

# Historical, cultural and musical analysis of folk songs about the Çanakkale battle in Albanian music folklore: Albanian teachers' opinions

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## Abstract

Albanian culture coexisted for a period of over 500 years with Ottoman culture, at the turn of the new century, along with the Balkan troubles that led to the continued embrace of the transition from an old culture to the ideology of the Young Turk movement, and the continuation of joint Albanian-Turkish actions, in order to protect the Albanian Vilayets from the Serbo-Montenegrin occupiers. Early nineteenth-century Turkey emerged from bloody wars on all sides of its borders and from a weak government led by Abdul Hamid II faced a new war in 1915 now in defense of the Dardanelles in the bloodiest battle "The Battle of Canakkale". The First World War found Albanians divided and occupied in some of its territories, however, from 1912 Albania had declared Independence, but Kosovo, Skopje and Bitola, Ulcinj and Bar had remained outside the borders, while Chameria - the South of Albania had been invaded by Greece. During the First World War a large number of Albanians remained in the Turkish military service, many others joined the Turkish army, mainly Albanians who had migrated to Turkey from the violence of the Serbo-Montenegrin invaders, as well as some more from Kosovo, Skopje, Tetovo, Presevo, Shkodra, Ulcinj, etc who volunteered to help the Turkish army. According to history, oral literature and written documents, many Albanians died heroically, it is said that about 25,000 martyrs had died in this battle. In their honor, the Albanian people composed songs, it is worth mentioning the "song dedicated to the Battle of Canakkale" by the most prominent folklorists of the Albanian nation. Our research was done through a semi-structured interview with: 5 teachers of Albanian literature (at the same time master's students at the University "Kadri Zeka" in Gjilan, Kosovo); 5 history teachers (at the same time master's students at the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", Prishtina, Kosovo); 2 independent researchers from the Institute of History "Ali Hadri" Prishtina, Kosovo.

## Keywords

*Albanian folk songs about Canakkale Battle, historical analysis of folk songs, Turkish folk songs*

## Introduction

At the beginning of the First World War, Turkey faced an extraordinary aggression by the military forces of England, France, Russia, etc. which aimed to take control of the Bosphorus Strait and with it secure

the two seas. The Turkish army erected fortifications around the Bosphorus, respectively in Canakkale. These military positions built in Canakkale are mainly divided into land and coastal bases (ACIOĞLU, 2016).



Photo 1. Rare photograph from the Gallipoli Front (Turkish General Staff, 2022)

The entry of the Ottoman Empire into the war alongside Germany and Austria made things difficult for the Entente, as the Turkish army was an insurmountable military power, so in February 1915, the Franco-British fleet attempted to penetrate the Dardanelles but was repulsed by the Turkish army. The Battle of Gallipoli was the most important for the historical events that followed and the existence of the Turkish state depended on it (Schevill, 2022).

According to the scholar Suat Ilhan, the Turks

lost about 250 thousand soldiers likewise the other side lost about 250 thousand soldiers in the Battle of Canakkale (Ilhan, 1994).

From 1908 until the end of the First World War, many Albanians were lined up in battalions to defend the lands of the Ottoman Empire - Turkey, Albanian volunteers won the Gulf Wars, Turkey maintained control over the islands of the Aegean Sea of the Dardanelles strait and Marmara, this is what the folk song says:

Table 1. Songs for Brahim Pasha

Albanian Language	English Language
“Brahim pasha ej nji mjekërr zi, Shikon detin, pasha me dyrbi Zot çka doket, more Deti i Zi, M’ka qit mreti, skelën me ja rue, Ky Gjinolli po e luan sangjakun, Kta shqiptarët e ngrejné bajrakun” (Terziu, 1997)	(Brahim Pasha with a black beard) (Pasha looks at the sea with binoculars) (God I can see the Black Sea) (The king sent me to watch the harbor) (Gjinolli is moving the sanjak) (Albanians raise the flag)



Photo 2. Aziziye bastions in Canakkale during Battle of Gallipoli

After 1912, due to the Serbo-Montenegrin terror, about 120 thousand Albanians moved to Turkey, while during 1914 this number reached up to 281 thousand Albanians displaced in Turkey (Kosovo Institute of History, 1997), from 1914-1918, mainly Albanians settled around Canakkale (Buzhala, 2011), Istanbul, Izmir, Marmara, Edirne, Kayseri, etc. These Albanians voluntarily supported the Turkish army (Islami, 1990). How did it happen that among the many fighters on the Turkish side were Albanians. According to the documents, a considerable number of them were regular soldiers, who were captured in war and continued to fight alongside the Turkish army, some of the war commanders were Albanians too (Mulaj, 2015). In the Albanian areas where the Austro-Hungarians ruled during the First World War, by the order of the latter, the Albanians were mobilized to be sent to war in Turkey (Rifati, 2019).

Folk creativity is very important to be included in textbooks, especially when it comes to folklore. Folklore is decomposed according to the worldview that reflects the daily spiritual life within the society, and meets the needs for the realization of the educational, historical and aesthetic role in the textbooks. Through folklore children manage to gain knowledge about historical events from folk songs and stories (Shkodra,

2002).

Regarding the textbooks that talk about the Battle of Canakkale, there are not many published in the Albanian language despite the fact that Albanians are attacked in this historical event (Koyuncu, Keskin, & Sonmez, 2010).

School has a special role in the education of children, but we must be careful in the content of the history and literature textbooks because the education of the learning of patriotism is influenced by school curricula. When it comes to the historical past, we should consider using the most appropriate methods and methodologies for the age of school children so that they find the learning units that are developed attractive especially when it comes to learning about historical events. The Battle of Canakkale is a good example of epos in Turkish, Albanian and world history. "The positive aspects of the Canakkale War" show its importance. If the war had not been won by the Turkish state, Turkey probably would not have existed (Erdal & Eğridere, 2018).

The great Shkurte Fejza, the singer of the Albanian folk song, sang the song dedicated to the Albanian soldiers who served in the Turkish army, below you can find some longing verses for the Albanian sons:

Table 2. Song dedicated to the Albanian soldiers in the Battle of Canakkale - Trains are coming

Albanian Language	English Language
“Vijne vaborat moj nane bregut te detit	(Oh Mother, trains are coming from the sea shore)
O dilni shifni moj nane asqerte e mbretit	(Oh Mother, come out and see the soldiers of the king)
O dilni shifni moj nane asqerte e mbretit	(Oh Mother, come out and see the soldiers of the king)
Disa kjajshin moj nane disa knojshin	(Oh Mother, some were crying, some were singing)
O ka nji leter moj nane vilajt e cojshin	(Oh Mother, letters were sent by the vilayets)
Ani ka nji leter moj nane vilajt e cojshin”	(Oh Mother, letters were sent by the vilayets)
(Fejza, 2020)	

### Shkurte Fejza



Nota 1. The introductory part of the song “Trains are coming” - Shkurte Fejza

Utilizing the internet as an information resource, which creates tremendous opportunities for communication and research (Dugolli, 2018), we found one of the most prominent Turkish music singers of Albanian origin Soner Ozbilen, he sang

the Albanian version of the song about the Battle of Canakkale on the national public broadcaster of Turkey TRT (The Turkish Radio and Television Corporation) “Çanakkale İçinde (Canakkale, I am coming)” (ÖZBİLEN, 2013).

Soner ÖZBİLEN - Çanakkale İçinde (Çanakala u Nisa)

Video 1. Song for Canakkale

The historical song dedicated to the Albanian fighters who died in the Battle of Canakkale during the First World War was sung by the

Albanian folk singer, Salih Bajram Krasniqi “Canakkale” (Krasniqi, 2009).

Table 3. Song for Canakkale

Albanian Language	English Language
Canakkale	Canakkale
N'Çanakkale u nisa unë pej Stambollit	I am going to Canakkale from Istanbul
Oh lumja nona ku po m'qon karshi dushmanit	Oh lucky mother, you are taking me in front of the enemy
Oh për t'rijt tonë aman	Oh for our youth, ah me
N'Çanakkale mrena topi bubullon	The cannon rumbles in Canakkale
Oh ku po bjen gjylja vlla, aty ujë gufon	Oh where the cannonball falls, there water bubbles
Oh për t'rijt tonë aman	Oh for our youth, ah me
N'Çanakkale mrena, n'fusha t'mejdanit	In Canakkale, in the battlefield
Aty ishin kanë mbledhun vlla, trimat e xhihadit	Brother, the heroes of jihad were gathered there
Oh për t'rijt tonë aman	Oh for our youth, ah me
N'Çanakkale mrena, u vrava, u varrova	In Canakkale I was killed, I was injured
Tri ditë pa m'dalë shpirti vlla, vorrin e kërkova	Brother, three days before my soul left, I searched for the grave
Oh për t'rijt tonë medet	Oh for our youth, oh God
N'Çanakkale mrena, na u ba terr e zi	In Canakkale, it is getting worse and worse
Ah t'vramit e t'varruemit, nër çadër tuj shti	Oh, the killed and the injured are being put under umbrellas
Oh për t'rijt tonë medet	Oh for our youth, oh God
N'Çanakkale mrena, nisi me ra shi	In Canakkale, it started raining
Ah n'atë zavallë t'shpiritit vlla, m'mur malli për shpi	Brother, in that difficult situation, I started missing home
Oh për t'rijt tonë aman	Oh for our youth, ah me
N'Çanakkale mrena, ni bunar mjedis	In Canakkale, a well in the middle
Oh mos e pini ujtë oh vllazën, e kan xeherlisë	Oh brothers, don't drink the water, it's poisonous
Oh për t'rijt tonë aman (Ramadani & Daci, 2020).	Oh for our youth, ah me (Ramadani & Daci, 2020).
Dola pej Stambollit, me pa selamet	I left Istanbul to survive
Ah nanës tonë e babës tonë, ymri ju k'putë krejt	Oh, the soul of our mother and father torn apart
Oh për t'rijt tonë aman	Oh for our youth, ah me
N'Çanakkale mrena, na mloj tymi i zi	Canakkale is covered with black smoke
Oh urdhni erdh pej mbretit vlla, hygjym me singi	Oh brother, the king gave the order, attack with spears
Oh për t'rijt tonë aman	Oh for our youth, ah me
N'Çanakkale mrena, dola me ni skejë	In Canakkale, I went to a corner
Oh ballanat po shkojnë përpjetë, xhyphane tue djegë	Oh airplanes are flying in the sky, burning everything
Oh për t'rijt tonë aman! (Krasniqi, 2009).	Oh for our youth, ah me! (Krasniqi, 2009).



Photo 3. Photo from the memorial of the martyrs of Canakkale - Albanian soldiers (Kuci, 2022)

### Research problem

Our study aims to research and find folk songs about Canakkale in Albanian history and literature.

The Battle of Canakkale has the focus in this research study since it is related to the Albanians who contributed to this war. The songs dedicated to this battle have taken place in Albanian culture.

To conduct this research, the following research question has been raised:

What are the Albanian teachers' opinions about the historical, cultural and musical effects of folk songs about the Çanakkale battle in Albanian music folklore?

### Methods

The research was conducted through a qualitative research method (Kumar, 2017). Qualitative methods aim at studying life experiences from work in teaching, qualitative research work originates in the descriptive analysis of events related in this case to the research topic (Avdiu-Kryeziu, 2021).

### Participants

For the research sample, teachers of grades 6-9 of lower secondary schools from different cities of Kosovo have been selected, purposeful sampling has been implemented. Teachers of Albanian language and literature who are currently pursuing

master's degree in "Albanian Language and Literature Teaching" at the University "Kadri Zeka", Faculty of Education in Gjilan and history teachers who are currently doing master's degree in "History Teaching" at the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", Faculty of Education, and two independent researchers of history at the Institute of History "Ali Hadri" in Prishtina.

To see how much these songs are included in Albanian history and literature, the research was conducted through a semi-structured interview with 5 teachers (current master's students) of Albanian language and literature, 5 teachers (current master's students) of history, 5 teachers of Music, as well as 2 independent history researchers at the Institute of History "Ali Hadri" Prishtina. It total, there are 17 participants in this research study.

In order to maintain the confidentiality of the interviewees, we will not present the interviewed teachers and researchers with names but we will present them with group names as follows:

- Teachers of Albanian language and literature
- Teachers of history
- Teachers of music
- Independent researchers of the Institute of History

Table 4. Participants' Structures

Participant No	Gender	Age	Program	Code
4	Female	23,25,33,50	Albanian Language and Literature Teaching	P1-F
1	Male	32	Albanian Language and Literature Teaching	P1-M
2	Female	23,25	Subject of History	P2-F
3	Male	27,41,50	Subject of History	P2-M
4	Female	22,29,33,35	Subject of Music	P3-F
1	Male	26	Subject of Music	P3-M
2	Male	38,40	Independent researchers of the Institute of History	P4-M
Total: 17	10F/7M	22-50		P1,P2,P3,P4

**Research instruments**

For data collection, a semi-structured interview instrument has been created by the researchers (see appendix no. 1)

The semi-structured interview is practiced using the same set of topics or questions for each interview, the questions can be presented in an appropriate order for each interview, allowing participants to answer the questions or discuss the issues in their own way (Matthews & Ross, 2010).

The semi-structured interview was conducted in written form, the data were continuously submitted anonymously by all participants in the research.

The purpose of this research is the historical, cultural and musical analysis of folk songs about the battle of Canakkale in the folklore of Albanian Music. The analysis aims at highlighting the truths of folk songs about Canakkale.

The semi-structured interview contains a total of 15 questions, 10 of which were conducted with all interviewees, while 5 questions were conducted with music teachers only.

Semi-structured interviews where their topics or questions can be presented in order or in different ways, as may be

appropriate for each interview (Matthews & Ross, 2010). In our case we have listed the topics in tables.

Scientific research is valuable when its results are based on facts and when they are logically true. The validity of scientific research has two concepts: internal validity and external validity (Azemi & Bujari, 2013). Our research has gained validity as it is interpreted accurately and reliably, the dimensions of our research can be generalized to the population in real terms even beyond the study.

Research reliability is the extent to which findings and research are consistent even if the research is repeated. The reliability of the research can be measured if we do not change the methods, the research conditions (Azemi & Bujari , 2013).

**Data Analysis**

Content analysis was used as a data analysis method. The interviews were first transcribed. Then, the smallest meaningful units of code were created from the answers given to the interview questions. The reliability of the analysis was ensured by comparing the coding of the two researchers to create the correct codes. Themes were created by combining the codes. The theory was constructed inductively. The themes and

sub-themes found are shown in tables. It has been reported with direct quotations for the views on the themes.

## Results and Discussions

In conducting the semi-structured interview, we focused on important issues such as:

- Knowledge of history teachers and Albanian language and literature teachers regarding the Battle of Canakkale
- Inclusion of the Battle of Canakkale in the school curriculum
- Inclusion of the Battle of Canakkale in Albanian folk songs and literature

In the interview, the interviewed teachers showed that the books of Albanian literature and history talk about the Battle of Canakkale and there are many folk songs dedicated to this historical event which are still widely listened by our people.

From discussions with teachers, we have extracted some knowledge that we have heard for the first time, for example teachers stated that due to sensitivity Albanians had responded to the call to participate in the battle out of good will to keep the peace which at that time very little was intended to maintain world peace.

The main reason why this war still exists in the memory of Albanians is the historical, folkloric and literary aspect, and nowadays songs about Canakkale continue to be created by composers, singers and for this fact they are transmitted from generation to generation and are always kept in people's memory. (Ahmeti & Shala, 2020)

The research dedicated to the folk songs about Historical, cultural and musical analysis of folk songs about the Çanakkale battle in Albanian Folklore: Albanian Teachers' Opinions:

**Table 5.** The content analysis on teachers' knowledge about the Battle of Canakkale which took place in 1915 in Turkey between the Turkish army and the Entente powers

<b>Theme 1. The knowledge of teachers ((P1, P2, P3) about the Battle of Canakkale which took place in 1915 in Turkey between the Turkish army and the Entente powers</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>The knowledge about the Battle of Canakkale</b>	
➤ The Battle of Canakkale took place in 1915	4
➤ The Battle of Canakkale is also known as the Battle of Gallipoli	2
➤ It was one of the bloodiest battles of World War I.	10
➤ The Entente lacked knowledge of the terrain that intended to attack in this battle	3
<b>It is interpreted to the students that in the cemetery of martyrs in Canakkale</b>	
➤ There are memorial plaques in commemoration of many Albanian martyrs	3
➤ There are memorial plaques in commemoration of many Turkish and other martyrs	2
➤ In 2008 the families of Albanian soldiers who fell in battle received from the Turkish state appreciation award certificates	1
➤ In this battle the fate of modern Turkey was determined	8



Some quotations on the knowledge of teachers about the Battle of Canakkale are as follows:

*“I know that the Battle of Canakkale also known as the Battle of Gallipoli took place in 1915. It was one of the bloodiest battles of the First World War” (P1-F-23). “I know that the Entente lacked knowledge of the terrain that intended to attack in this battle and this was the strongest point of the Turkish army which caused great losses to Entente” (P2-M-41). “During the teaching process, I explain to my students that in the cemetery of martyrs in Canakkale, there are memorial plaques in commemoration of many Albanian, Turkish and other martyrs” (P3-F-29). “This battle determined the fate of modern Turkey, in 2008 the families of Albanian soldiers who fell in battle received from the Turkish state appreciation award certificates” (P3-F-35).*

Table 6. The content analysis on the inclusion of the songs about Canakkale in literary works

Theme 2. Songs dedicated to the Battle of Canakkale in literary works	f
➤ Various literature	3
➤ They are adapted in Albanian	3
➤ In folktales	4
➤ Folk literature	2

Some quotations on the songs about Canakkale in literary works are as follows:

*“I came across various literature in which the songs dedicated to the Battle of Canakkale are mentioned” (P1-F-33). “There are songs about Canakkale in literary works. They are originally in Turkish and then adapted in Albanian as they are dedicated to the Albanians who fell in this battle” (P2-M-27). “While reading to prepare for my lessons I came across songs dedicated to Canakkale such as in folktales as well as in folk literature” (P1-M-32).*

Table 7. The content analysis on the topics and professionalism of the songs about Canakkale

Theme 3. The topics and professionalism of the songs about Canakkale	f
<b>Topics:</b>	
➤ Bravery	5
➤ Heroism	3
➤ Freedom	2
<b>Professionalism</b>	
➤ They are well sung	6
➤ They have comprehensible content	2
➤ They have a good and heroic topic	4
➤ They describe the event correctly	3

Some quotations on the topics and professionalism of the songs about Canakkale are as follows:

*“The songs about Canakkale are mainly related to bravery, heroism, freedom, resistance to freedom, etc” P2-M-50). “I think that the songs about Canakkale are well sung, they have comprehensible content, they have a good and heroic theme, they describe the event correctly, etc” (P1-F-25). “The Battle of Canakkale is an important historical event and well presented in folk songs, but more should be written in historical textbooks because Albanian historiography lacks writings about this battle” (P4-M-38).*

Table 8. The content analysis on the reasons that a considerable number of Albanians took part in this battle

Theme 4. A considerable number of Albanians who took part in this battle	f
<b>The reasons that the Albanians took part in this battle</b>	
➤ The spiritual connection they had with Turkey	2
➤ Military service	10
<b>Their participation in the battle was influenced by</b>	
➤ Culture	6
➤ The official language they had learned during the Ottoman rule	2
➤ Religion	4
➤ The migration of the Albanian people to Turkey	8

Some quotations on the reasons that a considerable number of Albanians took part in this battle are as follows:

*“I think that the main reason for the participation of Albanians in this war is the spiritual connection they had with Turkey as well as the military service as when this war broke out, the Albanians were in the Turkish army performing this service” (P1-F-50). “The participation of Albanians in this battle was influenced by: culture, official language they had learned during the Ottoman rule, religion” (P2-M-27). “I believe that the migration of the Albanian people to Turkey influenced their participation in this battle” (P3-M-26).*

Table 9. The content analysis on the inclusion of the Battle of Canakkale in the school curriculum (Grades VI-IX)

Theme 5. The inclusion of the Battle of Canakkale in the school curriculum (Grades VI-IX)	f
<b>The Battle of Canakkale in the school curriculum</b>	
➤ Adaptation of teaching units in specific areas in elective courses	6
➤ Extra-curricular teaching units	8
➤ There is no specific teaching unit about Canakkale	9
<b>Days of the Turkish Community in Kosovo</b>	
➤ Days dedicated to this battle	2
➤ Discuss with students the role and importance of battle	1
➤ Extra classes are held	2

Some quotations on the inclusion of the Battle of Canakkale in the school curriculum (Grades VI-IX) are as follows:

*“I think that the Pre-University Education Curriculum in the Republic of Kosovo gives space to teachers to adapt teaching units in specific areas in elective courses for extra-curricular teaching units. However, anything related to the Battle of Canakkale specifically has not been encountered in the textbooks of the history subject and Albanian language and literature subject” (P2-M-50). “In the days dedicated to this battle we hold extra classes and talk to students about the role and importance of the battle and the participation of Albanians in this battle” (P2-M-41).*

Table 10. The content analysis on the Canakkale folk songs analysis in the historical / literary aspect

<b>Theme 6. The analysis of the Canakkale folk songs in the historical / literary aspect</b>	f
<b>The analysis of the Canakkale folk songs in the historical aspect</b>	
➤ The song of Canakkale has given special values to the Albanian history	3
➤ Awareness of the younger generations	2
➤ The interconnection of national history and folklore	4
<b>The analysis of the Canakkale folk songs in the literary aspect</b>	
➤ Musical folklore in the writings of literature	7
➤ The connection between folk songs and literature	2

Some quotations on the analysis of the Canakkale folk songs in the historical / literary aspect are as follows:

*“In the historical aspect, I think that the song of Canakkale has given special values to the Albanian history, talking about the bravery and heroism shown in the war” (P1-F-25). “This event influenced the awareness of the younger generations about the past history of the Albanian and Turkish people” (P2-M-27). “The interconnection of national history and folklore can be noticed in these songs” (P4-M-38). “I can say more about the literary side, the influences of musical folklore were evident in the writings of literature in which various forms of interrelationship between folk songs and literature are noticed. These connections have often been expressed in the form of singing as folk songs in literary writings” (P1-F-33).*

Table 11. The content analysis on the historical / literary significance of Canakkale folk songs

<b>Theme. 7. The historical / literary significance of Canakkale folk songs</b>	f
<b>The historical significance of Canakkale folk songs</b>	
➤ Patriotic values	3
➤ War motives	6
➤ Pride event	8
<b>The literary significance of Canakkale folk songs</b>	
➤ Common cultural environments	5
➤ Cooperation	3
➤ Literary stories	2

Some quotations on the historical / literary significance of Canakkale folk songs are as follows:

*“Regarding the historical / literary importance of folk songs about Canakkale, the songs dedicated to this battle cultivated patriotic values in people, created common Albanian-Turkish cultural environments, created a special interest for the folk music between these two people” (P2-F-25). “I can say that Inside these songs there is a wide thematic plane starting from war motives, through which the music and songs about Canakkale responded directly to the popular ideas for cooperation between our nations historically to the present day” (P3-F-22).*

Table 12. The content analysis on the usage of Canakkale folk songs in the lessons of history and literature

<b>Theme 8. The usage of Canakkale folk songs in the lessons of history and literature</b>	f
<b>The usage of Canakkale folk songs in the lessons of history</b>	
➤ Deficiency in textbooks	3
➤ Folk songs are used very rarely	2
<b>The usage of Canakkale folk songs in the lessons of literature</b>	
➤ They are included in educational planning	5
➤ They are part of folklore	4
➤ They occupy a special place	2

Some quotations on the usage of Canakkale folk songs in the lessons of history and literature are as follows:

*“In the subject of history, there is a lack of teaching units about folk songs, and folk songs are used very rarely” (P2-M-41). “In the subject of literature, the songs about Canakkale are included in educational planning, they are part of folklore and occupy a special place” (P1-M-32).*

Table 13. The content analysis on the learning of Canakkale folk song in terms of national folklore

<b>Theme 9. The learning of Canakkale folk song in terms of national folklore</b>	f
<b>Suggestions on learning the Canakkale folk song</b>	
➤ Canakkale folk song should be included in textbooks	5
➤ It should be taught in the subject of music	4
<b>The Canakkale folk song in terms of national folklore</b>	
➤ It reminds us of the bravery of people	5
➤ The displacement of many Albanians in Turkey	2
➤ The contribution of the Albanians in this battle	3

Some quotations on the learning of Canakkale folk song in terms of national folklore are as follows:

*“I think that the song about Canakkale should be included in the textbooks of literature, history, and a special importance to this historical event should be given especially in the subject of music” (P3-F-33). “The Canakkale folk song reminds us of the bravery of our people in this war and the contribution that the Albanian people had given to the Ottoman army and to the formation of the present-day state of Turkey” (P2-M-27). “This event is related to the displacement of many Albanians in Turkey as a result of the occupation and abandonment of most of our lands under the occupation of neighboring Slavic states (P2-F-23).*

Table 14. The content analysis of the views on the learning of songs about the battle of Canakkale in terms of history, literature and music

<b>Theme 10. The views on the learning of songs about the battle of Canakkale in terms of history, literature and music</b>	f
<b>The views on the learning of songs about the battle of Canakkale in terms of history</b>	
➤ A long history	4
➤ It was passed down from generation to generation	2
<b>The views on the learning of songs about the battle of Canakkale in terms of literature</b>	
➤ It is widely spread in Albanian folklore	4
➤ The composition of songs about Canakkale was passed on from one generation to another	2
<b>The views on the learning of songs about the battle of Canakkale in terms of music</b>	
➤ It is also heard and sung with a great pleasure	5
➤ Promote intercultural mobilization between people	2
➤ Have the same pace of development	2

Some quotations on the learning of songs about the battle of Canakkale in terms of history, literature and music are as follows:

*“The song of Canakkale has a long history and was passed down from generation to generation” (P2-M-50). “The Canakkale song is widely spread in Albanian folklore. The composition of songs about Canakkale was passed on from one generation to another” (P1-F-25). “The song of Canakkale is heard and sung every time with a great pleasure. Musical creativity for Canakkale promotes intercultural mobilization between people” (P3-M-26). “Reasons on the values of these songs to be learned are indisputable through the longevity they have in our people and in the daily musical developments of the country, reaching to our days with the same pace of development, learning and listening as in the past” (P4-M-40).*

Community teachers have the right, in cooperation with the government, to design school modules related to their culture, history and traditions (OSBE, 2018).

The semi-structured interview questions which were conducted only with the music teachers with the code P3 and analyzed in terms of music can be found below.

Table 15. The content analysis on the basic elements in the musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs

<b>Theme 11. The basic elements in the musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs</b>	f
<b>Musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs</b>	
➤ The fate of the Albanian people is described	4
➤ The most powerful folklore creations	3
➤ It is sung and heard in many versions	5

Some quotations on the basic elements in the musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs are as follows:

*“The Albanian songs about Canakkale describe the fate of the Albanian people left at the mercy of the Slavic, French, English armies that made efforts to eradicate the existence of Turkey” (P3-F-22). “The song of Canakkale is one of the most powerful folklore creations of the Albanian people which is sung and heard in many versions wherever there are Albanians” (P3-F-35).*

Table 16. The content analysis on the place that the Canakkale folk song holds in music education

<b>Theme 12. The place that the Canakkale folk song holds in music education</b>	<b>f</b>
➤ Very important	3
➤ Folk song	4
➤ Raises emotions	2
➤ The historical ties between the Albanian and Turkish people	3
<b>Canakkale in music education</b>	
➤ Conveys messages	3
➤ A song about suffering	2
➤ Pride	4
➤ Poetic text	3
➤ Emotions for the historical past	5
➤ A good melody song	3

Some quotations on the place that the Canakkale folk song holds in music education are as follows:

*“The place that Canakkale’s song holds in music education is very important in the context of folk song which raises emotions, experiences, suffering, pride and conveys messages to the younger generations about the historical ties between the Albanian and Turkish people, through poetic text and musical melody. From this song listeners not only enjoy the folk sounds, but create emotions for the historical past” (P3-F-29).*

Table 17. The content analysis on the instruments that are used in the interpretation of Canakkale folk songs

<b>Theme 13. The musical instruments that are used in the interpretation of Canakkale folk songs</b>	<b>f</b>
➤ Sharkia	4
➤ Çiftelia	5
➤ Lahuta	2
➤ Violin	3
➤ Piano	4
➤ Clarinet	4
➤ Kavalli	3
➤ Drum	3

Some quotations on the instruments that are used in the interpretation of Canakkale folk songs:

*“In the folk songs dedicated to Çanakkale, as instruments for the creation of musical sounds are used: sharkia (long-necked stringed instrument with 5-12 strings in three courses and 12-22 frets), çiftelia (two-stringed mandolin with a long neck), lahuta (a bowed single-string musical instrument with an egg-shaped body and a long neck), violin, piano, clarinet, kavalli (fife, shepherd’s pipe), drum, etc.” (P3-M-26).*

Table 18. The content analysis on the musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs in Albanian folk music

Theme 14. Musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs in Albanian folk music		f
<b>Musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs</b>		
➤ It is not commercial music		4
➤ Historical character		3
➤ National character		4
➤ Sounds		5
➤ Rhythms		4
➤ Mimics		3
➤ Voices		2
➤ Sufferings		4
➤ Glory		5
➤ A distinctive feature of the Albanian folk music		2
<b>Folk music</b>		
➤ It is heard in all regions		4
➤ Spiritual connection		4
➤ Albanian soldiers		3
➤ Triumphantly straight war		2
➤ A real historical event		5
<b>Historical event</b>		
➤ The resistance against the Entente		5
➤ Revolts		2
➤ The past of the people		4
➤ Great losses		2
➤ The willingness of people		3
➤ Help others		2

Some quotations on the musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs in Albanian folk music are as follows:

*“Albanian folklore in general is not commercial music but still it is heard in all regions due to the spiritual connection that the song has with the historical and national character, e.g. the song about Çanakkale is heard in all Albanian territories, because it contains the sounds, rhythms, mimics, voices related to the sufferings and glories of a large number*

of Albanian and Turkish soldiers who, although they saw their death with their eyes, still triumphantly went straight war” (P3-F-33). “The connection of the songs about Çanakkale with the real historical event has been and remains a distinctive feature of the Albanian folk music. Very powerful elements are found in it with regard to the resistance against the Entente, the revolts, the sufferings, the sacrifices that the people and the army went through at that time. The melody of these songs makes one feel sad because they describe the painful event with great losses. The song, in addition to its historical character, contains many educational elements for the new generations, it shows the willingness of people to defend their country and to help others” (P3-F-35).

Table 19. The content analysis on the way of teaching these folk songs

<b>Theme 15. The way of teaching these folk songs</b>	<b>f</b>
<b>Folk songs</b>	
➤ Interpreting the song	5
➤ Listen to the song	3
➤ Analyze the event	3
➤ Instruments used	4
➤ Quiet	2
➤ Fast	4
➤ Slow	3
➤ Feelings while listening	3
➤ Feelings while singing	4
➤ Sing together	5
➤ Listen to the song via CD player	2
➤ Youtube	5
➤ Qr-code	1
<b>Teaching and learning</b>	
➤ Talking about instruments	5
➤ Talk about the event	4
➤ Type of music	4
➤ Search on the internet	3
<b>Sing</b>	
➤ In groups	4
➤ In pairs	2
➤ Individually	5
➤ Listen and sing	5
➤ Analyze	5



Some quotations on the the way of teaching these folk songs are as follows:

*“Learning a folk song has its own specifics: first we talk about the historical event that is inside the song, knowing that for the Albanian people folk songs in general have been heard over the centuries, then we listen to the song e.g., the song about Canakkale, students are asked to make a brief analysis of the event, the instruments used in this song, the type of music, if it is funny, quiet, fast, slow, etc.” (P3-F-22). “Often while teaching these songs, we ask students to write how they felt while listening to these songs. We listen to the song via CD player, Youtube, Qr-code, tablets, etc., through smart board and software we process musical notes; we sing together several times, then in pairs or individually. At the end of the lesson, we talk about the instruments that serve for the construction of folk songs, using a musical instrument during the lesson as well. Students are encouraged to research online about the song learned and the events described in the song” (P3-F-29).*



Video 2. Song dedicated to the Battle of Canakkale

## Conclusions

The Battle of Canakkale was both painful and proud because Turkey took its path of revival there.

According to many authors and scholars' opinions about Canakkale, songs are echoed in all Albanian territories about the brave soldiers who were martyred.

The memories of those who fought side by side with the Turkish soldiers in this war are full of emotions, courage, pride, glory, etc. (Tarçın, 2016).

The war took place between the two alliances Entente and Turkey supported by its allies Germany and Austria, Albanians were on the side of Turkey in this war because during this period the Albanian lands in the Balkans were under Austro-Hungarian, Bulgarian, French and Italian occupation and administration.

In Albanian lands, there are many different songs dedicated to the Albanian soldiers who fell in the Battle of Canakkale.

The musical interpretation of the songs about Canakkale has passed on between generations the culture, tradition, glory, it has intertwined the past and the present, the modern with the classical, bringing us many versions of the folk song about Canakkale as well as singing and teaching it across generations as said by music teachers during the interview.

The Battle of Canakkale is not included as a separate teaching unit in school curricula but in the subject of history when talking about the First World War, the Battle of Canakkale is very likely to be mentioned.

The Turkish community in Kosovo which is included in the regular education system during the special days dedicated to the Turkish community speaks and holds activities in memory and respect for the fallen martyrs in Canakkale.

## Limitations of the study

For this study we are mainly limited to the historiographical literature and Albanian

literature, but we have also oriented our research to the practical side of the research through a semi-structured interview. If we had used other research instruments, the results might have been different from the ones we presented.

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## Appendix

### Semi-structured interview

The following questions were answered by the teachers of history, teachers of Albanian language and literature, teachers of music and independent researchers of the Institute of History

1. Do you have knowledge about the Battle of Canakkale which took place in 1915 in Turkey between the Turkish army and the Entente powers? (Describe the knowledge you have)
2. While reading literary works, did you come across any song dedicated to the Battle of Canakkale? (Describe how you understood those texts)
3. The Albanian people through folklore have composed songs in honor of those who fell in this battle. Have you heard songs dedicated to Canakkale, write about their theme?
4. How did it happen that a considerable number of Albanians took part in this battle?
5. Is the Battle of Canakkale included in the school curriculum (Grades VI-IX)?
6. What is taken into account in the analysis of Canakkale folk songs in the historical / literary aspect? What did you find in this analysis?
7. What is the historical / literary significance of Canakkale folk songs?
8. What is the use of Canakkale folk songs in history and literature lessons?
9. What are your suggestions for learning the Canakkale folk song in terms of national folklore?
10. What are your views on the history, literature and learning of folk songs about the Battle of Canakkale?

The following questions were answered by the teachers of music only.

11. What are the basic elements in the musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs?
12. What place does the Canakkale folk song hold in music education?
13. What musical instruments are used in the interpretation of Canakkale folk songs? How are folk songs sung?
14. What do you know about the musical analysis of Canakkale folk songs in Albanian folk music?
15. How do you teach these folk songs?

