

Language and Law seen through “Canon of Laberia” Greek - Albanian terminological words

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Abstract

Law and language are linked together. If we use a direct language to express law, it will be more understandable for the audience. If we interpret it in the right way, again the audience will better understand law. Moreover if we interpret it right, even the verdict will be disposed the right way.

According to the legal terminology, we are interested to the words that Albanian language has taken from Greek language. I am not speaking about modern times, but if we see back in time there are a lot of similarities between Greek – Albanian terminological words or better say words of Greek roots. In order to give evidence about this phenomenon we will analyze or better try to analyze “Canon of Laberia’. There are many words deriving from Greek language and used into the Albanian language. Why do I believe so?

Because through reading “Canon of Laberia” we will analyze its words, knowing that both are two Balkan countries.

Keywords: judicial terminology, Greek language, Albanian language similarities, Canon.

Introduction

If we want to distinguish the best comparison between Greek and Albanian language (according to Canon of Laberia) we will refer to Yamamoto which implies that: “Even the ethical structure of Homeric society composed of faith, honor, friends, blood, bread and vengeance, seems to belong to the ethical category of a society without state authority, best represented by the canonical ethical structure”. This comparison best suits the “Canon of Laberia’, because of its good neighborhood with Greece which has mutual relations in the culture and life of these two countries since ancient times. In this contest we see that Albanians and Greeks have given and received from one another not only in terms of history, culture, but also language. Secondly, if we refer to At Gjergj Fishta in a dignified preface of Kole Leke Dukagjini which states that “Canon comes from ancient Greek language, and then this word was widespread even in other languages” But what is “canon” in itself? Canon is represented as a whole of legal norms, rules of unwritten conduct, set at different times and perceived in oral tradition from generation to generation and serving to regulate legal relationships between people in different areas of life, the implementation of which is traditionally provided by the community of the local self-government unit, without state strength. Till now we have spoken about the theoretical part, now we are going to pass to concrete facts. Our aim is to find out this words and concentrate in their etymology.

1. **Kanusia**-it comes from the Greek word *kanusia* that means “a penalty).
2. **Kanosieret**-it comes from the Greek word *kanosier* which means a person who puts

a fine.

3. **Kanun**-it comes from the Greek word *kanonas* ,which means a set of rules which everyone should obey.
4. **Hatere**-it comes from the Greek word *hatiri* which means to do a favor for someone.
5. **Stratiot**-it comes from the Greek word *stratiotis* which means soldier.
6. **Takat**-it comes from the Greek word *takati* which means power.
7. **Qersa**-it comes from the Greek word *qersas* which means unworked soil
8. **Nikoqire**-it comes from the Greek work *nikoqira=ikos+qiris*(house+the owner of the house)
9. **Stopania**-it comes from the Greek word *stopania* which means the only female in the shed.
10. **Kumbari**-it comes from the Greek word *kumbaria* ,which was used in the mediaval Greek language.
11. **Kumbar**-it comes from the Greek word *kumbaros* which means the godfather.
12. **Angari**-it comes from the Greek word *angaria,angarevo* which means to work without being payed.In old Greek language this word is agar.
13. **Davet** -it comes from the Greek word *daveti* ,which means to celebrate a ritual.
14. **Potisje** -it comes from the Greek word *potisma,potizo* which means to water the flowers.
15. **Mandile**-it comes from the Greek word *mandilon* which means a handkerchief
16. **Monogame**-it comes from the Greek word *monogamos(monos-one+gamos-wedding)*
17. **Egzogame**-it comes from the Greek word *egzogamos,egzogamiko(egzo-out+gamos=marriage)*
18. **Poligame**-it comes from the Greek word *poligamos,poligamia(poli-a lot of +gamos=marriage)*
19. **Karthia** -it comes from the Greek word *karthi* which means dry wood.
20. **Pusulla**-it comes from the Greek word *pusula* which means a certain invitation.
21. **Trapez**-it comes from the Greek word *trapezion* which means something that has four feet that's to say a table.
22. **Prika** -it comes from the Greek word *priqa (priks-pro-ikneome-iko)*which means to prepare the situation in our case do do the necessary preparations for the weddin.In fact the word **paja** means things that the bride has made or bought for her new house.
23. **Mandata**-it comes from the Greek word *mandata* which means a notice.
24. **Sepeten**-which comes from the Greek word *sepeti* which is something like a wardrobe in which the bride has all her prika.
25. **Ksodh** -it comes from the Greek word *eksodhion=eksodos* that if we try to translate it word by word it means exit but in our case is an exit from life,so Ksodh is the mortal ceremony.
26. **Avlli**-it comes from the old Greek language *avli*,which means knitted with fence.
27. **Mesit**-it comes from the Greek word *mesitis* which means the interventionist.
28. **Qinosia me trito**-it comes from the Greek word *qinosia me trito* which means to deal for something but towards a third person.
29. **Qinosia e doses**-comes from the Greek word *qinosia tis dhosis* which means an agreement to pay something step by step not just once.
30. **Qinosari**-it comes from the Greek word *o qinosaris* which means a person which

rents something.

31. **Kontrata e qinosise** –it comes from the Greek word *qiosia* ,which means the renting contract.

32. **Tagar**-it comes from the old Greek word *tagari* which is a kind of bag that was used to measure the animal feed.In this contest comes even the word Taisma-to feed. This is the root of the word tagar.

33. **Gjitori**-it comes from the old Greek language *jitonas* which means the neighbor.

34. **Livath**-it comes from the Greek word *livadi-livadion* which means the field

35. **Kseniti**. It comes from the Greek word *ksenihitia* which means to migrate by force not in your will.

36. **Gorromiset**-it comes from the Greek word *gorromizo* it means together with the baby in the abdomen.

37. **Lavosje** –it comes from the Greek word *lavoma=injury*,which in itself comes from the mediaval Greek language *lavomatia* and in old Greek language this word is *loavome-lovi*)

38. **Pretor**-it comes from the Greek word *pretoras* which means the thief.

39. **Pre**-it comes from the Greek word *pre* which means theft.

40. **Dhokani**-it comes from the Greek word *to dhokani=trap* and *dhekti-dhekome* that in modern Greek language means accepted,accept.

41. **Gjyqi i pleqve**-it comes from the Greek word *dhimogirusia*,that according to the Canon has to do with different judgements that old people gave in Greek language

42. **Dhimogerontia**-old people of Demo of the municipality.*Demo=people*.

43. **Poroteve**-it comes from the Greek word *porot* that means people that swear for something

44. **Poronike** –it comes from the Greek word *poronik* which is a person that swears.

45. **Çifçi** –comes from the Greek word which means a farmer without a land.

46. **Doke**-comes from the Greek word which means unwritten customs of people.

47. **Psonis**-it comes from the Greek word *psonizo(verb)*,*psonia(noun)*,from the old Greek word *opsonia=buying food*.

48. **Qivur**-it comes from the mediaval Greek word *kivurin,kivorion* which means the grave.In modern Greek ,it is *kivuri*.

49. **Stoik, stoicizem** –it comes from the Greek word *stoikos,stoikotita*.The etimological meaning of which is to have a great patience in something.

50. **Sistem**-it comes from the old Greek word *sistima* ,which means system

51. **Paradigme**-it comes from the Greek word *paradigm* which means example.In old Greek language it takes the form *para+dhigma+paradhiknimi*.

These are the words of Greek origin that I found in “Canon of Laberia”. In all the laws we see a lot of resemblance between to states.Even in old Greece if someone tried to kill a friend in your own house was severely punished, which points out the resemblance between “Canon of Laberia”with the customary rights of ancient Greece.

There was a saying that we can find it even in the ancient Greece.It says “Blood can not be transformed into water, and if it does it’s impossible to drink it.”It means that you cannot be a bad person with your own family and with your own cousins. Even if someone of your family members even someone of your cousins does something

bad without wanted it you will try to forgive him /her because you are from the same blood.

Conclusions

Canon of Laberia has a lot of values because it speaks about Albanians of those times and how did they try to live according to regulations that they were obliged to follow. We see Canon of Laberia by it's terminological words. In many parts of them we discover Greek words or words that have Greek roots. This is even because the two people were so near to each other. Some of the terminological words found there, are used even nowadays in the Albanian language in formal and informal speech. If we want to verify, if it exists a relation between judicial terminology of the Greek-Albanian words, seen by the cultural aspect, this Canon is the best example. Even the word etymology is of great interest, because we see in depth what really this word means.

References

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