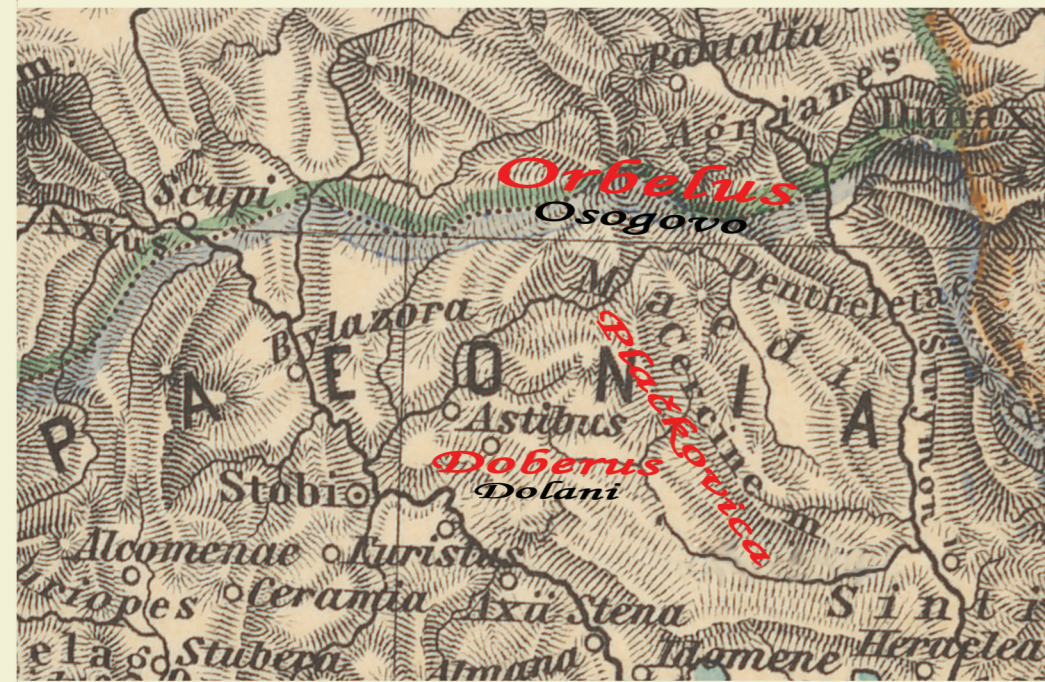


Country of Doberes The city of Doberus

Doberes was a Paeonian tribe who lived in antiquity and inhabited the hilly side North of Lakavica valley from Štip to Radoviš. At that time, about 500 BC, the Lakavica valley was a Lake known as Prusias, in which the locals dwelt in the lake on platforms. Herodotus who wrote his History in 440 BC tells us that Megabazus, a highly regarded Persian general under Darius the Great, was given a mission to conquer Thrace in 509 BC and to remove the Paeonians from their country. When the Paeonians heard that the Persians were marching against them, they gathered themselves together, and marched down to the sea-coast, the Lake of Cercinitis, (the valley of Kočani once was a lake), since they thought the Persians would endeavor to enter their country on that side, from the Strymon river in direction from Blagoevgrad to Delčevo and Vinica. But the Persians, who knew that they had gathered, and were gone to keep guard at the pass near the sea, got guides, and taking the inland route before the Paeonians were aware, poured down upon their cities so these tribes of the Paeonians, to wit, the Siropaeonians, the Paeoplians and all the others as far as Lake Prusias, were torn from their seats and led away into Asia. Those on the other hand who dwelt about Mount Pangaeum (the area around the mine of Damjan and Bučim) and in the country of the Doberes, the Agrianians, and the Odomantians, and those likewise who inhabited Lake Prusias, were not conquered by Megabazus.

A number of clues and evidence indicates that the city of Doberus existed on the side and in the vicinity of the village of Dolani, near Štip. Thucydides in his History of the Peloponnesian war that lasted 431-404 BC tells us that Sitalces, King of Thrace collected a mighty host for war against Perdiccas, the king of Macedonia. Among all of his Thacian subjects Sitalces also called out the Agrianians, the Laeaeans, and the other Paeonian nations who were his subjects. These tribes were the last within his empire; they extended as far as the Graean Paeonians and the river Strymon, which rises in Mount Scombrus and flows through the country of the Graeans and Laeaeans; there his dominion ended and the independent Paeonians began. When he had collected his army and his preparations were complete he marched into Macedonia, passing first of all through his own territory, and then through Cercine, (Plačkovica planina), a desert mountain which lies between the Sinti and the Paeonians. He went by the road which he had himself constructed when he went on his expedition against the Paeonians and cut down the forest. As he left the Odrysian territory in going through the mountain he had on the right hand the Paeonians and on the left hand the Sinti and Maedi; on leaving the mountain he arrived at Doberus in Paeonia. Having mustered at Doberus, they made ready to descend over the heights into the plains of Macedonia, which was the territory of Perdiccas.



Doberus – a city in Macedonia prima

Constantine the Great

Constantine the Great, who ruled the Roman Empire until 337, was the first emperor to stop Christian persecutions and to legalize Christianity along with all other religions and cults in the Roman Empire.

In February 313, Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, in which it was stated that Christians should be allowed to follow the faith without oppression. This removed penalties for professing Christianity, under which many had been martyred previously, and returned confiscated Church property. The edict protected from religious persecution not only Christians but all religions, allowing anyone to worship whichever deity they chose. The Edict of Milan included several clauses which stated that all confiscated churches would be returned as well as other provisions for previously persecuted Christians. Constantine possibly retained the title of pontifex maximus, a title emperors bore as heads of the ancient Roman religion priesthood until 383.

Council of Serdica

The Council of Serdica, or Synod of Serdica, was a synod convened in 343 at Serdica in the civil diocese of Dacia, by Roman dominate Emperors Constans I, augustus in the West, and Constantius II, augustus in the East, to resolve the Arian controversy. It was attended by about 170 bishops, among whom also took part Gerontius, episcopus of Doberus.

Dolani - Manastir Sveti Ilija

In the village of Dolani there is a small monastery Sveti Ilija, built in 1930-ties, with a cemetery nearby, located on a hilly side north of the village. Things around on the spot of the small church reveal that



Zosimus the Historian, who lived during the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Anastasius I (491–518), tells us that Constantine the Great, altered the old, good institution and of one office magistracy formed four. To one of those prefects he committed all Thrace and Moesia, as far as the mountains Haemus and Rhodope, and the town of Doberus.

Council of Chalcedon

The Council of Chalcedon was held in 451, at Chalcedon. The Council is numbered as the fourth ecumenical council by the Great Church. A minority of Christians do not agree with the council's teachings. The council was attended by about 520 bishops among which also attended Eusebius Doberorum, in Macedonia prima episcopus.

there existed a very old church a long time ago. The most remarkable objects are some square floor slabs, preciously carved in stone, that obviously are the remains of the episcopal church of Doberus.



Republic of Macedonia

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Battle of Doberus 269

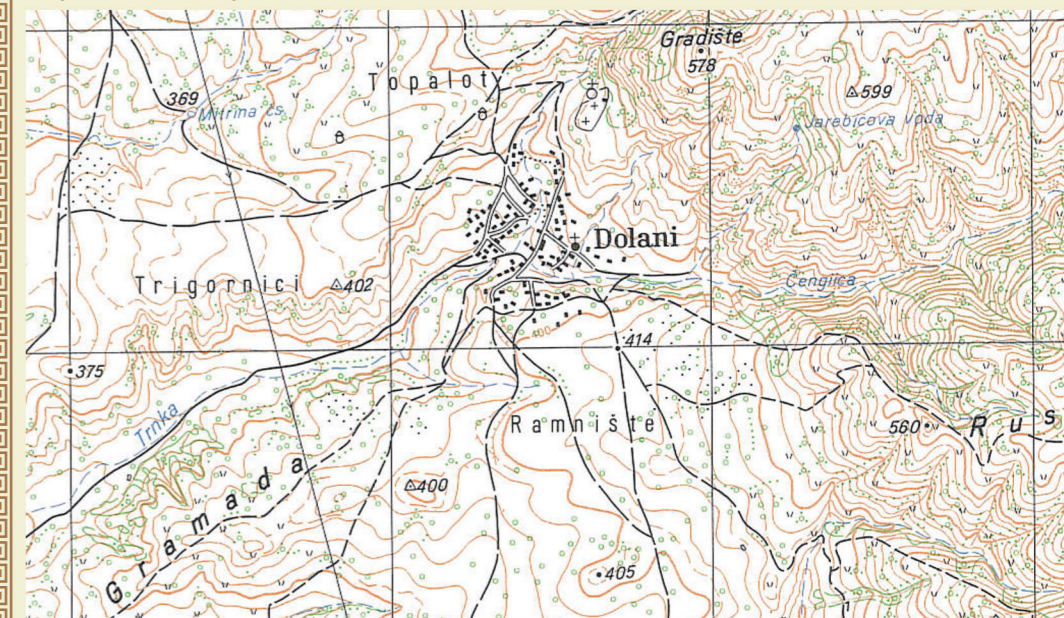


Dolani
Долани
Štip
Штип

Doberus
Doberos
Dubrunin
Добрун

Dolani - Долани

Dolani is a village in the Štip Municipality, located about 5 km southward along the road to Radoviš and Strumica. The name of Dolani as populated place and village is mentioned in a document recorded by the Ottoman administration in the early 16-th century, with obligation to pay a yearly tax of 6250 akçes. All the named inhabitants in Dolani were ethnically Macedonians, specified in groups of 35 families, 25 unmarried, 3 widows and 1 land owner. Almost nothing is known today about the past of the village of Dolani, in spite of its impressive history.



The oldest villager of Dolani, Stojan Nikolov, at an age of 93 years, tells that Dolani, long ago, was torn down to the ground three times. There is a lot of evidence confirming that an old settlement existed on the soil of Dolani. The locals often unearth stones of old buildings and there is a place called Kula, the tower. Nearby the local cemetery, there is a small church named Sveti Ilija from the 1930-ties, built very close to a clearly visible ground wall of an old church with apparently large dimension.



View of the village Dolani