

Linköping University
Department of Culture and Communication
Master's Program
Language and Culture in Europe

**The Albanian Linguistic Journey from
Ancient Illyricum to EU**
"Lexical Borrowings"

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Department of Culture and Communication

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Guide to the reader

A. Abbreviations

alb.	Albanian	lat.	Latin
albg.	Gheg Albanian	latv.	Latvian
albt.	Tosk Albanian	ngrk.	New-Greek
arab.	Arabian	ON.	Old Norse
bulg.	Bulgarian	pers.	Persian
eng.	English	PIE.	Proto-Indo-European
goth.	Gothic	IPA	International Phonetic Alphabet
grk.	Greek	serb.	Serbian
IE.	Indo-European	slav.	Slavic
illy.	Illyrian	tur.	Turkish
it.	Italian		

B. Symbols

- * denotes a reconstructed form
- > “turns into” or “becomes”
- < “comes from” or “is derived from”

1 Introduction

Lexical borrowings are responsible for as much as ninety percent of the Albanian vocabulary and due to globalization, this percentage is about to grow even more. With a great history of three thousand years behind it and being neighbor to the two great civilizations of the then known world, Ancient Greece and Rome, Albanian has borrowed more words than any other European language.

Belonging to the family of the Indo-European languages, Albanian has primarily borrowed from languages within this family of languages, but even from other languages such as Turkish.

Lexical borrowings are tightly connected to the history and culture of this nation. Depending on the presence of which foreign power ruled in the Albanian territories at which time, these borrowings have had as a primary source either Greek (Ancient, Middle or New), Latin or Turkish with a few minor interferences from Gothic and Slavic languages. Other sources have been: Italian due to its presence under WWI and WWII and of course English due to its status as an international language, although this last one has not enjoyed the same success of integrating into the Albanian vocabulary as one would expect.

Every language has its own reasons for borrowing from another language. There are two main reasons: prestige and need. Albanian is not an exception. Albanian has borrowed from Greek and Latin both on the basis of need and on the basis of prestige. On the basis of need, Albanian has borrowed those words related to a new product, intellectual concept or new words referring to the advancements in technology. On the basis of prestige Albanian fulfills the criteria as a neighbor to not only one, but two major cultural languages such as Greek and Latin.

1.1 Problem description

Being amazed by the lack of research regarding the Albanian language in general but even lexical borrowings in specific, the interesting questions that are brought up in the background description spiked my curiosity: Where does a language come from? Every language has its own history and during the course of that history, it might change, evolve or even die. Why do languages borrow from each other? Borrowing seems to be true for every language that has contact with another, even for major cultural languages such as Greek. Every case though is unique in itself. From which languages can a language borrow? Speakers of a certain language borrow from the people that they come in contact with, face-to-face or otherwise. How do languages incorporate those borrowings? There are different ways a language can incorporate lexical borrowings in its vocabulary with the main categories being: loanwords, loan translations, semantic loans, foreign words and loan blends.

After answering those questions, the following step would be to apply the same principles to the Albanian language and answer them in specific regarding this language: Where does the Albanian language come from and from which languages has it borrowed? The next logical step would be to answer the questions: why has the Albanian language borrowed so extensively from those languages and how has it incorporated those loans in its vocabulary?

1.2 Aim

The primary objective for this master thesis is the identification of the vast numbers of lexical borrowings in the Albanian language, which languages they primarily come from, why the Albanian language has borrowed so many words during the course of its history and how those borrowings are incorporated in the Albanian language.

A secondary objective is the brief introduction of the Albanian history, to provide a clear picture of where the Albanian language comes from, and supporting this with archeological, cultural and linguistic findings.

2 Historical background

History is the most powerful weapon in the service of linguistics. Therefore, in order to understand the Albanian language, one must first understand this country's history. Being one of the oldest peoples in the Balkans, Albanians have a formidable history dating back to the time of Alexander the Great but even further back via the history of their ancestors, the Illyrians. According to Wilkes (1992), the Illyrians lived east of the Adriatic and occupied a territory which stretched out from central modern-Albania in the south, up to and including almost all of the Yugoslavian lands in the north (3).

One of the first to mention the Illyrians was Thucydides in 423 B.C, after a Macedonian campaign between two rival Macedonian tribes. Thucydides' reference to the Illyrians was very precise, and he regarded them as hostile troops to Macedonia (Katičić, 1976: 155). Thucydides refers to the Illyrians as military troops for hire, although not reliable (2007:198).

Another reference to the Illyrians comes from the Roman historian Appianus of Alexandria¹. He refers to the Illyrians as a people that inhabit a region above Macedonia and Thrace, from Thesprotia in the south to the river Danube in the North. Appianus (1703) gives an in detail description of the region where Illyria laid, measuring the length and breadth of Illyria in days-traveled. He even refers to a legend regarding the origin of the name of Illyria:

They say that the country received its name from Illyrius, the son of Polyphemus; for the cyclops Polyphemus and his wife, Galatea, had three sons, Celtus, Illyrius, and Galas, all of whom migrated from Sicily; and the nations called Celts, Illyrians, and Galatians took their origin from them. Among the many myths prevailing among many peoples this seems to me the most plausible (176).

The Illyrians are an important part of the ancient history of the Balkans, even if there is little known about them. They are thought to have settled in the Balkans probably during the early Bronze Age², and founded kingdoms which later came under the influence of Greece. Greece left

¹ Appianus (c. 95 – c. 165), of Alexandria was a Roman historian (of Greek ethnicity)

² Bronze Age in the Balkans (2100–1200 BC)(Jacques,1995:11).

its marks during the colonization of the area, one of the oldest cities of Albania, Epidamnus³ (Durrës in the modern-day Albania).

Epidamnus was later known as Dyrrhachium by the Romans which colonized Illyria after the Greeks, making it a Roman province. Even if the Illyrians played an important role in the Roman army, they were never Romanized but kept their language, Illyrian (Fortson, 2010:464-65).

It is to all researchers' great disappointment that almost nothing written has survived from the Illyrian times. According to Wilkes (1992) the only references remaining are those of Greek or Roman scholars, referring to names of places and persons. Some of those Illyrian words that have been left behind such as: 'illy. *rhinos* eng.fog', 'illy.*sabaius/sabaia* eng.local variety of beer' have also survived due to the

Figure 1: Mosaics in the Dyrrhachium (Durrës) Amphitheater

writings of the Greek and Roman scholars (69). In Ammianus Marcellinus 26.8.2 referring to the ancient Illyrian drink, we read: "*est autem sabaia ex ordeo vel frumento in liquorem conversis paupertinus in Illyrico potus*"⁴.

Most of those words the Illyrians left behind, are found in tombs or monuments, using either Latin or Greek letters. This does not by any means indicate the Hellenization or Romanization of the local population, rather using these major cultural languages as trade languages.



Source a: CIA- The world fact book

In an attempt to really understand the origins of Albania, different theories have appeared in different periods in time: origins in Dacia and Thrace have been sought in order to establish whether the Albanians have moved to their autochthonous homeland from one of the previous regions. There are two main categories though, that the historians have been trying to place the origin of the Albanians: Illyrian or Thracian. Linguists have tried to place the origins of their language focusing mainly on these two categories (Huld, 1984: 8).

³ The city founded as Epidamnus by the Greek colonists from Corinth and Corcyra (modern-day Corfu) sometime during 627 BC.

⁴ "Now Sabaia is a drink made of barley or other grain, and is used only by poor people in Illyricum."

The fact, that Albanians claim to be direct descendants of the Illyrians, has often been contested by other researchers but there are more than enough findings and logical reasoning to convince scholars that the Illyrians are the predecessors of the Albanians. Thus the Albanian language is a direct descendant of the Illyrian language. The two basic arguments supporting this, are: that those words surviving from Illyrian, such as place names and personal names (see 3.2 The origin controversy), can only be explained through the Albanian language and that the modern-day Albanians live in the same geographical region as the Illyrians did. The place names that survive even in modern-day Albania and nowhere else have been known since antiquity and have been places of great interest both archeologically and linguistically: city of *Dyrrhachium* > Durrës, river *Drinus* > Drin, city of *Lissus* > Lezha, city of *Mathis* > Mat (Jacques, 1995: 36-38).

The evolution of the Albanian language has passed through different stages: Indo-European => Proto-Albanian=> Old Albanian => Albanian. Proto-Albanian's contact with Latin extended over a period of six centuries, from the 1st century AD – the 6th century AD, when the Slavic influences on the language began (Orel, 2000:xi-xii).

Figure 2: "Illyrian drachmas": silver coin excavated in Albania in 1998



Proto-Albanian's contact with Greece and the Greek influences had already taken place eight centuries earlier, in 775⁵ B.C., when the first Greek merchants established trading colonies on the shores of Adriatic. One of the most significant findings regarding that period, was the discovery of silver coins⁶ which were called "Illyrian drachmas": "Illyrian" because they bear the names of Illyrian kings and "drachmas" because of the people who introduced them to the monetary system around 450 B.C., the Greeks (Jacques, 1995:94-96).

In the course of history there have been many other influences, such as Gothic (see 4.9 Borrowings during the Byzantine period) for a brief period of time as well as Italian (see 4.11 Borrowings from Italian) during the modern days, in both the Albanian language and the Albanian culture.

⁵ The Greek domination ended by the subjugation of the Illyrian kingdoms by Rome (323-168 B.C.) following the death of Alexander the Great (Jacques, 1995:110).

⁶ Illyrian drachmas were excavated at a small village called Lleshan, near Elbasan, in 1998. The archeological findings consisted of 2,758 silver and bronze coins of the ancient Illyria.

3 Albanian as an Indo-European language

‘While many have maintained that the search for the PIE homeland is a waste of intellectual effort, or beyond the competence of the methodologies involved, the many scholars who have tackled the problem have ably evinced why they consider it important. The location of the homeland and the description of how the Indo-European languages spread is central to any explanation of how Europe became European. In a larger sense it is a search for the origins of western civilization.’

(Mallory, *Journal of Indo-European Studies* 1,1973:21)

Albanian (Gjuha Shqipe pronounced [*ˈɟuha ˈʃcipɛ*]) is an Indo-European language but with no other close relatives, it occupies a separate branch in the Indo-European language family (see Appendix B-Indo-European family of languages). Although its exact origin is not known, it is considered by many to be the sole survivor of Illyrian. Different assumptions would suggest that Albanian originates from Thracian⁷ or even Daco-Mysian⁸. Although not officially recognized as an Indo-European language until the 19th century, it contains all the distinctive characters of an Indo-European language (Fortson, 2010:446-47).

The study of the Albanian language and its origins has proven though to be a challenge for most researchers, both historians and linguists, as there is little written information about this small country on the shores of Adriatic Sea. Documentation is almost non-existent in Albanian until the 15th century, with the first known document being a baptism formula in 1462 (Fortson, 2010:447). This ancient civilization was rescued by the fact that Albania is geographically situated between the two greatest civilizations known: the Greeks and the Romans. References by scholars from these two civilizations have made it possible for researchers to understand the customs, legends, myths and language of Albania (Jacques, 1995: xvii-xviii).

⁷ Thracian is the language spoken in the region of Thrace, located in the eastern Balkans, in the classical times (Fortson, 2010: 463).

⁸ Daco-Mysian or simply Dacian is the language spoken in the Roman province of Dacia, neighboring Thrace (Fortson, 2010: 465).

The earliest references to the Albanian people date back to 150 A.D when the great geographer Ptolemy⁹ mentioned an Illyrian tribe, in the heart of the modern-day Albania, called the Albanoi ‘grk. Αλβανοί’. Depending on the fact that Albanian is spoken in the same region that Illyrian was spoken and the fact that those few elements of Illyrian known can only be explained through the Albanian language, has made the researchers believe that Albanian is a direct descendant of Illyrian and appeared as a separate language sometime between 400– 600 A.D (Jacques, 1995: 37).

It was the work of Franz Bopp (1854) which made it possible for the Albanian language to be recognized as an Indo-European language. Comparing a word in different languages, in order to derive a common root and then comparing that root to the base language, constitutes its origin from the Indo-European base language. Being true for every other Indo-European language, this is true even for the Albanian language. Undeniably the following words in Albanian have common roots with the parent language and thus allowed Franz Bopp (1854) to refer to Albanian as an Indo-European language:

Table 1: Albanian words and their PIE-roots

Words in Albanian		PIE -roots
alb.ditë	eng.day	PIE. * <i>dihxtis</i> - "light"
alb.pjek	eng.to cook	PIE. * <i>pek</i> ^w - "to cook, become ripe"
alb.shpendë	eng.fowl	PIE. * <i>pet</i> - "to fly"
alb.pesë	eng.five	PIE. * <i>penk</i> ^w <i>e</i> - "five"
alb.ujk	eng.wolf	PIE. * <i>wlk</i> ^w <i>os</i> - "wolf"
alb.dhjetë	eng.ten	PIE. * <i>dekm̥</i> - "ten"
alb.gjashë	eng.six	PIE. * <i>sékstis</i> - "six"
alb.djeg	eng.burn	PIE. * <i>dhég</i> ^w <i>he/o</i> - "burn"
alb.gur	eng.stone	PIE. * <i>g</i> ^w <i>z</i> - "stone"

Source b: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

In Albanian there are nearly two thousand such simple words derived from the Indo-European base language, but there are also other compound words formed on the basis of those directly inherited from the Indo-European parent language: from ‘alb. *pi* eng.to drink’ PIE. **peh₃i*- "to

⁹ Ptolemy of Alexandria c. AD 90 – c. 168: He was a mathematician, astronomer, geographer, astrologer and a poet of a single epigram in the Greek Anthology

drink"(Jacques,1995:44) the words *pijetore* 'eng.bar-sallon-pub', *pijeshitës* 'eng.seller of alcoholic beverages' have emerged (Newmark, 2000: 665-66).

3.1 Albanian-PIE phonological correspondences

Albanian's phonological system has undergone continuous changes through the centuries until the final development of standard Albanian (Demiraj,1998:483). It would definitely serve the purpose of this thesis though to show the relation between Proto Indo-European and Albanian in order to fully understand how and why this language is considered to be Indo-European and its relation to other Indo-European languages: 'alb.*gur* eng.stone' from PIE *g^wṛ "stone" corresponds to 'slav.*gora* eng.mountain,wood', 'alb.*gjashtë* eng.six' from PIE *sékstis - "six" corresponds to 'grk.ἕξ eng.six' and to 'lat.*sex* eng.six', 'alb.*ujk* eng.wolf' from PIE *w^lk^wos - "wolf" corresponds to 'grk.λύκος eng.wolf' and to 'goth.*wulfs* eng.wolf' (Orel, 2000:219-20).For more examples on the Albanian-PIE correspondences, (see: Table 24-32).

As for every other language, even the Albanian phonological system, has undergone changes as a result of the development of the language. These changes however have enabled the Albanian phonological system to maintain an IE origin (Demiraj, 1998:483). Indo-European languages have developed a five vowel system */a e i o u/ under the course of their evolution. The Albanian language has seven vowels /a e i o u y ë/ (IPA¹⁰ /a ε i ɔ u y ə /) with the last two being developed later on, due to the evolution of the language. The quality of the tonic syllables, of three of the five short vowels of the PIE*/a i u /, has in general been preserved in Albanian (ibid., 484). There are differences though:

- ❖ Short */o/ has become /a/. That is the same as in Greek, Germanic or Lithuanian:
'alb *na* < *nos - "we"'.
This is of great importance to this thesis, as this change does not occur in the borrowings from either Latin or Ancient Greek, which means that this change happened in the Albanian parent language (484).

¹⁰ IPA: International Phonetic Alphabet (see Appendix C- International Phonetic Alphabet)

- ❖ In the majority of cases short /e/ becomes /ie, ié (je)/ and in a few cases /ja/as in ‘alb *bie* < *b^herō - "to bear"’, but short */e/ originally became /e/ as in ‘alb *pesë* < *penk^we - "five"’.
- ❖ Another important feature peculiar to Albanian is the vowel /ë/ (= /ə/), because it occurs in the Tosk dialect only (see 3.4 Dialects of Albanian). This is important to this thesis as the vowel /ë/ (= /ə/) occurs only in Latin borrowings or native words. This is not true of borrowings from Slavic and this testifies to the fact that this change must have happened before the Slavic invasion of the 6th century AD.

On the contrast to the short vowels, the IE long vowels, except long */i/, had changed in the Albanian parent language. Long IE vowels have developed as:

- ❖ */a:/ becomes /o/ as in ‘alb *motër* < *māter - "sister"’.
- ❖ */e:/ becomes /o/ as in ‘alb *dorë* < *ĝ^herā - "hand"’.
- ❖ */o:/ becomes /e/ as in ‘alb *ne* < *nōs - "we"’.

With twenty nine consonants in the Albanian alphabet, such an analysis would be more complex and beyond the purpose of this thesis. However, some typical examples would be appropriate in order to understand the evolution of certain consonants.

- ❖ Velars */k g g^h/ produced /f g / in Albanian and later through palatalization before a front vowel gave ‘q’ and ‘gj’
- ❖ Palatals */k̑ ĝ ĝ^h/ gave ‘th’ and ‘dh’
- ❖ The labiovelars */k^wg^wg^w^h/ produced /s/ and /z/ respectively before /i/ or /e/ and they became /k/ and /g/ in other cases, behaving as pure velars.

Another case, which is not going to be analyzed in detail, is that of the different reflexes */s/ in Albanian. Although the circumstances which led to these reflexes in Albanian is very complex, according to Demiraj (1998) the most general reflex of */s/ is that of /sh/ which has been recorded in loans from both Greek and Latin (488): ‘alb *pres*h eng. leek’ from the Greek ‘*πράσων* *prason* eng. leek’, ‘alb *shkallë* eng. stairs’ from the Latin ‘*scala* eng. stairs’.

For more information about all these phonological changes: (see Tables: 24-32)

3.2 The origin controversy

As soon as the Albanian language was declared a member of the Indo-European family of languages and regarded as autochthonous on that particular area since ancient times, an etymological investigation began in order to establish its correct origin. Different theories have appeared under different periods, with three, Daco-Mysian, Thracian and Illyrian being the main focus of all linguists. This investigation led to the discovery of place names and words that are found today in Albanian (Katičić, 1976:166).

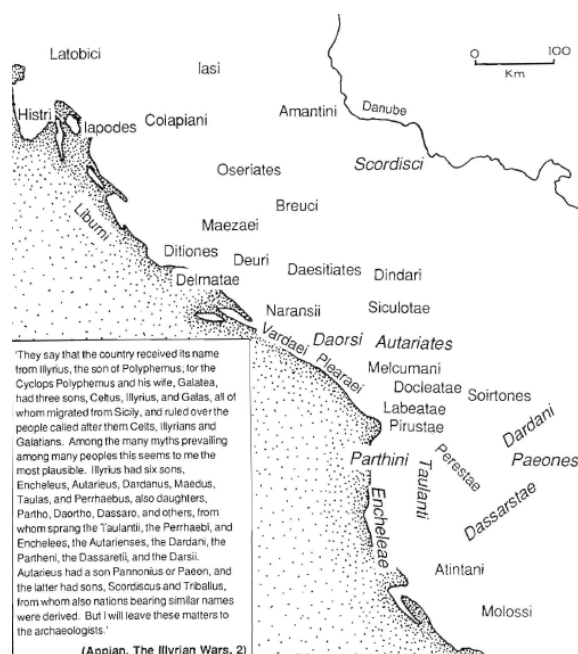
Daco-Mysian as an ancestor of the Albanian language is a theory supported by Georgiev (1981:141), who via a series of hypotheses regards Albanian as a direct descendant of Daco-Mysian. These hypotheses are based on the comparison of the two languages' phonologies. Katičić (1976:187) argues that these comparisons are too speculative for a definite result to be reached.

Thracian as a direct ancestor to Albanian has been greatly debated, but since there is too little information about it, a definite conclusion

cannot be reached. Huld (1984:158) argues that in the absence of clear and undeniable proof that the Albanian language derives from Illyrian, Thracian or Daco-Mysian, the wisest move would be not to categorize it at all.

This however is discussed by Çabej¹¹ (1965: 91-92), stating that Illyrian is best related to Albanian because of: its geographical position; the Illyrian tribes¹² that resided in the territory of the modern-day Albania; the lexical findings which can only be explained through Albanian such as 'illy. *rhinos* *PIE **h₁rinéh₂ti* eng. fog' which Fortson (2010:465) has compared

Map 1: Illyrian tribes



Source c: Mallory, (1990:75), In search for the Indo-Europeans, Map 45

¹¹ Prof. Eqrem Çabej (7 August 1908—13 August 1980) was a famous linguist who gained a reputation as an expert in the Albanian language.

¹² Illyrian Tribes: Taulanti, Docleatae, Labeatae, Autariates, Delamatae

to the ‘albg.*ren* alb.*re* eng.cloud’ and ‘illy.*sabaius/sabaia* *PIE **sap-* ‘juice’ eng.local variety of beer’; and the archeological findings of ancient Illyrian cultures. Çabej (1965:93) analyzing the morphology of some tribe names, comes to the conclusion that the Illyrian suffix *-at* which is found in the names of the Illyrian tribes such as Docleatae, Labeatae, Autariates, Delamatae (see Map 1), corresponds to the suffix *-at* found in the names of Albanian tribes of the 15th century such as Bakirat and Demat; and in the modern-day Albania corresponds to the names of some villages such as Dukat and Filat, therefore reinforcing the Albanian position as a direct descendant of Illyrian.

Prof. Çabej’s argument is reinforced by the Mann’s (1977: ii) claim “The immediate ancestor of Albanian is Illyrian.”.

As I mentioned before, another important fact is the personal names that are found in Albanian. According to Mallory (1997) the personal name Teuta¹³ <*Teutana and the identical name of her tribe, corresponds to ‘Goth *þiuda* eng.folk’, to ‘Latv.*tàuta* eng. people’, to ON *þjōð* eng.folk’, all of which come from ‘PIE **teutéha-* eng. the people¹⁴’, (288). ‘Teuta’ has been and still is used nowadays as a first name by many Albanian women.

With regard to the fact that the Albanian language has been spoken in the same location under a great period of time, is also supported by other Balkan specialists, Thomason (2001: 106) draws the conclusion that the Albanian language is a descendant of the earlier inhabitants of the same region, the Illyrians.

¹³ Teuta was an Illyrian queen that reigned ca. 231-228 B.C

¹⁴ (Mallory & Adams, Encyclopedia of Indo-European Culture, 1997: 417)

3.3 Albanian Standard Language

Written language is strongly connected to the alphabet. After centuries of occupation, Albania would finally realize the need for a national alphabet and a national education system, as they were deprived of both during the five centuries of Turkish occupation (Skendi, 1967:366).

Up until the beginning of the 20th century, Albanian did not have any alphabet of its own, but had always relied on the Greek or Latin alphabet. That is one of the reasons why almost nothing written has survived prior to the 15th century (see 3 Albanian as an Indo-European language). After two and a half thousand years of linguistic presence in the Balkans, after the influences by both major cultural languages, Greek and Latin, and after the struggle of many Albanian national figures, it was finally time, long overdue, for Albanian to have its own alphabet.

It was in the Congress of Monastir on the 14th of November 1908 that Albanians would adopt an alphabet, comprising of 36 Latin letters in a first attempt towards freedom (Jacques, 1995: 309).

Figure 3: Albanian Alphabet

A a	B b	C c	Ç ç	D d	Dh dh	E e	Ë ë	F f	G g	Gj gj	H h
a	bë	cë	çë	dë	dhë	e	ë	fë	gë	gjë	hë
[a]	[b]	[t͡s]	[t͡ʃ]	[d]	[ð]	[ɛ]	[ə]	[f]	[g]	[j]	[h]
I i	J j	K k	L l	Ll ll	M m	N n	Nj nj	O o	P p	Q q	R r
i	jë	kë	lë	llë	më	në	një	o	pë	që	rë
[i, j]	[j]	[k]	[l]	[l̥]	[m]	[n]	[ɲ]	[ɔ]	[p]	[t͡ʃ]	[r]
Rr rr	S s	Sh sh	T t	Th th	U u	V v	X x	Xh xh	Y y	Z z	Zh zh
rë	së	shë	të	thë	u	vë	xë	xhë	y	zë	zhë
[r]	[s]	[ʃ]	[t]	[θ]	[u]	[v]	[x]	[xh]	[y]	[z]	[z]

It was not however until 1912 that Albanians created their own sovereign state. According to Jacques (1995) however, despite the love for their country and language, they were divided in so many other ways: different customs, traditions, costumes, religions and folklore (334). Albanian Muslims were identified as Turks while Albanian Orthodox were identified as Greeks (Friedman, 2006:145). In an attempt to unify the Albanians in a single cause, the Albanian poet and novelist Pashko Vasa wrote the following poem:

“O moj Shqypni, e mjera Shqypni”

(Albanian Text)

*Shqypnar', me vllazen jeni tuj u vra,
Nder nji qind ceta jeni shpernda;
Sa thone kam fe sa thone kam din;
Njeni: "jam turk", tjetri: "latin"
Do thone: "Jam grek", "shkje"-disa tjere,
Por jemi vllazen t'gjith more t'mjere!
Prifnit e hoxhet ju kane hutue,
Per me ju damun me ju vorfnue![...]
Coniu, shqyptare, prej gjumit coniu,
Te gjithë si vllazen n'nji bese shterngoniu,
E mos shikoni kisha e xhamia:
Feja e shqyptarit asht shqyparia!*

(Translation by Robert Elsie)

Albanians, you are killing kinfolk,
You're split in a hundred factions,
Some believe in God or Allah,
Say 'I'm Turk,' or 'I am Latin,'
Say 'I'm Greek,' or 'I am Slavic,'
But you're brothers, hapless people!
You've been duped by priests and hodjas
To divide you, keep you wretched! [...]
Wake, Albanian, from your slumber,
Let us, brothers, swear in common
And not look to church or mosque,
The Albanian's faith is Albanianism!¹⁵

The Albanian text is a typical example of the differences between the two Albanian dialects, Gheg and Tosk. The above poem is written in the Albanian Gheg dialect where we can identify some of the features that were discussed earlier (see 3.4 Dialects of Albanian):

- ❖ intervocalic **-n-** is preserved in the Gheg dialect and rhotacized (changed) to **-r-** in the Tosk dialect: ‘Gheg *Shqypni* > Tosk *Shqipëri* eng. Albania’, ‘Gheg *vllazën* > Tosk *vëllezër* eng. brothers’, ‘Gheg *Njeni* > Tosk *Njëri* eng. someone’.
- ❖ The initial Proto-Albanian *ō* > *uo* > ‘Gheg *vo*’ corresponds to ‘Tosk *va*’: ‘Gheg *vorfnue* > Tosk *varfëruar* eng. impoverish’

According to Jacques (1995), it would take a few more years for the standardization of the language to take place and the use of the Tosk dialect to become the official language of Albania. In 1952 the decision to use the Tosk dialect was made in Tirana, the capital of Albania, and two years later the first official dictionary was published (471). The reasons why the Tosk dialect was chosen are considered mainly political and beyond the purpose of this thesis.

¹⁵ (Friedman, 2006: 145)

3.4 Dialects of Albanian

Dialects are important sources of words and their vocabulary is not only important for the understanding of the origin of certain words, but even for the understanding of the seemingly minor differences between them. Seemingly minor, these differences in Albanian can sometimes determine during which period certain loanwords were borrowed and from which language.

Map 2: Dialects geographical division



Albanian is the official language of Albania. The two main dialects of the language are Gheg and Tosk. The first is spoken in the north of the country and the second in the south. It is widely accepted that these two dialects are divided by the Shkumbini River¹⁶ running in the middle of Albania. The official language is however based on the Tosk dialect (Fortson, 2010:446).

Huld (1983:10-12) came to the conclusion that the division between the two main dialects of Albanian, must have happened sometime between

Source d: Fortson, Benjamin W: Geographical distribution of Geg and Tosk, *Indo-European Language and Culture*, Chichester, 2010:447, Map 19.1

the time when Via Egnatia¹⁷, connecting Rome and Constantinople, was still used as a main trade-route during the 4th century AD, and the rise of the Venetian trade by sea during the 10th century AD. He came to this conclusion after discovering that some words had penetrated the Albanian language after the Christianization¹⁸ of this culture: 'alb.*murg* eng.monk' from 'lat.*monach-us* eng.monk'.

¹⁶ A river dividing Albania almost in the middle. A geographic division of the two Albanian dialects.

¹⁷ An ancient road leading from Dyrrhachium (modern-day Durrës) to Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul).

¹⁸ Christianization of the Roman Empire is thought to have occurred under the 4th century AD.

The main differences between the two dialects are mainly phonetic (Baldi, 1983:88):

- ❖ Intervocalic **-n-** is preserved in the Gheg dialect and rhotacized (changed) to **-r-** in the Tosk dialect: ‘Gheg *arbënes*h > Tosk *arbëresh* eng.albanian ’, ‘Gheg *vena* > Tosk *vera* eng. vine’.

According to Mann (1938:449) this is a unique phenomenon in the family of Indo-European languages and as such, of most importance because it extends to words borrowed from the Indo-European family of languages such as Greek and Latin but not from Turkish:

‘tur.*konak* eng. mansion, large and imposing house’ is preserved in both Gheg and Tosk as ‘alb.*konak* eng. residence, home’

- ❖ According to Friedman (2006) nasal vowels are present in Gheg but absent in Tosk. Tosk has developed instead a stressed **schwa** which corresponds to Gheg nasal **â** or **ê**: ‘Tosk *është*’ for ‘Gheg *âsht* eng.is’.
- ❖ In many cases Gheg loses unstressed schwa and at times compensates this loss: ‘Tosk *Shqipëri*’ ‘Gheg *Shqipni* eng.Albania’
- ❖ The initial Proto-Albanian *ō* > *uo* > ‘Gheg *vo*’ corresponds to ‘Tosk *va*’: ‘Gheg *vo*tër = Tosk *va*tër eng.hearth, fireplace’ (146).

Although there are differences between the two dialects, in both of them there are common features of spelling which yields the conclusion that there must have existed already a common literary language (Fortson, 2010:448). And let us not forget that according to Huld (1982:11-12) the division between these two dialects, must have happened sometime after the Christianization of the Roman Empire.

The above two arguments by Fortson and Huld, yield the conclusion that a common literary language must have happened prior to the Christianization of the Roman Empire, during the 4th century AD.

4 Lexical borrowing

A completely isolated language would be difficult to maintain as human beings need to interact in some degree. It does not even matter if the interaction is friendly or hostile for some kind of linguistic interinfluencing to happen (Sapir, 1949:192).

Language contact presupposes the coexistence of two or more languages in the same place during the same time and the communication between the speakers of those languages. As language contact presupposes also the face-to-face communication among those speakers or groups of speakers, language contact usually occurs when two or more groups of speakers are neighbors. There is language contact even when speakers of two or more languages co-inhabit in the same community, in which case there is bilingualism or even multilingualism (Thomason, 2001:1-4). That seems to be the case even with the Albanians: they have had contact with all the neighboring groups of people and still has contact through the bilingual communities and minorities¹⁹ inside its borders.

One important consequence of this language contact, according to Sapir, is lexical borrowing, which occurs when one of those languages in contact is more influential or prestigious (1949: 193).

According to Çabej (1982) an important factor, especially in the case of Albanian, is the geographic spread of the loanwords in direct proportion to the time the donor language has been in contact with Albanian. As a result, the influences of the Latin language can be accounted for in all the territory of Albania, but this is not the case for old Italian or the Slavic languages. Another important factor is that of the donor language being more prestigious. Here Çabej agrees with Sapir and goes on to present the case of the borrowings from the Slavic languages. Those borrowings are confined only to certain regions of Albania in contrast to the Latin, Greek or Turkish borrowings, even if these latest came long after the Slavic influences (128).

¹⁹ In 1961, according to Friedman (2006), 5% of the Albanian population belonged to a minority group, with the largest group being the Greek minority, in the south of the country, followed by the Macedonians who lived mainly in the eastern parts of the country and the Aromanians (vlahs). Figures, showing greater percentage of the population belonging to minority groups in later years, should be treated with caution due to the political situation in the Balkans (148).

4.1 Definition of lexical borrowing

Borrowing constitutes the process of requisition of material from another language. There has to be a contact between two languages in order for borrowing to work. Words can co-exist in both languages and even pass on as a loan to a third language. As with all other words, borrowings can evolve or even die in either language (Durkin, 2009: 133-34). Besides the actual loanwords, there are the new words, created in the recipient language, based on the original loanword. The Albanian ‘alb.*vijë* eng.line’ borrowed from ‘lat.*via* eng. road, way’ evolved in the recipient language and created these new words: ‘alb.*vijo* eng.to continue’, ‘alb.*vijos* eng.to draw a line’ . These creations (see 4.4 Effects of borrowing) are unique to the recipient and do not have counterparts in the donor language (Winford, 2003:43).

There is however a small problem: trying to identify whether borrowing has really occurred or not sometimes leads to the situation where the donor actually becomes the borrower. In order to prevent that from happening correspondences in the word form, date and meaning would be ideal. This way the researcher would have sufficient data in order to etymologically support the origin of the word and its status as a donor. This ideal scenario, however, does not occur often (Durkin, 2009:169-70). In the case of Albanian there are often cases where the origin of the borrowing, whether it is borrowed from Greek or Latin, Latin or Italian, is not clearly established.

Table 2: Unclear origin of the borrowing

Albanian word		Borrowed from either	or		
alb.krijoj	eng.to create	lat. <i>creare</i>	eng. to create	it. <i>creare</i>	eng. to create
alb.kristal	eng. crystal	it. <i>cristallo</i>	eng. crystal	ngrk.κρύσταλλο	eng. crystal
alb.lëshoj	eng. to release	lat. <i>lassare</i>	eng. to release	it. <i>lasciare</i>	eng. to release

Source e: Source g: Meyer's etymological dictionary

According to Durkin (2009), there seem to be five main divisions of lexical borrowing (134):

- ❖ **Loanwords:** Integrated word form. The form of the word is borrowed with its meaning or an element of its meaning

Winford (2003) states that pure loanwords might either be compound or single words (43), such as:

Table 3: Loanwords

Albanian word		Words borrowed	
alb.barkë	eng. boat	lat. <i>barca</i>	eng.boat
alb.kështjellë	eng.castle,fort	lat. <i>castellum</i>	eng.castle,fort
alb.madh	eng. big	goth. <i>mikils</i>	eng. big
alb.gardh	eng. fence	goth. <i>gards</i>	eng. court (Royal)
alb.kope	eng. herd, pack	ngrk. <i>κοπάδι</i>	eng. herd, pack
alb.korak	eng. raven	ngrk. <i>κόρακας</i>	eng. raven
alb.krokodil	eng. crocodile	ngrk. <i>κροκόδειλος</i>	eng. crocodile

Source f: Source g: Meyer's etymological dictionary

- ❖ **Loan translations** (known as *calque*): reproduction of the structure of the donor word or expression by using synonym word forms in the recipient language.

Table 4: Loan translations

Albanian loan translations		Italian words	
alb.gjarpër deti	eng. sea serpent	< it. serpente di mare	eng.sea serpent
alb.peshkaqen	eng. shark	< it. pescecane	eng.shark
alb.peshk shpatë	eng. swordfish	< it. pesce spada	eng.swordfish
alb.kalë deti	eng. seahorse	< it. cavallo marino	eng.seahorse
alb.lulelakër	eng. cauliflower	< it. cavolfiore	eng. cauliflower
alb.peshk çekiç	eng. hammerhead	< it. pesce martello	eng.hammerhead

- ❖ **Foreign words:** non-integrated word from a foreign language. On the contrary to the loanwords where adaption to the native phonology or morphology is required, foreign words retain their pronunciation, do not evolve in the recipient language and may show non-native morphology (Durkin, 2009:139), as:

Table 5: Foreign words

Albanian word	English word
alb.uiski eng. whiskey	eng. <i>whiskey</i>
alb.shouman eng. showman	eng. <i>showman</i>
alb.biznes eng. business	eng. <i>business</i>
alb.shougirl eng. showgirl	eng. <i>showgirl</i>
alb.media eng. media	eng. <i>media</i>
alb.derbi eng. derby	eng. <i>derby</i>

Source g: Durkin *The Oxford Guide to Etymology*, 139

- ❖ **Semantic loans:** the borrowed word already exists but with the difference is that now it takes on a new meaning or a supplement: alb.*makinë* <it. *macchina* eng.car has developed and nowadays is being used for nearly everything that has any type of motor: ‘alb. *makinë rroje* eng. electric shaver’, ‘alb.*makinë qepse* eng. sewing machine’, ‘alb.*makinë shkrimi* eng. typewriter’, ‘alb.*makinë fotografike* eng.camera’, ‘alb. *makinë larëse* eng. washing machine’.
- ❖ **Loan blends:** a complex word borrowed with the substitution of one or more native morpheme, usually a compound word. In these case a few words borrowed from Latin such as ‘alb.*dhuroj* < *lat.dono* eng. to give’ plus the native suffix *-atë*, which is a development of the Illyrian suffix *-at* (see 3.2 The origin controversy), gives the following loan blends in Albanian:

Table 6: Loan blends

Albanian word	Borrowed word + native suffix
alb.dhuroj < <i>lat.dono</i> eng. to give	dhuroj + <i>atë</i> (suffix) = alb. <i>dhuratë</i> eng.gift
alb.kungoj < <i>lat. communico</i> eng. to give (communion)	kungoj + <i>atë</i> (suffix) = alb. <i>kungatë</i> eng.communion
alb.urdhëroj < <i>lat.ordino</i> eng. to order	urdhër + <i>atë</i> (suffix) = alb. <i>urdhëratë</i> eng.order

Source h: Çabej, 1982:117

4.2 Characteristics of Borrowings

When new words are borrowed from another language, they have to be changed (or adapted) in the recipient language as to morphologically and phonologically match the structure of the recipient language. Words borrowed might contain sounds which are foreign to the recipient language and therefore they must be changed in order to completely fit the local sounds. Usually, the sound that does not exist in the recipient language is replaced by the equivalent or almost equivalent sound of the recipient (Campbell, 2004:65-66).

Trying to identify the sounds that have been replaced or have equivalents in the words borrowed from Greek would be a challenge and beyond the purpose of this thesis, however a few words to compare the difference between the Greek and Albanian sounds such as ‘grk [ɣ] > alb [g]’, ‘grk [ç] > alb [ks]’, ‘grk [θ] > alb [t]’, grk [χ] > alb [k]’, are presented below (see Table 7).

Table 7: Sound changes

Albanian word		Word borrowed from Greek	
alb. <i>tigan</i> [tigán]	eng. frying pan	ngrk.τηγάρι [tiɣáni]	eng. frying pan
alb. <i>katedër</i> [katédər]	eng. podium	ngrk.καθέδρα [kaθédra]	eng. podium
alb. <i>angari</i> [angari]	eng. chore	grk. αγγαρεία [anɣaría]	eng.task, chore
alb. <i>oreks</i> [ɔréks]	eng. appetite	ngrk.όρεξις [óreksis]	eng. appetite
alb. <i>lakër</i> [lákər]	eng.cabbage	grk. λάχανον [lákhanon]	eng.cabbage

Everything though is specific to the comparison of the languages in question and depends on the contact between these languages, as well as on the degree of contact. Other factors, such as bilingualism and the length of contact between the donor and the recipient, can influence in the introduction of new phonemes²⁰ which are borrowed together with the loan words (ibid., 67). This is also supported by McMahon (1994) where she even states that the equivalent sound in the recipient language, is not always easy to indentify (205-06).

²⁰ smallest unit of speech distinguishing one word (or word element) from another.

4.3 Motivation for lexical borrowing

“The language of a people that is looked upon as a center of culture is naturally far more likely to exert an appreciable influence on other languages spoken in its vicinity than to be influenced by them.”

(Sapir, *Language : an introduction to the study of speech*, 1949: 192)

Every language has its specific reasons for borrowing words from other languages, but if we were to categorize them, two would be the most frequent: *need* and *prestige* (Winford, 2003:37). This is also supported by Durkin (2009) who also believes that it is easier to recognize loanwords on the basis of need rather than prestige (142).

When a new concept, cultural or technological, is borrowed from another language, a new word is *needed* to go along with the concept. This is also why the same word can be found in many different languages, such as the word ‘*automobile*’ which can be found in Swedish as ‘*bil*’ (Campbell, 2004:64), but even in Albanian as ‘*automobil*’ borrowed from ‘*it.automobile eng.motorcar*’.

Coming in contact with a culturally as well as technologically superior society, is an important factor of the vast amount of borrowings (Foley, 2006:384). That is the case with Albanian too, with the borrowed words coming mainly from Greek and Latin.

Although it is natural that cultural borrowing is bidirectional, where both languages borrow from each other, it is frequently the less prestigious language that borrows more, than the more prestigious language (McMahon, 1994:202). Thus one could argue that borrowing from a major cultural language such as Greek and Latin would probably constitute *prestige* rather than need.

The prolonged contact of Albanian with other languages, such as Greek, Latin and Turkish, has made it possible for a great number of loanwords to enter the Albanian vocabulary. The reasons behind this prolonged contact can vary from time to time, with two being the most important: trade or conquest (Winford, 2003:71). There is trade in the case of borrowings from Greek and conquest in the case of Latin and Turkish. Çabej (1982:116) believes that improvement in the way of life, technical developments, modernization of everyday life and fashion seem to be reasons why we have the need for borrowing from other languages. Furthermore, he identifies the need for borrowing when the native word in the recipient language has two or more different meanings in the recipient language: ‘*alb.dynja eng.the universe*’ from

‘tur.dünya eng.the universe’ has replaced the native word *botë* which in Albanian is used for: the universe, people or someone else as for example ‘alb.bijë e *botës* eng.someone else’s daughter’. For whatever reasons, these loanwords found their way into the Albanian vocabulary and became an important part of the Albanian language.

4.4 Effects of borrowing

One of the effects of borrowings is undoubtedly the evolution or creation of loanwords in the recipient language. In Albanian, loanwords that have evolved are especially those borrowed from ancient times. The older the loanwords, the more lexically productive the outcome in the recipient language: from ‘lat.*filum* eng. thread’ ‘alb. *fill* eng.thread’ the following words have been created in Albanian: ‘alb.*filloj* eng.to begin’, ‘alb. *fillikat* eng.all alone’; from ‘lat.*via* eng. road,way’ ‘alb.*vijë* eng.line’ the following words in Albanian have been created: ‘alb.*vijo* eng.to continue’, ‘alb.*vijos* eng.to draw a line’. On the contrary the late loanwords from Turkish have not been able to produce new words in the Albanian vocabulary (Çabej, 1982:128-29).

The fact that in Albania two foreign powers, Greece and Rome, have been present at the same time, the same loanword has penetrated the language from both sources with minor differences: ‘alb.*barkë* eng.boat’ from ‘lat.*barca* eng.boat’ but also ‘alb.*varkë* eng.boat’ from ‘grk. *βάρκα* eng.boat’, ‘alb.*parajsë* eng.paradise’ from ‘grk.*παράδεισος* eng.paradise’ had also been borrowed from ‘lat.*paradisus* eng.paradise as alb.*parriz* eng.paradise’, ‘alb.*abis* eng.abys’ from ‘it.*abisso* eng.bottomless’ but also ‘alb.*avis* eng.bottomless’ from ‘grk.*άβυσσος* eng.bottomless’ (130).

4.5 What is a Loanword?

Loanwords exist when a word and its meaning, or a significant part of its meaning, is borrowed from the donor language and becomes a part of the recipient language’s vocabulary. There is, to a degree, an adaptation of the sound of the word borrowed. These sounds may be added or they may be adapted to the closest match of the recipient language (Durkin, 2009:134).

4.5.1 Direct Loans

Loanwords can be direct or indirect, and Albanian is no exception. When a word is directly borrowed from the donor language, it is called a direct loan. This is typical for most of the borrowings from Greek, both Ancient and Modern (Çabej, 1982:129).

Table 8: Direct loans

Albanian word		Direct loans	
alb.<i>supë</i>	eng. soup	ngrk. <i>σούπα</i>	eng. soup
alb.<i>supje</i>	eng. cuttlefish	ngrk. <i>σουπιά</i>	eng. cuttlefish
alb.<i>pak</i>	eng. a little, few	lat. <i>paucus</i>	eng. few, little
alb.<i>denjë</i>	eng. worth	lat. <i>dignus</i>	eng. worthy, worthy of.
alb.<i>banjë</i>	eng. bathroom	it. <i>bagno</i>	eng. bathroom
alb.<i>letër</i>	eng. letter	it.. <i>lettera</i>	eng. letter
alb.<i>bandë</i>	eng. musical group	it. <i>banda</i>	eng. musical group
alb.<i>ballkon</i>	eng. balcony	it. <i>balcone</i>	eng. balkony

4.5.2 Indirect Loans

There are however borrowings that came into Albanian via an indirect path called indirect loans. According to Durkin (2009) however, there is a problem of identifying the intermediary stage of the borrowing, if the word borrowed has not suffered any change in form or meaning, on the intermediary language (140). That a word has appeared in a certain language for the first time, does not mean that borrowing has occurred directly from that particular language but through an intermediary language (ibid.,141). Words that originally are Greek, are borrowed in Albanian via Latin or vice versa. There are even Greek loanwords that found their way into the Albanian language via the Serbian language (Çabej, 1982:129):

Table 9: Indirect loans

Albanian word		Borrowed word (from)		Borrowed indirectly from	
alb.<i>krevat</i>	eng. bed	serb. <i>krevet</i>	eng. bed	ngrk. <i>κρεβάτι</i>	eng. bed
alb.<i>liman</i>	eng. harbor	tur. <i>liman</i>	eng. harbor	ngrk. <i>λιμάνι</i>	eng. harbor
alb.<i>litër</i>	eng. litre	serb. <i>litra</i>	eng. litre	ngrk. <i>λίτρο</i>	eng. litre
alb.<i>sfungjer</i>	eng. sponge	ngkr. <i>σφουγγάρι</i>	eng. sponge	tur. <i>sünger</i>	eng. sponge
alb.<i>fakir</i>	eng. poor	tur. <i>fakir</i>	eng. poor	arab. <i>fakir</i>	eng. poor
alb.<i>kanun</i>	eng. law	tur. <i>kanun</i>	eng. law	arab. <i>kânûn</i>	eng. law
alb.<i>qitap</i>	eng. book	tur. <i>kitap</i>	eng. book	arab. <i>ketab</i>	eng. book
alb.<i>mysafir</i>	eng. guest	tur. <i>misafir</i>	eng. guest	arab. <i>misâfir</i>	eng. guest
alb.<i>sebep</i>	eng. reason	tur. <i>sebep</i>	eng. reason	arab. <i>sebep</i>	eng. reason
alb.<i>çerek</i>	eng. quarter	tur. <i>çeyrek</i>	eng. quarter	pers. <i>çehar-yek</i>	eng. quarter
alb.<i>karafil</i>	eng. carnation	tur. <i>karanfil</i>	eng. carnation	grk. <i>καρνόφυλλο</i>	eng. carnation

4.6 Borrowings from Greek (8th BC to 146 BC)

The impact of the Greek language in Albanian is recorded through different periods. Dating back as far as 775 B.C, Greek merchants established colonies and trading cities along the Mediterranean coasts (Jacques, 1995:94). This would inevitably affect the Albanian population in almost every area of their lives, as the Greeks were already known for their development in fields such as philosophy, literature, sculpture etc. This obviously meant that Albanians had to adopt the Greek characters to write their language, but this did not mean that they had no ethnic identity. The influence of the Greek language in Albanian was peaceful and came through trading and not through occupation.

Figure 4: Stone-finding in ancient Butrint written in Greek “ΙΟΥΝΙΑ ΡΟΥΦΕΙΝΑ ΝΥΜΦΩΝ ΦΙΛΗ”²¹



Source i: Butrint national park

At the same time, the emergence of trading cities with their own Greek-style markets, called “the Agoras”, introduced a new dimension in the Albanian way of life (98). The introduction of new products led to the borrowings of some words like: ‘alb’ *lakër* ‘eng. cabbage’ from the Greek word *λάχανον* ‘*lakhanon*’ ‘eng. cabbage’ (Orel, 2000:23); ‘alb’ *dhallë* ‘eng. buttermilk’ from the Greek word *γάλα* ‘*gkala*’ ‘eng. milk’ (Meyer, 1891:83). These loanwords would constitute borrowings on the basis of need rather than prestige and that seems to be the case with all newly-imported products or scientific/intellectual concepts such as: ‘albg.-*pjepën*/albt.-*pjepër* eng. melon’ from the Greek word ‘πέπων eng. melon’. According to Winford (2003) this happens because all new products require new names (142-44).

²¹ Junia Rufina friend of nymphs

Table 10: Words borrowed from Greek

Albanian borrowed word		Words borrowed from Greek	
alb.mokënë	eng. millstone	grk.μαχανά	eng.machine
alb.shpellë	eng. cave	grk.σπήλαιον	eng.cave
alb.darkë	eng. dinner	grk.δόρπον	eng.dinner
alb.bletë	eng. bee	grk.μέλιττα	eng.bee
alb.petale	eng. leaf	grk.πέταλων	eng.leaf
alb.angari	eng. chore	grk.αγγαρεία	eng.task, chore
alb.mjel	eng. to milk	grk.αμέλγω	eng.to milk
alb.gomar	eng. donkey	grk.γομάρι	eng.donkey
alb.magji	eng. magic	grk.μαγεία	eng.magic

Source j: Meyer's etymological dictionary

The borrowings from Greek extend over a long period in history, chronologically divided as follows:

- ❖ Ancient Greek (8thB.C.-146 B.C.)
- ❖ Middle Greek (6th century- 1453)
- ❖ Modern Greek (1453-present day)

These borrowings have suffered alterations, sometimes minor changes and sometimes fundamental changes, depending on the period of time they were loaned: 'alb' *preshe ose pras* 'eng. leek' from the Greek word *πράσων* 'prason' 'eng. leek'; 'alb' *kem ose timjan* 'eng. thyme' from the Greek word *θυμίαμα* 'thimiama' 'eng.thyme'. At this point a problem arises when one tries to identify the borrowings and their chronology. As the borrowings in Albanian extend over a period of two thousand years, some words are difficult to categorize whether it was borrowed from Ancient, Middle or Modern Greek. The same can be said about the words borrowed from Latin and Italian (Çabej, 1982:128-31).

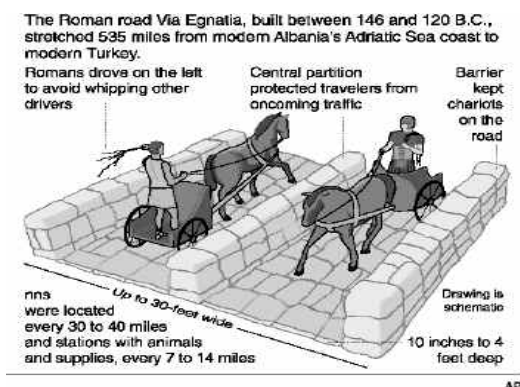
Archeological finds are indisputable, as far as the impact of the Greek language on Albanian is concerned. The Greek language had an enormous impact on the development of the Albanian language, in particular the Doric²² part of Ancient Greek (Çabej, 1972:208). The influences of the Greek language continued even during the period of the Latin influences but were mainly restricted to the dialect spoken in the south of Albania. One of the main reasons for the Modern Greek influences on Albanian was the presence of the Orthodox Church. (Winford, 2003:71)

²² Doric or Dorian is a dialect of ancient Greek

4.7 Borrowings from Latin

The number of Latin loanwords into Albanian is thought to be great. The reason for the impact of Latin into Albanian is the long presence of the Roman Empire under different periods of time in the Albanian geographical area. Although the Roman presence in Albania was significant in all areas such as the military, administration and infrastructure, Albanian escaped Romanization (Jacques, 1995:126). Contrary to the Greek, Latin influence came through occupation.

Figure 6: Via Egnatia as it was thought to be



Source 1: The Hindu:India's National Newspaper

Figure 5: Actual findings of Via Egnatia



Source k: Egnatia e rringjallur, wordpress.com, May 2,2009

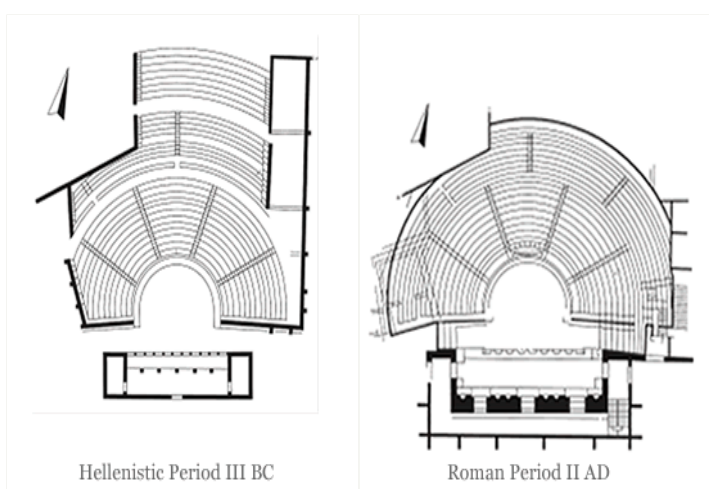
During the Roman Period (168 B.C. - A.D. 395), some cities and ports became very important to the later emergence of the Via Egnatia, one of the most important routes, linking Rome to Constantinople. The exact date of construction is not known, but the Romans had to build many bridges in order to pass the River Shkumbini. This construction was ahead of its time in engineering perspective. This construction was important for the locals too and not just for the Romans, as it created a new market and new possibilities. Even habitations and small communities were formed along this amazing piece of engineering. In order to insure the smooth operation of this road, the Romans built military posts and small fortresses. As the Romans continuously needed grain, the locals saw it as an opportunity to expand in the field of agriculture. They even built water damns, which is something exceptional for the Balkans at that period, in order to supply the fields with water to insure the continuous supply of grain (ibid.,133-34). Naturally with the introduction of a new culture, new words connected to that culture would find their way into the Albanian vocabulary. Some of the first words borrowed were:

Table 11: Words borrowed from Latin

Albanian borrowed words		Words borrowed from Latin	
alb.barkë	eng. boat	lat. <i>barca</i>	eng.boat
alb.kështjellë	eng.castle,fort	lat. <i>castellum</i>	eng.castle,fort
alb.dëm	eng. damage	lat. <i>damnum</i>	eng. damage, harm, hurt
alb.pak	eng. a little, few	lat. <i>paucus</i>	eng. few, little
alb.denjë	eng. worth	lat. <i>dignus</i>	eng. worthy, worthy of.
alb.drejt	eng. straight	lat. <i>directum</i>	eng. straight line
alb.fort	eng. strong	lat. <i>fortis</i>	eng. strong
alb.bujk	eng. farmer, peasant	lat. <i>bubulcus</i>	eng. farmer

The Romans were also known for their water systems and aqueducts. These systems were built

Figure 7: Butrint amphitheater



Source m: Butrint national park

in numerous Albanian cities of that period. In Butrint²³, they built the oldest aqueduct known in the Albanian region. That was a very complex system, able to distribute water in almost every part of the city. Even cities previously built by the Greeks, were given a proper facelift. The largest proper amphitheater of the Balkans was built by the Romans in the important port city of Dyrrhachium. During the 2nd century

AD the first public library ever recorded in Albania was built (Jacques, 1995:135-36). Even then new words were introduced in the Albanian vocabulary:

²³ Butrint was an ancient Greek (later Roman) city and an archeological site in Sarandë District, Albania.

Table 12: Further words borrowed from Latin

Albanian borrowed words		Words borrowed from Latin	
alb.qytet	eng. city	lat. <i>civitas</i>	eng.state, city-state
alb.mik	eng. friend	lat. <i>amicus</i>	eng. friend
alb.shpretkë	eng. spleen	lat.+ <i>spleneticum</i>	eng. spleen
alb.qelq	eng. glass	lat. <i>calix</i>	eng. glass vessels
alb.mjek	eng. doctor	lat. <i>medicus</i>	eng. medic,doctor,curator
alb.gjel	eng. cock	lat. <i>gallus</i>	eng. cock
alb.frut	eng. fruit	lat. <i>fructus</i>	eng. fruit
alb.notoj	eng. swim	lat. <i>notare</i>	eng. swim
alb.lepur	eng. rabbit	lat. <i>leporem</i>	eng. rabbit
alb.rreze	eng. radius	lat. <i>radius</i>	eng. radius
alb.mbret	eng. king	lat. <i>imperator</i>	eng. king
alb.popull	eng. folk	lat. <i>populous</i>	eng. folk
alb.gjymtyrë	eng. extremity, limb	lat. <i>junctūra</i>	eng. extremity, limb

4.8 Borrowings during the Byzantine period

After six centuries of domination by the Roman Empire, in every sector of Albanian life, a new force which would deeply affect Albania for the next one thousand years begins. It is time for the great Byzantine civilization to leave its marks on the Albanian culture and language.

During the 1000 years of Byzantine rule (AD 395-1431) in the Balkans, the control of Illyricum frequently changed hands between the Greeks, Goths, Bulgarians, Normans and then Greeks again. This came as a result of the “war” between Rome and Constantinople, where both parties wanted to control Illyricum. This would inevitably leave its mark on the history of Albania as well as on its language. According to Jacques (1995) the first to invade Illyricum where the Goths, who were surprisingly sent by the emperor of Constantinople in order to conquer Illyricum at a first stage, and then Italy (146-47). Even if their seizure of Illyricum lasted only 46 years AD 489-535 (ibid., 149), a few loans from the Goths were incorporated in the Albanian vocabulary.

Table 13: Borrowings from Gothic

Albanian borrowed words		Words borrowed from Gothic	
alb.madh	eng. big	goth.mikils	eng. big
alb.gardh	eng. fence	goth.gards	eng. court (Royal)
alb.petk	eng. outer garment,suit	goth.paida	eng. coat,robe,cloak
alb.rrjedh	eng. flow	goth.rign	eng. rain
alb.att	eng. father	goth.atta	eng. father
alb.ju	eng. you	goth.jus	eng. ye (you)

Source n: Meyer's etymological dictionary

It was only after an Illyrian emperor of Constantinople²⁴ came to power, that Illyricum would fall under the Byzantine rule AD 535-861 once again. The reign of this Illyrian emperor of Constantinople, a flourishing period for Illyricum, followed the destructive force of the Goths. Archeological excavations such as the Baptistry of Butrint (Figure 8), testify to the greatness of this period (Jacques,1995:151-52).



Figure 8: Butrint Baptistry built ca. 550

Source o: www.tripadvisor.com

During the 6th century we see the first Slavic tribes appear in the Balkans. With the help of Heraclius, emperor at that time, they settled the southwestern part of the Balkans. As a result, the Illyrians had to move to the south of the Balkans. The new Slavic tribes then founded the modern states of Croatia and Serbia and completely Slavicized the region. This had an effect on the Bulgarian people too: they adopted the language of the Slavs. Under the Bulgarian period AD 861-1014, almost all of Albania was overrun by the Bulgarians. Evidences of this period are almost completely erased, surviving only in a few place-names (ibid., 156-57).

²⁴ Justinian (527-565) was an Illyrian emperor of Constantinople who built up Ochrida, an Albanian city on the shores of Lake Ochrida close to Via Egnatia, in order to commemorate his birthplace (Jacques, 1995: 151).

Table 14: Words borrowed from Slavic languages

Albanian borrowed words		Words borrowed from Slavic	
alb.probotim	eng. adopted-brother	bulg. побратим	eng. adopted-brother
alb.lugë	eng. spoon	bulg. Лъжица	eng. spoon
alb.balosh	eng. white-spotted animal	serb. bjelaš	eng. white horse
alb.breg	eng. hill,edge,(river)bank	serb. breg	eng. hill, mound
alb.pushkë	eng. gun	bulg. ловна	eng. gun
alb.purtekë	eng. rod	bulg. Прът	eng. rod
alb.rrëke	eng. stream	bulg. Ручей	eng. stream
alb.kovaç	eng. blacksmith	bulg. ковач	eng. blacksmith
alb.krevat	eng. bed	serb. krevet	eng. bed
alb.kulaç	eng. cake	serb. kolač	eng. cake
alb.memec	eng. mute	bulg. ням	eng. mute,dumb
alb.pelen	eng. diaper	bulg. пелена	eng. diaper
alb.prag	eng. doorstep	bulg. праг	eng. doorstep

Source p: Meyer's etymological dictionary

The time of the Greeks came once again via the dealings between the Orthodox and the Catholic Church. Although the northern part of Albania remained under the influence of the Catholic Church, the rest of Albania remained under the influence of the Orthodox Church and Constantinople until the fall of Constantinople, with a brief period of Norman rule in Albania AD 1081-1204 (Jacques,1995:159).

Table 15: Words borrowed from New-Greek

Albanian borrowed words		Words borrowed from New-Greek	
alb.liturgji	eng. liturgy, mass	ngrk.λειτουργία	eng. liturgy, mass
alb.psal	eng. to chant psalms	ngrk.ψάλω	eng. to chant psalms
alb.profet	eng. prophet	ngrk.προφήτης	eng. prophet
alb.kope	eng. herd, pack	ngrk.κοπάδι	eng. herd, pack
alb.korak	eng. raven	ngrk.κόρακας	eng. raven
alb.krokodil	eng. crocodile	ngrk.κροκόδειλος	eng. crocodile
alb.koron(ë)	eng. crown	ngrk.κορώνα	eng. crown
alb.marule	eng. lettuce	ngrk.μαρούλι	eng. lettuce
alb.monopat	eng. narrow path	ngrk.μονόπατη	eng. narrow path
alb.mitropolit	eng. orthodox archbishop	ngrk.μητροπολίτης	eng. orthodox archbishop

Source q: Meyer's etymological dictionary

Table 16: More words borrowed from New-Greek

Albanian borrowed words		Words borrowed from New-Greek	
alb.sqepar	eng. hatchet	ngrk. σκεπάρνι	eng. hatchet
alb.lehon	eng. woman in labour	ngrk. λεχόνα	eng. woman in labour
alb.portokalle	eng. orange (fruit)	ngrk. πορτοκάλι	eng. orange (fruit)
alb.oreks	eng. appetite	ngrk. όρεξής	eng. appetite
alb.supë	eng. soup	ngrk. σούπα	eng. soup
alb.supje	eng. cuttlefish	ngrk. σουπιά	eng. Cuttlefish
alb.tigan	eng. frying pan	ngrk. τηγάνι	eng. frying pan
alb.katedër	eng. podium	ngrk. καθέδρα	eng. podium
alb.kalam	eng. reed, vexil	ngrk. καλάμι	eng. reed, vexil
alb.demon	eng. demon	ngrk. δαίμονας	eng. demon
alb.dhespot	eng. bishop	ngrk. δεσπότης	eng. bishop
alb.delfin	eng. dolphin	ngrk. δελφίни	eng. dolphin
alb. diamant	eng. diamond	ngrk. διαμάντι	eng. diamond
alb. themel	eng. foundation (building)	ngrk. θεμέλιο	eng. foundation
alb. thile	eng. knot, loop	ngrk. θηλεία	eng. knot, loop
alb. monopat	eng. path, trail	ngrk. μονοπάτι	eng. path, trail
alb. monopat	eng. monastery	ngrk. μοναστήρι	eng. monastery
alb. orgji	eng. anger, rage, wrath,orgy	ngrk. οργή	eng. anger, rage,orgy
alb. pastron	eng. to clean	ngrk. πασιτρέω	eng. to clean
alb. skandal	eng. scandal	ngrk. σκάνδαλο	eng. scandal
alb. spinaq	eng. spinach	ngrk. σπανάκι	eng. spinach
alb. stafidhe	eng. raisin	ngrk. σταφίδα	eng. raisin

Source r: Meyer's etymological dictionary

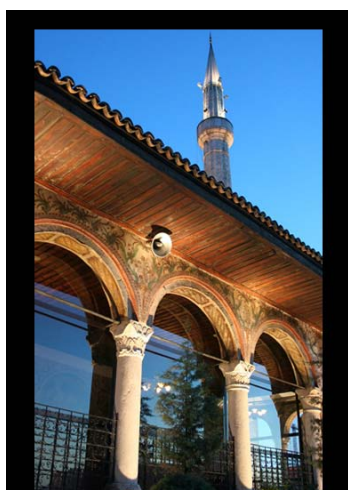
Following the fall of Constantinople in AD 1453 to the Ottoman Turks, a new era began for Albania, five hundred years under the Ottoman Empire.

4.9 Borrowings from Turkish

Although not as sophisticated as the previous Latin or Greek influences, Turkish influences had an effect on every part of the everyday life, including language.

The domination of the Ottoman Empire in Balkan lasted for more than five hundred years. When Europe came out of the Dark Ages and enjoyed the Renaissance, Albania remained totally isolated from the western worlds for five hundred years and not much is known about the

Figure 9: Mosque in the centre of the Albanian capital: construction began in 1794 and was finished in 1821



Source s: www.trekearth.com

internal life of this country in the very heart of Europe. Although

much later than the previous occupations by the Greeks or Rome, the Ottoman Empire left its indisputable marks on the Albanian language and way of life. Its influence brought profound changes in culture, religion, architecture, economy and language.

Turkish impact on language came in the form of occupation, as the Latin impact did. The main reason for this penetration was the introduction of a new sociopolitical structure by the Ottoman Empire, called feudalism, but also the islamization of the population. Islamization of the population played an important role for the impact of the Turkish language on Albanian: 'alb. *mufti* eng.

is a Sunni Islamic scholar who is an interpreter or expounder of Islamic law' from 'tur. *müftü* eng. is a Sunni Islamic scholar who is an interpreter or expounder of Islamic law'; 'alb. *mudir* eng. local governor' from 'tur. *mudir* eng. local governor'; (Jacques, 1995:201).

Most of the Albanian population, during the Turkish occupation, was illiterate. Also the Christian population was easy to convert to Islam and the reason for the conversion was the "unreligious character" of the Albanian people and the decadent character of Christianity, especially in the south of Albania (ibid., 234).

One of the reasons why the Islamization of the population in Albania was so easy is the fact that it was more profitable to convert to Islam. Furthermore, the Ottoman Empire gave the opportunity, for those who converted, to pursue military and diplomatic careers as their right as first-class citizens of the empire. Christianity continued to be practiced; Catholicism in the north and Orthodoxy in the south. However, at this point, it was a minority faith (Byron, 1976:33).

Albanian language started to adopt the first Turkish loanwords during the 14th century. It was not until the 17th century that a great number of Turkish loanwords penetrated into the Albanian language. It was at this point that profound changes in architecture and economy were introduced. The newly introduced Turkish administration introduced new terminology in almost every area of the public sector: political arena, military, economy and law. As a result, the contact between the ruling Ottomans and the Albanian people increased dramatically. So did the need for trade. The newly imported products as well as concepts, brought with them new terms and names (Krajni, 1972:281).

The main loanwords into Albanian had direct connection to the new administration but even to the introduction of a new kind of cuisine:

Table 17: Words borrowed from Turkish regarding administration and cuisine

Albanian borrowed words		Words borrowed from Turkish	
alb.spahi	eng. cavalryman	tur. <i>sipahi</i>	eng. feudal cavalrymen in the Ottoman Empire
alb.vilajet	eng. province	tur. <i>vilayet</i>	eng.province the Ottoman Empire
alb.çiflig	eng. hereditary private estate	tur. <i>çiftlik</i>	eng. hereditary private estate in the Ottoman Empire
alb.dyfek	eng. rifle, gun	tur. <i>tüfek</i>	eng. rifle, gun
alb.dollap	eng. closet, cabinet	tur. <i>dolap</i>	eng. closet, cabinet'
alb.imambajalldi	eng. stuffed eggplant cooked	tur. <i>imambayıldı</i>	eng. stuffed eggplant cooked
alb.xhade	eng. main road	tur. <i>cadde</i>	eng.main street, avenue
alb.minare	eng. minaret	tur. <i>minare</i>	eng.minaret
alb.merak	eng. anxiety	tur. <i>merak</i>	eng.anxiety,curiosity
alb.barut	eng. gunpowder	tur. <i>barut</i>	eng.gunpowder

Source t: Jacques, 1995: 201

Table 18: Other words borrowed from Turkish

Albanian word		Words borrowed from Turkish	
alb.maskara	eng. buffoon	tur. <i>maskara</i>	eng. buffoon
alb.mavi	eng. blue	tur. <i>mavi</i>	eng. blue
alb.kondak	eng. butt (of a gun)	tur. <i>kondak</i>	eng. butt (of a gun)
alb.mysafir	eng. guest	tur. <i>misafir</i>	eng. guest, visitor
alb.hordhi	eng. barbarian horde	tur. <i>ordu</i>	eng. army
alb.oturak	eng. potty, toilet	tur. <i>oturak</i>	eng. toilet
alb.ortak	eng. partner	tur. <i>ortak</i>	eng. partner
alb.tavan	eng. ceiling	tur. <i>tavan</i>	eng. ceiling
alb.hile	eng. cheat	tur. <i>hile</i>	eng. cheat
alb.jeshile	eng. green	tur. <i>yeşil</i>	eng. green
alb.lejlek	eng. stork	tur. <i>leylek</i>	eng. stork
alb.jelek	eng. vest	tur. <i>yelek</i>	eng. vest
alb.jorgan	eng. duvet	tur. <i>yorgan</i>	eng. duvet
alb.kandar	eng. scale	tur. <i>kantar</i>	eng. scale

Source u: Meyer's etymological dictionary

Here, it is worth mentioning that some of these loanwords simply replaced the Albanian words (Xhuvani, 1980:151):

Table 19: Albanian words replaced by Turkish words

Initial albanian word replaced	Replaced by the following:		Borrowed from turkish	
alb.kënd	eng.corner	alb. <i>qoshe</i>	eng.corner	tur. <i>köse</i> eng. corner
alb.rrugë	eng.street	alb. <i>sokak</i>	eng.street	tur. <i>sokak</i> eng.street
alb.gjelbër	eng. green	alb. <i>jeshile</i>	eng.green	tur. <i>yeşil</i> eng. green
alb.rrugë kryesore	eng.main road	alb. <i>xhade</i>	eng.main road	tur. <i>cadde</i> eng.main street, avenue
alb.peshore	eng.scale	alb. <i>kandar</i>	eng.scale	tur. <i>kantar</i> eng.scale

Source v: Xhuvani, 1980: 151

This was just a consequence of a half a century occupation by the Ottoman Empire and the appearance of a new kind of architecture and a new type of economy, both based on the eastern type introduced by the Ottoman Empire.

4.10 Borrowings from Italian

The influences of other languages on Albanian did not stop with Turkish. After five hundred year of Turkish occupation, Albania declared its independence in 1912. At this point Albania had the lowest standard of living in Europe, with mediaeval agriculture methods and a non-existent industry. The agricultural production was sufficient for the needs of the country plus a small export percentage. No efforts though were made to industrialize the country. The discovery of natural gas, petroleum and minerals led the Albanian government to make a deal with an Italian state-owned company, to exploit the natural reserves (Jacques, 1995:388-90).

As the relationship between the two countries grew on both political and economical levels, so did the influence of Italy on the way of life and language. The introduction of new machinery, from basic utensils and automobiles to petroleum refineries led to the introduction of new words into the Albanian vocabulary.

Table 20: Words borrowed from Italian

Albanian word		Words borrowed from Italian	
alb.naftë	eng. diesel oil	<i>it.nafta</i>	eng. diesel oil
alb.bankë	eng. bank	<i>it.banca</i>	eng. bank
alb.arkiv	eng. archive	<i>it.archivio</i>	eng. archive
alb.shkollë	eng. school	<i>it.scuola</i>	eng. school
alb.banjë	eng. bathroom	<i>it.bagno</i>	eng. bathroom
alb.letër	eng. letter	<i>it..lettera</i>	eng. letter
alb.bandë	eng. musical group	<i>it.banda</i>	eng. musical group
alb.ballkon	eng. balcony	<i>it.balcone</i>	eng. balkony
alb.taracë	eng. terrace-patio	<i>it.terrazza</i>	eng. terrace-patio
alb.automobil	eng. automobile	<i>it. automobile</i>	eng. automobile
alb.motor	eng. engine,motor	<i>it. motore</i>	eng. engine,motor
alb.biçikletë	eng. bicycle	<i>it. bicicletta</i>	eng. bicycle
alb.markat	eng. market	<i>it. mercato</i>	eng. market
alb.predikoj	eng. to preach	<i>it. predicare</i>	eng. to preach
alb.premtoj	eng. to promise	<i>it. promettere</i>	eng. to promise
alb.rregull	eng. rule,order	<i>it. regola</i>	eng. rule, order

Another way of borrowing from Italian is through loan translations as below:

Table 21: Loan translation from Italian

Albanian loan translations	Italian words
alb.gjarpër deti eng. sea serpent	< it. serpente di mare eng.sea serpent
alb.peshkqen eng. shark	< it. pescecane eng.shark
alb.peshk shpatë eng. swordfish	< it. pesce spada eng.swordfish
alb.kalë deti eng. seahorse	< it. cavallo marino eng.seahorse
alb.lulelakër eng. cauliflower	< it. cavolfiore eng. cauliflower
alb.peshk çekiç eng. hammerhead	< it. pesce martello eng.hammerhead

4.11 Borrowings from English

As mentioned before, Albania remained under the occupation of the Ottoman Empire for five hundred years, secluded from outside influences. During the 19th century, when most European countries would be affected by French culture and language, Albania was still under Turkish rule. The influence of the French language would come later on, under the 20th century, coinciding with the Italian rule of Albania. During the 20th century, Albania was either under Italian rule or the communist regime which kept the country secluded from the rest of the world for half a century. This resulted in a lack of loanwords from the English language (Gorlach, 2004:292).

The few words that Albanian borrowed from English prior to the fall of communism in 1991, were mainly technical being related to the new technology borrowed from the West (ibid., 294). After the fall of communism and during the years to come, *calque* is the main way for Albanian to borrow from English:

Table 22: Loan translation from English

Albanian word	Borrowed from English
alb.fundjavë <i>fund (end)+javë(week)</i>	eng. weekend week+end
alb.disk fluturues <i>disk (saucer)+fluturues (flying)</i>	eng. flying saucer
alb.Perde e Hekurt <i>perde (Curtain)+e hekurt (Iron)</i>	eng. Iron Curtain
alb.qiellgërvishtës <i>qiell (sky)+gërvishtës(scraper)</i>	eng. skyscraper sky+scraper
alb.goditje dënimi <i>goditje (kick)+dënimi(penalty)</i>	eng. penalty kick
alb.fjalë kalim <i>fjalë (word)+kalim (pass)</i>	eng. password pass+word

Source w: Gorlach, English in Europe, 2004. 299

The Albanian language, as every other Indo-European language, follows the three gender allocation rule, masculine, feminine and neutral. During the course of the language evolution, though, some Indo-European languages, such as Lithuanian and Armenian, have excluded neutral from the gender allocation rule (Demiraj, 1973: 33-34). Although a small category, neutral has been retained in Albanian.

Borrowing from English is a fairly new concept for Albanian and therefore some difficulties are expected in respect to how these new loanwords should be treated. One of the greatest problems in Albanian is the gender allocation of the loanwords as neutral is a small category, and loans that fall under this category are mainly treated as: masculine provided that they end in a consonant or feminine when end in a vowel. Another important aspect is that of the non-integrated words from English, the foreign words (Gorlach, 2004: 296):

Table 23: Non-integrated word form

Albanian word		Borrowed from English	
alb.gol	eng. goal	eng. <i>goal</i>	
alb.shou	eng. show	eng. <i>show</i>	
alb.kod	eng. code	eng. <i>code</i>	
alb.kloun	eng. clown	eng. <i>clown</i>	
alb.klon	eng. clone	eng. <i>clone</i>	
alb.klub	eng. club	eng. <i>club</i>	
alb.derbi	eng. derby	eng. <i>derby</i>	

Source x: Gorlach, English in Europe, 2004. 296

As a nation which is now beginning to freely communicate with the rest of the world, Albania has mainly begun to borrow words from English through its youth. Overcoming the barrier of a face-to-face contact with other nations, internet and mass-media have proven to be the most important source of these borrowings. As in every developing country, even in Albania, the youth have a tendency to incorporate the western way of life to its own, affecting everything in its path, whether that is culture, technology or language. The problem with incorporating loanwords in a language is how those words are treated and what kind of changes they undergo. As seen above, borrowings found their way in the Albanian vocabulary mainly through calquing or non-integrated word forms.

How these borrowings would be treated in the future, remains to be seen.

5 Conclusion

5.1 Summary and conclusion

The aim of this study was to identify the vast number of the lexical borrowings in the Albanian language, which languages they come from and why Albanian has borrowed as much as ninety percent of its vocabulary from foreign languages. How those words were incorporated in the Albanian vocabulary, was another primary aim of this study. The secondary aim was that of the origin of the Albanian language and history of Albania. All of these questions would be supported by Albanian history, as well as archeological, cultural and linguistic findings.

This study has shown that during its course in history, Albanian has borrowed from those languages it has come in contact with, whether they were major cultural languages, such as Greek and Latin, or not. The vast amount of those borrowings, came primarily from Latin, Greek (Ancient, Middle or Modern), Gothic, Slavic, Turkish, Italian and English. As for the reasons why Albanian has borrowed so many words, this study has shown that two are the main reasons for lexical borrowing: need and prestige.

To the category of need fall all those words that have to do with new products, new intellectual concepts as well as words introduced due to the advancements in technology. Words borrowed from Ancient Greek regarding vegetables that did not exist in Albania as well as words from Latin regarding architecture, transport and military also fall in this category.

To the category of prestige fall all those words that were borrowed due to the fact that those came from major cultural languages such as Greek and Latin. Although more difficult to identify, they make up for a major part of the Albanian vocabulary.

Although justified, the lack of mass-borrowings from the English language came as a surprise. As this study has shown, this is due to the fact that Albania has remained secluded from the rest of the world for almost fifty years and Albania has only begun to borrow from the English language since the 90's.

Another surprise was that only a few words have survived from the Illyrian language. Although more difficult to prove, due to the lack of information and lexical findings regarding the origin of the Albanian language, this study has shown that the Albanian language is probably a direct descendant of Illyrian and this is achieved by analyzing those words that have actually

survived from Illyrian and comparing them to the words in Albanian. They find explanation only in Albanian and this actually reinforces the Illyrian parentage of the Albanian language. Archeological findings in the area of modern-day Albania as well as literary work of the great poets of the two neighboring civilizations, have proven very helpful in the task of proving the origin of Albanian. The other theories regarding the origin of the Albanian language were dismissed and rejected by this study with the help of the work done by both Katičić and Çabej.

The work of these two linguists as well as other Albanologues such as Meyer, Bopp, Stuart and Demiraj, have proven to be an important source of information. Comparing their work with the work of those opposing the Illyrian parentage of the Albanian language, such as Georgiev, has proven invaluable to the course and result of this study. It was the discrepancies that Katičić noticed in the work of Georgiev, that led this study to dismiss his theory of a Daco-Mysian parentage of the Albanian language.

5.2 Future Research

Borrowing from other languages is an ongoing process for the Albanian language. It has continuously borrowed and still is borrowing words from foreign languages. The future research should focus on the way these new borrowings will be incorporated in the Albanian vocabulary.

As there has been so little information about the Albanian language and its origin, further studies are required in order for the exact origin of the Albanian language to be established. Free from the oppression of the communist regime and the political interferences, Albanian linguists should focus both on the linguistic findings as well as the archeological findings in order for a definite answer on the origin of the language to be given.

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Appendices

Appendix A- Albanian-PIE phonological correspondences

Table 24: Proto-Indo-European Labial Stops in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*p	p	*pék ^w e/o - "cook"	pjek "to cook, roast, bake"
*b	b	*sorbéye/o - "drink, slurp"	gjerb "to drink"
*bh	b	*bhakéha - "bean"	bathë "bean"

Source y: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Table 25: Proto-Indo-European Coronal Stops in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*t	t	*tuhx - "thou"	ti "you (singular)"
	ç	*wet-es - "calf"	viç "calf"
*d	d	*dihxtis - "light"	ditë "day"
	dh	*dek ^m - "ten"	dhjetë "ten"
	gj	*dlh1gho - "long"	gjatë "long", dial. Tosk glatë
*dh	d	*dhēg ^w he/o - "burn"	djeg "to burn"

Source z: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Table 26: Proto-Indo-European Palatal Stops in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*k	th	*kéhimi - "I say"	them "to say"
	k	*kreh2u - "limb"	krah "arm"
	q	*klew - "to hear"	quhem "to be called/named"
	ç	*kent - "to stick"	çandër "prop"
	s	*kuk - "horn"	sutë "doe"
*ǵ	dh	*ǵ ómbhos - "tooth, peg"	dhëmb "tooth", Gheg dhâmb
	gj	*ǵ enu - "knee"	gju "knee"
	d	*ǵ eus - "to enjoy"	desha "I loved, wanted"
*ǵ h	d	*ǵhṛsdhi - "grain, barley"	drithë "grain"
	dh	*ǵhed - "to defecate"	dhjes "to defecate"

Source aa: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Table 27: Proto-Indo-European Velar Stops in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*k	k	*kápmi - "I take"	kam "to have"
	q	*klau - "to weep"	qaj "to weep, cry",
*g	g	*h3ligos - "sick"	ligë "bad"
	gj	*h1reug - "to retch"	regj "to tan hides"
*gh	g	*ghordhos - "enclosure"	gardh "fence"
	gj	*ghédnye/o - "get"	gjej "to find", Gheg gjêj

Source bb: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Table 28: Proto-Indo-European Labialized Velar Stops in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*k^w	k	*k ^w ehasleha - "cough"	kollë "cough"
	s	*k ^w éle/o - "turn"	sjell "to fetch, bring"
	q	*k ^w o - "that"	që "that"
*g^w	g	*g ^w ɪ - "stone"	gur "stone"
	z	*g ^w ērhu - "heaviness"	zor "heaviness, trouble"
	gj	*g ^w es - "leaves"	gjethe "leaf"
*g^wh	g	*dhég ^w he/o - "burn"	djeg "to burn"
	z	*h1en-dhog ^w héye/o - "kindle"	ndez "to kindle, turn on"
	gj	g ^w hen - "to hit"	gjuaj "to hunt"

Source cc: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Table 29: Proto-Indo-European *s in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*s	gj	*sékstis - "six"	gjashtë "six"
	sh	*septmtis - "seven"	shtatë "seven"
	sh	*pumsos - "body-hair"	push "fuzz, nap, pile"
	th	*suh1 - "swine"	thi "boar"
	∅	*h1ésmi - "am"	jam "to be"
	d	*sworgéye/o - "be ill"	dergjet "lies ill"
	h	*selk - "to drag"	heq "to pick up, remove", older helq
	h	*sík1-eh2 - "shadow"	hije "shadow"

Source dd: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Table 30: Proto-Indo-European Sonorant Consonants in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*y	gj	*yése/o - "ferment"	gjesh "knead"
*w	v	*woséye/o - "dress"	vesh "to wear, dress"
*m	m	*mehatr-eha - "maternal"	motër "sister"
*n	n	*nos - "we"	ne "we"
	nj	*eni-h1ó1-no - "that one"	një "one", Gheg njâ, njo
	∅	*penk ^w e - "five"	pesë "five"
	r	*ǵ heimen - "winter"	dimër "winter", Gheg dimën
*l	l	*h3ligos - "sick"	ligë "bad"
	ll	*k ^w éle/o - "turn"	sjell "to fetch, bring"
*r	r	*repe/o - "take"	rjep "peel"
*ṛ	rr	*wrēn - "sheep"	rrunzë "female lamb"
	e	*h1ṛmen - "name"	emër "name"
*m̥	e	*wikm̥ti - "twenty"	(një)zet "twenty"
*l̥	uj	*włk ^w os - "wolf"	ujk "wolf", older ulk
*r̥	ri	*ǵ hṛsdom- "grain, barley"	drithë "grain"

Source ee: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Table 31: Proto-Indo-European Laryngeals in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*h1	∅	*h1ésmi - "am"	jam "to be"
*h2	∅	*h2rtkos - "bear"	ari "bear"
*h3	∅	*h3ónṛ - "dream"	ëndërr "dream"
*h4	h	*h4ór ǵ hiyeha - "testicle"	herdhe "testicle"

Source ff: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Table 32: Proto-Indo-European Vowels in Albanian

PIE	Albanian	PIE	Albanian
*i	i	*sinos - "bosom"	gji "bosom, breast"
	e	*dwiǵehs - "twig"	degë "branch"
*ī	i	*dīhxtis - "light"	ditë "day"
*e	e	*penk ^w e - "five"	pesë "five",
	je	*wétos - "year"	vjet "years, last year"
*ē	o	*ǵ hēsr - "hand"	dorë "hand"
*a	a	*bhakēha- "bean"	bathë "bean"
	e	*haélbhit - "barley"	elb "barley"
*ō	a	*ǵhórdhos - "enclosure"	gardh "fence"
*o	e	*h ₂ oktōtis - "eight"	tetë "eight"
*u	u	*supnos - "sleep"	gjumë "sleep"
*ū	y	*suhxsos - "grandfather"	gjysh "grandfather"
	i	*mūs - "mouse"	mi "mouse"

Source gg: Mallory & Adams, 1997: 10

Appendix C- International Phonetic Alphabet

THE INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC ALPHABET (2005)

CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)

	LABIAL		CORONAL				DORSAL			RADICAL		LARYNGEAL
	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palato-alveolar	Retroflex	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyngeal	Epi-glottal	Glottal
Nasal	m	ɱ	n		ɳ	ɲ	ŋ	ɴ				
Plosive	p b	ɸ β	t d		ʈ ɖ	ʈ ɖ	c ɟ	k ɡ	q ɢ		ʔ	ʔ
Fricative	ɸ β	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	ʂ ʐ	ç ʝ	x ɣ	χ ʁ	ħ ʕ	ħ ʕ	h ɦ
Approximant		ʋ	ɹ		ɻ	j	ɰ					
Trill	ʙ		r						ʀ			
Tap, Flap		ⱱ	ɾ		ɽ							
Lateral fricative			ɬ ɮ		ɮ	ɬ	ɬ					
Lateral approximant			l		ɭ	ʎ	ʎ					
Lateral flap			ɺ		ɻ							

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a modally voiced consonant, except for murmured *ɦ*. Shaded areas denote articulations judged to be impossible. Light grey letters are unofficial extensions of the IPA.

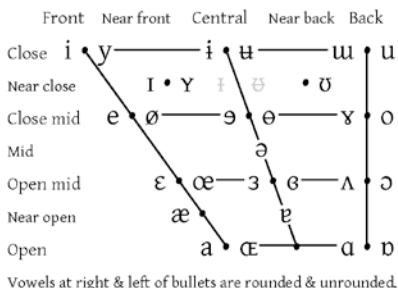
CONSONANTS (NON-PULMONIC)

Anterior click releases (require posterior stops)	Voiced implosives	Ejectives
◌ ɸ Bilabial fricated	ɓ Bilabial	ʼ <i>Examples:</i>
Laminar alveolar fricated ("dental")	ɗ Dental or alveolar	pʼ Bilabial
! Apical (post)alveolar abrupt ("retroflex")	ɟ Palatal	tʼ Dental or alveolar
‡ Laminar postalveolar abrupt ("palatal")	ɡ Velar	kʼ Velar
Lateral alveolar fricated ("lateral")	ɠ Uvular	sʼ Alveolar fricative

CONSONANTS (CO-ARTICULATED)

- ɱ Voiced labialized velar approximant
- ɰ Voiced labialized velar approximant
- ɲ Voiced labialized palatal approximant
- ɠ Voiceless palatalized postalveolar (alveolo-palatal) fricative
- ʒ Voiced palatalized postalveolar (alveolo-palatal) fricative
- ɧ Simultaneous x and ʃ (disputed)
- kp ts Affricates and double articulations may be joined by a tie bar

VOWELS



SUPRASEGMENTALS

- ˈ Primary stress
- ˌ Secondary stress
- eː Long
- e Short
- Syllable break
- | Minor (foot) break
- || Major (intonation) break
- ↗ Global rise
- ↘ Global fall

TOPE

- Level tones
- Contour-tone examples:
- ǚ ǚ Top
- é ǚ High
- ē ǚ Mid
- è ǚ Low
- ě ǚ Bottom
- Tone terracing
- ↑ Upstep
- ↓ Downstep
- ǚ ǚ Rising
- ǚ ǚ Falling
- ǚ ǚ High rising
- ǚ ǚ Low rising
- ǚ ǚ High falling
- ǚ ǚ Low falling
- ǚ ǚ Peaking
- ǚ ǚ Dipping

DIACRITICS

Diacritics may be placed above a symbol with a descender, as ɸ. Other IPA symbols may appear as diacritics to represent phonetic detail: ɸ (fricative release), bʰ (breathy voice), ʔ (glottal onset), ʔ (epenthetic schwa), oː (diphthongization).

SYLLABICITY & RELEASES		PHONATION		PRIMARY ARTICULATION		SECONDARY ARTICULATION			
ɳ ɳ	Syllabic	ɳ ɳ	Voiceless or Slack voice	ɳ ɳ	Dental	ɳ ^w ɳ ^w	Labialized	ɳ ɳ	More rounded
ɳ ɳ	Non-syllabic	ɳ ɳ	Modal voice or Stiff voice	ɳ ɳ	Apical	ɳ ɳ	Palatalized	ɳ ɳ ^w	Less rounded
ɳ ^h ɳ ^h	(Pre)aspirated	ɳ ɳ	Breathy voice	ɳ ɳ	Laminar	ɳ ^ɣ ɳ ^ɣ	Velarized	ẽ ẽ	Nasalized
ɳ ⁿ	Nasal release	ɳ ɳ	Creaky voice	ɳ ɳ	Advanced	ɳ ^ɕ ɳ ^ɕ	Pharyngealized	ɳ ɳ	Rhoticity
ɳ ^l	Lateral release	ɳ ɳ	Strident	ɳ ɳ	Retracted	ɳ ɳ	Velarized or pharyngealized	ɳ ɳ	Advanced tongue root
ɳ [̥]	No audible release	ɳ ɳ	Linguolabial	ã ɳ	Centralized	ũ	Mid-centralized	ɳ ɳ	Retracted tongue root
ɳ ɳ	Lowered (β is a bilabial approximant)	ɳ ɳ		ɳ ɳ	Raised (ɳ is a voiced alveolar non-sibilant fricative, ɳ a fricative trill)				

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