

**Rexhep Suma PhD (c)**

## **Summary**

### **Media with religious content**

In cooperation with my mentor Prof. Assoc. Dr. Fadil Maloku selected as the subject for the doctoral study "Albanian Media with Religious Content in Kosovo and National Identity". We chose this topic from the fact that to date it has not been a subject of special study. Even in all studies of Communication Sciences there is no study work that has conducted a thorough analysis of this religious periodical. Hence, this paper seeks to fill this gap by analyzing its objective. This contemporary scientific topic remains closely linked to the current developments of our nation and the Albanian culture is another additional reason for selecting this topic. The main goal is the objective recognition of the role played by the press and the religious periodical in terms of the right Islamic, Catholic, cultural, educational, social and national formation of Kosovo Albanians and beyond.

Castells Manuel in his work "The Power of Identity" states that with the most dramatic conflicts that took place during the late twentieth century and the beginning of the 21st century, it was proven that they were caused by the confrontation between opposing identities, which also proved that identity formation is the main poëer of social dynamics.

Indeed, the increased power of identifying discourse charged, but at the same time, fueled politics, liberal democracy, globalization, geopolitics, ie the general social stalemate of the beginning of the 20th century. On the other hand, the rebellion of the nations printed all over the world, the resuscitation of local identities in Latin America, the growing importance of ethnographic movements around the world, the re-emerging territorial and cultural identity, the affirmation of the specifics of female values and the creation of new forms collective and individual identity, indicate that cultural values prevail over determined structuralist interests.

The common denominator of Albanian media (press) with religious content in Kosovo since its inception in 1970 focused on consolidating our national identity. During these decades the press was seen as one of the nationwide domestic needs for highlighting those features that Albanians shared and preserving national identity from the influences and threats of the regime of the former Yugoslavia of Tito. To raise national awareness, the press of this period has used various tools and forms where each one has done this in the form it saw fit. Changing the forms from one

press to another has led to a stirring debate and discussions between publishers, which are reflected and reflected in the press of this period.

To concretize this paper, I have considered some of the main religious bodies of these decades, but also the other press that had a direct impact on the course of cultural and political developments, but the focus is on the Islamic religious press as a case study monthly, religious and scientific magazine "Dituria Islame", but also the Catholic magazine "Drita" for the fact and the specificity of their publications regarding the object of this study. Many intellectuals of the time with their ideas have blossomed the pages of these media where they expressed their stance regarding our national identity and culture.

The writings, intellectuals' analyzes published in these media focus on the preservation and cultivation of national unity, the love of the homeland, the Albanian language for the continuation in the cultivation of those characteristics that differ from our neighbors that from time to time we revoke that discourse that was typical of the authors of the National Renaissance. By researching the numbers of these media like "Edukata Islame", "Dituria Islame", Takvimi, Zani i Naltë, Hëna e Re, Drita, Rilindja, Bujku, Koha Ditore, Epoka e Re, Bota Sot, Zëri, Express we encounter articles where appreciated harmony, tolerance, religious coexistence and patriotism that characterized the Albanian people, but at the same time translated as an incentive to preserve these unique identities of our nation.

The Albanian identity in today's globalization circumstances is an interesting dough for different study approaches It is clear that the rapid changes of the world in the last century, which were accompanied by the progress and rapid development of mass media, have transformed the earth's globe into a global village. In this small global village there is a clash of different national identities on the one hand as an effort to preserve and develop the particulars on the other.

Albanian identity in today's globalization circumstances is an interesting subject for different study approaches. Consequently, at the present time, we have a continuous clash of national identities, on the one hand, as an effort to preserve and develop the peculiarities and, on the other hand, to spread the cultural elements (always when it comes to globalization in this area) globally.

Sociologist Anthony Gidens, conceiving globalization as an intensive inter-communication process, states that "Globalization of social relationships must be understood above all as a

system of time and social space. So our life is more and more under the influence of events that take place far enough away from the social where we do our everyday activities."

In the field of sociology, the categories of science, such as gender, tradition, religion, territory, common ethnopsychology, etc. are used or consumed as identifying elements for the concept of identity. For example, Dirkem's collective being is expressed through religious belief, moral practice, national tradition, and collective thinking.

Therefore, political articulation of national identity was articulated and the most important was the creation of a national state. Crises in the institutional order cause shakes in common human identities, even in some cases, and may even lead to the disintegration of human communities so far, creating spaces for the creation of new identities.

### **The development steps of the chapters**

This doctoral thesis is based on the theoretical and empirical treatment of Albanian media with religious content in Kosovo, namely the magazine "Dituria Islame" and the magazine "Drita" and the contribution and commitment that have offered half a century to this day. The paper is divided into six chapters and is chronologically sorted.

**The first chapter** will present the role of religious media in Kosovo in the 70s of the last century. These printed religious media emerged in the 1970s, by the Islamic Community of the magazine "Edukata Islame", while the magazine "Dituria Islame" (1986) and by the Bishop of Kosovo published the magazine "Drita" which conveyed messages of peace and did not mix in political affairs, but mainly on religious subjects, but had a strong role in proper religious and national information by constantly communicating with the mass and planting tolerance and harmony between the Albanian nation and Kosovo becoming ever more homeland of ecumenism and interreligious dialogue, non-use of violence, and mutual religious understanding. These Islamic or Catholic media even reinforced the idea that Islam and Christianity to Albanians generally remained popular religion, far from intolerance and doctrinal fanaticism.

Then I will present the religious media and their role in the 1980s where I will clarify the role of the religious press played during the 1980s and to see how the Albanian identity values in these media were culminated and the challenge of the measure that faced with the suspension of that

little autonomy of those years. Also discussed are the political and social circumstances of the religious press of this period, as well as the translations from the foreign press languages and the religious content in Kosovo. Then I will deal with the role of journalism in translating the Qur'an and the Bible. One of the most deserving place will be the interfaith tolerance among Albanians as well as the contribution of the religious media in the patriotic plain.

**The second chapter** introduces the freedom of the religious media in the 1990s. In this chapter we notice that before 1990, Kosovo had only one newspaper, a nationwide broadcaster, several specialized publications, and local radio stations in major cities. These media were state-owned and controlled by the socialist authority of the former Yugoslavia, unlike Kosovar media today. After the fall of the iron curtain, the media flourished in most of the eastern European countries during the 1990s. Kosovo had its status as an autonomous self-governing autonomous socialist province enshrined in the 1974 Constitution, which was suppressed in 1989 by Slobodan Milosevic. The forced closure of the media in Albanian language started shortly afterwards.

And this terrible information religious media were mass-information windows and very difficult economic and social circumstances were created and this press attempted to keep alive the national feeling of public opinion. At this stage we explore the form of organizing these media in the period of classical occupation. This chapter is devoted to the freedom or state of the religious media in the 1990s after the daily media in the Albanian language at that time as the Renaissance were closed and studied the circumstances of how this press was found in that period of classical occupation. Then I treated the way they organized them and their goals in this neë position. In these political-social circumstances through which magazines passed in the fifteenth century of its emergence.

Meanwhile in the **third chapter** i presented the informational darkness in Kosovo media during Serbian occupation during the nineties. This chapter parks analyzes how the Albanian media were closed and repercussions began to the religious press that was constantly in the power of the Serbian government. Then there are evidence and evidence of how the Serbian government took decisions in view of anathematization of the press as well as facts from Serbian violence on the religious periodical of this period, which was very sensitive to the Albanian identity. Then the way the Serbian government started poisoning Albanian students, imprisoning Albanian MPs and political leaders, plundering the economy and destroying Albanian cultural objects.

**Chapter Four** addresses the role of religious media and their role in the recent Kosovo War. The religious press has come to the conclusion that it has consistently treated writings and supporting facts about the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) war, as well as the martyrs and personalities of this liberation war in the religious periodic as well as the extraordinary national solidarity regarding the new circumstances which were created after Serbia was carrying out ethnic cleansing and culturosis against the Albanian identity and people. As well as at the end of this chapter, Nato's intervention in Kosovo is reflected.

In the **fifth chapter** of this paper i have dealt with religious media in the period of globalization. This chapter analyzes and explains the role of religious media in the global era for the preservation and development of the Albanian identity. And especially the media or the online press, the various social networks that have to be in the preservation of national substance from diseases of the new millennium such as: extremism, radicalism, Islamophobia, etc. Then we can see where our identity is in the globalization process and how is this press succeeds in maintaining an Albanian sound environment.

**Chapter Six** is the closing chapter of this paper which presents the empirical part of the study where the results analysis and research findings are published. Analyzes of the data resulting from the questionnaire survey conducted in different municipalities of Kosovo with age, gender, occupations, different settlements, and deep interviews with leaders of religious communities will be made. In it we will also have the statistics and their interpretation by accompanying analysis of the findings of the research. Here too, we will have comparative approaches based on responses received from respondents about the topic we are addressing. This includes the recommendations that will come from where scientific research will be at the same time the conclusion of this paper together with surveys and detailed survey plan conducted in the field.

**Key words: Albanian media, cultural identity, national identity, informational darkness, structure, public space, public opinion, sensitization.**