



## ONOMASTICS OF ALBANIAN ABC-BOOKS IN KOSOVO

**Valentina Nimonaj-Hoti<sup>i</sup>**

PhD candidate

South East European University,  
Tetovo, Macedonia

### **Abstract:**

An abc-book is the first school book that aims to form the skills to speak, read and write in the Albanian language. Like in any other book, the abc-book has some types of names. The names on these abc-books compose an important and interesting field for studies. During this research we will focus at the onomastics of Albanian abc-books in Kosovo from the year of 1945 – 2012. This study of onomastics especially analyses the anthroponomastics or the personal names. The group of anthroponyms shall include these types of individual names: names from one Albanian word, Illyrian names, Catholic names, Slavic names, oriental names, anthroponyms that came from places, the form of names that came from the first and last part of the name and names from abbreviations and different cuttings etc. This research is a study that describes and compares names from one abc- book to another. By studying different types of names in the abc-books we open a window for knowledge to the abc-books as special books, we knowledge the value of educational names as well as the types of the names in the abc-books of different periods that our people had to go through. Essentially, the study of the names has special importance because it contributes to history of education and linguistics.

**Keywords:** abc-book, Albanian, anthroponyms, name, onomastics

### **1. Introduction**

Today we receive different information on onomastics from books, dictionaries, magazines, and scientific symposiums that offer data for all groups of names, patronymics, micro-toponyms, anthroponyms, oronyms, hydronymy, data on ancient toponymy and albanian toponymy in the Balkans such as: Montenegro, Macedonia, Albania, Bujanovc, Çameri and many other cities. The goal of these researches is to explain the history of the Albanian language and the history of the Albanian people.

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<sup>i</sup> Correspondence: email [valentina.nimonaj@uni-pr.edu](mailto:valentina.nimonaj@uni-pr.edu)

Therefore, onomastics was a cornerstone and basic material with principal importance in all of the researches and the historical – lingual reviews regarding Illyrian-Albanians, at first by foreign albanologists and then by Albanian scholars (Shkurtaj, 2015). Having in mind that the history of the Albanian people is a history of attempts to build a cultural, lingual, ethnical and national identity, therefore it is understandable that onomastics in general and anthroponyms especially have been a part of that value and an important carrier of this history (Baliu, 2008).

So, this study includes anthroponyms of Albanian abc-books in Kosovo from 1945 – 2012. People and nations distinguish not only because of their history, language and culture, but also because of their names. Personal names remind us, in many cases, about a nation or its people. Social-economical changes and political and cultural ideals, since the year of 1945 and further, have brought different innovations and philosophies on the approach of personal names, family names, names of places and other names in general. All of these changes influenced in different measures and times the names on the abc-books. So, as any other social event, the names in the abc-books are an indicator of the educational level, social and cultural development of the human mind from one period to the other. During research of abc-books we will focus on the names of persons that compose some groups such as:

names from an Albanian word,

- Illyrian names,
- Old catholic Albanian names,
- Slavic names,
- Oriental names,
- Anthroponyms that came from places,
- Names, forms that came from the first part of the name,
- Names, forms that came from the end part of the name.

Except the personal names mentioned above, abc-books have a wide range of such names: family names (patronymics), names of places (toponyms) which are found at: names of inhabited places (cities, villages, neighborhoods etc), ethnonyms or names of states, nations, nationalities, provinces, administrative social subdivisions, then we have hydronyms or names of waters (seas, rivers, lakes, streams etc.), oronyms or names of mountains, fields, hills etc.

From this research we see that anthroponymy in abc- books is fairly diverse from the source and also fairly heterogeneous regarding chronology where we find that anthroponyms incessantly expresses motifs and are identified by different historic moments of the Albanian people and religious influence. Having in mind that personal names suffered changes more than any other category of words and names, depending on social, cultural and political circumstances. Albanians, even though with three different religions, for centuries have created a rich collection of diverse national names, whether be religious, now have been phonetically adopted according to the laws of the Albanian language (Mustafa, 2012).

Researches for anthroponyms or personal names of humans, geographic expansions and the manner of its formation present an interest for the language and for

other scientific disciplines such as: archeology, history, ethnography, geography, geology and folklore (Shkurta, 2015). These studies also serve the history of Albanian education. Onomastic studies in abc- books or in every other school books give us a chronological overview of educational developments through different periods that have interfered with the names in abc-books. These names carry also a goal of education and schooling.

## 2. Method

The research was done on all of the abc-books published from 1945 – 2012 in Kosovo. This means that the description starts from the first Albanian abc-book in Kosovo of the year 1945 and up to the last nationwide abc-book of the year 2012 which is currently used in our schools for the students of the first grade.

In order to present the anthroponyms in a complete manner in an abc-book, according to the social, historical, political and educational changes that determined the names on the abc-book, we used the descriptive method, the comparative and historic method of names in abc-books in a period of 67 years. The comparison done here is for the personal names in the abc-books from 1945 – 2012. The descriptive and historic research focus on the conditions and events of the past and of the present, their goal is the description and interpretation, the resource of the data are the informers, documents, objects, and data gathering is done through observation and analysis, the data analysis is done verbally and often accompanied with statistics (Mertler & Charles, 2005).

Accordingly, we have two types of research sources, primary and secondary sources. Primary sources for a complete historic, comparative and descriptive research, are the 14 texts of abc-books for the learning of the albanian language, and they are: Abc-book of the year 1945; Abc-book of the year 1946; Abc-book of the year 1947; Abc-book of the year 1948; Abc-book of the year 1951; Abc-book of the year 1977; Abc-book of the year 1966; Abc-book of the year 1967; Abc-book of the year 1972; Abc-book of the year 1977; Abc-book of the year 1982; Abc-book of the year 2003; Abc-book of the year 2008 and Abc-book of the year 2012.

All of these primary sources are analyzed in the field of onomastics assisted by secondary sources such as: many dictionaries on names, onomastic books and articles which were taken for the study of names in texts and names in general as well as the books that speak for the history of the education in Kosovo.

## 3. Names created from one word of the Albanian language

The history of our people even after the year of 1945 and further, again, is a history of attempts to build a cultural and linguistic identity, ethnic and national. Therefore, during this onomastic research, and especially the anthroponyms in the abc-books, we found that the amount of human names from one word of the Albanian language is

different as: from the messages that they carry, but also from the number which rose or fell.

Names in abc-books from 1945 – 2012 carry different meanings and show the social and spiritual state of the time. At some of the abc-books we have the presence of the name “Bashkim”.

We prove this with textual pieces that aim to achieve brotherly love between the Serbs and the Albanians such as: *“Ramë Bardhi took little Stevon and told him: My son, stay here. That, this is my son, Agimi. This shall be your true brother, this shall be your new home”*. Whereas on the other story it is said *“On the grand feast of the 7<sup>th</sup> of July, even our people, in Kosovo and Metohia, Albanians, Serbians and Montenegrins, took part all together, because that is the grandest day, the day that brought them to light and ensured our people brotherhood and unification”* (Gjevori, at al., 1948). These practices have affected the names on the abc-books that clearly show the message of unification. Until the year of 1966 the overwhelming part of the texts that were used in the second Yugoslavia were translated from Serbo-Croatian languages (Hyseni, 1998). From 1966 the name Shpetim is present in abc-books (that indirectly talks about a desire of the Albanians and a small political development of the time). Political developments are also seen on recent abc-books, where the disruption of Albanian-Serbian relations affects the growth of names from one Albanian word into the abc-book. At the following abc-books we see that the names with national character are connected with the historic circumstances and events that show endurance, war and national pride, these are the abc-books of Qamil Batalli that start from 1982-2007 and have these names: Krenari, Lirim, Lirie, Çlirimtare, Durim, Hekuran, Çelikan etc.

Names from one Albanian word in the abc-books are from different sources such as common nouns: dituri, fitim, gazmend, jeta etc., the names created from one verb for example agoj, duroj, names that come from celestial bodies such as: Hëna, Ylli, names from compound or adjoined words such as: Fatmir, Fatjeta, Fatlume etc., then there are names from folks sources, names mainly taken from the lexicon of the sphere of flora and fauna and the abstract lexicon, calendar names such as: Vera, Pranvera etc. According to these authors, Hasani (1990, 2006 & 2010), Elezi (2015) and Murati (2015) we have gathered all names from one Albanian word into our abc-books. For the presentation of the names from one Albanian word into our abc-books we may see the tables 1 and 2.

**Table 1:** Names created from one Albanian word

No.	Abc-book 1945	Abc-book 1946	Abc-book 1947	Abc-book 1948	Abc-book 1951	Abc-book 1955	Abc-book 1966
1	Luani	Dita	Ylberi	Dita	Lena	Mani	Luani
2	Ylberi	Afërdita	Ylli	Ylli	Petriti	Luani	Luljeta
3	Ylli	Fatoni	Vera	Drita	Vera	Lulja	Jetoni
4	Vera	Fatmiri	Lulja	Agimi	Fatoni	Jeta	Dritoni
5	Flutura	Liria	Agimi	Bardhi	Fatmiri	Burimi	Fatmiri
6	Lulja	Lumnija	Fatoni	Fatmiri	Agimi	Besa	Agroni
7	Drita	Sokoli	Bashkimi	Besa	Bujari	Fatoni	Zana
8	Shega		Lena	Zana	Drita	Fatmiri	Shpendi

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9	Petriti	Kujtimi	Vesa	Burbugja	Vjollca	Vera	
10	Agimi	Petriti	Shpendi	Shqipja	Agimi	Bekimi	
11	Bujari	Shpresa		Ylberi	Zana	Ylli	
12	Fatoni	Afrimi		Kujtimi	Shpendi	Petriti	
13	Bardhi	Zana		Bardhi	Vera	Arsimi	
14	Fatmirja	Shpendi		Bashkimi	Bardhi	Fatoni	
15	Luli	Gazmendi			Afrimi	Merita	
16	Bashkimi	Bardhi			Drita	Astriti	
17	Shqipja	Fatosi				Afrimi	
18	Petriti	Drita				Elita	
19	Dita	Luani				Lumnija	
20		Bujari				Jeta	
21						Dija	
22						Bujari	
23						Blerimi	
24						Besniku	
25						Sokoli	
26						Fatosi	
27						Fatmirja	
28						Agimi	
29						Bardhi	
30						Shpëtimi	
31						Shqipja	
32						Besimi	
33						Gazmendi	
34						Fatmirja	
35						Hana	
Total	19	7	20	10	14	16	35

**Table 2:** Names created from one Albanian word

Nr.	Abc-book 1967	Abc-book 1977	Abc-book 1982	Abc-book 2003	Abc-book 2008	Abc-book 2012
1	Luani	Rina	Miri	Urta	Arta	Iliri
2	Luljeta	Mira	Mira	Urimi	Lulevere	Bora
3	Jetoni	Marena	Mirani	Rina	Donjeta	Era
4	Dritoni	Lule	Rinori	Burimi	Loriku	Rinori
5	Fatmiri	Luli	Merita	Roni	Pranvera	Rina
6	Agroni	Luani	Rina	Miri	Petriti	Miri
7	Zana	Bekimi	Liria	Mirana	Liria	Luli
8	Shpendi	Bleta	Luani	Ëndrra	Rrita	Lira
9	Vera	Mira	Lulja	Rinori	Miri	Laura
10	Bekimi	Urimi	Lirimi	Learti	Rinori	Pranvera
11	Ylli	Petriti	Lulmali	Liria	Luani	Mira
12	Petriti	Suta	Lira	Albini	Urtina	Urimi
13	Arsimi	Shpresa	Liraku	Alba	Urata	Blerina
14	Fatoni	Astritit	Krenari	Miraku	Laura	Hëna
15	Merita	Petriti	Hartina	Krenari	Murlani	Shpresa
16	Astriti	Shpëtimi	Hekurani	Hekurani	Lumnia	Shota
17	Afrimi	Vetoni	Petriti	Liraku	Mirani	Fatmiri
18	Elita	Vera	Premtina	Hënora	Kroni	Fitorja

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19	Lumnija	Vullneti	Jehona	Herakja	Blerina	Flora
20	Jeta	Fatmiri	Jeta	Puhia	Fatoni	Shpëtimi
21	Dija	Fatosi	Jetoni	Premtimja	Flutura	Besimi
22	Bujari	Selvija	Drita	Petriti	Liridona	Valoni
23	Blerimi	Flutura	Dritani	Arta	Edona	Liridona
24	Besniki	Ylberi	Blerimi	Ermira	Arditi	Arditi
25	Sokoli	Ylli	Blerina	Mirani	Sokoli	Eranda
26	Fatosi	Yllka	Blerta	Jehona	Henori	Bardhi
27	Fatmirja	Visari	Bujari	Arjeta	Heroina	Dhurata
28	Agimi	Guri	Flora	Jetoni	Shpendi	Dorina
29	Bardhi	Vjollca	Florini	Ejona	Ylbetina	Jetmiri
30	Shpëtimi	Zamirja	Samirja	Drita	Ylberi	Bashkimi
31	Besimi	Zana	Sokoli	Dritani	Rina	Njomza
32	Gazmendi	Drita	Çelikani	Flora	Vesa	Zamiri
33	Shqipja	Xhevahiri	Çlirimtarja	Fatoni	Zana	Marta
34		Borëbardha	Çetina	Fatmirja	Zamira	Besniku
35			Filloreta	Blerimi	Hana	Buqja
36			Yllka	Bujari	Bardhi	Redoni
37			Ylberi	Alba	Valoni	Linda
38			Yllnora	Bleta	Pëllumbi	
39			Ylli	Abetarja	Njomza	
40			Ylberina	Zana	Valmira	
41			Agimi	Zamiri	Viona	
42			Roni	Cuca		
43			Rrita	Sokoli		
44			Shega	Çeltina		
45			Mirashi	Ylberi		
46			Zana	Ylli		
47			Valoni	Ylberina		
48			Vala	Yllnori		
49			Visari	Gëzimi		
50			Vetoni	Gëzimja		
51			Vegimi	Agimi		
52			Qershorja	Shega		
53			Burbuqja	Mirashi		
54			Dhurimi	Shpetimi		
55			Njomza	Shpresa		
56			Gjeraqina	Rrushja		
57			Dukagjini	Valoni		
58			Thesari	Vala		
59			Jetoni	Visari		
60			Gonxhe	Vesa		
61			Lirika	Vetoni		
62				Gazmori		
63				Lulzimi		
64				Gazmendi		
65				Vegimi		
66				Zamira		
67				Qershorja		
68				Burbuqja		

69				Bardhi		
70				Borëbardha		
71				Njomza		
72				Gjereqina		
73				Thesari		
74				Arlindi		
75				Agimja		
Total	33	34	61	75	41	37

The percentage of names from one Albanian word in these abc-books starts from 14% and it goes up to 70.7%. The abc-book of 1945 has 29% of the names from one Albanian word, this abc-book was brought from Albania to Kosovo by Mehmet Gjevori and it was published at the publishing house “Luarasi – Prizren – Tirane (Nimonaj, 2014). Whereas the abc-book of 1947 has a number of 37% of names from one Albanian word, this is a abc-book for children. Other abc-books published in Kosovo such as the ones from the year 1946 and 1948 are abc-books for adults. At abc-books for adults, in general, there are a smaller number of names from one Albanian word because those have many more oriental and Slavic names. Then, after the events that occurred in 1948, after the appearance of the Bureau of Information and after the disruption of good relations between Yugoslavia and Albania, marked a negative turning point of the development of the Albanian education in Kosovo.

These political influences also reflected to the abc-books of the year 1951 which had 18% of names from one Albanian word. After the Plenum of Brion that was held in 1966, some positive changes were made in political and social life, especially in the field of education for the Albanian language (Shema, 2000). After the year 1966, the Albanians in Kosovo won many national rights which was also expressed in the field of educational book and text publishing (Buletin, 1998). We see this positive spirit at the percentage of names from one Albanian word at abc-books of the years 1966, 1967 and 1977. The abc-books have an intertwine with another phase of educational and school development in Albanian language (1981-1990), in a time when many political and social events occurred, as well as serious disturbances in the field of education by roughening transnational relations. We have the abc-books of Qamil Batalli from the year 1982-2000, this abc-book was published thirteen times (Nimonaj, 2014) and it has a high percentage of names from one Albanian word. After the disruption of Albanian-Serbian relations, the abc-books of Qamil Batalli, regarding names from one word, had many and the nation spirit is felt. Whereas the abc-books with many more names from one Albanian word, after the freedom of Kosovo, is the abc-book of Qamil Batalli of the year 2003 with 70.75% of those names. Whereas the two penultimate abc-books of the year 2008 and the last nationwide abc-book Kosovo-Albania has 42% of names from one Albanian word, and this percentage is smaller than the one from the abc-book of 2003, because it contains other international names such as: Xhimi, Xheki, Zhaneta, Xhejm and names created by the shortened names or names deriving from the first or last part of the name. For a percentage of these names see the table 3.

**Table 3:** Percentage of names from one Albanian word in the abc- books

Abc-books	Percentage
Abc-book 1945	29%
Abc-book 1946	18%
Abc-book 1947	37%
Abc-book 1948	15%
Abc-book 1951	18%
Abc-book 1966	36%
Abc-book 1967	35%
Abc-book 1977	40%
Abc-book 1982	58%
Abc-book 2003	70.75%
Abc-book 2008	42%
Abc-book 2012	42%

### 3.1. Frequency of names from one Albanian word

During this analysis, we have taken all of the names from one Albanian word, in all of the abc-books from the year 1945-2012 and he have processed them with SPSS, we found that the most frequent names which are repeated for some times in the abc-books are:

- 1) The name: "Bardh" is found in nine abc-books, it is the name with the most density,
- 2) The names: "Agimi, Fatoni, Ylberi, Zana, Petriti and Drita", are found in seven abc-books,
- 3) The names: "Luani, Fatmiri, Liria, Ylli and Rina" are found in six abc-books,
- 4) The names: "Bujari, Sokoli and Vera" are found in five abc-books,
- 5) The names: "Njomza, Rinori, Miri, Shpendi, Jetoni, Shpetimi, Lulja and Valoni" are found in four abc-books,
- 6) The other names are repeated thrice, twice or once.

Explanation of the meaning of these names that are often used in abc-books, for example: the name "Bardh" is of male gender, this name comes from the adjective of the Albanian language "e bardhë, i bardh", which means "white". The name "Agim" is of male gender originating from the verb "agoj" which means the time in the morning, the dawn. The name "Faton" is formed by appellative noun fat, which means "luck". The name "Ylberi" is an appellative name in the Albanian language, which means "rainbow", which is also used as personal name. The name "Zana" is a female name originating from the goddess of nature in the Albanian mythology which is proved by the Illyrians and it reaches modern times. The name "Petriti" means a brave man, powerful, agile and brave. The name "Drita" is a female name originating from appellative noun dritë, which means "the light". The name "Luani" means a brave man. The name "Fatmiri" originates from the adjective fatmir. It means that someone has good luck, he is lucky. The name "Lirie" originates from the appellative noun liri, which means "freedom". The name "Ylli" is a male name originating from the appellative noun yll, which means "star". The name "Rina" is a female name that originates from the appellative noun rini that means "youth", but also in shortened



form the name Katarinë. The name “Bujari” is a male name originating from the appellative noun of Albanian language bujar that means “generous”. The name “Sokoli” is a name of male gender, figuratively meaning a brave boy, willowy and skillful. The name “Vera” is the name of a season (Zoto, 2016).

During this analysis we found that 75 names are only found once in one abc-book. From all of these names, 22 are from the abc-book of Qamil Batalli of the 2003. We can argue them as follows:

- a) That this abc-book was compiled after the war, where we see the tendency to include as many Albanian names a possible and one Albanian word.
- b) That the abc-book of Qamil Batalli 2003 is the last edition of this author which was reprinted until 2007.

#### 4. Illyrian names in Albanian abc-books in Kosovo

Names have a relation with the nation and its respective place and they are an important part of the historic and lingual inheritance of the people. Illyrian names are not many. The argument is connected with a well-known historic pragmatic: we do not have written evidence of that language (Shkurtaç, 2015). National feelings started to influence the naming act since the National Rebirth and further. With the strengthening of the national conscience, local based names started to grow as a conscientious counteraction against the foreign based names (Ibrahimi, 2012). From the general fund of the names in abc-books, one part of them is from the local-Illyrian and Albanian source. From the analysis on Illyrian names in our abc-books, it is shown that the abc-book of 1945 has five Illyrian names, then falling at abc-books of 1946 and 1947 by two. In the adult abc-book of 1948, published at the printing house Dituria” in Belgrade (Nimonaj, 2014) there are no Illyrian names. Whereas the abc-book of 1951 has three Illyrian names. From the year of 1955 and until further the number of Illyrian names starts to grow, in 1955 we have six names, in 1966 five names, in 1967 and 1977 we have six names. The abc-books of Qamil Batalli are distinguished for their national spirit as they are the two books with more Illyrian names in the history of abc-books in Kosovo. The abc-book of 1982 has nine Illyrian names, whereas the one from 2003 has fourteen names. The abc-books of the year 2009 has eight names and the one of 2012 has nine illyrian names.

In our abc-books we have Illyrian names, see table 4 and 5.

**Table 4:** Illyrian names in abc- books

No.	Abc-book 1945	Abc-book 1946	Abc-book 1947	Abc-book 1951	Abc-book 1955	Abc-book 1966
1	Teuta	Titi	Tefta	Ana	Loni	Teuta
2	Agroni	Tefta	Bardhyli	Bardhyli	Ana	Agroni
3	Pirroja			Tefta	Tefta	Mentori
4	Tefta				Fata	Genci
5	Shqipja				Bardhyli	Shqipja
6					Leka	
Total	5	2	2	3	6	5

**Table 5: Illyrian names in abc-books**

No.	Abc-book 1967	Abc-book 1977	Abc-book 1982	Abc-book 2003	Abc-book 2008	Abc-book 2012
1	Teuta	Ana	Ana	Ana	Olti	Ana
2	Agroni	Artani	Moni	Olta	Platori	Eni
3	Mentori	Brikena	Teuta	Artani	Etriti	Teuta
4	Genci	Beni	Artani	Entela	Anila	Artani
5	Shqipja	Teuta	Entela	Artoni	Gentiana	Titi
6	Ana	Bardhyli	Genci	Dardani	Redoni	Dardani
7			Agroni	Blenda	Dardani	Genti
8			Bardhyli	Genti	Teuta	Redon
9			Anduena	Genta		
10				Gentiana		
11				Gentiani		
12				Bardhyli		
13				Anduena		
14				Teuta		
Total	6	6	9	14	8	8

The most frequented Illyrian names in abc-books are the names “Teuta” and “Ana” which have been repeated in seven abc-books. Followed by the name “Bardhyl” in six abc-books, then “Tefta” in five abc-books, the name “Agron”, “Genc” and “Arton” are found in four abc-books. The origin of the names such as “Teuta” comes from an Illyrian queen, the wife of Agron, ruler of the Ardian tribe. Ana e female name, inherited in Albanian language from the Illyrian language. Bardhyl a male named originating from the name of the second Illyrian king. Agron is the name of the Illyrian king of the Ardians, the husband of Teuta. The name Genc is actually comes from the name Gent originating from the Illyrian name Gentius, same as the name of the last Illyrian king at the Ardians (Zoto, 2016).

### 5. Older Catholic names in Albanian abc-books in Kosovo

In the group of names in abc-books, a special place belongs to the church nomenclature. This amount of names is made by some names such as Pali, Deda, Gjoni, Gjini, Gjergji, Kola, Toma, Mikel and Gjoka. The old Catholic names are mainly found in all of the abc-books. The name “Gjergj” has a higher frequency, this influence is because of our national figure of Gjergj Kastriot, then comes the name Gjon and the others in line. The origin of the name “Gjergj”, “Gjon and “Pal” is this: the name “Gjergj” is a male name, one of the oldest personal names in the Albanian language originating from the latin name Georgius with international usage. The name “Gjon” is male name, one of the oldest personal names in the Albanian language, originating from latin abbreviation Jon. The name “Pal” one of oldest names in Albanian, it originates from the Latin paullus which means “tiny” or “young” (Zoto, 2016). In table no. 6 and 7 we have the old catholic names in abc-book.

**Table 6:** Old Catholic names in a abc-book

No.	Abc-book 1945	Abc-book 1956	Abc-book 1947	Abc-book 1948	Abc-book 1951	Abc-book 1955
1	Pali	Gjoni	Kola	Gjergji	Gjergji	Kola
2	Deda	Gjergji		Toma		Pali
3	Gjoni	Kola				Marku
4.	Gjini					Gjergji
5.	Gjergji					
6.	Kola					
Total	6	3	1	2	1	4

**Table 7:** Old Catholic names in a abc-book

No.	Abc-book 1966	Abc-book 1967	Abc-book 1977	Abc-book 2003	Abc-book 2008	Abc-book 2012
1	Toma	Toma	Gjergji	Gjergji	Gjoni	Gjini
2	Mikeli	Mikeli			Pali	Gjoni
3	Gjoni	Gjoni				Gjola
4	Pali	Pali				Gjergji
5	Gjergji	Gjergji				
Total	5	5	1	1	2	4

## 6. Slavic names

The manner of infiltration and spread of the names, words of one language to another are a product of contacts between people of different languages. Kosovo came out of the last war in 1999 and from that time we have only the three last abc-books published in freedom, the greater number of abc-books was published in the time when the Albanians, Serbs, Croats, Slovenians, Bosnians lived in a union called Yugoslavia. The system of education in Kosovo was an integral part of the educational Yugoslavian system. One of the basic principles of this system was *“the education in patriotic socialist Yugoslavian spirit”* (Koliqi, 2004). The development of the education as well as the general development in Kosovo, in the period of 1945-1952 it was associated by a discriminative policy that prevented educational development in Albanian schools in general. During this period, the national history and culture was not cultivated. *“For this reason after the year 1948 the national symbols were prohibited, whereas the curriculums were removed from all national contents, going as far as to deny the origin of the Albanian people”* (Kojçini, 2006). These political developments have clearly affected the content and the personal names in the abc- books. This study shows that the abc-books of 1945 published in Albania does not have any Slavic names. Whereas the abc-book of 1946, published in Kosovo, shows a tendency that includes these names because we have the following names: Boro, Pashiq, Tito, Drazhë, Pave, Lenin, meaning there are six names. If we compare them with the Albanian names that we have, seven names from Albanian words and two Illyrian names, in total nine names. At the abc-book of 1947 we have three such names. It is seen that the abc-books are mainly for the growing of content that has political spirit but also at the names of individuals that have political influence. The abc-book of 1948 is the book with the greater number of Slavic names, with fourteen of those. This book has less Albanian names when we compare it with the

Slavic names, this abc-book doesn't have any Illyrian name and only ten from Albanian words. These relations between the Albanian and Serbs brought a result some abc-books that included from time to time Slavic names. In the abc-books of 1950, 1955, 1966 and 1967 is shown only the name of Josip Borz Tito continuing up to the abc-books of Qamil Batalli where the name of Tito and Boro are as heros. See the table number 8.

**Table 8:** Slavic names in the abc-books

No.	Abc-book 1946	Abc-book 1947	Abc-book 1948	Abc-book 1982
1	Boro	Jovo	Jovo	Boro
2	Pashiq	Josip	Savo	Tito
3	Tito	Stevo	Vejsa	
4	Drazhë		Sava	
5	Pave		Moja	
6	Lenin		Stepan	
7			Franjo	
8			Stevo	
9			Jezhek	
10			Josip	
11			Millutin	
12			Dositej	
13			Boro	
14			Koça	
15			Memo	
16				
Total	6	3	15	2

## 7. Oriental names

During this research we can see the influence of the oriental languages in the names of the abc-books. The oriental names present an entirety composed by three languages of oriental people of the east (Turkish, Arab, Persian). In our school texts we have names inherited and oriental culture. This is proved by the number of these names in the abc-book. *“Orientalism has spread through education of the people in mejtepe and madrasah, where they have been molded with a new lexicological fund in the Turkish, Arabian and Persian language”* (Metaj, 2009). Education in madrasah, mejtepe, mosque made the orientalism part of daily lectures but not literary. Also, the naming of people, by these languages at us, and the baptism of our children with oriental names extends at our population.

From the research of the abc-books we may conclude that the oriental names had a great influence to the fist abc- books, mainly an emphasized influence we find at the abc-book of 1948, 1951 and 1955. On the other side we have the abc-books of Qamil Batalli of the year 1982 and 2003, but also the abc-book of the year 2012 do not have an extension of such names. Whereas the other abc-books have a number of oriental names. See table number 8 and table number 9.

**Table 9: Oriental names in the abc-books**

No.	Abc-book 1945	Abc-book 1946	Abc-book 1947	Abc-book 1948	Abc-book 1951
1	Rexhepi	Ramizi	Njaziu	Isai	Nushi
2	Zejneli	Ymeri	Zejneli	Samiu	Naime
3	Njaziu		Ganiu	Osmani	Milaimi
4	Isaki		Avdyli	Musai	Nuri
5	Xhemilja		Xhemili	Rasimi	Kameri
6	Veliu		Veliu	Zija	Kemali
7				Tajar	Tahiri
8				Bajram	Talati
9				Dalipi	Omeri
10				Kamberi	Taipi
11				Ymeri	Veliu
12				Qamili	Ganiu
13				Qemaili	Zehraja
14				Qerimi	Zija
15				Ganimetja	Ramizi
16				Abdullahi	Samiu
17				Murati	Sanija
18				Ramizi	Dauti
19					Qerimi
20					Rrahimja
21					Njazi
22					Zymeri
Total	6	2	6	18	22

**Table 10: Oriental names in the abc-books**

No.	Abc-book 1955	Abc-book 1966	Abc-book 1967	Abc-book 1977	Abc-book 2008
1	Naimi	Naime	Naime	Aliu	Ganimetja
2	Emini	Emine	Emine		Naimi
3	Alija	Dauti	Dauti		Xhevdet
4	Taipi	Ymeri	Ymeri		Xhemile
5	Halili	Ganiu	Ganiu		
6	Halimja	Xhaviti	Xhaviti		
7	Kemaili	Aliu	Aliu		
8	Hakiu	Emini	Emini		
9	Veliu	Kemaili	Kemaili		
10	Sadiki	Jakupi	Jakupi		
11	Selimi	Qazimi	Qazimi		
12	Sanija				
13	Zeneli				
14	Ramizi				
15	Qemali				
16	Rrahimi				
17	Rrahmani				
18	Ymeri				
19	Ylfetja				
20	Sherifi				

21	Xhemilja				
22	Xhaferi				
23	Xhaviti				
24	Duraki				
Total	25	11	11	1	4

Some of the origins of these oriental names is explained according to the dictionaries of orientalism by some of our authors. In our abc-books we have found that these names that have explanation such as: “Naim-i personal name. In our onomastics Naime-ja is living with all the goods, a happy state; a part of Muslim paradise. The name Hasan, Imam Hasani, the Son of Ali and Fatima, the Nephew of the Prophet. The name Sadik, fair, correct, a man who keeps his promise, loyal” (Dizdari, 2005). “The name Veli, ar.”friend, helper”. The name Xhafer, ar.Xha’far “small river, stream”. The name Halime, ar. “soft”. The name Xhemile, ar. “beaty”. The name Taip-i (ar/ Tajjib “good adaptable”) (Metaj, 2009).

By the presence of the oriental names in the abc-books, we have a percentage of these names from the year 1045-2012. Starting from the abc-book of 1945 with 9% up to the abc-book of 1951 with 29% of the names are oriental. For more see table no 11.

**Table 11:** The percentage of orienta names in the abc-book

Abc-books	Percentage
Abc-book 1945	9%
Abc-book 1946	5.2%
Abc-book 1947	10%
Abc-book 1948	27%
Abc-book 1951	29%
Abc-book 1955	22%
Abc-book 1966	11%
Abc-book 1967	11%
Abc-book 1977	1.1%
Abc-book 1982	0%
Abc-book 2003	0%
Abc-book 2008	3,70%
Abc-book 2012	0%

## 8. Anthroponyms that came from places

One of the characteristics of the anthroponyms in Kosovo is that we have many people that are baptized with names of cities, villages, rivers, mountains that are found in Albania. This division of Albanian lands planted live between the Albanians and raised the motif to baptize the children with geographic names located outside the borders. This is seen also in our abc-books:

- In the abc-book of 1966 we have these names: Çajupi, Valona, Migjeni.
- In the abc-book of 1967 we have these names: Çajupi, Valona, Migjeni.
- In the abc-book of 1977 we have these names: Sharri, Drini, Tomori.
- In the abc-book of 1982 we have these names: Tomori, Çajupi.

- In the abc-book of 2003 we have these names: Tomori, Joni, Çajupi, Valbona, Erina female definite form of the name Erind is a village, an old dwelling place around Gjirokastër (Zoto, 2016), Aulona, the ancient Vlora was called Aulona.
- In the abc-book of 2008 we have these names: Driloni, Rozafa, Lura.
- In the abc-book of 2012 we have these names: Drini, Holta, Kledi (Zoto, 2016).

The name Çajupi, a male name, with origin from the name of a mountain peak of Lunxheria around Gjirokastër. Valbona, female name, with origin from the name of a river with clear waters in the Alps of northern Albania, the biggest branch of the river Drini. Drini, a male name, with origin from the Illyrian name of the biggest river in Albania, Holta (is a village and river name in the district of Gramsh), Kledi (a male name which is formed from the name Cledo, as it was called Ohri during the first centuries of the Roman rule (Zoto, 2016).

Pedagogic importance of these names stands with national character by affecting recognition of these places, rivers, mountains of Albania and causing love for the country. With the attempt to touch the intellectual, emotional and educational sphere of the students. The intention of these names has a motif for a deeper knowledge, the cause of the research to know them more in a independently, now, or to a higher level of education. These names affect the national education, the creation of the feeling to belong, love for the beauties of the place and so raising the national conscience.

## 9. Names, forms that came from the first part of the name

In the abc-book there are names, forms that came from the first part of the name. Personal names forms that came from the first part of the name are found in most of the abc-books. The names Luli and Lili from the year 1945 – 1977 are present in all of the abc-books, whereas the name Ani is found from 1982 until 2012.

- The abc-book of 1945: Lili from Liljana, Luli from Lulzim, Eli from Elizabeta or Eliona, Mina from Minaza, Hila from Hilara.
- The abc-book of 1947: Lili from Liljana, Luli from Luljeta and Lulzim, Roza from Rozafa.
- The abc-book of 1948: Lili from Liljana.
- The abc-book of 1951: Lili from Liljana, Luli from Luljeta and Lulzim.
- The abc-book of 1955: Lilë from Liljana, Luli from Luljeta and Lulzim, Çeli from Çelin, Mara from Marashe.
- The abc-book of 1966: Lili from Liljana, Luli from Luljeta and Lulzim.
- The abc-book of 1967: Lili from Liljana, Luli from Luljeta and Lulzim, Leon from Leonatishi, Tana from Tanunsha.
- The abc-book of 1977: Keli from Kelsian, Lili from Liljana, Luli from Luljeta and Lulzim, Leon from Leonat, Tana from Tanusha.
- The abc-book of 1982: Ani from Anili (Illyrian name) Alma from Almarina (name of place), Zani from Zanushi (albanian word), Fito from Fitoni (albanian word), Keli from Kelsian.

- The abc-book of 2003: Ani from Anili, Ana is the form deriving from the albanian word Anadet or Anamal.
- The abc-book of 2008: Ani from Anili .
- The abc-book of 2012: Ani from Anil or Anid, Albi from Albin, Dasara from Dasaretam Edlira from Edliriana, Ori from Orik, Rei from the name Reis, Keli from the name Kelian (Zoto, 2016).

## 10. Names, forms that came from the last part of the name

These names in abc-books regardless from their origin or religious belonging come from the shortening of the forms without any changes to the sound.

- The abc-book of 1945: Miti from Hamiti, Meti from Mehmeti, Neli from Zeneli, Limi from Selimi, Sifi from Josifi, Leta from Violeta.
- The abc-book of 1947: Meti from Mehmeti.
- The abc-book of 1966: Miti from Hamiti, Meti from Mehmeti, Neli from Zeneli, Limi from Selimi, Sifi from Josifi, Leta from Violeta, Toni from Jetoni.
- The abc-book of 1967: Toni from Jetoni.
- The abc-book of 2008: Dona from Dodona, Rita from Margarita.
- The abc-book of 2012: Linda from Majlinda, Ola from Driola, Rita from Margarita and Merita, Tina from Valentina, Kristina, Tiku from Adriatiku, Gimi from Agimi.

## 11. Conclusion

The first Albanian abc-books are texts upon which the foundations of the albanian schools in Kosovo were placed. The publishing of an abc-book is a very important event for the language and for our schools.

Through the study of the names we can recognize the social and political reality, the state of the education in our schools, the ideological influence and many more regarding the past and the present.

During the research we found that the names in the abc- books were determined by some factors such as: Albanian language, national emotion, origin (observation of the Illyrian names). religious faith (Christian and Oriental names for the Islamic believers), the honor for Albania (names of cities, villages, rivers, seas etc.) political influence (Slavic names, from the abc-books of 1946 – 1999 we find Slavic names in every abc-book made during those years, and the name of Josip Broz Tito is present as well as in some of the abc-books the name of the hero Boro Vukmiroviq), the year of the publishing, educational policies of the time, to whom is the abc-book dedicated (for adults or children) the mode and social developments (international named, screen figures etc.).

Based on this research we divide the abc-books in three periods:

The first period that includes the first abc-book of the year 1945 brought from Albania to Kosovo. This book has a national spirit. In the abc-book we have types of



names such as: names from Albanian words, Illyrian names, catholic names and oriental names.

The second period included the abc-books published in former Yugoslavia from 1946-1999. Even though these abc- books are of the same period, they differ in names. These names are connected with political and social changes of the time. Based on the type of the names, the abc-books of this period are divided in four groups:

The first group includes the abc-books of the year 1946, 1947 and 1948. The abc-books of the year 1946 and 1947 are abc-books for adults. These abc-books are nominated together because they were under the influence of the Yugoslavian policy. The abc-books are characterized with the fall of the Albanian names and the growth of the slavic names and places from the former Yugoslavia.

The second group includes the abc-books of 1951 and 1955. Unlike the previous groups, these abc-books show tendency for the rise of the names from the Albanian language and oriental names. In these abc-books we have names such as: names from Albanian words, Illyrian names, catholic names and oriental names. There are no Slavic names in these abc-books.

The third group is composed by the abc-books of 1966, 1967 and 1977. The abc-books of 1966 and 1967 have the same names because they are the similar regarding content, and it is the same author, but they distinguish only from the order of reading and writing. The common things of these abc-books are the rise of names from Albanian words and the Illyrian names. The number of oriental names falls and there are no Slavic names.

The fourth group includes the abc-books from 1982 until 1999. These are the years of the author Qamil Batalli. These abc- books are characterized by only two types of names such as: names from Albanian words and Illyrian names. There are no oriental or Slavic names.

The third period includes the abc-books from the year 2000-2001 published in freedom. We have the abc-book of the year 2003, the abc-book of 2008 and the nationwide abc-book of 2012. The spirit of freedom is felt at these abc- books. They have Albanian names but also foreign international names influenced by the literature, art, radio-television, cinematography, sports, fashion etc. Also, we see the tendency for geographical education for children because there are names of places from all of the Albanian lands and some from European places.

The abc-books in Kosovo are a mirror of the school and the life of Albanians. They are texts that helped the education of our people. The names on these abc-books, their origin and history are connected closely with the history of the people, culture and language, materialistic and spiritualistic. The research of the names discloses our education but also the types of names in abc-books of the past and the present.

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