

Hana Younis, *Žene u sudskim spisima 1878–1914. Odbjegle, preljubnice, rentijerke, zemljovlasnice*. Sarajevo: Univerzitet u Sarajevu – Institut za historiju, 2023, 338 str.

Autorsko djelo u formi historijske monografije koje se nalazi pred nama posvećeno je “Mojoj tetki Devleti i kćerki Mejsun”, kako to navodi sama autorica, i predstavlja rezultat dugogodišnjih istraživanja autorice dr. sc. Hane Younis, naučne savjetnice Instituta za historiju Univerziteta u Sarajevu. Autorica H. Younis u svom Predgovoru kaže da je “Pisati o ženama izuzetno... teško, posebno ako ste žena” (str. 9). Također na početku donosi dvije zanimljive rečenice, čime približava čitaocima svoj motiv za istraživanje ove teme, a koje glase: “U svijet žena koje su se pojavljivale pred sudovima krajem 19. i početkom 20. stoljeća uplovila sam sasvim slučajno. Toliko sam bila fascinirana da sam ostala godinama.” (str. 9). Predgovor, nezaobilazno, sadrži i riječi zahvalnosti upućene porodici, kolegicama, kolegama, recenzentima te osoblju kulturnih, odnosno baštinskih institucija u Bosni i Hercegovini.

U uvodnom dijelu knjige autorica sama sebi postavlja krupno pitanje: “Da li je moguće oslikati svakodnevnicu krajem 19. i početkom 20. stoljeća u Bosni i Hercegovini kroz glas žene koja se našla u sudskoj prostoriji?” (str. 11). Upravo u uvodnim redovima teksta autorica sebi postavlja nekoliko ključnih pitanja na koja želi dati što konkretnije odgovore, naravno, pritom se oslanjajući na historijske izvore koji svjedoče o konkretnim slučajevima, tj. stvarnim ženama, s imenom i prezimenom, realnim problemom i konkretnim događajem iz njihovog života. Autorica H. Younis se u pisanju ove knjige obilato i vješto koristila dostupnom arhivskom građom Vrhovnog

Hana Younis, *Žene u sudskim spisima 1878–1914. Odbjegle, preljubnice, rentijerke, zemljovlasnice (Women in court records 1878–1914. Runaways, adulteresses, rentiers, landowners)*. Sarajevo: University of Sarajevo – Institute for History, 2023, 338 pgs.

The author’s work in the form of a historical monograph presented here is dedicated to “My Aunt Devleta and Daughter Mejsun”, as the author herself states, and is the result of many years of research by the author, Ph.D. Hana Younis, a scientific advisor at the Institute of History of the University of Sarajevo. In her Foreword, the author H. Younis says that “writing about women is extremely... difficult, especially if you are a woman” (pg. 9). She also writes two interesting sentences at the beginning, explaining her motive for researching this topic, which read: “I entered the world of women who appeared before the courts in the late 19th and early 20th century quite by accident. I was so fascinated that I stayed for years.” (pg. 9). The Foreword, inevitably, also contains words of gratitude addressed to family, colleagues, reviewers, and staff of cultural heritage institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the introductory part of the book, the author asks herself a big question: “Is it possible to portray everyday life in the late 19th and early 20th century in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the voice of a woman who found herself in a courtroom?” (pg. 11). It is in the introductory lines of the text that the author asks herself several key questions to which she wants to provide as concrete answers as possible, of course, relying on historical sources

šerijatskog suda Bosne i Hercegovine, Okružnog suda u Sarajevu, kotarskih sudova u Sarajevu, Mostaru, Ljubuškom, Trebinju, Doboju, Bosanskom Brodu, Tešnju, Maglaju, Gračanici, Bugojnu, Tuzli, kotarskih šerijatskih sudova u Sarajevu, Mostaru, Ljubuškom, Tuzli, Doboju, Maglaju i Tešnju. Zapravo, koristila je dostupne fondove neobjavljene arhivske građe iz Arhiva Bosne i Hercegovine, Arhiva Republike Srpske, Arhiva Hercegovačko-neretvanskog kantona, Kantonalnog arhiva Travnika, Arhiva Tuzlanskog kantona, Historijskog arhiva Sarajeva, Orijentalnog instituta UNSA i Srpske pravoslavne opštine Sarajeva. Naravno, autorica je također prilikom istraživanja i pisanja koristila objavljene izvore, štampu koja je nastala u razmatranom periodu krajem 19. i početkom 20. stoljeća, te sekundarnu stariju i noviju literaturu. Dr. H. Younis ističe da “je ova studija... drugačija od klasičnih historijskih na koje smo navikli, značajno je nadograđena u odnosu na teorijske analize koje promišljaju ili zamišljaju i često predstavljaju isključivo odraz savremenih pogleda na te događaje” (str. 12). Autorica navodi da “Brojni primjeri koje ćemo spomenuti u knjizi kao i oni mnogobrojni koji su ostali nespomenuti, a ukazuju na isto, jasno potvrđuju da su žene u Bosni i Hercegovini u posljednjim decenijama 19. i početkom 20. stoljeća živjele poput žena širom Austro-Ugarskog carstva, ali i mnogo šire” (str. 15). U konačnici, cilj je bio, kako sama autorica kaže, “da stvarnim ženama damo priliku i kroz njihove riječi uvidimo kakvo je to doba bilo. Stoga knjiga obiluje primjerima koji od pojedinačne slike u konačnici stvaraju složen mozaik života žena u Bosni i Hercegovini u periodu austrougarske okupacije i uprave. Autorica naglašava važnost sudskih spisa kao historijskih izvora, pri čemu je ova knjiga, a u to će se uvjeriti svaki pažljivi i stručniji čitalac napisanog teksta između njenih korica, eklatantan primjer kako se mogu i trebaju koristiti izvori sudske provenijencije u svrhu pisanja naučne monografije.

Drugo poglavlje pod naslovom Porodični odnosi (str. 21–136) predstavlja, kako sama autorica navodi na jednom mjestu, razne aspekte porodičnog života, u kojem donosi

that testify to specific cases, i.e. real women, with names and surnames, real problems and specific events from their lives. In writing this book, the author H. Younis used abundantly and skillfully the available archival materials of the Supreme Sharia Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the District Court in Sarajevo, district courts in Sarajevo, Mostar, Ljubuški, Trebinje, Doboj, Bosanski Brod, Tešanj, Maglaj, Gračanica, Bugojno, Tuzla, the district Sharia courts in Sarajevo, Mostar, Ljubuški, Tuzla, Doboj, Maglaj and Tešanj. In fact, she used the available sources of unpublished archival materials from the Archives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Archives of Republika Srpska, the Archives of Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, the Cantonal Archives of Travnik, the Archives of Tuzla Canton, the Historical Archives of Sarajevo, the Oriental Institute of the University of Sarajevo and the Serbian Orthodox Municipality of Sarajevo. Of course, during research and writing, the author also used published sources, the press published in the researched period at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century, and secondary older and newer literature.

Dr. H. Younis points out that “this study... is different from the classic historical ones we are used to, it is significantly upgraded in relation to theoretical analyzes that reflect or imagine and often represent only a reflection of contemporary views on these events” (pg. 12). The author notes that “the numerous examples that we will mention in the book, as well as the numerous ones that remained unmentioned, and which all point to the same, clearly confirm that women in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the last decades of the 19th and early 20th century lived like women throughout the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, and beyond” (pg. 15). Ultimately, the goal was, as the author herself says, “to give real women a chance and see through their words what that era was like.” Therefore, the book abounds with examples that ultimately create a complex mosaic of women’s lives in Bosnia and Herzegovina during the period of Austro-Hungarian occupation and administration. The author emphasizes the importance of court records as historical

mnoštvo detalja iz ženske svakodnevnice, a konkretno obrađuje pitanja kroz jako zanimljive podnaslove: Mladenke – voljne i otete; Od bigamije do poliandrije; Razvjenčane i odbjege; Odustajanje od razvoda; Alimentacija; Preljubnice; Čedomorke; Tutorstvo; Zapostavljanje djece; Imovina; Dug unutar porodice; Umrle i Odsutne. U ovom poglavlju autorica je, kroz niz primjera žena koje se pojavljuju u sudskim spisima, ilustrovala realnost privatnog života i porodičnih problema žena u Bosni i Hercegovini u periodu od 1878. do 1914. godine.

Naslov trećeg poglavlja u knjizi dr. H. Younis glasi Javni život (str. 137–222). U njemu se autorica bavi problemima žena u javnom životu viđenim kroz sudske spise. Autorica je obradila u nizu zanimljivih podnaslova razne aspekte javnih problema iz života žena Bosne i Hercegovine u periodu od 1878. do 1914. godine: Na ulici; Kradljivice i pokradene; Bludnice; Silovane; Ubistva s neprijateljskim namišljajem; Dug; Plate i zasluge; Kirija i Vlasnice kmetskih selišta. Ovaj aspekt života žena je “ostao uglavnom zamagljen u bosanskohercegovačkoj historiografiji” (str. 139). Uloga žene u ovom periodu bosanskohercegovačke historije je, prema riječima autorice, ili prešućivana ili ignorisana.

U četvrtom poglavlju pod naslovom Ugledne građanke: gospođe i hanume (str. 223–255) autorica donosi zanimljiv pogled na nekoliko žena, pripadnica najviših društvenih struktura, i detalje s njihovih sudskih parnica. Kroz ove primjere uglednih građanki iz perioda austrougarske okupacione uprave u Bosni i Hercegovini autorica je otkrila svijet i svakodnevnicu odabranih žena iz ondašnjeg “visokog društva”. Učinila je to kroz sudske dokumente koji otkrivaju “njihovu svakodnevnicu, kretanje, troškove i privatne odnose koji su često obilježeni netrpeljivošću prema drugoj strani koja je nerijetko član porodice” (str. 225). Autorica je u ovom poglavlju značajki izdvojila primjere višegodišnjih parnica koje su vodile Savka Despić, Mulija-hanuma Čomara i Ašida-hanuma Smailbegović.

U završnom dijelu knjige nalaze se, prema ustaljenom metodološkom obrascu, Zaključak

sources, and this book, as any observant and professional reader of the written text between its covers will be convinced, is a striking example of how sources of court provenance can and should be used for the purpose of writing a scientific monograph.

The second chapter entitled Family relations (pgs. 21–136) presents, as the author herself states in one place, various aspects of family life, in which she brings many details from women’s everyday life, and specifically deals with issues through very interesting subtitles: Brides - Willing and Abducted; From Bigamy to Polyandry; Divorced and Runaway; Waiver of Divorce; Alimony; Adulterers; Child Murderers; Tutelage; Child Neglect; Assets; Debt Within the Family; Dead and Absent. In this chapter, the author illustrated the reality of the private life and family problems of women in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period from 1878 to 1914 through a series of examples of women appearing in court records.

The title of the third chapter in Dr. H. Younis’s book is Public Life (pgs. 137–222). In it, the author deals with the problems of women in public life as seen through court records. The author has covered various aspects of public problems from the lives of women in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period from 1878 to 1914 in a series of interesting subtitles: On the Street; Thieves and Theft Victims; Harlots; Raped; Murders with Hostile Intent; Debt; Salaries and Merits; Rent and Owners of Serf Settlements. This aspect of women’s lives “has remained largely obscured in Bosnian-Herzegovinian historiography” (pg. 139). The role of women in this period of Bosnian-Herzegovinian history was, according to the author, either glossed over or ignored.

In the fourth chapter, entitled Distinguished Citizens: Ladies and Khanum (pgs. 223–255), the author provides an interesting look at several women, members of the highest social structures, and details from their court cases. Through these examples of distinguished citizens from the period of the Austro-Hungarian occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the author reveals the world and everyday life of selected women from the “high society” of the

na bosanskom, engleskom i arapskom jeziku (str. 257–302), u kojem dr. H. Younis u kratkim crtama sumira svoju studiju, te posebno naglašava značaj sudskih dokumenata kao historijskih izvora za sagledavanje pravnog položaja i generalno života žena u Bosni i Hercegovini u periodu od 1878. do 1914. godine. Zatim, dati su Prilozi (str. 303–310), Izvori i literatura (str. 311–316), Popis fotografija i priloga (str. 317–319), Indeks ličnih imena (str. 321–331), Indeks geografskih pojmova (str. 333–335) i O autorici (str. 337).

O ovdje prikazanom i razmatranom djelu možemo uopšteno kazati da je Younis načinila zanimljivo štivo koje se čita s uživanjem, što zorno pokazuje da je autorica dr. H. Younis, koja iza sebe ima impozantnu naučnu karijeru historičarke, uspjela prilagoditi svoj stil i onima koji se direktno ne bave ovom vrstom nauke. Sigurni smo da je ovo djelo ispunilo sve potrebne uslove da postane važan dio ukupnog korpusa naučne produkcije bosanskohercegovačke historiografije te da će biti nezaobilazno u svim budućim istraživanjima koja se budu bavila ili bar doticala ove teme.

time. She did this through court records that reveal “their everyday life, movements, expenses and private relationships, which are often marked by intolerance towards the other party, who is often a family member” (pg. 225). In this chapter, the author skillfully singles out examples of long-standing lawsuits pursued by Savka Despić, Mulija khanum Čomara and Ašida khanum Smailbegović.

In the final part of the book, according to the established methodological pattern, there is a Conclusion in Bosnian, English and Arabic (pgs. 257–302), in which Dr. H. Younis briefly summarizes her study and especially emphasizes the importance of court records as historical sources for looking at the legal position and life of women in Bosnia and Herzegovina in general in the period from 1878 to 1914. Then, there are Appendices (pgs. 303–310), Sources and Literature (pgs. 311–316), List of Photographs and Attachments (pgs. 317–319), Index of Personal Names (pgs. 321–331), Index of Geographical Terms (pgs. 333–335) and Author’s Biography (pg. 337).

Considering the work at hand, we can generally say that Younis has written an interesting book that is read with pleasure, which clearly shows that the author, dr. H. Younis, who has an impressive scientific career as a historian, managed to adapt her style to make it enjoyable even to reads who do not directly deal with this type of science. We are sure that this work has fulfilled all the necessary conditions to become an important part of the entire body of scientific output of Bosnian historiography and that it will be indispensable in all future research that will deal with or at least touch upon this topic.