

The development of education in medieval Albania

Nikollë Loka

Executive Director of the Institute of Albanistic Studies "John Gazulli"

Abstract

In the Middle Ages education in Albanian territories had sort of the same development with other regions of the eastern Adriatic coast. In that period the education had religious character and as elsewhere in Europe, it was the monopoly of the church, especially of some religious orders that were dedicated to education, initially to the Benedictine and then to the Dominicans, the Franciscans and the Jesuits. A part of northern Albania during the middle Ages was included in the European cultural space, where the Latin language was taught. The northern Albania had many Benedictine monasteries that were the main centers of learning in that period. Some of them are the monastery of St. Serdio and Bacho in Shirq and Saint Mihal of Rotec. Of great importance were the monasteries of Fan (Mirdita today) that were recognized as the center of the life of the province.

In the Albanian lands occurred the same developments as in other countries of Western Europe. Schools were established at cathedrals in towns and parishes in the villages. With the development of cities, along with the religious education, the secular education gradually developed for the needs of the city and its economy. The secular education created conditions for the country's use of the language spoken by the population, which was introduced gradually as a language of instruction.

New religious orders: the Dominicans and the Franciscans increased the quality of education. The Dominicans, who lived in cities, developed the secondary education and higher education a lot. They founded a university in Durrës and Franciscans, which acted mainly in rural areas, were engaged with the elementary education.

Because of the Ottomans, the Dominicans left, while the Franciscans stayed in the country, suffering the consequences of Ottoman conquest. They are the founders of the first Albanian school.

The process of the development of the Albanian education followed the same path as in the West, with the change that it developed with a delay of one to two centuries, due to the conditions that were set after the Ottoman conquest of the country. Just like the Western countries, even in Albania, the church played a role in the beginnings of the education in the national language.

Keywords: development, education, medieval. Albania.

Full Text: [PDF](#)



This work is licensed under [Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/).

European Journal of Economics, Law and Social Sciences ISSN 2519-1284 (print) ISSN 2510-0429 (online)

Copyright © IIPCCCL-International Institute for Private, Commercial and Competition law