

Kosovo education development in Albanian language during the years 1878-1918

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Abstract

Albania has one of the most specific histories, among all European Nations. Albanians have found themselves under the pressure of different wars for centuries, but it did not prevent them to create a rich tradition, in all aspects of life, especially in culture and education. During the National Renaissance, patriots and pedagogues considered education and culture as important factors for the nation's progress, but also as a means for its unity and the preservation of national unity in the struggle under the constant efforts of neighboring chauvinists to disintegrate it. After the partially – realized aspirations for a free and independent Albania, only two paths were left for Albania in London Conference of 1913: continuation of the armed struggle and cultivation of the Albanian language at schools, which would undoubtedly lead to the rise of national conscience, under the idea that "... the light of the knowledge will take us ahead ...". It was the lack of a common alphabet. For this reason, on the initiative of the Manastiri Club, the Congress of Manastiri was convened, which opened new paths. In Kosovo, the challenges of learning the Albanian language and the continuation of resistance during the years 1878-1912 were oriented towards the preservation of their being and national identity; the pursuit of liberation efforts and the path towards independence and national unity.

The fates of school, education and Albanian language in Kosovo during 1912-1915 changed dramatically. The state of education in Albania, in the areas administered by Austro-Hungarians was much better compared to the occupied Bulgarian areas. Meanwhile, during 1918, the Albanian book was the privilege of only those who went to school across the Kingdom of SCS (SKS). At that time, all measures were taken so that no Albanian book could penetrate this land. Pashiq's agents were engaged for this issue and they considered the ABC-book as something that "Kept the gunpowder dry" ...! An unseen genocide was exercised over the Albanians, which denied the use of their mother tongue, freedom and education in their language, etc.

Keywords: Education, Albanian school, The Albanian League of Prizren, Independence of Albania, Education in Kosovo.

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