

CultureTalk Albania Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Religion Not Part of School**

Northern Albanian Dialect

**Albanian transcript:**

1: Ne Shqiperi ne periudhen e sistemit nje-partiak ka pasur mbi dy dekada ku feja, religjioni, u ndalua. A mendoni se ka pasur prape ndikim, qofte edhe me perpara kur nuk ka qene e ndaluar, dhe sa e rendesishme vazhdon te jete religjioni per shqiptaret?

2: Ajo periudhe e kohes, e ndalimit te religjionit, qe na nuk e kena ndie (ndikimin) ne sistemin shkollor, nuk kena pase ndonji prirje religjioze. Shkolla ka qene plotesisht laike. Edhe ne ate drejtim, as na shkonte ndonjihere ne mendje qe te kishte nji shkolle qe te drejtohesh me nuanca religjioze si me thane.

1: Nuancat religjioze nuk kane qene te pranishme ne sistemin arsimor.

2: Ne sistemin arsimor jo, ne ate te nalten (shkollen) jo qe jo. Ne s'kishim (religjion), ne mesojshim materializem, shkence etj dhe dominonte fjala 'shkence'.

1: Po persa i perket, pervec arsimit, jashte sferes se arsimit, cfare mendoni ju se ka qene roli i fese apo besimit per shqiptaret. Flas si kulture.

2: Tashti ne ate kohe... nuk ka pase ndonji peshe ana religjioze. Kurse ana shkollore, laike, ka qene gjithmone drejtimi i shkollave. Edhe me ate drejtim ishim mesue, ishim adaptue dhe ishte fute edhe ne jeten shoqnore te te gjithë vendit. Me nji fjale, atehere nuk... vete nga vendi jone psh, qe ka disa religjione. Ato religjione ne heshtje mund te kene ba punen e vet secili, ne familje... Por keto manifestime religjioze nuk kishte si me thane neper shkolla, neper grupime njerezish, te rinjsh, as i shkonte mendja kujt ndonjihere ta kthente ne nji aktivitet religjioz aktivitetin e zakonshem. Keshtu qe kjo (feja) ishte e kufizuese ma shume brenda shpijavet, brenda nji brezi edhe ma perpara.

**English translation:**

1: During the one-party system, over two decades, religion was prohibited. How important has religion been for the Albanians, and is it still important?

2: During that period, the prohibition on having a religion didn't really have an immense effect on the people. We didn't feel it in the school system because we weren't big on religion. School was completely independent of it. At that time we would never think of having a school that was oriented toward a religion.

1: Religious nuances were not present in the educational system.

2: In the school system, no, and of course the same counted for universities. We would study materialism, science. The word “science” dominated.

1: What about outside of the school system, what do you think was the role of religion or faith for the Albanians, I am saying, as a culture?

2: At that time the religious side did not have much weight. In school it was all about school, indifferent to religion. We were used to that direction and were adapted to it. This became part of our social lives in all of the country. Religion must have been important, silently in individual families. But these beliefs were not manifested at school, when people meet together, old and young, and no one would even think to have religious gatherings. Therefore religion was confined to within families.

**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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