

# LANGUAGE POLICIES OF ADMINISTRATIONS IN ALBANIAN TERRITORY (1012-1920)

**Blendis Pustina**

## **Abstract**

Although the Albanian press on the eve of Independence claimed the usage of the Albanian language in administrative and judicial activity, the use of this language in public administration of Albanian provinces, was not fulfilled, as the demand for their autonomy was rejected forcefully by the Sublime Porte. The Albanian language became state language only after the Proclamation of Independence. The war to consolidate it as the official language of communication in all Albanian public administration continued with as much effort as the one to ensure the territorial integrity and establishment of the new Albanian state's authority within the borders allocated by the London Conference. The object of this article is the approach of different governments and administrations that have ruled Albania in the period 1912-1920, towards the Albanian language and language policies dealing with the appointment of Albanian as an official language of the Albanian state and extent of its use in the administration. This paper is a modest attempt to reflect the life of the Albanian language as an official language and to bring information, authentic evidence and fresh conclusions. In order to somehow make up for the lack of archival material of the time, in its preparation, besides primary sources (such as historical archive documents), press of the time, as well as publications of historical documents, were also used. Language policies pursued by various governing bodies in Albania during the period under review, the establishment of a unified Albanian administration, as well as the efforts of professionals to create formal and legal terminology, brought, along with the general development of the Albanian language and its complete use in state activity, the outlining of the Albanian administrative style.

**Key words:** *albanian language, language policies, official language*