sup> Ancient: *Maczás*, in the *Kostej*-*Marzsina*-area (Milleker, op. cit., p. 206).

<sup>5</sup> Modern: *Zorány*, NE of *Marzsina* (Facset 22 XXVI); ancient: *Rogosán* (*Sorani*) (Milleker, op. cit., p. 232; Kriegs-Charte des Temeswarer Banath, plate 72).

<sup>6</sup> See note 1.



County. Although, according to Milleker (op. cit., p. 153) the *possessio* of *Cikó-vásárhely* consisted of the impressive number of twenty-eight settlements in 1488, Csánki did not even attempt to locate the castle and/or its *oppidum*, while Milleker himself mentions, but only vaguely, the possibility that it may be linked to a “watch-house of Vásárhely” on the *Remete-Poganest-Lugos* highway, five kms N of *Remete-Poganest*<sup>1</sup>. In addition, Milleker (op. cit., pp. 156, and 256) mentions an *Agvászárhely*/*Ó-Vásárhely*/*Vásárhely* settlement as part of the *Cikóvásárhely*-domain.

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In the *Tirgoviște* Sub-county (*Tirgoviște nahiyesi*) of the *Mufassal* 579 we find the following pertinent entries:

a) On pp. 226—229, after *Rakoviça*<sup>2</sup> and before *Bapša*<sup>3</sup>: “Varoş-i Tirgovişte ...//...Mahsul-i vam-i cisir der hudud-i kariye-i [!] m., 1500. Cisr-i mezburdan mürur eden yüklü arabadan sekiz penz, ve boş arabadan iki penz, ve yüklü talığadan iki penz, ve boşundan bir penz, ve tuz arabasından birer kutu tuz, ve piyadeden panayıra geldiklerinde birer penz alınıp sair zamanda nesne alınmaz, ve atlıdan ikişer penz panayıra zamanında alınıp sair zamanda nesne alınmaz. Ve satılık gâvdan birer penz, ve dört bid’attan birer penz alınagelmegün vech-i meşruh üzere defter-i cedide kayıt olundu. Mezraa-i Radulova, nezd-i kariye-i [!] mezbure”.

b) On pp. 228—229, after *Kırsınça*<sup>4</sup> and before *Fadımag*<sup>5</sup>: “Kariye-i Istari-Tirgovişte. Tâbi-i m.”.

c) On pp. 224—232, under the heading “Nahiye-i Tirgovişte. Der liva-i Tımişvar” forty-two settlements (one *varoş*, thirty-seven *kariyes*, and four *mezraas*) are mentioned N of the *Béga* River, located in the area between the brook by *Kutina* and the *Kizdia* River. In the south, *Nahiye-i Tirgovişte* bordered on *Iktar* Sub-county.

This would mean that medieval *Cikóvásárhely*/*Patkolc*, known as *Tirgovişte* to the Ottomans, corresponds to modern *Vásáros*, NE of *Bapsa* (Temesrékás 22 XXV) and, contrary to Milleker (op. cit., p. 150), N and not S of the *Béga* River. From the above entries it becomes evident that at the end of the sixteenth century *Tirgovişte* was a live city, but there is no mention of its medieval castle anymore. There is, however, mention of a bridge which secured customs revenue income

<sup>1</sup> Lugos 23 XXVI.

<sup>2</sup> Unidentified.

<sup>3</sup> Modern: *Bapsa* (*Babsa*), SW of *Vásáros* (Temesrékás 22 XXV; Borovszky, *Temes vármegye*, Budapest, n.d., p. 24); ancient: *Bapsa* (*Pabscha*) (Csánki, op. cit., ii, pp. 25, and 12: s.v., *Czikó-Vásárhely*; Milleker, op. cit., p. 152; *Kriegs-Charte des Temeswarer Banath*, plate 70).

<sup>4</sup> Ancient: *Kresztinc*, in the *Hosszúág*-area (Csánki, op. cit., ii, pp. 47, 29: s.v., *Bokorfalva*, and 12: s.v., *Czikó-Vásárhely*; Milleker, op. cit., p. 203).

<sup>5</sup> Modern: *Fadimak*, N of *Bálint* (Facset 22 XXVI); ancient: *Fagymag* (*Fatimak*) (Csánki, op. cit., ii, pp. 36, and 12: s.v., *Czikó-Vásárhely*; Milleker, op. cit., pp. 181—182; *Kriegs-Charte des Temeswarer Banath*, plate 70).

representing about 12.2% of that of the great fords on the Theiss River (Halasi-Kun "Ottoman: *nezd-i...*, *et socü*", "Archivum Ottomanicum", 3 (1971), pp. 22—23).

Ottoman *Radulova* corresponds to medieval *Rádfalva*<sup>6</sup>. It was a *mezraa* of *Tirgoviște* in the Ottoman period and is to be sought in the vicinity of *Tirgoviște* and *Bapsa*.

Medieval *Agvásárhely*/*Ó-Vásárhely*<sup>7</sup> was called *Istari-Tirgoviște* by the Ottomans and, judging from its position in the listing of the *Mufassal 579*, it also is to be sought in the *Tirgoviște*-area.

### 3. *Castrum Cseri*

Csánki (op. cit., ii, pp. 11—12, and 17) and Milleker (op. cit., pp. 148—149) both mention a *castrum* and an *oppidum Cseri* in the medieval *Temes* County. It was the seat of the vast *Cseri*-domain which, in 1387 consisted of six, in 1459 of sixty-two, in 1473 of twenty-three, and in 1507 of thirty-one settlements (Milleker, op. cit., p. 149). There was even a monastery in *oppidum Cseri*; it belonged to the Order of Friars Minor (Csánki, op. cit., p. 17). Despite its evident importance, the exact location of *Cseri*, be it by Csánki or by Milleker, had not been established. Csánki merely indicates that it is to be sought somewhere in the area S-SW of *Temesrékás*<sup>1</sup>. Milleker follows by and large the Csánki theory adding to it that *Cseri* had to be located on the shores of the *Temes* River since one of its headmen had milling rights on the river. He even refers to some fictitious homonyms on the north side of the *Temes* River, as further indications that *Cseri* is to be sought in that area.

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In the *Çerin* Sub-county (*Çerin nahiyesi*) of the *Mufassal 579* the pertinent entries are as follows:

a) On pp. 204—205, after *Petrilofça*<sup>2</sup> and before *Dolna-* and *Gorna-Oluk*<sup>3</sup>, as sub-entries under the main entry on the village *Çerin*:

<sup>6</sup> Ancient: *Rádfalva*, in the *Bapsa*-area (Milleker, op. cit., pp. 228—229; Csánki, op. cit., ii, p. 59).

<sup>7</sup> Milleker, op. cit., pp. 156, and 256: s.v., *Vásárhely*.

<sup>1</sup> *Temesrékás 22 XXV*.

<sup>2</sup> Modern: *Petriștea*, S of *Ikloda* (Buziás 23 XXV); ancient: *Péterfalva* (Milleker, op. cit., p. 224).

<sup>3</sup> Modern: *Ujlak (Temesujlak)*, NW of *Ikloda* (Buziás 23 XXV; Borovszky, op. cit., p. 117); ancient: *Éliásfalva (Thothyllek and Magyaryllek)* (Milleker, op. cit., p. 180; Csánki, op. cit., ii, p. 11: s.v., *Cseri*).



1. "Kariye-i Çerin. Tâbi-i mezbur".
2. "Mezraa-i Şaraş<sup>4</sup>, nezd-i kariye-i mezbure. Kariye-i mezbure ve Berin<sup>5</sup> ehalleri ziraat edip, yerleri müşadır".
3. "Mezraa-i Tatar-Selo<sup>6</sup>, nezd-i kariye-i mezbure, Çerin ve Berin<sup>5</sup> halkı ziraat ederler, yerleri müşadır".
4. "Mezraa-i Harga-Selo<sup>7</sup>, nezd-i kariye-i mezbure. Varoş-i Berin<sup>5</sup> halkı ziraat ederler".
5. "Mezraa-i Mitoliya-Sela<sup>8</sup>. Varoş-i Berin<sup>5</sup> ehalleri ziraat ederler".
- b) On pp. 212—213, after *Pozporlaka*<sup>9</sup>, as the last entry of that *nahiye*: "Kariye-i Istari-Çerin. Tâbi-i mezbur".
- c) On pp. 203—213, under the heading "Nahiye-i Çerin. Tâbi-i Tımişvar" seventy-four settlements (one *varos*, twenty-six *kariyes*, and forty-seven *mezraas*) are mentioned S of the *Temes* and *Béga* rivers, between the settlements *Boldur*<sup>10</sup> and *Széphely*<sup>11</sup>.

This, in the first place, would mean that, contrary to Milleker's conclusion, *Cseri* is to be placed S of the *Temes* River since all the settlements of the *Çerin* Sub-county were located S and not N of the river. The main criterion upon which Milleker based his assumption, i.e., the milling rights on the *Temes* River, does not only not exclude a southern location of the village but does not even prove a river-bank location. The given data merely show that a headman of *Cseri* had milling rights on the *Temes* and the *Arsus* rivers between *Bazos*<sup>12</sup> and *Liget*<sup>13</sup> (Milleker, op. cit., p. 252, s.v., *Tót*), which involves a distance of about thirty (!) kilometers.

The *Mufasssal* 579 further indicates that *Cseri* was known as *Çerin* to the Ottomans. As it seems, the stronghold, at that time, no longer existed, but the village can be considered a straight continuation of the medieval *oppidum*. According to the register, it had four *mezraas* in Ottoman times: *Şaraş*, *Tatar-Selo*, *Harga-Selo*,

<sup>4</sup> Modern: *Saris*, SE of *Török-Szákos* (Buziás 23 XXV; Milleker, op. cit., p. 235: s.v., *Sárosd*); ancient: *Nagy-Sárosd* and *Kis-Sárosd* (Milleker, ibid.; Csánki, op. cit., ii, pp. 46, 53, and 11: s.v., *Cseri*).

<sup>5</sup> Modern: *Berény* (*Temesberény*), SE of *Román-Sztamora* (Buziás 23 XXV; Borovszky, op. cit., p. 99); ancient: *Berény* (Csánki, op. cit., ii, pp. 15—16; Milleker, op. cit., p. 152).

<sup>6</sup> Modern: *Török-Szákos*, NE of *Ikloda* (Buziás 23 XXV); ancient: *Tatárfalva* (Milleker, op. cit., p. 248; Csánki, op. cit., pp. 66, and 11: s.v., *Cseri*).

<sup>7</sup> Ancient: *Herkefalva*, in the *Cseri* domain (Milleker, op. cit., p. 192; Csánki, op. cit., ii, pp. 41, and 11: s.v., *Cseri*).

<sup>8</sup> Unidentified.

<sup>9</sup> Modern: *Purpur* (*Puzpur*), NE of *Szilás* (Buziás 23 XXV; Milleker, op. cit., p. 227: s.v., *Poszporafalva*); ancient: *Poszporafalva* (Milleker, ibid.; Csánki, op. cit., ii, p. 58).

<sup>10</sup> Buziás 23 XXV.

<sup>11</sup> Ótelek und Széphely 23 XXIV.

<sup>12</sup> Buziás 23 XXV.

<sup>13</sup> Ótelek und Széphely 23 XXIV.



and *Mitoliya-Sela. Şaraş*, the first of these *mezraas*, is identical with *Saris*, S of *Török-Szákos*. The second *mezraa*, *Tatar-Selo*, could be identified with modern *Török-Szákos*, which does not have a direct correspondance in the register and, accordingly, seems to be a name of more recent origin<sup>14</sup>. These two *mezraas* were cultivated jointly (*müşa*) by *Cseri* and *Berény*, which would indicate that they must have been in the vicinity of each other. Taking into consideration the information offered by the *Mufasssal* 579 on the third and fourth *mezraa*, one has to conclude that *Çerin* could not have been located very far from *Berin*. Based on the above I feel that *Cseri* can safely be placed halfway between *Berény* and *Török-Szákos*, at the northern end of the Roman *Vallum*, where the same reaches the *Poganis* River. A conclusion compatible with all the available data, including the milling rights of the headman of *Çerin*, since it places the village at a distance of only nine kilometers from the *Temes* River.

Beyond the testimony of the *mezraas*, the testimony of the Roman *Vallum*, circumstantial as it may be, also offers some weighty evidence pointing in the same direction. The Ottoman *Haram-Ér-Somlyó (Versec)*<sup>15</sup>–*Temesvár–Arad* military road<sup>16</sup> followed the same course as did the great Roman *Vallum* in traversing Southern Hungary from the Danube to *Arad*. Moreover, it seems hardly coincidental that *Mira*, the important Ottoman tollgate, was located in the area where the *Vallum* is cut by the *Temes* River. The more one learns about the beginnings of medieval Hungary the more one realizes the longlasting importance Roman constructions have had in the Carpathian Basin. The Ottomans, with their tradition-oriented approach, often preserved that which was already in existence, and their documents contain much information leading back to the Middle Ages. The use of the *Haram–Arad* Roman *Vallum* is a good example of this and so is *Cseri*, granted the above location on the second Roman *Vallum* which runs parallel to the great *Vallum* already mentioned, but at some distance to the east of it. This second *Vallum* ends at *Ötvösfalu*<sup>17</sup> and starts again at *Török-Szákos*, with the *Poganis* River flowing through the gap thus formed. It is my contention that the medieval *Castrum Cseri* and the Ottoman *Çerin* village (or medieval *oppidum Cseri*) is to be placed in the area of that crossing.

But there is even a third criterion which seems to lend considerable support to the above contention. The criterion is connected with and derives from the identity of the nearby *Román-Sztamora/Felsősztamora*. According to Milleker (op. cit., p. 246) *Román-Sztamora* is a medieval settlement, while *Német-Sztamora/Alsó-*

<sup>14</sup> See, e.g., Borovszky, op. cit., p. 119. Also, Milleker (op. cit., p. 242: s.v., *Székes*) separates *Török-Szákos* from medieval *Székes/Magyar-Szákos*.

<sup>15</sup> T. Halasi-Kun, *Unidentified Medieval Settlements in Southeastern Hungary: Alba Ecclesia, Castrum Ér-Somlyó, and Maxond, Hungaro-Turcica, Studies in Honour of Julius Németh* (Budapest 1975), pp. 7–11.

<sup>16</sup> Used e.g. by Ahmet serdar in the 1552 campaign when marching against *Temesvár* (Hóman—Szekfű, *Magyar történet*, iii, pp. 160/161 (map)).

<sup>17</sup> Buziás 23 XXV.



*sztamora*<sup>18</sup> is of more recent origin, a view shared by B o r o v s z k y (op. cit., pp. 23: s.v., *Alsósztamora*, and 41—42: s.v., *Felsősztamora*). Information furnished by the *Mufassal 579* does not seem to bear out these assumptions. Though an *Istamur* is mentioned after *Petre*<sup>19</sup> and before *Tofaj*<sup>20</sup> in the *Çakova* Sub-county (pp. 88—89) which can readily be identified with *Alsósztamora*, there is no name listed in the *Çerin* Sub-county which could be, at first sight, linked to *Felsősztamora*, yet the register does list the high number of seventy-four settlements in this relatively small area. From the above one may conclude first of all that *Alsósztamora* is to be considered not a recent but a medieval settlement. As to *Felsősztamora*, the lack of an *Istamur* in the given area in the register seems to weigh rather heavily. However, there is an *Istari-Çerin* in the area which may be connected with the name *Sztamora* and, if so, could serve as additional proof for the location of *Castrum Cseri* in the break of the second Roman *Vallum* at the *Poganis* River.

#### 4. *Sugya*

A settlement of the medieval *Temes* County, Csánki (op. cit., ii, p. 61) gives its name as *Suggya*, and Milleker (op. cit., p. 247) as *Szugya*. It was the seat of a *districtus volahalalis* which, in 1454, consisted of fifteen settlements (Csánki, *ibid.*). Csánki holds that it might have been located in the *Leukusest*-area<sup>1</sup>, N of the *Béga* River, whereas Milleker identifies it with *Szuszany*<sup>2</sup>, S of the same river. In support of his identification Milleker mentions that in 1453 several *kenézs* from *Szugya* together with some *kenézs* from *Bozsúr*<sup>3</sup> appeared in *Zsupány*<sup>4</sup> as witnesses. *Bozsúr*, *Zsupány*, and *Szuszany* are undoubtedly neighbors and are undoubtedly located S of the *Béga* River, still, Milleker's identification of *Szugya* (in his reading) with *Szuszany* is based solely on the similarity of the two names.

\*

In the *Timişvar* County (*Timişvar livası*) of the *Mufassal 579*, with its various sub-counties, one finds several entries pertinent to the question:

<sup>18</sup> Detta 24 XXIV.

<sup>19</sup> Modern: *Petromány*, NW of Csák (Ótelek und Széphely 23 XXIV; B o r o v s z k y, op. cit., p. 89); ancient: *Petre* (*Petri*) (B o r o v s z k y, *ibid.*; Csánki, op. cit., ii, p. 57; Milleker, op. cit., p. 224).

<sup>20</sup> Modern: *Tofaj*, SE of Széphely (Ótelek und Széphely 23 XXIV); ancient: *Antalfája* (Milleker, op. cit., p. 156; Csánki, op. cit., ii, p. 24).

<sup>1</sup> Facset 22 XXVI.

<sup>2</sup> Facset 22 XXVI.

<sup>3</sup> Facset 22 XXVI.

<sup>4</sup> Facset 22 XXVI.

a) In the *Şuydıya* Sub-county (*Şuydıya nahiyesi*):

1. On p. 268, as sub-county heading: “Nahiye-i Şuydıya. Der livai Tımişvar”.

2. On pp. 270—271, after *Moğıt’-Uhça*<sup>5</sup> and before *Ikladova*<sup>6</sup>: “Kariye-i Ober-Slud’a<sup>7</sup>. Tâbi-i Şuydıya”.

3. On pp. 268—271, under the heading “Nahiye-i Şuydıya. Der livai Tımişvar” fifteen settlements (fourteen *kariyes* and one *mezraa*) are mentioned N of the *Béga* River, along the valleys of the *Seliştea*<sup>8</sup> and the *Kutina* Brook<sup>9</sup>.

b) In the *Monoştor* Sub-county<sup>10</sup> (*Monoştor nahiyesi*), after *Buna*<sup>11</sup> and before *Zerneşt*<sup>12</sup>: “Kariye-i Şuydıya. Hâli ez raiyye. Tâbi-i mezbur” [i.e., *Monoştor*] (p. 218).

c) In the *Iktar* Sub-county<sup>13</sup> (*Iktar nahiyesi*), after *Khçova*<sup>14</sup> and before *Şişa-mova*<sup>15</sup>: “Kariye-i Susam. Tâbi-i m.” [i.e., *Iktar*] (p. 218).

Thus, the pertinent entries of the *Mufasssal 579* clearly refute Milleker’s identification of *Szugya* with *Szuszany*, S of the *Béga* River. First of all, according to the register, all settlements of the *Şuydıya* Sub-county were located N and not S of the river. It also is evident that *Szugya* cannot be identified with *Szuszány*, the Ottoman equivalent of which is *Susam* listed in the register in the easternmost section of the *Iktar* Sub-county, S of the *Béga* River<sup>13</sup>.

Also, it is evident from the *Mufasssal 579* that *Sugya* was known as *Şuydıya* to the Ottomans and, accordingly, Csánki’s reading is to be considered the correct one. The only name in the *Şuydıya* Sub-county similar to Milleker’s *Szugya* reading would be *Ober-Slud’a*. *Ober-Slud’a*, however, never was the seat of any district. Furthermore, *Şuydıya* the settlement, which was once the seat of a *districtus volahalıs* but even then small enough to be referred to only as village, by the time

<sup>5</sup> Ancient: *Ulicza* (Milleker, op. cit., p. 254); according to the *Mufasssal 579* (pp. 270, and 271) its lands were a joint possession (*müşa*) with *Ikladova* (= modern: *Kladova*).

<sup>6</sup> Modern: *Kladova*, S. of *Ohaba-lunka* (Facset 22 XXVI); ancient: *Kladova* (Csánki, op. cit., ii, pp. 46, and 61: s.v., *Suggya*).

<sup>7</sup> Unidentified.

<sup>8</sup> Facset 22 XXVI.

<sup>9</sup> Facset 22 XXVI.

<sup>10</sup> N of *Timisielu*, consisting of the *Bunya* and *Dubesti* valleys (Facset 22 XXVI).

<sup>11</sup> Modern: *Róman* [sic] *Bunya*, S of *Szegszárd* *Bunya* (Facset 22 XXVI).

<sup>12</sup> Modern: *Cariste*, NE of *Monostor* (Facset 22 XXVI).

<sup>13</sup> Extending mostly S of the *Béga* River, covering the area from *Szuszány* to *Hittiyás*, with its western part reaching N of the river, covering the area between *Sziklás* and *Sustra* (Facset 22 XXVI; Lugos 23 XXVI; Temesrékás 22 XXV; Buziás 23 XXV).

<sup>14</sup> Modern: *Klicsova* (*Klecsova*, *Klicsó*), W of *Szuszany* (Facset 22 XXVI; Csánki, op. cit., ii, p. 46; Milleker, op. cit., p. 200); ancient: *Klecsova* (Csánki, ibid.; Milleker, ibid.).

<sup>15</sup> Modern: *Sziklás* (*Susanovecz*), N of *Kissető* (Temesrékás 22 XXV; Borovszky, op. cit., p. 97); ancient: *Sasánfalva* (*Seschenovac*, *Susanovec*, *Szászfalva*) (Csánki, op. cit., ii, pp. 60, and 88: s.v., *Rádi*; Borovszky, op. cit., p. 97; Milleker, op. cit., p. 240).



of the Ottomans must already have been a ghost-town. Consequently, in the *Mufassal* 579 it is mentioned only furtively as a deserted village, and even then not in the *Şuydiya* but in the *Monoştor* Sub-county neighboring it from the east. Though the listing in this case does not furnish fully conclusive evidence for it, it is my contention that *Şuydiya* = *Sugya* must have been located between *Monostor* and *Leukusest*, close to the border of the two *nahiyes* (*Şuydiya* and *Monoştor*).

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