



Einladung zum Gastvortrag

von

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The Protestant Movement as a Catalyst of the Albanian National Awakening

(Language: Albanian)

Wednesday, 23 Juni 2021

12:00 - 13:30 s.t.

Online-Meeting: <https://lmu-munich.zoom.us/j/93042939596?pwd=am5zY2tiRW00a3FKeHR4MWczK1FXZz09>

Abstract

Evangelical Protestantism is one of five historic and recognized faith communities in Albania, but it is arguably the least known. Despite the historically small number of Albanian adherents to Protestant Christianity, their contribution to Albanian book culture and education is stunning. In this lecture, David Hosaflook will review his recently published Albanian work, "The Protestant Movement among the Albanians, 1816–1908" (IAPS, 2021) and will explain the unique role Protestant activities played in the culture of a nation struggling with its own identity. The Protestant Movement arrived in Albania when there were no Albanian Protestants, no Albanian Bibles, no Albanian books in circulation, no Albanian schools, and almost no Albanian religious services. In such a context, some Albanian nationalist figures began to perceive the religions of the day as divisive, foreign forces being misused to prevent Albanian unification and to accelerate the Albanians' political assimilation, as the Ottoman Empire weakened and other Balkan nations strengthened. As Evangelical Protestantism produced more Albanian books, Albanian Bibles, Albanian schools, Albanian religious services, Albanian hymns, and Albanian preachers, it began to be recognized as catalyst for the Albanian National Awakening.

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