### Serbian, Montenegrin, Greek and Bulgarian Crimes against Albanians (1877-1999)

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### Official Consulate reports of Serbian, Greek and Bulgarian atrocities of 1912 and 1913

Authored by Petrit Latifi

### The following are reports from consulates in the Balkans in 1912 reporting on Greek, Bulgarian and Serbian atrocities.

"The British ambassador in Vienna, Fairfax Cartwright, first reported the atrocities committed against the Albanian population to Grey. In this report, he wrote about the actions against the Albanians in connection with the Prochaska affair: "The [...] envoy is allegedly hated by the Serbian authorities, due to the fact that he witnessed atrocities committed by Serbian troops against the Albanian population. News is reaching Austria of terrible acts committed against Albanian men, women and children."

"In Edward Grey's telegram to the British ambassador in Rome, Rennell Rodd, dated 19 November 1912, we can read that according to the report of the Italian envoy in Skopje, the Serbian troops committed numerous atrocities, the obvious aim of which was to exterminate as many Albanians as possible."<sup>2</sup>

"The Balkan Wars were the first case in modern history when ethnic cleansing appeared and was used as a tool to assert territorial claims. In his report of 7 March 1913, Ralph Paget, the British ambassador to Belgrade, told Grey that there was a rumour in the Balkans that the Great Powers were awarding to the future Albania any territory with a population of at least 75% Albanian. He concluded that the massacres were "for statistical purposes".3

"The first mention of the former incident can be found in Ralph Paget's report of 21 November 1912, according to which "500 Albanian corpses were seen floating" in the river".4

Dietmar Müller, in the book "Staatsbürger aus Widerruf Juden und Muslime als Alteritätspartner im rumänischen und serbischen Nationscode: ethnonationale Staatsbürgerschaftskonzepte 1878-1941" writes:

"There are numerous reports from Serbian Social Democrats as well as from Austrian, German, and British diplomats, some of which have already been processed by N. Malcolm and K. Boeckh For the Social Democrats, see The Other Balkan Wars, p. 149; Tucović, Serbia and Albania, pp. 73ff., and some articles from the Social Democratic newspaper Radničke Novine (Workers' Newspaper) of 1913 in: Srbija i Albanci." 5

"On the reports of English diplomats to their Foreign Office, see The British Official Documents on the Origin of the World War 1898-1914, Vol. 10/1. The Near and Middle East on the Eve of the War, ed. by G. P. Gooch/Harold Temperley, Leipzig 1936, pp. 3-90. See also Malcolm, Kosovo, pp. 255ff.; Katrin Boeckh: From the Balkan Wars to the First World War: Small State Politics and Ethnic Self-Determination in the Balkans (Southeast European Studies 97), Munich 1996, pp. 167ff."

"The assessment of Belgrade's goals, which the British ambassador in Vienna, F. Cartwright, sent to London on September 27, 1913, appears to be incorrect: "According to reliable reports received here, the Serbian authorities have acted with unspeakable cruelty against the Albanian population and have done everything in their power to prevent the Albanians in Albania from continuing their trade with places now located on Serbian territory.

Undoubtedly, Serbia hopes, by making their lives unbearable, to gradually force these people to ignite a movement for annexation to Serbia. The pressure exerted by Serbia on the Albanian population must have been very drastic, otherwise such a widespread insurrectionary movement would not have broken out so suddenly. This movement appears to be of a spontaneous local nature and not instigated by the Provisional Government in Walona or by Essad Pasha." In: The British Official Documents 10/1, pp. 31f."<sup>7</sup>

"Usually complaints about attacks on Muslim villages, besides other acts of violence, include the general information that 'women and young girls were violated"

OeStA, HHStA P.A. XII 390, von Päzel an Berchtold, no. 14, Prizren, 9 March 1913: Statement on some atrocities cited in a memorandum by the Catholic Archbishop of Prizren; ibid., from Heimroth to von Ugron in Belgrade, no. 22/po.

**Uesküb, 18 March 1913:** Protest by the French ambassador regarding Serbian attacks in Kaza Gilan at the beginning of March; ibid.:

Austro-Hungarian military attaché in Cetinje, 17 March 1913, no. 1324: Cruelties by Montenegrin troops; ibid., 391,

Report from Cavalla; ibid., 389, Heimroth to Berchtold, no. 26 strictly rep., Uesküb, 9 February 1913: Cruelties by the Serbs against Albanians, ibid., 413, SMS Kaiser. u. König. Maria Theresia. Res. no. 410. rres; ibid.,

**P.A. XXXVIII Konsulate 397. Monastir 1912-1914, 1916:** Vice-Consul Zitkovszky to Berchtold: Serbische Greuel, no. 142.

### OeStA, HHSŁA P.A. XII. 389. Liasse XLV/3: Balkankrieg 389, Mensdorff an Berchtold, no. 19, London:

"If isolated cases of crimes have occurred', as the Serbian government wrote in response to an intervention by the British government, 'the offenders have been punished in the same manner as all offences committed by the members of comitadji bands which could not be controlled by the military authorities"

28 February 1913: Beilage Memorandum des Foreign Office. Similarly, for the Bulgarian position, Radev, Ot triumf do tragediia, 67; see also Bulgarian Foreign Minister Stanchoff in a conversation with the Austrian consul-general in Saloniki, OeStA, HHStA P.A. XII 387. Liasse XLV/3: Balkankrieg 387, Kral an Berchtold, no. 197, Salonich, 5 December 1912: Gespräch mit Minister Stanchoff:

"The Greek government rejected all complaints about acts of violence against the civilian (Albanian) population, explaining the few it could not deny as pure 'revenge' for the many "Turkish atrocities': ibid., 388: Telegramm Baron Braun, no. 1275, Athens, 7 January 1913."

215 OeStA, HHSŁA P.A. XII 386. Kral to Berchtold, no. 188, confidential, Salonica, 22 November 1912: The events in Serres; ibid., 390, Legation Secretary Bilinski to His Excellency Leopold Count von Berchtold, no. 24, Janina, 27 March 1913:

"Situation in Janina; ibid., 414 P.A. XII. Turkey Liasse XLV/5: Balkan War, Kral to Berchtold Z1 213/confidential: The conditions in Cavalla"

Cf., for example, Andrija Jovičević, Dnevnik iz balkanskih ratova [Diary from the Balkan Wars) (Belgrade: Službeni

list SRJ, 1996), 125; Azmanov, Moiata epokha, 95; Dodov, Dnevnik, 32; Stefan Khristov Kamburov, Edin mnogo dalg pāt: Dnevnik na Stoian Khristov Kamburov [A Very Long Way: The Diary of Stoian Khristov Kamburov] (Sofia: Pres izdatelstvo, 2003):

"... who writes about paramilitary volunteers (opălchentsi) burning down Muslim houses and 'taking away what they could carry' of what had been left behind by the fleeing Turkish population; similarly, see Nikolov, Treta otdelna Armiia, 129."

220 OeStA, HHSŁA P.A. XII 385. Consul Halla an von Berchtold, no. 130 confidential, Monastir, 30 October 1912: The Defense of Monastir; ibid., 386, Consul General Kral an von Berchtold, no. 189, Salonica, 26 November 1912: "Report of the Austro-Hungarian Consular Agency in Cavalla of the 8th of this month, ZI: 343, on the events in Drama and Cavalla."

Cf. the fighting around Ioannina in November 1912, about which Austrian observers reported that 'andartes and the village population' committed atrocities against the local Muslim (Albanian) and Wallachian population. OeStA, HHSŁA P.A. XII 385. Bilinski an Berchtold, no. 89, Janina, 17 November 1912: Zur Situation:

"Here it is reported that paramilitaries and the 'local population committed awful crimes against soldiers and the unarmed Muslim population'. See also the report by the German major in the Ottoman army Günter to the German Foreign Office in PA AA, R 14 225 Akten betr. den Balkan-Krieg, Bd. 10: 22/23 October 1912. On violence committed by Greek andartes, cf. also the diary by French consul Guy Chantepleure (pseudonym of Jeanne-Caroline Violet-Dussap), who was in the city during the siege: Guy Chantepleure, La ville assiégée: Janina Octobre 1912-Mars 1913 (Paris: Calmann-Lévy, 1913), 230."

### Kamburov, Edin mnogo dalg păt, 23, Albanian lands in Mitrovic being given to Serbs:

"Reports about the local Serbian population from Mitrovica distributing the land of their Muslim neighbours among themselves can be found in OeStA, HHStA P.A. XII 391. v. Uron an Berchtold, no. 82 a-B, Belgrad, 15 April 1913: Militärische und politische Berichte aus Nisch und Mitrovitza, Beilage."

# P.A. XII 389. Atrocities and plundering by the Bulgarian bands during the war; similarly, for Monastir and Üsküb, ibid., 386, Halla to Berchtold, no. 137, Monastir, 25 November 1912:

The surrender of Monastir to the Serbs; ibid., 386, Political Report by Dr. Heimroth, no. 125, Üsküb, 18 November 1912; ibid., 388, Halla to Berchtold, no. 6, confidential Monastir, 17 January 1913: Devastation of the Muslim districts of the Vilayet of Monastir. Under the pretext of collecting weapons, as reported from the Greek and Bulgarian conquest of Salonica, soldiers 'being guided by local vagabonds' entered the houses in the city's Turkish and Jewish quarter, plundering whatever they could find. Ibid.,"

### Kral an Berchtold, no. 183, Salonica, 17 November 1912:

"The excesses of the Bulgarian and Greek troops. The Austrian consul in Adrianople reported his own observations that after the Bulgarian conquest of the city, 'the mob' together with soldiers and komitadži had plundered the houses of beds, other furniture and 'even a piano'.

Ibid., 391, Tarnowski an Berchtold, no. 27, E, Sofia, 14 April 1913; supplement Dr Max von Herzfeld, no. 1/re Adrianople,

**9 April 1913:** "Incidence after the capture of the city. For the city of Kavalla, see the report based on first-hand observations after the Bulgarians had left the city, by British Navy Cpt. Boyle, TNA, RN: ADM 116/1193, Cpt. Boyle to Sir F. Elliot, Athens, 5 August 1913 [3751], confidential."

226 PA AA, R 14 230, Akten betr. den Balkan-Krieg Vol. 15: Report of the Austrian Consul in Janina, 11 March 1913. See the more detailed original report on the conquest of Janina, in OeStA, HHSŁA P.A. XII 390. Liasse XLV/3: Balkankrieg, Bilinski an Berchtold, no. 12, Janina, 11 March 1913:

"Fall of the fortress of Janina. His colleague Halla from Monastir/Bitola spoke in a similar way about 'an unbound Christian population' when Greek soldiers had entered the city of Korca. Ibid., 388, Halla an Berchtold, no. 1, Monastir, 4 January 1913: Der Einzug der Greeks in Korca"

no. 136 E, Belgrade, 15 November 1912: News from Üsküb; ibid., 387, Kral to Berchthold, no. 203, Salonich, 9 December 1912:

"The atrocities of Strumitz; ibid., P.A. XII 438. Liasse XLV/15: Balkan War, Graf Tarnowski to Berchthold, no. 48 D, Sofia, 17 August 1913: Massacre of Bulgarian prisoners of war; on the alleged killing of prisoners by Serbian soldiers in Prizren

On the miserable food supply of prisoners in Montenegro, see OeStA, HHSŁA P.A. XII 385. Giesl an Berchtold, no. 89, vertr., Cetinje, 28 October 1912: Unterredung mit König Nikola.

"The Carnegie Commission also reported on hunger among the prisoners in Greek-controlled Macedonia. Ibid., 438, Prinz Emil

Fürstenberg an Berchthold no. 41 D, Athens, 6 September 1913: Die Carnegie-Mission in Griechenland."

200 Cf., for example, PA AA, R 14 222, Dt. Botschaft Pera an Reichskanzler Bethmann-Hollweg, 24 October 1912; OeStA, HHSIA P.A. XII 388. Prochaska an Berchtold, no. 5, Prizren, 30 January 1913:

"The fighting in Luma, claiming that due to the situation there is hardly any chance of getting unbiased information."

201 OeStA, HHSŁA P.A. XII 388. Count Mensdorff to Berchtold no. 11 G, London, 31 January 1913: Interpellation in the English House of Commons about cruelties in the Balkans; ibid., 389, Count Mensdorff to Berchtold, no. 16 F, London, 15 February 1913; ibid., 390, Mensdorff to Berchtold, no. 21, London, 3 March 1913: "Massacres of Albanians by Serbian troops"

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Freundlich, Leo. Albania's Golgotha: Indictments against the Exterminators of the Albanian People. Vienna: J. Roller, 1913.

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- 2. imbid. <u>←</u>
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- 5. Staatsbürger aus Widerruf Juden und Muslime als Alteritätspartner im rumänischen und serbischen Nationscode: ethnonationale Staatsbürgerschaftskonzepte 1878-1941 By Dietmar Müller · 2005 <a href="https://www.google.se/books/edition/Staatsb%C3%BCrger">https://www.google.se/books/edition/Staatsb%C3%BCrger</a> aus Widerruf/0UckOb6n71cC? <a href="https://www.google.se/books/edition/Staatsb%C3%BCrger">hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=albanische+Ortschaften+zerst%C3%BCrt&pg=PA199&printsec=frontcover</a>
- 6. imbid. ←
- 7. imbid. **←**

### Serbian massacre against Albanians of Belgrad in 1805-1806

Author: Dem Ahmeti. Translation Petrit Latifi. Taken from Feri Arifis publication.

Read carefully the story of Dem Ahmeti, which happened in 1806 in Belgrade, not in Kosovo, not in Mavriq, because there was no war here. We mourned listening to this song. All notes are by foreign authors because there was no war in Kosovo in 1806.

### **Borrowed writing**

"On the 202nd anniversary of the massacre of Albanians in Belgrade, New Facts for the People's Tribune, Dem Ahmeti, of Regica and Podujeva.

"The massacre took place against Albanians in Belgrade, not in Regica and not in the Deme Family.

This is how the author of this family, Mr. Vesel Jaha, a professor of sociology from Podujeva, expresses himself, after having browsed hundreds of Serbian, Ottoman (Turkish), Greek, French, Russian, etc. sources.

Considering that at least few people knew about the 202nd anniversary of the Serbian massacre of Albanians in Belgrade, which is mistakenly known among the people as the Serbian massacre of the family of Dem Ahmeti, of Reqica of Podujeva, we are bringing a new approach to this event, as curious for the public as it is provocative for historians, by one of the descendants of this family, Mr. Vesel Jaha, professor of sociology from Podujeva.

Convinced that within a journalistic article like this, a complete truth cannot be told, this time a new truth about the popular

tribune from Llapi, Dem Ahmeti, we are bringing below only some interesting data from the 10-year effort to shed light on this figure, by Mr. Vesel Jaha, who, after researching hundreds of written sources, Serbian, Ottoman (Turkish), Greek, French, Russian, etc., has come to the conclusion that the truth so far about Dem Ahmeti is only a Serbian construct, which has nothing in common with the written and documented truth, in the documents that Mr. Jaha now has.

### The massacre took place in Belgrade, in October 1806, and not in the village of Reqice in Podujeva

First of all, we remind you that the history of the Serbian massacre of Albanians in Belgrade, known among the people as the massacre of the family of Dem Ahmeti, of the Reqice village in Podujeva, which took place on the Day of Eid al-Adha in 1806, is built more according to a historical song about this event, than from any more serious approach of historians.

This song, which was sung in several variants from generation to generation by the Albanians of Kosovo, according to Mr. Jaha, is a Serbian construct, made with the aim of minimizing the activity of Dem Ahmeti, which according to the written documents that I have, is much more important and multifaceted.

According to Mr. Jaha, the above-mentioned massacre actually took place in Belgrade, in October 1806, but not in the village of Mavriq and not on the family of Dem Ahmet, as the song says and as some of our superficial historians later say The truth that I have found from Serbian, Ottoman (Turkish) French, Greek and Russian written sources, Hungarian etc.

The documents I have and based on which I am preparing a book about Dem Ahmeti, prove that this massacre took place on

the Albanians of Belgrade, at the time when Dem Ahmeti, from 1804 to December 1806, was one of the sudus of Belgrade. Then in French documents, I came across that Dem Ahmeti also had the nickname "Plisi" after he had ordered that the Albanians wear the plis and not the Turkish religion.

He was closely associated with Osman Pasha of Vidin in Bulgaria, with whom he had fought against Mustafa Pasha, according to Turkish documents called "Shinik Zade" in 1797, when the latter was the vizier of Belgrade, while his soldier was Karadjorgje himself, later leading the first Serbian uprising.

The massacre of the Albanians of Belgrade on Eid al-Adha in 1806 marks the beginning of the forced expulsion of the Albanian population from Belgrade and Serbia, a process that ended in 1912, said Mr. Jaha.

According to the documents available to Mr. Jaha, Dem Ahmet, together with Osman Pasha of Vidin, were among the rebels of the Ottoman Empire, while the attempts to liquidate him, and thus the Albanian element in Belgrade, were made with the permission of the great powers of Europe and the Ottoman Empire, which were implicated in the First Serbian Uprising and had secret connections with the leaders of this uprising.

This is best evidenced by the French documents written in Belgrade and the writings of Vuke Karadjiqi about these events, which we have at our disposal, said Mr. Jaha.

#### 40 Albanian civilians were massacred

Karadjorgje was himself Novica i Zi (Gjergji i Zi) of the Kuqi clan

These documents then prove that the leader of the first Serbian uprising, Karadjorgje Petroviqi, was also known in the thencurrent opinion by the names Gjurica, Grujica, Novica, Karageorge and Karadjorgje. I have come to the conclusion that this Karadjorgje was himself Novica i Zi, who had attacked Albanians that day in Belgrade and had committed the well-known massacre in which more than 40 Albanian civilians were massacred, most of whom were women and children.

This Novica i Zi alias Karadjorgje had done this, not to take Ajeta e bukur as a bride, as the folk song says, but to gain fame and glory at the expense of Albanians, also encouraged by the Upper Porte.

According to the documents that I have, said Mr. Jaha, Karadjorgje alias "Novica i Zi" was not a servant of Dem Ahmeti as the Serbian construction of the song about Dem Ahmeti says, but was a servant of an Albanian named Fazli Basha, from the village of Banqine in the district of Smederevska Palanka, Black Novica alias Karagjorgje, had gained his closeness to the highest as a warrior when he had obeyed Dem Ahmeti and had accepted him as his superior or ruler.

This had happened with the mediation of Austria, when Dem Ahmeti (1804-1806) was one of the rulers of Belgrade, with Ali Gushanin as his deputy, who was the son of his sister, and who came from the Poradeci and Pogradeci family. The Serbian writings about Ali Gushanin are all lies with the aim of distorting and minimizing his adhetar activity, said Mr. Jaha.

According to written documents, said Mr. Jaha, the above-mentioned massacre took place in Belgrade on Eid al-Adha in 1806, while the perpetrators of this massacre were Karadjorgje alias Novica the Black and his friend Vukadin the Black, previously known as Konda Bajraktari, from Epirus in Macedonia, who is said to have been of the Orthodox faith and in Dema's army had the title of Bajraktar.

This one, like Karadjorgje, was misled by the great Serbian promises and made a plan to attack the Albanians on Eid al-Adha, taking them by surprise, when they were sure that Dema was near them. In Serbian writings we have found that Dema had eight sons and one grandson and that in the Belgrade massacre, only Suljemani, who had the title of Age, was killed.

Serbian documents clearly state that two other sons of Dema were killed a few years earlier, in 1805. According to Serbian writings, they were killed by Serbian soldiers, supposedly out of ignorance, thinking that they were soldiers of Hafiz Pasha of Nish. But, the truth was that the Serbs had promises from Hafiza Pasha to fight the army of Dema Ahmeti, since she was not legitimate for Istanbul."

#### Reference

Vesel Jaha "Demë Ahmeti – Perpjeket e Shqipateve për formimin e shtetit tyre, para dhe gjatë luftërave Austrohungareze-ruse-Osmane".

### Neugkeits-Welt-Blatt: Montenegrin atrocities in Shkodër in 1877

Authored by Petrit Latifi

The German newspaper "Neugkeits-Welt-Blatt" of November 30, 1877 reports on the situation in the Ulcinj – Tivar region. It says that Turkish soldiers have withdrawn from Muriqi and from the entire Kraja. It also reports that the Montenegrin army has committed excesses and burned villages in the occupied areas.

"The Montenegrins continue their military campaigns in Albania with favorable results so far. According to the latest reports from Cetinje, the Turks have evacuated Muriqi and all other divisions of Kraja and have withdrawn beyond the Buna. The city of Ulcinj or Dulcigno in Albania surrendered to the Montenegrins without resistance. Only a few Turkish families left the city after their arrival.

The Antivar fortress still holds its ground, encouraged by the certainty that help is approaching from the sea. However, until the 28th of this day no Turkish warships are seen on the Albanian coast. The Prince is at Antivari. The weather is very stormy and any operation on the coast will be impossible for the time being in case of the arrival of the Turkish steamers.

It is said that a great battle has been fought at Shkoder. According to English reports, the Montenegrins committed the most terrible excesses against the peaceful inhabitants of the border and burned many villages. As for the attitude of the Mirditors, the English correspondents claim that they, as well as other Catholics, do not make common cause with the Montenegrins, but join the Turks. Others claim the opposite and add that the Mirditors had already advanced near Shkoder."

### When Serbs helped the Young Turks massacre Albanians (1908-1910)

Authored by Petrit Latifi

Kur serbët ndihmuan xhonturqit të masakrojnë shqiptarët (1908-1910)

Between 1908 to 1910, the Young Turk regime, following traditional anti-Albanian ottoman policies, committed several atrocities against Albanians who revolted against the regime which seeked to undermine Albanian national interests. Thousands of Albanians were killed.

#### Destruction of kullas and massacres

"The abolition of privileges, the introduction of military service, disarmament, new taxes, the destruction of kule (fortified houses), the massacres, the arrests that took place in 1908, 1909 and especially in 1910, contributed, if need be, to turning the Muslim population of these regions against the new regime, apart from a few notables who, by allying themselves with the Young Turk party, had acquired a certain position of power."

### **Xhavit Pasha committed many atrocities against Albanian villages**

"Cavit Pasha launched ferocious attacks in Kosovo destroying many villages and repressing the Albanian population", telegram P.RO. F.O. 195/2329 from General Consulate of Salonica to Constantinople Embassy, 1909, Lamb to Lowther".<sup>2</sup>

### More forces were sent in 1910 after Xhavit Pasha failed

"When the punitive mission of Cavit Pasha failed, another Ottoman force was sent to Kosovo in spring 1910 when a revolt broke out, again because of taxes, under leadership of Isa Boletini and Idriz Seferi (1847–1927) who had gathered 9,000 armed men. The Porte sent a strong army under the command of Shevket Durgut Pasha, which clashed with Albanian insurgents who had blocked the railway from Macedonia."

### Serbs helped the Ottomans fight the Albanians of Carraleva

"But the biggest battle took place in Carraleva, central Kosovo, where the Ottoman army was repelled. In difficult moments, the Ottomans were helped by the local Serbs who knew a short cut over the mountains which forced the Albanians to withdraw before becoming encircled. Boletini and Seferi escaped capture but many thousands were killed, imprisoned and interned."

### Durgut Pasha destroyed the northern parts of Albania

"Durgut Pasha, now with a force of 40,000, continued westwards to Shkodra to disarm the Albanians and destroy northern parts of Albania. When the campaign was over, the Young Turks proclaimed martial law. They closed down Albanian schools and prohibited publications in Albanian.

With this, the Young Turks broke the last and most important promise they had made in Ferizaj two years earlier. This enraged the few remaining Albanians who might have still believed in Young Turk policies. The CUP annual congress in October 1910 was held in Salonika. No Albanian delegate was present. With their absence, the Albanians demonstrated the belief of many, that reaching a peaceful agreement with the Young Turks was impossible." 5

### Serbian newspaper Politika: Ferizaj was completely destroyed in 192

Petrit Latifi

In 1912, the Serbian newspaper "Politika", published October 27, 1912, wrote of the Serbian atrocities against Albanians of Ferizaj. Taken from <u>Arbëriaonline</u>.

"FERIZAJ (FERIZOVIC) ONLY DESTROYED

Serbian newspaper Politika of October 27, 1912

Politika of October 21, 1912, in an article titled "Across the Kačaničku klisuru" brings a touching description of the destruction of Albanian settlements in the city of Ferizaj (later called Ferizovic).

"When morning came, the city was nothing but destroyed. Ferizaj (Ferizovic) was turned into a vast desert. FERIZAJ was gone: the city now exists only on the map. Its Albanians (Ferizaj) have paid a heavy price."

Ferizaj (Ferizovic), all that is left of it, is the day before it became Urosevac (the new name of the city from this time).

#### CHURCH WAS OVERCOME BY JOY

In opposition to the rather brutal policy that was being carried out against the Albanians, the Serbian Church in the article mentioned above admitted that, (Bulletin: "The Church in the Service of the Fatherland"), it admits that the Church has possessed great joy because of the war, but also recalls the kindness of the Serbs towards the Serbs and the love of the enemy:

"The Serbian Orthodox Church has possessed some special joys from the day the battle began, which publishes the slavery of the 5th century revival. The Church and our clergy can say today that everything that lives in the Kingdom of Serbia with ideal devotion performs its duty as in the Serbian Church and thus we taught and educated the Serbian people for these holy days. But this is not only Serbian kindness to Serbs: but the Church is merciful, the Church shows its love to the enemy."

#### Reference

Arberiaonline.com

### When Serbia renovated streets with material taken from Albanian tombstones and graveyards

Petrit Latifi

In 1913, after the Serbian invasion of Albanian villages in Macedonia, Serbian authorities began plundering Albanian graveyards and tombstones in order to collect material to renovate streets in occupied cities. In a telegram titled "EMBS Vice-Consul Peckham to Ralph Paget 3th February 1913" we can read the following:

"The British consul in Üsküp, Peckham, reported to Ralph Paget that the new Serbian administration had obtained the material for the renovation of the streets from the tombstones of the local Muslim cemetery."

#### References

https://edit.elte.hu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10831/34808/ Ingenia\_Hungarica\_II\_Balatoni\_Balazs\_p\_81-114.pdf? sequence=1&isAllowed=y The Italian convoy in Skopje: Serbs are trying to kill as many Albanians as possible

Petrit Latifi

In 1912, the telegram titled "EMBS Sir Edward Grey to Mr. R. Rodd 19 November 1912" sent from the Italian envoy in Skopje to the British ambassador in Rome, explains that the goal of the Serbian army was to kill as many Albanians as possible.

"In Edward Grey's telegram to the British ambassador in Rome, Rennell Rodd, dated 19 November 1912, we can read that according to the report of the Italian envoy in Skopje, the Serbian troops committed numerous atrocities, the obvious aim of which was to exterminate as many Albanians as possible."

#### Reference

https://edit.elte.hu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/10831/34808/ Ingenia\_Hungarica\_II\_Balatoni\_Balazs\_p\_81-114.pdf? sequence=1&isAllowed=y When Serbs and Montenegrins cut up pregnant women and burned Albanians on hot stoves

Petrit Latifi

Serbian and Montenegrin atrocites against the Albanians of Rugova in 1912. After the Serbo-Montenegrin invasion of Albanian territories of Rugova, various massacres and tortures occurred.

"After the Rugova province, Peja and its surroundings fell, on October 30, and four days later, Gjakova. Terror began against the Albanians. About four thousand inhabitants of the Dukagjini Plain were shot. (Krasniqi 1985:97-98).

Serbian and Montenegrin soldiers tortured women: the cutting of the stomachs of pregnant women, the rape of women in front of men, the roasting of men's eyes on the door of a hot stove, the squeezing of the head with a vice, the smearing of hands with kerosene and burning alive (Harapi 2004:81-86)."

#### Reference

Harapi 2004. p. 81-86.

Krasniqi 1985. p. 97-98.

### German paper in 1913: Serbs and Greeks are exterminating Albanians

Authored by Petrit Latifi

## In 1913, Ekrem Bey Flora, Hairedin Dibra and Ahmed Dakli, made the following appeal to the civilized nations in the German paper "Häufig deutsche Presse":

"The Albanian people, who for centuries have been constant Blood shed for his freedom and paved the way for the success of the Balkan states has still not been able to find justice. In southern Albania, hundreds of our brothers languish in Greek prisons Even the national hairstyle is the subject of persecution by the local authorities. The dervishes are beaten crooked and lame and killed In Koriza and Delvino, which have already been assigned to Albania, there is complete anarchy.

In northern Albania, the Serbs continue their work of destruction. The massacre of entire families is the order of the day. Recently, Albanian shepherds were hanged and their corpses then dismembered with bayonets. Not even innocence is respected. The Serbs burn alive all the children they take possession of.

The inhumane acts committed by those who want to exterminate our people have brought the Albanians to despair. Since they have nothing left to lose and have reached the end of their patience, our unfortunate brothers have resorted to the only means left to them: to sell their lives dearly and save the honor of their families.

The sufferings they have been exposed to persecution and have been forced to seek a redeeming death on the battlefields. In the name of humanity, we appeal to the civilized nations to intervene with the Great Powers so that they do not allow this population, which has been able to preserve its national existence for centuries of persecution, to be destroyed in this way by the Serbs and the Greeks."

#### Reference

Often German Press, 1913. Nr. 231. Bromberg, Donnerstag, 2. Oktober 1913. Herausgeber: Grüneauetsche Buchdruckerei Nichard Krahl, Bromberg (gegründet 18061). Telegrammadresse: Ostdeutsche Presse Bromberg. Zersprecher Nr. 99 und 1308

https://www.google.se/books/edition/
Politische Chronik der Oesterreichische/IQs4AQAAMAAJ?
hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=massakrierung+albaner&pg=PA383&prints
ec=frontcover

### Herbert Aubrey: Lists of Serbian and Greek massacres against Albanians in 1913

Petrit Latifi

In the book "Ben Kendim A Record Of Eastern Travels" by Herbert Aubrey, he writes that there were several Albanian officials at the headquarters of Ismail Qemali that wanted to present lists of massacres committed by Serbs and Greeks against Albaninas. On page 264 we read:

"We went to the Konak, the seat of government, where Ismail Kemal presided." There are many people who want to see you," he said. "We can talk later." Then the deputations began to arrive, with lists of atrocities committed by the Serbs in the north and by the Greeks in the south. Hassan Bey Prishtina was the first, and after him came a crowd of citizens from Argyrocastro."

### Indiscriminate massacres by the Serbs in unarmed Albania

"Outside, in the blazing sunlight large crowd stood and applauded continually; inside, a series of depressing conversations went on. Meymed Bey, Minister for War, arrived. He spoke of the urgent need of help for the refugees, and with bitterness of the way in which the country (Albania) was being treated. He said he would not speak of his own losses, which were irrelevant, but his property, representing a very large sum, had been taken at Kalkandilen."

"He told stories of indiscriminate massacre by the Serbs in unarmed Albania. The Serbs had invited him to return and to govern Djakova and Prisrend, but he had refused their offer, preferring his loss. The cheers went on and I felt sick — knowing that nothing could or would be done."<sup>2</sup>

### The Albanian Committee tried to inform the British public of these atrocities

"However, in his memoirs, Herbert did not criticise the British press either: The Albanian Committee did not have to complain of the way in which it was treated by the Government or the Press. Those pre-War days were Christian, and the howling cannibals of 1919 had not yet been loosed upon the suffering world."

"In spite of the intrigues of the Great Powers, the world was not too bad a place, and the Albanians, in England at any rate, received a fair hearing through the Albanian Committee, which tried to be, if not impartial, as moderate as possible. Very little was known about Albania."

### **Unarmed Albanians of the south were murdered by Greeks** in 1913

"The general impression was that the Albanians were another branch of the Armenian family, and indeed, as far as massacres were concerned, this was most understandable, for the unarmed, pastoral Albanians of the South were massacred by the Greeks in 1913, while the Albanians of the North-West received the same treatment at the hands of the Serbs."

#### References

- 1. <a href="https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.210369/page/n263/mode/2up?q=massacre">https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.210369/page/n263/mode/2up?q=massacre</a> ←
- 2. imbid. <u>←</u>
- 3. <u>http://ndl.ethernet.edu.et/bitstream/</u>
  123456789/54252/1/68.pdf.pdf ↔
- 4. imbid. *←*

### When even Greek Orthodox priests raped Albanian women in 1913

Authored by Petrit Latifi

In the book "März eine Wochenschrift" published in 1969 we can read that even Greek Orthodox priests raped Albanian women, even elderly in 1913 and 1914.

**Albanian:** Kur edhe priftërinjtë ortodoksë grekë përdhunuan gratë shqiptare në vitin 1913

#### **Translation:**

"Communities then made do with the remnants of femininity, even the oldest women. The Greek priests took the most active part in the rape and massacre. These atrocities can still be effectively supplemented today by the atrocities of the Greek Epirotes against the Albanian population"

#### Albanian:

""Komunitetet atëherë u mjaftuan me mbetjet e feminitetit, madje edhe gratë më të vjetra. Priftërinjtë grekë morën pjesën më aktive në përdhunimin dhe masakrën. Këto mizori mund të plotësohen edhe sot në mënyrë efektive nga mizoritë e epirotëve grekë kundër popullsisë shqiptare"."

#### Reference

https://www.google.se/books/edition/M%C3%A4rz/qnk1AQAAMAAJ? hl=en&gbpv=0&bsq=massakrierung%20albaner

### Lists and names of 537 Albanians killed by Serbo-Montenegrin forces in 1912-1913

Nr	Emrie mbiemri	Vendi	Viri i	Nr.	Emri e nh iemri	Vendi	Viti i
1	Abaz Gashi	Viauoc, Pejë	vrasjes 1912	61			vrasjes
2_	Abaz Jaha	Turjakë, Pejë	1913	51	AliSyla	Uce, Burim	1912
3	Abaz Syla	Uçĕ, Burim	1912	53	AliSyla	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
4	Abaz Sylejmani	Drilon i M. Peje	1912	54	Ali Shsbani	Qarrabreg, Decan	1912
5	Abdyl Hasani	Baran, Pejë	1912	55	Ali Ymori	Belleje, Decan	1912
ó	Abdyl S. Qoku	Strall i E. Deçan	1913	56	Ali Zeqiri	Çerem, Deçan	1912
7	Abdyl Z. Qosaj	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	_	Alo Basha	Plavé	1912
8	Abdyl Rrustemi	Bardhan, Pejë	1912	57	Alush Feka	Uçë Burim	1912
9	Abdyl Sadiloz	Kepuz, Kline	1913	39	Alush Qosi	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
10	Abdyl Zeka	Guci, Plave	1913		Alush B. Qosi	Vuthaj, Plavë	1913
11	Abo O. Omeragaj	Plavě	1913	60	An J. Nikogaj	Plavě	1913
12	Adem Abdullahu	Brod, Dragash		61	Anf Abdyb	Martinej, Plane	1913
	Adem Bajrama	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913	62	Arif Ahme ti	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
_	Adem B. Nikocai	Plave	1913	63	Arif Alia	Drilon i M., Pejë	1912
	Adem Z. Qosai	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	64	Azif Habili	Fushë mëri, Pejë	1912
_	Adem Sadr	Ponoishec, Chalcone	1913	65	Arif Haliti	Kurexhaj, Preshevë	1912
17	Adem Seja		1913	66	Arife Govon	Prapashtice, Prishtine	1913
18	Adem She	Playe	1913	67	Asan B. Nikoçaj	Plave	1913
19	Adem Takes		1913	63	Asllan Hajdari	Kodranik, Pejë	1913
20	Adem Zeha	Vranoc, Fr	1912	69	Aso Alku	Guci, Plavě	1913
-		Vuthaj, Plant	1913	20	Avdi Abazi	Shkrel, Pejë	1913
22	Adem Z.Zel-a	Rauch, Peje	1913	71	Avdi Musa	Prapashtice, Prishtine	1912
	Adem Zeneli	Dulon i M. Per	1912	72	Avdi Smajli	Rugově, Pejě	1913
23	Agan Fem	Plave	1913	73	Avdyl Bajrami	Rugovë, Pejë	1913
24	Ahmet Ademi	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913	74	Azem N.	Zhegër, Gulan	1912
25	Ahmet Fazlia	Çesem, Deçan	1912	75	Azem Nimari	Çerem, Deçan	1912
26	Ahmet Haxhia	Strall i P., Deçan	1913	76	Azem Zeneli	Drilon i M., Pejë	1912
27	Ahmet Hoxha	Ponoshec, Gjakově	1913	77	Azem Zegiri	Oarrabreg, Decan	1912
28	Ahmet Isufi	Shtupel, Klinë	1913	78	Bajram H.Delibashiqi	Plave	1913
29	Ahmet Shabani	Zhegër, Gjilan	1912	79	Bajram B Haxhideliqi		1913
30	Ahmet Shuffaku	Restelice, Sharr	1913	80	Bajram Beka	Uçe, Burim	1912
31	Akë S. Balaj	Guci, Plavě	1913	31	Bajram Cuki	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
32	Akë Al Çekaj	Guci, Plave	1913	82	Bajram Dema	Baran, Pejë	1912
33	Akë Lec Çekaj	Guci, Plavě	1913	83	Bajram Feka	Uçĕ, Burim	1912
34	Ali Abazi	Turjakë, Pejë	1913	84	Bajram A. Ferataj	Raush, Pejé	1913
35	Ali Abdyli	Pozoshec, Gjakovë	1913	85	Bajram Haxhia	Martinaj, Flave	1913
36	Ali Avdia	Krasniçaj, Burim	1913	86	Bajram Haxhia	Arbanë, Pejë	1913
37	Ali Bajrami	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913	87	Bajram Isufi	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
38	Ali Dema	Zhegër, Gjilan	1913	88	Bajram Koci	Selishtë, Preshevë	1912
39	Ali A Ferataj	Raush, Pejë	1913	89	Bajram Meta	Bellejë, Deçan	1912
40	Ali Hypeni	Shkozet, Pejë	1913	90_	Bajram Mujaj	Novosellë, Pejë	1913
41	Ali H. Kuci	Arbanë, Pejë	1913	91	Bajram Masa	Vuthaj, Plavë	1913
42	Ali Sh. Lushaj	Qarrabreg, Deçan	1912	82	Bajram Neziri	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
43	Ali Me ta	Bellene, Deçan	1912	93	Bajram Syla	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
_	Ali Meta	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912	94	Bajro Z. Nikoçaj	Plavě	1913
45	Ali A. Mulliqi	Rauch, Pejë	1913	95	Bal Smajli	Drelaj, Pejë	1912
	Ali Musa	Prapashticë Prisht inë	1912 -	96	Bali Haliti	Çesem, Deçan	1912
	Ali Muslia	Uce, Burim	1912	97	Began Sharkoviqi	Guci, Plavë	1913
	Ali Mustafa	Drelaj, Pejë	1912	98	Began Sharku	Vuthai Plave	1913
	Ali Osmani	Brolaj, Pejë	1912	99	Bekë Smaili	Çesem, Deçan	1912
	Ali D. Ramaj	Strall i P. Degan	1912	100	Bele M. Vuçetaj	Vuthaj, Plave	1913

						D. 1 / S. I. D. /u	1012
101	Bektesh Bekteshi	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912	156	Feriz Abazi	Drilon i M., Poje	1912
102	Bektesh N.	Zhegër, Gjilan	1912	157	Feriz Mula	Peje	1912
103	Becar Asllani	Drilon i M., Pejë	1912	158	Feriz Pajazati	Dulon i M , Peje	
104	Becar Beka	Brolaj, Pejë	1912	159	Fetah Gashi	Vrance, Peje	1912
105	Becar Dema	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	160	Femija N.	Pidiq, Preshevé	1912
106	Becar Goçaj	Qerem, Deçan	1912	161	Gruaja N.	Pidiq, Presheve	1912
107	Bego Alimuli	Plave	1913	162	Grua e Sh. Gjirut	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912
108	Birak Ndrecaj	Drenisht i M, Kline	1913	163	Grua e M Ibrahimit	Keqekollë, Prishtinë	1913
109	Bin i Fejze Gruhalisë	Gruhali, Preshevé	1912	164	Gjokë B. Kalaj	Nashec, Prizren	1913
110	Bin i Fejzë Gruhalisë	Gruhali, Preshevë	1913	165	Giyle Nezin	Plave	1913
112	Bin i Fejze Gruhalise	Gruhali, Preshevë	1913	166	Hajdar Elezi	Prelaj, Pejë	1913
113	Bin i Fejzë Gruhalisë	Gruhali, Presheve	1913	167	Hajdar O. Qosaj	Vuthaj, Plavě	1913
114	Bin i Fejze Gruhalise	Gruhali, Preshevë	1913	168	Hajdar Tahiri	Gramaçe I, Deçan	1913
115	Bini i Fejzë Gruhalisë	Gruhali, Preshevë	1913	169	Hajdin Gashi	Malaj, Peje	1913
116	Bin i Fejzë Gruhalisë	Gruhali, Preshevë	1912	170	Hajnje Govon	Keqekolle, Prishtine	1913
117	Bin i Fejze Gruhalisë	Gruhali, Presheve	1913	171	Hajro Osmanagiq	Guci, Plave	1913
118	Bin i Veli Gjinit	Gjinaj, Preshevë		172	Hajro Z. Syla	Prapashice, Pushtue	1913
119	Brahim N.	Zheger, Gjilan	-	173	Hako S. Balica	Pepaj, Pejë	1913
120	Brahim Rasemi	Martinaj, Plave	_	174	Hako L. Cekaj	Pepaj, pejë	1913
121	Brahim H. Selimaj	Valbonë, Shqipën	1913	175	Hako Haxhimuli	Plavě	1913
		Prapashtic, Prishtinë	1	176	Hako A. Omeragiqi	Plave	1913
122	Brahim Syla	Kurexhaj, Preshevë	1913		Halil Dervishi	Plave	1913
123	Brahim Tafa		1912		Halil M. Ferataj	Raush, Peje	1913
124	But H. Çukaj	Plave Plave	1912		Halil H. Hajdari	Vranoc, Pejë	1912
125	But Kase mi	Martinaj, Plave		-	Halil Haxhiu	Guci, Plave	1913
126	Can Ademi	Çerem, Deçan	1913	_		Vuthaj, Plave	1913
127	CenS. Luma	Kepuz, Kline	1912		Halil Nimani	Guci, Plave	1913
128	Cerë Zenel	Shtupel, Klinë	1913	_	Halil Radoniqu		1913
129	Col Sh. Selimaj	Valbone, Shqipën	1912	-	Halil Dsadiku	Ponoshec, Gjak	-
130	Cubel Zeqir	Bann, Pejë	1912	_	Halil B. Selimaj	Valbonë, Shqipëri	1913
131	Cel Shabani	Vuthaj, Plave	1913		Halil A. Smaka	Prelaj, Burim	1913
132	Dak Arifi	Qarrabreg, Deçan	1913	_	Halim D. Ibrahimi	Keqekolle, Prishtinë	1913
132	Danjoll Hoxha	Rappē, Sharr	1912	_	Halit Luta	Selishte, Presheve	1912
133	Daut Anfi	Uçe, Burim	1913	188	Hamit Hajdan	Rexhëme maj, Preshev	1912
134	Daut Ibishi	Novoselle, Peje	1913	189	Hamza Ademi	Qerem, Deçan	1913
135	Daut Zymberi	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1913	190	Hamza Hyseni	Zhegër, Gjilan	1912
136	Dede T. Kalaj	Nashec, Prizren	1913	191	Hamza Kundra	Dardan, Pejë	1913
137	Deli Smajli	Qerem, Deçan	1913	192	Hasan Alku	Guci, Plave	1913
138	Demē Markovica	Plave	1912	193	Hasan Çela	Vuthaj, Plavë	1913
139	Demir S. Bekteshi	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912	194	Hasan Et hemi	Novoselle, Pejë	1913
140	Dervish Çekaj	Plavě	1913	195	Hasan Gje kaj	Plave	1913
141	Din M Ibrahimi	Keqekollë, Prishtinë	1913	196	Hasan Fazlia	Selishtë, Preshevë	1912
142	Din Zeka	Qarrabreg, Deçan	1912	197	Hasan Y. Hulaj	Armjet, Deçan	1913
143	Dun Tali	Plave	1913	_	Hasan S. Kolena	Plave	1913
144	Ejup Tabaku	Vranoc, Pejë	1912		Hasan Neziri	Këpuz, Klinë	1913
		Qarrabreg, Decan	1912	200	Hasan Neziri	Pepaj, Pejë	1913
145	Elez Hasani		1913		Hasan Selmani	Dnlon i M., Pejë	1912
146	Elez Ibrahimi	Keqekolle, Prishtine	1913		Hasan Syla	Prapashtice, Prishtine	1912
147	Elez Osmani	Kepuz, Kline		_	Hata Govori	Keqekollë, Prishtinë	1913
148	Elez Sahiti	Pidiq, Presheve	1912	_		Barihan, Pejë	1912
149	Emin Ferri	Plave	1913			Guci, Plave	1913
150	Et hem Miftari	Novosellë, Pejë	1913	_	Haxhi Beqi		1913
151	Et hem Zeqin	Qerem, Deçan	1913	-		Uçe, Burim	1912
152	Fazli M Ferataj	Raush, Pejë	1913	-	Haxhi Hasi	Guci, Plave	
153	Fejze Gruhalia	Gruhali, Preshevë	1912		Haxhi J. Lala	Plavě	1913
154	Fekë Sadria	Novoselle, Peje	1913	-		Plave	1913
155	Ferhat Qesja	Brod, Sharr	1913	210	Haxhi H. Radoniqi	Guci, Plavě	1913

211_	Hazir Abdyli	Barlhan, Pejë	1912	271	Kadri Smajli	Rugovë, Pejë	1913
212	Hazir Haliti	Barihan, Pejë	1912	272	Kamber Neziri	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
213	Hazir Tahiri	Gramagel, Degan	1913	273	Kamber Sefa	Novosellë, Pejë	1913
214	Hazir Zymbe n	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913	274	Kamber Sylaj	Belleje, Deçan	1912
215	Hime Zegin	Bellejë, Deçan	1912		Keqë Hasari	Rugove, Pejë	1913
216	Hul Sokoli	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	276	Lan Ahmeti	Bellejë, Deçan	1912
217	Hulë H. Ibra	Rugově, Pejě	1913	277	Lazer D. Kalaj	Nashec, prizren	1913
218	Humbije Asllani	Keqekollë, Prishtinë	1913	278	Liza F. Gjargji	Fshajë, Gjakovë	1912
219	Hypen N.	Zheger, Gjilan	1912		Luigj- At Palaj	Dukagjin, Pejë	1912
220	Hypen Ademi	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1912	220	Lule Myffan - 7 vjeç	Bellejë, Deçan	1912
221	Hypen Ahmeti	Uçe, Burim	1912	221	Llesh P. Kalaj	Nashec, Prizren	1913
222	Hyen Arifi	Çeskaj, Klinë	1913	222	Mahmut Mustafa	Brod, Sharr	1913
223	Hypen Feta	Qarrabreg, Deçan	1912	223	Mahmut Smagli	Novosellë, Pejë	1913
224	Hysen H. Ibraj	Rugovë, Pejë	1913	224	Maksut Ragipi	Restelice, Sharr	1913
225	Hypen Nimani	Oerem, Decan	1912	225	Male Ibishi	Guci, Plave	1913
226	Hypen Pajaziti	Drilon i M , Pejë	1912		Male Ibishi	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
227	Hosen Smaili	Oerem, Decan	1912	227	Male Loshi	Oarrabreg, Decan	1912
228	Mass Delan	Martiraj, Plane	1913		Malë H. Sejda	Guci, Plave	1913
239	him   Ibrahimi	Kegekollë, Prishtinë	1913	220	Malsor Beka	Belleje, Decan	1912
240	! shim ! forigi	Guci, Plave	1913	281	Malore H. Gashi	Drelaj, Pejë	1912
241	him stemi	Plavě	1913	282	Man Hyseni	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912
242	Ahr oga	Plavé	1913	283	Mane Qosi	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
243	Laz A Sagi	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	284	Mark N. kalaj	Nashec, Prizren	1913
244	Lang Des cari	Brod. Sharr	1913	285	Mark Marndreca	Nashec, Prizren	1913
245	Muz Rextem	Ponoshec, Giakově	1913	286	Mark Marniku	Dmisht i Madh, Klinë	1913
246	beam M Ameti	Vranoc, Pejë	1912	287	Mazo Haxhimushi	Plavě	1913
247	Isa Qomi	Qarrabreg, Deçan	1912	288	Mehmet N.	Zhegër, Gjilan	1912
248	lak Rexha	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913	289	Mehmet M. Dauti	Restelice, Sharr	1913
249	Islam Repça-me falije	Rapce, Sharr	1913	290	Mehmet Ismajli	Dnlon i Madh, Pejë	1912
250	Ismail Hajdan	Kodranik, Pejë	1913	291	Mehmet Sh. Nezaj	Zhegër, Gjilan	1912
251	Istref Rexhepi	Kelmend, Pejë	1913	292	Mehmet Rama	Novosellë, Pejë	1913
252	Isuf A. Feratai	Raush, Pejë	1913	293	Mehmet Rexha	Malaj, Pejë	1913
253	Isuf Qosi	Vuthaj, Plavě	1913	294	Mehmet Qosaj	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
254	Isuf Zymberi	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913	295	Mehmet Shabani	Vuthaj, Plavë	1913
255	Jahë Sherifi	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912	296	Memē Bruçi	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
256	Jakup Arifi	Pepaj, Pejë	1913	297	Memē Qosja	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
257	Jakup Beka	Uçë, Burim	1912	298	Metë N.	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912
258	Jakup Oaushi	Giakovë	1912	299	Mete T. Ferataj	Raush, Pejë	1913
259	Jashar A. Ferataj	Raush, Pejë	1913	300	Metë Shabani	Guci, Plavë	1913
260	Jashar Gocka	Vranoc, Pejë	1912	301	Mic Sadiku	Bardhan, Pejë	1912
261	Jonuz Myffari	Bellejë, Deçan	1912	302	Miftar Alia	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
262	Jup H. Miftari	Pidic, Presheve	1912	303	Miftar M. Bruçi	Vuthaj, Plave	1913
263	Jup Racai	Guci, Plavë	1913		Mihane Ibrahimi	Keqekollë, Prishtinë	1913
264	Jupo R. Sharku	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	305	Mon Abazi	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
265	Jusuf Abazi	Shkrel, Pejë	1913	306	Mon Arifi	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
266	Jusuf Haxhija	Novosellë, Pejë	1913	307	Monë T. Gjikokaj	Decan	1913
267	Jusuf Smagli	Rugovë, Pejë	1913	308	Mrike T. Cetta	Fshajë, Gjakovë	1912
268	Jusuf Tapin	Sverkë, Klinë	1913	_	Mrike Perdani	Fshajë, Gjakovë	1912
269	Kacurr Me ta	Bellejë, Deçan	1912		Muhamet Ibrahimi	Keqekollë, Prishtinë	1913
270	Kadri Abazi	Shkrel, Pejë	1913	_	Muharem Bakalli	Vranoc, Pejë	1917

312	Muse Age Tali		1913	372	Rame Muslia	Shtupel, Klinë	1913
	Maie Tali		1913	373	Ramé Sadiku	Ponosher, Ojakově	1913
	Muk A Deliai		1913	374	Rame Sadria	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
	Mulla Avdia		1912	375	Ramë Smqili	Cewm, Decan	1913
	Malla E. Bekteshi		1913	376	Ramé K. Shujaku	Pepaj, Peje	1913
	Malla H. Bekteshi	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	377	Ramé N. Shujaku	Plave	1913
	Malla H. Et hemi		1913	378	Rame Tahiri	Novosellé, Pejé	1913
	Mulla S. Musiqi	Flave	1913	370	Rame Veseli	Ponoshec, Ojakově	1913
	Mulla E. Omeragica	Flave	1913	380	Rame Zaqu	Guci, Plave	1913
_	Malla Sheqi	Guci, Plave	1913	381	Ramiz Agushi	Vranoc, Pejë	1912
321		Gues, Plave	1913	382	Ramiz Cajta	Gjinaj, Presheve	1912
322	Marat Haxbin	Guei, Plave	1913	383	Raze Ahmeti	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
323	Murat H. Radoraqi		1913	384	Raze Mushkolaj	Decan	1912
324	Musa Sadiku	Tunakë, Pejë	1912	322	Reko R. Celaj	Vuthar, Plave	1913
325	Masa Syla	Uce, Burim	_			Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
	Mase Et hemi	Novoselle, Peje	1913	356	Rexhep Ademi	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
	Muse A. Gjikokaj	Decan	1912	387	Rexhep Et hemi	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
328	Musli S. Bequaj	Shtupel, Klinë	1913	388	Rexhep Latifi		1913
329	Misli Zymben	Gjinaj, Presheve	1912		Rexhep Cerimi	Kepuz Kline	
330	Mustafa Isufi	Drelaj, Peje	1912		Rexhep Rrustemi	Ponoshec Qiako	191
331	Mustafa Ragigi	Restelice, Sharr	1913		Rexhep Syla	Novoselle, Pejo	191
332	Mushak H. Selimaj	Valbone, Shqipën	1913		Rexhe Ahmeti	Malaj, Peje	191
333	Myffar Elezi	Mirashé, Kliné	1912		Raxhe S. Bequaj	Shrupel i V., Kitta	191
334	Mhaté Aleneti	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913		Rexhe Elsharu	Dunesh Peje	191
335	N (femije Govon)	Keqekollë, Prishtinë	1913	395	Rexhé Hasaru	Brolaj, Peje	10
336	N (femuje Govon)	Kenekolle, Prishtine			Rexhë Mythari	Belleje, Decan	191
337	Nazif Musaj	Novosellë, Pejë	1913	397	Ruhë M. Gjikokaj	Decan	191
338	Ndue Gjora	Nashec, Prizren	1913		Rrahime Ibrahimi	Keqekolle, Prishing	191
339	Ndue Marku	Meje, Gjakovë	1913		Rrustem Adili	Rugove, Peje	191
340	Nexhip Kasapi	Vranoc, Pejë	1912		Rrustem Alia	Tunakë, Pejë	1913
341	Nezir Cufi	Martinaj, Plave		401	Rrustem Bekteshi	Zheger, Gjilan	1913
	Nezir Haliti - 8 vjec	Belleje, Decan	1912		Rrustem Hasani	Bazihan, Peje	1912
342	Nezir Muffari -7 viec		1912		Rrustem Vejseli	Dnilon i M., Pejë	1912
			1912		Rrustem Zenuni	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
344	Niman Plava	Barthy, Peje	1913	405	Rrusté Bucolli	Raush, pejë	1913
345	Nuc J. Sharku	Vuthaj, Plave	1913		Sabit Smaili	Batushë, Gjakovë	1912
346	Nuré H. Merkuliqi	Plave			Sadik Bakalli	Vranoc, Pejé	1912
347	Nurie Mushkolaj	Decan	1912			Vranoc, Pejë	1912
348	Omer Omeragica	Plavě	1912		Sadik Bojka		1912
349	Osé Corraj	Qarrabreg, Decan	1912		Sedik Mehmeti	Qanabreg, Decan	1912
350	Osman Ademi	Ponoshec, Gjakové	1913		Satilk Myftari	Bellejë, Degan	1913
351	Sman Et hemi	Novosellė, Pejė	1913		Sadik Rama	Ponoshec, Gjakové	1913
352	Osman Rexha	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913	_	Sadik Zenuni	Ponoshec, Gjakove	
353	Osman Syla	Novoselle, Peje	1913		Sadri Abdullahu	Shtupel, Kline	1913
354	Osman Shehu	Plavě	1913		Sadri Ademi	Cerem, Decan	1917
355	Pajazit Ahmeti	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913	415	Sadri Bajrami	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
356	Pieter P. Kalaj	Nashec, Prizren	1913		Sadri Elezi	Koshutan, Peje	1913
357	Plak Tahiri	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	417	Sadri Goçaj	Çerem, Deçan	1917
358	Pren Marndtreca	Nashec, Prizzen	1913	418	Sadri Hajdina	Kodranik, Pejë	1913
359	Pren Ndrecaj	Drenight i M. Kline	_			Belleje, Decan	1917
360	Prenkë Mamdreca	Nashec, Prizren	1913			Ponoshec, Gjahovë	191
361	Pruk A. Hysenaj	Valbonë, Shqipëri	1913		Sadri Sadiku	Ponoshec, Gjakove	191
362		Valbone, Shqipën	1913			Turjakë, Pejë	191
	Pruk R.Selimaj	Zhegër Gjilan	191			Belleje, Degan	191
363	Qerim Syla		1917			Ponoshec, Gjakovë	191
364	Qerim Shabani	Zhegër, Gjilan				Quie Broqi, Deçan	191
365	Ramë N.	Keqekolle, Prishtine	_	_		Rezheme maj Preshev	-
366	Rame Abdyli	Ponoshec, Gjakove	191			Batushë, Gjakovë	191
367	Ramé Ibishi	Guci, Plave	191				191
368	Ramë I. Ferataj	Raush, Peje	191			Ponoshec Gjakove	191
369	Rame M. Gjini	Gjinaj, Preshevë	191			Vranoc, Peje	191
370	Ramë Smajli	Drilon i M., Pejë	191			Martinaj, Plave	
371	Rame M Luma	Kepuz, Klinë	191	3 43	1 Sali M Morina	Raush, Peje	191

431	Sali M Morina	Raush, Pejë	1913	485	Sherbet H. Selimai	Valloonë, Shqipëri	1913
432	Sali Pama	Ponochec, Gjakově	1913	486	Sherif Myftari	Novocelle, Peje	1913
433	Sali Tema	Vranoc, Peië	1912	427	Shiger Hasani	Barihan, Pejë	1912
434	Salih Heterni	Uçe, Burim	1912	488	Shkurte Sh. Se limaj	Valbone, Shqipëri	1913
435	Salihe Sinara	Kegekolle, Prishtrine	1913	429	Shog S. Vuthaj	Vuthaj, Plavë	1913
436	Sagin Tafa	Kurexhaj, Preshevë	1912	490	Tafé Abdyli	Turiakë, Pejë	1912
437	Sefer Zymberi	Thatine, Peje	1913	491	Tafe A. Muzhkolaj	Decan	1912
438	Sejdi Ademi	Ponoshec, Gjakově	1913	492	Tahir Ademi	Malaj, Pejë	1913
439	Sejdo Metku	Guci, Plave	1913	493	Tahir Ahmeti	Bellejë, Deçan	1912
440	Sele M Llalligi	Guci, Plave	1913	494	Tahir Isufi	Shtupel i M., Klirë	1913
441	Selim Bajrushi	Uçë, Burim	1912	495	Tahir Sadiku	Turjakë, Pejë	1913
442	Selim Drenica	Ponochec, Gjakové	1913	496	Tem Ibishi	Oafe Brogi, Decan	1913
443	Selim Hyseni	Drilon i M. Pejë	1912	497	Tuc B. Kalaj	Nashec, Prizren	1913
444	Selim Syla	Kegekolle, Prishtine	1912	498	Ukë Abdyli	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
445	Selman Rama	Novocelle, Peje	1913	499	Ukë Arifi	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
446	Selman Rrusta	Kurexhaj, Preshevë	1912	200	Ukë Ndou	Drnisht i M, Kline	1913
447	Selman Tahiri	Brolaj, Pejë	1912	201	Ukë Sadria	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913
442	Simon Ll. Kalaj	Nashec, Prizren	1913	202	Vejsel Neziri	Restelicë, Gjakovë	1913
449	Smail Abazi	Shkrel, Peje	1913	503	Veli Beldeshi	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912
450	Sman clami	Gjegjizë, Pejë	1913	304	Veli Gjiri	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912
		Drelaj, Pejë	1912	505	Vesel Ajeti	Keqekolle, Prishtine	1913
451	Sma: Luma	Kepuz, Kline	1913	306	Vorf Gjiri	Fshajë, Gjakovë	1912
452		Novoselle, Pejë	1913	507	Xhemile Halili	Keqekolle, Prishtinë	1913
453	Smar maili	Decan	1912	508	Xhevahire H. Jakup	Pejë	1913
454	Sofe ishkolaj	Rauch, Pejë	1913	309	Xhok Halili	Cerem, Decan	1912
455	Soko . Haxhiej		1913		Zhuk Nimani	Cerem, Decan	1912
456	Sule livea	Plave Vranoc, Peje	1913	511	Yll H. Ibra	Prelaj, Pejë	1913
457	Suno habaj		1912	512	Ymer Hyseni	Zheger, Gjilan	1912
458	Supla Castrati	Vranoc, Peje	1913	513	Ymer Luma	Këpuz, Klinë	1913
459	Syle Bajrami	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913	514	Ymer A. Mushkolaj	Decan	1912
460	Syle Hajdari	Bokaj, Peje	1913		Ymer Rexha	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
461	Syle Istrefi	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	516	Ymer Zenuni	Kepuz, Kline	1915
462	Syle Latifi	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913	517	Ymer Zymberi	Thatine, Peje	1915
463	Syle Mema	Vuthaj, Plave	1913	518	Zahide Govori	Keqekolle, Prishtinë	1913
464	Sylë Salihu	Ponoshec, Gjakove	_		Zahir Shabani	Pidiq, Presheve	1912
465	Syle Syla	Novoselle, Peje	1913	519	Zef Mari	Meje, Gjakovë	1913
466	Shaban N.	Zheger, Gjilan	1912	520 521	Zeinep Govori	Keqekolle, Prishtine	1913
467	Shaban Ademi	Turjake, Peje	1913	522	Zekë Haxhia	Martinaj, Plave	1913
468	Shaban Bajrushi	Uçê, Burim	1912		Zekë Hyseni	Qarrabreg, Decan	1912
469	Shaban O. Bashulaj	Plave	1913	523		Shtupel i M., Kline	1913
470	Shaban Beka	Uce, Burim	1912	524	Zekë Ibra Zekë M. Zekaj	Raush, pe jë	1913
471	Shaban Bucolli	Raush, Peje	1913			Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912
472	Shaban Coli -6 vjeç	Belleje, Deçan	1912	526	Zekë Zylfiu Zenel Sadiku	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
473	Shaban Hasani	Guci, Plave	1913	527		Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
474	Shaban Hasani	Pepaj, Peje	1913	_	Zenun Bajrami	Këpuz, Klinë	1913
475	Shaban Hasani	Vuthaj, Plave	1913		Zenun Jusufi	Ponoshec, Gjakove	1913
476	Shaban Islami	Rappe, Sharr	1913		Zoje HoxHA		1912
477	Shaban Isufi	Ponoshec, Gjakovë	1913		Zyber Loshi	Qarrabreg, Decan	1912
478	Shaban Ukë Mulliqi		1913		Zymber Goçaj	Cerem, Decan	1913
479	Shaban Nezaj	Zhegër, Gjilan	1912		Zymber Hasani	Thatine, Peje	1913
480	Shaban Sadria	Shtupel, Kline	1913		Zymber Rexhepi	Novoselle, Peje	
481	Shaban Selmani	Novoselle, pejë	1913		Zymber Selmani	Koshutan, Pejë	1913
482	Shahin Gjini	Gjinaj, Preshevë	1912		Zymber Syla	Prapashtice, Prishtine	
483	Shemsidin Frusta	Kurexhaj, Pre shevë	1912	537	Zymber Zeneli	Bellejë, Deçan	1912
484	Dsheqë Sula	Vishrieve, Plave	1913				

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# Correspondence from 1912: Montenegrin atrocities at Reka e Allagës of Ponoshevë

"Correspondence reports from Skutari: Recently, there have been increasing reports of cruelties committed by Montenegrins against Albanians in the new Montenegrin territory. According to a report from Malissa, Montenegrins recently attacked the inhabitants of the village of Ponoschesse (Ponoshec) in Reka (Reka e Allagës) twelve kilometers west of Decan."

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# French newspapers covering Greek and Serb atrocities against Albanians in 1912-1913

Authored by Petrit Latifi

In 1913, the French consuls received reports of Greek and Serbian atrocities against Albanians, though few reached the French public. Instead, due to French Serbophile tendencies, focus lay on alleged "Albanian atrocities". Maurice Carlier wrote to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in January 1913 on the miserable conditions of the Albanian, as did Etienne Dussap.

#### "Information about the Massacres

This representation of the Albanian as a ferocious being, which haunts the imagination of the French people of the Balkan Wars, is relayed, consolidated, and amplified by the way in which information about the atrocities committed during the conflicts in regions inhabited by Albanians is reported.

Testimonies about the massacres of Albanian populations by the Greek and Serbian occupying armies included in investigations carried out at the end of the conflicts or in subsequent historiographical research find almost no echo in the French press of the time, at least in the newspapers from which I compiled my corpus.

# French consul Etienne Dussaps report of the Cretan Greek war crimes against Albanians of Aidonat

And yet, these massacres were already known to the French consuls on the ground. Maurice Carlier wrote to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in January 1913 to inform them of the miserable conditions in which the Muslim populations were living in the

territories occupied by the Serbian army, while the French consul in Janina, Etienne Dussap, confirmed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs the massacre of Albanians by a Greek band commanded by a Cretan leader in the region of Aidonat:

"Although the Cretan leader was arrested, the incident was kept hidden by the Greek authorities. The Governor General spoke to me about it today in confidence and told me how deplorable the unfortunately true incident was. The authorities seem to want to hush up this affair as much as possible for fear of repercussions."

How can we explain the fact that this information was not disseminated in the French press, while, on the contrary, information on atrocities attributed to Albanians was widely publicized, as shown in the table below?"

And the Petit Journal's Belgrade correspondent sent this nationalist newspaper, which was pro-Balkan Allies, Turkophobic, and Islamophobic, a story in which his hatred of Muslim Albanians was evident:

"(...) I will never forget the spectacle I saw when the Albanian prisoners arrived in Belgrade. The entire population had gathered on the sidewalks from the train station to the fortress (...) to see these fierce Arnauts pass by, heads bowed, barefoot, in rags, exhausted, starving. They passed with the gait of hunted beasts among the Serbs who showed no horror, no hatred, and uttered no cry, trying hard to forget the horrible agonies of their unfortunate brothers from Old Serbia, massacred by these Arnauts."

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https://hal.science/hal-03996189/document

October 1912 Le Petit Parisien, October 18: "The Excesses of the Montenegrins"

Le Journal, October 27: "The Abuses of the Muslim Albanians"

Archives du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, nouvelle série, Turquie/441: Usküb, le 17 janvier 1913, n°3, le consul français Carlier au MAE, au sujet de la misère des populations musulmanes dans sa région

Paramythia en grec. Il s'agit d'une région où habitaient jusqu'à la deuxième guerre mondiale des membres de la communauté albanophone, des Tsams. Sur le destin de cette communauté en Grèce du XXe siècle, voir Eleftheria Manta, Οι μουσουλμάνοι Τσάμηδες της Ηπείρου, (Les Tsams musulmans d'Epire, 1923-2000). Thessalonique, Editions de l'Institut d'études sur la péninsule d'Haemos, 2004 et Mark Mazower, After the war was over : reconstructing the family, nation and state in Greece, 1943-60, Princeton University Press, 2000.

Archives du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, correspondance consulaire, Janina/31: Janina, le 11 mai 1913.

71.

René Lebault, « La férocité des Albanais », Le Petit Journal, le 30 décembre 1912

### The Kodra Massacre of 1914 by Greek troops

Authored by Petrit Latifi

In the publication "Near East Volume 18, 1920" published in 1915, there is a report of a massacre of 200 Albanians in the church of Kodra committed by Greek troops. The event was documented by the Commission of the International Control on the authority of the Dutch genderames. The Greek ambassador denied the event. On page 13 we read:

"A massacre of a hundred or two Mohammedan Albanians in the church of Kodra by Greek troops had been publicly stated by the Commission of International Control on the authority of the officers of the Dutch Gendarmes who had dug up bodies and reported to the Commission on the matter. These statementa were denied by the Greek Ambassador to Great Britain".

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<a href="https://www.google.se/books/edition/Near\_East/S-4-AQAAMAAJ.">https://www.google.se/books/edition/Near\_East/S-4-AQAAMAAJ.</a>
<a href="https://www.google.se/googl

# When Serb soldiers buried Albanians alive and desecrated female corpses and children

Authored by Petrit Latifi

During the tragedies of the Serbian army in Albanian lands, there were no limits to the amount of barbarities. A German publication from 1913 mentions how Serbian soldiers would rape the corpses of Albanian women, and bury Albanians alive and torturing them horribly.

In the publication "Deutsche Arbeit Monatschrift für das geistige Leben der Deutschen in Böhmen" Volume 12, by Gesellschaft zur Förderung Deutscher Wissenschaft, Kunst und Literatur in Böhmen, published in 1913, we can read the following:

"The massacre of Albanians by Serbs. Among others, Albanian prisoners were horribly tortured and buried alive. Serbian newspapers publicly proclaimed that the Albanian race must be exterminated. Consul Taby saw entire armies of Albanian corpses floating in the river in Mitrovica. In Prizren, Serbian soldiers desecrated the corpses of young girls, women, and children in the open street. Turkish prisoners of war destined for Niš and Belgrade were murdered."

#### Albanian:

"Masakra e shqiptarëve nga serbët. Ndër të tjera, të burgosurit shqiptarë u torturuan tmerrësisht dhe u varrosën të gjallë. Gazetat serbe shpallnin publikisht se raca shqiptare duhet shfarosur. Konsulli Taby pa ushtri të tëra kufomash shqiptare që notonin në lumin në Mitrovicë. Në Prizren, ushtarët serbë përdhosën vajzat e reja të burgjeve në rrugë, vajzat e reja të

luftës, gratë turq përdhosën kufomat. të destinuara për Nish dhe Beograd u vranë"

### Reference

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Deutsche Arbeit/zT0FPWwDhA0C?
<a href="https://wwb.google.se/books/edition/">hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=greueltaten+der+serbischen+soldaten&pg=PA416&printsec=frontcover</a>

### List of Albanians killed by Serb forces in Kabash in 1912

Authored by Petrit Latifi

This is an article listing the names of Albanians killed by Serbian forces in the village of Kabash in 1912. In the book "Dr. Milovan Obradović, Agrarian Reform and Colonization in Kosovo, 1918-1941, Prishtina, page 5" we read the following:

"What the Serbian army failed to do in 1912, as it did in neighboring villages, when they burned, massacred, and even shot children: in Smira, Gosicë, Lugishte (Lubishte), Mogilë, Molëkuq (Trestenik), etc., this opportunity had to be used to wipe out the inhabitants of the rebellious village and "to realize Serbia's plan for the colonization, or rather, the Serbization, of places where the population was predominantly Albanian"

The village had not yet managed to heal the wounds inflicted on it by Shefqet Turgut Pasha (1910), when almost half of the village was burned and the brothers Adem and Mustafa Kabashi, inspirers, organizers and participants of the war in the Kaçanik Gorge and the Morava Valley against Turgut Pasha, were treacherously killed, and now another, even more savage and cruel occupier arrived.

In the barns where they were hiding, Zenel Rexhepi, 40 years old, Qazim Shabani, 20 years old, Rrustem and Shaban Sallahu, one 19 and the other 17 years old, were burned in the presence of their mother, who fought with the gendarmes to save her sons. Ibish Jakupi, 48 years old, was killed in the village, and Agush Ahmeti, 30 years old, was also killed on the outskirts of the village.

Murat Salih Abdyli, 50 years old, sick, wearing a shirt and pants, is killed by his former servant, after he is released as sick. The murdered man was buried at the scene, 250-300 meters from the Tower, on the edge of the road at the entrance to the village of Kabash, 30 m. near the Miftijajve mill.

The village was looted. All valuables were stolen: the dowries of the brides and daughters, the dairy, the beans, the reserved winter crops, the corn, the wheat... The doors of the courtyards, the barns, the carts have until recently been seen in the houses of the looters in Viti, Binçë, Vërbovce and Kllokot. Jahi Selmani (1896-1968), a person who escaped execution, after many years, in the barbershop of Misin Kabash, in Gjilan, Gata Veles

The innkeeper from Velekinca, the executioner in the large tavern, saw in his hand the silver tobacco box and the amber of Aziz Abdyl (the village imam, who was shot). What a pity, the murdered were robbed! The looters took everything with them, leaving behind only the oil of the mothers for the sons, the oil of the brides for the husbands, the oil of the children for the parents

and the curse of the women addressed to the murderers, the barbarians.

The village smelled of burning for weeks. The sound of the murdered could be heard for days. 54 people were killed, stabbed and buried there, some alive, in a previously prepared abyss at Zabeli i Sahit Aga, near Kllokot (now the property of the Kllokot Bath). According to Jahi Selmani, who witnessed the event, where his fellow villagers were massacred, he said that an unprecedented riot had occurred.

The gendarmes, assisted by local Serbian soldiers and civilians, shot indiscriminately, using bayonets. There were also Serbs killed there. Apparently, they killed each other after the arrestees rebelled. Among the dead were guests who were found that fateful night in Sylë Jashari's room. There were three of them, one of them uncle Sylë's son-in-law from Ballanca, a village in the municipality of Viti. Another guest from Mogilla, Misin Luzha, was also killed in this massacre.

After some research, we found the names of 44\* murdered Kabashas and three guests, while the others are from families that have disappeared, have been displaced, or the number of those killed was smaller than was reported. It is unfortunate that the place where the massacred were buried is covered with thorns and is not marked with anything.

This irresponsibility towards the past, towards the murdered is unforgivable, this irresponsibility is ordered by the murderers, it is harmful, against ourselves, against our national interests, against the future. None of the mass graves (over 350 victims) from 1912/1913 in the municipality of Viti are marked.

A great shame! Responsible, good people should have intervened an hour earlier. These barren places should be marked, because the blood shed even without the will of the massacred punishes us. Let's write the history of those who were shot, let's show ourselves, generations, and the world that the massacres and atrocities against Albanians date back to the period of the rise of the Serbian state.

#### List of Albanians killed

1. Misin Salih Cenaj, 52-vjeçar, 2. Murat Salih Cenaj (50), 3. Avdyl Salih Cenaj (34), 4. Hysen Jakup Cenaj (35), 5. Ibish Jakup Cenaj (52), 6. Isak Jakup Cenaj (31), 7. Agush Ahmet Cenaj (30), 8. Hamëz Nezir Cenaj (18), 9. Qerim Ali Cenaj (50), 10. Alush Ali Cenaj (26), 11. Hafiz Qerim Cenaj (22), 12. Halit Qerim Cenaj (20), 13. Azem Kamer Cenaj (48), 14. Sefedin Azem Cenaj (16), 15. Aziz Elez Cenaj (47), 16. Rexhep Caush Veselaj (63), 17. Smajl Bajram Veselaj (60), 18. Bajram Smajl Veselaj (39), 19. Hamit Selaman Veselaj (50), 20. Jashar Islam Muçaj (60), 21. Islam Jashar Muçaj (30), 22. Murtez Brahim Muçaj (52), 23 Hamdi Murtez Muçaj (17), 24. Kadri Brahim Muçaj (37), 25. Isuf Brahim Muçaj (22), 26. Qamil Osaman Muçaj (18), 27. Zenel Rexhep Muçaj (40), 28. Hazir Shaban Muçaj (45), 29. Qazim Hazir Muçaj (20), 30. Shabi Sadik Muçaj (37), 31. Ramadan Ramadan Kuklubeci (30), 32. Rrahim Sallah Trakalaçi (53), 33. Ali Sallah Trakalagi (50), 34. Hebib Ali Trakalaçi (25), 35. Aziz Avdyl Trakalaçi (47), 36. Faik Aziz Trakalaçi (19), 37. Abaz Sallah Trakalaçi (65), 38. Veli Abaz Trakalaçi (45), 39. Rrustem Veli Trakalaçi (19), 40. Shaban Veli Trakalaci (17), 41. Hysen Abaz Trakalaci (18), 42 Misin Luzha (mysafir, fshati Mogillë), 43. Shefki Qerimi (mysafir, fshati Ballancë), 44. Tahir Musliu (mysafir, fshati Ballancë).

#### Reference

Dr. Milovan Obradović, Agrarian Reform and Colonization in Kosovo, 1918-1941, Prishtina, page 5.

# When Albanians of Tirana defeated 2,000 Serb soldiers who took revenge on Albanian civilians

Authored by Petrit Latifi

According to the publication "Chronik des Deutschen Krieges nach amtlichen Berichten und zeitgenössischen Kundgebungen: Bd. Von Mitte Juni bis Mitte Juli 1915", Serbs lost 2,000 men to Albanians of Tirana in 1915. We read:

"According to the newspaper "Kriegszeitung" wire from Athens, reported from Berlin on July 14, 1915, the Serbs encountered extremely fierce resistance from the Albanians near Tirana. A regular battle ensued, in which the Serbs suffered 2,000 casualties. The Albanians lost 100 men. In revenge, the Serbs set fire to all the Albanian villages in the territories they occupied."

### Reference

https://books.google.se/books? id=xK5DAQAAMAAJ&q=albanische+d%C3%B6rfer+1915&d q=albanische+d%C3%B6rfer+1915&hl=en&newbks=1&newbk s\_redir=1&printsec=frontcover&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjN2drl8 NaMAxWdHxAIHSVcAcwQ6AF6BAgNEAM

### Serbia massacred 150,000 Albanians in 1912-1913

#### Petrit Latifi

According Josip Pečarić in the book "PRAVEDNICA MEĐU NARODIMA – LJUBICA ŠTEFAN", between 1912 to 1913, Serbian troops massacred around 150,000 Albanians in all the Albanian regions.

"With the occupation of Kosovo, the Serbs, under various pretexts, massacred over 150,000 Albanians. Albanian books were banned, the Albanian language, Albanian names had to be Serbified (as in Macedonia), Albanian children had to attend Serbian schools. An Albanian in Kosovo and Macedonia does not even enjoy the right to life: any Serb can kill him with impunity and openly. (p. 282.)"

### Radnice Novine in 1920

"In 1920, Radničke novine recorded the statement of a Serbian soldier, which eloquently speaks of the scale of brutality and terror:

"...We immediately launched an attack, sparing no expense nobody and nothing. We immediately killed the prisoners, took away the cattle, burned the villages one by one, and in many places neither women nor children were spared. They were running away from us, leading (most of them) and families, scattering in the forests, while we set fire to and left around 90 villages to burn to the ground. (p. 217)"1

### Serbian terrorist organization of 1921 by Pero Živković

"The main terror was carried out by the Serbian terrorist organization White Hand, founded in 1912 and headed by Pero Živković, later the president of the Yugoslav government during the 6th of January dictatorship of King Alexander in 1929. The dungeons were full of Albanians and were real torture chambers worse than the worst Inquisition. A similar fate was experienced by Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia's faithful partner in the Balkan wars."

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https://www.dragovoljac.com/images/minifp/LjStefan.pdf

1. imbid. **←** 

The crimes of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes against Albanians (1918-1920)

Petrit Latifi

In 1918, 100,000 Albanians were killed when the SKS (Serbian, Croatian and Slovenian Kingdom) was created. Through out the 1920s, Serbian troops were ready to invade Albanians. Uprisings against the Serbs in the year 1920 was a result of Serbian provocations.

"100,000 Albanians were massacred in the kingdom created in 1918."

Serbia would provoke the Albanians to uprisings in the 1920s

"Albanian population in Kosovo was cut in half between 1918 and 1921 dropping from between 300,000 and one million to 439,657 in the latter year. A further Albanian uprising in 1920 which resulted in the deaths of untold numbers of Kosovar Albanians may have been a result of regime provocation"<sup>2</sup>

# Through out the 1920s, Serbian paramilitaries were ready to invade Albania. This was particulary true in 1927, according to the German pper "Der Weltkampf".

"On the border of northern Albania, Serbian volunteer troops are constantly on standby, ready to invade Albania if necessary".3

# 10,000 Albanians were killed at the end of World War I (Great War)

"During the First World War, the hopes of the Albanians in Kosovo therefore lay with the Central Powers, who actually brought about the withdrawal of the Serbs and Montenegrins. However, with the end of the war and the victory of the Entente, the Serbs once again took possession. More than 10,000 Albanians were killed in the fighting."

### Yugoslavia ignored the League of Nations laws of 1919

"The renewed guerrilla warfare between the Albanians and the Serbs only ended in 1927, when the superior force of the army of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, later Yugoslavia, ended the fighting. Kosovo remained a part of Serbia, and the Albanians living there had to accept discrimination in almost all areas of life. The minority rights to which the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes had committed itself to the League of Nations in 1919 were largely denied to the Albanians in Kosovo".

## Serbian brutal conquests of 1912-1918 left an imprint on Albanians

"The two brutal Serbian conquests of Kosovo in 1912 and again in 1918 left a bitter imprint on the collective memory of the Kosovar Albanians. The subsequent harsh Serbian rule under the Karadjordjevic dynasty was also so painful that in April 1941 the Kosovar Albanians massively greeted the in-vading Italian and German troops as liberators."

# Serbs and Montenegrins expelled Albanians between 1912-1915

"Neither the Serbs nor the Montenegrins made any pretence that the Albanians had come under their control freely. On the contrary, and as if to prove that their annexations had proceeded without regard to the wishes of the local population, Serbian and Montenegrin forces began killing and forcibly expelling local Albanians already in 1912 and continued this policy until 1915, when the Serbian army was driven out by a combination of German and Austro-Hungarian arms."

# Serbs began changing names, for example, Ferizaj was changed to Uroševac in 1914

"As the Albanians were removed from their land, Serb "colonists" were sent in to take possession of Albanian homes. The names of towns were, of course, changed; Ferizaj, for example, was renamed Uroševac in 1914".

### Albanians were treated a second-class citizens until 1968

"In fact, the Albanians of Kosova were treated as second-class citizens throughout the years of rule by Belgrade, except during the years 1968-81."2

### William Strang informed the British government regarding the Yugoslav colonisation of Albanian lands:

"At whose expense these lands are found, it is not easy to say.... It is certain, however, that in some cases a deliberate attempt has been made to drive out or destroy Albanian Mussulman population and install loyal Serbs in their place." 10

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# Serbs killed 22,000 Albanians in Lumë and Diber in 1919-1920

### Petrit Latifi

In the 1920s, Chairman of the Kosovo Committee Hasan Prishtina sent a telegram to the British Foreign Office declaring that between 1919-1920, Serbian soldiers massacred 22,000 Albanians in regions such as Lumë and Dibra and other Albanian inhabited regions.

"Hasan Prishtina, chairman of the Kosovo Committee (KMKK), sent a telegram to the British Foreign Office – which I found in the archives of Albania – in which he informed about the Serbian crimes in Kosovo, Dibër and Lumë in the period 1918-1920.

Prishtina stated that in the first two years after the Great War, the Serbs killed about 22 000 Albanians, burned 169 villages and

looted 4,769 houses. In Dibër e Lumë alone, the Serbs killed 250 Albanians and burned 7,800 houses during three days in August 1920".

#### Reference

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The Daily Telegraph: Montenegrin atrocities in Akova of Bjelopolje and Montenegrins fleeing to Mojkovac

Petrit Latifi

In 1912, during the Balkan War, Montenegrin troops invaded Akova in Sanxhak, and committed atrocities against the Albanian population. The Albanians and Turks attacked the Montenegrins and chased them all the way to Mojkovac. The Malesoris and Miredita fighters, on whom the Montenegrins counted on, instead joined the Turkish camp and assaulted the Montenegrins. In the Hungarian newspaper "SZLAVÓN MAGYAR ÚJSÁG" we read the following:

**Translation**: "The Daily Telegraph reports the following about the operations of the Montenegrin troops in Sandzak: On the eleventh, the Montenegrins crossed the border and occupied the village of Akova from which the guard consisting of two companies and some volunteers withdrew after a short resistance."

The Montenegrins massacred all the old people, women and children in the locality, regardless of race or religion. In view of the atrocities, the Turks attacked the Montenegrins again and drove them out of Akova after a fierce fight. The Montenegrins fled towards the border in great disarray and the Turks chased them all the way to the border town of Moikovacs, which they occupied. The Malossors and Miridites, whom the Montenegrins were counting on, arrive en masse in the Turkish camp."

### Reference

https://epa.oszk.hu/05000/05018/00210/pdf/ EPA05018 szlavoniai magyar ujsag 1912 43.pdf

Documention of Serbian and Yugoslav atrocities against Albanians (1912-1932)

Information taken from "Albanian Kingdom, Commune of the First Class Sdreckë No. 254 Sdreckë, on 29. VII. 1944 P. T. Prefecture Prizerend"

"Regarding your order no. 1063, dated 17. VII. 1943, we have the honor to inform you that with the detailed investigations we carried out in the region of this municipality during the rule of Yugoslavia against the Albanian element, the following massacres were committed:

In 1923, the deceased Qazim Xhemaliu from the village of Gorniselle was murdered. The murder took place under the following circumstances: The victim had gone to visit his wife in the village of Drajçiç of this municipality to his tribe, named Bajram Ademi. They went there at night and took him and escorted him to the Bogoshovc neighborhood of the village of Sdreckë and precisely at the "PESOK" place they massacred him, while he was tied hand and foot.

#### Names of the murderers

"The murderers are the ones named Kersto Mandushi from the village of Sdreckë and Gjorgje Vučkovići from the village of Gornišelle, together with three Serbian gendarmes. The reason for the murder stems from the fact that the Chetnik society had established a headquarters in Sdreckë, which at that time was headed by the aforementioned Kersto Mandushi.

It is said that for the murder of this village of Sdreckë, the Chetnik society paid a sum of money that it handed over to the gendarmes who had participated in the massacre of the victim. The victim was an Albanian idealist and for this reason he was killed."

#### References

Mayor of the Municipality, Sejdi Sejdorati d. v. Certified by the Chief Secretary of the Prefecture Niko Lafe Prizren, on 31. X. 1944 (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 6)

### Murders of 1912 in Reçan

**Source:** Albanian Kingdom, Municipality of Llokovica No. 147 Llokovica, on 7-9-1943 P. T. Prefecture of Prizerend

"Reply to order no. 1063, dated 17. 7. 1943

"We have the honor to inform you that, in the investigations conducted to date on the Slavic barbarities against Albanians, we have established that in 1912, in the village of Reçan in this municipality, the Serbian military army, led by civilians Kersto Mandushi, who is still alive today, Jovan Gaxhes and the Velikin family, all from the village of Sterckë, forcibly took one Bajram Haxhi Hajdari from the village of Reçan and took him between

the streets of Lubinjë and Streckë, where they cut off his lips, nose, pulled out his fingernails, then gouged out his eyes, and finally cut him with knives and scattered his flesh here and there. His death lasted 24 hours from torture. The reason for his strangulation was because he was a brave and handsome man.

In that year again the military forces, having been instructed by the aforementioned Strecka, in the village of Reçan they committed barbarities, taking people and setting them on fire and committing several robberies of money, forcing them to pay or they would kill them.

The tortured persons are: Haxhi Rashit 10 Turkish liras of gold, Mustafa Arsllani 25 liras, Haxhi Hajdar 10 liras. All these persons, after the tortures they inflicted on them, were forced to hand over the aforementioned money, in addition to the robbery they committed in the shops and houses, taking women's rings and earrings, prayer rugs and other expensive items. Even today in the house of Kerst Mandushi there is still a lamp that was robbed by him from Zeqir Sylejman from Reçan.

There are also some minor barbarities, but they are old and without facts, but those that we described above are true, since the participants in these barbarities are still alive today in the municipality of Strecka.

**Reference:** Mayor, Fadil Xhabija d. v. Verified, Chief Secretary of the Prefecture Niko Lafe, Prizren, on 31. X. 1944 (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 7)

# Shocking evidence of Slavic barbarism and plunder against the Albanian population between 1929 to 1930

"In the Central State Archive, file 58 of 1944, reports continue to be published that municipal leaders send to the prefectures to

which they administratively belong, through which Serbian massacres against the Albanian population in the years 1912 to 1930 are published. Part of this publication is also the report on the behavior of Serbian authorities against Albanians during the time of their rule in the region of the municipality of Beci.

In the first fateful days that the Serbs and Montenegrins landed in these places, they seemed gentle, polite and as if they knew what the Government of Justice meant. But as the old saying goes "The wolf changes its fur but never forgets its habit", so the invaders of Kosovo did not go far without giving a different color to their rule. First of all, the Yugoslavs demanded the surrender of weapons and any land related to war equipment.

The local Albanians, after much animal suffering without any mercy or humanity, made the surrender that was requested. Even today, when they remember this action, they are amazed. Although every weapon and ammunition was surrendered, the Yugoslav gendarmerie was never enough, it demanded new ones in large quantities, using every means of barbarity that history can remember.

After some time, the united government under the name "Yugoslavia" organized a group of volunteers with 2000-3000 Serbs and Montenegrins and under the command of Major Sav Lazar began to make the Albanians change their religion until then and believe in their Orthodoxy. Sava was from Cetina. For this act, Sava beat, spat on, cursed, killed, burned, fled and what not to do to the Albanians of this region, but in vain because his goal was not achieved.

Often, hundreds and hundreds of Albanian men were tied to fences of yards, so that not even their feet touched the ground, using wood and whips, they were doused with cold water in the winter just so that they would not accept to change their faith.

On the contrary, based on a clear conscience that they acted contrary to what was ordered by the Slavs (that there is no lower law or morality in the world), pushing, contempt, curses and beatings were common even from the lowest of the Slavs towards the Albanians, no matter how known for their loyalty and generosity they were.

When it was seen that the conquered Albanians were wasting everything and that they had nothing left to give them except the land, they remembered to keep this as their own. Thus, in 1929-1930, they brought out their cruel and cruel agrarianism and began to draw borders between lands inherited from their ancestors, at the same time impoverishing and wretching all the local Albanians.

They made the fields, meadows, pastures, forests, pastures and every valuable land alien to the owners until then. The Albanians began to become so impoverished that even daily bread was barely secured, and from this they began to make chips of the snow on their lands. The products were divided according to what they themselves valued before being collected.

The wood became a possession for the Albanians and these, driven by necessary needs, were forced to clear the forests and, after clearing the land of roots and stones, they had the right to take a part of the stumps that they dug up from the ground and used for burning. The agrarian did not immediately inform them, but it appeared time and time again and always burdening the tired Albanians and increasing the areas of sequestration until it came to occupying the yards of the houses up to the doorstep.

The Serbian and Montenegrin colonists invited the Albanians and especially the Muslims that their country is Turkey and it would be better to go there in time than to be exterminated by the Government, which according to the appearances was not surprising. They raised their heads and took off with their brutal acts against us.

### **Montenegrin criminal Bulatovic**

Once upon a time, there was a Montenegrin policeman in the municipality of Janos, named Bulatovic, and he had a habit of going to every meeting where Albanians were present and, as he entered the room, he would put his long bayonet on the tip of his rifle and forcefully stick it into the ceiling of the room, and no one would touch it until Bulatovic wanted to leave.

Often, the gendarmerie patrols of that time would enter the house and single out with their fingers all those Albanian boys who were known for their personal abilities and intelligence, and as soon as they left the village, in the first stream or hole they found, our boys would be shot on the spot and thrown into the hole or stream wherever the invaders wanted.

Even in the army barracks, Serbian officers would often call up Albanian soldiers by list and, after tying them up, would kill them with machine guns in the most vile and treacherous ways that can be practiced by evil races of people."

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, pages 8-9)

# Report on the killings and burnings caused by Serbs and Montenegrins in 1922

In this year, a man named "Milic Kërrsta", a Serbian guard from Istog i Peja, takes over the security of these places, and forms a band of 200-300 Serbian and Montenegrin civilian volunteers and begins to violate the whole of Kosovo. Milic Kërrsta, as it is shown, had set the goal of carrying out such a strict repression

in Kosovo that after his departure from here there would be no Albanian left in these places.

First, in this region, he went to the village of Jabllanicë where he found the mayor of the municipality of Cermjan, the late Osman Jahja Aga from the village of Rashkoc, together with a policeman of his named Ibrahim Kokalla from Cermjan. After a loud shout, without the slightest reason, Milic Kërrsta ordered his volunteers to use their rifles against every Albanian seen in that village.

The locals, saddened by the well-known barbarian, began to flee, but being without weapons or other means of coping, the following people were caught and shot:

Osman Jahja Aga, mayor, 40 years old, from the village of Rashkoc; Ibrahim Kokalla, municipal policeman, 35 years old, from the village of Cermjan.

From the village of Jabllanicë Qerim Binaku, 16 years old; Syl Islami, 50 years old; Hajdar Islami, 60 years old; Haxhi Bajrami, 40 years old; Hysen Bajrami, 34 years old; Hashi Neziri, 38 years old; Hazir Hasani, 30 years old; Zenun Neziri, 30 years old; Ramadan Ademi, 50 years old; Hasan Shabani, 90 years old; Musli Mustafa, 70 years old, drowned by Rrehmë; Bajram Rama, 30 years old; Jonuz Rama, 25 years old; Ali Rexha, 60 years old; Selman Myrto, 25 years old; Cuf Kadrija, 18 years old; Sadik Myrto, 18 years old; Ram Hamza, 30 years old; Hasan Kasemi, 70 years old; Selman Kosumi, 50 years old; Sadik Hasani, 30 years old; Syl Hasani, 20 years old; Bek Tahiri, 22 years old; Begir Hasani, 12 years old; Avdyl Zeneli, 50 years old; Isuf Zeneli, 30 years old; Qemal Qeli, 40 years old; Sadik Shotani, 70 years old, burned in the fire; Zejnija of Sadik Rama, 29 years old; Ram Ahmeti, 28 years old; Fasli Muslija, 40 years old; Maliq Muhagjiri, 40 years old; Jahja

Qarkagjija, 30 years old; Haxhi Helshani, 60 years old; Rexhep Muhagjiri, 40 years old; Rexhep Muhagjiri's son, 10 years old; Zef Zeqiri, 30 years old; Niman Zeqiri, 20 years old; Selim Bajrami, 20 years old; Ram Selimi, 20 years old; Ram Sefa, 20 years old; Sadik Koka, 40 years old; Kamer Syla, 40 years old; Mustafa Xhema, 40 years old; Mehmet Alija, 35 years old; Haxhi Bajrami, 30 years old; Selim Kajtazi, 20 years old; Zeq Halili, 30 years old; Hasan Rexha, 50 years old.

**Source:** (AQSH, Fondi 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 10)

# List of persons treacherously killed by the Slavs in the Suhareka Sub-prefecture:

Ram Bllaca, from the village of Bllaca, was killed by the Yugoslav state in 1927. The perpetrators of the murder were the Kostic family of Prizren and the Nacalnik family of Suhareka. Isa Ademi and Fasli Baftija, from the village of Greqevc, on 9. IV. 1912, were killed in an ambush by the Slavs. Halil Velija and Sefer Emini, from the village of Nishnueri, on 9. IV. 192, were killed in an ambush by the Slavs.

Osman Syla, Halit Syla, Ramadan Baftjari, Shaban Syla, from the village of Vranic, were stabbed to death in 1912. Bajrma Fasllina, from the village of Maqitava, was stabbed in Prizren with Osman Syla in 1912.

Xhel Iljazi, from the village of Maqitava, was stabbed in 1919, saying that he was holding Albanian committees.

Rrustem Osmani, in 1920, Xhelë Esati, in 1925, Rrustem Azemi, in 1921, all three from the village of Mushtisht, were killed without any reason. Musli Dema, from the village of Vraniq, in 1935, was killed without any reason. Rexh Abazi, from the village of Maqitava, was killed at night in 1935.

Xhem Destanin, from the village of Delloc, a forest ranger, was killed in 1924, saying he had killed the Albanians. Sejdi Ram Bajraktari, from Suhareka, in 1920 and 1927, was hunted by the Slavs for Albanian reasons. Sadik Mehmeti, from the village of Peçan, in 1927 and 1929, imprisoned and suffered other things for Albanian reasons.

The unit is confirmed by The Archivist of the Sub-Prefecture of Suhareka

Perlat Mema d. v. Suhareka, on 8. IX. 1944 Confirmed The Chief Secretary of the Prefecture Niko Lafe Prizren, on 31. X. 1944

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 5)

### **Robbery through taxes**

Part of the Slavic speculations and abuses against the Albanian population was also robbery through fabricated taxes, and their increase in cases of non-payment. These taxes, of course heavy, were forced to be paid by the Albanian taxpayers, in kind, by taking their livestock, but also their belongings and furniture, even their homes.

The following report by the mayor of the municipality of Junik for the prefecture of Prizren, reveals the "scheme" of Slavic robberies against the Albanian population.

# For the non-payment of money, at this time the relevant officials prepared this plan:

They would come and ask for money at the most inconvenient time and would not want any delay in paying the tax, so they would take whatever livestock they could find, food for livestock, household clothes and especially the dowries of newly married brides. The Montenegrin colonizers signed a contract with the official, so when the goods were put up for sale, no Albanian dared to approach and buy the goods that were being sold, but those who were pre-determined would buy them for a tenth of the price.

They would give the officials a certain amount of money and then take them home with them. Whenever the poor Albanian came with money, he would go to the one who had bought the goods, who would sell them to him for ten times more than he had bought them for. In this way, the dinar set for tax became ten and the tax increased daily. It happened that a person was once asked for three hundred dinars and then when he arrived, they gave him three thousand dinars. In order to be able to get a deadline, they had to give money, bribes, to those people that the tax collectors kept with them. Therefore, it is understood that the person who was lucky enough to be with them, even if he was a black man, benefited a lot.

The so-called Zyber Rama, because he had a lot to pay and there was no other way to pay, took the following things: 22 carts of hay, two boxes of women's and men's clothes worth 2,300 dinars. The acting officer was the tax collector Milena Popoic. Haxh Zyber took a pen and a cow for 1,300 dinars.

Meanwhile, no one has escaped without being subjected to such violence, just as no one has escaped without being beaten in the most cruel way, so we will not go into further descriptions.

Among the worst and most cruel officials who aimed to exterminate the Albanian race are: Muj Kapiteni, who was the mayor of the municipality and a separate book would be needed to describe his evil deeds; the post commander, Pjetër Pjetrovići, who in order to fine people well would say that they had

weapons, so he fined them with considerable amounts of money; and Mihal Boškovići.

# At the time of the destruction of Serbia, the following were killed in the matches held by the Montenegrins:

Uk Lushi from the Beriše neighborhood of the Junik village and Shaban Paleshi, and Sadik Jusufi and Mehmet Sahiti from the Gacaferr neighborhood, Muharrem Sadiku from the Qok neighborhood were wounded.

This is a brief report of the Slavic barbarities committed during the above-mentioned period in the region of this municipality.

We add that it is the hundredth part of those barbarities, but that it was completely impossible to describe all the facts in general.

Mayor of Junik Jah Salihi d.v. Prizren, on 31. X. 1944 Certified Chief Secretary of the Prefecture Niko Lafe

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 4)

# Slavic atrocities in Deçan and Suhareka, and the robberies in Junik

Shocking evidence of the barbarities and inhumane robberies of the Slavs against the Albanian population. The barbarities in the municipality of Deçan, by the Slavic elements, are both unknown and unprecedented and impossible to describe.

Thus begins a report of the municipality of Deçan addressed to the sub-prefecture of Gjakova in 1943. Below the same report described the Slavic atrocities in the years 1912-1913, among which there were no shortage of robberies and murders that according to the report "have been common for Slavic monsters...", it is further stated in the same report..

**Source:** Albanian State, Municipality of Class I Deçan, No. 355/2 ex 43 Deçan, on 5. II. 1944 P. T. N/PREFECTURE OF GJAKOVA. Gjegje of no. 1467/IV, dated 31. XII. 1943

The barbarities that the Slavic element has committed in the region of this municipality, during the time that cruelty has ruled this country, are unknown and so unprecedented that it is impossible to describe. Robberies and murders have been commonplace for Slavic conspirators. Among the robberies, the church of Deçan occupies the first place, which, when it set its sights on Albanian wealth, also took it, so its action has always been to the detriment of Albanians.

In 1912, the Montenegrin captain, who from the atrocities he committed received the name Sav Batarja, for no reason gathered more than a thousand people in the village of Carabreg to frighten them and make them drink. After the beating began, the names Isa Qorri, Ali Shabani, Hasan Mula, Hysen Feta, Mal Loshi, Zymber Loshi, Elez Hasani, Ibish Halili, Dak Arifi, Zek Hyseni, dared to ask the reason for this massacre, but they all hid them, terrifying the people.

Those who hid before were forced to open their own graves. On this same day, accused of having escorted an Albanian, Dik Zeka was taken from Carabregu and was hid by the Montenegrins, an hour before entering Gjakova. Sadik Mehmeti from Carabregu and Azem Beqiri were also taken and hid. These were done by the Montenegrin captain Dushan Vukovic.

These murders were done in a most barbaric manner, especially the latter in front of women and children. In 1912, just because they were Albanians with their national feelings, they were killed by Captain Miliq Krsta, Him Ahmet Ibërhasaj and Rexhë Nak Dobruna from Deçan. In the same year, in the Deçan Mountains, the Montenegrins Raza and Nuh Ramas with their two-year-old daughter Imer Aliu with his mother, Sofë, as well as Timen and Taf Gjykokë with his son, Ram Tafë, and his brother, all from Deçan. There was not even the slightest cause or mistake in this crime. Here, a Plavnjak was killed and the two are Taf Avdyli and Ram Dostani.

In the year 1913, the Montenegrin Arseni Qyrki from Bellopoje took without any reason and killed Mr. Ram Gjonin from Carabreg. Then Savo Lazar, helped by Captain Filip Babovic, indulged in looting to the point that some were taken alive.

These same men took and rounded up the village of Drenoc without cause, killed and tortured the people in a completely heartless manner, then the so-called Dem Tahiri, Sali Mustafa and Brahim Mustafa, having beaten them, put them in front of the village of Carabreg, threw them into cold water and left them there all night. From these tortures, the aforementioned died.

In 1922, while returning home, the so-called Mus Brahim Aliçaj, from Carabreg i Ulët, was killed by the Montenegrins for no reason. His body was also cruelly mutilated, deformed in such a way that not even his family could identify him until recently.

## The behavior of the colonists towards the Albanian inhabitants

From the beginning of this paper we have mentioned and stigmatized the predatory acts of the leaders of the church of Deçan, which, insatiable in plundering the fields and meadows of the Albanians as well as their own crops, has made life difficult and provoked the impoverishment of this people with such actions.

Any Albanian who had the courage to complain to the local authorities received nothing but threats from the mayor, Jovan Shabani, and a slap in the face from the post commander, the Yugoslav gendarme Sim Çuka. Therefore, they had to resign themselves to fate. The colonists, not content with the lands that the agrarian reforms had given them, have plundered the best lands of the Albanians, exploiting them until they were driven out.

In this case, the suffering of the village of Drenoc deserves to be noted, where inhuman means were used by the colonists. In this case, the most significant role was played by Dushan Vukovic, a pensioner at the time, an influential man and devoid of any human feelings, in the name of the Albanians.

In the event of the defeat, when Yugoslavia capitulated in April 1941, a man named Beqir Ibishi was killed for no reason, at his own door in Drenoc. In Carabreg e Epërm, they tied up Uk Isuf, Çel Shabani and Fasli Shabani and began to stab them with bayonets, until a fire brigade arrived in the place under the command of Mr. Zeqir Xhykoka, which brigade saved the lives of the three mentioned persons.

In the village of Drenoc, they took, beat, tortured, tied up and tried to without a single ounce of mercy Sali Hajdari from that village.

In the village of Carabreg i Epër, for no reason at all, they killed the 16-year-old son of Mulla Ademi from that village. That's enough because if we were to describe the atrocities and horrors that this people suffered during their captivity under the Serbo-Montenegrin yoke, there would not be enough volumes.

Mayor of the Municipality of Deçan Prizren, on 31. X. 1944 Attested Chief Secretary of the Prefecture Niko Lafe

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 3)

# Murders, burnings and looting during the time of the destruction of Yugoslavia

The Yugoslavs, as it is known, wanted to cross the borders of Albania and when they encountered strong ambushes by Albanian volunteers there they were forced to turn back. When they fell into this region for the second time, they found the situation different.

The colonists were being displaced and their entire state was being destroyed.

### Then they decided to shoot every Albanian they met and on this occasion, while passing through the village of Marmull, they killed the following people:

Gjertgj Marku, 53 years old; Marka Gjini, 50 years old; Nikoll Ndreca, 40 years old; Uk Ndreca, 30 years old; Prek Paloka, 30 years old; Hil Nikolla, 55 years old; Ndrec Bardheci, 56 years old; Ndue Preka, 45 years old; Zef Ndou, 18 years old; Ndrec Shehri, 70 years old; Pjetër Mhilli, 32 years old, Ded Jaku, 14 years old.

# This same army, on the same day, as they carried out their cruel actions in Marmulle, went up to Berdosan and there killed the following:

Prend Biba, 90 years old; Bib Prendi, 40 years old; Gjok Prendi, 20 years old; Marka Preka, 30 years old.

### As in Berdosan, the army also went to Bec. In Bec, part of the people left and part stayed with vain hopes and unfortunately fell victim to their traitorous hand:

Sadik Maxhuni, 90 years old, after they had eaten his bread, in the end, at the end, he was shot in front of his house; Mus Tahiri, 80 years old; Musa's son, 12 years old; Bajram Avdyli, 17 years old; Halil Isufi, 24 years old; Bajram Kamberi, 45 years old; Çel Binaku, 70 years old; Man Halili's mother with two young women with small children, of whom one was breastfeeding and for two days and two nights the child had been sucking its mother's breast; Ymer Zymeri with his wife, Rrahman Jeta, 30 years old; Mhill Uka, 28 years old; Çak Ibrahimi, 20 years old.

**Source:** (AQSH, Fondi 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 11)

### Report on the arson caused by the Serbs at the time of their destruction

### In the village of Bec:

The following persons were burned and robbed of their goods and blood and a considerable amount of money in Albanian francs, as follows:

Uk Myrta 10,000, Çel Shabani 12,000, Rexhep Sejdia 10,000, Ali Rama 9,000, Shaban Hajdari 7,000, Metush Sadrija 8,000, Hajdar Alija 7,000, Dervish Bajrushi 10,000, Syl Sadiku 9,000, Isuf Musa 10,000, Syl Smajli 6,000, Zeq Isufi 9,000, Mus Zeneli 12,000, Zef Gjoni 9,000, Aslan Hajdari 9,000, Mhill Ndou

8,000, Rustem Alija 9,000, Çel Deda, 8,000, Bajram Avdyli 9,000, Palush Marku 10,000, Demush Shabani 10,000, Man Halili 10,000, Pal Qerimi 9,000, Pjetër Uka 8,000, Ali Ferizi 7,000, Rrust Tafa 8,000, Ali Binaku 7,000, Sokol Tahiri 8,000, Ndue Cafa 9,000.

### In the village of Zhdrelle:

Man Alija 14,000, Çun Kola 14,000, Zog Sokoli 14,000, Pjetër Deda 3,000, Ndue Cufa 4,000, Pjetër Uka 2,000, Hysen Leka, 9,000. All these barbarities occurred on 13. IV. 1941 under the command of Mhill Vukotić who was the chief organizer of that army.

### In the village of Janosh:

Vuksan Đuković from Andrijevica caused the burning of houses and the taking of goods in considerable quantities of the following persons:

Myftar Dema 12,000 Fr., Mic Sokoli 10,000 Fr., Mehmet Ndout 11,000 Fr., Binak Qerimi 9,000 Fr., Gjon Hysen 10,000 Fr., Tahir Smajli 8,000 Fr., Preç Marku 9,000 Fr., Kokerr Ndou 9,000 Fr.

Syl Uka was seriously injured by the volunteer gang of Vuksan Gojkovci. Syl Rexhepi was killed by this gang. Nikë Çuni burned the house and took the goods with him, approximately 10,000 Albanian francs in damage.

### In the village of Radonić:

Sadri Bajrami was killed by Sim Davidović, a gendarmerie captain from Old Serbia (the exact place is unknown). Bajram Mehmeti was killed by Milić Kërsta's squad in 1922. Milić Kërsta burned Radonić with all its wealth, causing damage to the entire village worth approximately 10,000,000 Albanian francs. The damage caused by the Serbs in these places is very

difficult to summarize, as it would require a long time and extraordinary and measured surveillance.

### In the village of Skivjan:

They brought two arrested people from Palabardh and killed them there, then they searched and set them up with the intention of shooting them, but some of them fled and the rest were locked up in their homes.

#### Certified:

Chief Secretary of the Prefecture Niko Lafe Prizren, 2. XI. 1944

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 12)

The barbarities of the Slavs that they have committed against the Albanian element in the lands ruled by them since 1912 and that are today annexed to our Kingdom.

- 1. In 1912, Emin Latifi from Prizren, "Mustafa Lita" Street, No. 28, was killed by the so-called Dushan Fishiqi and Andreja Fishiqi from Prizren, "Haxhi Ymeri" Street, No. 7. The murder was committed in this way: the brave men, having been helped by the Serbian Chetniks, in the evening hours, caught the aforementioned on the way to his house and took him to the place of Kuriçeshme (outside the city) and caused his murder by gouging out his eyes while he was still alive, then cutting off his nose and ears, finally stabbing him with bayonets and playing with him until he died.
- 2. In 1913, Shaip Hezeri from Prizren, "Kosova" Street, was killed by a certain Petro Puzhiç from Prizren, "Kosova" Street No. 35, in this way: the brave man, being helped by Serbian Chetniks, in the evening hours they took the aforementioned from his own house and took him outside the city to a place called Vneshta and caused his death by gouging out his eyes while he was still alive, then cutting off his nose and ears, and finally stabbing him with bayonets until his soul left him.
- 3. In 1928, Asllan Shabani from Prizren, "Ismail Qemali" Street No. 38, was killed by a certain Dragi Stanojevic from Prizren, "Doktor Shaflaj" Street No. 14, in this way: the brave man, being helped by Serbian Chetniks, and these, dressed and disguised in the uniform of the gendarmerie, in the evening hours, took the aforementioned from his house and took him outside the city to Vneshtë and caused his death by stabbing and

dismembering him with bayonets.

- 4. In 1912, Rexhep Ahmeti from Prizren, "Qafa e Duhles" Street, No. 9, was killed by the so-called Nikolla Frankos from Prizren, "Dr. Shuflaj" Street, No. 36. The murder was carried out in this way: the brave man, being helped by Serbian Chetniks, in the evening hours, took the aforementioned from his house and took him to a place called Tuzus (Vneshtë) and caused his death by cutting off his head and then dismembering his body with bayonets.
- 5. In 1940, Xhezair Rizau from Prizren, Workers' Street, No. 36, was killed by the so-called Trajko Dimkiqi, from the village of Zeqisht, Mamushë commune, Rahovec sub-prefecture, Prizren Prefecture. The murder was committed in this way: The aforementioned, coming from Rahovec to Prizren, was ambushed by the brave men together with his friends and tied him up. At that very place, they cut off his head.
- 6. In 1912, Zylfikar Ramadani from Prizren, Kasem Beg Street, No. 30, was killed by the so-called Ilko Ugari and Andreja Fisic, both from Prizren. They committed the crime in this way: The brave men, helped by the help, took the aforementioned from his own house and took him to a field outside the city, to a place called Jeni Mejteb, and caused the murder.

The first time and for the first time they gouged out his eyes and then cut off his nose and ears and then they stabbed him and cut him with bayonets until the next day, when the imam took the body to leave it, he could not take it in his hands and leave it because it had been

cut into pieces. The funeral was buried without being washed.

7. In 1917, Isa Karadaklija from Prizren, "Atë Shtjefen Gjeçovi" street, was killed by the so-called Dušan Savić. He carried out the murder in this way: The brave man, being helped by the Serbian Chetniks, had him at the place where he was in March, and without waiting or remembering, they tied him up and killed him. The brave man Dušan, that same day, pushed the Serbian gendarmes to close the shops and wherever they found an Albanian on the streets, they arrested him and imprisoned him, working him to the utmost.

Police Commissioner
Baki Shaqiri
Certified
Chief Secretary of the Prefecture
Niko Lafe
Prizren, on 31. X. 1944

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 13)

The grandson of Sylejman Vokshi tells about the resistance to the Serbs of Beqir Regja and his supporters. Shocking evidence of the barbarisms and robberies of the Slavs against the Albanian population

"Through a letter that Beqir Vokshi, the grandson of Sulejman Vokshi, addressed to the highest leaders of the Albanian Kingdom, it is learned about the resistance that Beqir Regja and his supporters made for about a week to the Serbian massacres in Bajraun e Gashi, in the villages of Kersnina, Perlimtare, Ballapoja, Perdalishta Tyçep, Belica, etc.

In the report of Beqir Vokshi, it is learned that the efforts were bloody, where there was also considerable damage in the ranks of Serbian soldiers.

### Beqir Regja's mountain expedition and the fight in Podgor

Excerpts from the letter that Beqir Vokshi, the nephew of Sylejman Vokshi, from Gjakova, sends to Hoxha Kadri Prishtina, the Chairman of the Kosovo National Defense Committee.

Beqir Regja of Podgor, a bajrak of Gashi, from the village of Kersninë, as chairman of Perlimtarë in Rakosh, should have served until now and fulfilled all the duties that were assigned to him, in terms of officialdom, after the lawsuit that some spies, especially Serbs, filed against him, saying that he was hosting Azem Galica of the Albanian committee, he was summoned to court in Mitrovica and was able to win the trial. On 29. 2. 1920, he returned to Istok to become the Sub-Prefect of the country, to whom he had been summoned for court matters.

The sub-prefect of the country ordered Beqir Regja to go there as soon as possible, just as he had done before, and he made him know that he was obliged to quickly collect his weapons and unite the Albanian boys to lead them to war.

Beqir Regja, on 1. 3. 1920, early in the morning, went to his village of Kersnina, from where he was going to Perlimtare, but when he approached his village, he encountered Serbian soldiers, who had secretly surrounded the village. When the Serbian soldiers saw Beqir Regja, they started fighting. Then Beqir Regja had to resist them, and in this way the war began, which continued with great severity all day.

This war was very fierce and the Albanians with a glorious attitude have driven back captives and valuables from their village and pushed the enemy. On this day the Serbs have fired more than 600 cannons against the Albanians and in the evening the Albanians of this Bajrak, after they have run out of cartridges, have been forced to retreat to the high mountains near their families.

In this way the Serbs were able to burn the village of Kersnina, 20 houses, and even tore them apart and burned the houses of the Ali Demaj brothers, in Ballapoja, and burned many houses in the village of Perdalishta.

Beqir Regja with Albanians from Bajrak of Gashi, when they saw that the Albanian villages were covered in smoke and flames, attacked the village of Tyçep where they burned 50 houses of the local Serbs and burned 16 Serbian houses in the village of Belica.

The Serbs with a strong army have taken strategic places and the Albanians are in the high mountains with prisoners and valuables, and from 1.2. 1920 to 8.2. 1920 the war is continuing and the cannon and rifle are not approaching at any hour. For this reason they have left their homes and fled through the high mountains to these villages: Kersnina and Ballapoja, Istok, Veriç, Shelmenica, Padalishta and Suhagerlla, Rudniku, Shushica, Ufça and many other villages whose names we do not know.

The fire and flames have been burning those miserable regions for 10 days now, where no hour can stop this fire, which is visible from our places. After the words we spoke, it is understood that Shoshica, Ufça and many other villages have also been burned.

On this day that the war began, two men, two women and a girl from the village of Kersnina were left dead. Given that the siege of these regions is strong and no one can approach there, Musë Feka went through the high mountains to the place of the war, who has returned this week and we will send you full explanations about these wars.

Because it seems that this spring unknown wars have been revived in Kosovo and with the behavior that the Albanians have with this dispute among themselves, the whole miserable Kosovo will burn. Please give me explanations on general issues. I ask you to tell me whether you will let the Albanians give up their weapons and go to war? Please answer the questions I have to you now and then and not not answer me as before.

The Pariah of Reka and especially the leaders of Vokshi, Mr. Elez Dema, Hasan Bajrami, Sadik Haziri and Hamëz Sefa and all the people of this country send you our heartfelt greetings.

With respect B. Vokshi"

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 446, Year 1920, File 54, sheet 7)

# On Slavic barbarisms in Albanian elements in the former Yugoslav regime

"In 1913, Kost Vojvoda's volunteers, in defense of their property from being looted, killed the following people from the village of Beleg: Isuf Rama, Selman Shabani, Ibish Selmani, Zyber Binaku and Sokol Binaku. On the occasion of their murder, their property and livestock were looted.

In 1920, Ali Bajrami and Hasan Ymeri were killed in the Prilep mountains. They were also taken by Kost Vojvoda's volunteers to inform the Albanian committees and, after they had not found them, they killed those who had taken them to accompany them.

In 1913, Hajdar Tahiri, Azem Tahiri and Syl Zeqa were killed in the village of Gramaçel, because they had killed a Serb from the Albanian committee. For this reason, the Serbs organized to pursue the armed Albanian groups had killed the three mentioned.

In 1929, Rexh Ali Pozhari, from the village of Pozhar, was killed by a man named Sheh Boshnjaku, who had been paid by the Serbian authorities to kill all those men of the N/Prefecture of Gjakova, whom they suspected of having connections with the old Albanians.

In 1915, Can Meta and Shyt Kadrija from the village of Prokolluk were killed by Kost Vojvoda's volunteers, who had gone to the mountains with them to plunder the cattle. To protect their livestock from being robbed, Can Meta and Shyt Kadrija were killed and their livestock was also robbed.

In 1927, the Serbian authorities issued an order for all fugitives to surrender and be pardoned. On this occasion, Idriz Beka and Sadik Arifi from the village of Ratishë e Ultë were surrendered as fugitives. When they surrendered, the Serbian gendarmes took them to Gjakova and on the way, the robbers tried to escape, and killed both of them.

In 1920, the volunteer army of Milić Krsta, who went out to the villages for relief, under the name of Jurish Vojvoda, had gone to the village of Maznik and Bajagi, as they were dressed in the komitas, had killed those people who had been with them Hasan Smajli, Dek Syla, as well as a woman, Cyme of Sejdi Hasani.

In 1932, in the municipality of Irznić there had been a certain Gaja Dragovići, the mayor of the municipality, who had done great injustice among the Albanians. A certain Ali Haxhija, also from the village of Irznić, had come out and organized the people of the municipality to complain to the higher Serbian authorities against the actions of the aforementioned Gaja. Ay, seeing that the people loved Ali Haxhi and thinking that he was taking his place, since at that time the mayors were elected by the people, had organized an armed band of Montenegrins and had ambushed him at the head of the village of Irznic and had wounded him.

Regarding the agrarian reform, more than two parts of the region of the municipality had been in the hands of Montenegrin colonists, so they always had the intention of removing the Albanians from Kosovo, but unfortunately they asked to leave themselves."

Mayor Dem A. Pozhari d. v. Attested by the Chief Secretary of the Prefecture Niko Lafe Prizren, on 30. X. 1944

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 15)

It was the year 1912 when the regular Serbian armies were heading towards the Albanian lands, which were prepared to defend with blood by a small minority of mountaineer chetas. A minority of men fled with their families in unknown directions, to save their women and children from the barbaric well, while the others remained in the country. The war had begun.

The Albanian chetas stood like giants in the ambushes they had set up, but the enemy forces were coming at them more

## and more. Meanwhile, our men, who were running out of ammunition, were forced to leave that precious land.

"It was not enough for the Serbo-Montenegrin encroachment on Albanian land, but there was also the terror of being shot at in villages and families. The houses burned with all their wealth are useless to mention, since they would never end, but we are marking the martyrs of the Banja municipality region, who left us with an oath to keep a word, which is: TO A FRIEND FORGIVE THE HEART, TO AN ENEMY THE CENTURY PEN.

### The martyrs are these:

Banja, year 1912: Liman Sahit, Hajrullah Rexhep, Hasan Isufi, Asllan Islami, Bislim Shaban, Beqir Shaban, Hasan Hajdari, Haxhi Behrani, Ali Mehmeti, Sadik Alija, Hysejn Hamza, Musli Hamza, Jashar Hasani, Xhylije Jashar, Shaqir Ibrahimi, Beqir Ibrahimi, Hajredin Demiri, Hamza Haliti, Sejdi Rrustemi, Islam Rrustemi, Zizë Fejzullah Beqiri, Zenel Muslija. The following were wounded during the fighting: Isuf Mehmeti, Rexhep Jashari and Elez Xhemjeli.

Senik, year 1912: Beqir Rexhepi, Adem Saliti, Ymer Alija.

Bellanica, year 1912: Beqir Abdullahi, Qelebi Abdullahi, Shaqir Abdullahi, Islam Shahsivari, Halit Mustafa, Aslan Sahiti, Riza Mehmeti, Selman Baftjari, Sali Fejza, Sadri Zeqa, Halit Rexha, Osman Murseli, Selman Sul, Zulfa Mustafa, Shaban Alija, Ibrahim Velija, Feta Ademi, Hysen Shama, Riza Veseli, Hasan Azemi, Asllan Shasivari, Dem Zenuni, Shaqir Aredulla, Bahte Aredulla, Halil Mustafa, Xhemal Harulla, Emin Xhema, Asllan Sahiti, Hysen Destani, Sejdi Feka, Xhemail Ibrahimi, Hamdi Iljaz, Latif Bajrami. The following were wounded: Beqir Salihi, Ymer Hasani, Hoxha Lladrofci.

In 1912: Ramadan Delija, Dem Bajrami, Rahmon Limoni.

In 1937: Jetullah Salih, Xheladin Jetullah, Behlul Bala, Sali i Xhemos.

Lladrovic, in 1912: Ibrahim Sinani, Shaban Sinani, Shaqir Sadrija, Jetullah Sali, Nuredin Shabani, Xheladin Emini, Friz Meta, Rexhep Sela, Abaz Ahmeti, Marsel Zema, Musli Jakupi.

Weekly, in 1912: Sul Delija, Sadri Demiri, Musli Arifi, Liman Sahiti.

Banja, in 1912: Ali Tahiri, Rahmon Hajdini, Bajram Beqiri, Bajram Sylejmani, Ahmet Rahmoni, Emin Ibrahimi, Qerim Zeneli, Halim Mustafa, Hysejn Murseli, Elmaz Hasani, Shaqir Limani, Sefer Limani, Demish Limanbi, Bahti Shali Ferizi, Pajazit Reshepi, Hasan Halite, Osman Zeqiri.

Guncat, in 1912: Sali Uka, Lah Hoxha, Qekin Syla."

P. Deputy Mayor Rexhep Banja (signature not sung). Certified by the Chief Secretary of the Prefecture Niko Lafe Prizren, on 3. X1. 1944

**Source:** (AQSH, Fund 410, Year 1944, File 58, sheet 16

## FILE: Shocking evidence of Slavic barbarism and plunder against the Albanian population

"The denunciation of Serbian massacres, at the beginning of the last century, was not only made by Albanians, or the local leaders of their administrative units. Even the periodical of the time, "aligned" on the side of the denunciators of the Slavic-Montenegrin massacres.

### Fighting near Gjakova

In Podrime, near Gjakova, in Bajrak t'Asterzubit (one of the most famous Bajrak for men), last week there was a fierce battle that lasted four days and nights.

The people of Podrimas, unable to endure the atrocities of the Serbs any longer, who, in addition to trying to Serbify them by force, raped women and children, rose up together with the men who were coming from the desert and, having no weapons, seized swords, maces and sticks. Without rifles, they were joined by about sixty men with rifles who were in the mountains.

The Serbs, although they had five cannons and were in four battalions, were unable to quell that uprising, which ended in blood with the arrival of five Montenegrin battalions with four cannons, which attacked ours in the back.

The people, driven away by the enemy's anger, fled to the borders of Albania, but only 860 of them escaped. A majority drowned in the Dri while fleeing. The Serbs were not only condemned to burn the houses of the rebels, but also those of the captured flag. At least 1,800 houses were burned. Neither mouth nor pen can express the heartless cases of cruelty! Let us stop the diplomacy of the International Court!"

Source: (Gazeta "Taraboshi", April 6-7, 1914)

In Malcia of Peja, and also in Đorđevića, the Montenegrins, after seeing a rebel coming out of their houses, when they could not see him, were driven by their own cruel feelings to set fire to the house, inside which they burned sixteen slaves alive, mostly women and children. This cruel incident happened ten days ago. The house belonged to a certain Ahmet Brahimi who lost his life with his entire family.

Source: (Gazeta "Taraboshi", 22-23 April 1914)

"Without any reason, 180 brave men, a few days ago, were slaughtered and mercilessly slaughtered by the Montenegrin Government in Ponashec, Malësia e Gjakova. Four large houses in this village were burned down while their goods and blood were plundered. Three hundred and fifty women and small children, as if they were not wanted, were thrown out of the border into the Gjakova Highlands, which is near Albania, where they are dying from the cold and the water.

These are happening now in these days when Montenegro with its brave consuls are begging for friendship with Albania so that their goods can go freely to Montenegro, where the people are suffering because of the war. It is a great shame that in this century, in the middle of Europe, people are being slaughtered and cut up in this way. What do the English liberals and French citizens have to say about their Slavic friends?"

**Source:** (The newspaper "Besa Shqyptare", April 17, 1915)

"A few days ago, members of the Cetina ruling party sued Sadik Rama of Ponashec for being a mausoleum leader. Seeing himself in danger and the danger of the inn, Sadik Rama gave him the weapons he had bought. For this reason, Sadik Rama fled on his own and went to Albanian soil.

The Montenegrins occupied his house and his belongings and took them with them. When they heard that the house was in ruins, Sadik Rama set out with some friends to take a chisel with which to break open the wall of the house and take them inside to shoot at the guards who had fallen asleep.

For this incident, the barbaric and unreasonable government ordered Veshovic to besiege Ponashec and half of Morina at night, and every day all the men over 10 years old were tried to be killed. The rest of the women and children were forcibly

taken from their homes, leaving their belongings and belongings in Albania.

**Source:** (Gazeta "Besa Shqyptare", 29 April 1915, news that was supposed to be published on 27 April 1915)

As people come these days to Albanian places that are not Serbian, we learn about the evils that the Albanian people are suffering, about which we have written many times. Albanians are not only robbed, imprisoned, dishonored by Serbian officials, killed without any fault, but the Serbian Government wants to accuse the outside world that, in these events that it calls Albanian uprisings, some proud (first note by V. H.) of free Albania have a hand.

**Source:** (Gazeta "Besa Shqyptare", 3 June 1915)

In the village of Ponashec in Reka's Gjakova, the Montenegrins have killed and mutilated 116 people, among whom were also women and children. Many of these innocents were brutally slaughtered. The Montenegrins, having finished this vandalism, drove the remaining families beyond the border. This village contains 36 houses. Let those who claim to fight for the freedom of nations, support those who mercilessly kill innocent people, hear these atrocities.

Source: (Gazeta "Populli", April 14, 1915)

On the 11th of this month, the Serbian Government ordered that our people be taken alive. In a village near Gjilan, 1,400 cows, goats and sheep were collected without any evidence of their owners. The poor Albanians of Kosovo are suffering from the plundering of the Serbian Government.

Source: (Gazeta "Populli", May 30, 1915)

We are informed that the Serbian Government, just as it had previously killed eight bajraktars, who were accused of having had an agreement with a bey of Kosovo, has now also begun to imprison some innocent Albanians because they had had relations with Hasan bey Vuçitern. In this way, they have also imprisoned Muharrem Effendi, Hasan Beg's cousin.

These events are not surprising since the Serbs are accustomed to barbaric acts. They imprison one because he is an Albanian, another to rob him even more than in the time of Hamit (Sultan Hamit, note by V. H.). I know that the Serbian rule does not want to know more about our writings, but you. I am writing these notes so that they will remain as memories for tomorrow and so that the Albanians of Albania will not be free to say that they are slaves and exiles.

Source: (Gazeta "Populli", May 30, 1915)

"According to reliable news that we are receiving from Peja, the people there are suffering under a cruel and predatory rule. There is no security of life. People go about their lives without being asked or informed. Those who have their meals in Peja and the surrounding areas are being fined and robbed of 5,000 to 500,000 crowns.

The Albanian leadership is different in the houses where the Serbs have put them, there is a guard at the door and they are not allowed to speak to anyone. In the region of Rugova, which is located between Peja and Plav, the Serbs have brought three thousand soldiers and everything that this army needs to live they have given to the people of Rugova. And so the people there are starving for bread. It is known that the people of Rugova are so poor that they feed on logs of wood that they sell in the bazaar of Peja...".

**Source:** (Gazeta "Populli", 10 February 1919)

According to accurate news that arrived in Shkodra yesterday, the Serbian and Montenegrin committees, after

### **Atrocities in Gjurgjevik**

"Thus, according to the author, in the village of Gjurgjevik i madh, "Feriz Zeqiri, Hasan Hajzizi and 7 other men were killed, 42 houses were burned, all household goods were looted, countless Turkish liras were taken, sheep, goats, cows, bollica, other horses, 6500 pieces, wheat, barley, other corn, 45000 quintals. In the village of Gjorgjevik i malo, Demir Alija, Zek Abdullahi, Feik Abdullahi were killed and the entire village was burned. Sheep, goats, cows, other horses, 6000 pieces were looted; wheat, barley, corn, and other crops, 2000 quintals.

In the village of Jashanic, Latif Bajraktari was killed with 15 other friends, 60 houses were burned, 4600 quintals of wheat, barley, other corn, as well as sheep, goats, cows, other horses were taken. 4300 pieces were stolen". In the village of Siqenë, the same thing happened: three wealthy men were killed (Bajram Haxhija, Nurat Mehmeti with his son, Mehmet Sadrija) and their houses and 16 other houses were burned, all their property was stolen.

The Serbs also committed such barbaric crimes against the village of Gllarënë, where 41 houses were burned, in Perçevë 21 houses were burned, in the village of Shperka e Gashi 60 houses were burned, in Volljak 15 houses were burned, and all the property in this village was stolen.

"In the village of Qypevë the entire village was burned and the men were tied up and tied up together, they were machinegunned, the women and children were put in the fire and burned to death, only one boy survived who is still in Albania today".

Here too, all the property was stolen. "The number of the rich who left the village is unknown, as no one was left alive to count the amount they lost." In the village of Damas, Rrahman Syla was killed with 5 men from his household, "42 other men were tied up with ropes and shot with a machine gun; 7 houses were burned and all their wealth was looted. In the village of Turjak, Ismail Qeba was killed with a brother, three of his friends who happened to be guests were also killed, Ram Musa Ponorci's son Halil Rama and two other friends, the entire village was looted.

In the village of Zatriç, Jak Besa was killed with 26 men who were shot with bayonets, as well as a woman with all of Ahmet Ali's children. The entire village was looted." Describing the Serbian massacres against the Albanian spirit in Kosovo, Zek Musa emphasizes the fact that all these villages "that I noted above" are in the region of the Sub-prefecture of Rahovec, the Prefecture of Prizren".

On this occasion, he adds the fact that in the village of Drenofc three men were killed and household goods were looted, while in the villages of Vrajak, Postosli, Patok, Kosnik, Petkovic, Llabicevo, clothes, other goods were looted while the men and children fled into the forests for fear of the cannon, escaping only with their lives. Likewise, in the village of Mrasur 2 men, two young boys, two girls and two women were killed, "whom they had taken as hostages at the house of Shaban Mrasor, they also took 100 Turkish liras and burned their houses with all their belongings".

Source: Baki Ymeri, Bukuresht (Bucharest).

#### **List of Serbian crimes:**

"According to researcher Shaban Braha, during the years 1946-1999, a series of measures were implemented, which led to the implementation of a policy that was not simply denigrating and oppressive towards Albanians, but which turned into pure genocide.

## Here are some directions of the Serbian genocide in Kosovo during this period:

- Cultural genocide (national symbols and figures were denied).
- Internments in infamous camps deep in Yugoslavia.
- Arrests and bestial torture in interrogation centers and prisons (1/2 of the prisoners were Albanians of Yugoslavia).
- Incitement of fratricide in Albanian environments.
- Massive and continuous raids.
- Drastic measures to disarm Albanians.
- Recruitment and violent compromises by the UDB.
- Violence against guerrillas.
- Brutality and violence against the families of the guerrilla movement.
- Mysterious liquidations of patriotic elements.
- Inhuman torture in prisons and in the investigation, in militia posts and everywhere, spreading the phenomenon of madness.
- Liquidations and murders of Kosovo boys in military units.
- Agentic and moral compromises of Albanian women.
- Massive dismissals from work.
- Monopolization of the administration in the hands of Serbs.
- Forcible expulsion of 380,000 Albanians to Turkey.

- Arbitrary expropriations of Albanians.
- Massacre of over 20,000 Albanians.
- Forcible deportation of over 800,000 Albanians from Kosovo.
- Violent national and religious transformations on an unprecedented scale.
- Mass executions of women, children, the elderly, and the sick.
- Causing dozens of mass graves.
- Mass burning of houses, property, barns, and agricultural products.
- Robbery of property, money, furniture, jewelry, and livestock.

The plan to exterminate Albanians was drawn up in 1939 by the Serbian Nobel Prize-winning writer, Ivo Andrić."

## International report from 1919: Serbian and Greek atrocities against Albanians - Part One

Authored by Petrit Latifi

According to the publication "BIBLIOTHÈQUE DES PEUPLES BALKANIQUES: 10 M.D. SKOPIANSKI Ancien rédacteur du Journal Macédonien, La Patrie, LES ATROCITÉS SERBES d'après les témoignages américains, anglais, français, italiens, russes, serbes, suisses", published in 1919, Serbian and Greek troops committed numerous atrocities against Albanians.

"CHAPTER III Persecutions and Atrocities Continue

#### **Executions of Albanian and Turkish prisoners at the fortress**

Every day, these peculiar "guardians of legal authority" brought hundreds of Turks and Albanians to the fortress, where the "strong-willed"—upon simple denunciation by the comitadjis, the new "knights of the dagger"—without proof or investigation, were mercilessly and shamelessly shot in the fortress courtyard.

The higher military authorities turned a blind eye to all these horrors, which could hardly contribute to the development of Christian civilization in a Muslim country. They say there is nothing more dangerous than a slave who breaks his chains and can give vent to his age-old hatred. Now, the Serbs' chains were heavy and they wore them for a long time; that alone can excuse their ferocity."

### PART TWO: Serbian Atrocities in Albania. CHAPTER ONE

"For what Belgrade and its protectors and friends described as simple repression, the execution of a few unruly individuals, were in reality mass massacres of populations, without distinction of age or sex, massacres coldly conceived and prepared even before the declaration of war on Turkey.

It was an entire people who were being exterminated; hundreds of villages were being methodically sacked, burned, and whose populations were annihilated; Those who escaped the sword and fire—for the victims numbered in the hundreds, most of them young children, thrown alive into the fires that consumed what had been their homes—died of hunger and cold in the mountain caves where they took refuge to escape the bloodthirsty rage of these beasts with human faces."

### **Atrocities by Voia Tankossitch (Voja Tankosic)**

"All this took place on Belgrade's orders; the comitadjis of Voia Tankossitch led the way, spreading terror and death. In the absence of a Turkish army, which had not existed in Albania since the Kumanovo affair, it was on the harmless populations that the Serbs exercised this power.

Even the mothers of the same sex wanted to play their part in this slaughter. Was it not at one of the official receptions at the Konak in Belgrade, just a few days before the declaration of war, that a great lady—great in rank, but alas! not in heart—cried out in a voice loud enough to be heard by all the saberwranglers who surrounded her: "Above all, don't leave any!"

So literally that it became the obsession of the wounded in the delirium of fever, like this young and brilliant officer, son of a high dignitary of the kingdom, who, brought wounded to Belgrade, never stopped shouting: "Kill them! Kill them all! Don't leave any!" This was the order he had received when leaving Belgrade, and he had scrupulously executed this order everywhere he went, and he could not forget it even on his bed of pain."

### Serbian atrocities in Elbasan, Tirana and Spas

"Thus, the truth was distorted and the new devastations and massacres perpetrated by the Serbs during this military outing, which brought them back for the second time, within three years, to the shores of the Adriatic, were almost glossed over. For, faithful to their traditional Albanian policy, the Serbs once again spread terror among the population and littered the country with new ruins in their wake. The military censors, friendly toward them, did not reveal much about this new Serbian activity in Albania."

# Mr. Geo-Fred Williams witnessed thousands of Albanians starving

"Speaking at the same meeting, Mr. Geo-Fred Williams, the eminent politician and generous philanthropist, said: "When I came away, thousands of Albanians were starving, though innocent of any wrong." Another means of exterminating the die-hard Macedonians and Albanian non-citizens was provided to the Serbo-Montenegrins by the World War.

Under the guise of strategic necessity, they assigned Macedonian or Albanian contingents, incorporated into their army, to the most exposed points of the war front, always taking care to keep them under machine-gun threat, ready to crack down on any inclination to retreat or desert".

### **Quote by Mr. Geo. Fred Williams on Serbian massacres of Albanians**

"On the same date, the Boston Herald, written by Mr. Geo. Fred. Williams, wrote: "I believe in a God of punishment and vengeance.

Whoever has wielded the sword will perish by the sword; the stench of German war gas must have the same flavor for the Serbian trenches as the stench of Albanian corpses with which the Serbs strewn their passage through Albania."

## Serbian poet Voislav Ilyich (Vojslav Ilic) poetry of hatred against Albanians

"Moreover, the Serbs' hatred of the Albanians, whose greatest crime is to find themselves on the Adriatic Sea, is the subject of a formal education in Serbia. From a very young age, children are instilled with a phobia of the Albanian, along with other equally edifying and noble facts. Poetry, that music of words which, like the other, should soften morals, itself plays a part in this. In his "Selected Battle Songs," the Serbian poet Voislav Ilyich sings of the exploits of the seven fierce butchers of Belgrade who massacred 24 Albanians".

# Serbian atrocities decreased when the Commission was expected

"Individual lives were truly at a low price during these months of war, and private property was of no value. Theft had become as common as rape... where the Commission was expected (this was after the conclusion of Bucharest, as in Eastern Thrace), we saw a Bulgarian newspaper note that the horrors had diminished."

# Serbian newspaper Targoviski Glassnik oppossed an international investigation of Serbian atrocities

"On the other side, on the Albanian border, where these horrors were about to begin again, they (the Serbs) were careful to oppose the Commission's passage. (Emphasis added.) A Serbian newspaper (the Targoviski Glassnik) even raised a question on this subject... saying that an international investigation... was, in its view, a limitation of sovereignty, an intervention in the rights of the State."

### Greek law of 1914 which allowed the seizing of Albanian lands

"The Greeks, for their part, proceeded in a similar manner. By a law promulgated in 1914, Greece had given a virtually legal appearance to the seizure of the buildings and lands of the Muslims of Macedonia and the Albanians of Epirus and the regions of southern Albania that the London Conference had assigned to it".

#### Reference

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# International report from 1919: Serbian and Greek atrocities against Albanians – Part 2

Authored by Petrit Latifi

#### "Dibra District

In Klosse, Serbian gangs bayoneted Ahmet Ali and his brother, Nezir Suleiman, and Mehmet Salih. The entire village was sacked.

In Tari Kartla, in broad daylight and in front of all the inhabitants gathered for this purpose, Eumer Halil, Osman Chira, Kerim Zeinel, Ismail Alush, and Sul Hodja (a Muslim priest) were bayoneted and reduced to shapeless corpses. Their houses were burned after being looted.

In Pilat, house searches were carried out under the pretext of searching for clandestine weapons depots; many houses were ransacked; Hassan Pata's house was burned and its owner's throat cut in front of his elderly mother, wife, and children. In Kraitsa, the house of Muharren Dervish was burned after being ransacked.

In Sergheu, all the houses previously ransacked were burned. In Sopot, the village was completely ransacked and looted; many houses were burned; all the livestock was stolen, and Ali Kamber, along with his servant, Hamza Dicha, and Salich Selim, were bayoneted to death

In Dibra (city), a few hours before the Malissor assault, the prefect and the military commander of the place arrested eighteen notables, who, without any form of trial, were executed: Ramis Karanfil, Sheikh Hussein, Numan Hassan, and Savfet Bey; The others were only saved thanks to the Malissores

who, in the meantime, entered the city, which the Serbian army had to hastily evacuate.

Upon their return to Dibra, the Serbs sacked the entire city and took away more than a million Turkish lira worth of loot. Many homes were burned, including those of Ali Bey, Rakip Kiatib, and Kourtiche Aga. The Serbs also massacred, with unprecedented cruelty, many people who had remained peacefully at home and had taken no part in the insurrection.

Among those massacred were the following: Kourtiche Aga, Behdjet Eliendi, Hadji Suréya Eiiendi, Réchit Etlendi Kussari, and Saadullah Shtrasimir. Currently, the town of Dibra is almost deserted, as the inhabitants have fled to the mountains. In the town itself, barely two or three hundred individuals of both sexes remain.

In Ghuritsa, the day after the officer delegated by the Austrian government arrived to verify the Serb evacuation of the territory, the Serbs reappeared at the entrance to the village and killed a woman and a five-year-old child; they also wounded another woman.

In Homèche, of the 150 houses in the village, only three remain; all the others were burned after being ransacked.

After the surrender, the Serbs massacred Mussa Ismail, Shemcheddin Bairam, and Ilalit Suleiman, who had returned to the village after the amnesty. In addition, they took 1,000 sheep, 150 oxen, and 40 horses the first time; the second time, they took 50 sheep, 9 oxen, and 9 horses.

In Chonpeutsé, after looting the houses and taking away their belongings and all their provisions, the Serbs massacred Alisse Muslim and his brother Abdi, Hassan Abas, and Dalip Elmas. In Hokcliatiue, of the 74 houses in this village, not one remains intact; they were all ransacked and burned. Those named Ferhatet Nazif were bayoneted. All the livestock was taken.

In Topoliau, a village of 68 houses, there was looting and a general burning. A man named Abdullah Djafer's throat was cut for failing to pay the ransom of five Turkish lira (115 Italian lire) demanded by the Serbian officer commanding the detachment. The Serbian soldiers took all the livestock. In Kovatchiekta, Malik Bairam, Aziz Hadji, Ahmet Ramadan, Leka, Destan Yactiar, Seifeddin Eles, and Suleiman Ramadan were massacred.

The stolen livestock amounted to 150 sheep, 41 oxen, and 13 kids. A man named Rachit Redjep's life was saved only thanks to a ransom of 150 Turkish lira (approximately 3,450 francs) paid to the commander of the Serbian detachment. In Ghuritsa (a village near Topolian), 14 men were massacred, including the village mayor; two women were also killed: Naile Sefer and Zemane Ibrahim, as well as an 8-year-old boy, Ismail Mehmed, a 10-year-old boy, Bairam Eles, a 7-year-old boy, Rahman, two 12-year-olds, Hassan Ali and Elias, as well as Hussein Choka's daughter.

In Goleviclita, the entire village was sacked, 74 houses were burned, and Halil Numan and Noureddin Mustafa had their throats slit. As for livestock, the Serbs took 1,000 sheep, 80 oxen, and 35 horses the first time, and 23 horses, 40 oxen, and 500 sheep the second time.

In Karchichta, the only two Muslim houses in the village were burned. In addition, 60 sheep, two oxen, and four cows were taken. In Blat, the Serbs burned 75 houses and massacred Redjep Leche, his brother Abdi, and his son, named Bairam, as well as Islam Quarana's wife.

The village was completely ransacked and the livestock there, 90 sheep and 50 oxen, were taken.

In Zogai, the village was looted; belongings, provisions for the winter, and all the livestock were taken. The Serbs burned 124 houses there, and while the fire reduced everything to ashes, they threw in alive a woman named Rihane, two young girls: Fazile and Muslime, and a seven-year-old boy named Bairam. They also killed with bayonets: Hadji Muslim, Nezir Aziz, llalil Numan, and Zein Hassan.

Returning a second time to Zogai, the Serbs massacred Mustafa Muslim, Aziz Yusuf, Adem Shaban, and Edine Nourka. They also kidnapped 7 cows and 6 sheep that had escaped the first looting.

In Magilîar, 10 houses were ransacked and burned.

In addition, the Serbs bayoneted Elmas Selman and his son Selman, Malik Redjep and his son Murat, Hassan Suleiman, Abdullah Kehaya, Haireddin Hassan and his three sons Eumèr, Ramis, and Tevfik, as well as his brother Rakip and his father Hassan, Rustem Mehmet, Numan Shemchedin, Ramadam Bairam, and Eyub Edhem.

The other inhabitants of the village were forced to surrender 50 oxen, 2 cows, and 113 goats to save their lives. In Potchiclita, the Serbs killed Muharhem Muharhem and his son Behdjet. They also took 100 sheep and nine oxen, as well as 150 Turkish lira (approximately 3,450 francs), the proceeds of searching the villagers' pockets.

In Lower Kartcliiclita, the Serbs looted Mehmet Eyoub's house after slitting the owner's throat in front of his family.

In Cherneua, they burned 23 houses and massacred Hassan Abbas and his wife, Ramadan Salih, and Rustem Soulyeman. They completely ransacked the village and took all belongings, supplies, and livestock.

In Blats, the village was completely burned after being looted. The inhabitants were all put to the sword indiscriminately, so it is impossible to establish a list of victims. Returning a second time to the Blats site, the Serbs surprised 250 sheep, 37 cows, and 28 horses, which they abducted after killing the shepherds. At Spas, they ransacked all the dwellings and burned ten of them.

They took all the livestock they could capture, namely: 150 sheep, 4 horses, and 13 oxen. At Glaboutkii, after looting all the dwellings, they set them on fire; 30 houses were reduced to ashes. In addition, they massacred before the eyes of the inhabitants:

Adil Bilhal, Ahmed Abbas, Mustafa Murteza, Djelalledin, Destan and his brother Musa, Haireddin Maksout, Lutfi, Feisolullah, Réshit Murteza and his son Fettah, Gazzanfer Zeinel, and others.

The Serbs also took 150 head of wool, 11 oxen, and 1 donkey. At Pnldjiclité, the Serbs stole 103 sheep, 15 oxen, 14 horses, 7 donkeys, and 65 Turkish lira in gold (approximately 1,500 francs). Returning a second time, they surprised and took 5 sheep, 10 oxen, and 1 horse. In Obok, the entire village was ransacked and the notable Ramadan Bairam's throat was slit. The first time, the Serbs kidnapped a flock of 120 sheep and then returned a second time, surprising 25 sheep, 2 oxen, 1 horse, and 2 donkeys.

In Peziak, they burned or destroyed all the homes. Among the inhabitants, they massacred the following: Yahya Ismail, Malik,

Mahmout, Seifullah, Abbas, and Vehbi Suleiman. The Serbs also kidnapped 14 oxen, 50 sheep, and 1 donkey.

In Erebara, the entire village was ransacked and the following: Ibrahim Osman, Jounous Kourtiche, Djafer Demir, and Destan Ishak were massacred. They also took 3 horses, 1 donkey, and 8 sheep.

From a pasture near this village, the Serbs abducted a flock of 150 sheep belonging to Shukri Bey.

In Voyaik, the Serbs ransacked and burned all 51 houses, and while the flames carried out their devastation, the Serbian soldiers bayoneted everyone they encountered; among the victims were Sinan Ibrahim, Nazif Numan, Ali Selim, and Idris Chaban. Furthermore, Shame was tortured and had her throat cut before her children's eyes.

All the captured livestock, 100 sheep, 8 oxen, and 9 horses, were taken away. 154

In Allai-Béy, the Serbs pillaged the entire village and burned 65 houses; they massacred the following: Ibrahim, Zeinel Dalip, Salih Ahmet, Ali Selim, Haidar Shaban and his brother Haireddin, Haireddin Moutché, Ali Osman, Numan Elmas, Seifeddin Selim, Zeinel Saip, Salih Suleiman, Fazli Abbas, as well as the women Shame, Qamile, Alie, Nimetallah, Illibe, Zaide, Fatime, and a five-year-old girl.

All livestock found in the village or in the pastures were taken. In Avalau, the village was ransacked and four houses burned; The notable Ismail Ismail was slaughtered and the livestock was taken captive, namely 99 sheep, 6 horses and a donkey, was kidnapped.

In Tcbaka, after looting the village, nine houses were set on fire. Of the villagers, the Serbs bayoneted Bashir Rustem, Hussein Abbas, Shahin Numan, and Zeinullah. They also kidnapped 13 cattle. In Knvatitclia, the entire village was sacked and 32 houses were set on fire; Elias Daout, Noureddin Nurche, Salih Osman, and Zeinel Troza were massacred.

The Serbs kidnapped two oxen, 30 sheep, and nine cows. In Upper Bluta, the entire village was looted and 18 houses were set on fire. Abdul Aziz and Abdurrahman were the only Serb victims. In addition, 42 sheep and two horses were taken.

In Blata, after the looting, fire reduced 25 houses to ashes; Ali Blata and his two sons died in the flames. The Serbs also took 30 sheep, four cows, and three horses. In Leolian, after the looting, the entire village was burned, and all the livestock found in the stables or pastures was taken.

#### **Lower Dibra District**

In Ravdishte, the village was looted and ransacked from top to bottom; 38 houses and about thirty stables were burned. The victims, massacred as usual with bayonets, numbered 65 men. It should also be noted that a six-year-old boy, the son of a local notable, was thrown alive into the flames. The Serbs also took 400 sheep, 150 goats, 60 cows, and 22 horses.

A search of the pockets of the spared inhabitants yielded 20 Turkish lira (about 450 francs), which the Serbs appropriated. In Zimar, the Serbs ransacked and burned seven houses; they massacred with bayonets: Ahmet Chaban, Mulaim Elmas, Suleiman Zekir, Veissel Riza, and Salih Chaban. The livestock they took amounted to 245 sheep and 12 oxen. In Starovetz, the entire village was sacked and 42 houses were reduced to ashes. The human victims were: Hussein Moudja, Rechit Rahman, and a woman named Zobeida.

The livestock surprised and taken by the Serbs amounted to 300 cattle, 30 horned animals, and four horses. In Balmtai, the Serbs forced Ramadan Mehmet and his companions to perform balancing acts, then slaughtered them. They kidnapped 10 horses.

In Toamiin, the village was sacked and two houses, a convent, and a mosque were burned. Mazloum Youssouf and a ten-year-old boy were massacred. All the livestock taken by surprise were taken.

In Dotcliiclita, after the looting, 55 houses were burned. Among the horribly massacred victims were the bodies of Malik Bairam, Ramadan Ahmet, Eumer Sadik, Zeinullah Hassan, Allalil Younous, Moussa Bairam, and Shaban Halil.

In addition, 400 sheep and 200 horses were kidnapped by the Serbs.

In Zagrad, soldiers burned eight houses and stole three horses. In Belluvé, the Serbs ransacked the entire village and took all portable belongings.

In Graidau, after being sacked, 22 houses were burned. These included Aziz Chemchéddin, Hassan Zekiria, Djafer Youssouf, and Emroullah Mahmout. Mont, Békir, Hassan Dourmiche, Rustém Hassan and his brother Zékiria, Bédjet Nuri and his wife, Ismaïl Djélil and his brother Elias, Elès Hassan, Emroulah Démir, Sinan Djafer, Aziz Ivourtiche, Maksut Numan, and Ferhat were massacred with bayonets before the eyes of their families.

The Serbs also took all the livestock. In Mulinr, they looted all the houses and burned 14 of them. They also stole 200 sheep, 100 lambs, 30 cows, and 15 horses, as well as more than 300 Turkish lira (approximately 7,000 francs), the proceeds of picking through the residents' pockets. During a second visit to

the same village, the Serbian troops stole 10 sheep, 40 lambs, and a horse. They also massacred eleven notables with bayonets.

In Luzniis, after looting all the private properties, the Serbs set fire to five of the main houses.

They took all the livestock found in the stables, more than 4,500 wool-bearing animals and 200 horned animals. The human victims, massacred with bayonets, amounted to 45 people, whose names were carefully verified and noted.

In Tcliatouehe, four houses were burned, and the woman named Asma Hassan, as well as Zeinel Chaban and Osman Numan, were massacred; three horses were stolen.

In Breclidau, the Serbs looted and burned 17 houses. They

In Breclidau, the Serbs looted and burned 17 houses. They massacred Abedin Osman, Shahin Mehmet, and Salih Kadri. Twenty-five horses were also stolen.

In Onshtelentsa, the entire village was sacked and thirteen houses burned to the ground. Numan Rustem, Muslim Zeki, and Mehmet Gota were massacred. The stolen livestock consisted of 17 horses and six oxen.

In Deshat, the Serbs set fire to 15 houses and threw a ten-year-old boy, two seven-year-olds, and two women into the flames alive. They stole fifty oxen and 500 sheep.

In Sohodol, they set fire to a village on May 3. and massacred four men, namely Abdullah Abedin, Toussoun Dalip, Souléyman Bahtiar, and Dalip Ismaïl, a woman (Bélouré) and her 6-year-old child (Mazloum). They also kidnapped 200 sheep and 30 horses.

In Borovian, the Serbs burned two houses and slaughtered Rustém Mouharrém in front of his people. They also kidnapped 27 cattle, 119 sheep, and five horses.

In Rachuopoye, they ransacked all the houses, but failed to set fire to any. They bayoneted six notables (named Bairam Mehmet, Malik Rakip, Selman Rakip, Behdjet Behloul, Osman Azan, and Haireddin Malik) and kidnapped 20 oxen. In Cheryan, the Serbs set fire to the houses and killed three men (Fazli Suleiman, Yashar Ileibat, and Bektash Arslan) and a woman (Zobeida).

They kidnapped 14 horses and 00 sheep. In Pilaf, all the houses were ransacked and five of them burned. The Serbs bayoneted Dalip Ramadan, before the eyes of his elderly mother. In Pilaf-Mahalla, after ransacking all the houses, they burned eight. They killed Hassan Fettah, Salih Yusuf, and his six-year-old daughter, Fatimé. In addition, the Serbian soldiers threw a five-year-old boy, Shukri, and a four-year-old boy, Hassan, alive into the flames. 158

The livestock stolen included 100 oxen, 15 cows, 200 sheep, and eight horses. In Polloyan, the village was pillaged from top to bottom and three houses set on fire. Eleven people were killed (Haireddin Vechta and his brother Aziz, Yusuf Uka, Haireddin Shkurti, Hussein Zeinel, Ilaireddin Ilalil, Sait Pasha, Emine Shahin, Eles Numan and his brother Osman, along with the latter's son).

As livestock, they stole 50 sheep, 12 oxen, and four horses. In Gtlitcliesse, all the houses were ransacked and five were set on fire. The Serbs slit the throats of three men (Djafer Rustem, Destan Hassan, and Djémal Salih) and one woman (Aïché). They kidnapped 250 sheep and 30 horses.

In Jlimiau, the entire village was sacked; among the inhabitants, the following were massacred with bayonets: Hassan Shahin, Seifullah Ibrahim, Abdurrahman Fettah, Kérim Sadik, Baïram Djélil. 200 sheep, 20 cows, and 10 horses were also kidnapped.

In Pishknpia, after looting all the houses in this village, 57 of the largest houses were burned; Djelaleddih Abbas, Ali Eumer, Djelman Selman, Hassan Arslan, Haïreddin Chaban, and Mourat Démir were massacred. The livestock taken amounted to 180 cattle, 450 sheep, 15 mules, and 20 horses.

In Triptché, the village was sacked, and Zeinullah Ahmet's throat was brutally slit before his own eyes. Two horses and 57 sheep were taken.

In Tcliidlma, thirty houses were burned to the ground. The human victims included three men (Kitan Keloche, Hassan Han, Arslan Sadik). In addition, 500 sheep, 200 head of cattle, 13 horses, and 3 donkeys were taken.

In Riéues, the Serbs set fire to five houses, slit the throat of Zeïnel Ahmet on his doorstep, and kidnapped 100 cattle, 12 cows, and 5 pack animals. And the account of the massacres continues, and the terrifying list grows longer, forming the martyrology of the young Albanian people.

Detailed details have been provided of the atrocities committed in other regions of the Lower Dibra district in northern Albania, such as in Diviak (general looting, the assassination of one man, Beqir Suleiman, and a ransom of 45 Turkish lira paid to the Serbian commander by the inhabitants to stop the massacre. All the livestock was taken.)

In Véuishté, looting, fire; Beqir Assim and Idris Tahir had their throats slit, and their livestock were stolen.

In Slatiua, 30 houses were set on fire, Bahtial Idris was burned alive, and 1,365 head of cattle were stolen. In Troyak and Velesha, 41 homes were burned to the ground, Zaim Idris, Abbas Ilussein, and Salih Kadri were murdered, and 660 head of cattle were stolen.

In Kal, 30 houses were burned, the woman Daveshe was thrown into the flames, Bairam Rustem had her throat slit on the doorstep of his home, and 576 head of cattle were stolen.

In Slave, there were no casualties; the population, having no faith in the Serbian amnesty, had fled to the mountains. The village was pillaged from top to bottom, 32 houses were reduced to ashes, and 319 head of cattle, caught in the pastures, were stolen.

In Dardha, widespread looting; two victims: Noureddin Souléyman and Ramadan Sinan; 380 head of cattle were stolen. In Retlia, widespread looting and the kidnapping of 600 head of cattle.

In Culimat La Pallaman, looting and burning of eight houses. Three women were murdered: Rihané, Selvié, and Aïché, and three men: Youssouf, Baïram, and Baïram. The number of cattle stolen exceeded 1,340.

## **District of Luma**

No less terrifying are the horrors perpetrated in Luma District, and more specifically:

In Chnlan, general looting and burning. The entire population was slaughtered except for three people who, hearing the screams of terror from the women and children, understood what was happening and fled into the forest.

In Iodé and Kinclitan, houses were looted and burned; there were 13 human victims.

In Topojan, homes were burned to the ground and the population of more than 500 people exterminated.

In Tclierin, everything was looted. The livestock, more than 350 head, were stolen. 23 human victims, including 7 religious. In Ivrushevo. By order of Loglop, secretary of the Serbian government in Prizrend, the family of Hadji Ibrahim, consisting of eight people, including three women, a one-year-old baby, two four-year-old girls, and one six-year-old girl, was coldly massacred by the soldiers.

In Bnchtrina and Bilonche, widespread looting and burning. The population, without distinction of sex or age, was put to the sword or burned alive. Livestock were caught in the pastures after the massacre of the shepherds.

In Kekiai and Matrantza, widespread looting, with the livestock taken, approximately 1,000 head.

In Vasse, Palouclie, Qabere, and Bratcli, widespread looting, with all provisions, objects, and belongings of any value taken; the livestock, more than 800 head, was taken. 161

In Djiné, Lnzène, Kalisse, and Vile, in addition to the looting, 71 houses were burned, 123 human victims—men, women, and children—were killed, and 2,121 head of livestock were stolen.

In Emiclité, 21 houses were looted and burned; 15 victims, including a woman, a 3-month-old baby, a 4-year-old boy, a 5-year-old boy, and two 8-year-old boys; 480 head of livestock were stolen.

In Bjafere, Brégas, Miutché, Loëna, and Perbrek, all the homes were razed, and the people surrounded by Serbian soldiers were mercilessly massacred. Several were hanged from tree branches, and the majority had their throats cut. Some were thrown into the flames

and others suffered even more atrocious tortures before dying.

In Bregas alone, a large village of more than 150 houses, the victims—men, women, and children—are estimated at more than 1,300 people, and in Perbrek, their number must have well exceeded 400. Of the entire population of these five villages, only two inhabitants

from Djafore and five from Mintché managed to escape extermination.

Other scenes of ferocity and carnage took place in Seroi, where 130 houses were burned, 55 men and 2 women massacred. In Bardoftsa and Novossel, both villages were completely burned; The population was able to escape into the mountains, except for Islam Ilandji's wife and her four young children and Ramadan Youssouf's entire family, who were all burned alive.

The livestock caught in the pastures, 1,620 head, including 320 large cattle, was taken. In Snla-è-Fnchese and Arras, 34 houses were burned; there were 11 human victims, and all the livestock, 610 head, were taken."

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https://www.strumski.com/books/ m.d.skopiansky\_atrocites\_serbes.pdf

# Serbian newspaper Radnicke Novine in 1912: Serbs stole the livestock of Albanians of Dibra and killed the shepherds

# Authored by Petrit Latifi

"We know that the Albanian expedition, which the Radnichke Novine correspondent discusses here, aimed to suppress the Albanian clans who had revolted against the Serbs at that time. The Albanian revolt was portrayed by the Serbian side as the combined result of the actions of the Albanians of autonomous Albania and Bulgarian machinations. These two causes are plausible, but they do not exclude a third: the state of mind of the Albanian population subject to Serbia.

This population had personal reasons to complain about the Serbian administration. This is how the event is explained in a letter from Elbasan, published by the Bulgarian newspaper (Echo of Bulgaria, September 28), which he claims to come "from a very reliable source."

The commission was unable to verify his claims, but, after all it saw and heard, following the authentic letter mentioned above, it does not believe it should doubt them.

"On September 20th, new style, the Serbian army took all the livestock from the Malesia of Dibra. The herdsmen were forced to defend themselves and fight, but they were all killed. Along with these herdsmen, the Serbs killed the two chieftains of Lyuma: Mehmed-Edem and Djafer-Eleuz, and began to pillage and burn all the villages along their route: Pechkiapa, Pletza, and Dochichti in Lower Dibra, Alai-Beg, Machi, Para, Obokou, Klobotchichta, and Solokitzi in Upper Dibra. In all these villages, the Serbs committed terrible massacres."

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# Serbian atrocities in Iballë of Dukagjin in Puka

Authored by Petrit Latifi

"Ibalha, a large village, inhabited mainly by Muslims, is the capital of the Dukaghini district, in the Puka region. During the last Serbian invasion, Ibalha was sacked and burned, and its inhabitants massacred. It was only after the Austro-Hungarian occupation that the survivors of its former inhabitants, joined by survivors from other surrounding villages, who had suffered the same fate as Ibalha, ventured to return to what had been their village.

Under the protection of the Austro-Hungarian authorities, they rebuilt homes, a mosque, and a school for both sexes. Unfortunately, bad luck has once again befallen this unfortunate village. Last January, the school accidentally caught fire, we believe, and became engulfed in flames. For a town of such small size and already so cruelly affected, this is a loss that is difficult to repair; nevertheless, we do not despair of hearing one of these days that the good Ibalhassians succeeded in rebuilding their school for the third time in three years."

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Albanie, n° 1/(12) du 25 avril 1918. Albanie n° 3/(14) du 25 juin 1918

# Serbo-Montenegrin atrocities against Albanians in 1915-1916

Authored by Petrit Latifi

# Albania, No. 2, October 1, 1915. — "A dispatch from Salonika, which made the rounds of the press, states:

"Several fugitives from New Serbia have again arrived in Salonika. The Greek border authorities have not allowed people from the poor to continue their journey to Salonika; these fugitives are currently camping at the border where they have pitched tents. For the unfortunate inhabitants of the territories annexed by Serbia, whether Bulgarians or Albanians, to have resigned themselves, with the approach of winter, to abandoning their homes and going to live in tents, their suffering must have exceeded the limit."

The situation of these fugitives must be very sad, but how much sadder is that of their unfortunate brothers who nevertheless had to remain in the country, perhaps because they could not abandon their wives and children or drag them with them."

# Albanie, No. 4, November 1, 1915. "Albanian Martyrs":

"The Montenegrins have just killed a large number of Albanian patriots arrested in Scutari, whose crime was to love their country. Among these martyrs is also the great publicist Mustafa Hilmi Leskoviki. This noble victim of the Montenegrins' madness of extermination edited the Albanian nationalist newspaper Combi, formerly published in Monastir."

# **Albanie, No. 5, November 16, 1915:**

"The Montenegrins' first action upon entering Scutari was to arrest the elite patriots who were in the town, to imprison some of them, and to banish the others to Cettigné. Some even, for reasons unknown to us, were executed without further ado."

## Albanie, No. 6, December 1, 1915:

"Nor has anyone wanted to remember or note that during the Albanian revolutions that followed one another from 1908 to 1912, no—and we insist on this point—no complaint could be made against the rebels; We also pretend to forget that during the triumphant entry of 30,000 (50) Malissores (Albanian highlanders) into Uskub in 1912, there was not the slightest violence or harassment. Yet these highlanders were irregulars and seven-eighths of them were Muslims, those Muslims who were said to be savages, cruel, and bloodthirsty. All this went unnoticed, and public opinion was not even moved.

The conduct of the armies of the Balkan allies, though regular and claiming to be civilized, when they invaded Albanian territory following their crusade against Turkey, was beyond measure. Thousands and thousands of unarmed Albanians were massacred in cold blood and deliberately; hundreds of villages were razed to the ground or burned; others, also by the hundreds, were methodically pillaged by the Greeks and Serbs; the Montenegrins, after looting it, set fire to the market and a large part of Scutari."

# **Albania**, **No. 8**, **January 1**, **1916**:

# "We reproduce below the article that The Washington Times devoted to our unfortunate homeland:

"... Information from a very authentic source reaching America has informed us that crimes, which the hardened conscience of

Europe would not have tolerated in normal times, have been perpetrated on the soil of this unfortunate Albania, whose poor inhabitants have been caught in the clutches of Greco-Serbian rapacity and greed.

The Albanians are suffering far more than the Belgians have ever suffered, and this without benefiting from the vast and great sympathy that was expressed... to the inhabitants of the small country in northern Europe. It is truly and a thousand times regrettable that, despite the formal commitment made by Ed. Grey, according to which the powers would recognize the legitimate rights of small nations, unfortunate Albania has been abandoned defenseless to the actions of the Greeks and the Serbs, those spoiled children of Europe."

## L'Albanie. No. 11, March 16, 1916:

"Among Albania's enemies, the most implacable are the Serbs. The latter never miss an opportunity to rush upon their prey to tear it to pieces.

In the aftermath of the First Balkan War, thousands of young Albanians were put to the sword by the Serbs in the most inhuman manner..."

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https://www.strumski.com/books/ m.d.skopiansky\_atrocites\_serbes.pdf

# Greek atrocities against Bektashi, Albanians and Turkish civilians (1912-1922)

Authored by Petrit Latifi

In 1912, during the Balkan War, Greek troops committed many atrocities against Bektashi, Turks and Albanian civilians. Similar atrocities occurred in the 1920s.

"Argyrokastro and Delvino districts. Everywhere, without exception, the end of the old regime had awakened hope for Albanian national development among the Orthodox, and to the Albanian question, deliberately asked often and often in Kakodiki, Lefterohor, etc., etc.: "Are you Greeks?" I invariably received the answer: "We are Christian Albanians."

## Greek war crimes in 1912-1922:

"The Greeks, in great numbers and equipped with everything they needed, drove the more or less defenseless Muslim population from their homes, burned down the Muslim villages, so that, for example, the population of the Akrokeraunian Alps, except for the sea, was completely Muslim, very nationally minded, and famous from time immemorial for their moral purity, bravery, and efficiency.

They fled in large numbers towards Vlora after their ancient, beautiful, and characteristic villages had been destroyed by flames and their flourishing prosperity had been destroyed by the sword and the torch of the Greeks were annihilated More than 70,000 of these unfortunate refugees flooded Malakastra and the area around Vlora in unprecedented distress. However, a radical means to free southern Albania from a large part of its

Albanian population and to be able to be replaced by Greek colonists..."2

## Greek atrocities against the Bektashi

"During the unrest and conflicts of the Second Balkan War, Greek soldiers destroyed a Bektashi tekke in southern Albania and killed the Bektashis living there. During the First World War, there were also repeated attacks by Greek rebels against Bektashis in places like Ioannina, Korça, and Gjirokastra, which resulted in the destruction of the tekkes.

Similar accounts have also been handed down in the context of the Turkish Wars of Independence: In 1922, a letter arrived in Istanbul stating that some of the most highly respected figures in Thessaloniki's society had been murdered by Greek insurgents—including the head of the Thessaloniki Tekkes, Hasan Baba.

Ultimately, the Bektashis in Epirus largely lost their tekkes, which were destroyed during the 1910s and 1920s. Apparently, despite their proximity to Christianity and discursive distance from mainstream Islam, the Bektashis were fought by nationalist militias with the same vehemence as other Muslim groups at the time. The fact that Bektashis were associated with the Albanian national movement was also an important factor in these anti-Bektashi actions by Greek nationalists and militias"<sup>3</sup>

# Greek army advancing into Ankara and atrocities against civilians

This violence continued as the Greek army advanced eastward into Asia Minor. In 1921, the Greeks nearly conquered Ankara, triggering the flight of a million Muslims. Not only pro-Turkish German observers spoke of "atrocities" that "the Greek army committed against thousands of defenseless inhabitants, men,

women, and children, during both its advance and its flight, in addition to the incineration of towns and villages."

Not only the Turkish government published a report on "Greek Atrocities in Asia Minor," which reported mass rapes, the burning of villages without military necessity, and the destruction of Koranic manuscripts, and accused Greece of having always pursued a "policy of extermination" against the Turks. The British government also criticized "grave excesses" by the Greeks against Muslim civilians."4

## **Greek assimilation of Orthodox Albanians**

"Even before the collapse of European Turkey, Athens had worked as skillfully as it had purposefully toward the Hellenization of southern Albania. This propaganda was aided by the fact that southern Albania was largely of Greek Orthodox faith, albeit ethnically, with the exception of a very few immigrant Greek traders.

Especially the so-called Kurvelesh, that is, the hinterland of Himara, has the most solid, bravest, and cleverest population in Albania. If these tribes are denounced today in the anti-Greek press for a very transparent purpose as bands of robbers and even as nomads, while their homes, now destroyed by the Greeks, were among the most beautiful in the entire Balkans, then every Albanian, every Turk, every expert on Albania knows that the Akrokeraunian Alps, the Laberie, are the heart of Albania in the same sense, and perhaps even to a greater extent, as the March was the heart of Prussia.

Recently, a leading newspaper stated that the annexation by Greece does not mean too painful a misfortune for southern Albania because Greece has already proven its ability to Hellenize the southern Albanians in recent decades. At least the

newspaper speaks of Hellenized southern Albanians and not of Greek Epirotes. That is a consolation. But Greece has only Hellenized the Albanian Orthodox, as I have already explained, and these too only partially." 5

# Hellenization of Albanians of Gjirokastër

"The superficiality and ignorance of these researchers are to be regretted. The Hellenization process of the Orthodox Albanians in Argyrokastro was interesting, and fortunately, thanks to my particularly precise knowledge of the facts, I was able to assess it very well. Forty years ago, nobody in Argyrokastro spoke Greek. I know several Albanians from there who moved to other parts of the country at that time.

They do not understand a single syllable of Greek and assured me without exception that in their time in Argyrokastro, no one inhabitant understood Greek. Then the work of the Greek school began among the Orthodox, and today everyone in Argyrokastro speaks Greek, although alongside Albanian, which until the Greek occupation was the language spoken in the bosom of families, even among the Orthodox, without exception.

In Korcha, the situation is completely different. About twenty years ago, an excellent Albanian school was founded there by American missionaries, which was under the protection of the consulates. thus did not dare to feel for the gate. The Christians, who were free to choose between the Greek and Albanian Christian schools, sent their children predominantly to the latter, so that the Orthodox Kortschas were not Hellenized but, filled with ardent patriotism, were among the most zealous and self-sacrificing supporters of the Albanian national movement"

Greek assimilation of Albanians of Shpat mountain, Akro Keraunion, Himara, Vuno, Kurvelesh and Smokthina "At that time, and up until 1912, a whole series of Orthodox Albanians in the Shpat Mountains joined Rome to escape Hellenization by the priests. Only the outbreak of the Balkan War put an end to the further expansion of this movement. For the same reason, decades earlier, the villages in the interior of the Akro Keraunian Alps had converted to Islam.

The remaining Christian villages on the coast, Himara, Vunô, etc., increasingly succumbed to Hellenization. When the Greeks, mainly Cretans, landed in Himara in the First Balkan Wars, the Muslims of the interior, the so-called Kurvelesch, put up such strong resistance at the Llogora Pass that they had to content themselves with occupying the coast.

Today, the people of Himara and, for example, Smokthina are closely related in the interior. Although some are Hellenized to a certain degree and Christian, others Muslim and Albanian nationally minded they call themselves cousins they speak Albanian to each other without exception and very often refer to members of the same clan residing on either side when asked they always mention the common ancestor who usually dates back only two generations"<sup>2</sup>

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# The Serbian massacre of the Trakalaqi family of Tanusha in Kabash in 1913

Petrit Latifi

The shooting of the Trakalaks of 1913 by Tanusha who were in Kabash.

The Serbian campaign, which was part of the strategy for the emptying of these lands and the colonization with Serbo-Slavic population, continued even further with greater intensity.

"On November 28, 1913, after falling to Kabash in Viti, known as a bastion of resistance against the Serbs, Serbian forces kidnapped the civilian population, mainly men, young men and women, who at an opportune moment could have been members of the insurgent forces against the Serbs. Along with the local Kabash, there were also people who had long ago moved from

Tanusha and were known as the Trakalaq Neighborhood of Kabash from Tanusha.

The terrorist forces, allegedly of the "Serbian State Army", after "tying up the hostages, the Kabash, along with them and the five men of the aforementioned neighborhood, set the village on fire. The men were kept tied up at the beginning of Viti, at "Arat e slatinëve", and after a day they were sent away under the pretext that they were being sent to court in Gjilan, while in reality they had prepared graves for them in Kllokot in Viti, where they were to be buried after the execution.

Hand in hand with friends, as part of the traditional Albanian dress that Albanians tie around their waists and wear as specific national clothing, going near Kllokot, Mullah Haziz Sallah Beqa from Tanusha, sees that they have prepared the graves.

After several pleas to the Serbian gendarmerie for the release of some children, who were minors, the gendarmerie chiefs did not do this, Mulla Hazizi again tells the villagers that if anyone can escape or at least, to try to snatch a rifle from them.

The Serbs panic and, shooting in the direction of the Kabashas, they also shot several Serbs. From this panic shooting, in addition to the Albanians, there were also Serbs killed. However, during this fight, six people escape the massacre and, although tied up, manage to escape.

The massacred were buried, some half-alive, all in a pit in the territory of the village of Kllokot in Viti. Together with the other Kabashas, the Trakalaqs of Tanusha were also buried, those who had lived for a long time in the village of Kabash.

Relatives of the Trakalaq family.

# The Trakalaqs killed were:

- 1. Mulla Aziz Sallah Beqa Trakalaqi, 47 years old,
- 2. Faik Aziz Sallah Trakalaqi, son of Mulla Aziz, 19 years old
- 3. Ali Sallah Beqa Trakalaqi, brother of Mulla Aziz, 50 years old,
- 4. Hebib Ali Sallah Trakalaqi, 25 years old.
- 5. Veli Sallah Beqa Trakalaqi, brother of Mulla Aziz, 45 years old,

These were three brothers and their two sons who were killed by the Serbian Chetnik forces.

In the houses of Kabash, which the Serbs had set on fire, two Tanusha were also burned, in the mock mullar, where they had been hiding.

- 6. Rrustem Veli Salla Trakalaqi, 19 years old,
- 7. Shaban Veli Sallah Beqa Trakalaqi, 17 years old.

Rrustem and Shaban were Veli's even though Velia had been killed in Kllokot, and the enraged Serbs burned down her house and both sons, who were hiding in the tallow barn. Their mother, Veli's wife, Hanifja, came out and shouted for them to get out of the burning tallow. But, unable to save them, because the fire had spread rapidly, and so both sons burned before her eyes," writes Feri Arifi.

#### References

The notes were taken by Emin Trakalaçi Tanusha, in Kabash.

Serbian and Bulgarians atrocities in Bujanovc, Ternoc, Nasalca, Lluçani, Turija, Breznica, Pribovc, Dobrosina, Letovica and Srem

Authored by Petrit Latifi.

Between 1912 to 1990, Serbian, Yugoslav and Bulgarians committed atrocities and mass-murders against the Albanian population. The following article provides data and sources on these atrocities.

# Serbian massacres in Bujanovac

# Liquidated

- Emin Ismaili, known as Gandi, was liquidated in October 1944 at Uji i Thartë, near the church of Liliance. He was an organizer and lover of sports. He was 40 years old. His grave is unknown.
- 2. Qamil Ismaili, Gandi's brother, was massacred in October 1944 at Uji i Thartë, near the church of Liliance, at the age of 20. His grave is unknown.
- 3. Jonuz Hajrullahu, a shoemaker, was liquidated in October 1944 at Uji i Thartë, near the church of Liliance, at the age of 43. His grave is unknown.
- 4. Zarif Shabani (cook) was liquidated in October 1944 in Uji i thartë near Lilianja at the age of 45. His grave is unknown.

These Serbs took these Albanian civilians from their homes and sent to Uji i thartë near the Lilianja church, where they were massacred and liquidated in the most brutal manner. The main culprit for their liquidation was Diça Malli from the village of Llopardicë, municipality of Bujanovac (According to the memory of Hasan Imer, born on October 8, 1919 in Bujanovac, by profession a barber, now retired,

and Nijazi Bektashi, born on June 20, 1933 in the village of Nasalcë, has lived in Bujanovac since 1964.

#### Tërnoc

# Liquidated

- 1. Muharrem Islam Osmani, in October 1944 in Vranje at the age of 30. His grave is unknown.
- 2. Abdulla Ibrahim Zeqiri, known as Dulla i Himës, was liquidated in October 1944 in Vranje at the age of 50. His grave is unknown.
- 3. Asllan Ibrahim Rexhepi was liquidated at the age of 30. His grave is unknown.
- 4. Tefi Abdyrrahman Selimi was liquidated at the age of 40. His grave is unknown.
- 5. Xhefer Sulejman Selimi was liquidated at the age of 48. His grave is unknown.
- 6. Shasivar Murtezi, known as Çaça, was liquidated at the age of 58. His grave is unknown.
- 7. Ilmi Mustafa Arifi, was liquidated at the age of 41. His grave is unknown.
- 8. Sadri Isuf Saqipi, was liquidated at the age of 33. His grave is unknown.
- 9. Arif Ali Arifi, known as Lika, was liquidated at the age of 47. His grave is unknown.
- 10. Xhemail Shaban Fazliu, was taken from his home in October 1944 and is believed to have been liquidated in Dubnica, near Vranje at the age of 62. His grave is unknown.
- 11. Alush Rasim Shaban was taken from his home in Gjilan in October 1944 and lost all trace of him. It is assumed that he was liquidated. At the age of 35. His grave is unknown.

- 12. Jonuz Mehmet Jonuz was liquidated in November 1944 in Gjilan at the age of 35. His grave is unknown.
- 13. Pashë Galip Ramiz was liquidated in November 1944 in Gjilan at the age of 35. His grave is unknown.
- 14. Xheladin Halil Xhelili was liquidated in November 1944 in Montenegro, Skopje, at the age of 24. His grave is unknown.
- 15. Jonuz Ademi was taken from his home in November 1944 and liquidated at the age of 35. His grave is unknown.
- 16. Ramadan Aqif Selimi Terzia was taken by the UDB from the army in Zagreb in August 1946 and sent to the UDB of Macedonia in Skopje where he was brutally liquidated. He was 26 years old at the time. His grave is unknown.
- 17. Ilmi Sherif Hetemi was liquidated in the summer of 1944 in Montenegro, Skopje, at the age of 24. His grave is unknown.
- 18. Zejnulla Hajdin Hebibi was liquidated in September 1944 at the Mustafa Bridge in Bujanovac, today near the mosque, at the age of 32.
- 19. Ramadan Hajdara Nuredini was liquidated in October 1944 at Kodra e Madhe at the age of 50. His grave is unknown.
- 20. Nuhi Hajdar Nuredin was liquidated in October 1944 in the Tërnoc field, at the age of 47. His grave is unknown (Ramadan and Nuhiu were brothers).
- 21. Xhafer Halil Fejzullah was liquidated in October 1944 in Kodra e Madhe, at the age of 33. His grave is unknown.
- 22. Vehbi Ismail Sylejman was liquidated on November 25, 1944 near the "Muharrem Kadriu" school. He was the chairman of the National Liberation Council. He was killed by the Chetniks Velimir from the village of

- Levosoje, known as Vela, and Gjorgje Kadiça from Osllara. At the age of 32.
- 23. Ali Veli Jonuz was liquidated in October 1944 in Kodra e Madhe, at the age of 36. His grave is unknown.
- 24. Sadri Alishani from the Gash neighborhood was liquidated in October 1944 on Kodra e Hade at the age of 40. His grave is unknown.
- 25. Avdi Demir from the Terzi neighborhood was liquidated in October 1944 on Kodra e Hade, at the age of 22. His grave is unknown.
- 26. Sali Aslan Selimi was liquidated in October 1944 on Kodra e Hade, at the age of 28. His grave is unknown.
- 27. Mustafa Memet Xheladini was liquidated in October 1944 on the houses of the Terzive neighborhood, at the age of 34. His grave is unknown.
- 28. Qemajl Nazif Hamidi was killed by mines in April 1945 in the Tërnoc field. He was 17 years old.
- 29. Veli Baki Limani was killed by mines in November 1945 in the village of Reptovë. He was 27 years old.
- 30. Zejadin Sherif Haliti (Chekerr) was killed by mines in April 1945 in the field of Tërnoc. He was 14 years old.
- 31. Isuf Feta Arifi in December 1944, the commander of the 4th Macedonian Brigade tied him to a pole and killed him with a machine gun in front of the crowd. First, they beat him all night and the next day they gathered the village to watch the murder. The same day, 80 villagers were taken from the gathering and sent to Bujanovac, where they were interrogated and tortured physically and mentally. Nine of them were separated and sent to Vranje (they are recorded in the liquidations). Isuf Arifi was 42 years old.
- 32. Xhemail Rashit Demir from the Çuvadar neighborhood was liquidated in November 1944 in the village of Ropotovo at the age of 17.

- 33. Diliman Fejzullah from the Gash neighborhood, in 1912 they took him from his yard and took him to the Strukar neighborhood, where they killed him at the age of 22.
- 34. Hajdar Nuredin from the Strukar neighborhood was killed in his own home in 1912, at the age of 50.
- 35. Zenun Sejdiu (Pulani) was killed in his own home in 1912, at the age of 51.
- 36. Zeqir Rrahman Salihu from the Strukar neighborhood was killed in his own yard in 1912, at the age of 49.
- 37. Ahmet Daci from the Strukar neighborhood was killed in his own yard in 1912, at the age of 48.
- 38. Ramiz Demiri from the Steke neighborhood was killed in his own yard in 1912, at the age of 52.
- 39. Axhi Osmani from the Steke neighborhood was killed in his own yard in 1912, at the age of 55.
- 40. Raqip Sulejman Avdiu from the Steke neighborhood was killed in 1912 in the yard of his own house at the age of 50.
- 41. Raqip Sulejman's wife from the Steke neighborhood was killed in 1912 in the yard of her own house, at the age of 46.
- 42. Shaban Raqip Sulejman from the Steke neighborhood was killed in 1912 in the yard of his own house. From one house, they killed Mr. Saqipi, his wife and Saqipi's son, Shaban.
- 43. Kurtali Xhemshit Arif from the Tole neighborhood was liquidated in August 1943 in the village of Breznicë, Bujanovac, at the age of 29.
- 44. Habim Avdi Ramadani from the Xhaferi neighborhood was liquidated in August 1943 on the border of the village of Breznicë in Bujanovac at the age of 25.
- 45. Dalip Ramiz Dobërçani from the Strukar neighborhood was liquidated in August 1943 on the border of the village of Breznicë in Bujanovac, at the age of 27.

- 46. Fehmi Jahi Zahiri from the Strukar neighborhood was liquidated in July 1945, while performing military service in Kaçanik, at the age of 27. He is buried in Gazi-baba in Skopje.
- 47. Qamil Asllan Adili was killed by the UDB in August 1946 at the age of 21.
- 48. Shaban Emin Qazimi, born in 1958, was killed in Zabeli in Strukarëve at the age of 24. The forester Luba of Vladicin Hani killed him.
- 49. Hevzi Zejnullah Sulejmani, born in 1924 at the age of 20, the Serbian army set fire to the grassy meadows of Shtekëve and threw him into the fire. His family emigrated to Bursa, Turkey.
- 50. Nasjet Shukri Selimi, born on February 24, 1966 in Trnoc, was killed on November 10, 1992 at the garrison command, near the Grand Hotel in Prishtina, at the age of 26. Nasjet was crossing the street, but they killed him on the pretext that he had attacked the command guard with a cold weapon and the guard shot him with an automatic weapon. That day Nasjet was going to receive his diploma at the Faculty of Agriculture in Prishtina and to buy his groom's clothes for the wedding.

He was an excellent student and came from an intellectual family. He was buried in a magnificent national and religious manner. After the murder of Nasjet at the age of 26, his family was arrested and held in the Prishtina prison for 24 hours. Galip Beqiri from the village of Tërnoc and Emrulla Lutfiu, also from the village of Tërnoc, provided information about the murder of Nasjet Shukri Selim.

51. Shaip Kamber Shabani was wounded by a cannonball in 1944 at the Reka site in Tërnoc and died 20 days later, at the age of 35, in the Prizren hospital.

## Nasalca

## Liquidated

- 52. Kadanexhik Ajet Shanani was liquidated in May 1912 near the Circassian village, at the lime pit near the old road, at the age of 16.

  His sister says that they came close to saving him, because he was hiding in the rubble, but in vain, because he died with great suffering.
- 53. Bushat Qazimi was liquidated by the Germans in December 1944 in Belgrade, because he was helping the partisans and fighting against them. He was 26 years old. His grave is unknown.

### Killed

- 54. Sabedin Asllani was killed in December 1944 above the village of Lluçan, near Shkozat, at the age of 60. He was killed by the Orthodox Slavic-communists.
- 55. Fejzulla Saliu was killed in December 1944 above the village of Lluçan, near Shkozat, at the age of 58.
- 56. Isa Fejzulli was killed in December 1944 above the village of Lluçan, near Shkozat, at the age of 45.
- 57. Lutfi Nuredini was killed in December 1944 in the village of Lluçan in Shkozat at the age of 35.
- 58. Ali Xhemaili was killed in December 1944 in the village of Lluçan in Shkozat, at the age of 62.
- 59. Bektash Halimi was killed in April 1944 in the yard of his house, at the age of 62.
- 60. Mirije Misim Xhemaili almost suffered on November 18, 1944 when some Slavocommunists tried to rape her by shooting her in the head with a rifle. Mirija lived seven days after the serious injury and died leaving two

- orphaned children, son Xhemail and daughter Xhevrija Xhemaili. Her daughter Xhevrija lives in Kumanovo.
- 61. Asllan Din Rrahmani was killed on September 14, 1944 at Pusi i Levasojës, at the age of 30.
- 62. Bejzad Fejza-Salihu was killed on September 15, 1944 at Ura e Erebicës (Ura e Thellëzës) at the age of 26.
- 63. Riza Selim Ismaili was killed on September 13, 1944 in Çerenës at the graves of the Shkijas near Samolicë, at the age of 50.
- 64. Adem Kamber Ademi was killed in November 1944 at Kodra e Madhe, at the age of 30. He was buried in the village of Dobrosinë.
- 65. Xhemail Haliti was killed on October 13, 1943 in Surdilica at the age of 20.
- 66. Serjan Sulejmani was killed in January 1945 in the village of Lisiçevë between Kragujevac and Kraljevo, at the age of 30. He was killed by the Slavo-communist police. He was buried in Lisiçevë without religious ceremonies. His body remained in the ground for seven days and when they buried him, they found the knife that had been stuck in his back, Belul Sulejmani recounts.
- 67. Fejzi Imer Salihu was killed in December 1944 in the village of Lluçan, among the Shkozat at the age of 60.
- 68. Ahmet Zeqir Agushi was killed in November 1944 in the village of Vërban, at the age of 50. He was buried in the village of Nasalcë.
- 69. Selim Ramizi on January 7, 1945 was to be executed handcuffed but escaped and accidentally escaped the Slavocommunist bullets.

## **Fallen on the Srem front**

70. Fejzi Beka was killed in April 1945 in Slavonska Pozhega. He was a fighter of the 7th Albanian Assault Brigade.

## Wounded

- 71. Kadri Ismaili in January 1945 in Budrovc was wounded in Këllk. He was 14 years old.
- 72. Belul Sulejmani born on January 15, 1923 was wounded on April 15, 1945 in Slavonska Pozhega in his left leg. The bullet was kept in his leg for 15 years.

#### Mistreated

73. Mejdi Ahmet Bektashi was taken from his home in December 1944 and attempted to be liquidated. They beat him, tortured him and broke his right arm. The UDB held him for 24 hours in the village of Dobrosina, but he was rescued by the Serb Žiko from Prroni i madh, who lives at the Preševo railway station.

# **Escapees**

- 74. Nijazi Xhemaili fled to Croatia in November 1944, later escaped to America and from there to Turkey. He lives in Bursa.
- 75. Rexhep Rexhepi fled to Croatia in November 1944, escaped to America, but he also emigrated to Turkey and lives in the city of Bursa (According to the memories of Belul Sylejman, born on January 15, 1923 in the village of Nasalce and of Sulejman Kamber Adem, born on September 12, 1919 in the village of Nasalce, has been living in Bujanovac since 1964).

## Llucani

# Liquidated

76. Shefki Ramadini in 1912, at the age of 23, was drafted into a soldier in Bulgaria and remained there. His grave is unknown.

- 77. Dehar Fejzullahu in 1912, at the age of 22, was drafted into a soldier in Bulgaria and remained there. His grave is unknown.
- 78. Sulejman Hisa in 1912, at the age of 19, was drafted into a soldier in Bulgaria and remained there. His grave is unknown.
- 79. Dehar Isen was liquidated in November 1944 at the age of 26. His grave is unknown. It is believed that he was liquidated by the Presevo UDB in the Miratoc field.
- 80. Ramadan Ahemitna was liquidated in November 1944 at the age of 30. His grave is unknown. It is believed that he was liquidated by the UDB of Presevo in the Miratoc field together with Dehar Iseni.
- 81. Zejadin Selimi was taken by two Serbian policemen on January 7, 1945 and liquidated on the way to Bujanovac at the age of 29. His grave is unknown.
- 82. Fakri Limani was liquidated on January 22, 1945 in the village of Bushtran in Presevo, more precisely between Bushtran and Brodosellca, at the age of 24. His grave is unknown.
- 83. Xhelil Bajram was liquidated in October 1944 in Prçinje, at the age of 18. His grave is unknown.
- 84. Jonuz Limani was liquidated on January 7, 1945, about 300m above the village of Lluçan, at the Binak mills, at the age of 30.
- 85. Rexhep Amidi, 40 years old.
- 86. Sali Veseli, 19 years old.
- 87. Esat Bajram Ibrahimi, 39 years old.
- 88. Rashit Fejzullahu, 35 years old.
- 89. Kurtesh Murat Bajrami, 34 years old.
- 90. Sali Raqipi, 19 years old.
- 91. The seven above-mentioned persons, from number 9 to number 15, were killed at Mullinjte Binak, about 300 m above Lluçan by the XVI Brigade. In this group was also

- Fehmi Jakupi, who untied his hands, ran away from the line of people who shot them and escaped.
- 92. Musa Selimi was liquidated in February 1945 in the village of Lluçan, at the age of 27.
- 93. Shain Selimi (Musa Selim's father) died from the torture of the Slavo-communist partisans in February 1945 in the village of Lluçan, at the age of 66.
- 94. Lutfi Selimi (Shain's son and Musa Selim's brother) was killed in 1945 in Llojan at the age of 40.
- 95. Faik Jakupi was liquidated in November 1944 in Bujanovac at the age of 41.
- 96. Mejreme Mehmeti from the Dikullarë neighborhood was killed in September 1944 in Lluçan at the age of 8.

### Wounded

- 97. Nexhibe Demir was wounded in August 1944 in Lluçan at the Tintar River at the age of 48.
- 98. Barije Demir was wounded at the age of 30.
- 99. Merheme Demir was wounded at the age of 35 (All three were wounded in Lluçan) (According to the memory of Isuf Isufi, they left (born on May 15, 1930 in the village of Lluçan where he lives and according to the memory of Elmije Sabedini, born on March 3, 1929 in the village of Trnovec, who speaks of those wounded by Serbs).

# Turija

## Liquidated

- 100. Murat Haliti was lost in Yemen, where Turkey had sent him in 1913. He was 22 years old. His grave is unknown.
- 101. Shukri Ahmeti was liquidated by the forces of the KLA in October 1944, at the age of 24. His grave is unknown.
- 102. Evzi Mehmeti was liquidated in August 1944 in Lluçan, on the banks of the Morava River, at the age of 20. His

grave is unknown (According to the memory of Sadulla Ebib, born on July 12, 1898 in the village of Turi, Bujanovac district.

#### **Breznica**

## Liquidated

- 103. Vesel Sejdiu was liquidated in April 1945 in his barn. He was killed by the NLA at the age of 70. His grave is unknown.
- 104. Hasan Ruhan was liquidated in November 1944 in a place called Ushi, at the age of 40.
- 105. Adem Jonuzi was liquidated in November 1944 in a place called Ushi at the age of 50.
- 106. Emin Emerllahu was liquidated in November 1944, in Ushi at the age of 45.
- 107. Musli Zena was liquidated in November 1944, in Ushi at the age of 36.
- 108. Asllan Abazi liquidated in November 1944 in Ushi at the age of 51.

# The murder of Osman Shabani Sylejmani

In 1996, taxi driver Osman Shabani Sylejmani left Bujanovac for Klenik in his "Mercedes" minibus and never returned. On the way to Čeklički Zabel, he was brutally murdered by Serb Nebojša Jovanović.

Nebojša shot Osman twice in the head. When he noticed that Osman was still alive, he hit him several times on the head with a wooden stick. The next day, February 2, 1996, the criminal Nebojša, in order to cover up the traces of the crime, took two liters of oil, paper and wood and set fire to Osman's corpse. Since the body was

frozen, it was slightly burned on the left side, he again gathered brushwood and wood and covered the body, stealing the ring, wristwatch, shoes and the minibus.

Osman's family notified the authorities about his disappearance. The criminal Nebojša Jovanović, born on October 11, 1973 in the village of Sejac, Bujanovac municipality, was caught and put on trial. Before the Vranje trial on May 14, 1996 and May 17, 1996, the murderer Nebojsa not only did not repent, but showed the face of the true criminal and bloodsucker: he declared that he did not know Osman at all and that he had no involvement with him, but that he had killed him out of a desire to kill Albanians, that he would not serve 20 days out of a 20-year prison sentence and that he would be sent to Kosovo to kill other Albanians.

#### Wounded

109. Habib Haliti was wounded in 1944 in Kozarnik, at the age of 32.

## **Prisoners**

- 110. Lam Ruhani, known as Lam Breznica, born on June 12, 1912, was sentenced in Niš in 1948, in a military court, to 10 years in prison, without civil rights for 3 years. I held them for 5 years, says Uncle Lam Breznica, but I suffered more under investigation than in prison.
- 111. Saqip Ramë Zymberi, born on October 2, 1950, was tried on December 8, 1985 in Vranje and sentenced to 4 years in prison, which he served in Niš. He was released on December 8, 1989.
- 112. Imer Limani, born on February 18, 1965, was tried in Vranje and sentenced to one month in prison on November 27, 1990.

- 113. Bajram Selmani, born on May 26, 1989, was sentenced on August 8, 1963 in Vranje to one month in prison.
- 114. Aqif Arifi, born on January 24, 1969, was tried in Vranje and sentenced to 3 months in prison, which he also served in Vranje.
- 115. Ramiz Kadri Arifi, born on February 9, 1955, was sentenced on May 27, 1969 to 5 months in prison, which he held in Vranje, where he was tried. On March 25, 1983, Ramiz Arifi was sentenced for the second time to 7 years in prison, which he served in the Niš prison.

### Lower Breznica

## **Prisoners**

116. Sadik Avdil Sadiku from 1947 to 1950 was mistreated and imprisoned several times for three to four months by the then Slavic communist government.

## Pribovci

## Liquidated

- 117. Ali Nezir Sadiku at the age of 23 was liquidated in 1914 in Simitli, Bulgaria. His grave is unknown.
- 118. Shefki Ali Sadiku was liquidated in May 1945 in Ferizaj. Later, Shefki's son was also liquidated at the age of 31.
- 119. Hysen Fejzulla Sylaj at the age of 20 was liquidated in 1946 in the army. His grave is unknown.

#### Killed

- 120. Shaip Tahir Murati was killed in September 1943 at Prroni i këc in the village of Qestelinë, at the age of 16.
- 121. Hasan Ali Fetahu, born in 1918 was liquidated in August 1944 in Novosello, at the age of 26.

- 122. Adem Ramiz Demiri born in 1922 was liquidated in November 1944 in the village of Laçiç.
- 123. Hal Murat Tahiri, born in 1918 in November 1944 was seriously wounded in Gjilan and died on the way home.
- 124. Ramadan Mahmut Sherifi, born in 1917, died on his way home after being wounded in November 1944.

#### Wounded

125. Hasan Nezir Sadiku, born in 1902, was wounded in July 1944 near the village of Sedllarë. He was 42 years old.

### **Prisoners**

126. Shefki Habib Sulejmani, born in 1957, was imprisoned in 1981 and sentenced to 5 years in prison by the military court in Ljubljana. He was 24 years old (according to his memory).

Ramadan Ismail, born on August 12, 1928 in the village of Priboc, lives in Bujanovac since 1963).

### **Dobrosina**

## Liquidated

- 127. Liman Asan Emini was liquidated in 1912 in Thessaloniki at the age of 22. His grave is unknown.
- 128. Sulejman Saliu was liquidated in 1912 in Miše, at the age of 23. His grave is unknown.
- 129. Latif Ademi was liquidated in 1912 at Kodra e Ligit i madh while fleeing to Skopje. He was 24 years old. His grave is unknown.
- 130. Hamdi Sulejman Hajdari was liquidated in November 1944 at Balli Terahan at the age of 28.
- 131. Rexhep Sulejman Hajdari was liquidated in November 1944 in Balli Tërahan, at the age of 26.

- These two brothers were killed by members of the XVI brigade, whose commander was Bllazha Jovanoviqi.
- 132. Nuhi Liman Shaqiri was liquidated in October 1944 in the village of Levesovo, at the age of 45.
- 133. Muharrem Shaban Iseni, born in 1922, was liquidated in October 1944 at the entrance to Bujanovac, at the age of 22.
- 134. Bajram Isuf Bajrami was liquidated in October 1944 at the entrance to Bujanovac, at the age of 45.
- 135. Ismail Halil Rexhepi was liquidated in October 1944 in the village of Nasalcë at the age of 50.
- 136. Dalip Lim Bajrami, born in 1926, was liquidated in January 1945 near Gllovci in Drenica at the age of 19.
- 137. Tahir Adem Aliu was liquidated in April 1941 in Molla e Kuqe, at the age of 50.

## Wounded

138. Sulejman Liman Shaqiri was wounded in October 1944 in the village of Osllarë, at the age of 48.

### Breznica

## **Prisoners**

- 139. Ukshin Shaban Neziri was sentenced in Niš in January 1945 to 20 years in prison. He died from physical torture in Niš prison, at the age of 49.
- 140. Fadil Mustafa Rexhepi was imprisoned in 1987 and sentenced to 6 years in prison by the Belgrade military court. He served one year in prison in Belgrade and four years in Valevo (According to the memoirs of Elmi Sylejman, born on August 2, 1922 in the village of Dobrosina, he has lived in Bujanovac since 1970, and Bajram Hasan, born on March 15, 1937 in the village of Dobrosina, he has lived in Bujanovac since 1965).

- 141. Wounded on the Srem front
- 142. Evzi Ibrahim Bediu, born in 1922, was wounded in April 1945 in Shid, Srem front, at the age of 23.

#### Letovica

## Liquidated

- 143. Ferat Rrahim Rrustemi was liquidated in 1916 in Kicevo, at the age of 25. His grave is unknown.
- 144. Ahmet Latifi was liquidated in 1916 in Kicevo, at the age of 24. His grave is unknown.
- 145. Durak Halimi was liquidated in 1916 in Kicevo, at the age of 234. His grave is unknown.
- 146. Ismail Veli Ismaili was liquidated in January 1944 in Konçul at the age of 25.
- 147. Musa Ibrahim Sinani was liquidated in January 1944 in Miratoc at the age of 19.
- 148. Ramadan Selman Zymberi was liquidated in January 1944 in Vranje at the age of 50.
- 149. Ramadan Idriz Idrizi was liquidated in January 1944 in Vranje at the age of 51.
- 150. Ilmi Jahi Fetahu was liquidated in October 1944 in the village of Raince, at the age of 20.
- 151. Beqir Sulejman Beqiri, was killed by a mine in September 1944 in the village of Lluçan, at the age of 17.
- 152. Fallen on the Srem front
- 153. Shefki Osman Latifi was liquidated in April 1944 in Shid, Srem front, at the age of 20.

### **Prisoners**

154. Bejtualla Mustafa Memeti was sentenced in May 1945 in Vranje to 20 years in prison. He served 12 years in prison in Niš. He was 30 years old.

# **Atrocities during World War II**

- 155. Gjilan 7854 people were hanged,
- 156. Pristina 3675
- 157. Drenica 4820
- 158. Mitrovicë,1970
- 159. Peć 3540,
- 160. Ferizaj 1260,
- 161. Podujevo 1670,
- 162. Prizren 1200,
- 163. Gjakove 800,
- 164. Rahovec 750,
- 165. Suhareka 420,
- 166. Dragash 500,
- 167. Preshevo 690,
- 168. Skopje 1450 (only in Blace in Skopje over 130 men, women, children and the elderly were massacred).
- 169. Kumanovo 780.
- 170. Tetovo 4100,
- 171. Gostivar 715,
- 172. Kërcovo 490,
- 173. 19Sanjak (Jeni Pazar) 1410,
- 174. Tutin 900, in
- 175. Bihor 3820,
- 176. Plavë and Guci 710,
- 177. Ulqin 515 and
- 178. Tivarë and Dalmacija 2,600 Albanians.
- 179. TSr/ 1912-44: Serbian massacres in the Valley

# The village of Bugarinë

## Liquidated

180. Ibish Qerimi was killed in November 1944 in Pçinjë. His grave is unknown. (According to the memoirs of Qerim

Qerim, born on August 24, 1928 in the village of Bugarine, now living in the Circassian village of Kumanovo since 1965, who recounts the circumstances created in the village of Bugarine after World War II.

## **Fallen on the Srem Front**

181. Aziz Ismaili was martyred in April 1945 in Shid, Srem Front, at the age of 30.

# Ranatoc village

### Killed

- 182. Daut Rrahmani (According to the memoirs of Mihrije Rahim Rrahmani, born on February 10, 1922 in the village of Strezovc, living in Circassian since 1965, who recounts the barbaric behavior of the Slavic-communist regime.
- 183. Shaban Haliti was killed on November 25, 1944 near the village of Maxhere at the age of 53.

# Ranatoc village Bukoc

## Liquidated

184. Haki Emini (According to the memory of his mother Sadije Emini, born on April 22, 1910 in the village of Nasalcë, has been living in Circassian since 1963, who recounts the regimes that exerted pressure on the Albanian population) born in 1939 was killed on August 10, 1961 in Podgorica, at the age of 22, while he was in military service.

## Lower Shusha

# Liquidated

185. Mustaf Agushi was killed in November 1944 on the Kumanovo – Vranje road, at the age of 24. It is said that he was massacred by Kira of Skopje. His grave is unknown (According to the memory of Naxhije Maliqi, born in 1923 in the village of Shushaja e Poshtme, Presevo district, and since 1977 has lived in Kumanovo, who recounts the murders and imprisonments of the villages of Shushaja) (According to the memory of Elmi Nevzad Osmani, born on September 15, 1915 in the village of Shushaja e Poshtme, who recounts the Slavic-Orthodox regime and its pressure to eradicate the Albanian element in these lands).

## Bilincë Village, Kukaj Neighborhood

## Liquidated

- 186. Shaban Ramadani known as Ramë, was killed on November 20, 1912 in Berçec (in the mountains) at the age of 50. His grave is unknown.
- 187. Fejzulla Kukaj was killed on November 3, 1913 in the Kukaj neighborhood in Selishtë, aged 25. His grave is unknown.
- 188. Qail Rexhepi was killed on March 24, 1945 in Split. His grave is unknown.
- 189. Rrahim Murtezi was killed on October 26, 1912 in Bilincë, aged 40. His grave is unknown.
- 190. Xhemail Rexhepi was killed with his child in his arms on December 12, 1944 in Lama e Mehes, Kukaj neighborhood at the age of 35.

### Wounded

191. Iliaz Bislimi on November 25, 1944 in Muçibaba, 32 years old.

# **Imprisoned**

- 192. Under the pretext of being involved in gold smuggling, the head of the UDB, Jova Gariq, arrested a group of citizens who were beaten to death at the police station and mistreated by Trifko Tankosiqi. These were:
- 193. Hamid Kukaj, who was arrested on December 24, 1956 and held for 8 days in prison at the Zhegra station.
- 194. Isa Limani, who was arrested on December 24, 1956 and held for 8 days in prison at the Zhegra station.
- 195. Idriz Bilalli, aged 40.
- 196. Halit Arifi, aged 36.
- 197. Demir Rexhepi, aged 45.
- 198. Halil Jahija, Muhaxher neighborhood, 27 years old.
- 199. Hamid Kukaj, 25 years old.
- 200. Qerim Sylejmani, Pograxhë neighborhood, 35 years old.
- 201. Banush Sulejmani, 35 years old.
- 202. Ahmet Rashiti, 32 years old.

# Peçenë village

### Killed

- 203. Avdi Demiri, Zubve neighborhood was killed on November 6, 1944 in the village of Sefer by members of the PSK¢K at the age of 52.
- 204. Bajram Demiri, Zubve neighborhood was killed on November 22, 1944 on Mount Buçuvina at the age of 45. Avdiu and Bajrami were brothers.
- 205. Kadri Asllani was killed on November 22, 1944 on the Presevo railway at the age of 50 (According to the memory of Nuhi Avdiu, born on January 4, 1939 in the village of Peçenë Zubve neighborhood, living in Kumanovo since 1961, who bases his story on the memory of his grandfather and tells about the burning of

his family in the village of Peçenë).

## **Bulgarian atrocities against Albanians**

206. The village of Peçenë, which has the neighborhoods of Zubve, Bulloshve and Haxhve, is located 20 km west of the city of Presevo. We commemorate the tragedy of a family in 1916-1917, when this place was occupied by the Bulgarian occupier. After the establishment of the Bulgarian administration, many young people were recruited and sent to Bulgaria. These were not regular soldiers, but so-called Trudak, and they were mistreated in various ways.

A young man named Ziya was recruited from the Haxh neighborhood. Due to the severe mistreatment he was forced to flee the Bulgarian army back home. After his escape, the Bulgarians issued an arrest warrant for his capture (with the aim of returning him to the Bulgarian army).

One day, the military-police administration sent Bulgarians dressed in uniform to the Zubve neighborhood to take the village headman so that they could go with him to Ziya's house and kidnap him. Fortunately, the headman was not at home, so they took another villager named Islam Bilalli in his place. He went to the Haxh neighborhood to Ziya's house, went inside and said to Ziya's mother: Has Ziya come from Bulgaria, because the Bulgarians are looking for him.

Ziya's mother replied that he had not come, even though Ziya was hiding near the house, in the mountains. The Bulgarians, suspecting that his mother was lying, began to beat her in the yard. Ziya, seeing that they were beating his mother, fired a rifle at the Bulgarians in order to scare them.

They began to flee and returned to their station. Upon arrival, they told what had happened. But they were also served with lies. They said that Islam had told Ziya: Take the rifle and kill the Bulgarians, because they have come to arrest you. The Bulgarian command immediately ordered a group of ten people (soldiers) and told them to go to the Zub neighborhood and do whatever they wanted with Islam and his family.

The Bulgarians arrived in this neighborhood, called Islam and ordered him to go with them. He left, but they asked his family to go with them. So Islam, his mother, the woman with four children, followed the Bulgarians. As they left the neighborhood, the Bulgarians discussed with each other what to do with them. One proposed shooting them, another slaughtering them, and the third proposed throwing them into the fire.

When Islam heard these words (he knew Bulgarian), he shouted at the top of his voice: O you peasants, make it lawful for me, because I had it with my whole family! The Bulgarians sent Islam and his family and on the mountain nearby where there was a pile of oak, prepared as winter food for the animals.

There they tied him to a piece of wood and set fire to the oak pile. When the fire took a big hit, the Bulgarians began to throw the children into the fire one by one, then the mother and wife, and finally, after this terrible scene, they threw him in too. Since then, this place has been called the place where Islami and his family were

burned.

This tragic event has also been reported by many other villagers, which shows that it has been passed down from generation to generation, but the surrounding villages still keep this event fresh in their memory.

Unfortunately, there are no witnesses to this event because it happened in 1916-1917.

### Gruhali Village

#### Killed

- 207. Rashit Saqipi was killed on November 25, 1944 in the Gruhali village.
- 208. Buhic Village
- 209. Liquidated
- 210. Fazli Rama was killed in November 1944 in the village of Urat at the age of 60. His grave is unknown.
- 211. Fallen on the throne of Srem
- 212. Etem Emini was martyred on April 12, 1945 on the Srem front. 19 years old. His grave is unknown.
- 213. Wounded
- 214. Haqif Halimi was wounded on October 16, 1944 in Bujanovac at the age of 36.
- 215. Ragip Halimi was wounded on June 11, 1944 in the village of Hodonovc at the age of 31.

#### **Prisoners**

216. Raqip Halimi was tried in Pristina in 1947 and sentenced to 20 years in prison, but served 5 years in Sremska Mitrovica. He died in 1988 in Kumanovo (According to the memory of Rufat Halimi, born on August 6, 1929 in the village of Buhiç, since 1956 he has lived in

Kumanovo, who recounts the liquidations, murders and injuries of the Albanian population in Buhiç).

### Norçe Village

### Liquidated

- 217. Destan Jashar Agushi, known as Destan Norça, born in 1898, was massacred in the village of Mateç at the age of 49. Destan was carved like a woodcarver, his eyes were gouged out and his limbs were cut off. He was massacred by Gjerasim Stankoviç, a blacksmith known as Dajço, Slavko Dimitrijević and his brother Stanimir Dimitrijević, three Pirojës who lived as colonists in the village of Mateç in Kumanovo. Destani was liquidated on November 22, 1947, together with the chief of Lipkovë in the place of Prroni i Vorreve, about 700 meters from the village of Mateç, right at Dardha e Shaqirit, on the road leading from Mateç to the village of Llopat.
- 218. Hafëz Nuredini, born in 1905, was massacred on December 7, 1944 at the Toza Cafe in Presheva.
- 219. Faik Selimi was liquidated in November 1944 in Surdulica at the age of 30.
- 220. Halil Esati was liquidated in 1945 outside Presheva. He was 22 years old. His grave is unknown.

#### Killed

- 221. Xhavit Nuredini was killed on November 22, 1944 at the Presheva railway station at the age of 32. Hafez and Xhaviti were brothers.
- 222. Ali Etemi was killed on November 22, 1944 on Gere, at the age of 47.
- 223. Mustafa Saqipi was killed on November 22, 1944 at the Presheva railway station, he was 45 years old.

- 224. Ejup Emin was strangled to death with wood in his own house on September 3, 1944 at the age of 41.
- 225. Killed on the Srem Front
- 226. Riza Miftari was killed on April 12, 1944 on the Srem Front at the age of 21.

#### Wounded

- 227. Muharrem Sabedini was wounded on September 12, 1944 at the Presheva railway station, 50 years old.
- 228. Halim Qazimi was wounded on September 4, 1944 at Guri i Zi, at the age of 38.
- 229. Vesel Hasani was wounded on November 6, 1944 at Guri i Zi at the age of 36.

#### Prisoners.

230. Xhavit Saqipi in 1945 was sentenced to 15 years in prison. He was brutally physically abused and liquidated in Niš, accused of killing a partisan. He was 30 years old (According to the memoirs of Gani Nuredini, born on September 22, 1928 in the village of Norçe, Preševo district, who recounts the massacre of his father Hafëz Nuredini in the Toza cafe).

### Ilinca village

### Liquidated

- 231. Selim Demi Selimi was killed on May 1, 1945 in Vinkovci at the age of 23. His grave is unknown.
- 232. Ejup Rexhepi Selimi was killed on November 16, 1944 in Presheva at the Toza cafe. He was 25 years old. His grave is unknown.

### Killed

- 233. Adem Ademi was killed on November 25, 1945 in Ilinca at the age of 40.
- 234. Rushit Hajrizi was killed on November 25, 1945 in Ilinca at the age of 42.
- 235. Hajdin Salihu was killed on September 22, 1944 in Leran at the age of 50.
- 236. Ramë Dalipi was killed on September 22, 1944 in Leran at the age of 55.
- 237. Belul Ferati was killed on September 22, 1944 at the Presheva railway station, at the age of 51. He was killed with a bomb by members of the PSKcK.
- 238. Hajredin Emin was killed with a stick in his house in November 1947 in the village of Ilinca. He was 60 years old.
- 239. Rexhep Zymberi was killed on November 22, 1944 in the village of Sllubicë, aged 33.
- 240. Bajram Bislimi was killed on November 22, 1944 in the village of Caravajkë at the age of 21.

#### Wounded

241. Maliq Maliqi was wounded in October 1944 in the village of Vërban at the age of 40.

#### **Prisoners**

- 242. On November 25, 1944, they took almost all the villagers of Ilinca and put them in the mosque where they kept them for 5 days. Then they were sent to the Presevo railway station (in barracks) where they were kept for 60 days and where they contracted typhus, while others They were sent to Vranje. They died from this serious illness in the barracks of the Presevo railway station.
- 243. Xhafer Ademi, 16 years old
- 244. Hetë Azem Ademi, 16 years old

- 245. Sherif Ademi, 65 years old and
- 246. Ismajl Zymberi, 45 years old
- 247. The following people were imprisoned in the barracks for 60 days:
- 248. Zair Selimi, 53 years old
- 249. Zeqir Selimi, 48 years old
- 250. Qail Selimi, 22 years old (Zair and Zeqiri were brothers and Qaili was their cousin)
- 251. Isuf Dalipi (hoxha) known as Cuf, 55 years old
- 252. Hajrush Ademi, 56 years old
- 253. Selman Beluli, 52 years old
- 254. Fuat Beluli, 49 years old (Selmani and Fuat were brothers)
- 255. Riza Kadriu, 18 years old
- 256. Sinan Ramadani, 21 years old
- 257. Fazli Xhelili. 24 years old
- 258. Shaip Emini, 32 years old
- 259. Hamdi Emini, 28 years old
- 260. Rexhep Maliqi, 58 years old
- 261. Faik Elezi, 55 years old
- 262. The following were sent to the Vranje prison:
- 263. Hamid Shaqiri, 55 years old
- 264. Shaban Ademi, 45 years old
- 265. Ramiz Miratoca, 50 years old (from Miratoca)
- 266. Ruzhdi Haliti, 40 years old
- 267. Hajrulla Miratoca, 36 years old
- 268. Sulejman Zhunica, 60 years old from the village of Zhunicë
- 269. Jakup Zhunica, 59 years old, from Zhunica killed in Tabanoc
- 270. Vebi Derri, 50 years old, from Presheva killed in Tabanoc
- 271. Haki Derri, 37 years old (from Presheva, Vebi's cousin Derrit)

- 272. Adem Kamberi, 60 years old (from Miratoca lives in Presheva)
- 273. Qemajl Presheva, 20 years old from Presheva and
- 274. Qail Corrotica, 36 years old from Corrotica
- 275. All these people who were sent to the Vranje prison were liquidated by the UDB and none of their graves are known. This is also confirmed by Shaban Arifi, who escaped by chance.

### Those who escaped the bullet

- 276. Sejdi Selimi, 24 years old from the village of Ilinca
- 277. Hamid Shaqiri, 55 years old from Ilinca
- 278. Shaban Arifi, 47 years old from Ilinca
- 279. Xhemail Presheva, 60 years old from Presheva
- 280. Rexhep Xhemaili, 24 years old from Presheva
- 281. Jonuz Doda, 62 years old from Presheva
- 282. Nazmi Jonuzi, 30 years old from Presheva
- 283. Riza Maliqi, 26 years old from Presheva
- 284. Zymber Kurbalia, 16 years old from the village of Kurbali
- 285. Habi Seferi, 15 years old from the village of Raince (According to the memory of haxhi Sejdi Selimi, born on March 25, 1920 in Ilinca, now lives in Kumanovo since 1956)

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Serbian atrocities in Blaca, Vojnik, Labej, Shivjan, Ponoshec, Morina, Mulcetrin, Nerici, Čaglavice, Frushi and Novo Sele (1912-1915)

Written by Petrit Latifi

"In 1913 it was noted: 300 Arbanas were massacred in the village of Mulcetrin (?) and the corpses were thrown into the river.

Crimes and massacres were carried out there not by Serbian soldiers but by irregular gangs, which was necessary for the Serbian government to deny the news that the European press reported about the misdeeds of Serbian troops. Complete peace reigned in the Malesia of Gjakova at that time, and those who fled deeper into Albania declared that they did not intend to return to their homeland until Serbia opened the market in Gjakova.

A total of 57 villages were affected. In 32 of them, it was possible to determine how many inhabitants were massacred. There were 229 of them. Residents of the village ... Blaca, every last one was killed. In the villages of Vojnik and Labej they were raped and then burned. The damage caused to Debra amounted to one million Turkish lira (23 million francs). Of those 37 settlements...

Lenika Arbanas; 26 Arbanas were killed in the village of Shivijan; for the two killed Serbian soldiers, General Vešović ordered the burning of the villages of Ponoševac and Morin; Novo Selo was completely plundered by the Montenegrin horsemen; the village of Nerici was destroyed by fire and the inhabitants were killed.

A Serb from Čaglavice (Pristina section) boasted that he himself had recently killed a hundred Arbanas; from Pejë until the end of the raiding operation, 700 people capable of arms fled to that country from Albania

The village of Fruši was burned down, the inhabitants were killed and Niki was killed. 51 people were killed in the Zvečan district by mid-January 1914, and 57 horses and two oxen were stolen in four municipalities of the Mitrovica region, eight houses and 16 stables were burned. The bloody craft of the old forge was, of course, more developed in the then state mecha than deeper in the interior. In the first half of January, an emissary of the Serbian border command, by the way..."

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# Serbian newspapers covering Serbian atrocities against Albanians

Authored by Petrit Latifi

In 1912 and 1913, Serbian newspapers like "Ral" and "Radnicke Novine" published articles on horrific atrocities committed by the Serb troops against the Albanians in the conqured Albanian lands.

"And already on October 12, less than a month after the start of the war operations, the newspaper openly accused, bringing the following in the "Ral" column:

"The Serbian army has so far mainly had conflicts with the Amauts, who, due to their often expressed drive for independence and a free life, feel that the 'partition of Turkey' will be carried out over their backs.

So they are desperately fighting against those who wanted to overthrow their previous master with their help, and then establish their rule on their corpses. As they put up tough resistance, although they do not have enough weapons or ammunition, and almost no cannon, a barbaric mood prevails in military circles to satirize them most energetically". The truth is slowly coming to light.

On October 26, "Radničke novine" already has more information and reacts bitterly in a short article "Jedna mrlja", stating the following: Terrible scenes are being committed in the conquered areas. This does not reach the public, because the army is a dictator and does what it wants, it does not allow any right to discuss things and events.

But the Albanian population feels through its backs, outside the ranks, the terrible blows of unarmed lumpen gangs, who have rebelled even from the Supreme Command and are ruthlessly satisfying their bloodthirsty and plundering instincts.

This must have caused a revolt among those who took them under their protection, and therefore all these islanded and criminal types, who played their role brilliantly according to the intentions of those whose word is decisive on the battlefield, were disarmed in Skopje." But, unfortunately, not all of them are disarmed and they never will be..."

# The article "Shame Spreads" in the issue of November 6 of the same year reads:

"The European press is beginning to write about the atrocities of the war, which left a German correspondent with the impression of a massacre, and about the barbarities being committed. Up until now, it has generally had a bad opinion of the Serbs. Now it is presenting new material presenting to the world the crimes of the committees and even the army against the Arnauts, crimes that could and should have been suppressed.

The "Daily Chronicle" describes in detail what was not done against them. And no matter how convinced we were that in war there could be nothing but cruelty and the most horrible and disgusting scenes of depraved and bestial types, we have also become convinced in another way that all consideration for a large number of people in the conquered areas was trampled on, that a shame was committed that could cost us a lot."

And so the truth about the horrors committed by the army in the occupied areas was slowly revealed. And this truth completely denies the "liberation" mission of the Serbian army, which King Petar I Karadordevic spoke about so pathetically in his

# war proclamation to the Serbian people, published on September 17, 1912, which states:

"The latest events have once again put on the agenda the resolution of the fate of the Balkan Peninsula, and with it the fate of Old Serbia, that glorious but sad mother of our Kingdom, where the historical core of the Serbian state of the old kings and emperors is, where the famous Nemanjic capitals are: Novi Pazar's Ras, Pristina, Skopje, Prizren.

It has come to the point that no one in European Turkey was satisfied with the situation there. It has fed up with Serbs and Bulgarians and Greeks and Albanians. Therefore, in the name of God, I have ordered My heroic army to go to the holy battle for freedom. My army will find, in addition to Christians, also Albanians, Christians and Muslims. with whom our people have lived together for thirteen hundred years, usually sharing with them happiness and misfortune.

We bring them all freedom, brotherhood, equality in everything with the Serbs. Our Serbia and the lama will bring the desired peace and progress, as it brought the region to the liberated in 1877/8: free, progressive, conscious, satisfied citizens live in them. We have to establish that life on the banks of the Lab, Sitnica. Ibar, Drim. Vardar."

Even other opposition civic press in Serbia wrote about it. For example, in the then daily newspaper "Borba", whose header only reads "political, economic and literary paper", in the unsigned article "We and the Albanians" in the issue of May 10, 1912 (meaning before the start of the war), the author says:

"In our relations with the Albanians we make gross mistakes, which we regret terribly later. The biggest mistake was made

immediately after our wars of liberation, when we expelled thousands of Albanians from the liberated regions.

Instead of keeping them in their homes, instilling in them sympathy and trust, winning them over and binding them to ourselves, instead of finally warming them with the rays of our freedom, domesticating them with our culture and providing them with material support and morally elevating them, instead of binding them to the lap of the earth in their new homeland, we forcibly expel them.

These Albanians, who were supposed to be our fellow citizens, who were supposed to be the link between us and their tribesmen in the Kosovo vilayet, they become our blood enemies."

In a fierce clash with the Ljumljan Arnauts... In his article "Massacre in Ljumljan", Tucović states, horrified, that 500 women, children, and the elderly were killed in two hours...

The article continues: "But besides these, we have priests who, as leaders of volunteers (they themselves gathered them) and often, like ordinary soldiers in the companies of other leaders, raised the banner of liberation high and rushed like true lions into fierce battle. This is how our clergy understand their duty and how they perform it. This is how our church has educated the Serbian people and how it instructs them." Did any of those hundred divisional and regimental priests stand up against the crimes against the Albanian population, as Tucović, a reserve officer of the same army, did on that same battlefield? There is not a trace of this in the church press. Tucović wrote about the Chetniks or the Komitas with the deepest disgust. "

# Role of the Serbian Orthodox church in denying Serbian atrocities

"Now a new and more beautiful history of the Serbian tribe is being created. Dušan's empire is being restored. This is a holy fight. This is a just war. God will help us. God is with us. Death to the godless barbarians"."

# The disastrous effect of such and similar calls by certain priests is best shown by the continuation of that worker's letter about the suffering of Turkish refugees:

"Then they are caught by the committee, who are like beasts of the heathen, and torture them with terrible torments. One holds a rifle and a knife on it, the other stabs the Turk with a knife, the latter stabs him with a knife and throws him away, and the other pushes him onto the knife again; so they throw knives at him ten or twenty times, until he dies. It's horrible to watch... What kind of hearts are in these people – I don't know".

The editorial staff of the newspaper "Radničke novine" adds at the end of the article: "And what are those poor women guilty of, what are their children, those little innocent, beautiful angels? Speak up and answer – oh you, mothers! Speak up and judge the war, which is crushing husbands, brothers, sweethearts, sisters and children!"

# The Serbian Orthodox Church press of that time did not mention such cases, so in the double issue of January-February 1913, the "Vesnik Srpske Crkve" proudly stated:

"Let us also mention this. For the evil that the Turks did to us, we repay them with as much good as possible.

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# When Slav criminal Duke Petko Ilić murdered Albanian civilians in 1907

Authored by Petrit Latifi

#### Duke Petko Ilić

The only spark of light in the gloomy March days of East Povardar is represented by the work of the Montenegrin company of Duke Petko Ilić. On March 28, he managed to avoid a conflict with the army near Pobužje, in which he was surrounded, and then, after taking refuge with his company in a watermill on the Kučeviška river, he killed three Arna-uts who suddenly burst into it. On that occasion, the following were seized: a martini and a revolver with ammunition, a "watch" and 180 groschi. In order to erase the traces, two Arnautins were burned, while one was buried due to lack of time.

The people killed: Nezir Arifi, Hazir Zeneli, Adem Fejza. Tanuševci

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### Authored by Petrit Latifi

In a document from the 1950s we can read of atrocities by Rankovic and the Yugoslav secret service comitted against Albanians of Macedonia, Montenegro and Kosovo.

"Recently, in Gjakove, the brothers Nazir aka Jahja Nimani were imprisoned together with their 60-year-old mother Gjyslyme, Ibrahim Luslliu, Sokol Ramadani, Ramadan Reka, Abdyl Bairami, Secretary of the Botush locality, Cun Ajdari, Chairman of the Kuqvan locality, Cun Sadrija, Secretary of the Rugova Locality, Rexhep Qerimi, Secretary of the Imernig Locality, etc.

The chairman of the agricultural cooperative in Ramoc, the 60-year-old Net Dauti, together with his sons Sali Nusa Dauti, former captain and Sadik Awan Dauti, lieutenant. It has been more than two years since Tito's prisons, the patriot Lus Zeneli, have also been imprisoned. Arif Sadiku, ex-Chairman of Rini from Ligoveci, Vat Mirashi of the Trade Section in the Executive Committee of Gjakovo, Chief Nua Marku, Ismail Cena, Ded Lleshi, Fadil Ramadani, Qamil Hoxha and many others.

In the prisons of Rankovic in Macedonia, many patriots and Albanian Communists have been tortured for a long time. such as Sali Lisi, former Deputy Minister Abdyram Urugi, former Deputy of the Macedonian People's Assembly, Vesel Hyseni, former chairman of the Executive Committee of the Gostivar District, Teki Aliti, former member of the Provincial Executive

Committee of Skopje, professors Idris Selimi Shani Mina, middle school teacher Riza Shehu, etc.

During the massacres of Rankovic in Montenegro, many Albanian communists were also imprisoned, such as Marko Nicko, a fighter since 1941, Ibrahim Dema, former People's Deputy, professor Nikoll Perkaj, Communists Zef Perkaj Kol Marko and many others. (11.5.1951).

In the basements of the U.D.B., Kosovar and Albanian sons of Macedonia, like Beqir Kuemari from Viladova, are barbarically trampled until crazy. Rankovic's janissaries have unsheathed their swords and tortured the Albanian youth and masses in an inhuman way, such as Sami Pejen, a fighter against fascism, who was tortured and maimed in the extermination camps of the Gestapo, Naim Zajimit, Director of schools for the district of Gjakova, Ali Selmani, Brahim Hysenit together with his wife and mother, professor and patriot Kinush Lipavec, priest of the Catholic Church Ndon Pjeter Berishes, Jak Sules, Ndue Mark Koles (11.5.1950).

The masses of the Albanian people of Kosovo and Macedonia with revolvers behind their backs are recruited into labor brigades and sent to work in mines and moguls. In these camps, they guard in fear of a large number of spies and police and security officers who keep the Albanians in very bad living conditions, forcing them to work for more than 12 hours a day with only 250 grams of bread on such days are the camps in the chrome mines of Deva where more than 200 Albanians are concentrated, in the mines of Trepçe where 2000 people are concentrated, in the construction site of Deçan where there are 3 thousand Kosovar Albanian Macedonians. (11.5.1950).

Recently, the U.D.E. has arrested many citizens and villagers in the district of Gjakova, such as Vat Lirashin, Asan Ducin, Ismail

Cenen and Avdyl Cenen, accusing them of being bureaucratic informants. In Gostivar, the U.D.B. deports the Ali Zajmi family, a total of 28 people, and the family of Ramadan Kalishti, 6 people accused of activity against Tito, also deported, and the family of Vesel Jashe, because a part of it escaped to Albania.

Especially in the border areas, a difficult regime has been created for Albanian villagers, they cannot move around without a permit and even many villagers who call them suspicious cannot go to the city. Tito's clique has increased the military forces in this country. Recently, a group of officers of the Yugoslav General Staff headed by Colonel General Koca Popovic arrived in Pristina, who held a meeting with all the officers of this area. (15.7.1950).

Titoists are also selling the property of the Albanian people of Kosovo. The beautiful forests of this country are being cut down with the aim of sending the material to England and America. Only in the forests of Deçan are working sheds with hundreds of Albanian villagers. In the hills of Ulcinj, under the leadership of American engineers, works are being carried out for the opening of oil wells, which the Yugoslav government has given a concession to the Americans for three years. (15.VII.1950)."

#### Source

Arkivi i Ministrisë së Punëve të Brendshme (Ministry of Internal Affairs Archive of Albania).

# When Greek chauvinists murdered Albanian Patriot pope Llambro Ballamaci.

Authored by Petrit Latifi

# KORCE, 1914: THE MASSACRE OF THE PATRIOTIC POPE LLAMBRO BALLAMAÇI BY GREEK CHAUVINISTS

The Andarts who had surrounded the house of Pope Llambro Ballamaçi had come to take revenge for everything that Pope Llambro had done against the Greek church. They had always wanted to kill him, but they had never been able to. His murder could have brought many troubles and discontent to the Vlach believers.

They had repeatedly tried to intimidate him, but without any result. They even threatened him with death, but again he did not give up his path. In 1890 he went to Istanbul as a delegate for the creation of a Romanian bishopric in Turkey. During that time he had the opportunity to meet with Naim Frasher, Murat Toptan and other patriots. Pope Llambro Ballamaçi helped to spread the Albanian language. Through the Romanian consulate, he brought Albanian books from Bucharest to Istanbul and handed them over to Naim Frasheri, so that he could send them to where they were most needed.

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# When Montenegrin bandits committed atrocities against Rugova in 1919

Authored by Petrit Latifi

The following article cites various Montenegrin sources on Montenegrin bandits committing atrocities against Albanians in 1919

In an interesting section of the book "Рат после рата Војска Краљевине Срба, Хрвата и Словенаца на Косову и Метохије и у Македонију 1918-1920", we can read how Montenegrin criminals attacked the Rugova highlanders while sleeping on August 8, 1919.

"The cause was, as before, the ancient disputes of Vasojević and Rugovaci. Thus, on August 8, 1919, unknown perpetrators attacked the Rugovac people in Shtupeqi i Vogel while they were sleeping. On that occasion, the heads of the three people killed were cut off. An unsuccessful chase followed."

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# Serbian magazine "Ilustrovani List" publishes photos of execution of Albanian fighters in 1922

# Authored by Petrit Latifi

In 1922, the Serbian magazine "Ilustrovani List" published photographs and descriptions of the form of execution of Albanian fighters. The first photograph is the shooting of the group led by Faik Saidi from the Prilep district in Macedonia and the second photograph is the shooting of the fighter Demir Aliu from the village of Lure in Tetovo.



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Serbo-Montenegrin atrocities in Letnica against Catholics in 1912

Authored by Petrit Latifi

According to Lazër Mjedas report from 1912, in the region of Letnicë, Serbo-Montenegrin troops killed six Catholic Albanians whom are today considered martyrs.

Cetniks of Albanian origin, Serbian war crimes, The Balkan Wars and Pan-Slavism (1903-1916)

Authored by Dr Qazim Namani. Translation by Petrit Latifi.

Original title: The Balkan Wars and the occupation of Albanian lands up to Durrës by the Serbian army during 1912 or "Luftërat ballkanike dhe pushtimi i trojeve shqiptare deri në Durrës nga ushtria serbe gjatë vitit 1912".

### Dr. Qazim Namani

For the spread of Albanians in the central part of Serbia during the 18th and 19th centuries, we also find written sources by Serbian authors (See Fig, 1). Knowing that in this period there was no Turkish population living in the cities of the Balkans, we can affirm that the vast majority of the inhabitants of the region were of Albanian origin. I think that Russian and Serbian politics, according to their platform, exploited the Orthodox Albanians who had now entered the phase of Slavism, since they knew the language, tradition and penetrated the Albanian leaders and feudal lords without any problem.

Unfortunately, the Albanian leaders, in the absence of a national platform and unity, did not understand in detail the tricks of Russian-Serbian politics, and through these people they held talks on the most important issues in the region.

Карановац (данас Краљево), варошица. Варошица Карановац имало је 1784. год. 11 српских и 89 турских и албанских кућа, 2 хана (караван сераја), 3 кафане, 2 пекарнице и 1 џамију. 836 Карановац је имао следећи број становника: Срба око 72 и Турака и Алабанаца око 592 душе, што укупно износи 664 житеља. Још од почетка првог

# Fig. 1. Evidence from Serbian literature, that in 1784, Kraljevo had only 11 Serbian and 89 Albanian houses.

Under the influence of Russian politics and the Serbian Orthodox Church, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Serbian nationalism developed a degree of hatred towards the Albanian people and the Ottoman occupation of the Balkan territories. As we learn from Serbian literature, we learn that until 1834, there were very few Serbian residents.

Based on the first census of houses in 1834, immediately after gaining autonomy, we note that in Belgrade, Serbian and Jewish houses were registered 769 houses or 25%, of the total number of houses in the city, but for a short period, in 1846, the number of houses for these two communities increased to 1720 or 45% of the total number (See Fig, 2).

Према овом попису, турске куће у Београду су тада представљале око 35%, у односу на укупан број домова у Београду. Ако се овај однос упореди са пописом из 1834. године, онда се види да је српских и јеврејских домова било тада укупно 769 (око 25%), док је већ 1846. њихов број износио 1.720 (45%). Број јеврејских бео-

Fig. 2. Evidence from Serbian literature for the registration of houses in Belgrade, during 1834 and 1846

It is also known from the sources of the time that during this period Jews and Albanians lived in the center of Belgrade, therefore, since the number of Serbs was very small, during the registration of houses and the population at the beginning, in

order to increase the number of Serbs, Jews were also included, and later Vlachs.

Many of the Vlachs who had settled in Belgrade were from Albanian settlements such as: Janina, Elbasan, Manastir, Ohrid, Niš, and Skopje, (See Fig, 3).

обележјима. Према пореклу, београдски Цинцари су углавном били из разних крајева јужне Македоније и Грчке. Највише их је било из: Водена, Јањине, Елбасана, Смирне, Верије, Сереза, Солуна, Филипопоља, Сачишта, Катранице, Разлога, Мелника, Загоре, Румелије, Блаца, Битоља и Охрида, а неки су — етапно — досељавани из Ниша и Скопља. Досељавали су се углавном заједно са Грцима. Бавили су се и

Fig. 3. Evidence from Serbian literature for the movement of Vlachs to Belgrade from Albanian cities

From Serbian literature, we understand that after Serbian autonomy and until 1867, there was no policy to change the structure of the population that was concentrated during those years in Belgrade. Until this time, Belgrade had been populated by different people, speaking different languages and having different traditions, so much so that they did not even understand each other. After this year, several political actions were taken to assimilate and Serbify members of other communities, who settled them in Serbia (See Fig. 4).

Године 1867. нови политички моменти још једном су утицали на промене у етничкој структури Београда. Затечена подела Београда на варош са етничким зонама, и утврђење, као две издвојене целине, у новим политичким условима престало је да постоји. Први пут после турских освајања, Београд постаје у политичком, административном, етничком и демографском смислу јединствено насеље, хетерогене етничке, конфесионалне и етничке структуре. После исељавања муслимана у Београд се досељава ново становништво из унутрашњости Србије и још неослобођених крајева, разнородно по свом пореклу. Савременици су запазили да је у Београду у то време владало велико "шаренило народа", и да "живот Београђана нема још један општи тип, и да би се готово могло рећи за Београђане да је колико кућа, толико адета". То се нарочито одражавало у говору београдског становништва, за који се тада писало да представља "највећу смесу језика и народности", као и да се у српској престоници "врло рђаво српски говорило", с преовлађивањем акцента источних и јужних српских крајева.

Fig. 4. Evidence from Serbian literature that by 1867, many communities speaking different languages and having different traditions had come to live in Belgrade.

Serbian authors, based on historical documents from the Belgrade archive and literature on the memories of old Belgrade citizens, have many names. We are mentioning that **Ilija Arnautovic**, who was a colonel and a prominent officer, was called that because he had come from the south, from Albanian lands. From this we understand that the first officers of the Serbian army, the majority of whom were of Albanian origin, had come to Belgrade from Albanian lands (See Fig. 5).

доселили. У документацији која се чува у Историјском архиву града Београда, у литератури и у сећањима старих Београђана, доста је таквих имена. Поменућемо да је Арнаутовић Илија, тадашњи поручник и интендантски официр, прозван тако што се "доселио са југа, отуда из Арнаутских крајева". Банаћанин Младен био је

Fig. 5. Arguments from Serbian literature that many Serbian army officers during the Eastern Crisis were of Albanian origin

In addition to the army from the southern Albanian territories, people with various professions had also gone to live in Belgrade (See Fig, 6).

Своје порекло са југа у презименима су носили: Колашинац Димитрије, калдрмија из Нове Вароши, Косовски Никодије, марвени лекар у државној ергели; Креманац Стеван, потпоручник; Кумановац Демир, таљигаш; Михајло Личанин, поручник и интендантски официр; Личанин Илија, један од првих кондуктера београдског трамваја, као и још многи други Београђани.

Fig. 6. Evidence for many citizens of Belgrade, who had gone from the southern territories and had various professions.

From the territory of present-day Macedonia, a large number of residents of Albanian origin of the Orthodox faith had gone to Belgrade, who over time were Serbized (See Fig, 7).

У етничкој структури београдског становништва, струје које су долазиле с југа и појединачна насељавања Македонаца допринели су да и ова етничка група буде заступљена бројним процентом. Један од најпознатијих Београђана, пореклом Македонац, био је Хаџи Тричко Михајловић, који је имао механу на Теразијама. Браћа Зоографи, доселивши се из Македоније у Лончарској чаршији, имали су дућан и бавили се грнчаријом. Пошто су се економски оснажили, променили су презиме у Молеровић, посрбили се и седамдесетих година отворили трговину стакларско-порцуланском робом. Од чаршијских људи и економских стубова треба поменути и браћу Трандафиловиће, а од осталих: Живојина Кузмановића, кафеџију, који је 1892. године дошао из Кичева; Димитрија Лерничког, учитеља из Битоља (1904); Ристу Христића из Охрида (1906); Исајила Хаџијевског, лекара. Поред ових, било је и оних средњих и обичних, ситних људи који су се бавили специфичним занимањима у Београду, и о чему ће бити речи касније у анализи социјално-економске структуре.

Fig. 7. Evidence for the departure of citizens from the territories of present-day Macedonia to live in Belgrade.

As we will see later, these Albanians who settled in Belgrade during this period, who were Serbized, and who entered the Serbian military structures, committed the greatest crimes against the Albanian population, during the Eastern Crisis, and the most serious crimes in all the military campaigns that Serbia later carried out against the Albanian people.

In the last two decades of the 19th century, numerous youth and institutional organizations were created in Serbia that fought among themselves to seize power.

In August 1901, a group of young officers, led by Captain Dragutin Dimitrijevic Apis, founded the Chetnik organization "Black Hand", this was a conspiratorial group organized against the dynasty of Obrenovic.



# Photos, 1 and 2. Serbian Chetnik gangs that during the years 1905-1908, acted in the Albanians of today's Macedonia

This secret organization that operated in Skopje, committed the most serious crimes against the Albanian Muslim population. Albanians were massacred in various ways by the actions of the members of this organization. Albanians were continuously pursued, killed, raped, and often by the actions of their gangs the bodies of the killed Albanians were thrown into the Vardar River.



Photo 3. Serbian Chetnik gang established in Prilep, and Photo 4. Serbian Chetnik gang established in Manastir

Vasilije Trbic, was a Serbian Chetnik, who during 1908, with his gang, massacred the Albanian inhabitants in the villages of

Braillove and Desovo, in the municipality of Dellovo, which lie in the central part of Macedonia near Prilep. In Brailovo, he built a tower from the loot he had taken from Albanian families.

During the massacre, he had left only one baby alive in a cradle. The baby was a girl whom he had dressed in Serbian clothes and left in the cradle in the middle of the village. Next to the cradle, he had written the slogan that from now on only Serbian babies would grow up here. That baby was named Emine, she was a girl from the village of Desovë of the Bajraktari family.

The family went at night and took the girl, whom they raised, but due to the numerous pressures from the Slavic rulers, who wanted to forcefully marry the girls of this family to Serbian Chetniks, she was forced to move to Turkey. In addition to the numerous massacres they committed against Albanian families, these Chetniks also violated the family honor of Albanians in these parts, taking Albanian girls as wives.



# Photo 5. Evidence of the massacres committed in Presevo during 1913

Albanian-Serbian cooperation and negotiations had begun since the beginning of the 19th century. Let us recall that they increased during the Albanian uprisings of the 1920s, when Mustafa Pasha Bushatliu collaborated with Miloš Obrenović, through their informants. Mahmud Pasha of Niš also collaborated with Miloš Obrenović, who in February 1831 had asked for money from Prince Miloš.

Prince Miloš had also provided assistance to Mahmud Pasha of Niš, and had sent Dimitrije Tiric there as his informant. This suited Prince Miloš, since he was very interested in having his own man in Niš. Prince Miloš chose to send Dimitrije Tiric to Niš, since he was born in Niš, was educated in the West and also knew the Ottoman language well. Tiric was sent to Niš through the consul of Belgrade with the excuse that he wanted to return and live with his family.

According to Serbian archival sources and a merchant from Aleksinci, named Gjorgje, who from April 12-24, 1844, had traveled to the city of Manastir, he had shown that the road in those areas had become unsafe, due to Albanian insurgents. According to his accounts between Veles and Skopje, at that time, about 8000 Albanian insurgents had gathered. Apparently, there had not been a merchant there, but a Serbian agent, who had the duty to provide information about the area between Niš and Manastir, so for this he had gone to Manastir, where the sultan's army was concentrated.

As can be seen, Miloš Obrenović had created the possibility of connections between Serbs and Orthodox Albanians in the vicinity of Kumanovo, Veles, Prilep, Manastir, Ohrid, Tetovo

and Skopje. These connections were strengthened even more in later decades, and this caused the Orthodox Albanians of these areas to become Serbized at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, due to the influence of Serbian secular schools and the Orthodox Church. Based on the Serbized Orthodox Albanians in the city of Skopje, the Chetnik organization Dora e Zezë was founded in 1901.



Photo 6 and photo 7. Serbian Chetnik gang organized by Dora e Zezë, in the Albanian territories of Macedonia

# War criminal Vojslav Tankosi

One of the Chetniks who committed numerous crimes against Albanians was Vojslav Tankosi? Vojislav Tankosi?, was born in Ruklada, in the Tamnava region near Valjevo, on September 20, 1880 and died on November 2, 1915. His family had previously come to live in the vicinity of Valjevo, from a Bosnian area. As can be seen from his activity before the Balkan Wars, disguised as an Albanian who operated in the Albanian territories of present-day Macedonia and Kosovo, it is implied that he had Albanian origins from Peshteri or even Tregu i Ri (Novi Pazari).

Vojislav Tankosi?, from the beginning of the formation of this organization, had become active with his actions. This group drew up a plan for the assassination of the royal couple, King Alexander and Queen Draga. On the night of June 10-11, 1903, Dragutin Dimitrijevic Apis, organized the assassination of the royal couple in the Old Palace. Tankosic, as Dragutin Dimitrijevi's confidant? Apis, during this The action executed the two brothers of Queen Draga Mašin, during the plot to overthrow King Alexander Obrenović?, to bring to the throne King Petar Karađorđević I.

Vojislav Tankosi?, in addition to being a member of the Black Hand (Cerrna Ruka), he had also become a member of the New Bosnia, which was also accused of involvement in the assassination of Franz Ferdinand. He was arrested by the Serbian government when Gavrilo Princip assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand (June 28, 1914), but was pardoned when Austria attacked Serbia.



Photo 8 and Photo 9. The Albanian Cafe in Belgrade, where the plan to assassinate Franz Ferdinand is believed to have been made

Vojislav Tankosi?, in his youth graduated from the Gymnasium and the Military Academy, and gained the trust of Milorad Go? evac and other Chetnik leaders. Tankosi? was sent as a secret



agent, undercover, to the territory of present-day Macedonia, to study the terrain, the situation and to establish contacts with the people there, for actions allegedly against P. Osmane that were planned to be carried out in the future. Also this fact that he knew the Albanian language, and as an agent easily penetrated among the Albanians, in

the territories where P. Osmane ruled.

As a young man educated in a fiery Serbian national spirit, he had greatly increased his activities in Serbian youth organizations, Tankosi? at that time as a young man, tried to gain the trust of General Jovan Atanackovi?, who had begun to gather volunteers to incite uprisings in the territories where the Ottomans ruled. In the winter of 1903-04, as a member of the Serbian Chetnik Organization, Tankosi? went to Skopje, Manastir and Thessaloniki, and there he began to organize actions and groups of Chetniks in present-day Macedonia.

Photo 10. Vojislav Tankosi?, photographed outside Isa Boletini's house in 1911, dressed in Albanian clothing disguised as an Albanian, during talks for cooperation against the Ottomans.

On April 16, 1905, he participated in the Battle of Pelopek near Kumanovo, under the leadership of Savatije Miloševi?.

Vojislav Tankosi?, in 1907–08 he was the Chief of Staff of the eastern Vardar area, which means that he commanded all active units from the Serbian border to the Vardar. In 1908, he led the attack on Bulgarian bands in the village of Stracin, which almost caused a Serbo-Bulgarian war. After these activities, Tankosi? returned to Belgrade in July 1908.

After the Austro-Hungarian annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (October 6, 1908), Tankosi? founded a Chetnik school in Prokuplje, where volunteers were trained to execute, during special operations, that were planned to take place in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

As can be seen, the negotiations of the Serbs with the Albanians, conducted for centuries, were not unknown to the Serbs even on the eve of the Balkan Wars. This is evidenced by these data about Vojislav Tankosic, who in the most cunning way took advantage during the negotiations with Isa Boletin, who was known as one of the most powerful Albanians of the time.

In the negotiations of 1911 with Isa Boletin, Vojislav Tankosic gained knowledge about the organization of the Albanians, the terrain and the military power of the Albanians. Tankosic proudly painted himself in front of the house of the Albanian military leader with whom he talked. Before the conflict with Turkey, it was very important that Serbia did not intervene in the

conflict with the Albanians. Therefore, the Serbian government sent its most prominent officers to talk, so as not to involve the Albanians during the war between Serbia and Turkey.

Dragutin Dimitrijevic Apis also went to talk to Boletin, who wanted to increase the Albanian revolt against the Turkish army.

Belgrade had maintained its main connection with Isa Boletin, who was known to have a kindness towards the Serbs: The Serbian government had sent various Serbian emissaries to Isa Boletin, especially to talk with him, among whom was the notorious Colonel Dragutin Dimitrijevic "Apis", the leader of the Serbian Chetnik movement "Black Hand". He had come to Boletin, to influence Isa Boletin, to enter the war against Austria-Hungary.

Isa Boletin at that time was the most powerful Albanian, he was the most respected military leader who had the greatest influence on the entire Albanian people. Although Apisi returned to Belgrade, with the promise he had received from Isa Boletini to return the weapons to Austria-Hungary, no one in the Serbian government and army believed his words. This was also the reason why Tankosic decided to take matters into his own hands.

The Serbian government tried to use the Albanians against the Turks, and sent Tankosic to Kosovo, where he and Isa Boletini discussed organizing actions against the Turkish army. Tankosic during his stay in Kosovo, in June and July 1912, led the Albanians in their conflict with the Turks in the vicinity of Mitrovica.

Knowing the situation and the terrain, Tankosic himself went to Boletini, and humiliated Isa Boletini, kidnapping his two sons! Vojislav Tankosic sent Isa's two sons to Kusumli, where they were held hostage until the war ended, with the message that their lives depended on whether their father's word was fulfilled. The Albanians, of course, did not intervene in Serbian-Turkish conflicts, and their commander-in-chief was forced to restrain his anger, Serbian sources say.

Before the outbreak of the Balkan War, in March 1912, Tankosic was transferred to the headquarters of the border troops, in charge of well-trained volunteers for military operations, who had come from all regions with a Serbian population.

Tankosic was very strict in the selection of his volunteers, and out of 2,000 candidates, he selected only 245 volunteers for his unit. One of those who was rejected, due to his weak stature, was Gavrilo Princip, who later assassinated Franz Ferdinand.

In the First Balkan War, Tankosić commanded the Chetnik unit to attack the border at Llap (Merdare). He began operations against the Turkish army two days before the outbreak of the war, at the border point at Merdare. This border point was defended by Albanian volunteers and Albanian soldiers mobilized in the Turkish army. In this battle, the Chetniks and Albanians clashed, and this was the first battle in this war. Tankosić's Chetniks fought for three days alone, until the regular Serbian Army joined the Chetniks in this fight. Tankosić's role in organizing conspiracies, fighting and assassinations was decisive in the processes of the developments of the Balkan Wars, and the First World War.

# His crimes were known to all armies fighting in the central Balkans.

The following is a brief overview of the activities of this notorious Chetnik, up to his assassination during the fighting with the Austro-Hungarians in 1915. During 1913, Tankosi?i,

together with other members of the Black Hand, exerted pressure on the Serbian government of Nikola Pa?i?, before the Treaty of Bucharest (1913). The government tried to withdraw Tankosi?i and Apisi, but the king did not agree.

A conflict between the army and the civil authorities subsided during 1913, but later escalated in 1914, with open threats made to several ministers. It is alleged that Tankosi?i participated in the training of the Chetniks for the assassination of Franz Ferdinand. After the assassination in 1914, the Austro-Hungarian government gave an ultimatum to the Serbian government to kill Ferdinand. Tankosi? was imprisoned by the Serbian government, but he was released when Austria attacked Serbia.

After the outbreak of World War I, Tankosi? became the commander of the Volunteer Squad in Belgrade, and then the Volunteer Squad in Rudnik. At the time of the Battle of the Drin River (1914), against the Austrians, he commanded a separate band of volunteers and Chetniks on the Lim River in Eastern Bosnia, then in Loznica, Krupanj, and other battlefields. With the outbreak of World War I, Jovan Babunski formed the Chetnik unit "Sava" which then fought under the command of Major Vojislav Tankosi?. The unit continued to fight against the Austro-Hungarians in the late summer of 1914, and destroyed a railway bridge over the Sava River to prevent Austro-Hungarian forces from crossing it.

Tankosić supplied weapons to the New Bosnia organization, and had opened a school that trained Chetnik volunteers for the war against the Austrians.

The Chetnik units of Voja Tankosić and Jovan Babunski prevented the Austrians from capturing Belgrade on the first night of the war. On (6 September – 4 October 1914), he fought

against the Austrians on the Drina River, and his unit was the last to withdraw from this battle. In this battle he was seriously wounded and died of his wounds two days later in Trstenik on 2 November 1915.

During the retreat of the Serbian Army in 1915, Tankosić while commanding a battalion he was wounded at Igrište near Veliki Popovi? on October 31, 1915. He died of his wounds on November 2, 1915, at the age of 35, in Trstenik.

In this battle, Albanians and Serbs fought at very close range. The Albanians who volunteered to defend the border did not have sufficient weapons. It is important to mention that two years before the Balkan Wars began, the Turkish army had begun the action to disarm the Albanians. The action to disarm the Albanians was led by the Turkish Minister of War Mahmud Shefqet Pasha, according to a telegram that he sent to the Turkish government, it is said that from Gjakova to Mitrovica, 20,000 weapons have been collected from the people so far.

The Turkish minister announced that the amount of weapons that will be collected in the prefecture of Pristina alone will exceed 15,000. During this action, taxes were increased and thousands of cattle were taken for the Turkish army. As a result of these actions by the Turkish army, the residents of the border area with Merdara gathered in the village of Dyzë and the Kulina Valley in 2010 to start the war against Shefki Pasha, but members of the advisory mission from the Turkish government were sent there to disperse the Albanian insurgents in the Kulina gorge. During the disarmament action, there was violence among the people by Turkish soldiers. Albanian deputies in the Turkish parliament even accused the Turkish army of violating the honor of Albanian women.

During 1912, the Albanians of Llapi and Galapi of the Pristina Highlands, voluntarily organized themselves to enter Pristina and to protect the border with Serbia.



Photo 11. Albanians from Llapi and Gallapi, who in 1912, were organized to enter Pristina

The Albanians of this area had also had several meetings with Isa Boletini to organize the uprising. According to the accounts inherited from the elderly people of this area, Isa Boletini was accused of not supporting and not supplying weapons. Isa Boletini at that time, due to the relations he had established with Belgrade, was hated by the inhabitants of this area.

Due to the relations that Isa Boletini had with the Serbs, people began to talk about him as a collaborator of the Serbs and a man sold to the Serbs. Sources of the time prove that Isa Boletini at that time was in a very difficult position, after the betrayal that the Serbs had made to him, with Vojislav Tankoshic. According to Malcolm, the fight that Isa Boletini waged against the Serbian Third Army in Merdare, proves that Isa Boletini had not betrayed the Albanian insurgent movement. However, in those difficult circumstances for the Albanian people, Isa's cooperation with the Serbian Chetniks, greatly influenced the loss of trust in him and the division among the Albanians.

During the fighting in Merdare, several groups of Chetniks had participated, and one of the chetas was led by Vojadin Popovic.



Photo 12. Vojvoda, Vojin Popovi? (Vojin) with his group in Merdare.

Vojin Popovici was born on December 9, 1881 in Sjenica, at that time his birthplace belonged to the Vilayet of Kosovo. Immediately after his birth, the family moved to live in Kragujevac. He was educated at the military high school. On November 3, 1901, he received the rank of second lieutenant. Vojin with his band of Chetniks was among the first Chetnik groups organized in 1905, which went to the Albanian territories of present-day Macedonia. This case also proves that his family had gone to Serbia, from the Albanian territories of Sjenica, so it is possible that Vojin Popovici, like Vojislav Tanaskovici, was sent to the Albanian territories since they knew the Albanian language.

The Ottoman Empire at this time was militarily weakened, especially by the war with Italy, then by the one in Yemen and by the successive Albanian uprisings (1908-1912). Thus, several Balkan states, such as Serbia, Montenegro, Greece and Bulgaria, wanting to benefit from this situation, formed an alliance and started wars against it.

The Balkan Alliance considered the Albanian lands as "no man's land" which could be easily conquered and assimilated. The main goal of this alliance was the fragmentation and disappearance of Albania. This Balkan alliance was mainly achieved with the mediation of the great powers and especially under the patronage of Russia and its main goal was the extinction of the Albanian nation, in order to create a new space for the implementation of pan-Slavic ideas.

On October 8, 1912, Montenegro declared war on the Ottoman Empire, while Serbia and Bulgaria declared war on October 17, and Greece on October 18, 1912. The First Balkan War dealt a fatal blow to the idea of the Albanians, since the first renascentists, to declare the true Albania independent. On the eve of the Balkan Wars, the Vilayet of Kosovo had 32,900

square km, with 1,066,891 inhabitants, of whom 63% were Albanians, 20% Macedonians, 15% Serbs and 7% others.

The Pan-Slavic alliance had as a platform the occupation of Albanian territories in order to make it impossible to realize the demands of the Albanians. In the circumstances created, the Slavic alliance found Kosovo almost unprotected by the Ottoman Empire.

The Serbs, in order to justify the war they were waging to the European powers, implemented the project drafted by Nikola Pashiqi, which, among other things, states: "Serbia wants to work in the spirit of Europe and in the realization of the desires and goals of the European powers."

While Nikola Pašić and Petri I (First) Karađorđević were extolling the ideal of war against the Ottoman Empire, Serbian social democracy, through its organ "Radničke novine", wrote: "The war of 1875 and 1877 was fought at the behest of Russia. In 1885, Serbia entered the war at the instigation of Russia and Austria-Hungary. So in the Balkan wars, Serbia entered the war inspired by foreign states. The Serbian Orthodox Church also blessed the Balkan war, giving support to the genocide of non-Serbian peoples. The Balkan wars of 1912-1913 were undoubtedly favorable for Russia.

At this time, there were many articles and reports from international journalists who closely observed the the massacres and burnings that the Serbian army committed in Albanian territories. Many Serbian authors also reported with pride on the war against the Ottomans. Books began to be published on the docks, traditions and the Albanian issue. Many books by Serbian authors, written at the end of the 19th century, had become a

motive for murder and genocide against the defenseless Albanian population.

After the Balkan Wars, several books were also published in which they denied Albanian history, tradition and culture. In these publications, Albanians were presented as uncultured and organized into tribes that fought among themselves.

Dimitrije Tucovic in his book, regarding some writings by some Serbian authors, writes that: "When we talk about Albanians, to prove that this people has no meaning for life and culture, they present it not as a matter of the historical phase in which it is and through which all other peoples have passed, but as a matter of a weak race that is not capable of cultural development. Tucovic emphasizes that, when it comes to blood feuds, for which reason Vladan Djordjevic called Albanians "people with tails", as if no Albanian would have the right to remind them that until recently, Dalmatinja (a woman from Dalmatia) kept her husband's bloody clothes, to show her son that she had made him lie in her lap to get the blood".

The hatred of the Slavic peoples for the Albanian population had its origins in the formation of the group of Pan-Slavic movements in Western Europe at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century. This movement also drafted Pan-Slavic projects for the Balkans. One of the young Serbs who had established connections with the young Polish, Russian, Slovak, Austrian and North German was Dragiše T. Mijuškević who in 1829 wrote about Albania and the Albanians with hatred. He described the Albanians as savage Muslims and prone to plunder.

Fig. Evidence from the writings of Dragiše T. Mijuškević, written in 1829, and published in a book in 1889, in Belgrade.

Dragisha in his book "Putovanje po Serbiji", written in 1829, even when describing the structure of the population of Belgrade at that time, still expresses his hatred only for Albanians.

# 2. В Е О Г Р А Д

Осмог октобра. У јутру, око 9 сати, одем до контумаца, одакле се превози у Београд. У једном великом зидом ограђеном четвороуглу налазе се станови за оне који издржавају карантин, магацини и стоваришта за еспапе, по једна грчка и католичка црква. Ту се скупила маса интересантних лица: Срби, мрки Бугари, Бошњаци, Грци, дивљачни Албанци у њиховом црвеном оделу и Турци.

Fig. data on the structure of the population in Belgrade, during 1829, where the hatred for Albanians by the author of the book Dragisha T, Mijushkovic can be seen.

From the hatred that Dragisha expressed towards Albanians, as is evident in his writings, he had also had conflicts with Albanians during that time.

Албанија, која се широм пружа дуж Јадранског Мора, а чија деца имају веру и ратоборну дивљачност старог ислама, има засебан прастари језик, који је готово са свим нестао у романском дијалекту, којим говоре данашњи Албанци. Турцима и Султану су више верни по вери, но из неке политичке оданости, а мржња према Хришћанима и жеља за пљачком гоне их, да његове ратове са таквом вољом воде, да се сматрају за најбоље и најенергичније трупе у данашњој турској војсци.

Fig. Description of Dragisha's conflict with an Albanian in Belgrade in the presence of an Austrian officer

Such publications published at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, among Serbian nationalist groups, had increased the great hatred towards the Albanian people.

The Balkan Wars proved that the Albanians were completely unprotected, and not treated as human beings even by the international factor. The Albanians were now the only people left in Europe, without education in the national language, with very poor household economies, a people divided by religion and regions, a people exploited for their own interests by the 500-year-old conqueror, who in the end disarmed, raped and abandoned them, leaving them at the mercy of their barbarian neighbors.

### Memoirs of Raif Berisha and Xhemajl Beg Prishtina

As can be seen from these sources, the Albanian population was very unprepared to defend the border from the attacks of the Balkan armies. Based on the memoirs of Raif Berisha, born in the village of Sicevo, municipality of Prishtina, it is said that Xhemajl Beg Prishtina, in 1912, fought in Merdare against the Serbian army.

The fight was fought hand to hand, it is said that there were bayonet attacks on both sides. After this battle, Xhemajl Beg passed through the Albanian areas of Macedonia in Albania. In World War II, he returned to Pristina. After the communist victory, he took refuge in Hasan Berisha's house in the village of Sicevo, Pristina.

For a long time, they kept him sheltered in an old woman's room. Then he surrendered and was sent to the Niš prison. Since he was very old, he was released to remain under house arrest. He died in Pristina and the government of the time ordered that Xhemajl Begu be buried at the beginning of the Pristina cemetery. He was buried at the beginning of the road that separates the cemeteries, on the left side. His burial took place in the evening after it had become dark, somewhere around nine o'clock in the evening. Only 4 family members were allowed to attend his burial. I visited the burial site in 2005, with the late Raifin, but we were unable to identify his grave.

During the Italian occupation, between 1941 and 1944, the Prefecture of Prishtina was headed by Hysen Prishtina. Hysen Prishtina was the son of the Prishtina nobleman, Xhemajl Beg Prishtina. Hysen Prishtina's descendants created successful businesses with great sacrifice. They today enjoy great authority in Turkey and Canada.

A large number of the Albanian population, now on the brink of war, and Balkans lived in the villages around Merdare and were originally from the Sandzak of Niš. Let us recall that only three decades ago these Albanian families had experienced expulsion, murder and violence by the Serbian army. The Albanian population of the border region, recognizing the Serbian army for the crimes it had committed against them, did not fight in Merdare to defend the Ottoman border, but to protect their families and Albanian territories.

The Turkish army had left the Albanians at the front without supporting them. In Merdare, the border was defended by about 3,000 Albanian volunteers without superiors and regular Turkish soldiers

The Serbian army and Tankosic's Chetniks, during this battle, broke the Albanian army, and these were the first Serbian soldiers to enter Pristina, and other areas of Kosovo. About the fighting that Tankosic waged in this battle? was decorated with the Order of the Star of Karaçor?e Petroviqi, with swords and was awarded the military rank of major.

This is also confirmed by Serbian authors who have written that the withdrawal of Turkish and Albanian forces from Merdarje and the breaking of the resistance of the Albanians in the village of Teneqdoll near Pristina, which were the most important positions, enabled the Serbian army to expand into the Kosovo Plain and march towards Albania.

Serbian sources say that on October 22, 1912, at around 4 pm, the last parts of the Turkish forces defending the entrances to Pristina withdrew. On October 22, 1912, the Turkish army units withdrew towards Ferizaj, while the Serbian Third Army, without any major resistance, occupied Pristina.

According to Serbian sources, 1,507 Serbian soldiers and officers were killed in these battles. Malcolm says that the Third Serbian Army occupied Pristina on October 22, 1912, after having lost 1,448 killed and wounded in the fighting with the Albanians.

The third regiment of the Serbian army, which included the Medvedja district, was commanded by three commanders, who operated on the northern side of Mount Lisica in Prapashtica,

and this border line closest to Pristina was also called the "Fat Gut".

At this border point, Živko Gvozdi?, a Chetnik of Albanian origin from the city of Vushtrri, also operated with his Chetnik unit. While Sava Petrovic Germija, born in Pristina, was sent with his Chetnik group to operate in Sfircë, apparently the reason for sending him to Sfircë was because if he operated in Merdare or Prapashtica he would be identified by the Albanian population.



Photo 13. Sava Petrovic Germija, in Chetnik formations between 1906-1908, and Photo 14. Živko Gvozdi?, (seated in the first row from the left)





† Миша Живановић, † Ристо Тохол, † Вледа Воскар, Јеврем Герпонмовић, † Ђуро Шарви, Мустафа Голубић, † Воја Танкосић, † Смајо

Photo 15. Serbian Chetnik Stefan Nedići with his group and Photo 16. Vojslav Tankosići, with his group of Chetniks in Merdare, during 1912

The Serbian government had placed the largest army forces in the villages of Medvedja. According to the Serbian military plan, it was intended to enter Pristina through Prapaštica. However, the attacks of the Chetnik unit of Vojslav Tanasković, which preceded the attacks of the regular Serbian army, caused these units from Merdare to enter Pristina first.

## Prapashtica and Sfirca

After the border was broken in Merdare, the Albanian territories were attacked from all Serbian positions along the border. Albanians were attacked from all sides, killed, and entire villages were burned. The regular army from Medvedja attacked Prapashtica and Sfirca. In both of these positions, the Albanians did not have the support of the Turkish army. The Albanians, although they did not have proper weapons, fought fierce battles with the Serbian army on a voluntary basis. In Prapashtica, the entire village was burned, part of the population took refuge in the mountains, while the rest entered Pristina before the Serbian army entered from this side.

According to the accounts of my grandfather and grandmother, who had been carried by their ancestors, including members of our family before the Serbian army, they had entered Pristina with great difficulty. Our family, having a family connection with the Orana family and Salih Gogle, had taken refuge with their families, somewhere around the Velusha River in Pristina.

During that time in Pristina, all the men who were caught on the road by the Serbian army were imprisoned or killed. In one case, the Serbian army was chasing a family member of ours, who was quickly crossing the wall of a yard. His 13year-old son Lahu, when he heard his father's voice, opened the yard door to see what was happening in the street.

The Serbian soldiers caught Lahu and took him away. Lahu's mother, Mihane Vrapca, burst into tears in the yard without having the chance to save her only son. The Serbian army, bayonets in hand, dragged Lahu up the road towards the village of Matičan. As the road went downhill, Lahu's mother, Mihanja, also saw this painful scene. As for Lahu's fate, no one knew how to tell. As the grandmother said, Mihanja had cried all her life, and was blinded by tears for her son, who had the first by dragging him in front of the bayonets of Serbian soldiers. Every person who came to the family, Mihanja had with him: Do you know anything about the fate of my Lahu.



Photos 17 and 18. Albanians imprisoned in Pristina, during the years 1912/13

After the action of disarming the Albanian population in Kosovo, by the Minister of War in the Turkish government who himself led this military operation, the Albanian population in the border zone with Serbia did not feel safe. The inhabitants of the border zone had no support, the only opportunity to be supplied with weapons was the illegal purchase of weapons from Serbian merchants.

Some Albanian merchants began to buy weapons from Serbian merchants, of course the Serbian merchants were closely connected to the Serbian army. In these circumstances, having no other option, Ibrahim Fana, Ibrahim Govori from Prapashtica, and an Albanian from the village of Hajobilë, both of these villages on the border with Serbia, buy 2000 rifles from Serbian merchants.

Immediately after the Serbian army entered these villages, all three of these Albanians are arrested, and they are asked to register the weapons as they had bought them. Since these weapons had been distributed to the Albanian volunteers who were defending the border, all three are killed and their

# bodies are thrown into the well of the village of Surkish near Podujevo.

#### Albanians killed at the town of Aleksinac

After the Serbian army entered Prapashtica, they killed over 100 Albanians and burned the entire village, in the villages of this border strip from Merdara to Prapashtica they gathered 1800 Albanian boys and men. The arrested were divided into two groups. In the first group of about 1000, the Serbian army sends them to the town of Aleksinci, and all of them are shot there at once.

Among those shot, only Imer Fana from Prapashtica remains seriously wounded, who, already seriously wounded, arrives in a few days at an Albanian family in the village of Sfircë. In Sfircë he had told about his friends who had been shot, but from his serious wounds he had died there without having the opportunity to see his birthplace with his own eyes once again.

# Bulgarian encounter with the Serbian army saved 800 Albanians

The other group of about 800 Albanians, being sent to be shot in Serbia, the Serbian army encounters Bulgarian soldiers, so the Albanians, after ending up in the hands of the Bulgarians, are released, and return alive to their families. For this case, I have not found any written sources, but I have noted these events from the accounts of elderly people from this area, especially from my grandfather who was born in 1909.

These accounts probably do not have the place to be included in such a serious topic as the battle of Merdare, but in the absence of written sources and the concealment of the crimes committed by the Serbian army against the Albanians, I think that any

information of this nature would be good to note, in order to complete the gap we have about our past.

That the number of Albanians killed was very large, during the military expeditions of the Serbian army, carried out against the unprotected Albanian population, is also evidenced by the sources of the time, when the Daily Telegraph reported about these events that during the entry of the Serbian army into Pristina, 5000 Albanians were killed, but also reported about another 5000 Albanians killed from the border belt to Pristina. Likewise, horrifying reports are also shown about other Albanian regions.

The New York Times also wrote about these massacres by the Serbian army on December 31, 1912. Then we also have quite important sources from correspondents from Western countries who reported the events of that time from the field.

The war diary of Kosta Novakovic, an officer in the Serbian army, a participant in the Merdar war, published in the Belgrade electronic newspaper "E-novine", testifies to the terrible atrocities of the irregular Chetnik troops and the Serbian army. He judges the behavior of the Chetniks and the Serbian army towards the Albanians, evaluating it as a shame for Serbia and the Serbian army.

While Isa Boletini returns to Mitrovica and later to Albania, Idriz Seferi faces the Serbs again on his way back to the outskirts of Ferizaj.

During the Balkan wars, many Albanians were killed and expelled, many houses were burned, property was confiscated, art values were destroyed and the process of forced assimilation began with the blessing of the Serbian Orthodox Church. The assimilation of the Albanian population during the 19th century,

and after the Balkan wars, is evidenced by documents preserved in the historical archive of the city of Belgrade. In literature and in the memoirs of In the old citizens' registers there were many names of citizens that indicated their former non-Slavic affiliation. One of them was Arnautović Ilija, with the rank of officer, who bore this surname because he had come to Belgrade from the south, namely from the Albanian territories.

### Kosta Peçanac and Azem Bejta

It is an interesting fact that in the Merdar war Kosta Peçanac also participated, also a Serb of Albanian origin from the Deçan area, who later collaborated a lot with Albanians, including Azem Bejta, and during the Second World War shared power with Xhafer Deva, in the Germancontrolled territory in northern Kosovo.

Russia supported Serbia with officers, volunteers, military equipment and goods. Hundreds of Russian wagons supplied the Slavic soldiers on the front line, on one occasion a Danish journalist writes that together with the Serbs in the city of Skopje they had counted 150 Russian wagons. Several thousand Slavs from the north, the Czech Republic and Slovenia volunteered to fight alongside the Serbs.

The first Serbian army, consisting of 126,000 soldiers, attacked from Vrija in the direction of Preševo and Kumanovo. The largest battle was that of Kumanovo on October 22-24. they threw. The Ottoman army on this front had mobilized 50,000 fighters. Among them were several thousand Albanian soldiers. On October 24, the Ottoman army was finally defeated at Kumanovo.

The Serbs viewed the Albanians as harmful people who should be exterminated. The Serbian army in the vicinity of Vraj, Kumanovo, Pristina and other cities killed a large number of innocent Albanians. In the city of Kumanovo, it was reported that 3,000 Albanians were killed in the villages between Kumanovo and Skopje. The Albanian villages were surrounded and then set on fire. The inhabitants who came out of their homes were shot to death like rats. This manhunt was shown with joy by the Serbian army.

In this battle, to follow the situation closely on the front line, the king of Serbia Petar Karađorđević had also come.





Photos 19 and 20. The occupation of Kumanovo by Serbian forces on 22-24 October 1912.

Two days later, on 26 October, the forces of the First Serbian Army occupied Skopje without a fight.





Photo 21. Albanians arrested by the Turkish army in 1912. Photo 22. Albanians arrested in 1912 by the Serbs in the city of Skopje and who were sent to Belgrade

Petar Karađorđević reported to foreign journalists that most of those killed and arrested in Vraj and other cities were Albanians. In Vraj, Prince Alexis Karađorđević, who was the son of the uncle of King Petar Karađorđević, stood next to the foreign journalists. Petar Karađorđević declared to foreign journalists that this war would bring cultural progress to the Balkans.

In the city of Vraj, the victories of the Serbian army in the battles of the front were celebrated. After the fall of Kumanovo and Skopje, celebrations were organized with songs and dances. In addition to songs and dances, the Serbian, Greek, Montenegrin, French and Russian national anthems were also sung. The dance became more and more intense, while in the streets of Skopje they celebrated with music and cheers: Long live King Petar Karadjordjevic! Long live the Balkan Union! Death to the Ottoman Parasites! To celebrate in the city of Skopje with King Petar Karadjordjevic, Prince Alexander, Prince Georg Karadjordjevic and Nikola Pashiqi, whose family origins were from a village in the Tetovo district, had also come, so all of them were of Albanian-Vlach origin.



Photo 23. The transport of Albanians from Skopje to Belgrade in Russian wagons. As we mentioned, 150 Russian wagons had come to Skopje to supply it with weapons and food

The violence of Serbian soldiers continued throughout 1913. During this year, Albanians experienced the most severe pain in the city of Pristina. This violence is also evidenced by many photographs of the time.





Photos 24 and 25. Serbian soldiers torturing Albanians in Pristina during 1913

After Kosovo remained under Serbian occupation after the First Balkan War, colonization with Serbian population began, the forced expulsion of Albanians and other non-Serbian communities, the forced Christianization of Muslims, and the confiscation of their property.



Photos 26 and 27. Serbian soldiers in Pristina in 1913

Serbian and Montenegrin legislation on colonization did not come out immediately after the annexation of Kosovo and other Albanian lands, but was delayed for several months. At first, some legal provisions were issued on the agrarian issue, which prepared the ground. The plunder of the land of the Albanian peasantry in Kosovo began as early as the last months of 1912, with the arrival of the first settlers.

In 1913, the number of arriving settlers began to increase, and along with their increase, violence against Albanians to move from their lands also increased. At the beginning of 1914, Serbia and Montenegro, with decree-laws for the regulation of the newly liberated regions, made the colonization law official. On February 20, 1914, Serbia, by means of the decree-law, officially engaged in the organized colonization of Albanian territories.

The displacement and Christianization of the Albanian population of the Muslim faith began throughout the terror of

Kosovo. Regarding the difficult situation that had arisen, Monsignor Lazër Mjeda on January 9, 1913, sent a letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Austria-Hungary, informing him of the Serbian violence against the Albanian civilian population. Mjeda also sent several other reports to Rome and other Western countries.

During the Balkan Wars, the Serbian army committed many murders of innocent people. This was witnessed by international journalists who closely observed these events. In the book Leo Freundlich writes that when the village of Shashare near Leshnica fell into the hands of the Serbs, they took all the men of the village and tied them up, then they began looting the houses and raping the girls and women in the most disgusting way.

In 1913 in Janjevo, the Serbian army put pressure on the Catholic church of Janjevo with the aim of forcing the believers to renounce their religion. In this bishopric, which numbered about 800 Catholics, the so-called "Laraman", pressure was exerted on these residents to either declare themselves Muslim or Orthodox, but not Catholic.

At the beginning of 1913, the "Serbian Idea" society was formed in the city of Peja, whose goal was the Christianization of Muslims. By March 21, 1913, according to official documents, 5,000 Muslims had been converted in the city of Peja. In Peja, the campaign for violent Christianization was led by the police commander, Sava Lazarević, and captain Tomo Jaksimović.

Sava shot 17 Muslims in the village of Novo Selo, and he also began shooting in other villages in order to intimidate the villagers into handing over their weapons and converting as many as possible.

The process of Serbization is related to the fact that many Catholic Albanians were imprisoned and experienced unprecedented violence in order to become Orthodox during the years 1912-13. Below we present the facts that prove this, which Zef Mark Harapi, as a survivor of the events of 1912-13, wrote. Here is how he describes the situation of the Catholic Albanian population in the vicinity of Peja:

"As the night wore on, they tied one arm to a fence and with a stick they tied their turbans and armor and between their elbows they filled a can of water from a stone and poured it over their heads and the water poured down their bodies. On that day, many of the kshten were tied with ropes around their necks and thrown into the water with all their clothes and dragged along by the ropes and thrown onto the shore, this is how they were often washed. Many of them lost their souls to the cold water. They told the kshten to go and show them their hidden weapons."

Zef Mark Harapi in his memoirs as a survivor of this violence reports: The complaints of the monks of Novoselë, Kruševo, Papić, Përlep and other villages were increasing for days and even more before Father Luigj Palić, who, not afraid of those bishops from Gllogjan, the place where the friar and parish were staying, tried to contact the captain of this village in Gjurakoc and told him: "Your Majesty, the monks of the Peja district are only doing bad things and are only trying to slander some of the people."

The prisons of Peja are mentioned to have been filled with innocent people during the years 1912-1913, while Father Sava would go to the prison door and say to them: "Whoever goes to prison will be punished, the others will be executed."

At the end of March 1913, Archbishop Mjeda complained that more than 1,200 of his followers had been forcibly converted to

Orthodoxy. In May 1913, the commander of the Pristina area boasted to Belgrade that 195 Muslim Albanians had been converted in Pristina and that strong pressure was being exerted on the Catholics of Janjevo to convert to Orthodoxy.

In early 1913, a census was taken, and not a single Albanian was registered in Pristina. In 1915, a Russian journalist reported that half the population was Albanian. In 1916, according to the Bulgarian census, 11,486 Albanians were registered in Pristina.

In such circumstances, the Albanian Catholic and Orthodox population, which had endured violence during the rule of the Ottoman Empire, was forced by Serbian violence to accept assimilation on a large scale.

The Serbian government of Pašić in the international arena used the Muslimism of the Albanians as an argument, so as it has been written in many sources that the claims to the Albanian lands were related to the Serbian churches, monasteries and schools that the Ottoman Empire within its territory, in the Albanian lands, allowed Serbia to build after the second half of the 19th century. In addition, Serbia relied on international support and was supported by Russia with the force of arms.

The consequences of the Balkan wars were very great, the Albanians lost a lot, a large number of the population was killed and moved to Turkey and other countries. All branches of the economy were destroyed, the Christian Albanian population (raja) was finally assimilated so that the number of the population in the cities and villages was significantly reduced.

The third Serbian army that at the end of 1912 invaded Albania planned to go to the Adriatic Sea, to complete its strategic platform designed according to Pan-Slavic projects. The Serbian

army for the invasion of present-day Albania was commanded by General Bozidar Jankovic.

The Serbian army, however, as soon as it crossed the border of present-day Kosovo and entered the Luma area, encountered resistance from Albanians. Based on contemporary sources and the international press, the Serbian army committed mass murders against the civilian population in that area. Reports from the time testify to the murder of many children, elderly people, women and the burning of 27 villages in the Luma area.



Photos 28 and 29. Massacres of the Serbian army against Albanians during the Balkan Wars in Luma

The Serbian soldiers remained in Luma, and did not retreat, the Albanians in September 1913 rose in rebellion, but the Serbian army used this opportunity to once again take revenge by committing cruel crimes against the population of Luma.

According to the writings of Dimitrije Tucoviq, the Serbian army killed hundreds of residents and burned several villages in Luma.



Photos 30 and 31. Serbian soldiers in Luma

For all these crimes committed by the Serbian army against the Albanian people, Serbia has never been indicted in an international court, but on the contrary, the crimes committed have been hidden from the Albanian citizens and the international public. Even the Albanians honored only the Serbian soldiers!



Photo 32. Serbian soldiers in Durrës and photo 33. Serbian army memorial in Tirana.

Surprisingly, due to the lack of recognition of the crimes and terror committed by the Serbian army against the Albanian people during the Balkan wars, in the Sharra cemetery in Tirana, in 1939 a memorial was erected dedicated to 522 Serbian soldiers who died during the years 1912-1913 in Albania! It is truly absurd that a memorial for 522 Serbian soldiers is erected in Tirana without any memorial being erected for the tens of thousands of Albanians killed and hundreds of thousands of others displaced by the Serbian army during these wars!

The Serbian administration, after committing all these crimes and colonizing Kosovo, in addition to changing the population structure, where it brought settlers to Albanian lands, also changed the toponyms of settlements. The Serbian administration named Hani i Elezit, on the present-day border with Macedonia, after General Bozidar Jankovic, christening it General Jankovic, while the village colonized by Serbs near Ferizaj was named after the Serbian Chetnik Vojislav Tankosiq, who committed the most serious crimes against the Albanian population. Similar names were given to all Albanian territories occupied by the Serbs.

I believe this happened due to the lack of an Albanian national platform to eliminate differences in mind and pain for our population, which preserves the traditional Albanian language, traditions and culture despite minor differences in all areas of the Illyrian Peninsula.

All these testimonies that were offered in this paper are undeniable facts that Serbian soldiers during this bloody journey through Albanian territories killed and massacred thousands of innocent Albanians, and reduced hundreds of Albanian settlements in Kosovo and Albania to ashes.

#### Conclusion

The Albanians during the last four centuries belonged to an oppressed and discriminated people, therefore several extermination projects were drafted against our people. Considering this fact, it must be admitted that the Albanians for four centuries in a row had entered into a continuous process of murders, migration and assimilation at a much greater pace than in previous centuries.

When it is known that this grave situation of the Albanians can be argued with historical facts, therefore for the internal and external opinion the logical question is added, But who benefited from other peoples to assimilate into Albanian, when it is known that the Albanians did not enjoy any elementary national rights, and did not have any power of the time to protect them.

With the strengthening of the Albanian feudal lords from the beginning of the 18th century until their extinction in the 19th century, they survived the time by fleeing from one enemy, to enter the bosom of another enemy, and by remaining poor, persecuted and subjugated at the mercy of their enemy (the Albanian Pashals). The Albanian pashaliks that were created, to maintain their positions and by remaining servile to the sultan, benefited depending on the services they rendered to Istanbul.

The Albanian pashaliks were rewarded with posts and fiefdoms. In these fiefdoms, to fulfill the interests of the pasha and the sultan, the poor Albanian people worked. The Albanian pashaliks to maintain the positions granted by the sultan, and who were not satisfied with the collection of taxes and tortures exercised against their own people, and for these low behaviors of theirs, towards their own being, even Europe, which at that

time had entered the phase of cultural and technological development, did not cry its head hard.

The Albanian national renaissance began in a very difficult phase for our people. Thanks to the general cultural movements that were revived after the French bourgeois revolution, our diaspora, which had migrated to Italy four centuries ago from its ethnic lands, revived the hope of education for our people, increased national awareness, for language, identity and antiquity, but all this effort and movement of the Albanian intelligentsia was unable to prevent the realization of Pan-Slavic projects and Turkophile assimilation programs against the poor Albanian population.

During the 19th century, the poor Albanian population, survived in its ethnic lands, despite the projects that this people was continuously killed, and assimilated according to the Slavic platform drawn up in Western countries and the programs of the Ottoman Empire for internal reforms that it had begun. The reforms begun in the Ottoman Empire severely violated the elementary cultural and economic rights of our people.

So as can be seen, the Albanian people throughout the 19th century and until the Balkan Wars were subjected to severe pressure from the two greatest military powers, Russia and Turkey, which at that time had extended their influence to the Illyrian Peninsula.

The Ottoman Empire had increased the pressures for the Islamization of the Albanians since the 16th century, by acquiring additional interests in the cities, and by the spread of Bektashism. Through these measures, the Ottoman Empire aimed to create great divisions among the Albanian people, in order to prevent cultural unity and a nationwide uprising.

From the bitter historical experience, in order to survive the times, the Albanian people must create a national platform, relying on genuine pro-Western cultural values.

It is known that the various invaders have left serious wounds, leaving us behind other peoples of the region, but we must move forward with courage to unify our national values, preserving traditional values to prove that we deserve a dignified human treatment like other European peoples.

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### Serbian atrocities against the Albanians of Gjilan and Karadak in 1912

Authored by Enver. J. Sadiku. Translation by Petrit Latifi.

The establishment of Serbian rule in Kosovo in 1912 was followed by murder, looting, terror and massacres that Serbian forces carried out on Albanians. The most inhumane actions against the Albanian population of Gjilan and the surrounding area were carried out by soldiers of the Third Serbian Army, volunteer units and Serbian committees, who were also supported by local Serbs.

Diplomacy, the international press of the time, organizations that dealt with the consequences of the Balkan Wars, but also the Serbian social democrats themselves, reported on crimes against the Albanian population that humanity had not known until then. Innocent citizens were killed, beaten and mistreated, their homes were burned, their property was stolen and thousands of Albanians of Gjilan and the surrounding area were persecuted.

Serbia's anti-Albanian and occupying stance was also proven by the occupation of Albanian lands by the Serbian army, and as a result, all that propaganda and hatred towards Albanians, which had been expressed through science, journalism and propaganda activity, was now complemented by the violence of the military, police forces, Chetnik paramilitary units and armed Serbian citizens, who killed, robbed and stole Albanians indiscriminately.

# Serbian press and propaganda

This violence and terror, this policy of Serbia, was largely preceded by the Serbian press that was published in the Ottoman Empire. The newspapers "Vardar", "Kosovo", "Carigradski

glasnik" and other newspapers, which had published various articles on the alleged oppression of Albanians against Slavs. Those articles were staged and sensational that electrified the public, sowing hatred between the Albanian and Slavic people.

This propaganda and hatred towards Albanians had found supporters outside Serbia in international circles. A reasonable resistance in Serbia was made only by the Serbian Social Democratic Party of Dimitrije Tucoviq. This Serbian social democrat emphasized that Serbia's aspirations to achieve its goals in Albanian lands were evil, because what could only be achieved through friendly agreement and cooperation with the liberated Albanian people, it wanted to achieve against them.

The Albanians of Gjilan and the surrounding area, although they were in a difficult position and under unprecedented terror and pressure, had never bowed down, and this is best evidenced by the words of Idriz Seferi, leader of the Albanians of Gjilan, who even after the occupation had not laid down his arms, saying: "You do as you wish and I, if I am a man, know where to die".

Immediately after the entry of the Serbian and Montenegrin army into Kosovo, crimes, murders and looting began throughout the Albanian lands occupied by them. Wherever they set foot, in the villages and towns of Kosovo and all of Albania, the Serbs sowed death and destruction. In the first two months of the war alone, in October-November 1912, 25,000 Albanians were killed.

Entire cities, such as Prishtina, Vushtrri, Ferizaj, Gjilan, Kumanovo, Presheva, Prizren, Peja, etc., were subjected to destruction. The villages around these cities were reduced to ashes, while their inhabitants, without sparing even women, the elderly and children, were killed or burned alive in the fires of their homes.

Speaking about the violence that the Serbian army exercised in Gjilan, Noel Malcolm writes that this army used various forms of violence on the Albanians to make them loyal to the new government and when the army could not achieve such a thing, it used the most brutal methods, knocking on the doors of the Albanian houses, taking the men from there and shooting them immediately. In Gjilan, within just a few days, the number of men killed had reached 400.

Countless villages were razed to the ground, countless individuals were massacred in the most bestial way. Where once there were modest houses that generations of poor Albanians had built with great effort, nothing remained but ruins and smoke.

Edith Durham, who was a direct witness to these events, wrote that from the occupied provinces came painful news about the unheard-of atrocities that the Serbs and Montenegrins committed against the Albanian population. According to her, instead of hiding their deeds, they bragged about them.

Part of the population of Gjilan and the surrounding area, foreseeing the massacres, had left their homes, taking only family members with them. In Gjilan and the surrounding area, the local Serbian authorities committed atrocious crimes throughout the city.

The newspaper "Reichespost" published in Vienna, which wrote about the massacres that the Serbian forces had committed everywhere in Kosovo, wrote that in Gjilan, where the Albanians were not protected, almost all the inhabitants were put under fire and under the sword and that only those who had fled escaped alive.

According to the account of Mullah Mustafa Selmani, born in 1902, when the Serbian army came from Bujanovac and Svirca, the population, among them women, children and the elderly, fled towards Ferizaj, thinking that the border could be established on the railway, which was not the case.

The Serbian occupation of Gjilan and its surroundings was accompanied by horror and massacres unprecedented until then, especially in the villages of Gjilan. This chauvinistic enterprise was intended to cause fear in the Albanian population, which from the beginning had made it known to Serbia that it would not agree to the new occupation in any way, therefore, the uprising would be the philosophy of life of the locals. For the ethnic cleansing or disappearance of Albanians, the Serbian army followed a tactic well-developed by specialists and criminals.

At first, the army operated, entering every village, where it captured and executed patriots, heads of families, arrested and burned down the houses of the villagers. After the army left, the military – police and paramilitary forces arrived. These, under the guise of establishing order, arrested, killed and disappeared innocent residents, women, elderly people and children. Under the guise of weapons collection checks, they entered families everywhere, raided them everywhere, and drove them out of their homes.

#### Atrocities in Kazanë

The press of the time wrote that in Kazanë, Gjilan alone, 29 Albanian villages in the Karadak Mountains were destroyed, 280 Albanian houses were burned and razed to the ground, and almost all the men were killed and slaughtered. A very small number of those who fled survived the devastation, and as evidence of the destruction of Gjilan, only the ruins remain.

# Atrocities in the villages of Depca, Myqybaba, Caravajka, Peçena, and Kurexhajt

The villages in the depths of the Kardak Mountains, such as Depca, Myqybaba, Caravajka, Peçena, Kurexhajt, and other villages, suffered greatly from the murderous Serbian army. The men of these villages, after being captured by the Serbian army, were tied up and gathered on the Peçena Hill and massacred in the most cruel way.

In two pits that had been dug, over 140 men from these areas were slaughtered, burned and burned to the sound of drums and flutes. Massacres also took place in the village of Gruhali, where 18 men, women and children who were fleeing on the road were killed. In Pidić, the villagers put up small-scale resistance, and during the fighting there were deaths and in retaliation all the houses in the village were burned along with the barns, stables and livestock, while the killings and burnings continued in the villages along the Karadak Gorge in Haxhaj, Selishtë, Kurexhaj and Zhegër.

In the villages of the Karadak Highlands, most of the dead were buried in shallow graves by the women of the village, because the men had fled to the mountains, while there were also dead bodies left in the meadows.

In Bresalc, after the arrival of the Serbian hordes, Murat Bilalli, who was a strong arm of Idriz Seferi, was barbarically liquidated. He was liquidated along with 26 fellow fighters. Serbia had inherited from the Ottomans the list of fighters, whom it disappeared one by one without a trace. Of the 27 fighters who were liquidated, it is known that only Rrustem Mehmet Haziri and Adem Ali Halimi were shot before being sent to Koretishte and then the family members took the bodies and buried them in their yards, while according to the family

members, the graves of the other victims are unknown, but it is believed that Koretishte is the cemetery of most of them, because many Albanians were massacred there. Murat Bilalli is known to have been executed in Gjilan. He was beheaded in the old gymnasium building, but his grave is unknown.

Hundreds of names of those killed in 1912-1913 by Serbs are marked on the memorial wall of the "Hill of Martyrs" Memorial Center in Gjilan. According to the commission that has collected the names of those killed in the municipality of Gjilan on the ground, it appears that during the Balkan Wars, there were those killed in Bresalc, Llashtica, Zhegër, Makresh i Ultë, Malishevë, Përlepnica, Livoç i Ultë, Dunavë, Gumnishtë, Velekincë, Sllakovc i Ultë, Sllakovc i Epërm, Livoç i Epërm, Vërbica e Zhegovci, Çelik, Llovce, Lipovicë, Kurexh, Kishnapolë, Shurdhan, Uglar, Ponesh, Pogragjë, Sllubice, Demiraj, Burincë, Zhegoc, Muhaxherë of Pasjanit, Haxhaj, Kmetoc, Pidiq, Myqybabë, Capar, Pasjak, Cërnica, Stanishor, Nasalë and in the city, as well as in the neighborhoods of "Dermëhalla", "Lagje e Muhaxherëve" and other villages and neighborhoods.

The villages of Tërstenik, Vërban, Lubishtë and Gjylekar were the scenes of bloodbaths, where 283 men and women were mercilessly tortured. The tragedy of the Lubisht residents amounts to 95 killed, shot and missing. The graves of most of them are still unknown today, and among the dead were also guests from other villages.

## Serbian war criminal Gjorgje Jovanovic

Regarding the barbaric behavior of 100 Serbian soldiers, led by their sergeant, Commander Gjorge Jovanovic informed the commander of the Kosovo division that upon arriving in the village of Lubishte (a village inhabited entirely by Albanians), these soldiers immediately surrounded the village and expelled

all the adult villagers, conducted a complete search of the village, then questioned all the Albanians, demanding to know who had fired at the soldiers, and since no one had said who had fired, they were asked if they had been in the place from which the shooting had taken place.

#### Atrocities in Vërboyc

Outraged that the Albanians had not said who had fired, they burned the village housses and all the adult Albanians were tied up and taken to a forest, where later the villagers of Vërbovc (inhabited by Serbs) dug holes in which Albanians were put, who were sentenced with a quick death procedure.

## Atrocities in Mogilë and Vërbovc

Local Serbs were also complicit in the crimes committed against Albanians, who in various ways incited the army to commit massacres against Albanians, and evidence of this is the Serbian army superiors themselves who informed the commander of the Kosovo Division. Thus, for the murder of Albanians in Mogilë, Viti, it was reported that when the Serbian army was spending the night in Vërbovc, the local Serbs informed them that in Mogilë (a village inhabited by Albanians and Serbs), there were weapons in an Albanian house and that Albanians were gathering there to negotiate.

The army blocked the village of Mogilë and searched the house, where it found eleven Albanians and found a rifle and 54 cartridges, and all of them were tried in a summary procedure. Violence was also inflicted on the inhabitants of Gjilekar, where the Serbian army, under the pretext of searching for weapons and suspicious persons, vented all its anger on the defenseless Albanians.

Monsignor Lazër Mjeda, Catholic Archbishop of Skopje, in his report, sent to the Vatican on January 24, 1913, regarding the Serbian occupation of Kosovo and Macedonia, gave a full report, while in the part where he spoke about the crimes committed in Morava he wrote that one is horrified when he describes the thefts, robberies and rapes of women in the most barbaric way.

# Atrocities in Tërstenik, Smira, Lubishtë, Vërban and Komogllavë

"In Tërstenik 60 people were killed, thirty-two in Smira, 90 in Lubishtë, 20 in Vërban and in Komogllavë, a village with 50 families, all the men were killed without exception... those who had been shot but remained alive were drowned with bayonets". Mjeda informed Vienna that Gjilan was also massacred, although the city had surrendered peacefully.

#### Serbs sold Albanian women as slaves

Leo Freundlich in the "Albanische Korrespondenz" on March 20, 1913, published in Vienna, wrote, among other things, that in Lubishtë, Serbian officers sold the village women as slaves, even for 400 piastres.

The diplomatic missions of Austria-Hungary in the occupied territories also speak of Serbian atrocities in Gjilan and the surrounding area. Thus, the Austro-Hungarian consul in Skopje informed Vienna about the acts of rape of Albanian women (of the Catholic religion) in the villages of Letnicë and Shosharë on the Gjilan side.

The London newspaper Daily Telegraph published correspondence from Vienna about the massacres in the villages of Shosharë, Letnicë, Vërban, Sefer, Lubishtë, Gjylekar, Selicë,

etc. The Serbian army had taken the village of Shosharë at the end of February. After removing all the men and boys from the village, the soldiers began to rape the women and girls.

#### Atrocities in Letnicë and Shosharë

Serbian soldiers committed the same atrocities in the village of Letnicë. The war correspondent of the Danish newspaper "Riget" also wrote about the rapes in the villages of Shosharë and Letnicë at the end of February 1913. These unprecedented massacres had also alarmed international circles, and under external pressure the Serbian government was forced to conduct research into the terror caused by its army.

The prefect of Gjilan, Toma Popović, known for his brutality, had also gone to assess the situation, but he had allegedly heard nothing about the rapes in the mentioned villages. General Mišić also sent his officer there for the same purpose. The military officer's findings contradicted the prefect's claims.

From these investigations it emerged that in the aforementioned villages all houses were raided (with the exception of the priest's residence and the church) to collect weapons and calm the population. The committees of the Narodna Odbrana were usually in charge of this mission.

As the Serbian newspaper of the time "Radničke Novine", which had a somewhat more objective attitude towards the developments of that period, noted, it was the heavily armed Serbian committees who entered the houses after midnight, took the men out and sent them tied up to the police. There they were declared scoundrels and beaten.

## Atrocities in Begunca, Smir, Goshica

After a lightning raid undertaken by the Serbian forces, where there was pursuit, killing and burning of houses, all the inhabitants of Begunca abandoned the village and the inhabitants were divided into two columns, one in the direction of Skopje and the other in the direction of Kumanovo.

In Smir, 83 villagers tied hand in hand were shot in a place called Bjashkalle. Of them, two people escaped alive and wounded. In Goshica, 50 men died, in Tërstenik 60 and in Komogllavë 50. Twenty Albanian men were shot in Mogilë and one killed man was brought from the village of Trenaj to the Rashi shooting range, near the village, and local settlers took out the massacred bodies and buried them in the Mogilë meadow in Rastanovicë-Zakuta, north of Mogilë.

To escape the violence of the Serbian forces, Albanians from the Morava, Karadak and Gollak regions tried to defend their villages. The Serbian army from the direction of Ferizaj t was attacking the villages of this municipality, while in the other direction the villages of Gjilan and the surrounding area were being attacked to meet the two wings in Karadak and Gollak.

The Albanians initially held out in Starasella (Old Village), to ambush them in Sojevo. During this resistance there were losses of the Albanian and Serbian volunteer armies and after the withdrawal of the Albanian volunteers, all the anger was vented on the civilian population. The Slavic units in Tërstenik killed 66 Albanians, in Smirë they killed 83 innocent people, in Kabash, they took them and sent them to Zabel of Sahit Aga, in Kllokot and killed 56 people, they also killed the same number in Goshica, while in Lubishte in two sieges 95 Albanians were killed and from there the Serbian forces were released to the villages of Karadak, Gjilan and Presheva.

## Serbian war criminal Lazar Zeqević

The Serbs committed massacres and demonstrated violence in the Gollak Mountains as well. Thus, in December 1912, an armed expedition of Bashibozuks from Kolloleq, led by the Serbian teacher Lazar Zeqević, attacked Shipashnica. After severe torture, this expedition separated five people, four of whom were shot in the mountains of their village. Vojvoda Lazar Zeqević had separated the youngest of these, whom they had beaten. In Sfircë, only three houses remained unburned. Hundreds of citizens in Tygjec, Sfircë, Hogosht, Gmicë, Zajçec and other villages of Gallap also suffered from Serbian violence.

Dimitrije Tucoviđ also wrote about the barbaric behavior of the Serbian army, who said that the Albanian villages, from which the men had left for a long time, were reduced to ashes. "These were barbaric crematoriums, where hundreds of women and babies were burned alive. The Albanian insurgents, when they captured Serbian officers and soldiers, only disarmed them and released them without a word, while the Serbian army did not spare children, women or the sick."

The special correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" reported that the cruel behavior of the troops of the Serbian general Božidar Janković surpassed all the horrors of history. The Serbs, in their march towards Albania, treacherously killed not only armed Albanians, but in their fury even unarmed individuals, the elderly, women, children and babies in their mothers' breasts.

To justify Serbian crimes, the Serbian Minister of Religion and Education, Ljuba Jovanović, published a statement in a Slavic newspaper, quoted by the "Deutsches Volksblatt", in which he said, among other things, that "Albanians resisted the Serbian occupation and even opened fire on soldiers after they surrendered." According to him, such shootings occurred not only from outside, but also from inside the houses in the occupied villages and, according to him, this led to what

happens everywhere when people who are not combatants oppose a victorious army" (i.e. the massacre of Albanians).

The Report of the International Commission on the Balkan Wars, which concerns the fighting that Serbia waged, states that the findings of the international commission have resulted in serious war crimes. According to this report, it has been proven that weapons were not used only against the enemy army, but also for terror against the Albanian population in Kosovo and Macedonia, the elderly, villagers, farmers, women and children.

According to the rapporteurs of this commission, Serbia committed unprecedented crimes, turning entire houses into ashes and massacring the unarmed and defenseless population. "Unprecedented acts of violence, looting and savagery of various kinds – these are the means which have been and are still being used by the Serbian-Montenegrin army, with the aim of ethnically changing the regions that are inhabited only by Albanians".

In the report of the International Commission, which talks about Gjilan, it is said that massacres have occurred against the population of Gjilan; the city was burned and destroyed even though the Albanians of that city had not resisted.

All this violence was directed by the head of the Serbian army, because this army did not take any step to stop the murders, looting, robberies and rapes of Albanians, but it was the instigator of these crimes and the army demanded and ordered that this violence be applied to the Albanian population.

All this violence exerted against the Albanian population had another purpose, that of its displacement and the colonization of these regions with incoming Serbs, because the displacement could not have come about on its own and even the civilians

could not follow the army, which was retreating in complete chaos.

This was generally a farming population, who did not easily abandon their land and livestock. Leaving their land meant losing everything, so the decision to evacuate en masse could not have been spontaneous. The population had to be forced to relocate, and this was done by introducing military garrisons into the villages and burning down villages and houses. The Carnegie Commission found that 80 percent of Muslim villages entered by the army were burned. There are cases where the army entered settlements, separated men from women and killed them one by one.

Often these crimes were committed by soldiers of states that were in the alliance. Of course, these facts prove the Serbian terror over Albanians, they prove that extermination project that Serbia will have as its bible for decades to come.

In the occupied countries, the Serbian army organized Chetnik and gendarme units, made up of criminals, thieves, degenerate people, murderers. They trumpeted that they had come to liberate the territories from five centuries of Ottoman rule, to fraternize the two peoples, to "open" roads and railways, to "civilize" Albania, etc., while on the other hand they continued an unprecedented genocide. Whoever did not comply with the rules set by the Serbian commanders was shot on the spot.

Through these courts, the confiscations and expropriations of Albanians would also begin. They did not even take into account the old family land and house ownership deeds from the Ottoman period, as well as contracts from that time. The anti-Albanian attitude is also seen in the discrimination in the educational plan. The regulation for the occupied territories

provided for full state control over state and private schools as well as religious institutions.

Based on this regulation, state primary education was mandatory for all citizens of the "liberated" parts without distinction. However, education was allowed only to those who spoke Serbian, non-Serbian languages were officially prohibited.

Albanians, who in Kosovo and thus also in Gjilan and the surrounding area have always been the dominant population, were never included in the decision-making bodies. They were denied the right to property, national identity, the right to free religion, the right to school, the right to work, language and movement.

Even through its plan to appropriate influential Albanian leaders, Serbia intended that if this plan succeeded, it would use them for its own interests, and if it could not achieve this goal, then Serbia intended that the Albanian leaders would be compromised before their compatriots as sold-out people. By arresting Albanian leaders, or even one or more family members in villages and cities, the Serbian army aimed to force the Albanians of the occupied areas to remain calm and not to oppose the occupying Serbian army.

Another form of violence against Albanians was the behavior of Serbian settlers, the forcible seizure of property, attempts to convert them to religion, and other forms of violence. Serbian settlers were not only more privileged than Albanians in every respect, they were also more privileged than local Serbs.

The settlers also had many rights that neither the Albanians nor the autochthonous Serbs enjoyed, they had the right to cut wood for work in the mountains of the municipality and in the state mountains, for the construction of houses and auxiliary facilities. These rights of the settlers, the autochthonous Albanians did not enjoy in any field, but on the contrary, the Albanians paid taxes on lands, forests, mountains, etc. at triple prices, while the settlers were exempt from taxes on land, on animals for three years and from all municipal and state taxes.

In such conditions of open discrimination, life for the Albanians had become unbearable and unaffordable, therefore all these actions taken by the Serbian state apparatus and the settlers caused the migration of residents from various villages of Gjilan and the surrounding area to Turkey.

The Serbian government, in order to encourage the largest possible migration of Albanians, used various forms of pressure. In addition to physical violence and persecution, it also used political pressure, not excluding economic pressure and especially that of high land taxes. Pressure was exerted especially on Albanians who were richer and had a larger amount of arable land, burdening them with unbearable taxes. Using this method of pressure, the Serbian government sought to migrate the richest and most influential people, so that it would later make it easier for those who were poorer.

There have been cases when citizens who migrated to Turkey were forced to sign documents before leaving that they would give up all their land to the "state", because their relatives had not even taken over their land, due to the inability to pay the taxes, which were very high. Such a practice was used whenever it was necessary to relocate Albanians. Given the poor yield of the land, the amount of tax that was unbearable and was collected by force, then the population was dissatisfied and their life had become unbearable, so the population sought salvation in moving from their lands.

Another type of pressure on Albanians was that of changing religion – the forced conversion of Albanian Muslims and Catholics to the Orthodox religion. This is It was a special form of state terror and genocide, with the ultimate goal of denationalizing the Albanian population and assimilating this population into the occupied territories, as well as relocating that population that did not accept the change of religion.

Such an attempt was made in the villages of Karadak. The Serbian invaders had also assigned Slavic names to the Albanian inhabitants, bringing certificates from Belgrade and trying to impose the belief that the Albanians had willingly changed their religion. The Serbian army killed Albanians who insisted on preserving their religion, such as Salih Ajvaz from Terzijaj, who before being killed had told the Serbs: "Salih I have left and Salih I want to go". The local Serbs also expelled the Albanians who were known as the Muhajirs of Pasjan.

The plundering of property and land, the violence inflicted on the population and the inability to work the land, made the winter of 1912/1913 very difficult for Gjilan. Hunger had gripped these areas and the population was living a difficult life. Reports from the police inspectorate and other leaders of the Ministry of the Interior, from January and February 1913, stated that there was a shortage of grain in the Gjilan and Llapi Districts and that corn urgently needed to be sent to alleviate the hunger.

Many people were forced to go as illegal immigrants to the mountains, pursued by the authorities, who often took revenge on the population, while mass burnings were justified by the armed resistance that was offered from their homes during the pursuit of the illegal immigrants.

Thus, the horror of the massacres and deaths was increased by the separation and flight to Turkey, as well as the difficult social situation, namely extreme poverty. Albanians, despite all the pressure that was put on them, resisted even when Serbia forced them to go to war, now against its former ally Bulgaria, but Albanians in large numbers did not respond to the call to this war that was not for the freedom of their people, and many Albanians, to avoid this war and the terror of the Serbian invaders, went into hiding in the mountains, never surrendering and waiting for more favorable days for a new uprising.

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# Cross-border conflicts between Albania and the Serbo-Croatian-Slovenian Kingdom in 1921

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Photo 1. Sadri, Feti, Azize and Nexhmedin Krasniqi, killed in the village of Makoc.[75], Photo 2. Fetah Latifi, recounting how he had found the girl's corpse with a wooden (hu) shaft pierced through her entire body, from her genitals to her mouth.[76]

After the end of the First World War, Kosovo again remained within the borders of the Serbo-Croatian-Slovenian Kingdom, which was formed on 01. December 1918. The Serbian army and gendarmerie, again began torturing and violence against the Albanian population.

Kosovo will be re-occupied during October 1918, by units of the Second Serbian Army accompanied by a division called Yugoslav. These units will be commanded mainly by senior French officers. In this regard, before entering the Albanian

territories as occupiers, the Serbian military command addressed a proclamation to the Albanians on September 29, 1918, reminding them of the crimes that had been committed in 1915, inviting them to rise up in war against the Bulgarians, Germans and Austrians.

During November 1918, new reinforcements of the Serbian army will arrive in Kosovo in order to subdue the rebellious population, which did not agree with the occupation. The Serbian army, with propaganda for the establishment of power and control in December 1918, will include all the newly occupied Albanian territories.

From 1919 to 1921, the colonization of Albanian lands will be carried out by going through three phases, with different methods, but which had the same goal, the appropriation of most of the Albanian lands. Colonization by the Belgrade governors would be called the "population" of Kosovo.[1]

After the establishment of Serbian power in Kosovo in 1918, the weakening of the Albanian ethnic identity was also aided by the administrative-territorial division. After the organizational division into counties and districts in 1919, the military-territorial division was also carried out, which lasted until 1922, where according to the new division by decree law of the Kingdom of the Serbian and Albanian SSR, the Albanian territories were divided into several provinces, such as Mitrovica, Vushtrri and Drenica, which were included in the province of Raška, while the Dukagjini region was included in the province of Zeta.[2]

The "National Defense of Kosovo" Committee was founded on May 1, 1918, with headquarters in the city of Shkodra. The central council of the MKR Committee consisted of seven members, who elected the chairman. Kadri Prishtina was elected

chairman of the committee. During the years 1918-1920, it was one of the most important political organizations in Albania. With the beginning of the Serbian massacres in Albanian settlements in 1918, the committee collected evidence from the field, about the killings and disappearances of 200,000 Albanians. Looking at the situation on the ground, the MKR Committee prepared a general program consisting of ten points in 1919, for an armed uprising in Kosovo.[3]

Based on archival documents, in order to carry out the program of reconquering Albanian lands, the Serbian government together with Serbian Orthodox clergy sent forged documents to the Peace Conference in Versailles, just as they sent documents to the London Conference in 1912. The Serbian government together with the church drafted a document signed by all the Albanian Catholic leaders of the Shkodra Highlands, signed as representatives of tribes and families, allegedly wishing to join the Kingdom of SKS, the original document published by Hakif Bajrami is: DASIP. B, Dos "Versaj i Albanci 1919-1920", secret file 0.4.[4] The same deceptions in Versailles were also made for the population of Dibra, where the document written in French, with the names of Albanian supplicants written in the Arabic alphabet, written by a hoxha, where it is written that the population of that area expresses the desire for those Albanian regions to be part of the Kingdom of the Serbs.[5]

The Serbian ideologues, the genocide they committed against other neighboring peoples, acted with various methods to convince the Serbian people that their "enemies" were at a lower racial and cultural level, and that Serbia was performing a civilizing role towards them, by making propaganda supposedly with the historical right to conquer the other peoples of our Peninsula.[6]

The Belgrade government was clear that the re-occupation of Kosovo would open up a mountain of problems, and among the most important would be the idea of the possible unification of Kosovo with Albania. Serbia decided to suppress by force these national goals, which were legitimate in their nature.

On 07.03.1919, the Albanian delegation in Paris proposed a memorandum for the development of a plebiscite in the regions with Albanian population under the control of the USA.[7]

A mixed Anglo-American commission was sent to verify on the ground the atrocities committed by the Serbian army. The commission's report contained shocking facts about a real terrorism against the Albanian population in Kosovo, since the number of people killed exceeded 30,000[8], innocent ethnic Albanians, written by B. Bobev. Stefan Karastoyanov writes that: It should be clarified that B. Bobev took these data from volume XII of the materials of the Paris Peace Conference. The chairman of the mixed commission, Lieutenant Colonel Sherman Miles, was undoubtedly an observer side. and for this reason the data of this commission are of great value to every researcher.[9]

According to the writings of Karastojanov, who mentions Belov who has provided data that between the two world wars the settlement of Serbs and Montenegrins as colonists in Albanian lands, cannot be doubted, because through the so-called agrarian reform, about 14,000 Serbian families received approximately 200,000 ha of arable land.[10]

Regarding the colonization of Albanian lands, Milovan Obradovici has provided very detailed notes on the families, the area and the villages colonized, he has also used statistics from the time when the colonization was carried out with the help of the Serbian army and gendarmerie.[11]

The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, made a request that all opponents of the government surrender. However, even after the deadlines set for surrender, there were smugglers who did not surrender. "The first Kaçaks did not surrender despite the internment of their families. This measure of combating the Kaçaks did not bring the desired results. Thus, the fight against them was included in armed actions to implement the colonization program, the Kaçaks were called illegal irredentists: the properties of the illegals were confiscated, entire families were interned in special camps.

The land, which, according to the previous provisions for the preparation of the agrarian reform (paragraph 9) and the decree on the partial expropriation of land dated 12. 11. 1920, was mainly separated from private ownership, and the lands that the owners had abandoned. [12]

According to statistics kept in the Technical Department of the Main Agrarian Commission in Skopje, by 01 January 1928, lands of 225,397 ha were restricted for colonization purposes and only 111,602 ha were cleared, while the rest remained almost entirely in dispute. We note that among the confiscated lands was also the property of the dead. Nikolla Pashiqi had colonized about 3,000 hectares near the Mausoleum of Sultan Murat in Kosovo.[13] During the first phase of colonization, from 1918-1921, Nikolla Pashiqi had colonized another 3,000 hectares, Albanian properties around the Gracanica monastery, including the archaeological site around the ancient city of Ulpiana.

The organized colonization of Kosovo and other Albanian areas was intensified by the decree-law of 24 September 1920, which applied only to the southern areas. The commissions of the agrarian reform bodies expropriated 10,000 properties of Albanians, considered as their kaçaks and jataks, and the lands

of those Albanians, who were forcibly abandoned due to pressure from the Serbian gendarmerie.[14]

In the regions of Montenegro, all the work of the agrarian commission was supervised by General Veshović, known for the massacres committed in Dukagjin, who with his military forces was concentrated in the border area with Albania, for reasons of national security, but also for the protection of the Orthodox monasteries in Deçan and Pejë, where the properties around these objects of worship were intended to become pure Serbian areas.[15]

All the radical leaders, among them Nikola Pashiqi and King Alexander Karađorđević, were owners of large properties in Kosovo and Macedonia, and this was one of the reasons for preventing the implementation of the agrarian reform in the southern regions.[16]

#### **Serbian atrocities**

From Serbian literature we understand how the Serbian army subjugated the Albanians and this can be seen from the description of Dragisha Vasic, who knew Northern Albania well as a reservist sent in 1920, on a military campaign to conquer Albanian lands. Vasic writes that the villages we passed through were deserted, because, a few days ago, they had been burned by our troops, after we had first destroyed them with artillery, and only a few houses were smoking, which showed that there were still people in them. These are the houses of our trusted people who were spared by our army.[17]

With the decree-law no. 2119, dated 12.02. 1920, the Ministry of Agrarian Reform of the Serbian-Croatian-Slovenian Kingdom was established in Belgrade. Within the framework of this

ministry, two sections were formed, the general one and the agrarian one.[18]

The Kaçak bands operating in Kosovo, in the autumn of 1919 and the spring of 1920, fought against the first wave of colonization by Slavs who were forcibly settled in Albanian homes and lands. The established Slavic government acted by means of violence to expel Albanians from their ethnic lands, and appointed an extraordinary commissar to govern by rifle, fire and terror during the process of colonization of Albanian lands.[19]

The Kingdom of the Serbian Orthodox Church, as extraordinary commissar for the colonization of Albanian lands, had appointed Mihajlo Cerovic, with headquarters in Mitrovica. The duty and activity of the commissar was to compile lists of large Albanian families from Skopje, Pristina, Peja, Tetovo, and Prizren, and these lists were approved by the commissar.

After the commissar signed the 3rd Army Headquarters, which had its headquarters in the city of Skopje, issued notices of persecution for these families. Gendarmerie-military forces were organized against these families and undertook frontal actions, supposedly disarming them. Based on an official document of the time, the author of this work has published a list of 190 names from the Prizren District, of persons known to their families. All of these were displaced during the years 1919-1922, to Turkey, Bulgaria and Albania.[20]

## Serbian cimes by Radovan Radovic

At the beginning of 1919 in Kosovo, the uprising against the Serbian occupation began. For a very short time, approximately 10,000 insurgents, led by the Kosovo National Defense Committee, would mobilize in the mountains on the war fronts.

In the Llapi and Galab regions alone, over 2,000 insurgents would operate. The Serbian army led by Radovan Radovic bombed 14 villages in Llapi, completely destroying the village of Prapashtica and leaving thousands dead.[21]

But against every right of the Albanian population, the diplomacy of the French state would stand out at the conference held in Versailles. Since the Albanian population of Continental Albania was in revolt, in order to localize the violence with a diplomatic background, the "Neutral Zone of Junik" would be established on October 9, 1920.

In these difficult circumstances, to the good fortune of our nation, on December 17, 1920 Albania was accepted as a member of the League of Nations with headquarters in Geneva.

The diplomatic security of Albanians and Kosovo would be affected by the Agreement signed with Italy on August 2, 1920, for the withdrawal of Italian forces from Vlora, and the acceptance of Albania's independence.

From August 20, 1920, immediately after the cessation of disputes between Italy and Albania, the Albanian government faced a major problem, namely the conflict with Serbia.

The Serbian army, since 1918, had occupied the territory belonging to Albania recognized in the Treaty of London of 1913. Serbia had violated the border in the vicinity of Shkodra, also in that of Dibra, and other areas in Northern and Northeastern Albania. However, in both the Shkodra and Dibra districts, they were very successfully repelled by the population. The Serbian army moved into the interior of Albania every day.

The Albanian government had no role in this situation, but the resistance against the Serbian army was made by the poor

population of the border belt. The population of the villages of Dibra finally drove the Serbian soldiers back to the border of 1913, and even drove the Serbian soldiers away as far as the city of Dibra. The Albanians did not attempt to occupy this city, although no Serbs live there, due to the fact that it was assigned to Serbia by the London Conference of 1913, and for fear of some undesirable international complication.

However, this was not the plan of the Serbs, who returned with a large army, crossed the Albanian borders near Dibra and devastated 142 Albanian villages, massacring the unfortunate population of women, children and old people who were unable to flee with the rest of the inhabitants of the devastated region. (This has been confirmed by the Serbian press.) After completing this massacre, which is beyond description, the Serbs marched towards the Albanian capital and attempted to threaten the Albanian government. Thanks to the patriotic efforts displayed by the entire Albanian people, the advance of the Serbs towards the Albanian capital was prevented.

Immediately after this event the Albanian government entered into negotiations with the Serbian government. However, the talks did not lead to any result, because the Serbs did not want to evacuate the territory they had recently occupied, and thus a stalemate arose in Serbian-Albanian relations. The Albanian government has recently sent an official note to Belgrade demanding the evacuation of the strip of Albanian territory which since the ceasefire has been under Serbian occupation, announcing that in the event that Serbia does not comply with this request, the matter will be submitted to the League of Nations, of which both sides are members. The Albanian government has also declared its intention to send a delegation to Belgrade, with the aim of resolving the issues in dispute between the two countries.

According to the newspaper "Hak" and "Pravda", during January 1921 alone, in the village of Keqekollë, 490 Albanians were killed by the regular Serbian army, in the village of Prapashticë 1020 innocent Albanians were killed, in Sharban over 34 houses were burned, about 30 inhabitants were killed, most of them children, women and the elderly and three-monthold babies were burned in fires.[22]

## Serbian atrocities in Albanian vllages

In addition to these villages, during this year massacres and murders were also committed in other Albanian villages and towns that remained within the borders of the MSKS such as: Prishtina, Istog, Rahovec, Pollatë, Brainë, Orllan, Repë, Nishec, Gërdoc, Lepajë, Beguncë, Koshutovë, Kërpimehë, Braboniq, Lubozhdë, Rusinoc, NekocPrugoc, Pejë, Hajkobilë, Lubeniq, Kotor, Ucë, Padalishtë, Leqinë, Jabllanicë and Madhe, Sharban, Bellopoja, Decan, Isniq, Vitak, Strofc, Orrobërd, Kodra e Cërkolezit, Kovraga, Kërrnina, and many other Albanian settlements in present-day Montenegro and Macedonia.[23]

## Atrocities in Đurgjevik të Madh and other regions

With the suppression of the Albanian uprising in 1919, the Serbian army in the Rahavec district alone committed serious crimes in the villages: In Durgjevik të Madh, 9 men were killed, 42 houses were burned, and all their property was looted. In Durgjevik të Vogël, 3 men were killed and the entire village was burned. In Jashanicë, 16 men were killed, and the villages of Gllarevë, Përcevë, Sverkë të Gashit, and Volljakë were looted and burned. In the village of Ćupevë, the entire village with men, women, and children was shot, and the entire village was burned. In Domanek, 48 men were shot, in Turjaka 5 men, in the village of Zatriq 27 men and a woman with children were

bayoneted, in Drenoc 3 men were killed, in the Vushtrri area 45 men.[24]

As can be seen, the killing and colonization of Albanian lands was carried out with special projects and laws in all Albanian villages and settlements that had remained under Serbian rule. The year 1921 was a turbulent period for Albania, with six changes of government and internal conflicts and wars with its neighbors.

With the imperialist peace agreements (it is thought of in the Peace of Versailles of 1919), after the war about half of the Albanian people remained under the power of the Serbian big bourgeoisie, against which it exercises enslaving oppression both in Kosovo and in Macedonia. In addition, the Serbian bourgeoisie aspired to occupy northern Albania, through the "Albanian chetas" organized by Yugoslavia

This argument was strengthened when Albania, as a sovereign state, accepted the protection of national minorities within its borders. This orientation created political and diplomatic capital for Albania, to once again take care of Continental Albania (the Albanians remaining outside the internationally recognized borders).

The Albanians were now more aware and more determined than ever not to accept any kind of foreign power.[25] The first Albanians to take up arms were those in the Vushtrri region, drawing a border on the Sitnica River between Serbia and Albania. Then the uprising against the Serbian army would expand to Rugova, Plav, Gusi and especially Llap, becoming internationalized in the press throughout Europe.

The National Kaçak Defense Committee of Kosovo, in addition to its combat activities, also worked to raise the political

awareness of the people, so that they would not abandon their lands, oppose the colonization of Albanian lands and denounce collaborators of the government. The chetas, according to the instructions of the committee, held political rallies with the aim of coordinating actions in the field. One such rally, at the suggestion of the committee, was held on July 16 and 17, 1920, near the village of Murgullë in Llap. The chetas of Llap, Drenica, Dukagjini, Rrafsh i Kosova, Shala, and Karadak participated in this rally.[26]

A significant number of French officers, plus Russian mercenary officers who had escaped from Russia, remained or came to the rebellious Kosovo as mercenaries. These were also joined by Russian and Belarusian mercenaries who had been expelled from there. This layer of officers will behave with executioner methods towards Rugova, Plav and Gucia; After a while these mercenary forces will be transferred as professional killers to Drenica and Llap to suppress any Albanian national feeling.

They received instructions from Serbian officers, while professionally this force was capable of committing crimes without any hesitation, because as observers there were also some high-ranking French officers).

Regarding this, the international factor, especially in Europe dominated by France, will embolden the Serbian dynasty to use the most barbaric methods in Kosovo in order to create the reality of Toplica in 1878, which means the criterion of creating the land that remained deserted and then through the colonization of the Slavs and the migration of the Albanians to Anatolia, a new reality will be created, for which the Powers will not react no matter what happens. Despite this, the phenomenon will be criticized by all means by the Comintern press and those with leftist ideology throughout Europe.[27]

The reactions of Mitahat Frashëri, the reactions of Fan Noli, the reactions of the Kosovo Committee in French did not affect the stopping of the Serbian massacres against the defenseless Albanian population.

The ethnic cleansing of Ottoman Muslims 1821-1922) by the author Justin McCarthy, which brings horrifying data especially during the years 1912-1922, arguing an ethnic catastrophe, has mainly to do with the fate of the Albanians who were occupied by Serbia, Montenegro and Greece. The English opinion was satisfied only with the information that thousands of Kosovo Albanians were forced by Serbian state terror to be stationed on the streets of Bulgaria and in the Edirne plain. Most are dying of typhus and other infectious diseases, but no one from the League of Nations or the Red Cross is concerned about this popular tragedy of the people of the former Vilayet of Kosovo and Vilayet of Manastir. [28]

After the end of World War I, under pressure from the gendarmerie and the Serbian army, to implement the plans of government for the colonization of Albanian lands, during 1919 alone, 23,508 Albanians were forced to move to Anatolia, in 1920 8,536 were moved, while in 1921 24,532 Albanians were moved.[29] Similarly, the forced expulsion of Albanians in equally high numbers to Turkey continued until the end of the sixties of the 20th century, with the exception of the years 1941-1944.

According to the population census conducted in 1921 by the Kingdom of the Serbs, during that year a total of 439,000 inhabitants lived within the current borders of Kosovo, of whom about 359,000 were Albanians, concluding that this figure was significantly higher before the occupation of Albanian lands in 1912.[30]

At the end of December 1920 and the beginning of January 1921, military operations began in the villages of Llapi and Gallapi, where the most serious crimes were committed in the village of Prapashticë, on January 11, 1921, under the command of Major Radovan Radojević.[31] After the end of World War I, Albania began to establish effective authority over the entire area, the official Albanian territory, but there were obstacles due to the actions of the leaders of Miredita.

The Albanians considered it impossible "that we were coming as invaders to subjugate them", and were convinced that "we would go out against the Turkish army, which they also hated". Prenk Bib Doda, the elder of the Mirdita tribe, commander of 4000 armed men, let our first platoon pass in peace, only with the agreement that we would assure and give our word of honor that we had no intention of invading Albania.[32]

The agreement with the Serbs and the opposition of official Tirana and since it was ready for any help to enter into relations with the Serbs created an adversary among the Albanians. These were the mistakes of Prenk Bib Doda, the Catholic leader (Captain) of the Mirdita tribe, who was killed in 1919 near the Lezha swamps. His position was taken by Mark Gjoni, a relative of his.

The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, with experience in implementing projects for the conquest of Albanian lands since the 19th century, in August 1919 established a special Albanian section in the policies of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which was under the direct authority of the president. This section was in the fourth department of the state, where it was headed by Tihomir Popovici, while the "field work" was entrusted to the royal representative in Cetinje. Lubomir Nešić, delegate of the foreign ministry in Shkodra, Nikola Jovanović, vice-consul in Dibër and the chief in the Prizren district Todorović. [33]

Based on the views of Nikola Pašić, the then Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of MSKS, the creation of the Republic of Mirdita was of strategic interest for his policies.

The President of the Prizren District, Mr. Todorovic, in a "long report" dated 12 August, In 1920, he described a meeting with Zef Ndoçi, a representative of Mirdita, who stated: "Mirdita is against the policy of the government in Tirana, and can never be in alliance with Durrës and Tirana.[34]

In the spring of 1921, the first armed conflicts began between the Mirdita people and the government forces of Tirana, which had serious consequences for both sides.

The Mirdita people held negotiations in Prizren between Captain Marka Gjoni and Ljubomir Neshiqi, representatives of the government of the Kingdom of MSKS. In the agreement, they signed a seven-article contract, which provided for the creation of an Albanian Republic with the name "Albanian State in Northern Albania". Belgrade would be represented abroad, while the military units of the Kingdom of SHS would be on its territory, with priority in the exploitation of ores and the construction of railways. The contract was written in a copy with 18 signatures, seals or fingerprints. [35]

Mark Gjoni in Prizren, received support from the Kingdom of the Serbian Empire, for weapons, money, and above all from the White Russian Army of Wrangel, who were at his service to realize the plans for the independence of the Mirdita people from Tirana and other Albanian regions..

Ljubomir Nešić was not satisfied with what was achieved, since the government in Tirana was allowed to consolidate by the powers of the time. After the negotiations in Prizren, Mark Gjoni in early July 1921 went secretly and stayed in Belgrade, where he met with Nikola Pashiqi to discuss the details and did not prepare the foundations of a new state. According to Nikola Pashiqi, the support of the Republic of Mirdita as an autonomous unit under the control of the Kingdom of the Serbian Empire, was a serious blow to Muslim Albania under the control of Italy.[36]

The creation of the Republic of Mirdita would in practice be a protectorate of the Kingdom of SKS. The subsequent financial agreement of 1921 meant that the Kingdom of SKS would provide two thousand gendarmes per month with a salary of "three napoleons each", for the bodies of the "central administration", 600 napoleons while for the schools ??100, which would amount to "only 7300 napoleons a month.[37]

Nikola Pašić's support for the establishment of the Republic of Mirdita was part of a general policy towards demarcation with Albania that was supposed to secure a more favorable position for the Kingdom of the Serbs.

After his stay in Belgrade, Marko Gjoni went to Prizren on 17 July 1921. He declared the independence of the Republic of Mirdita and in his capacity as its president. At the end of October, the military forces of the Kingdom of the Serbs occupied Orosh.[38]

The Conference of the Great Powers in Paris, and representatives from Italy, Great Britain, France and Japan, and the League of Nations on 9 November 1921, adopted a decision recognizing the Albanian borders from 1913, with changes in favor of the Kingdom of the Serbs.[39]

Against Albania, the Kingdom of the Slovak Republic and Greece acted together, the representatives of these two states tried without arguments to annul the decisions of the London conference on the borders of Albania, and for this issue not to be examined by the Council of the League of Nations, but by the conference of ambassadors in Paris. In June 1921, in the Council of the League of Nations, the Albanian issue was taken on the agenda for consideration of arguments.[40]

The admission of Albania to the League of Nations, in December 1920, and the decision of the Conference of Ambassadors, of 9 November 1921 for Albania, were two international acts which served to strengthen the international position of the Albanian state.[41]

On December 9, the International Boundary Commission, based on the commitment of the Kosovo Committee, formed the neutral zone of Junik, with nine villages, which were governed by local bodies, without the influence of Tirana and Belgrade, so this area became the nursery of the national liberation movement of Kosovo.[42]

Jusuf Buxhovi writes that this area, from a legal point of view, was with a local self-government, of a tribal nature, with an eldership, under the supervision of a bajraktari.[43]

The 3rd Serbian Army, will order the command of the border zone, based in Prizren, to find some pretext to enter Junik. Since March 1921, Ahmet Zogu, will turn against the Kosovar leaders, who positioned themselves against him during January and February of that year. In early January 1922, the government of Xhafer Ypi created the state high court for the disarmament of the population on the border with the Kingdom of the Serbs.[44]

On January 27, the Albanian army commanded by Prenk Jaku entered the Junik area; after a small resistance, the Kaçaks left Junik.[45] Upon entering Junik, the Kaçaks were routed; some

crossed into Albanian territory, some into deep mountainous areas, while the chetas of Azem Bejta and Mehmet Konjuhi returned to Drenica and Llap, where they had their supporters. [46]

The Royal Army of the Serbian Army authorized the Chetnik forces, led by Milić Kërstić and Dimitrije Bracevič (both reservist colonels), with gendarmerie and artillery, on 17-19 June 1922, to enter Junik.[47] If we analyze it, the establishment of this neutral zone, in that period of government crises, and the offensive of the Serbian army within the area of the borders foreseen by the London Conference, was not at all necessary for the following reasons:

The Kaçaks were concentrated in a small area, creating space for the Serbian military forces to burn entire villages and kill Albanians, without any resistance. This area was governed according to tribal tradition, which very soon also showed divisions within the Kaçaks. As a neutral zone towards both Albania and Serbia, it had no chance of surviving long without being attacked by the armies of both states, as it did when it was destroyed and the Kachaks were forced to leave.

The Mirdita problem remained open until the end of November 1921, when Albanian government troops commanded by Ahmet Zogu entered Orosh without incident and established the authority of the Albanian state in Mirdita. On 28 November 1921, the Albanian government decreed a general amnesty. [48]

During 1921, Serbian army attacks supported by artillery, on a large scale, aided by Vargel's Belgrader bands, undertook a campaign of killing Albanians and burning their villages. Taking stock of the massacres in Dibër and its surroundings during the years 1912-1921, 203 villages were burned, 1698 innocent

citizens were killed. Of these, 260 were children and 285 were women.[49]

Another measure of discrimination against Albanians was the confiscation of the Kocak family's property, this was done with the aim of relocating the Albanian population to Turkey. Among the most severe punitive measures was the internment of the Kocak family's family members outside the territory of Kosovo. After the proclamation of the amnesty law of 1921, to which a small number of Kocak families responded, the Belgrade government will begin implementing measures against the disobedient, internment in the Niš prison. Entire families from all regions of Kosovo were interned in the Niš camp[50].

Reprisals were also carried out in villages if the Kaçaks were helping, or if the war with the Kaçaks was only fought in their area. All the property of illegal families was confiscated and sometimes their houses were burned. The villages where resistance emerged were occupied by the joint action of the army and the gendarmerie, with the addition of artillery.

Larger riots were also recorded, such as the "Llapi riots" (1920), which was brutally suppressed in the village of Prapashtica, writes Dimitrije Bogdsanovic[51] From this author's writing, although he tries to justify the action and terror against the innocent Albanian population, supposedly this was done to create order and fight against the Kocaks, here he admits that the action to kill the civilian population and burn the villages in 1921 was carried out by the regular army of the army equipped with artillery and the gendarmerie of the Serbo-Croatian and Slovene Kingdom.

After this massacre, propaganda was spread among the people through religious clerics that the crimes and burning of Albanian villages were committed by the "Rrëfia" (paramilitary groups

outside the institutional organization of the army and gendarmerie), an expression intended to absolve the Serbian army and gendarmerie of responsibility. We find this word in casual conversations with the elderly of these villages but also in the writings of Albanian scholars who have written about the crimes of the MSKS army, which were committed by the regular army of the Belgrade government.

This topic is well covered in the book Masakra ne Prapashticë dhe Keqekollë written by Ramadan N. Ibrahimit, 1996[52], reprinted 2011[53], then in the book "Monografia e fshatit Prapashticë"[54], published by the same author in 2008, in Ali Berisha's book "Gallapi i Prishtina III 1912-1941"[55]

In the village of Prapashticë, municipality of Prishtina, after the village was burned, 22 families of settlers were brought to the properties of some Albanian owners who had survived. The seven-year efforts of the Albanians from this village, seeking their rights in all instances of the legal bodies of the Kingdom of the Serbian Orthodox Church, did not yield any results. Eventually, they were forced to become tenants or wage laborers. [56]

Armed fighters who opposed the re-occupation by Serbia began to be called Kocak by the Serbs. In order to denationalize the Albanian population, the Serbs sent a division of soldiers to Kosovo. During the months of January 1921 and until August, a campaign of terror against the Albanian population continued. In all Albanian territories, killings, violence, disarmament and displacement of Albanians began. [57]

The Kosovo Committee, headed by Kadri Prishtina, assessing the critical situation on the ground, gave instructions that the chetas should not engage in frontal warfare with the gendarmerie and the Serbian army, which numbered thousands of mobilized soldiers, but should operate in small, mobile formations, to carry out surprise actions against the Serbian army.

In the world opinion, the committee reported and denied with arguments about the actions of the Serbian army and the crimes it committed against the civilian population. In a protest organized by the Committee, it was said that in the districts of Pristina, the Serbian army burned hundreds of villages, slaughtering 4,800 infants, women and the elderly, with the aim of colonizing Albanian lands.[58]

The government of the former Kingdom of the Serbian SSR applied various forms of genocide against the Albanian population. The Serbian program for genocide against the Albanians dated 16.04. 1920 was meticulously implemented by Toma Popovici, Punisha Raciqi, Bozhidar Paunoviqi, Milic Krsta and many other criminals active in the Serbian gendarmerie and army.[59]

In these difficult circumstances for the Albanian population, the Serbs distributed missionaries and embezzled money to as many political leaders of the districts as possible, taking advantage of the tribal and religious organization of the Albanians. The captain of Mirdita, Marka Gjoni, also fell prey to these Russian-Serbian policies, led by Nikolla Pashiqi. Kadri Prishtina, in a letter he sent to Aqif Elbasani, criticized the shameful behavior of some members of the government, and the Italian-Serbian rivalry, which encouraged them to put themselves in their service. During this period, the government used Preng Cali to disrupt the peace of the country.[60]

The gendarmerie commanded by Bozhidar Paunovici, on January 6, 2021, began the killings of the Albanian population in the village of Karaqë, Zagorje, Vushtrri, then the massacres

continued in Segashë, Popovë, Majacë, Bellopoje, Gërdocë, Tërnavë, Sharban, Koliqë, Keqekollë and Prapashticë. Killings of Albanians during this expedition were also carried out in several other villages. During the march of this military expedition, Albanians were also killed in Ballaban, Nishec, Orllan, Kalaticë, etc. In all these villages many children and elderly people were killed, but the largest massacre during that year took place in the villages of Keqekollë and Prapashticë.[61]

On 10 January 1921, they reached Keqekollë and Prapashticë. Upon reaching Keqekollë, they massacred the family of Mulla Adem. In Prapashticë, the Serbian army invited all males over the age of 15 to a meeting at the village mosque. They were ordered to each village fathers brought some small cattle with them to bring food to the Serbian army.

In the village of Prapashtica, more than 1,000 inhabitants were killed, burned and massacred, many entire families were burned, many others disappeared without a trace and some escaped wounded. For a long time, leaving no relatives and having no one to take care of the graves of the killed, very few know the graves of their relatives. From some families, only those who had not been with their families on the critical night survived, that is, those who had been visiting their relatives in other villages that night. [62]

Nazim Gafurri, a well-known Albanian personality who lived in Pristina, in those years was elected representative of the Albanians of the Pristina district in the parliament of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. Nazim collects information from the field, sells part of his property, and goes to Skopje, to notify the media and government institutions in Belgrade, and the League of Nations, via telegram.

Nazim also informs the Committee for the Liberation of Kosovo about this tragedy. The data collected from the field, about the massacres in Albanian villages, were first published in the newspaper "Hak", which was published by Xhemjeti. Several Serbian and foreign newspapers have also written about this case. These Serbian crimes against Albanians were also mentioned in several parliaments of European countries.

After Nazim Gafurri's commitment to internationalize Serbian crimes against the Albanian population, the Serbian services organize their servants to insult Nazim, isolate him, and bypass him. The Serbian services encouraged children to insult Nazim even when he was walking on the street, the children threw tomatoes, eggs, and stones at him with the sole purpose of making Nazim react to them, so that the government would take action against him. The Serbs, seeing Nazim as a danger to their government, as usual paid an Albanian to kill Nazim Gafurri.

As can be seen, the Prapashtica massacre is one of the largest massacres planned by the army of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, against an unprotected population, where in just one day they managed to massacre children, women, and the elderly simply because they were Albanians.[63]

Nazim Gafurri was a representative from the Pristina district in the Royal Parliament in Belgrade, sold his property and went to Skopje, reacting via telegram to Belgrade and informing the media through the newspaper "Hak", an organ of Xhemjet. On 16.02, the newspapers "Pravda" and "Radnicke Novine" wrote about these massacres, then "Besa Shqyptare" in Shkodër. 'Dajti" in Tirana, etc.

He collected data from the field to inform the Committee for the National Defense of Kosovo and the League of Nations.[64] "La Jeune République" published, on Sunday, September 25, 1921,

on the third page, the Swiss writer's account of Serbian crimes against Albanians. The state terror against Albanians was spreading like news throughout Europe, through the social democratic press which was alarming: "So far, over 90 villages have been burned, while the population has been massacred.[65]

Following this, the documents emphasize that entire villages are being burned in Kosovo, people are being killed en masse. The entire Serbian government, the left-wing press wrote, has turned on the Albanians.[66]

From 1922, the Serbian magazine "Ilustrovani List" brought photographs and descriptions of the form of execution of Albanian fighters! The shooting of the group led by Faik Saidi, from the Prilep district in Macedonia.[67] It should be understood that these news were few, because in the Albanian villages, near the Morava and Vardar rivers, the crimes were terrible and much greater, which will never be discovered.

International opinion had the argument about how the Serbian occupying power was behaving towards Albanians, in general, but they took some action to stop them.

The state terror against Albanians was spreading like news all over Europe, through the social democratic press which was alarming: So far over 90 villages have been burned, while the population has been massacred, wrote the press of the time.[68]

Tom Mrijaj, about the plans of the Serbian government between the two world wars, to displace and colonize Albanian lands, quotes the statement of the drafter of one of these projects, Vasa Cubrilovic, who wrote that: "The Albanians are impossible to break, only through gradual colonization....The only way and the only means for this is the brute force of an organized state power, in which we are always above them".[69]

After displacing the ethnic territories and killing the Albanian population, the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, colonized the lands of Albanians with Serbs and Montenegrins. The Head of the Albanian delegation at the Peace Conference, held in Paris on 29.04.2021, also reacted to these massacres committed against Albanians.[70] These crimes were also discussed in the British Parliament, where Albrey Herbert mentioned the Serbian massacres against Albanians when two battalions commanded by a major massacred the villages of Shala, Llpof Galab, mentioning the villages of Prapashtica and Keqekolla. In 1922, the villagers of Prapashtica who had survived also reacted to the massacre carried out by the Serbian army and the colonization of their lands.[71]

Prapashtica, burned six times within 87 years of the 20th century, with over 1500 inhabitants killed and massacred by Serbian military forces, remains today among the most burned Albanian settlements, and with the largest number of victims during the 20th century.

In this village, the inhabitants were bayoneted, burned alive, some disappeared without a trace and we have never learned about their fate. Among the touching cases of survival of the inhabitants of Prapashtica and Keqekolla, which have been told by the survivors, is undoubtedly the little baby Selim Salihu, who had remained alive amidst the snow and frost of that winter.

According to the accounts, when the massacre of the civilian population begins, Selmi's mother, with the small baby in the cradle, and two other women from Veli Salihu's family, leave their house and try to flee the village. Without even leaving 200 m from their houses, the Serbian army begins to shoot at them. The other two women are killed on the spot while Selmi's mother remains seriously wounded.

Wounded like this, she falls to the ground near a rock almost covered in snow. With her hand, she removes as much snow as she can from the rock, turning the cradle, with the small baby, placing the "Kaptell" (a semicircle used to rock babies) of the cradle on the rock, so that the baby's face does not come into contact with the snow. After a few moments, Selmi's mother also dies.

Selmi is left alone in the middle of the snow. A day later, some Montenegrin Serbs from the Medvedja region had crossed the border and entered Prapaštica with the intention of looting and stealing everything of value they could find. The Serbs had also taken some women with them.

Based on the accounts that later emerged from the Serbs themselves participating in this looting expedition, it is said that as soon as they approached those corpses, they heard the wailing and crying of little Selim. The Serbs ordered one of them and a Serbian woman to approach the baby and see if it was a girl or a boy. The Serb who went to the baby was instructed that if it was a girl, they should take the baby with them, and if it was a boy, they should kill him with a bullet.

When the Serbian woman comes forward and sees the baby in that condition and the three Albanian women killed near the cradle, she says that it is a boy, the Serb turns his rifle and fires a bullet outside the cradle, but does not kill Selim because he sees that he would die anyway.[72]

After this Serbian expedition passes, some Albanian kaçaks pass by these corpses. The kaçaks come across the corpses and the cradle resting on stones. The kaçaks take the cradle and go down to an abandoned house in the village of Keqekollë. As soon as they enter that house, they light a fire in the middle of the house.

When they light the fire, they put a cezve with water and sugar to warm it.

One of the kaçaks takes the cezve and, using his finger, begins to wet Selim's wet lips. After a few moments, Selim begins to move his tongue and lips to suck the syrup through the kaçak's finger. Selim, after warming up and drinking the syrup, begins to wake up. The kaçaks begin to undress Selim, but according to the stories, his tender skin on some parts of his body remained on Selim's clothes. After warming Selim, they wrap him up again in his clothes, and leave him alone, near the fire in that house.

The kaçaks, after leaving the baby in that state, go out to the village of Koliq, and tell the story. Selami's uncle, Veliu, had been in Koliq, who ran to find Selim. Veliu takes Selim and sends him to the village of Koliq. Selim stays in Koliq, about 3 months, then returns to his hometown, grows up with great suffering, but creates a family, and today his descendants live. [73]

About these massacres, the memory of the inhabitants and the survivors remained various and very touching stories that were published by many historians: Adem Ajvazi, writes that in the village of Prapashtica, in the family of a Musa, an 8-year-old girl had survived who, at the moment when the massacres began in her family, had fallen under a spell, and had remained there for 7 hours, until the Serbian army had left.[74]

Another touching case, which was discovered later after World War II, was a girl of about 15 years old in the village of Keqekollë. The girl had been very beautiful, tall, with blue eyes, when the Serbian army massacred her family in 1921, the leader of the Serbian army separated her from the family in order to take her with him. Many years passed and her fate was

unknown. In the sixties of the 20th century, some merchants from Llapi go to buy plums in the villages of Kushumli, and shoot at her family. But as evening approaches and they do not manage to pick all the plums, they offer the Albanians to sleep one night in their house.

in their to continue work the next day. Meanwhile, that woman takes the opportunity to talk to the plum buyers, telling them about the case, how the Serbian soldier had taken her as a wife. The woman had begged them not to discuss this topic with her son, since he did not know this and out of pride for his father, and the hatred he had for the Albanians, would kill him even though he had a mother.

The woman ordered the plum buyers to go to the village of Keqekollë, to her birthplace, to see if the pear tree where she had played as a child in the yards, near the well, still exists, and when they come next time, to inform her about the appearance of the plot where she was born and spent her childhood. This story proves that the barbaric hordes of the Serbian army in 1921, had taken young women and girls with them, whose fate and experiences we will never learn.

That the survival of Albanians in today's border region with Serbia, but also for those who remained under Serbian rule in 1878, was very difficult is also demonstrated by the case of Azize Namanir-Krasniqi (1916) born in the village of Prapashticë. Azize was 4 years old in 1921 when the Serbian army killed her father.

Azize's mother with 3 small children managed to escape and take refuge deep in the mountains of the village of Marec. Azize grew up orphaned and with much suffering in life. She married Sadri Krasniqi (1916) in the village of Makoc. Exactly 80 years later, in April 1999, the Serbian army killed Aziza in her house,

along with her husband Sadriu, brother-in-law Fetiu (1921), and after killing them, they burned the bodies along with the house, leaving Nexhmedin (1958), Fetiu's son, who took care of the sick elderly, also killed.

Regarding the violence and terror that the Serbian army exercised from 1878-1999 against the Albanian population in the Pristina highlands, we cannot fail to mention one case, which I, together with my colleague Emin Sallahu, recorded during the reconnaissance of the terrain in the village of Koliq, municipality of Pristina, by the brothers Fetah and Gani Latifi in the "Qoku" neighborhood.

Fetahu recounts that during the last war in the mountains, he came across the corpse of a young Albanian girl, whom the Serbian army, after having raped her, had pierced with a wooden stick (hu), from her genitals to her mouth! He recounted with emotion and sadness how he had removed the stick and buried that young girl. This was one of the many cases that presents the cruelty and barbarity of the Serbian military and paramilitary police forces, which did not spare age, gender or category of people (disabled) of the Albanian population.

In this article, we offered only a few of the thousands of cases of Albanian victims who were killed and massacred by the Serbian army, so that the reader can experience in his own feelings, regret and pain for innocent victims.

All historical periods explain to us that the Serbs for two centuries practiced genocide according to the platforms programmed in cooperation of the Serbian government and the Orthodox Church, in most cases instigated and supported by Russia. The Serbs have now formed a genetically based mentality, for the extermination of the Albanian population, with the most barbaric and inhuman methods, since they were never

punished for the crimes committed, but on the contrary found support and protection from many powerful European countries.

#### Main article

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# The Serbian massacre of 1920 by Rashe Pantiqi in Artakoll and Qyqavica



Authored by Bedri Tahiri. Translation by Petrit Latifi.

In 1920, the Serbian criminal Rashe Pantiqi, after loosing a battle against Azem Bejta in Qyqavicë, collected 84 Albanian civilians from Artakolli, a plan called the "Yrrëfije", and massacred them all in Rogë e Vjedullave of Qyqavicë.

#### The tombstone reads:

### "YOUR BLOOD-LIGHT OF FREEDOM

In the autumn of 1920, the Serbian punitive platoon, led by the criminal Rashe Pantiqi, after the losses in Qyqavica, by the fighters of Azem Galica, undertook the action called Yrrëfije, where they gathered 84 people from Artakolli and shot them, in Rogë e Vjedullave, in Qyqavica.

Among the 21 killed by Strofci, four were from the bajraktar door (three brothers and a nephew):

#### HASAN BAJRA HASANI

(Fighter in Merdar (where he received a wound), in Skopje (with Hasan Pristina), accused of killing the priest of Prilluzha (1917) and in Azem Galica's Squad)

## HYSEN BAJRA-HASANI SELMAN BAJRA-HASANI ZYMER SEFERI-HASANI

Glory and respect to all the fallen of that day!

Father Bajram's bequest was carried out by his son, Kadri Hasani (2024)"

## "THE LEADERSHIP OF THE GENERATIONS

Whoever honors history, creates the future!

Map of the Albanian Homeland sewn with blood: Drenica-Artakolli-Qyqavica!

Every time the fire of freedom-loving people was lit in heroic Drenica, the rebellious Artakolli also burned. A mutual melody. Perhaps the Hours of the mythical Qyqavica themselves had determined their common fate. History, yesterday and today, best proves this. Perhaps, even the future.

And, always together; in the time of Azem Galica, in the time of Shaban Polluzha, in the time of Adem Jashari.

Our ancestors wrote history with blood and left us this piece of homeland, filled with graves, battles, events, songs...

A homeland filled with invincible Lisas, who successfully faced devastating storms!

Another unforgettable event was Black Tuesday of October 18, 1920, when the Serbian military punitive platoon, led by the criminal Rashe Pantiqi (also known as Captain Rasha, who, since 1910-1912, knew these villages well, because he had moved here first, with a map in hand, presenting himself as a Muslim from Sandzak), after heavy losses in Qyqavica, by Azem Galica's fighters, undertook the vengeful action called Yrrëfije, where he gathered 84 people from the villages of Artakoll and, tied up, shot them, where they had lost the battle days before, in Roga e Vjedullave in Qyqavica (today Vorret e Qyqavica).

That day, 21 people were killed from Strofci, among them four from the well-known family of the Bajraktar of Strofci (Bajram Hasani, who was the only bajraktar in Artakoll).

So, from this well-known family of patriots and generous people, three brothers were shot: HASAN BAJRA- HASANI (A distinguished fighter in the Battle of Merdar in 1912 (where he was wounded), then in Skopje, in the march of the insurgents led

by the great Hasan Prishtina, accused of murdering the priest of Prilluzha (1917) and a vocal member of the Azem Galica Çeta), HYSEN BAJRA- HASANI, SELMAN BAJRA- HASANI and their nephew ZYMER SEFERI- HASANI.

This deeply rooted and branched oak tree, today rests under the centuries-old oak tree that is cared for like an Omen in the Strofc cemetery.

Oak under the oak! Or, better: Oaks under the oak!

A legacy passed down through generations.

And this historical and mythical legacy, which Bajrami (son of Hasan, Azem Galica's fellow soldier) had carried in his ear, was fulfilled by his son, teacher Kadri Hasani!

Bajrami was a man who could not be beaten by a dog. The waves of life threw him here and there, but he remained upright. He himself had experienced the path paved with nettles of migration to Turkey, but fate had spared him from the deserts of Anatolia, and he had stayed in Skopje for six years and then returned to Kosovo to resume his recovery.

He had many bequests, but as a leitmotif transformed into a life ideal he had ONE: These four men and the two sisters (one in Abri and the other in Druar), who were also killed by the bullet of the centuries-old enemy (the Serbs), but also all those killed in wars and battles, should not dissolve in the dust of oblivion, but should be commemorated, marked, resurrected...

Thus, after more than a century, this common Plaque was placed and four others for each grave, with great historical-national values, which I am calling SACRED SIGNS! If we respected these SACRED SIGNS, we have respected our national history of hundreds of years, which with the glorious war of the Kosovo Liberation Army, crowned our goals for generations and brought FREEDOM!

These Holy Signs speak volumes! These are history past history!

Shouldn't this good and auspicious work also reflect in the conscience of those who are responsible (the authorities) for a Plaque or Monument of eternity at the scene of the incident, in Qyqavicë!

No comment! History keeps records and does not forgive anyone! The inimitable Hasan Prishtina advised us to guard against the curse of history!

Well, it is not said in vain: He who honors history, creates the future!

Congratulations Kadri Hasani for this immortal work!

Glory and respect to all the fallen of that day and of all historical periods!

Strofe, January 10, 2025

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## The Serbian massacre of 1927 in Prishtina

Authored by Petrit Latifi. Material taken from <u>FM Images</u> Albania.

In this exclusive interview from 1984, an Albanian refugee from Prishtina tells a horrific tragedy that occured in 1927. During the winter of that year, Serbian soldiers surrounded the village and murdered anyone they encountered. The survivors managed to flee to Albania.





Mala Kolë Klaudia (1984-1999) murdered by Serbs in Korenicë

## Klaudia Malaj's Last Spring

Klaudia Malaj was 15 years old when spring came in 1999. With her innocence she could have been a doctor, an architect, a diplomat. She could have presented Kosovo at international conferences, but she was a completely unlucky child. No religious book could describe her innocence. No... Not even the title of the novel "Veronika decides to die". Klaudia had not decided to die. Cynicism and barbarity had settled in the Balkans. She lived in the Balkans In Korenica. Korenica was 6 kilometers away from Gjakova and 2 kilometers away from Meja. This was Klaudia Malaj's only "sin".

Because of this cynical "sin", Klaudia Malaj is not a doctor, nor an architect, nor a musician, nor a diplomat of Kosovo. It is located in the cemetery of the martyrs in Meje. Previously, it was located in Batajnica near Belgrade in the cemetery designed as Batajnica 2 as body 376 from the tragedy in Meje.

One night before April 27, Klaudia Malaj could have had many dreams, many dreams and so little time, the barbarians were

counting time not with Swiss watches but with knives left over from the tragedies of the Balkans.

On April 27, 1999, Klaudia Malaj was woken up by gunfire and burning houses. She did not know that a terrible massacre had been planned in the villages of Gjakova. She did not know that 376 Albanians would be killed that day. She had only many dreams and the last day of her life. Groups of paramilitaries with cowboy hats, camouflage uniforms and flag ribbons entered her yard.

Klaudia could only have seen them in fantasy films and sad dreams. When they entered the yard, they killed Klaudia's father, Kola, and grandmother, Monika. At that moment, Klaudia ran like she was chasing butterflies. She ran after her grandmother, who shot her and, according to witnesses, took the bullets from behind her back and her hair flew into the air.

In the air, killed in the direction of God. She was killed to kill the testimony but that day 38 other children were killed in Meje. Their cynical "sin" was that they were 15 years old and the orders were that they were able not to see dreams but to take hypothetical rifles.

On April 27, 1999, it was the last spring of Klaudia Malaj and it should be the first day of Kosovo's freedom. Klaudia Malaj could represent Kosovo at international conferences but cynical and completely barbaric fate sent her to a cold grave in Meje three kilometers near Gjakova.

Excerpt from the book in manuscript "My grandmother and the plum meadow". P.S: "Plum meadow" is a toponym in Meje filled with the corpses of Albanians on April 27, 1999. There and around that day 376 Albanians were executed. In the photo, Klaudia Malaj, a fifteen-year-old girl executed in this massacre.

## The Serbian prison in Nish was the worst of Europe

Written by Luan-Asllan Dibrani. Translation by Petrit Latifi.



Albanians imprisoned in this prison in 1913 in the Albanian resistance to protect their lands from the great powers and the Slavs

Niš Prison in Serbia, one of the most notorious in Europe for Albanians and other persecuted groups! Niš Prison in Serbia has a horrific history for Albanians and others who have suffered there, especially during various periods of war and ethnic tensions in the Balkans.

Over the past decades, this prison has been a symbol of the brutal treatment and torture of Albanian prisoners and others who were considered dangerous or undesirable by the regime. Yes, Niš Prison in Serbia has a fraught and painful history,

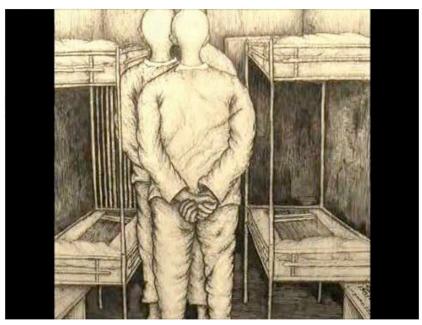
especially for Albanians and other groups who have suffered there during various historical periods in the Balkans.

During the time of the communist regime and other periods of ethnic tension, this prison became known for torture, mistreatment and harsh conditions, the purpose of which was to suppress any dissenting voice or that was considered a threat to the regime.

For many Albanians, Niš Prison carries bitter memories of family separations and traumatic experiences that are passed down from generation to generation. This period reflects a bitter reality of life under repression and inhuman treatment that symbolizes the continuing obstacles to peace and mutual respect in the region.

Following the events of the spring of 1981 in Kosovo, a period in which large-scale student protests demanding equal rights and improved political status erupted, many Albanian intellectuals, students, and activists were arrested and sent to various prisons in Yugoslavia. Niš Prison in Serbia became one of the main centers where Albanian political prisoners were held, including prominent figures of the freedom and equality movement.

Yes, the events of 1981 mark a difficult period and filled with repression against Albanians in Kosovo and abroad. After mass protests by Albanian students in Pristina and other cities in Kosovo in the spring of that year, the Yugoslav regime responded with widespread violence, arrests, and repressive measures against those demanding greater rights and autonomy for Kosovo. The demonstrations began as demands for improved living conditions and the right to education in the Albanian language, but later evolved into demands for Kosovo's status as a republic within Yugoslavia.



Work by Syle Mujaj motive from us former political prisoners in this notorious prison.

During the former Yugoslavia, and especially during the years of Slobodan Milošević's rule, many Kosovo Albanians, accused of political activity or opposition to the Serbian state, were imprisoned and mistreated in this institution. There is ample evidence of violence, torture, and appalling conditions in this prison, making it one of the most notorious places in Europe for Albanians and other persecuted groups, resulting in the deaths of a number of former political prisoners.

Yes, even during the 1970s, Niš Prison in Serbia was a site of many conflicts and violent clashes between Albanian prisoners and prison authorities.

During this period, many Albanian prisoners resisted harsh treatment and attempts to force them into submission, which often escalated into conflicts with guards and prison officials. Violence and abuse were common, and it is reported that during that period there were killed and wounded on both sides. "Serbian guards often used extreme violence to control Albanian prisoners, while some of the prisoners made attempts to defend themselves or protest".

This period has left deep consequences and painful memories for Albanians who suffered in Yugoslav prisons and in Niš in particular. Memories of these events have influenced the formation of Albanians' attitudes and feelings towards that regime, making this period a dark chapter in Albanian-Serbian relations from which they later passed into more powerful confrontations until the formation of the KLA at the outbreak of war against the former Yugoslavia (Serbia).

The regime responded with harsh measures, imprisoning thousands of Albanians and using torture and psychological violence to force prisoners to surrender or admit guilt for activities "against the state". In Niš Prison and other notorious prisons in Serbia, Albanians faced inhumane treatment, including torture, prolonged solitary confinement, lack of food, and appalling sanitary conditions.

The regime responded with harsh measures, imprisoning thousands of Albanians and using torture and psychological violence to force prisoners to surrender or plead guilty to "antistate" activities.

From 1981 onwards, mass imprisonment and harsh punishments became common practice to suppress any form of resistance by Kosovo Albanians. The regime also persecuted political activists and intellectuals, branding them "irredentists" or "separatists," and sentencing them to long years in prison. In many cases,

Albanian prisoners did not have proper access to legal protection, and court proceedings were often rigged.

## More evidence of these events can be found in these state institutions.

Personal Accounts – Former prisoners and their families have often published accounts and memoirs that include important details and names of their fellow sufferers.

Historical Archives – State archives in Kosovo and Albania, as well as those in the former Yugoslavia, may contain important documents.

Human Rights Organizations – Organizations such as the Humanitarian Law Center in Serbia and Kosovo have documented human rights and may have lists of political prisoners.

Books and Monographs – Books by well-known authors that have researched the history of Yugoslav repression of Albanians, as well as memoirs written by former prisoners.

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### The Serbian massacre of Pozharan in 1944

Petrit Latifi

In this Albanian newspaper, we can read on the 60th anniversary of the Serbian massacre of the Albanians of Pozharan. Translated from the article:

"The Orthodox candles are lit with Albanian blood.

The Serbian massacre of the Albanians of the village of Pozharan, known as the "Massacre in the mosque", began on December 27, 1944 and lasted until January 7, 1945. In this unprecedented massacre with blunt instruments, four citizens of Pozharana were first killed:

Shaban Halit Alidema, 75 years old, Misin Xheladin Alidema, Ajer Fejze Tërziqi and Ahmet Mustafë. Zuka, meanwhile the other 24, young and old Pozharanas were sent to the notorious prison of that time in Gjilan where they were tortured and from these 16 Pozharanas never returned, whose graves are not even known."

"It is known that during its difficult history, the Albanian population of the Anamorava region, as well as in other parts of Kosovo inhabited by Albanians, has often experienced various massacres, such as the case of the Serbian massacre of the Albanians of the village of Lubishte, Smirë, Gjylekar, etc., in the municipality of Vitia, which were carried out by the various occupiers, especially the Serbs.

However, in terms of the manner in which the massacre was carried out against the inhabitants of Pozharan, now known as the "Massacre in the Church", carried out and executed here 60

years ago, i.e. immediately after the end of the Second World War, due to the entry of Partisan-Chetnik forces into Kosovo.

Shaban Halit Alidema, the first victim of the massacre in Pozharan."

Reference: Albanian newspaper.

## Serbian atrocities in 1942-1943 killing little babies and women

Article by Petar Horvatic. Translated by Petrit Latifi.

Although Kozara stood out as the greatest crime against children in World War II, and even massacres by nuns were invented, by far the most crimes against children were committed by the JVO – the official army of Yugoslavia known as the Chetniks. They even slaughtered children en masse in their cradles. This was the work of the Chetniks, the dirtiest and most cruel army of World War II in Europe.

Chetniks (JVO) are the official army of Yugoslavia and the refugee government in London in II. world war, and this is hidden after 1945 to this day. The leader of the Serbian Chetniks, Draža Mihajlović, was a general in the Yugoslav army and a minister in the Yugoslav government

A large proportion of the Chetnik victims of these massacres in the NDH and Sandžak were innocent children, just as in Rama (NDH) in 1942, where the Chetniks killed every child taller than a 128 cm Italian short rifle.

Chetniks particularly slaughtered and killed along the border of the Independent State of Croatia with Serbia and Montenegro, on both sides of the border during World War II. The largest massacres were near the tri-border of the Independent State of Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, where a real genocide was committed against the non-Serb population.

The Chetnik massacre in the east of NDH and Sandžak in February 1943 was the most massive war crime against children in World War II. world war. The massacre was carried out on the territory of Bijelo Polje, Pljevlje, Priboj, and Čajnič and Foča in the NDH. This operation of ethnic cleansing and genocide was directed by the supreme commander of the JVO, General Dragoljub Mihailović, whose headquarters was then located near the killing zone, through his commanders Pavel Đurišić, Vojislav Lukačević and Petar Baćović.

During this operation, several thousand people were killed in Pljevlja, Priboj, Foča and Čajniče, with particular Chetnik hatred towards Muslims. According to Đurišić's report, around 9,200 Muslims were killed, of whom around 1,200 were men and up to 8,000 were women, the elderly and children. Among them, there was an extremely high proportion of children of the youngest age.

Based on the available list of victims from the municipality of Pljevlja (Sandžak, Montenegro), we see that in that municipality alone, 1,370 people were killed at that time, mostly small children. The youngest victims were newborns, babies up to a month old, 13 of whom were killed in their cribs. More than half of those killed by the Yugoslav Chetnik army were children up to 14 years of age.

A large number of those killed were not even recorded, because no one had any information about them and because Chetnik victims and refugees were fleeing in all directions. At least 349 people were killed in the municipality of Sočice, 261 in Meljak, 236 in Bukovica, 235 in Bučje, 191 in Boljanići, 56 in Gotovuša, 14 in Kosanica, eight in Ilin Brdo and one each in Hoćevina and Otilovići.

Around 638 victims were slaughtered, 286 burned, 231 killed with a rifle, 106 butchered and 91 drowned. Around 160 women were raped. The biggest crimes took place in Prehari, Goleši and Milunići. In Prehari, 52 children were thrown into the Ćehotina pit, and over 20 women were raped. In Dolovi, 42 women and children were gathered in a house which was then set on fire. Only 245 of those killed were adult men, and the rest were elderly people, women and children.

#### List of civilians killed in Sanxhak can be found here

https://bosnjaci.net/pdfs/ SPISAK\_ZRTAVA\_FEBRUARSKOG\_POKOLJA\_1943.pdf

Pljevlja – every fourth victim of slaughter is a child under the age of 4, and more than half of those killed are children under the age of 14

Over a quarter of all those killed (around 26%) are children under the age of four. Over half of the total number of victims (around 53.5%) are children under the age of 14, <u>bosnjaci.net reports.</u>

They threw children, women and old people into houses, filled the houses with straw or hay and then set them on fire; they tied women to oak trees, put straw in their pyres and then burned them while singing:

"About Christmas of the Forty-third" for the Chetniks, here is happiness,

instead of wood and Christmas tree, a log of heads from the Turks."

#### Records of Chetnik crimes have been preserved:

"...In the village of Korita, in the house of Novčić, 16 people were killed and burned, and Bega Ličina filled the houses with smoke and set them on fire. The Chetniks raced through the village on horses and shot children who were running away. Murat Mehović, a blind old man of 70 years, was slaughtered and thrown into the fire. Mahmut Beganović was cut into pieces.

Selmo Dervović was cut into pieces and his two daughters were slaughtered. 20 mutilated corpses remained in the courtyard of Aziz Šabanović. Little Hasim, six months old, when he was looking for his dead mother's breast, was grabbed by the legs, slammed to the ground and thrown into the fire.

They threw Džemo, four years old, Šabanović Šaćir, six years old, Ermo Muharemova and Ragib's three children into the fire alive. Then Džemo's three children and Halit's daughters and Raif, two years old. That's how the other villages also passed. Along the muddy roads, through thickets and forests, miserable crowds fled, barefoot and naked, with dismayed and frantic looks, some towards Bijela Polje, others towards Rozaje...

The terrible Chetnik crimes in the Bjelopolje region were an ominous prelude a month later to even more massive suffering of Muslims in the Priboj and Pljevljan regions in Sandžak and Čajnički and Fočanski in Bosnia..." (Safet Bandžović: "Emigration Muslims from Sandžak").

The counties of Čajniče and Foča where these massacres were carried out were parts of the Independent State of Croatia, and the rest of the places where the bloody massacres of the

Yugoslav Chetnik army were carried out were located right on the border with Montenegro and Serbia.

These parts are today part of the Republika Srpska in Bosnia and Herzegovina and have been almost completely cleared of the Muslim population, almost only Serbs now live there. What the Yugoslav Army in the Fatherland (JVO, Chetniks) did not do in 1941-1945. was completed by the Yugoslav army, the JNA, in 1992.

The army that Josip Broz Tito created in that very year 1945. In the last war, the JNA and Serbian Chetniks expelled and killed almost all non-Serbs from that area in 1992. Without the JNA, the genocide against Croats in Croatia, and Croats and Bosniaks in Bosnia and Herzegovina, would not have been possible.

Based on the available list of victims of the district of Pljevlja, we see that 1,370 people were killed in that municipality alone, mostly small children, and a large number of children were babies aged one year, a month or less.

The youngest victims were newborns, babies up to one month old, of whom 13 were killed.

Over a quarter of all those killed (around 26%) are children under the age of four.

More than half of the total number of victims (around 53.5%) are children under 14 years of age.

Some of the names of babies in cradles killed in 1943 in the town of Pljevlja by Yugoslav Chetniks Pavle Đurišić:

HASOVIĆ A. JUSUF, born in 1942 (age one year)

MUSIC M. BEGIJA, born in 1943. (baby)

SLJIVO M. HAJRIJA, born in 1943. (baby)

ŠLJUKA Š. EMA, born in 1943. (baby)

MOĆEVIĆ J. SIMBULA, born in 1943. (baby)

MOĆEVIĆ M. ĐUZIDA, born in 1943. (baby)

ČORBO L. LATIFA, born in 1943. (baby)

MUSIC S. HAJRO, born in 1943. (baby)

MAŠOVIĆ A. ELMASA, born in 1943. (baby)

KELEMIŠ J. RAŠID, born in 1943. (baby)

SIJAMIĆ R. ZUMRA, born in 1943. (baby)

MAŠOVIĆ DŽ. HAZBIJA, born in 1943. (baby)

ŠATARA M. NURA, born in 1943. (baby)

HEKALO M. MURADIF, born in 1943. (baby)

KUBUR M. HAMDO, born in 1942. (age one year)

ŠLJUKA M. ZADA, born in 1942. (age one year)

PLAKALO R. NURA, born in 1942. (age one year)

SIJAMIĆ A. ZIZO, born in 1942. (age one year)

GEC P. RABIJA, born in 1942. (age one year)

PRLJAČA R. ADILA, born in 1942. (age one year)

MOĆEVIĆ A. ZLATIJA, born in 1942. (age one year)

DRKENDA DZH. RASIM, born in 1942. (age one year)

KORORA R. SAFIJA, born in 1942. (age one year)

KLAPUH S. FATIMA, born in 1942. (age one year)

PUŠKA M. NAZA, born in 1942. (one year old)

KADRIĆ DZ. MEVLA, born in 1942. (age one year)

KISELICA M. HAŠIM, born in 1942. (one year old)

KISELICA M. SABIT, born in 1942. (one year old)

PUCAR DZH. HAJIRA, born in 1942. (age one year)

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# List of Serbian war criminals and Albanians massacred in 1998-1999

#### Authored by Petrit Latifi

Serbian war criminal Bohan Bashcevic executes the Albanian prisoners at the prison of Dubrava (May 22, 1999).

## The command structure of the Serbian police forces in 1998-99 was:

- 1. Slobodan Miloševec
- 2. Nikola Šahinović,
- 3. Millan Millutinović,
- 4. Mirko Marjanović
- 5. Vlajko Stoilković
- 6. Major General Nikola Cvijić
- 7. Colonel General Vlastimir Gjorgjevic
- 8. Colonel General Obrad Stevanović
- 9. Major General Petar Zeković
- 10. Colonel General Radomir Marković
- 11. Colonel General Stojan Mjak
- 12. Frenki Simatović
- 13. Milorad Luković (legion)
- 14. David Gajić
- 15. Živko Trajković
- 16. Sreten Lukić
- 17. Colonel Dragutin Adamov
- 18. Colonel Gradimir Zeković
- 19. Colonel Lubinka Cvetić
- 20. Colonel Dušan Gravnik
- 21. Colonel Bora Vukovic
- 22. Colonel Bogolub Ivanovic.

#### The structure of the Serbian military forces in 1999 was:

- 1. Slobodan Milosevic-Supreme Commander
- 2.General Dragolub Ojdanic
- 3. General Colonel Nebojsa Pavkovic
- 4.General Colonel Radoslav Martinovic
- 5.General Colonel Srboljub Trajkovic
- 6.General Colonel Geza Fakas
- 7. General Major Lubisha Stoimirovic
- 8.General Major Vladimir Lazarevic
- 9. Negosav Nikolic
- 10. Colonel Mladen Cirkovic
- 11Colonel Dragan Zhivanovic
- 12. Colonel Bozhidar Dolic
- 13. Colonel Krosman Jelic
- 14. Colonel Radojko Stevanovic
- 15.Zelko Pekovic
- 16Colonel Ilija Todorov
- 17. Colonel Branislla Lukic...

# In addition to the regular military-police forces Serbian, paramilitary forces have also acted such as:

- 1.ARKAN's forces,
- 2.SESEL's forces
- 3.DRASHKOVIC's forces
- **4.RED BERETS**

This is the Serbian command pyramid which has given orders and carried out numerous massacres throughout Kosovo.

# On this occasion, I am highlighting only some of the massacres committed:

- 1. Likoshan Massacre,
- 2. Qirezi Massacre
- 3. Prekaz Massacre
- 4. Abris Massacre
- 5. Recak Massacre,
- 6. Rrezalle Massacre
- 7. Izbica Massacre
- 8. Lubenic Massacre
- 9. Padalishte Massacre
- 10. Qyshku Massacre
- 11. Rrezalle Massacre
- 12. Zahaqi Massacre
- 13. Dubrava Prison Massacre
- 14. Rogove e Hasi Massacre
- 15. Krusha e Madhe Massacre
- 16. Celina Massacre
- 17. Bellacerka Massacre
- 18. Krusha e Vogel Massacre
- 19. Tusus Neighborhood Massacre in Prizren
- 20. Theranda Massacre
- 21. of Gjakova
- 22. Meja Massacre
- 23. Korenica Massacre...and hundreds of other massacres.

### Serbian criminals killed and massacred the following:

- 1.Zeqir Deliajn-1954-1998
- 2.Habib——1948-1998
- 3.Hysen-1946-1998
- 4.Mihane H.—-1982-1998
- 5.Ali.....1930-1998
- 6.Zahide......1971-1998
- 7. Antigone H..... 1984-1998(child)
- 8.Fazli......1904-1998
- 9.Lumnije.....1969-1998
- 10.Jeton.....1988-1998(child)
- 11.Menduhije.....1994-1998(child)
- 12.Diturije......1998-1998(baby)
- 13.Bekim ......1971-1998
- 14.Gentiana.....1990-1998(child)
- 15.Pajazit.....1929-1998
- 16.Sherif......1931-1998
- 17.Adem.....1965-1998
- 18.Haride.....1938-1998

19.Hava1936-1998
20.Mihane1973-1998
21.Donjeta1991-1998(child)
22.Hajriz1964-1998
23.Valmir1996-1998(baby)
24.Luljeta1971-1998

### The Serbian massacre of Dragaqin in 1999

Petrit Latifi

Todays on 21.04.2025 marks the 26th anniversary since the Dragaqina Massacre.

### Martyrs who fell:

Ymer Trolli, b. 1908. Shahin Trolli, b. 1917. Uke Trolli, b. 1924. Sejdi Trolli, b. 1927. Isuf Trolli, 1934. Tahir Trolli, b. 1936. Sherif Trolli, b. 1937. Azem Trolli, b. 1939. Nazif Trolli, b. 1941. Haki Trolli, b. 1943. Petrit Trolli, b. 1982. May they rest in peace.

Reference: Relatives information.