

CultureTalk Albania Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Post-Ottoman Development**

Northern Albanian Dialect

**Albanian transcript:**

1: Shqipëria duke qene pothuajse pese shekuj pjese e Perandorise Osmane... a mendoni ju nese eshte e rendesishme ky moment, kjo periudhe kohore dhe sa eshte e rendesishme? Efektet e kesaj a kane vazhduar apo a vazhdojne te ndjehen akoma. Dhe nuk flas thjesht per efekte negative apo positive sepse ajo jane qe gjykohen me vone, i gjykon historia me vone. Por do te doja mendimin tuaj ne lidhje me kete periudhe disa qindra vjecare te Shqiperise si pjese e Perandorise Osmane.

2: Tashi me te vertete Shqipëria ka kene pjese e Perandorise Osmane, sic kane kene edhe shume... tane shtetet e Ballkanit. Atehere ishte Perandoria Osmane, me një fjale kishte një territor shume ma te gjane sesa Shqipëria. Dhe s'kishte sesi Shqipëria te lulezonte ose te vecohesh nga te tjeret. Thashe, hyni vone ne pamvaresi (Shqipëria), te tjeret e fituen pak ma heret. Por cfare ndikimesh ka, a ka ndikime edhe sot. Deri sa u shkeputem, deri sa fituem shkollat tona, shkollat shqip. Une kam pase rastin, se s'kam ba ndonji shkolle as turke, as ndonji mejtep, kam ba vetem shkollat laike, te cilat per ne, sic thashe edhe ma perpara, keto shkolla laike kane kene me te vertete laike. Nuk perziheshin me asgja tjeter... gjate kohes qe kam ba une shkolle, qysh ne kohen, si me thane, ne fillim te pothuaj ne Clirim te Shqipërisë... Clirim quhet ai vendi qe... mbas Luftes se Dyte Botnore ata qe pretendojshin me ndejte ne Shqipëri ose me pase pjese ne Shqipëri u larguen (ketu : italianet, gjermanet) me perpjekjet e popullit, u larguen me luften qe bani. Atehere filloi një epike veteqeverisese, taman qe qeverisi vedin (Shqipëria) dhe u mundue vete. Dhe ne ate periudhe ka kene Shqipëria një vend me popullsi te paket dhe një vend shume i vorfen. I vorfen, i thojne ne tana drejtimet – kur nuk ke shkollen tande. Por qe i bani shkollen, qe dmth ne ate periudhe qe filloi shkolla, filloi ndertimi i vendit, atehere... Na kena kene ne Clirim një vend me tuberkuloz, me semundje nga ma... me malarien, qe kishte pushtue pothuaj cdo shpi, cdo vend. Une per vedi kam kene ne femini ne klase te katert, një femije i semure nga malaria. E di ca asht malaria. Dhe e di ca asht ba per luften kunder malaries ne vendin tone. U ndertuen institucione, u ndertuen berthama te luftes (kunder semundjeve), se dizinfektimeve ne cdo qoshe te Shqipërisë. Edhe xume një nga vendet ma kryesore, te vendeve ballkanike apo edhe ma gjane, ne luften kunder tuberkulozit te kohes, qe ishte ne egersine e vet ne ate kohe, edhe te malaries etj. Mandej filluen ndertime qe s'i kishim pa ndonjihere. U bane... qysh ne 47'ten u ba hekurudha e pare. Tashti sot me sa kam ndigjue keshtu neper keto politikanet tone thojne se nuk asht e levertisshme sherbimi hekurudhor. Dmth sillka shpenzime te medha ne një shtet. Prandaj trajtohen keshtu hekurudhat, ose lokomotivat ose vete vagonat e trenave, duken te coroditun.

1: Te lanun mbas doret.

2: Te lanun sa askush ne bote nuk i ka keshtu. Sepse i shtrytezojne dhe i cmojne. Jo ma me ba tren elektrik etj. Bajne perralla e nuk realizojne asnji. Se ne ndergjegjien e tyne asht qe nuk asht e leverdisshme.

**English translation:**

1: Albania had been part of the Ottoman Empire for five centuries. Do you think this part of history was important for Albania? The effects of this, have they continued or are they still being felt? I am not talking about positive or negative effects because those are judged later, history judges them later. I would just like to know your opinion about this period of hundreds of years as a part of the Ottoman Empire.

2: It is true; Albania has been part of the Ottoman Empire, just like many other States of the Balkans. The Ottoman Empire was very spread out. It was not possible for Albania to flower or to separate herself from the others. Albania got its independence much later than other countries. But what influence did this have today ... until we were able to separate, until we could have Albanian schools ... I had the chance to go to a truly independent school. It wasn't Turkish. At the period when I went to school, at the beginning when Albania got its independence after World War II, all of the invaders left. At that time a self-ruling epoch began. They tried to rule Albania all on their own. At that time, Albania had a small population and was also very poor. It was poor in every direction. That's what happens when you don't have your own schools. Once schools opened, that's when the country began to change. We were a country that had tuberculosis and malaria everywhere. I was a child in fourth grade, sick from malaria. You know what malaria is. I know what was done in the war against malaria in our country. There were institutions build against these diseases, disinfections were occurring all around. We were one of the worst places hit by tuberculosis at that time. Mind you, the other states of the Balkans were undergoing the same thing. Later on, there were buildings that we had never seen before. Around 1947 the first railroad was built. However from what I am hearing from today's politicians, it is not beneficial to have a railroad system. Supposedly it brings large expenditures to the state. That's why railroads and trains appear disorientated.

1: They left them behind.

2: No one around the world has their railroads in this condition. They take advantage of the railroads and use them. They are talking about hopefully having electrical trains. But it is all fairy-tales. Because in their conscience they (the Albanian government) think it is not beneficial.

**About CultureTalk:** CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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