Lapidari 1: Texts

Jonida Gashi

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Circular to the Prefectural Executive Committee (Section Education): Regarding Lapidars

People’s Republic of Albania, Ministry of Education, Directorate of Culture

Our National Liberation War has truly been a war of the masses, such that there is no village, neighborhood, and road left where it did not leave its traces. ¹ It is our duty that they immortalize this holy and heroic war of our people. We have to realize that each traveller, wherever he may pass, may say: “Here has been fought.”

How to make sure that our people and especially the future generations may forever consider the large sacrifices with which the freedom that we enjoy was won?

In the first place we have to immortalize the hundreds and thousands of names of our martyrs. Our government will directly take care of this and has to give all its assistance to the initiative of the people and organizations in this direction.

This Ministry thinks that at the initiative of the Prefectural Section of Education and the Subprefectural Sections of Education commemorative signs in the form of lapidars are to be erected, in all places where martyrs have fallen. Similar lapidars, but larger in form, are to be erected in the places where our battles have been waged.

These lapidars feature the martyr’s name, date of birth, date of death, and possibly also some other characteristics. For the lapidars on battle fields the plaque features the place name, army unit, the number of fallen martyrs, etc.

The material taken from destruction of the lapidars that fascism has left in our country is to be used for the construction of these lapidars.

For the erection of the lapidars attention is to paid to differentiate between those that have fallen as martyrs and those that have been killed accidentally by some mortar or in a different way, but without having taking part in the war.

The Clerk of Culture should compile a list of places where martyrs have fallen or battles have been waged, where lapidars will be erected, starting with the most the important ones.

¹ AQSH, f. 511 v. 1946 d. 43, p. 1, dated August 6, 1946.