

Call for Papers

"ALBANIAN STUDIES IN AMERICA"

In September 2015 the Section of Linguistics and Literature of the Academy of Science and Arts of Kosovo will host a forum on the topic "Albanian Studies in America," as part of a series of scholarly conferences.

Studies on the Albanian language and Albanian literature and culture in general have quite a long tradition now. So far, there have been partial and/or inclusive researches on this particular area of the studies in the European context, and occasionally there have also been efforts at syntheses. The rapid developments in the second half of the 20th century added to the need for a more comprehensive examination of studies in this field.

Albanian Studies in America started in the 20th century and it is not accidental that their beginning is linked to the presence of the Albanian diaspora there. This presence was felt even more during the remarkable development of linguistics in the United States.

The period after the World War II saw an increased interest in the Albanian language among the academic community in the United States, to be followed by an ever growing interest in other aspects of the Albanian studies. The developments in the Balkans and Albanian world during the last two decades and the new relations of the Albanian world with the United States and other parts of North America contributed to an increase in the interest.

What are the results of the studies on Albanian in America (the United States, Canada, and other countries)?

What is the institutional context of these studies?

Is the framework of Southeastern European studies (with Albanian language and Albanians being the focus) sufficient for the European studies and the general disciplines, such as linguistics, and other areas?

In which areas of the studies on Albanian have the scholars in America focused most?

What are the results?

What are the aspects stipulating the current state of affairs in these studies?

What are the prospects of these studies in America?

These and many other topics are expected to be subject of in-depth discussions at the scientific event to be organized by the Section of Linguistics and Literature of the Kosovo Academy of Science and Arts on 25-26 September 2015, as part of the theme "Albanians Studies in America" .

The council to deal with preparations and the organizational matters of the event, involving Rexhep Ismajli, Victor Friedman, and Eqrem Basha, has been set up. The council will address scholars and institutions dealing with these studies, and after

having received the expression of interest from the latter, it shall advise on a more detailed setup of the event. Mr. Hilmi Zogjani will be in charge of communing with the interested participants, through his mail address hilmizogjani@ashak.org.

We are pleased to invite you to be part of this scientific event and send an abstract of the presentation you are proposing to give at the forum. You are kindly asked to send your abstract by 20 June 2015. You will be informed on the event's program on due time.

On behalf of the Organizational Council for the scientific activity "Albanian Studies in America,"

Academician Rexhep Ismajli

Prishtina, 4 March 2015