



Vratnica Village

Vratnica is a small village and community located in the Jegunovce Municipality of North Macedonia. Vratnica lies in the north-west and is 22 km away from the city of Tetovo and 5 km away from Jažince- the border crossing point with Kosovo. It is situated in the upper part of the Polog plain, at the foothills of northern part of Shar Mountain, under the Ljuboten peak. The village lies at 700–760 meters above the sea level. Vratnica was mentioned for the first time in Ottoman defter (tax registry and land cadastre) dating back to the 15th century. It was recorded that there were about 59 families living in Vratnica. In the defter labelled 4 for the years 1467/68 the number of houses had increased to 66, while in 1545 there is a record of 76 houses, and in 1568 there were 84 houses registered.

Vratnichani speak on 'Vratnica' dialect, which is part of the western subgroup of the northern group of dialects of the Macedonian language. Serbian linguistics refer to it as a sub-dialect of Serbia's south-eastern 'Torlak' dialects called 'Prizrenski/Timochki'. It draws its grammar origin from today's Macedonian language, but incorporates both Macedonian, Serbia and old Slavonic words (Example: 'rabotam'=to work, 'golemo'=big, 'astal'=table, 'das'=rain and 'prajem'=to make). The Village and the surrounding area are well known for the beautiful traditional costumes and delicious traditional food.

The village can be visited as a part of the Tower Trail

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