

**THE BYZANTINE CODICES: *BERATINUS-1* & *BERATINUS-2*, TWO CULTURAL TREASURES FROM THE CITY OF BERAT. FROM THE BEGINNING – TODAY ON THE LIST OF “*MÉMOIRE DU MONDE*”, UNESCO (PART I)**

**Stefanka Kokoli<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> PhD. cand. in Culture Heritage  
Faculty of History – Philology  
University of Tirana

**ALBANIA (SHQIPËRI)**

E-mail: [stefanka2010@hotmail.com](mailto:stefanka2010@hotmail.com)

**Iris Klosi<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>2</sup> PhD. in Cultural Studies and  
Linguistics, Associate Professor cand. of  
Foreign Languages Faculty, Professor in  
English Department, University of Tirana

**ALBANIA (SHQIPËRI)**

E-mail: [iriskokoli78@yahoo.com](mailto:iriskokoli78@yahoo.com)

**ABSTRACT**

It is a well known fact that in the entirety of the records of cultural and historic heritage the codices of the Christian cult hold an important place. They can make every people feel proud in terms of their number, time of writing, values and conservation by their believers. In this paper, I aim at providing an historical overview on two of the earliest codices retained in Albania, like a heritage from the period of Paleo-Christianity. The first part focuses on the spread of Christianity, as an illegal religion in Albania; then the second part describes the first researches made about the codices, followed by a chronological table. The third part: Christianity (now a legal religion), and Albania being divided into four periods and contains a description on two codices. A further research (part IV) is a study about Medieval Period in Albania. It will be continued to the second part of the paper.

**Keywords:** codex, Berat, Paleo-Christianity, heritage, culture, parchment.