



The promotion of geomorphosites on salt from Sovata – Praid and Turda using cultural and scientific tourism

B. Toma, I. Irimus, and D. Petrea
Romania (camelia.toma@ubbcluj.ro)

The promotion of geomorphosites on salt from Sovata – Praid and Turda using cultural and scientific tourism

Bianca Toma, I. Irimus, D. Petrea
Babes-Bolyai University, Faculty of Geography, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
camelia.toma@ubbcluj.ro, irimus@geografie.ubbcluj.ro, dpetrea@geografie.ubbcluj.ro

Abstract. The paper highlights the role of geomorphosites on salt, in experts and specialists training, in geography of tourism and planning, namely, the involvement of educational factor in defining managerial and marketing skills of future specialists in training. Geographical area of investigation belongs to the Transylvanian tectonic basin, overlapped to saliferous tectonic area from eastern Transylvania, represented by Praid – Sovata – Corund anticline and Sic –Cojocna – Turda anticline, analysis is focused on the Praid – Sovata and Turda diapirs. Saliferous area Praid – Sovata – Corund is situated on the contact area of the Transylvanian Basin with neo-eruptive mountain chain of Eastern Carpathians, Calimani – Gurghiu – Harghita, and at the contact of Târnavelor Plateau with the orogen alignment of Gurghiu – Harghita Mountains. The salt body, in the horizontal plane, has a quasi-circular shape, slightly ellipsoidal, with diameters of 1.2 and 1.4 km, and is estimated to have a burial depth of 2.6 to 2.8 km. The salt massif from Praid, pierce the Mio-Pliocene blanket around and appears at the surface as diapir, flanked by sedimentary rocks that are partially covered by extrusive post-Pliocene volcanic formations and Quaternary deposits. Evaporitic deposits presents a varied lithology represented by gypsum, anhydrite, salt rock, potassium salt and celestine.

The salt massif from Turda develops on the anticline Sic –Cojocna – Turda, oriented NE – SW, 2 km NE of Turda's downtown. It has an elongated shape, about 4 km, with widths ranging from 700 m to 200 m and also with a thickness ranging from 750 m to over 1000 m. In terms of stratigraphy, the salt massif is surrounded by deposits belonging to Badenian, Sarmatian and Quaternary.

Due to salt dissolution by meteoric waters, carsto-saline lakes were formed, and due to ceiling collapse, because of an intensive exploitation, and infiltrations of rainwater and rivers, antropo-salted lakes were formed. The water and mud of these lakes are used for external treatment. The holes resulting from exploitation were arranged and turned into treatment rooms for those affected by respiratory diseases.

Localities Praid and Sovata from rural settlements, have become balneary resorts, that use these salt resources by multiple forms of tourism: spas, climatic, cultural, recreational and scientific.

In Turda has developed both health, climacteric and recreational tourism, as well as cultural and historical tourism, given the historical relics that are housed here.

The design of applicative segment of geomorphological sites on salt recovery, through tourism activities is the objective of our work. Methodological argumentation is supported by the objective motivation, of geomorphosites on salt capitalization, by the content of syllabus and specialization of geography of tourism and territorial planning, from the Faculty of Geography, Babes-Bolyai University from Cluj-Napoca. The syllabus content argues the need for knowledge of geomorphosites genesis, their morphology, touristic valences, urbanistic valences, and the possibility of recovery, through forms and types of tourism, namely, urban, agricultural, industrial forms and types of exploitation.

Key words: salt, geomorphosites, Praid, Turda, recovery