

Marin Barleti

An epic novel of war from the Man Booker International Prize–winning Albanian author who “has been compared to Gogol, Kafka, and Orwell” (The Independent). Ismail Kadare’s *The Siege* dramatizes a fictional fifth century assault by the Ottoman Army on a Christian fortress in the Albanian mountains. As the bloody and psychologically crushing struggle for control unfolds, Kadare’s narrative opens a window onto the eternal clash between religions and empires. His masterful prose brings to life the exhilaration, despair, and immediacy of the battlefield—as well as a dramatic view of those who command and those who fight and die. Hailed by *The New Yorker* as “Albania’s most distinguished novelist,” Kadare is a hero to his countrymen, as well as an outspoken critic of all forms of totalitarianism. Here, with this epic novel, he proves himself “an original voice, universal yet deeply rooted in his own soil” (TheIndependent).

The first English translation of an eyewitness account of the Ottoman sieges of Shkodra (Albania) in 1474 and 1478-79, written by a besieged Shkodran citizen who fought in the battles and would later become a priest in Italy. The book is considered both history and literature, written in classical Latin in 1504 for a Western audience concerned about the advance of the Ottomans into the heart of Europe. It is considered by scholars to be a seminal source of history providing significant details about the Balkans, the Ottoman Empire, the Republic of Venice, the Albanians, Sultan Mehmed II "The Conqueror," religious conflict, late-medieval siege tactics, and the development of weaponry. Though the account is history, it unfolds as a gripping story with all the human drama and pathos that accompanies warfare. Inside are rousing speeches, intense battle scenes, passionate prayers, and counsel for future generations. Barleti and his contemporaries considered Shkodra to be the shield of Europe (indeed this was the final great battle before the Ottomans attacked Otranto in 1480). Barleti's work comprises only 50% of the work, as this edition includes supplemental material such as a foreword by Prof. David Abulafia, Prof. Aleks Buda's historical introduction, "The War of Shkodra" ("Bellum Scodrense") by George Merula, a panegyric to the Venetian Senate by Marin Becikemi, passages from Ottoman chroniclers about the siege (A. Pashazade, Tursun, Kivami, Idris-i Bidlisi, K. Pashazade), and new maps and historical commentary by translator-editor David Hosaflook. "If one were to search for a literary creation wholly worthy of the expression 'monumental work,' it would be hard to find a better example than 'The Siege of Shkodra' by Marin Barleti ... It earned monumentality throughout the centuries ... This is what happens with the great books, the ones that enter the world as grand testimonies. The siege of Shkodra is the final act of a tragedy that would not only alter the face of Albania, but also of all the Balkans and a portion of the continent for nearly six hundred years. --ISMAIL KADARE, renown and revered Albanian author "David Hosaflook has brought vividly back to life an extraordinary chapter from the history of the fifteenth century--a gripping eyewitness account of the Albanian resistance to the advance of the Ottomans into the heart of Europe. Their defense of Shkodra was as heroic and thrilling as the better-known siege of Malta. Barleti's narrative does it full justice, and Hosaflook's translation is both scholarly and highly readable." --ROGER CROWLEY, best-selling author of Mediterranean narrative history such as *Empires of the Sea* and *City of Fortune* "I felt like Howard Carter peering into the tomb of King Tut for the first time when I started reading Hosaflook's masterful new translation of the epic story recounted by Barleti. Beautifully crafted and painstakingly researched, the work fills an important gap and provides unique and compelling new scholarship in the field of Renaissance history." --KIRSTIN DOWNEY, former Washington Post reporter, historical biographer, and author of books such as *The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins* and *Isabella: The Warrior Queen*. "The Ottoman Empire spread into southeastern Europe, with the banners of Islam looming on the horizon. One of the key moments of this expansion,

and a turning point in Albanian history, was the siege of Shkodra in the late fifteenth century. We would know little of the dramatic events were it not for historian Marin Barleti. His account (1504) is a seminal source of Balkan history. The English-speaking reader can now finally savour this gripping tale, in the flowing rendition of David Hosaflook." --ROBERT ELSIE, author and specialist in Albanian studies

According to legend the Constantinian Order is the oldest chivalric institution, founded by Emperor Constantine the Great and governed by successive Byzantine Emperors and their descendants. While this chronology was supported by multiple writers even into the twentieth century, it has little historical basis. Nonetheless, the Angeli, Farnese and Bourbon families which held the Grand Mastership could legitimately claim Byzantine imperial descent, albeit in the female line, and the Order's cross replicates that seen by Constantine in the vision recorded by both Lactantius and Eusebius, writing very soon after Maximian's defeat at the battle of the Milvian Bridge. The Order's emergence in the middle of the sixteenth century, when Christian Europe was under assault from a militant Ottoman empire, gained Papal support almost immediately and by the end of the seventeenth century the Order had members across the Italian peninsula, in Spain, Bavaria, Austria and Bohemia, Croatia and Poland. Today the majority of the Order's members are found in Italy and Spain but there are also members in Portugal, France, Belgium, Great Britain and Luxembourg, with smaller groups in the Netherlands, Germany and Sweden as well as an expanding membership in the United States. This work examines the conversion of Constantine and the histories of the Angeli, Farnese and Bourbon Grand Masterships, with extensive reference to hitherto unpublished documents in the Vatican archives and in the Farnese and Bourbon archives in Naples. These serve to confirm the close relationship the Order had with the Church and the high regard in which it was held by successive Popes, as well as its autonomy as a subject of canon law independent from any crown or temporal sovereignty. This unique status has enabled its hereditary Grand Masters to maintain this dignity after the absorption of the former Kingdom of the Two Sicilies into a united Italy. The Order's autonomy, coupled with the Grand Master's close links to the Spanish Crown, has meant that Spanish and Italian citizens (as well as the citizens of several other states which have accorded the Order recognition) may obtain official permission to wear the Order's decorations. 2018 is the three hundredth anniversary of the Papal Bull *Militantis Ecclesiae* which confirmed and approved the previous Papal acts concerning the Order and laid out the rights and privileges of the Order, its Grand Masters and members. In the early 20th century Pope Saint Pius X and Benedict XV conferred further privileges on the Order, approving the statutes, while the then future Pope Pius XII had been admitted to the Order in 1913. Today the Order is engaged in works of charity, in conformity with the Church's teachings, and includes among its members some thirteen Cardinals as well as some thirty members of reigning or former reigning families.

Albania and Kosovo have long, fascinating histories of connection with the wider European world. These essays explore this history from the 15th century to the 20th, through stories of Italian pilgrims, British diplomats, Albanian village girls converting to Islam, Muslims practising secret Christianity, and Ottoman men enslaving fellow citizens.

The bibliography volume of the three-volume *East Looks West: East European Travel Writing in Europe* collates travel writing published in book form by east Europeans travelling in Europe from ca. 1550 to 2000. It is intended as a fundamental research tool, collecting together travel writings within each national/linguistic tradition, and enabling comparative analysis of such material. It fills an important gap in the existing reference literature, both in western and east European languages, and will be of use to those working in the growing fields of comparative travel writing, regional and national identities, and postcolonialism. These texts exist in surprisingly large numbers, and include writings of high literary quality as well as of historical interest, but they have been relatively little studied as a genre. Much of this material is rare and

difficult to find, even in national libraries. As a result, there are few bibliographical surveys of the literature of east European travel and self-representation, and none that are region-wide or comparative in scope. This is the third volume of a three-part set of East Looks West, Vol. 1 - An Anthology of East European Travel Writing on Europe; and Vol. 2 - A Comparative Introduction to East European Travel Writing on Europe.

Migration studies is an area of increasing significance in musicology as in other disciplines. How do migrants express and imagine themselves through musical practice? How does music help them to construct social imaginaries and to cope with longings and belongings? In this study of migration music in postsocialist Albania, Eckehard Pistrick identifies links between sound, space, emotionality and mobility in performance, provides new insights into the controversial relationship between sound and migration, and sheds light on the cultural effects of migration processes. Central to Pistrick's approach is the essential role of emotionality for musical creativity which is highlighted throughout the volume: pain and longing are discussed not as a traumatising end point, but as a driving force for human action and as a source for cultural creativity. In addition, the study provides a fascinating overview about the current state of a rarely documented vocal tradition in Europe that is a part of the mosaic of Mediterranean singing traditions. It refers to the challenges imposed onto this practice by heritage politics, the dynamics of retraditionalisation and musical globalisation. In this sense the book constitutes an important study to the dynamics of postsocialism as seen from a musicological perspective. Albania is not well known by outsiders; it was deliberately closed to the outside world during the communist era. Now it has thankfully become free again, its borders are open and it can be visited, and it is increasingly integrating with the rest of Europe and beyond. Unfortunately, Albania has had its share of problems in the post-communist era; it's a land of destitution and despair, thanks in part to the Albanian mafia, which has turned the country into one of blood-feuds, kalashnikovs, and eternal crises. Yet, Albania is, in essence, a European nation like any other and will soon, it is to be hoped, advance and take its proper place in Europe and the world. The second edition of the Historical Dictionary of Albania relates the history of this little-known country through a detailed chronology, an introduction, a bibliography, appendixes, and over 700 cross-referenced dictionary entries on significant persons, places, and events; institutions and organizations; and political, economic, social, cultural, and religious facets. CD and DVD contain audio and video examples.

A study of writing, publishing and marketing history books in the early modern period. This volume compares the different conceptions of the rule of law that have developed in different legal cultures. It describes the social purposes and practical applications of the rule of law and how it might be improved in the varied circumstances.

Albanian communities have been in existence in Sicily for over 500 years. Albanians have been living in Sicily since the 15th century. They have preserved their language and traditions that pre-date the arrival of the Ottomans in the Balkans. This volume is about the descendants of the Albanians who left their Balkan homelands when they were invaded by the Ottoman Turks in the 15th century. Known as the Arbereshe in Sicily and the other parts of Italy where they settled, many of the descendants of these refugees have managed to continue their Albanian traditions, culture, and language whilst integrating harmoniously with their Italian neighbours. In this book, Adam Yamey describes his visit to the Sicilian Arbereshe people and illustrates it with a profusion of fascinating photographs. Combining personal observation with in-depth research, this - at times entertaining, and always informative - personal travelogue is one of only a few books in English about Sicily's Albanians.

The Siege of Shkodra
Albania's Courageous Stand Against Ottoman Conquest, 1478
David Hosaflook

The first study of English historical plays about the Turks, using works in Greek, Arabic, and Turkish. Drawing on Bakhtin's concept of the dialogic, McJannet shows that instead of adverse

authorial commentary playwrights such as Marlowe and Fulke Greville use dialogue and commentary to enhance the sultan's stature and mitigate his negative acts.

This is the first comprehensive, multidisciplinary, and multilingual bibliography on "Women and Gender in East Central Europe and the Balkans (Vol. 1)" and "The Lands of the Former Soviet Union (Vol. 2)" over the past millennium. The coverage encompasses the relevant territories of the Russian, Hapsburg, and Ottoman empires, Germany and Greece, and the Jewish and Roma diasporas. Topics range from legal status and marital customs to economic participation and gender roles, plus unparalleled documentation of women writers and artists, and autobiographical works of all kinds. The volumes include approximately 30,000 bibliographic entries on works published through the end of 2000, as well as web sites and unpublished dissertations. Many of the individual entries are annotated with brief descriptions of major works and the tables of contents for collections and anthologies. The entries are cross-referenced and each volume includes indexes.

The Siege of Shkodra is a book written by a Shkodran priest, Marin Barleti (also known as Marinus Barletius), about the Ottoman siege of Shkodra in 1478, led personally by Mehmed II, and about the joint resistance of the Albanians and the Venetians. The book also discusses the Ottoman siege of Shkodra in 1474. The book was originally published in 1504, in Latin, as *De obsidione Scodrensi*. Barleti was an eyewitness of the events. The English version was published in Albania by Onufri Publishing House in 2012, coinciding with the 100th anniversary of Albania's declaration of independence. The work was translated by David Hosaflook and includes translations of Buda's introduction and notes, Merula's "The War of Shkodra," and Becikemi's panegyric. It also includes accounts of the siege of Shkodra from early Ottoman historians, new scholarly notes, the historical context by Prof. David Abulafia, new maps based on the information in the book, and appendixes including Barleti's chronology of battle events. - Wikipedia.

Stalinism, that particularly brutal phase of the Communist experience, came to an end in most of Europe with the death of Stalin in 1953. However, in one country - Albania - Stalinism survived virtually unscathed until 1990. The regime that the Albanian dictator Enver Hoxha led from 1944 until his death in 1985 was incomparably severe. Such was the reign of terror that no audible voice of opposition or dissent ever arose in the Balkan state and Albania became isolated from the rest of the world and utterly inward-looking. Three decades after his death, the spectre of Hoxha still lingers over the country, yet many people - inside and outside Albania - know little about the man who ruled the country with an iron fist for so many decades. This book provides the first biography of Hoxha available in English. Using unseen documents and first-hand interviews, journalist Blendi Fevziu pieces together the life of a tyrannical ruler in a biography which will be essential reading for anyone interested in Balkan history and communist studies.

Christian-Muslim Relations, a Bibliographical History, volume 8 (CMR 8) is a history of everything that was written on relations in the period 1600-1700 in Northern and Eastern Europe. Its detailed entries contain descriptions, assessments and comprehensive bibliographical details about individual works.

Drawing on new scholarship, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Woman Behind the New Deal* presents a biography of Isabella of Castile, the controversial Queen of Spain who sponsored Christopher Columbus' journey to the New World, established the Spanish Inquisition and became one of the most influential female rulers in history. Simultaneous.

When the Ottomans commenced their modernizing reforms in the 1830s, they still ruled over a vast empire. In addition to today's Turkey, including Anatolia and Thrace, their power reached over Mesopotamia, North Africa, the Levant, the Balkans, and the

Caucasus. The Sultanate was at the apex of a truly multi-ethnic society. Modernization not only brought market principles to the economy and more complex administrative controls as part of state power, but also new educational institutions as well as new ideologies. Thus new ideologies developed and nationalism emerged, which became a political reality when the Empire reached its end. This book compares the different intellectual atmospheres between the pre-republican and the republican periods and identifies the roots of republican authoritarianism in the intellectual heritage of the earlier period.

Innovation, skills, entrepreneurship and social cohesion are key drivers of growth. Each has a strong governance component, which is analysed in this OECD book.

The widespread opinion is that Northrop Frye's influence reached its zenith in the 1960s and 1970s, after which point he became obsolete, his work buried in obscurity. This almost universal opinion is summed up in Terry Eagleton's 1983 rhetorical question, "Who now reads Frye?" In *The Reception of Northrop Frye*, Robert D. Denham catalogues what has been written about Frye – books, articles, translations, dissertations and theses, and reviews – in order to demonstrate that the attention Frye's work has received from the beginning has progressed at a geomantic rate. Denham also explores what we can discover once we have a fairly complete record of Frye's reception in front of us – such as Hayden White's theory of emplotments applied to historical writing and Byron Almén's theory of musical narrative. The sheer quantity of what has been written about Frye reveals that the only valid response to Eagleton's rhetorical question is "a very large and growing number," the growth being not incremental but exponential.

"This academic and personal journey into Albania's post-communist society examines the links between internal and international migration in one of Europe's poorest countries. The author follows rural migrants to urban destination both within Albania and in neighboring Greece. Their lives and experiences are captured in 150 interviews, alongside group discussions and the ethnographic observations. This rich empirical material is analysed with reference to an extensive body of literature. The author's own experience as migrant and reflections as a researcher studying her own communities of origin add valuable insights. The result is a demonstration of the complexity of the links between internal and international migration, especially from a development perspective."--back cover.

The question of the (photographic) construction and representation of national identity is not limited to the 'long 19th century', but is a current issue in the post-colonial, post-global, digital world. The essays by international contributors aim at studying the relationship between photographic archives and the idea of nation, yet without focusing on single symbolic icons and instead considering the wider archival and sedimental dimension.

This book provides a comprehensive examination of the Albanian Student Movement of 1990–1991. To date, there are no thorough studies of the first year of the post-Communist transition in Albania, which constitutes the most critical period of transition. The lessons to be learned are vast and of great importance to the debates on social movements, mobilization, and transition. Renowned scholars of modern Albanian history, led by the former leader of the Albanian Student Movement, Shinasi A. Rama, provide a study of the critical role played by this movement in the political

transformation of Albania from a totalitarian cult-state to a multiparty political system during 1990–1991. Their informed analyses combined with first-hand knowledge of the events during a key period of Albanian history shed light on the Student Movement, its ideology, values, contributions, and its relationship to the system and to the ruling caste. The authors come to the core conclusion that the Student Movement remained an independent player that achieved change in the political system at a crucial juncture. *The End of Communist Rule in Albania* is a much-needed contribution in the fields of social movements, democratization studies, Communist and Post-Communist politics, and Albanian Studies.

Crusades covers seven hundred years from the First Crusade (1095-1102) to the fall of Malta (1798) and draws together scholars working on theatres of war, their home fronts and settlements from the Baltic to Africa and from Spain to the Near East and on theology, law, literature, art, numismatics and economic, social, political and military history. Routledge publishes this journal for The Society for the Study of the Crusades and the Latin East. Particular attention is given to the publication of historical sources in all relevant languages - narrative, homiletic and documentary - in trustworthy editions, but studies and interpretative essays are welcomed too. *Crusades* appears in both print and online editions.

This book focuses on contemporary Albanian poetry, given the important role it has continuously played in Albanian literature as a whole. It analyses particular literary periods and their representative poets from a comparative perspective. It raises meaningful questions that point to particularly interesting features of Albanian literature that call for in-depth study, taking into account research conducted in this field over the years by both Albanian and foreign scholars. However, this book's focus on comparative literature and the perspectives that this academic practice offers for so-called small, marginal literatures in the realm of European literatures allows for a different and unique analysis. It provides both an introduction and a well-structured approach to contemporary Albanian literature and to some of the problems that it faces in today's global context when national literatures, and especially those from the margins, have to reconsider their role and position in world literature. As such, the book will be of interest to scholars in the fields of comparative literature, East and South-Eastern European literature, Albanian literature, Balkan studies, poetry studies, and cultural studies, among others.

Approximately five million people worldwide speak Albanian. The opening of Albania in the 1990s to broader trading and diplomatic relations with other nations has created a need for better knowledge of the language and culture of this country. This book teaches the student to communicate in everyday situations in the language, with each chapter introducing a new situational context. Students learn to discuss work, vacations, health, and entertainment. Students also learn to practice basic skills such as shopping, ordering tickets, and renting an apartment. Upon completing this textbook, students will be at the A2/B1 level of proficiency on the scale provided by the Common European

Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The textbook includes: • eighteen lessons based on real-life situations, including three review lessons • dialogues to help introduce vocabulary and grammatical structures • comprehension questions and exercises • related readings at the end of each chapter • full translations for all examples discussed in grammar sections • a series of appendixes with numerous charts summarizing main classes of nouns, adjectives, and verbs • an appendix with the solutions to most of the exercises in the book • a glossary with all the words in the dialogs and readings.

This book presents the most comprehensive coverage of the field of Indo-European Linguistics in a century, focusing on the entire Indo-European family and treating each major branch and most minor languages. The collaborative work of 120 scholars from 22 countries, Handbook of Comparative and Historical Indo-European Linguistics combines the exhaustive coverage of an encyclopedia with the in-depth treatment of individual monographic studies.

Covers Albania, Andorra, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Macedonia, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey, and Yugoslavia. Included are chapters on Tunisia and Morocco, two North Africa countries that are often added to European travel itineraries. There are also maps for many cities and towns, and all the practical information travellers have come to expect from Lonely Planet.

The book will survey the recent development and current “state of the art” of political science in post-communist Central and Eastern Europe. It will comprise (a) three comparative overviews: Political Science and Regime Change in East-Central Europe from the 20th to the 21st Century; Analytical and Normative Elements in Political Science Approaches: Is there a Specific Central-East European Pattern?; Political Science Associations in East-Central Europe: How Important, how much International Cooperation?; (b) 20 detailed and comparable country reports: Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, and Ukraine; (c) a chapter on the European Confederation of Political Science Associations. The country reports will include tables on political science faculty, students with political science as a major, and sub-fields taught at both state and private universities (as per the end of 2008).

They will cover the following topics: Institutionalization of the discipline; achievements, deficits, prevailing approaches, and funding of research in the discipline’s sub-fields; curricula, admission regulation, and degree system in political science teaching; national representation and international cooperation (major journals and published books, political science associations, international links); public impact of the discipline, labor market, challenges and opportunities. This book represents a group of individual musical essays collected under common Albanian themes, with a particular focus on historical identities and traditional musical performance. It shows that, at the beginning of the 18th century, there was a growing interest in representing the Albanian hero

Scanderbeg on the operatic stage, as some well-known composers of baroque music began to place a greater emphasis on music's dramatic power to elicit emotional response. The book also notes that this sense of drama was also incorporated into the vocal forms such as opera.

Histories of the Turks were a central means through which English authors engaged in intellectual and cultural terms with the Ottoman Empire, its advance into Europe following the capture of Constantinople (1454), and its continuing central European power up to the treaty of Karlowitz (1699). *Writing the Ottomans* examines historical writing on the Turks in England from 1480-1700. It explores the evolution of this discourse from its continental roots, and its development in response to moments of military crisis such as the Long War of 1593-1606 and the War of the Holy League 1683-1699, as well as Anglo-Ottoman trade and diplomacy throughout the seventeenth century. From the writing of central authors such as Richard Knolles and Paul Rycaut, to lesser known names, it reads English histories of the Turks in their intellectual, religious, political, economic and print contexts, and analyses their influence on English perceptions of the Ottoman world.

An illustrated political and social magazine.

Christian-Muslim Relations, a Bibliographical History 9 (CMR 9) is a history of everything that was written on relations in the period 1600-1700 in Western and Southern Europe. Its detailed entries contain descriptions, assessments and comprehensive bibliographical details about individual works.

This book presents original contributions on the theories and practices of emerging Internet, data and Web technologies and their applicability in businesses, engineering and academia, focusing on advances in the life-cycle exploitation of data generated from the digital ecosystem data technologies that create value, e.g. for businesses, toward a collective intelligence approach. The Internet has become the most proliferative platform for emerging large-scale computing paradigms. Among these, data and web technologies are two of the most prominent paradigms and are found in a variety of forms, such as data centers, cloud computing, mobile cloud, and mobile Web services. These technologies together create a digital ecosystem whose cornerstone is the data cycle, from capturing to processing, analyzing and visualizing. The investigation of various research and development issues in this digital ecosystem are made more pressing by the ever-increasing requirements of real-world applications that are based on storing and processing large amounts of data. The book is a valuable resource for researchers, software developers, practitioners and students interested in the field of data and web technologies.

The Companion to Central and Eastern European Humanism: The Czech Lands is the first reference work on humanists and their literary activities in this region to appear in English. It provides biographical and bibliographical data about humanist literary life between c. 1480 and 1630, in two volumes, organised alphabetically by authors' names. This first volume includes three introductory chapters together with more than 130 biographical entries covering the letters A-L and a complete overview of the most recent research on humanism in Central Europe. The interdisciplinary research team behind this Companion paid particular attention to local approaches to the classical

tradition, to humanistic multilingualism and to Bohemian authors' participation in European scholarly networks. The Companion is a highly relevant resource for all academics who are interested in humanism and the history of early modern literature in Central Europe.

The concept of 'culture' is a relatively modern invention. It stems from the Latin term *cultura* meaning cultivation. Cicero was the first to use this word in a non-agricultural context. In his *Tusculanae Disputationes* he reflected on the 'cultivation of the soul' (*cultura animi*). Later this term was rarely used in this sense but as of the 17th century more and more authors considered culture an intellectual and not an agricultural phenomenon. Samuel Pufendorf (1632–1694) described culture as a vehicle overcoming natural barbarism. He was followed by German philosophers of culture. Johann Gottfried Herder (1744–1803) argued that human creativity was as important as human rationality and called attention to national cultures. The works of German romantic philosophers were mainly focused on the specificity of the German culture, a factor that was to unite divided German statehoods. At the same time, however, Herder and his followers noticed other national cultures, including first of all those of East and Central Europe. It is therefore noteworthy that the early philosophical reflection on culture was closely connected with the specific traditions of East and Central Europeans.

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