

NATIONAL NAME OF ALBANIANS – ACCORDING TO FOREIGN AND ALBANIAN SCHOLARS

Hatixhe Hoxha

Email Address: hatixhe_hoxha@hotmail.com

Abstract

To determine the origins of a language or the origin of a nation, it is of great relevance to know about its national title, and its continuation from ancient times to our days. Undoubtedly for Albanians and their language, a study of national name is relevant, together with scientific arguments on whether there is continuation through many centuries. Foreign and Albanian scholars engaged in a study of origin or the continuation of the National name of Albanians, based on the fact that Ptolemy had since the 2nd Century AD mentioned the tribe *Albanoi* and the city of *Albanopolis*, right in the territory of the ancient Illyrians, the territory which is today inhabited by Albanians, and they thought that this continuity of territorial inhabitation, and this comparison of the names *Albanoi-Albanopolis*. According to some scholars, there may be some points of approximation with the ethnicity name *arbëror-Arbëri*, or is there direct descent. There are still scholars who do not support such a thesis. According to the second type scholars, the relation of the ancient name *albanoi* and the name of today's *arbër* does not exist, because Albanians, even being newcomers to the place, could have inherited the name from the ancient residents, the Illyrians, as has happened with several other peoples.

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