

THE RELATION OF MIRDITA WITH THE ALBANIAN LEAGUE OF PRIZREN

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Abstract

Before the unification of Albanians in the League of Prizren, Mirdita was a province with a special status. This status was given to this area a long time ago thanks to the cooperation of Mirdita with the Turks. This collaboration consisted of a mutual agreement under which Mirdita retained its own rights, customs and will be governed under the laws of its own, a kind of local autonomy and on the other hand Mirdita was obligated to supply the Ottoman army in case of war with Mirdita army's contingent. Mirdita was remarkable for its captains who lead, but the most important one was Bib Doda, who, for the help he gave to the Turks in the latter wars, took the title "Pasha". His death left Mirdita and its running in a kind of crossroads. His son, Prenga was still very young when other members of the family tree tried everything to get running Mirdita. However, on the eve of the League of Prizren, Preng Bib Doda was considered the leader of Mirdita. League of Prizren was a very important point in the history of the Albanian nation. From this event we cannot apart Mirdita, although consistently cooperated with Ottomans. To go further, the League of Prizren was a very important moment, because for the first time after so many centuries Mirdita was closer than ever with national issue. Although early activity of the league was met with a lack of confidence or indifference from Mirdita, subsequent occurrences of this province came forward with the activity of the League of Prizren. This happened at a time when Albanians were organized to protect the lands that were promised to Montenegro. Preng Bib Doda, saw this as a key moment to realize its objectives regarding Mirdita. Throughout the league activity Mirdita persisted in working in the national interest. For this reason it came the subsequent deportation of Preng Bib Doda during the finalization of the League of Prizren, leaving Mirdita still at the crossroads of how and by who will be governed.

Keywords: *Mirdita, league of Prizren, ottoman, Preng Bib Doda .*