

HISTORIC SOURCES FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF RENAISSANCE AND OTHER ALBANIAN INTELLECTUALS

In this article we will try to highlight some particular aspects of writing, preserving, tracking and valuating documents of renaissance by Albanian intellectuals during the period time 1830-1912 and more. This study is based on a huge bulk of documents preserved at Government Central Archive of Republic of Albania, daily press of that time as well as published literature. Their attention towards this piece of our cultural heritage was focused on documents piled up through centuries and documents which they themselves came up with during the years of their comprehensive activities such as: political, militarily, cultural and diplomatic, at the service of national cause. They saw those documents as evidence and powerful weapon in defense of our national identity, mainly because they contained undisputed facts and argument against ill wishing purposes of neighboring states as well as other European countries at the expense of Albanian national cause. This was at the time when Albania was still under the administration of Ottoman Empire. It's one of the main reasons that renaissance and Albanian intellectuals, continuously, took extra care of preserving and tracking of those historic documents of past centuries. Those documents will also serve them as first-hand sources in terms of studies, undertaken to inform Europe regarding ancient origin and autochthonous status of the Albanians on their own settlements. It was particularly this political feeling of love for their motherland which made it possible collecting and preserving those documents.