

## THE EDUCATIONAL REFORM (1932-1936)

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### **Abstract**

The purpose of the paper is to present the reasons why the reform was undertaken and the character and importance that educational reform applied by the Albanian state had during 1932 - 1936. This reform aimed the nationalization and secularization of Albanian educational reform, which back then was mainly prevailed by Italian and clerical schools. Based on the writings of scholars (Fisher, Milo, Gogaj etc.), we can conclude that the reform was mainly undertaken to serve firstly as a reaction to the pressure that fascist Italy was exerting on the Albanian monarch, to increase its influence in Albania. Thus the development of the reform should be observed in the framework of aggravation of the political relationships between Italy and Albania, which starts in November 1931 when king Zogu refuses the ratification of the First Pact of Tirana. It continues with the Italian pressures for the interruption of financial credit, requests for customs unification and reaches its peak with the naval demonstration of June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1934. Besides the role of Ahmet Zogu, particular importance is given to the role of two Education Ministers, H. Mosi and M. Ivanaj, who were determined to weaken the foreign influence in education and also to encourage its development on national and secular principles. They were convinced that this could be achieved only by submitting Education under total control of the state. The fiat-law on Education / September 14<sup>th</sup> 1932 (punishments for those citizens that send their children to foreign schools – favoring the students that studied in Albania), together with the decisions of the Albanian Parliament / April 11<sup>th</sup> 1933 (which amended articles 206 and 207 of the Fundamental Statute of the Kingdom), give us the whole character of the reform. The paper, through studying of Italian Legation document, presents also the reaction of the latter and also the place that Educational Issue occupied in the Italian – Albanian negotiation of 1933 – 1935.

**Keywords:** *reform, modern state, Hilë Mosi, Mirash Ivanaj, King Zogu, educational system.*