

*Slobodan Selenić*

*Visit of Josip Broz to Banat, October 25, 1969*

*Summary*

Being aware of the existence of numerous political, economic, national and social problems of Yugoslav society and the state, Josip Broz Tito frequently visited different parts of state during 1969. This was his specific answer to the open national question, economic problems (insolvency and unemployment), frequent strikes in economic organizations, confrontation between leaderships of the republics and between republican and the federal government. After his visit to Vojvodina, Dalmatia, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Montenegro and Eastern Serbia..., the president of Yugoslavia visited Banat (Zrenjanin and Kikinda). This visit was organized on October 25, the dialogues with regional and local politicians about economic and political situation took the central place as well as the visit to three industrial-agricultural combine "Servo Mihalj" Zrenjanin, industry of construction material "Toza Marković" and foundry from Kikinda. Regarding the problems which existed in Yugoslavia of that time the messages that Tito had sent from Banat seemed unrealistically optimistic. He was convinced that situation in the country was much better than it could be read in the newspapers from time to time, he was more worried about satirical and critical writings of *Jež* than about the problems, he minimized the importance of more frequent strikes of the workers by avoiding the usage of the term „strike“ but used „shutdown“ instead with the explanation that any strike couldn't have been possible in Yugoslav socialism, he was convinced that Communist League was capable of dealing with all the problems, so he asked for discipline in the implementation of the policy of the party and wanted every member of the Party to give individual examples in everyday life. Josip Broz attacked those who he thought were the enemies of Yugoslav socialism, above all "the intellectual circles", especially Dragoslav Mihajlović and his work *Kad su cvetale tikve*.