

## ALBANIAN CENSUS BASED ON RELIGIOUS ORIENTATION

During Ottoman reign census on Albanian territories was permanent and more over everything had to start on religious orientation as the basis of Ottoman Empire finances.

Data bases of Ottoman Empire tell us that after accepting Islam as religion from the majority Albanian population, which according to the historians definitely happened during XVII century we have a following picture: it resulted that 70% of population muslims, (sunni, bektashi and other sects), and 30% Christians most of them orthodox and few roman Catholics as well as very few Jews.

Nineteenth century was the century that crystallized the religious reports on Albanian territories: 70% Mohammedan, 20% Orthodox, and 10% Roman Catholics and the numbers were true. These data bases have a very small margin of error +/-5%, at the maximum.

Regardless of censuses based on religious orientations after 1945 strange enough, Albanian scholars never highlighted such facts, even though they never forgot to mention that Albanians are 100% religious oriented people.

We think that statistics must be more specific and tell the reality as it is. Are they really religious followers? Which religion do they follow? Are they religious or do they mix it with superstitious ideas and therefor they only think that they are religious people? Everyone answering a questionnaire must be clarified about the contest, openly. Complaints about those Censuses are understandable, particularly when we think about the 2011 census and errors that we have seen with our own eyes. One can only imagine how censuses were conducted during the

years of: 1916, 1916, 1923, 1930, 1045, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1969, 1979, 1989, where it was much more difficult to contact people and the technology wasn't in place at all.

Nevertheless, people who did the registration the, (1916-1945) different from those who did it during 2011, had no interests to deform the outcome. The only problem is that they must have had severe difficulties to contact people since some of them were on the move and some others never really registered.