

## VALUATION OF CULTURAL-HISTORICAL OBJECTS IN THE EASTERN REGION OF KOSOVO

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**Abstract:** The eastern region of Kosovo is an area rich in cultural heritage, which includes a wide range of historical buildings, including churches, mosques, castles, museums, and other cultural-historical monuments. We aim to address the importance of preserving and valorizing these cultural objects to recognize the cultural heritage of this region and to promote the country's cultural tourism in general. In this direction, the current status of historical cultural objects is analyzed, including their physical condition, restoration needs, and challenges affecting their conservation. To achieve this goal, the study also examines the use of information and communication technology in the promotion of these facilities, including the development of informative websites and mobile applications for tourists. Also, the importance of cooperation between local authorities, civil society organizations, and communities is emphasized to ensure sustainable support for the preservation and valorization of cultural objects. In the end, it is concluded that the valorization of historical cultural objects in the eastern region of Kosovo will help promote cultural tourism, will positively affect the local economy and will deepen the sense of cultural identity in this region rich in history and culture.

**Keywords:** valorization, conservation, restoration, clothing, tourism

### 1. ENTRY

Valorization of historical cultural objects in the eastern region of Kosovo is an important task for the preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage of this region. This region is rich in rich history and early culture, and there are many cultural objects that need to be protected and valorized to ensure that community income and cultural tourism contribute to the economic development of the region.

Entering the project for the valorization of historical cultural objects in the eastern region of Kosovo should include a deep focus on the importance of this cultural heritage and the positive impact it can have on the local community and attracting visitors. In this context, it is important to include several key elements to achieve this goal:

- Preservation and protection of cultural objects: It is important to care for the preservation and protection of cultural objects from damage and vandalism. This process should include the restoration and conservation of cultural objects that have been damaged, as well as the preparation of the necessary plans for their preservation in the future.
- Community education and awareness: The local community should be educated and made aware of the importance of cultural heritage and historical cultural objects in their region. This can be done through information and public awareness programs.
- Development of cultural tourism: Historical cultural objects are a potential resource for cultural tourism. We need to develop sustainable tourism strategies that attract visitors from home and abroad. This development should include tourism infrastructure, services and promotion of cultural facilities.
- Community involvement in the valorization process: It is important to involve the local community in the planning and implementation of valorization projects. This will ensure their support and commitment in the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage.

In conclusion, the valorization of historical cultural objects in the eastern region of Kosovo is an important task that will help preserve and promote the cultural heritage of this region. This process must include a deep focus on conservation, education, cultural tourism development and community involvement to successfully achieve its goals.

## 2. VALORIZATION OF THE HISTORICAL CULTURAL OBJECTS IN THE EASTERN REGION OF KOSOVO

Based on the previous analyzes of the tourist potentials, it is possible to approach the valorization of all relevant spatial elements, before the valorization of the tourist resources. There are different meanings for the valorization, as long as the valorization process is not measured by the realized tourism costs, with the understanding that it is an evaluation procedure, the individual tourism resources, with the concept that the valorization is a comprehensive procedure for the evaluation of the potential (supplied) tourism of a certain region.

The valorization of cultural heritage is the joint responsibility of all individuals and institutions. By preserving, promoting and respecting cultural heritage, a country or community can strengthen its cultural identity, create awareness and help spread its unique culture on the world stage. With the development of the tourist region and its full valorization, investments in promotion and propaganda are intensified, which affects the increase in the number of tourists. Tourism planning from national to international level of the tourist destination faces competition not only in domestic but also in foreign markets.

Mosques have been built in Albanian lands since the beginning of the Ottoman occupation, whose primary function is as a sanctuary or as a place where other religious rituals, such as prayer, are performed. (Krasniqi.N, 2017). However, according to Krasniqi (2017), historically they were fundamental Islamic institutions where the religious, educational, educational, cultural, political and social life of Muslims was connected. Kosovo has a large number of old mosques built during the Ottoman period, as well as many others built over the years, and even today this number continues to grow.

*Map 1: Eastern region of Kosovo*



Traditional architecture is the precious heritage of Kosovo, the construction of which has been influenced by various political, geographical, cultural circumstances as well as the knowledge of construction techniques. In general, the architecture of the Albanian people is characterized by uninterrupted continuity and including different genres built by anonymous Albanian masters who created different architectural values. (Doli.F, 2009).

According to (Osmani.J, The settlements of Kosovo, Prishtina, Kasrtioti and Fushë Kosova., 2003) and (Osmani.J, 2004), if archeological tracings were carried out, in almost every locality, debris would be found that proves that there were settlements which, as a result of various wars or epidemics, many of them were destroyed or abandoned, and then recovered or new settlements have also been built

Churches also have the primary function of serving as facilities for the performance of religious rituals. According to UNESCO, the medieval churches that are located in Kosovo and reflect the Byzantine-Roman culture developed during the 13th and 17th centuries are: Deçani Monastery, Pec Monastery, the Church of the Holy Apostles and the Church of Saint Ljevisa.

Fortresses In addition to the Prizren Castle, fragments of which even the casual observer can see on the walls of the castle, fragments of the Pogradja Castle and the Ogurzeza Castle, also known as the Mitrovica Castle, were also found. Prizren Castle was built by the Ottomans in 1453, and there are 28 minarets among the roofs.

Culture is often a motive that encourages tourists to travel, even that, as a general culture, which, depending on the cultural level of individuals, affects their motivation to be involved in tourist movements, when choosing destinations, as well as within vacations . and, as travel culture, which actually means the habits of people who like to travel. But as culture affects the development of tourism, at the same time tourism has a certain influence on culture. From this mutual relationship arise positive effects that are manifested in different ways.

According to (Kosovo, 2010) documenting traditional architectural objects means collecting graphic and textual data of a building to create an idea about the space of the building and its relationship with the surroundings. Consequently, this makes it easier for observers to understand the historical, cultural and social context of these settlements over the centuries. Also, their documentation helps in the restoration and conservation phase of buildings. Based on the UNESCO (UNESCO, 2004) report resulting from the analyzes made in Kosovo in 2004, it is said that the heritage of Kosovo consists of three main categories of architecture: Islamic architecture, glass; Byzantine-orthodox architecture which includes churches and monasteries, as well as traditional (vernacular) architecture which includes residential buildings such as: towers, mansions, bridges, forts and urban centers.

### 3. NATURAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES IN ANAMORAVA

The spatial area of Golap in the municipality of Dardana and the name of Anamorava and the settlements in the area have mild winters. Along the plain of Anamorava there are wind currents both in Gorna and Dolna. The warmest part is Dolna Anamorava, while the higher ones are colder. We can find that the valleys are more protected from the winds than the hills. North and west winds that bring rain dominate. The average annual temperature for Anamorava is 10.6 degrees Celsius. The average temperature of the coldest month is January -0.90 degrees, the warmest month of July is 20.70 degrees. Through the Anamoravsko Pole flows the river Morava e Binqe with its tributaries such as the river Lapushe Karadak on the right and Livoq, the river Mirusha.

*Photo 1: Pogradja Castle (10 kilometers southeast of Gnjilane).*



Once an agrarian region, in which wheat and tobacco were grown, it later acquired industrial characteristics, especially the center of this region, Gnjilane, now a city with about 80,000 inhabitants with an industry for textiles, tobacco, radiators, batteries, etc. Vitia, the municipal center, is an agrarian town with an initial metal industry, with the Klokotitafar bath. Dardana is also a municipal center, a small industrial town, with a ceramic industry. (Hadzivasiljevic.J, 1969) and (Chavolli.R, 1997). Once a town that took on the appearance of an oriental town, Gnjilane was characterized by a density of houses, fenced yards and small and frequent shops. They were mainly located around the Great Mosque. The streets of the city were narrow, uneven and paved with cobblestones, and the most characteristic buildings of the city were the mosques, the fountain, the hammam, the teke, the turbets, the clock tower and the public fountains. Most of these facilities no longer exist. They were overthrown by the previous government and even destroyed by the ravages of time, but this region also has its own "miracles" that can attract visitors. The castle in the village of Pogradja and the Lapusha river that flows by it, the Illyrian mounds in the village of Laštica, the Resula cave and the Bresalci cave, the Perlepnica lake or even the Shpuem stone which is very close to it, but also the mineral waters in the villages of Nasale and Mireshe, the inns and the mills are only part of the beauties of this region.

The main elements or factors that affect the climate of the settlements of this region are numerous, among which, the geographical position, the altitude above sea level, the opening of the sled towards the north on the border with Serbia, the exposure to the north and northeast winds. Knowing the climatic characteristics in the modern world is of great importance both in the sphere of economy and in social life. (Zimeri.Z, 2016)

Calculated as a building with an antiquity of over 1500 years, Pogradja Castle remains one of the most popular destinations for visitors. The construction of the bridge over the river Morava e Binča and the opening of the road to the castle on top of a hill made access easier for visitors. The renovation and removal of vegetation carried out in this fortress brought to light two very old cemeteries with dedicatory stone tablets written in Latin, as well as coins of the time and various exhibits. Further research will prove the existence of underground exits leading to the river, walls and corridors. This miracle of Gnjilane has Pirgun e Klas, which has the shape of a quadrangle, with a length of 13 meters, the walls are built of stones and it is believed that the castle of Artana was also seen from this castle, with which it was believed that these two castles communicate.

According to the toponyms and names of other places in this area, it turns out that many names of Anamorava (Collina Binca Morava) are of Albanian origin, but the long Roman, Serbian and Ottoman rule, where less and where more, remained. their own traces in the toponymy of these three, but without ever being able to erase the Illyrian-Albanian continuity on this side. Conservation of natural and cultural heritage values in the world Paris, 1972 Convention for the Conservation of Wetlands (wetlands) Conservation of wetlands of international importance, especially as waterfowl habitats Ramsar, Florence Convention for the Protection of European Landscapes Florence, 200.

#### 4. TRADITIONAL CLOTHES IN ANAMORAVA

Folk clothes, the old one or tradition as you want to call it, I would say it has completely disappeared. Of the entire structure and wealth of costume parts, when it comes to men, nowadays only the white fold on the head is rarely kept, while the rest of the parts cannot even be thought of for active and daily wear. In women's clothing today, only the woolen wrap survives, even the one worn with the smoke type of clothing, as well as the kerchief-scarf, of course only where it is still worn as everyday clothing, and mostly by older women. and old women.. Men's clothing - For men, the tirka clothing was kept, which was built with the following costumes: underwear - trousers, then shirts, tirkas, socks, socks, waistcoats, waistcoat, mint and a woolen cap with a cap with sleeves up to the elbows, white head fold and accessories such as: watch case, tobacco box and weapon. Tirqi and Djurdija, who also call this region lurka, wore white or black, corresponding shurme as used in the speech of the population of Anamorava. Women's Dress - The actual traditional clothing generally worn by women today is hard to remember, even by some older women. Surprisingly, the old people themselves show it somehow as a memory, what their parents showed them or someone else wore it. Memory says that this very beautiful garment, which according to the now more standardized classification in Albanian ethnology, belongs to the type of garment with a long shirt and trousers, namely the red, woolen wrap, which is kept today with knowledge of the material it is made of, which are 10-12 wide m. and with various industrial dozens.

*Photo 2: Traditional Albanian clothing for women*



Historically, the economy of Gjilan was mainly based on tillage. The land is mainly cultivated intensively, with simple primitive tools. Thus, agricultural yields were consistently low. Agricultural products are mainly used to meet family needs. The economy of Gnjilane has long been identified with the agricultural sector, and branches such as poultry, fruit growing, vegetables, animal husbandry and handicrafts. The industry after the Second World War, several movements were made in terms of the development of the economy, which are considered the beginnings of the development of the industry of the municipality. Thus, some more advanced initiatives and movements in the economic development of the municipality began to be made. This was achieved, especially with the establishment of the Tobacco Factory. The equipment, which was installed in this factory, enabled the production of various tobacco products.

The importance of Gnjilane as a trade center is especially seen when after the burning of the city in 1830 in Gnjilane, life started to revive again and this territorial part became a trade center. Generally speaking, craft activity appears to be as old as human economic activity. This was usually developed and practiced mainly in urban centers. For Anamorava, the craftsmanship for its neighboring area, the craftsmanship is developed mainly in the cities, such as in Gnjilane, Preševo and in the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, there were many types of crafts, such as sarache, shoemakers, barbers, joiners (carpenters), tinsmiths, tinsmiths, tinsmiths, tinsmiths, etc. Crafts. The word is coming, we will see that the activity of growing tobacco, i.e. growing hemp, i.e. growing and processing agricultural crops of tobacco and hemp, was very developed. Communication Gnjilani is connected to other centers by highways.

## 5. CONCLUSION

The cultural and historical content of a region is a precious treasure that must be protected and valued. The eastern region of Kosovo has a rich cultural and historical heritage, dating from the ancient period to the present day. In this region there are numerous historical cultural objects, such as churches, mosques, archaeological objects and other monuments built over the centuries.

In conclusion, the valorization of historical cultural objects in the eastern region of Kosovo is a joint task of the government, local institutions, communities and international organizations. This process requires commitment, education and cooperation to ensure that the precious cultural and historical wealth of this region remains preserved for future generations.

To achieve this goal, several steps are required:

Identification and documentation of cultural objects: It is important to identify and document all historical cultural objects in the region. This process should be done in collaboration with experts in the field and cultural organizations should be involved.

Restoration and maintenance: Cultural objects must be carefully restored and maintained to ensure that they remain stable over time. The use of traditional materials and techniques is important to preserve the authenticity of the items. Public Education and Awareness: It is important to educate the public about the importance of cultural and historical sites. Schools, museums and other cultural activities can help in this process.

Promotion and cultural tourism: Historical cultural objects can be a source of economic development for the region. By promoting them and developing cultural tourism, the region can attract more visitors and create new sources of income. International cooperation: The Eastern region of Kosovo has great potential to gain international recognition for its cultural facilities. Cooperation with international organizations and involvement in projects funded by international donors can help promote and preserve these capacities.

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