

## HomerOS

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Cilt / Volume 2, Sayı / Issue 3, 2019, pp. 103-110

E - ISSN: 2667-4688

URL: <https://www.ratingacademy.com.tr/ojs/index.php/homerOS>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33390/homerOS.2.012>

Araştırma Makalesi/Research Article

## USE OF SOME TURKISH BORROWINGS IN ALBANIAN LANGUAGE

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Geliş Tarihi: 5 Temmuz 2019; Kabul Tarihi: 21 Temmuz 2019  
Received: 5 July 2019; Accepted: 21 July 2019

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### ABSTRACT

*Turkish borrowings have started since the second half of the 14th century and have become more intensive after the invasion of Albanian territories by the Ottoman Empire. According the studies the areas most affected by Turkish borrowings were urbanization, clothing, kitchen, administration etc. A part of Turkish borrowings are fully assimilated by the Albanian language and become part of it, as many others that are replaced by respective corresponding of Albanian language. The present study is an analyze of some Turkish borrowings, which are included in the Albanian explanatory dictionaries of 1980 and 2006.*

*There is made a comaprison of these examples provided on this paper , between Explanatory Dictionary of Albanian Language (1980 and 2006) and the Albanian Language Etymological Vocabulary. Through selected characteristic cases of research, we have tried to find the reasons for the situation and the use of these two types of Turkish borrowings in Albanian language.*

**Key words:** *Turkish borrowings, Albanian language, active borrowings, unusable borrowings.*

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

It has now been accepted by most of the scholars who have studied Balkan language that Albanian language has for centuries been related to a variety of languages such as Greek, Latin, Old Slavic, Turkish etc. Hundreds of years of Albanian language relations with these languages have been developed in various circumstances and in different fields of economic, cultural and political life. (Hoxha, 1986: 16). As it is known, the word is the language unit that is borrowed easier and faster. Borrowing from other languages is also done in cases when for the concept that is borrowed, the language itself had its denomination, when a certain style of language needs a borrowing, as well as when the borrowing has entered into the language with the concept itself.

Words with a native source do not constitute the entire lexical richness of the Albanian language, because loans have also an important place. Albanian language during the various stages of its history centuries has had relationships with many other languages. Since the Balkan Peninsula, as a place where have had contact a number of peoples with their different languages from each other and where they ruled for many centuries different occupations, it is understood that the Albanian language has received many foreign elements from the languages with which they have created contacts. Concerning the reciprocal borrowing relationship with other languages, it is known that the Albanian language has received more than it has provided, due to the historical conditions in which the loan has taken place. (Omari, 1989: 57)

Turkish words have been introduced in Albanian since the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The traces of Ottoman invasion in Albania remained in the Albanian language as well. The areas most affected by Turkish were urbanization, clothing, kitchens, administration, etc. The impacts on agriculture, livestock and vegetation were fewer than in other fields. Many Oriental source words have been fully assimilated from Albanian and have become its property. Through Turkish language have entered in Albanian language, especially Arabic and Persian words, but the Turkish it has been borrowing language to Albanian language for these words. (Thomai, 2006: 259).

Borrowing shows that people have been either border or have had historical relations between them and based on these criteria is made a grouping of borrowings as well. The present study is an analyze of some Turkish borrowings, which are included in the Albanian explanatory dictionaries of 1980 and 2006. These borrowings, although are part of the Albanian language vocabulary and have not yet emerged from usage, but they are no longer used in the language for purpose of communication and they are moving towards extinction. On the other hand, there is a good number of borrowings, which even though they are having accountable synonyms in Albanian, they continue to be useful. There is made a comaprison of these examples provided on this paper , between explanatory dictionary of Albanian 1980 and 2006 and the Albanian language etymological vocabulary. Through the selected characteristic cases of research, we have tried to find the reasons for the situation and the use of these two types of Turkish borrowings in Albanian in standard language and everyday speech. In 2005, it was published the “Dictionary of Orientalism” in Albanian language by author Tahir Dizdari, which has about 4500 borrowed words from Turkish, although most of them have the source from Persian or Arabic. For illustration we will bring some cases of borrowings that are moving towards extinction, some cases borrowings that continue still be used, although some of them have the responsible words in Albanian and some in-between cases.

## 2. CASES OF TURKISH BORROWINGS IN ALBANIAN LANGUAGE

### 2.1. Examples of borrowings those are moving towards extinction

**AÇIK:** In Albanian Language Dictionary (2006:26); (1980:4), this word is given in terms: *adv. conversation: openly, clearly*: he said openly/ clearly ( *ia tha açik*). (ASHSH, 2006: 26); (ASHSH, 1980: 4)

In the Etymological Dictionary of the Albanian language, the researcher Topalli explains: *adjective: open*. Used as adverb for: openly, clearly. The word of two dialects. Borrowing from Turkish, squarely from the verb *aç* : " step; blossom " with the suffix *-ik*.

The reference to this word is found by Topalli in: Miklosich TEN I 2, Meyer EW 20, Cordignano Alb. – It. 1, Skok ER I 7, Boretzky TE II 13, Çabej SE II 10, Ndreca 15, Dizdari Fj. 2. (Topalli, 2017: 73).

In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, is given as an adjective meaning: *openly, sincere*. (Korça, 2009: 342).

**ADET:** In the Dictionary of Albanian Language is given in the conversational meaning: *habit: old, bad, new habit*. (ASHSH, 2006: 27), (ASHSH, 1980: 5)

In the Etymological Dictionary of Albanian, (73) the researcher Topalli explains: *habit* (adet; doke). Used in plural for "menses". Words used in all Albanian, known in both dialects and Arbëreshes of Italy; outdated, with a tendency to emerge from the language. Borrowing from Turkish, with an Arabic source. Reference for this has been found by Topalli in: Meyer EW 2, Jokl LKU 53, Cordignano Alb-It1, Çabej ShS 27, SE II 10, Boretzky TE II 13, Ndreca 16, Dizdari Fj.4) (Topalli, 2017: 73).

In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: *âdet*, is given with the same meaning as Etymological Dictionary of Albanian Language. (Korça, 2009: 342)

**ÇIRAK-** In Albanian Language Dictionary this word is given in terms: historic word: a boy who worked as a helper without payment for a craftsman to learn the skills; Outdated Word: A small boy doing auxiliary work at a store. The second meaning: *servant*. (ASHSH, 1980: 263) (ASHSH, 2006: 156)

In the Etymological Dictionary of the Albanian language, the researcher Topalli explains: *helper, servant*. The word of two dialects, outdated today. Borrowing from Turkish, sourced from the Persian. The first meaning in Turkish has been light, lamp; a word which is also in Albanian with this meaning. It is testified in Ross's vocabulary, as well as the reference found by Topalli to: Miklosich TE I 276, TEN II 96, Meyer EW 448, Lokotsch 426, Mladenov Reč. 686, Skok ER I327, Ndreca 123, Çabej SE III 123, Dizdari Fj.174. (Topalli, 2017: 342). In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: *çirak*, is given with the meaning: *helper*. (Korça, 2009: 381)

**HAN:** In Albanian Language Dictionary this word is given in terms: conversational words. The first outdated meaning: *a guesthouse* for those traveling with animals. The second meaning with deteriorating meaning; *unclean hotel*. The figurative meaning, which still preserved in Albanian language, is *a messy place*. (ASHSH, 1980: 646) (ASHSH, 2006: 372).

In the Etymological Dictionary of Albanian language, is given this explanation: Guesthouse for travelers with animals. Words of Albanian language, outdated. Borrowing from Turkish sourced from Persian. The reference to this word is found by Topalli in: Meyer EW 146, Weigand Wört. 27, Lokotsch 809, Boretzky TE II 59, Ndreca 284, Dizdari Fj. 347. (Topalli, 2017: 615).

In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: **han**, is given with the meaning: **a guesthouse** for those traveling with animals. (Korça, 2009: 428)

**MATRAPÁZ:** In Albanian Language Dictionary this word is given in terms: conversational words. Even with a deteriorating meaning. A small merchant who trades with fraud, **speculator**. The second meaning: **a man without principles** seeking to achieve goals with deception. (ASHSH, 1980: 1071); (ASHSH, 2006: 599)

In the Etymological Dictionary of Albanian language, is given this explanation: a small trader who trades in fraud; speculator. Words of all Albanian language. Borrowing from Turkish **madrabáz** (from Arabic - **matrak**: drubbing, and **baz**: player) From Turkish also entered other Balkan languages. The reference to this word is found by Topalli in: Miklosich TE II 124, Lokotsch 1445, Mladenov Reč.291, Vasmer REW II 105, Boretzky TE II 89, Dizdari Fj. 625, Çabej SE V 292. (Topalli, 2017: 948).

In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, this word is not given with any meaning.

## 2.2. Examples of borrowings that continue still be used in Albanian language

**ÇAKALL.** In Albanian Language Dictionary this word is given in terms: animal - zoology, **predatory animal, smaller than wolves, reddish hair, that screams aloud**. Figuratively, bloodthirsty man crying aloud and threatens others. (ASHSH, 1980: 239-240); (ASHSH, 2006: 143). In the Etymological Dictionary of Albanian language, is given this explanation: predatory animals, lat. *Canis aureus*. Borrowing from Turkish, **çakál**, with a source from the Persian, **shāgal**. The reference to this word is found by Topalli in: Stier nr. 21, Miklosich TE I 271, TEN I 20, Meyer EW 443, Skok ER I 287, Ndreca 117, Çabej SE III 77, Dizdari Fj. 141. (Topalli, 2017: 319). In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: **han**, is given with the zoological meaning as well as the figurative meaning, **spy**. (Korça, 2009: 376).

**NISESHTE.** In Albanian Language Dictionary this word is given in terms: **fine powder** such as flour, very white, extracted from grains of wheat, corn or potato, used for cooking, in the industry etc. (ASHSH, 1980: 1267); (ASHSH, 2006: 697).

In the Etymological Dictionary of Albanian language, is given this explanation: Fine powder such as flour, very white, extracted from grains of wheat, corn or potato. Words of all Albanian language. Loan from Turkish **nišastá** with source from Persian. From Turkish it has also entered into other Balkan languages. The reference to this word is found by Topalli in: Meyer EW 310, Weigand Wört. 63, Rrota Fj. 47, Boretzky TE II 99, Ndreca 497, Dizdari Fj. 718. (Topalli, 2017: 1064). In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: **nišasta** is given in terms **nisheshte-amidon**. (Korça, 2009: 499)

**PESHQIR.** In Albanian Language Dictionary this word is given in terms:

The first meaning: **A thick piece of cotton**, soft, with fluff, that we use to wipe the face, hands and body after washing up.

The second meaning: anatomy. **Fat thin membrane** that covers the outside of the stomach or intestines.

The third meaning, provincial words. Women square **serviette**.

The fourth, provincial meaning: **Napkin, serviette**. (ASHSH, 1980: 1410); (ASHSH, 2006: 777).

In the Etymological Dictionary of Albanian language, is given this explanation: thick piece of cotton that is used to be wiped. Words used in all Albanian language. Borrowing from

Turkish, *peşkir* with a source from Persian. It has entered into many other Balkan languages. The bibliographic reference for the source of this word Topalli marks: Miklosich TE II 142, Meyer EW 330, Weigand Wört 67, Lokotsch 1660, Rrota Fj. 51, Mladenov Reč. 421, Boretzky TE II 105, Ndreca 545, Andriotis 195, Çabej SE VI 176, Dizdari Fj. 768. (Topalli, 2017: 1127). In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, this word has been found with a new form for the same meaning: *havlu, hamam havlu*. (Korça, 2009: 216; 431)

**RAST.** In Albanian Language Dictionary this word is given in terms: Something that happens, action or event that is performed in life; event or phenomenon repeated several times; something in the verse of certain events or phenomena; times. (ASHSH, 1980: 1634); (ASHSH, 2006: 892).

In the Etymological Dictionary of Albanian language, is given this explanation: action or event that happens in life. The word of two dialects. Borrowing from Turkish, dating, with source from the Persian. Word formations: (*rastis, rastisje, rastësi, i rastisshëm, rastësor, rastësisht*- happen, eventuality, coincidence, random, random, randomly), are word formation of the Albanian language with suffix. The bibliographic reference for the source of this word Topalli (1236) marks: Meyer EW 361, Rrota Fj. 56, Boretzky TE II 112, Çabej SE VI 276, Dizdari Fj. 832. (Topalli, 2017: 1236). In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: *rast*, is given with meaning: I meet someone –*rast gelmek*; brings work to the bargain – *rast gitmek*. (Korça, 2009: 518).

**XHEP.** In Albanian Language Dictionary this word is given in terms: The first meaning: A piece of a garment in the form of a sewing bag inside or as a piece of cloth, which serves to carry the items we carry with us or for decoration. The second meaning: *Small separate partition*, sewn on three sides in a purse, suitcase and so on. (ASHSH, 1980: 2198); (ASHSH, 2006: 1209).

In the Etymological Dictionary of Albanian language is given this explanation: Part of a garment, a bag, etc. sewn on three sides where we hold small items. Word used throughout the Albanian language. Loan from Turkish *cep*, sourced from Arabic. The bibliographic reference for the source of this word Topalli marks: Miklosich TEN I 32, Meyer EW 81, Weigand Wört. 16, Boretzky TE II 140, Ndreca 740, Dizdari Fj. 1102. (Topalli, 2017: 1600)

In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: *xhep*, is given with the same meaning as Etymological Dictionary of Albanian language: *cep*. (Korça, 2009: 372).

### 2.3. Some in-between cases

In addition to the extreme cases in Albanian language, there are still uses of Turkish borrowings which, despite having their corresponding words in Albanian, continue to be used by speakers, mainly in dialectal contexts, in the everyday talk or in the professional sphere. For illustration we will give two examples:

**PAZAR** – word of conversational speech, which in its first meaning is completely replaced by the word *market*. In the Explanatory Dictionary of the Albanian language, this word is found in three meanings.

- 1-As a term in commerce: the entirety of *people who buy and sell* in the market.
- 2- Again connected with commercial terms: conversation and *buyer's agreement with the seller* on the price of something; commerce.
- 3- Figurative understanding. *The place* where anyone comes in, mess, great noise (ASHSH, 1980: 1392); (ASHSH, 2006: 766).

Even in the Etymological Dictionary of the Albanian language, for the etymology of this word, is given this explanation: Word used throughout the Albanian language, outdated. Loan from Turkish from the word Bazar, with a source from Persian, which has entered in many European languages. One of the oldest borrowings in this language. It is first proved to Budi. It is also used in Albanian language as a patronym. The bibliographic reference for the source of this word Topalli (1116), marks: Miklosich TE I 258, Meyer EW 29, Weigand Wört. 66, Lokotsch 278, Tavagliani AD 217., Vasmer REW I 39, Stachowski FO X 1968, 56, Boretzky TE II 103, Ndreca 536, Çabej SE VI 157, Dizdari Fj. 755. (Topalli, 2017: 1115-1116). In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: *pazar*, is given with the first meaning as weekday: *Sunday* and the second meaning: *market*. (Korça, 2009: 512)

**PESHQESH.** word of conversational speech, which in its first meaning is completely replaced by the word **gift**. In the Explanatory Dictionary of the Albanian language this word is found with this meaning:

1-Gift given to someone for wedding or other special occasion. (ASHSH, 1980: 1410); (ASHSH, 2006: 777)

In the Etymological Dictionary of the Albanian language, for the etymology of this word, is given this explanation: Word of all language, outdated. Replaced with the word: **gift**. Loan from Turkish from the word *peşkeş*, sourced from the Persian, which has also entered into other languages of Eastern and Southeastern Europe. The bibliographic reference for the source of this word Topalli (1127) marks: Miklosich TEN II 142, Meyer EW 330, Weigand Wört. 67, Lokotsch 1663, Rrota, Fj.51, Mladenov Reč. 421, Boretzky TE II 105, Ndreca 545, Andriotis 195, Çabej SE VI 176, Dizdari Fj. 767. (Topalli, 2017: 1127). In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: *peşkeş*, is given with the meaning **gift**. (Korça, 2009: 513).

**KATRANOS.** In the Explanatory Dictionary of the Albanian language, the word in its first meaning, is completely replaced by the word **tar. Lubricate with tar**, do it with tar. In the second meaning; word of conversational speech, **draggle, defile**. In the third meaning is given again as word of conversational speech: I do a job badly, produce a poor quality product. (ASHSH, 1980: 800); (ASHSH, 2006: 447).

In the Etymological Dictionary of the Albanian language for the etymology of this word, is given this explanation: The word derived *katranos*, "**lubricate with tar**" came from the word **tar**, borrowed from Turkish with an Arabic source, has taken figurative sense of "**doing a bad job, and confuse, destroy**". The bibliographic reference for the source of this word Topalli marks: Miklosich AF II 12, Boretzky TE II 78, Ndreca 380, Dizdari Fj. 522. (Topalli, 2017: 736;1127). In Turkish-Albanian / Albanian -Turkish dictionary, the word: is given with the meaning: **katran- tar**.

### 3. CONCLUSIONS

Turkish borrowings in Albanian language are varied. They have had different developments depending on the need for language concerning those words. There are many loans that have been introduced into the language, have been assimilated and have become part of it, and they have not been replaced with other words in Albanian language.

The foreign elements of the Albanian language in most of them are lexical borrowings, because in grammar and phonetics the impacts are very few and limited.

Some of them are simply embedded and have not given other words in Albanian language, becoming in this way the unproductive themes for Albanian language. On the other hand, there are many Turkish loans, which after entering the Albanian language they have

become part of it, have been subject to language rules in terms of phonetic, morphological and word formation. Although many Turkish borrowings are completely replaced by Albanian-language words, they continue to be used, but mainly in dialectical and provincial dialects, in narrow professional areas and especially for stylistic reasons.

According to scholars, foreign words enrich a certain language. Many foreign words have become the property of the Albanian lexicon and their substitution in other words can not be done anymore. These words have been completely absorbed by the Albanian language and they are no longer distinguished from the other words of the Albanian lexicon. Many words sourced from Turkish in Albanian have taken on a thrilling, generally emotional stylistic function. Some of them are used as stylistic tools for this purpose.

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