

The Charter of Kulin Ban¹ (1189)

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. I, Kulin, ban of Bosnia, swear to be a true friend to you, o prince Kr'vash, and to all Dubrovnik citizens from now on and forever, and to keep true peace with you, and true faith, as long as I am alive. All Dubrovnik people who go through my domain trading, wherever anyone wants to move or wherever anyone passes, I will in true faith and with a true heart keep without any damage, unless someone of his own will gives me a gift, and let there be no violence against them by my officers, and as long as they are in my lands I will give them advice and help as I would to myself, as much as I am able, without any evil intention, so help me God and this holy Gospel. I Radoje the ban's clerk wrote this document by the command of the ban, one thousand and one hundred and eighty and nine years from the birth of Christ, the month of August, the twenty-ninth day, [the day of] the beheading of John the Baptist.

Draft translation from old Serbo-Croatian by W. Browne.

Source: text printed in Milivoj Pavlović, *Primeri istoriskog razvitka srpskohrvatskog jezika*. Beograd: Naučna knjiga 1956, page 63. Photograph of original (text in Latin and in old Serbo-Croatian in the Cyrillic alphabet) p. 213.

¹ ban = governor, viceroy