



REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO  
MUNICIPALITY OF SKENDERAJ



*Welcome to municipality of*  
***SKENDERAJ***



***Dear readers,***

I have the honor to address you as the Mayor of Skenderaj Municipality. Since November 2007 from when I am nominated to such position, I feel very much privileged for the amazing and extraordinary support given to me by my fellow citizens. Since my candidacy for the head of the municipality, I have felt a special respect to each one of the citizens, being aware of their commitment and efforts by which they were led and challenged over times having in consideration also their spiritual dignity and purity to defy all the difficulties of the time. It is not that I invent something new when I say that as a municipality, we had no chance to inherit any prior economic or infrastructure development. Until the liberation of Kosovo, our municipality is faced not only with the economic and infrastructure development stagnation but also with terrible reprisals and barbaric violence exercised towards us. Throughout their history, the people of Skenderaj had only one fundamental pillar upon which they have hung their entire existence, and such pillar was their invincible dignity and pride as native citizens in this country.



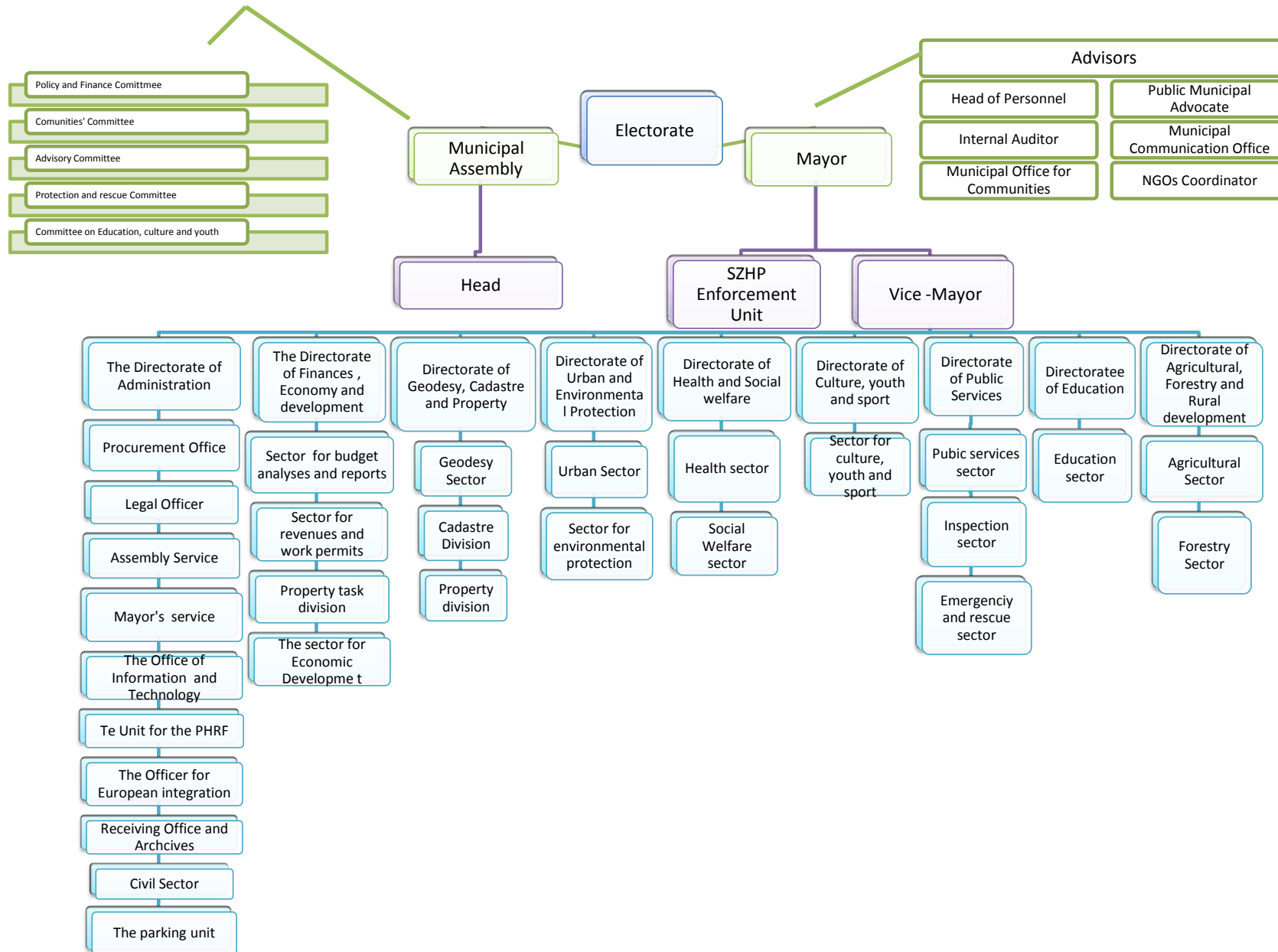
After the war, Skenderaj Municipality besides the infrastructural destruction remained also with deep following wounds and trauma. We took the responsibility and duty with our utmost efforts to help our citizens to overcome the trauma and pain, heal the wounds of the past. Engaging my personal commitment, but also with the help of all municipal development sectors representatives and beyond, we jointly have worked to increase our citizens' welfare. My special and continuous dedication, commitment and respect go to the remembrance and respect for our unforgettable past. While appreciating highly the freedom we enjoy, we aim to focus in building our future. After the war, over 90% of Skenderaj Municipality was destroyed. At this stage, for us, our immediate duty was to establish human and material resources, improve the planning, management, implementation and networking of a wide variety of projects and investments.

Dear readers, the success of the Municipality of Skenderaj is also shown by the evaluation reports and awards given by various local and international organizations, but still my highest gratefulness and appreciation go to the Skenderaj Municipality citizens, who have shown their steadfast trust towards me and the municipal administration. Highest merits of our objectives' accomplishments and achievements bear to the Drenica's citizens who every day proves worthy their determined path towards a prosperous future. Personally I thank my people in front of whom I will always bow with pride. And my dear visitors, I wish you:

***Welcome to our historical Drenica!***

With respect,

**Sami LUSHTAKU - SKENDERAJ Municipality Mayor**



**KOSOVO'S MAP**  
the Focus on Skenderaj Municipality



**THE MAP OF SKENDERAJ MUNICIPALITY**



Skenderaj Municipality as a territory is located in the central part of Kosovo, in an air distance of 30 km northwest of the Kosovo capital city. It lies in the Drenica valley, between the plain of Kosova and Dukagjini and is a bridge between these two planes.

## THE DIRECTORATES' DIRECTORS OF SKENDERAJ MUNICIPALITY



**Ismet Salihu**  
Chairman of the Assembly



**Sami Lushtaku**  
Municipality President



**Fadil Nura**  
Vicepresident



**Feriz Zeqiri**  
Director of Culture,  
Youth and Sport



**Halim Gecaj**  
Director of Geodesy,  
Catastre and Property



**Osman Veliu**  
Director of the Directory for  
Health and Social Welfare



**Lulzim Kadriu**  
Director of Administration



**Shemsi Maksuti**  
Director of Public Services



**Musa Lushtaku**  
Director of Agricultural, Forestry  
and Rural development



**Jashar Lushtaku**  
Director of Education



**Hasan Shala**  
Director of Urban Planning and  
Environmental Protection



**Ismet Aliu**  
Director of Finances, economy  
and development



## SKENDERAJ MUNICIPALITY

Skenderaj Municipality is determined for a democratic and effective leadership and aims to raise citizen participation in public events in the municipality, the Assembly meetings and hearings on the budget, so it stands committed to advance the knowledge of municipal officials for raising the level of communication between municipal administration and citizens by applying a comprehensive approach to all community group levels including women, youth and minorities which will result in providing timely and effective services' provisions to all. In recent years Skenderaj Municipality had substantial rapid development investments, with particular focuses on Infrastructure sectors, as well as rural and urban ones.

Honored citizens of Skenderaj Municipality are Rexhep Qosja and Erhard Buhler.



The new building of Skenderaj Municipality

### The Skenderaj Municipality functions under the following organizational structure:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Mayor</li> <li>• The Directorate of Culture, Youth and Sport</li> <li>• The Directorate of Education</li> <li>• The Directorate of Administration</li> <li>• The Directorate of Geodesy, Cadastre and property</li> <li>• The Directorate of Public Services</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The directorate of Urban Planning and Environmental protection</li> <li>• The Directorate of Health and Social Welfare</li> <li>• The Directorate of Agricultural, Forestry and Rural development</li> <li>• Director of Finances and Economic Development</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

Local Governance in Skenderaj Municipality is divided into Executive and Legislative bodies. The executive body consists of the Mayor's Office and the relevant Directorates, while the Legislative Body consists of the Municipal Assembly. The Municipal Assembly is the highest body of the municipality and it consists of its elected members while the Municipality Mayor leads the Executive (Municipal Administration) managing the relevant departments that provide various fields' services to the citizens. Skenderaj local government respect the subsidiary principles and the principle of good governance by strengthening the participation of citizens in decision-making processes, efficient and transparent service delivery to citizens, respect for human rights, including minority rights, etc. Municipal Assembly represents the legislative branch of the Municipality and has the responsibility to monitor the municipal executive bodies such as the Mayor and Municipal Administration. Legitimacy and effectiveness of the Municipal Assembly as an instrument of monitoring and control forces the executive bodies to work in line with respective procedures in respect of the relevant and legally binding frameworks arising from the Law on Local Self-Government in Kosovo.

Skenderaj Municipal Assembly consists of 31 members coming from 4 different parties who are elected by the citizens' votes that represent their interests at the local level. Effectiveness of the Municipal Assembly performance is being evaluated each year by the Ministry of Administration in order to assess the implementation of the Law on Local Self-Government. Therefore, Kosovo Municipalities' Monitoring Report -2011 (Ministry of Local Administration – The Monitoring Report on Local Government of Kosovo Municipalities, 2011) assesses positively the work and performance of Skenderaj Municipality while the report states that all legal obligations are met.

## HISTORY

In an area of 378 km<sup>2</sup>, lying in the center of Drenica, Municipality of Skenderaj is bounded on the north by the municipality of Mitrovica and Zubin Potok, east on Vushtrri, southeast of Drenas (Glogovac), south on Malisheva, southwest of Klina while in the west to Burim (Istog). This area of 37, 439, and 83 ha, has over 40% of arable land. Territory of Skenderaj has a hilly and mountainous configuration with average altitude of 500-700m, while the highest point is being represented by the top of Qyqavica with a height of 1, 117 m.

Besides the Skenderaj city, this municipality consists of 52 rural settlements. In Skenderaj Municipality, there are 51, 317 inhabitants with 10, 311 dwellings and with 7,743 households. Based on archival sources, Skenderaj is an area which dates back to ancient Illyrian times and has an ancient history, especially with Runiku as an early Neolithic locality, new Syrigana – wit the ancient and medieval castle and Tushilla – the medieval monument called – “Gjytet” “the City”.

In Skenderaj Municipality, the population structure divided by age is as following: 47% from 0-20 years, 48% of them from 20-60 years, and 5% of the population is over 60 years. In every historical benchmark, Skenderaj Municipality is recognized as a well-known area for national resistance against all kinds of invaders. Its population was likely not be subjected to any invader regardless of its power, while always having the motivation to protect the ethnic territories motif. So Skenderaj is considered to be one of the most rebel areas of all Albanian territories.

The population of this area went through many wars and battles and there were brave heroes who left their mark in history, such as **Hasan Prishtina, Ahmet Delia, Azem and Shotë Galiza, Tahir Meha** etc... Adem and Hamëz Jashari from the last liberation war etc.. As a sign of the glorious history of the last war, nowadays upon Prekazi area illuminates “Adem Jashari ‘ Memorial Complex.

Recent national resistance against the Serbian authorities began precisely in this region. Prekazi is the place that symbolizes the heroic resistance and the Albanian struggle for freedom, since the end of the war becoming the most visited historic village of the entire area.





## SKENDERAJ MUNICIPALITY TOWERS





### Ahmet Delia Tower

Ahmet Delija was born in 1850 in Prekazi i Epërm, and died heroically in Prekaz of Drenica in February, 1913. Ahmet Delia Tower has been one of the patriots' gathering places where various national Albanian assemblies were held in which besides Hasan Prishtina there were other prominent figures of the Albanian nation who took part in such meetings.

The tower has been revamped to keep alive the memory of this patriot, who gave his sacrifice to protect the life, honor the morale of his people.



### The Meha Tower

**Tahir Meha** was born on October 10, 1943 in Prekaz and died on May 13, 1981. He comes from a family of patriots, which was known for political activities against the system of the existing regime. This Tower was known as Mehaj's Tower and belonged to Tahir's father Nebih. Tahir struggled strongly against the Yugoslav conquering system and on May 13, 1981 as a result of this confrontation, he was killed by Yugoslav police forces. Due to Yugoslav media of that time, during the battle, Tahir killed 9 and injured 2 policemen. Tahir's grandfather, Emin Lati together with Azem Bejta, were members of the Kosovo National Liberation Movement. After the assassination of Azem Bejta, Emini kept Azem's rifle and in 1941 handed it over to his son Nebih in order to protect with it the honor of Kosovo's Sanxhak which was also part of the Albanian territory and its history. Azem Bejta's rifle in Nebih's hands gleamed also in Drenicas war led by Shaban Polluzha. It also shined in Tahir Meha's war.







### Adem Jashari Tower

Adem Jashari was born in Prekaz, November 28, 1955. He is one of the leaders of Kosovo Liberation Army. Together with his brother Hamza, Adem took part in Jashari war against the Serbian police and military forces. Yugoslav police forces and the Yugoslav Army attacked his house in March 1998, where Adem Jashari and his family fought heroically against them. During the attack he was killed together with 56 members of his family. This is a unique case in the history of wars. He holds the title of "KLA Legendary Commander." The title "Hero of Kosovo" was awarded to him in 2008 by the Prime Minister of Kosovo.



### Ilaz Kodra Tower

Ilaz Kodra comes from the village of Prekaz, Skenderaj Municipality. During the war he was warrior and Commander of 114 Brigade. Ilazi fought against the conquerors in all wars of Drenica and its surroundings. Fighting bravely, he was killed by the Serbian army forces in the village of Shtuticë.



## The Adem Jashari Memorial Complex

“Adem Jashari” Memorial Complex is located in Prekaz, where besides the houses that actually are turned into museums, there are all the graves of Jashari family members died during the war. Taking into consideration the necessity of putting the protection of this area under special national interest, which for the citizens of Kosovo has ontological, anthropological, historical and cultural importance, the Kosovo Assembly approves the law for declaring the “Adem Jashari” Memorial Complex an area of special national interest.

Close to the graves of the three martyrs of this family such as Shaban, Hamez and Adem Jashari is guarding KSF Guard, which honors the Legendary Commander and all family Jasharaj members. For 12 years after the war, it is believed that the memorial complex was visited by millions of Albanian citizens from all ethnic territories, and millions of visitors from the region.









## KLA Headquarters in Likovc

Kosovo Liberation Army - KLA began its military activities while forming the Commanding Zones headed by the KLA Headquarters the political leader of which was elected Hashim Thaçi and General Agim Çeku its Commander. KLA Headquarters was a location of the General KLA soldiers in which there were many historic decisions undertaken and besides the military organization there were many important meetings held there with the participation also of many international policy representatives. Within this staff was also established military hospital who gave an irreplaceable contribution to support the soldiers but also civilians. KLA headquarters in Likovc was an important «artery» that served for supplying and distributing the weapons to KLA soldiers.

It is worth noting that in KLA Headquarter, although under those extraordinary circumstances, it was Cultural and Artistic Group named «Hamez Jashari» that performed aiming to keep alive the artistic life in such war times.

In the occasion of the liberation tenth anniversary celebration, in Likoc of Skenderaj, it was inaugurated the location of Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA HQ) premises. Renovation of these premises has been made thanks to the initiative of Skenderaj Municipality j and in particular the Mayor Mr. Sami Lushtaku who during the war was the commander of the Drenica Operational Area.



## National Martyrs' Memorial in Marina

In a colossal slab located of this complex, there are 2184 KLA war martyrs' engraved names on it. This complex radiates timeless memory for the best boys and girls of the Albanian nation, a memory that is associated with the highest respect for those who sacrificed themselves for freedom. This complex started to get constructed in 2004.



## THE GRAVES COMPLEX IN QIREZ AND IZBICË



### Celebrations in Skenderaj

Numerous initiatives on behalf of the national celebrations in Skenderaj are organized through the events such as: The Independence Day, KLA Epopee, the Skenderaj Liberation Day (June, 18), November 28 which marks the triple event such as: the Flag Day, the first KLA public show, Adem Jashari's birthday; Rhapsodic Festival, Youth's Day, the Diaspora Week and other events.

**17<sup>th</sup> of February - The Independence Day** - Skenderaj's feasts every year is celebrated with a series of commemorative activities, cultural and sports entertainment. Numerous delegations from central and local institutions on the occasion of the celebration of the Independence Day commemorate the freedom fighters, starting to do homage in the main square of the Skenderaj town, Adem Jashari's statue as the Commander of Kosovo Liberation Army continuing to the Adem Jashari Memorial Complex in Prekaz, where they place flowers and wreaths to the Jashari family graves. They continue visits to Jashari's Tower, visit and show their respects to the tombs of the martyrs in the villages of Morina, Likoshan, Qirez, "Martyrs of Qyqavica" and other settlements where they do visits to the martyrs' families. Eminent personalities of the Kosovo Assembly and Government, KSF, Kosovo Police, Associations emerging from war, numerous institutions of Skenderaj Municipality and thousands of citizens join to such visits.





*February 17, - Pictures from the Independence Day Celebration*

**KLA Epopee:** Most of activities are undertaken in the joint organization of Kosovo Government and Skenderaj Municipality for the most glorious event such as the KLA Epopee. In memory of the Legendary Commander Adem Jashari, Jashari family and all the martyrs of the nation who died for freedom on the dates of 5, 6 and 7th of March, a huge manifestation is organized in Prekaz, in honor of “KLA Epopee” while and central event held annually takes place in former “Adem Jashari” military barrack. In such celebration days, hundreds and thousands of citizens do homage in front of the memorial. Memorial Academies are organized for such an event and the three day manifestation end on March 7 with the so called “Night of Fire” celebration followed by a cultural and entertainment program in “Adem Jashari” square in Skenderaj.



**June 18 - Skenderaj Liberation Day:** In addition to the numerous cultural and sporting events, Skenderaj mark the Liberation Day of the city with visits to martyrs cemetery complexes. Sami Lushtaku as the Mayor of Skenderaj Municipality and his staff organize meetings for the members of the martyrs' families who on behalf of all citizens wishing them this holiday stressing that freedom has come thanks to the sacrifice and bloodshed of the martyrs. For this occasion, well known Kosovo singers perform in "Adem Jashari" square entertaining the citizens of Skenderaj.



**28<sup>th</sup> of November** - the date which marks the triple event such as the **Flag Day, KLA first public appearance and Adem Jashari's Birthday** finds Skenderaj "wrapped" with national and state flags. On this occasion, numerous of cultural and sport activities are organized for the citizens of Skenderaj Municipality. This celebration starts with visits to Memorial Complex in Prekaz, Memorial Complex in Morina and elsewhere. On 26, 27 and 28 of November, the feast become even greater while a rhapsodic festival is organized in the center of Skenderaj where folk Albanian traditional groups perform for the sake of this triple event. Thousands of citizens take part in such event.





## POLITICS

### The Prime Minister Thaçi and Skenderaj Mayor Lushtaku

PDK won in the four previous elections after the war, and it led the Skënderaj Municipality through two different Mayors. In the first and second mandate Mr. Ramadan Gashi was the mayor of the municipality while for the third and fourth mandate with an absolute majority of the citizens' votes Mr. Sami Lushtaku was elected as the mayor and it is considered that since his appointment he changed completely the image of the municipality. Such changes were made in administration, infrastructure, education and health. Also, there is a significant commitment to improving the quality of health services and citizens do not wait in long queues to obtain documents anymore. A significant job is done in paving and constructing the roads and in constructing the residential complex of martyrs' families which is still on-going; also a professional school is built and it is being done everything possible to enhance the competence and quality of teaching there. Facilities have been legalized in accordance to the municipal urban planning while those buildings constructed out of such planning that also hinder their functioning were torn out.

Good results are also achieved in the integration of communities that are living in villages of Syriganë, Baja and other municipality settlements... The level of security in the municipality is estimated to be very good compared to the earlier emphasis on areas that separate the communities and areas where the minorities' return is expected to happen. This estimate is given by the competent authorities on security such as KFOR, Kosovo Police and recently by EULEX.

A report research on municipal performances' assessment conducted by the Ministry of Local Government Administration, in partnership with USAID in December 2010, ranked Skënderaj in the top of Kosovo municipalities regarding the satisfaction levels of the citizens with municipal services such as transparency, administration, public services, social welfare services, road construction and maintenance etc. The Mayor Sami Lushtaku has declared at that time that he is not satisfied with the rate of 92 % of the satisfaction level of citizens with the municipal services, such as administration, public services, road maintenance, etc... He stated that this percentage should be 100%.





Skenderaj Square: Atifete Jahjaga - the President of Kosovo and Sami Lushtaku - Skenderaj Municipality Mayor with their co-workers



Today, there are a numerous of politicians coming from Skenderaj Municipality that are involved in Kosovo Institutions such as:

1. Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo: Hashim Thaci
2. Finance Minister: Bedri Hamza
3. Mayor of Skenderaj - Sami Lushtaku
4. Nuredin Lushtaku - Deputy. Minister of the Ministry of Diaspora
5. Abdul Ymeri - Deputy. Minister of the Ministry of Justice
6. Bashkim Jashari - KSF General
7. Behar Selimi - Member of Parliament of Kosovo
8. Ganimete Musliu - Member of the Assembly of Kosovo
9. Bekim Haxhiu - Member of Parliament of Kosovo
10. Blerta Deliu - Member of the Assembly of Kosovo
11. Valbona Dibra - Member of the Assembly of Kosovo

Diplomats from Skenderaj Municipality who are currently serving in foreign embassies are as following:

1. Sylejman Selimi - Representative of Kosovo in Albanian Embassy
2. Fatmire Musliu - First Secretary, Diplomatic staff in Berlin and
3. Besnik Miftari - Deputy Consul in Bern
4. Valbona Fazliu - Advisor, Diplomatic Staff in Vjena

## EDUCATION

Education organization in Skenderaj performs at three levels: Pre-school Education / pre-school, Primary and Lower Secondary and Higher Secondary.

Data on Education in Skenderaj Municipality	
23	Primary and lower secondary schools
3	High schools
1	Kindergarten with 85 children
48	Schools
750	Pre-school children
10.206	Students with primary and lower secondary education
2.014	"Anton Çeta" school children
1.120	Schoolchildren in Gymnasium
335	Center of Competence
	A total of 13.675 students
	480 class- rooms
	948 workers

### **Projects completed during the summer of 2011:**

- The Primary School "Halit Geci" LLaushë – general renovation;
- The Primary School "Ahmet Delia" – general renovation;
- The Primary School "Skender Skenderi" – Izbicë – general renovation;
- The Primary School "Idriz Barani" Tërrnavc - general renovation and fences;
- The Primary School "Bashkim Sadiku" Tushilë - interior coloring;
- The Primary School "Ilir Lushtaku" Prekaz i Ulët - separation of two group classes;
- The Primary School "Abedin Rexha" Burojë - construction of water supply and sewerage;
- The Primary School "Drenica" floors' constructions;
- The Primary School "Dëshmorët e Qyqavicës" Dashevc - partial coloring;
- The Primary School "Pavarësia" Krasaliq;
- The Primary School "Halit Geci" Rakinicë – partial repair.

### **Schools / special achievements**

The Center of Competence (Civil profiles) was inaugurated during the year of 2011, equipped with all modern tools that can be applied for theoretical and practical learning approaches. This school is the only one of its kind in Kosovo and the best one in the Balkans region.



**Ongoing projects:**

- The Primary School “Ismet Rrahmani” in Aqarevë, electric heating and renovation;
- The Primary School “Migjeni” in Kllodernicë - electric heating and renovation;
- The Primary School “Ali Kelemendi” in Leqinë - electric heating and renovation;
- The Primary School “Drenica” - electric heating and renovation;
- The Secondary School Anton Çeta” in Runikë - electric heating and renovation;

**There are a numerous number of people with scientific education levels coming from Skenderaj Municipality such as:**

1. Prof. Dr. Brahim Çitaku
2. Prof. Dr. Shefkije Islami - English Language and Literature (Institute of Albanology-Prishtina)
3. Prof. Dr. Aziz Islami - Art (Professor -Faculty of Arts-Prishtina)
4. Prof. Dr. Avdullah Geci - Biology (Professor – Faculty of Biology)
5. Prof. Dr. Sylë Syllanaj - Biology (Professor - Faculty of Agriculture - Prishtina)
6. Prof. Dr. Imer Halimi - Physics (Professor - Faculty of Medicine, Prishtina)
7. Prof. Dr. Adem Nura - Medical (Professor - Faculty of Physical - Prishtina)
8. Prof. Dr. Abdyl Salihu - Dentistry (Specialized doctor in Dentistry)
9. Prof. Dr. Xhafer Ismaili - Psychology (Professor - Faculty of Education - Prishtina)
10. Prof. Dr. Brahim Çitaku -
11. Prof. Dr. Rifat Ismaili - Albanian Language and Literature (Professor in the Education Faculty)
12. Prof. Dr. Naser Zabeli - Education (Professor - Faculty of Philosophy)
13. Prof. Dr. Qamil Kabashi - Mathematics (Professor – High school in Mitrovica)
14. Prof. Dr. Agron Bajraktari – Electro engineer (Dean at the High School in Ferizaj)
15. Prof. Dr. Sala Ahmeti - English Language and Literature (Professor – Faculty of Philology)
16. Prof. Dr. Skender Kabashi - (Professor at the Faculty of Mathematic and Natyral Sciencies)
17. Prof. Dr. Skënder Ahmeti -
18. Prof. Dr. Kajtaz Rreci – Law
19. Prof. Dr. Hajdar Rreci - Albanian Language (Professor – Faculty of Education)
20. Prof. Dr. Tahir Rreci - Legal (Attorney)
21. Prof. Dr. Ahmet Latifi – Elecro – engineering (Professor – High School in Mitrovica)
22. Prof. Dr. Blerim Latifi – Phylosophy (Professor - Faculty of Phylosophy)
23. Prof. Dr. Gani Bajraktari – Medicine (Professor - Faculty of Medicine)



## HEALTH

According to low regulation, the health services are organized through the network of health institutions spread throughout the territory of the municipality, including the provision of Primary Health Care services, which stands under the exclusive jurisdiction of the municipality. Primary health care is provided by medical family teams and include:

**Health Care services, which stands under the exclusive jurisdiction of the municipality. Primary health care is provided by medical family teams and include: Immunization;**

- Health Education;
- Promotion, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of diseases, disorders and injuries;
- Initial basic diagnosis and basic health care, including minor surgeries;
- Promoting oral health and basic dental care;
- Rehabilitation based on community;
- Providing food and qualitative water;

There are also 5 Family Medicine Centers operating in larger localities and 14 ambulances scattered across different localities. The number of employees currently employed at FMC is 176. 30 of them are with superior professional competence in the field of medicine – doctors of general practices, general medicine specialists, family medicine specialists, pediatrician, gynecologist, pulmolog, dentist and radiologist. The rest are nurses, laboratory analyzers, and workers in administration, technical drivers and other employees. The emergency services are provided with duration of 24 hours a day, similarly it also functions in maternity.



*The Main Family Medicine Center*

Competent local health institutions should assess the quality of primary and emergent medical care services, taking into consideration the opinion of the population, basing on their needs.

**The Medicine Family Center in Skenderaj municipality consists of the following departments:**

- Family Medicine;
- Emergency;
- Laboratory analyses;
- Dentistry;
- Pharmacy;
- Technical services;
- Administrative and Financial Services - the patients' transportation



**There are also support services such as the following:**

1. Maternity Service;
2. Ultrasound radiology service;
3. Pediatric Service;
4. Laboratory Service;
5. Immunization Service;
6. Logistic;
7. Administration;
8. Health information Service.

**Secondary Healthcare**

The Secondary Health Care ( SHC) is provided by the Professional Service Mental Health Centers through the institutions of the Community Mental Health centers (CMHC) operating in the major centers of Kosovo. In Skenderaj Municipality under such service is included also Integration House, which provides mental health services, very limited ones due to the lack of such professional medical staff. These services operate under the central level management of the Health Ministry.

**Medical Center in Skenderaj**

Skenderaj citizens claim that the Health Clinic Center in Skenderaj provides fast medical services while emphasizing that this institution should be considered as a model of successful operation in Kosovo health system. This institution is committed to developing policies and institutional capacity for planning and management of human and material resources, institutional capacity building, regulation and control of activities in the field of public health, evaluation and promotion of equitable access to health services for all groups of the population, training provisions in the field of public health while guaranteeing health services at individual level as well as at the community level, conducting researches related in order to measure the satisfaction levels of the citizens/patients for the public health services etc.

Responsibilities of primary care and medical services which are provided by the above mentioned services are:

- ❖ Quick responses to calls;
- ❖ The pre-hospital treatment of the patients in emergency;
- ❖ The treatment of patients at the incident site;
- ❖ The patients' safe transport and the care provision during transportation;
- ❖ The patients' rehabilitation in emergency cases;
- ❖ Transportation after the patients' first health aid provision at the emergency room.





## SOCIAL WELFARE

The Social Work Centre (SWC) operating in Skenderaj Municipality provides social welfare services to the citizens while there is also the Municipal Directorate for Health and Social Welfare which is continuously engaged in various social activities that function in accordance to the laws and regulations in power.

The Municipal Directorate of Health and Social Welfare (DHSW) mission is to ensure, enable and improve access of the citizens to the qualitative social services based on their needs. Special care is given to those who live in bad conditions.



**Center for Social Work:** This center provides the following services: assistance services, social services and financial administration services. The provision of social assistance is based on law - article 2003/15. It begins with an application and then selection by the commission which after verifying the situation on the ground decides on support provision. The Center for Social Work in Skenderaj has its office in Baja (which provides services for the Serb minority). The total number of employees is 17 while 5 of them are positioned in social services' provision, 10 of them are responsible for social assistance services' provision, and 1 of them works in the financial and administrative department and directory.

**The Center for social work** has those 17 officials headed by the director. 16 of them work within the center while one Serb minority officer is located in the office of the Baja village and provides services to the citizens of both: Baja and Syrigana.

So the center can group its services in the following:

- Social Services,
- Social Assistance services and
- Financial and Administrative services.

## Elders House in Skenderaj

Home for the elderly community in Skenderaj was opened on May 15, 2008 and is currently operational with staff of 13 employees.

1. Director - 1
2. Nurse - 1
3. Medical technician - 4
4. Medical assistance - 4
5. Chef – 3



Currently, the capacity of the Elders' House in Skenderaj is in able to accommodate 20 residents while actually sixteen (16) residents, of which seven (7) females and nine (9) males live on it. These residents come from different Municipalities such as Vushtrri, Mitrovica, Drenas and Skenderaj. The services are free for all accommodated residents.

## Private clinics

In addition to family medicine service, there are various private clinics that operate in Municipality of Skenderaj that provide different services such as: dental services, gynecology, ENT, physiotherapy, services to internal diseases, eye treatment, etc.

The largest number of private clinics operating there are those that provide dental services so the citizens are in able to get such services 24 hours a day.

The ophthalmologist (eye doctor) also provides services to the citizens there.



## PUBLIC SERVICES

### Police Station in Skenderaj

Skenderaj Police Station has 132 employees of which 119 uniformed employees and 13 civilian staff. Divided by gender structure there are 120 males and 12 females. The ethnic structure consists of 129 Albanians, 2 Serbians and 2 Ashkalis while due to the ranks structure and there are 2 lieutenants and 5 sergeants. Skenderaj Police Station is in charge of the Skenderaj territory coverage where the area of responsibility includes Skenderaj town and 52 settlements / 48 villages. Some villages are inhabited by mixed communities. The area of responsibility is divided into 5 sections with a total of 374 km<sup>2</sup>. Within the Skenderaj Police Station, a sub unit operates in Syrigana which has started to operate from the date Dec 1, 2006. It consists of 1 sergeant and 16 police officers divided in four operating teams that work in three shifts for 24 hours. These substations have 12 villages under its responsibility.



### Fire and Rescue Team Services

Fire and Rescue Service is organized in the framework of the Sector for Protection and Rescue within the Directorate for Public Services. This service is established since 2003 and consists of 18 members including the Brigade Commander (Chief of FRS). This service works 24 hours a day and is able to fulfill the citizens' requests and needs while it has under its possession 4 trucks; 2 of them are used for firefighting intervention and 2 other trucks are used for technical interventions; such service possess also 2 escort vehicles that be used in a case of intervention.





## The Municipal Red Cross

The Red Cross in Skenderaj managed to meet its objectives in relation to the support provision to the citizens of Skenderaj municipality especially with its activities in the field of social and health education as well as other programs that are part of this organization mission.

Municipal Red Cross in Skenderaj works under the seven universal principles, which are: humanity, neutrality, independence, volunteerism, unity and universality.

During this period, Skenderaj Municipal Red Cross has developed activities that are basic to the sustainability of the organization.



### These activities are developed under these programs:

1. First aid
2. Health Education
3. Preparedness and response to disaster
4. Social welfare
5. Communication
6. Research service

### Economical characteristics of Skenderaj Municipality

Historical tourism: Ademi Jashari Memorial Complex in Prekaz

Rural tourism: Radisheva, Kotori and Qyqavica

Natural assets: clay, rock (Stones) Limestone, Marble, Coal, nickel, lead and zinc

Agriculture: 2,352.763 m<sup>2</sup> of agricultural land

Businesses: 1.785 registered businesses

Unemployment rate: 65-70%

Jobseekers: 20,000



## ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

After the damage caused in the last war in Kosovo, in Skenderaj today there are 1785 businesses that mainly belong to trade sector. Only about 3% of them are of production activities. Other businesses are mostly agricultural, manufacturing, construction, catering, transport etc. According to officials at the Business Registration center, farming is a family business and mainly it doesn't exist as a legal registered business.

Currently there are only functional factories

- The Factory for the production of construction materials
- Flour Factory

Municipal budget for 2012 is € 9. 841,000 and 2. 895. 000 € is planned for the capital projects

Municipal administration employs 210 people. Although in the past two years there has been heavy investment in infrastructure, Skenderaj continues to face multiple challenges.

1.875 families with 9.736 members living on social assistance (12.63% of the total population).

The main economic development pillars are considered to be:

- Small and Medium Enterprises
- Construction materials industry
- Agriculture and agro-business

**Business Registration Center**, which operates within the municipal building has provided information on the development of business activities (except the year of 2010). **There are 1.785 121 businesses registered only during the last year.** Center reports regularly to the MTI-Kosovo Agency for Business Registration.

## **THE STRATEGY FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / 2013- 2017**

During the month of October, 2012, Skenderaj Municipal Assembly approved the Medium-Term Strategy for Local Economic Development 2013 – 2017 which will serve as an orientation map for the municipality of Skenderaj and aims the municipal local economic development through the promotion of its potential development, capacity building of Local Administration and its modernization with the aim of providing efficient services and quality services for citizens and businesses, private sector development with a particular focus on attracting local investors as well as those of international ones, preserving agricultural lands, further development of urban and rural infrastructure, promoting tourism and the potential agriculture sectors, agribusiness development, marketing, identifying market linkages for products positioning and sales, further development and reform of education and health system, development and delivery of social programs that promote equality, inclusion and empowerment of all social groups and mechanisms and above all strengthening local democracy and partnership.

The aim of this strategy development is to improve the life of citizens of Skenderaj while creating an inter-regional perspective, and a prosperous area in the region. This document will facilitate the work of all municipal departments –directories and other stakeholders to exercise their activities in the municipality of Skenderaj, and will serve as a guiding document for government institutions and international donors that support the economic development of Kosovo.

Since the strategy sets out indicators of development, it will serve as the basis for monitoring and evaluating the progress of its implementation. This progress will be, simultaneously, an indication of the quality of work of all local stakeholders, and local government structures in particular.

The strategy presents plans, projects and promoting proactive marketing programs to attract local and foreign investment. These include concrete commitments to maintaining and generating business expansion programs that would enhance municipal capacities for local economic development. All these activities will be implemented to achieve the capacity development activities that will advance knowledge, abilities and skills of leaders and managers of municipal staff based on expertise and best local and international professional practices.

### **Private Sector Development in Skenderaj**

Skenderaj has made very good progress as pertains creating and enabling a good environment for business development. In the framework of cooperation with the World Bank, Skenderaj M. has developed “One Stop Shop” business registration center and since then it offers more efficient services especially in the preparation of appropriate documentation for registering a business for a short period of time. Based on the report of Kosovo Municipalities Competition Index 2011, Skenderaj ranks among the municipalities with a better performance in providing appropriate conditions for business. Also the construction sector is quite developed in this municipality.

In Skenderaj there are some nice food places where the visitor can enjoy modern and traditional food. Located in the city center, **Freskia** restaurant provides qualitative services with a rich menu of traditional and moderated food, enough space for organizing family parties and conference halls for organizing various events. This restaurant offers prompt and professional services and possesses a very relaxing park.



**Atlantic** is also a restaurant that offers quality services and enters among the best restaurants in Skenderaj. The Restaurant possesses the hall with 200 seats and besides the daily service delivery it serves for organization parties and seminars. It possesses air condition and safe parking for 50 cars. This restaurant is located near by the Klina River.



Within the Atlantic building operates also the butchers Valentina so the restaurant uses the fresh meet all the time. The particularity of this restaurant is also that it is led by a woman, the owner Mihane Bekteshi. Also another branch of this restaurant is "Fast Food Atlantic" which provides a perfect menu with quick services. Once visitors enter the restaurant, immediately they will notice hospitality and restaurant staff commitment that will make any visitor to feel right and very much comfortable.





**N-5** is a modern restaurant which has a wide internal space with a special decoration and design. From the terrace the visitor can see the whole city and the surrounding forests. Its special menu called N-5 specialty consists of several types of meat salad. The restaurant has a space of 1,700 m<sup>2</sup>, and is equipped with internet, air conditioner, TV and all other facilities for holding conferences and seminars. It also has a parking space for 100 cars. The terrace is on the fourth floor of the building. It possesses wooden oven and a fountain. It provides also the limousine car for marriage parties. Close to it there is a football field.



Classic bar is one of the most preferred bars to the young people of this city because one can find there the proper services, proper music and a nice atmosphere.



Metro bar has a modern and warm environment. The atmosphere becomes even greater while the youngsters frequent it very much. There are good services for the clients accompanied by a proper music.



## INDUSTRY

In the past, Skenderaj has been recognized as a Kosovo industrial municipality, mainly with the factory for the production of tiles and building materials basing on clay; the hunting ammunition factory, and the factory for plastics' manufacturing.

The factory for the production of construction material - works with two production lines with capacity of 30 million units of the normal format - bricks, or 7 million pieces of tile sets and other production lines with capacity of 12 million bricks. Actually it has employed 100 workers. The factory for the production of hunting ammunition and the one plastics' manufacturing for the moment are out of use.

## CONSTRUCTION

First of all, it should be noted that construction sector and construction services in Skenderaj has been a leading development sector in the country level, remarked as one of the most developed sectors that preceded positive infrastructure changes in the region. The construction sector, construction companies, particularly construction services in the Municipality of Skenderaj in recent years have proven their high capacities not only at regional level but also at the national level, with the alignment trends at international level mainly through the creation of partnerships. In collaboration with public and private sector, the municipality reconstruction sector in the future will give even more significant results. The whole idea in the future should be based on a continuous promotion of the municipal construction sector (being treated by a particular budget and facilities) being considered as one of the three most important development sectors together with the three main municipal development pillars, so, the agricultural and tourism sectors.

One of successful construction companies is also the Project and Construction Enterprise –"R & RUKOLLI" .



Pamje nga Fabrika e Ilaqit në Likoc



Pamje nga Fabrika e këpucëve në Polac





The factory for production of construction materials in Skenderaj



Construction views from "Rukolli" Company

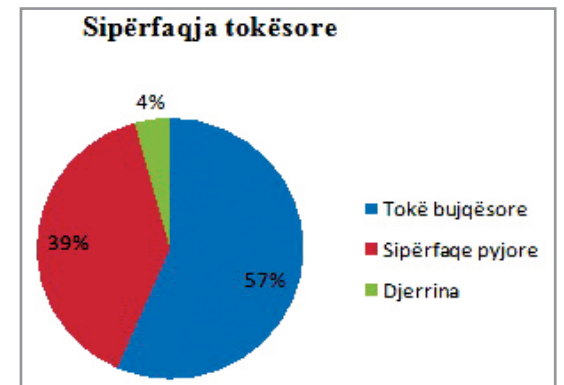


View from apartments' complex for families of martyrs

## AGRICULTURAL

Agriculture is an important activity that provides income for over 65% of the resident population. Skenderaj occupied the first place in relation to Kosovo municipalities for the amount of area planted with wheat in 2010 to 6,700 ha and with the average kg / ha yield that is 3.000kg per hectare harvested. In this municipality, the largest area is planted with cereal crops respectively 16, 112 ha or 76, 2% of agricultural land. In cooperation with international organizations it was done the foundation of 7 Farmer Associations and 3 Agricultural Cooperatives.

Currently, Skenderaj has 6 milk collection centers while 5 of them are operational and one is under construction as. The average milk collection in such collection points is 10,000 liters / day.





### The characteristic features of Agriculture sector in Skenderaj are:

- Agriculture is a significant activity from which over 65% of the residents of the municipality ensure their incomes;
- There are specific conditions that favor specific agricultural crops' cultivation and their high quality and productivity;
- Agricultural production is focused on: plant production, livestock, poultry, etc.;
- There is a growing development trend of agricultural areas, crop yields, while their annual production is getting increased;
- There is a lack of processing and collection points for agricultural crops cultivation;
- Agricultural mechanization and equipment is lacking and also this lack is accompanied by the lack of new and modern technology usage;
- In agricultural areas, the infrastructure is low; the roads' network and that of irrigation are already destroyed;
- There are growing numbers of domestic animals and poultry;
- There is a lack of factory for processing livestock products;
- Farmers in the larger scale are of high school education and with other different backgrounds and qualifications.

Skenderaj Municipality is characterized by morphological variety in terms of content, climate, pedological content, configuration of the terrain and height above sea level that determine the diversity of flora and fauna.

The total land distribution in Skenderaj Municipality	Ha	Percentage
Non-agricultural land	1.606	4.3%
Forests	14.685	39.2%
Arable land	17.916	47.9%
Grasses	3.234	8.6%
Total	27.441	100%

#### The land distribution

Nr	Agricultural crops	Annual production in tones
1.	Wheat	11.970
2.	Corn	13.120
3.	Oat	1.999
4.	Vegetables	9.570
5.	Potatoes	7.200

#### Average annual crop products



Views from Polac

In this municipality there are the following vegetables cultivated such as: potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, melons, peas, onions, garlic, etc. Possession of the meadow area, suitable terrain for pastures and farmer's continued interest on livestock are important potential for economic development and alleviate rural problems in the villages.

## BEEKEEPING

Beekeeping is highly developed – recently Skenderaj ranked second in Kosovo regarding beekeeping and honey production.

*Apiculture (Beekeeping):* In Skenderaj Municipality, the apiculture development (beekeeping) is closely related to agriculture and fruit growing. The diversity of agricultural products, especially fruits, provides good conditions for development of beekeeping. Increased production of fruit could stimulate beekeeping businesses. Flowers and medicinal plants from the periphery may also be considered as an opportunity for beekeeping development.





## Strawberries with local brands in Skenderaj

In this municipality vegetables such as: potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, melons, peas, onions, garlic, etc are also cultivated Strawberries in this Municipality are grown quite a lot and each year the Strawberry National Day is organized and celebrated there.





## CULTURE

### Data on cultural and natural heritage in the Municipality of Skenderaj

#### I. Objects - ancient settlements::

1. Ancient settlement in Tushilë named “Gjytet” (the city) which is 3000 - 6000 years BC;
2. Ancient settlement in Syriganë, 6000 years BC where the same place is almost covered with new housing;
3. Ancient settlement in Runik which is covered with new housing (in this location is found Ocarina)

#### II. Inheritance and a number of cultural and historical heritage objects

1. “Adem Jashari” Memorial Complex in Prekaz
2. KLA memorial complex in Morina
3. Martyrs Cemetery in Polac
4. Former KLA Headquarters facility in Likoc
5. Ahmet Delija Tower - Prekaz I Eperm
6. Tahir Meha Tower – Prekaz I Eperm
7. Ilaz Kodra Tower
8. Izbica Tower, Xhemaili neighborhood which served as bakery KLA members , the tower is over 100 years old
9. In Açareva there is an old tower above 150 years old

#### III. Water mills

1. The Mill in Tushilë,
2. The Mill in Kopiliq i ulët
3. The Mill in Qubrel- Suhagerlla neighborhood
4. The Mill in Qubrel – Buliqi neighborhood
5. The Mill in Kuqicë

IV. Currently in Skenderaj Municipality operate: Ensemble of Songs and Dances of the City, City Theatre, Literary Club, Association of painters and Applied Artis, Musicians Association, City Choir, Theatre for Children and Youth, Youth Center, artists' club etc.

#### V. Attractive zones for tourism development

1. Radishëve
2. Qyqavica Mountain
3. Kuqicë

Regarding the religious heritage in the municipality of Skenderaj, the municipal officials claim that there are 14 mosques operating there. Eight (8) of them are renovated after the war and six (6) are new. Also, in the village of Baja a Serbian Orthodox Church is located there.

It is emphasized earlier that Skenderaj is also characterized with cultural heritage and there are two most important ancient settlements such as: Tushillë and Syrigana. In Tushillë "Gjyteti" is found the archeology of a castle which according to research results it is estimated to be older than 3,000 years BC. This "Gjytet" is set on a hill above the village Tushillë.

Also, another ancient settlement is considered to be Syrigana region including Baja and Runik villages. These settlements according to archaeological research findings are older than 6,000 years. Grave stones and a musical instrument called "ocarina" are found there. There were also lots of towers, but they seem to be destroyed. The disappearance of such cultural prosperity is a great loss for Skenderaj culture and Kosovo as a whole.

#### Water Mill - KUQICË

According to data provided by the owner, the mill, the dates back to 250 years and it always served to the residents living around. It also served to KLA soldiers and civilians during the last war. This building today represents a validated asset of cultural heritage.

#### Okarina as a music instrument

On the basis of archaeological data, Drenica has been inhabited since the Neolithic era (about 8000 years ago) by life continuity in later eras. From the earliest and most interesting sites not only our country, but also with the Neolithic settlement of Runik (Skenderaj) in wider regional territories. It is precisely Runik the place where the musical instrument was found – Okarina, which according to archaeological data dates back to around 500 BC.



*Musician Instrument – Ocarina found in: Runik  
Dates 5000 years BC)*

## CULTURE IN SKENDERAJ

### House of Culture “Hasan Prishtina” in Skenderaj

It can be said that Skenderaj has a rich cultural and artistic life because during the entire year there are many events organized, various theatrical performances, film, sports, music, etc. Exhibitions of contemporary art are often organized in the house of Culture “Hasan Prishtina” as well as theatre shows and dramas, literary hours etc. Currently in Skenderaj there are art groups functioning such as: The Ensemble of Songs and Dances of the City, City Theatre, Literary Club, Applied Figurative Artists Association, the Association of Musicians, and City Choir, Theatre for Children and Youth and Literary Club.

Skenderaj municipality also gave prominent names of artists whose contributions and achievements are very much outstanding such as: Ylber Asllanaj, Leonora Jakupi, Xhevdet Gashi, Elmaze Nura, Ilir Shaqiri, Korab Shaqiri etc.

**Leonora Jakupi** was born on March 3, 1978 in Skenderaj, Kosovo. Currently, she is one of the most beautiful, popular and preferable singer in all Albanian territories. Leonora’s career as a singer began at the age of 15, when she sang for the first time at “The voice of Drenica” event. Her first song was “Dallëndyshe bukuroshe” (eng. “The lovely Swallow”). Leonora has also participated in the Albanian Radio and Television Song Festival Contest. Leonora’s song performances are of various music genres. One of the most popular and beloved Leonora’s song is “A vritet pafajsia” (eng. “Can innocence be killed”). This song came out during the Kosovo war and speaks about the war and the Serbian genocide against Albanians. Leonora dedicated this song to her father who was a member of the KLA and who died during the war. As one of the most original singers throughout the country, she is very active in humanitarian and charitable concerts. In November 28, 2012, she was honored with appreciation by Skenderaj Municipality as a result of her contribution to the real Albanian values’ presentation.



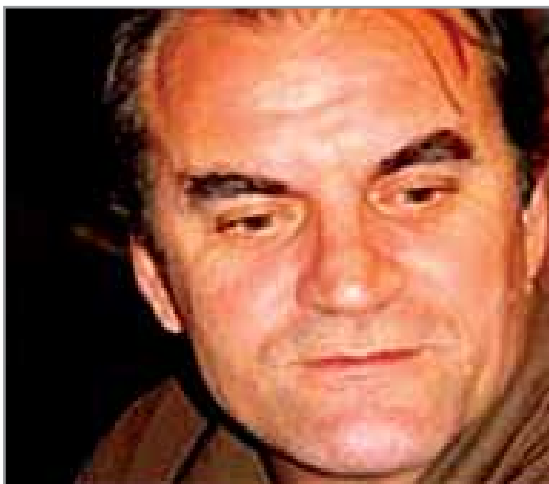
**Ilir Shaqiri** was born in Burojë village of Drenica in June 12, 1960. He attended the primary school in Turiqec and the secondary school for pharmacy in Prizren, while graduated from the Faculty of Albanian Language at Prishtina University. In 2011, he got awarded by the Presidency of Albania with the Naim Frashëri Prize – as a Merited Artist. In 1978 at the House of Culture in Prizren, he appears for the first time in front of the audience as a singer. He sings for over 30 years now and his songs always become top lists hits in the folk and popular music within the country.

**Elmaze Nura** - is the first director of drama at the Albanian Theater in Kosovo. Elmaze has chosen such a profession because she loves it while exercising it passion, professionalism, patience and sacrifice. This attractive and interesting profession followed by a high level responsibility has led her to get in love with original drama and teaching. As a professor

at the Academy of Arts, she requires from her students to be active and creative in the learning process. She wants to transfer her gained experience at Kansas University -Department of Theatre in USA. She has performed several shows at our national theatre and abroad.







**Xhevdet Gashi** is one of the most famous names in the field of Albanian music. Mr. Gashi, is well-known as the composer of a huge number of Kosovo Albanian singers' songs. He got engaged in musician activities 30 years ago, initially in the 70's as a member and guitar player of the first rock group in Kosovo called 'MAK' and then as a composer. The Kosovo Rock Group called "MAK" is considered to be a rock group pioneer and has a great merit for the popularization of rock music in the country. Except as a band member of MAK Group, Xhevdet Gashi has composed songs for most of the famous singers in Kosovo.

**Ylber Asllanaj** has graduated from the Faculty of Arts at Prishtina University. From 2000 to 2004 he was conductor of the Children's Choir in Prishtina. He is the founder of "Oktet Plus" Ensemble (2004) and of the New Born Kosovo Choir (2009) and has performed in many concerts,

festivals and other musical events in the region. Moreover, he is member of the Kosovo Philharmonic Choir and currently he teaches as a professor at the High School of Music in Prishtina.



### Wide national folk festival "ALBANIAN RHAPSODY"

In Skenderaj city since 2005, a wide national folk festival called "Albanian Rhapsody" is continuously being held. The festival is held annually on 26, 27 and 28 of November. This festival coincides with the Day of Independence of Albania, with the date of birth of the Legendary Commander Adem Jashari and the first public appearance of the KLA.

The activities are of competitive nature, while the main price to be given for the winners is "Jasharaj Tower". The propaganda tool of the festival is "Ocarina". The picture and the name of Hamëz Jashari are found in the flag and all other documents developed for such a festival. They show the remembrance for him as a singer and as an actor. Groups and individuals coming from all Albanian territories perform with their songs in the festival.



## Ensemble “DRENICA”

Ensemble “Drenica” was formed in 1972. It contains sections of instrumentalists, singers, dancers and drama sections. During its long history, in addition to numerous challenges that it passed through during various stages, Ensemble «Drenica» scored many successes that can be admired. This ensemble created artistic values through artists who later became famous names in our art. Amongst others it is worth mentioning: Ilir Shaqiri, Leonora Jakupi, Ylber Asllani, Ganimete Asllani, Qazim Beka etc.

The most emblematic figure of the “Drenica” Ensemble remains Hamez Jashari, who besides being a brave warrior he possessed a huge talent as a singer and acting performer. “Drenica” Ensemble today has about 120 members.



## SPORT

In the Municipality of Skenderaj there are many sports activities organized at municipal level as well as various games at various levels of the competition in Kosovo. The sport activities became traditional. The sports groups that are active in this city are as following:

- **Football Club “DRENICA”**
- **Volleyball Club (females) “DRENICA”**
- **Volleyball Club (males) “GJIMNAZISTI”**
- **Chess Club “DRENICA”**
- **Ping Pong Club “DRENICA”**
- **Ping Pong Club “ILIR LUSHTAKU”**
- **Ping pong Club “SHPRESA”**
- **Tennis Club “DRENICA”**
- **Shooting Club “DRENICA”**
- **Basketball Club “SKENDERAJ”**
- **Basketball Club “SFERA”**
- **Football Club “BAKSI”**
- **Football Club “BASHKIMI”**
- **Handball Club (Females) “SKENDERAJ”**
- **Handball Club (Males) “SKENDERAJ”**
- **Club of shots with arrows “DRENICA”**



## The Football Club “Drenica”

The Football club “Drenica” (initially known as “Buduqnost”) dates back to 1958. There were many talents created there from whom some very prominent players who became famous in the local and international football.

“Drenica” Football Club during its history went through the stages of fame but also through difficult challenges. The most difficult time but also the proudest time of this club journey was shown during the parallel lives in Kosovo (90).

Currently “Drenica” Football Club is among the Kosovo elite clubs and is part of the Kosovo super I. competition.





## Volleyball CLUBS in Skenderaj

Males Volleyball Club



Female Volleyball Club



Medal of Honor for the years' sportiest



High School "Hamëz Jashari" Volleyball Team in Skenderaj



## Youth Center

**Youth:** One of the best potentials for development of the Municipality of Skenderaj is youth, which constitutes 60-70% of the population in Skenderaj. The municipality has managed to provide a favorable environment in terms of pre-university education in their community. Dealing with the activities of different fields, there are considerable but not sufficient cultural and sports centers for youth in Skenderaj.



Youth Center in Skenderaj is well organized and provides various services for youth, such as: educational courses, sports, computer skills, foreign languages, dance, painting, etc. Once in a year it is organized the Youth **Month** which contains various cultural activities and which lasts for a month. Municipal Assembly's Culture Sector with Local Action Youth Council, within the framework of its authority powers cooperates with NGOs and youth in particular in order to develop youth policies.

## Achievements in infrastructure development

- ❖ General Urban Plan development and its implementation;
- ❖ Construction of the bridge in Skenderaj city;
- ❖ Improvement of road infrastructure in the city and rural areas;
- ❖ Improvement and construction of water supply system in rural areas;
- ❖ Environmental protection through wastewater processing.



Kompleksi i banesave UÇK i familjeve të dëshmorëve



Nr	URBAN ROADS / Names	The year contracted
1	Ahmet Delija	2008
2	"18 Qershori"	2007
3	UÇK-së	2007
4	Gjergj Fishta and Tahir Meha	2008
5	Selman Vojvoda dhe Rasim Kiqina	2009
6	Mbretresha Teute	2008
7	Kamer Loshi	2008
8	Bekim Berisha	2008
9	Rexhep Mala	2008
10	Abaz Thaqi	2010
11	Miftar Bajraktari	2010
12	Zahir Pajaziti dhe Shaqir Smaka	2009
13	Harun Beka	2009
14	Neighborhood VI str	2010
15	Likuiduesit e shtabit	2011
16	Bajram Zena	2009
17	Hazir Radisheva	2011
18	Nena Terez	2009
19	Nak Berisha	2010
20	Kline-Prekaz	2011
21	Infrastructure in martyrs neighborhood	2010

Nr	RURAL ROADS / Names	The year contracted
1	Gofile-Qirez	2010
2	Buroj-Izbic	2008
3	Runike-Izbic-Leqine	2011
4	Runik-Radishev	2010
5	Qubrel-Kotorr	2010
6	Turiqec-Aqarev	2009
7	Runik-Kllodernicë	2009
8	Terrnac-Prekaz-Jashari neighborhood	2009
9	Road and sewage in Terrnafc	2010
10	Kline e Eper-Kuqic	2010
11	Rezall e re – Tushilë	2010
12	Qubrel	2010
13	Polluzhë-Makermal-Likofc	2010
14	Likoc-Ticë	2009
15	Runik-Kastriot	2010
16	Padalishtë-Leqinë	2010
17	Prelofc-Krasaliq-Kozhicë-Krasmirovç-Qirez	2010
18	Likofc-Obri-Plluzhinë-Murgë	2009
19	Llaushe- neighborhood Zejnullahu-Prroi I Keq	2009
20	Skenderaj-Prekaz-Polac	2009
21	Polac-Kryshefc	2010
22	Vojtesh-Lubavec	2009
23	Vojnikë-Ozdrim	2009
24	Kline e Eperme	2008
25	Lagja Malaj-Rezalle	2010



Nr	OTHERS / Description	The year contracted
1	Pavement in Osman Geci street	2009
2	Pavement and lighting in "28th November" street	
4	Lighting in "18 qershori" street,	
5	lighting Ndriqimi ne rrugen Ilaz Kodra.	
6	lighting Ndriqimi ne rrugen Deshmoret e kombit	2010
7	lighting in Ahmet Delia street	
8	lighting Tahir Meha-Gjergj Fishta street	2010
9	lighting in Fehmi Lladrovci str	
10	Tribunes of Bajram Aliu stadium	2009
11	Locals of Bajram Aliu stadium	2011
12	Parkings of Bajram Aliu stadium	
13	The park close to Skenderaj M Building	2008
14	The park to the fir-trees	2011
15	City greenery	2010
16	Ternavc-Prekaz-Dashevc water supply sys	2010
17	Ujesjellesi Igj.Lushtaku-Kodralli	
18	Klina riverbed	2009
19	Sewage in Prekaz I Epërm	2011
20	Phase II protection wals - Kuqice	2010
21	Sewage in neighborhood III	2009
22	Sewage in Jakupi neighborhood -Kryshefc	2011
23	Sewage in Lushtaku neighborhood	2010

24	The new bulding of Skenderaj M	2009
25	Façade of residential facility	2010
26	The new KLA HQ locality	2008
27	Martyrs residents	2009
28	The office in Qirez	2009
29	The office in Turiqevc	2011
30	The office in Likovc	2011
31	The elementary school in Radisheva	2008
32	The elementary school in Kastriot	2008
33	The elementary school in Prekaz	2009
34	The elementary school in Runike	2011
35	The lementary school in Turiqevc	2009
36	Th elementary school in Kline	2010
37	The professional school	
38	The renovation of the medical family center	
39	Renovation of the medical cli in Qirez	
40	Renovation of the medical cl in Rezalle	
41	Renovation of the med. Clinic in Polac	
42	Renovimi Ambulanta ne Runike	
43	Renovimi Ambulanta ne Prekaz	
44	Shtepia e kultures	2011
45	Qerdhja e femijeve	2011
46	Kulla e Ilaz Kodres	2011

	ONGOING PROJECTS	The year ontracted
1	Lubavec Road	2011
2	The road to Mikushnice, Mangjulli neighborhood	2011
3	The road to Mikushnice, Shabanaj neighborhood	2011
4	The road to Kopiliq/ segment 1	2011
5	The road to Kopiliq / segment 2	2011
6	The road to Vojnik /segmenti 1	2011
7	The road to Vojnik / segment 2	2011
8	The road to Rakinice , Dajaku neighborhood	2011
9	The road to Rakinice / Durmishi neighborhood	2011
10	The road to Aqareve	2011
11	The road to Kline, Ibishaj neighborhood	2011
12	The road to Leqine, Hoti neighborhood	2011
13	Dashevc- Polac water supply system	2011
14	The elementary school Shaban Jashari	2011



## THE LIBRARY





## TOURISM

Skenderaj is recognized with its historic and cultural tourism values. The Jasharaj Compound in Prekaz is the main tourism development potential that reflect special historical values. Actually, this complex is visited by visitors of all Albanian territories, as well as foreign tourists, proving the great tourism values potential in this area.

Tourism activities that can be developed in mountainous areas with marvelous countryside are as following:

- *Health Tourism*
- *Mountainous tourism* - walking, camping, horse- riding, skiing etc...
- *Rural tourism* - offering short stay in the so called Albanian “odes”, hostels, water mills, farms etc.

The nature is characterized by a diversity of different landscapes starting from small upland through hilly and mountainous parts covered with forests and pastures. Varieties of picturesque sights are of vital importance for the development of tourism in this area

**Skenderaj Municipality has potentials for the development of cultural, historic and mountainous tourism.**



## ENVIRONMENT

### Preservation and maintenance of the environment

After the emergency phase and reconstruction taken place after the last war, nowadays there are more favorable conditions created for the maintenance of the environment. Based on its capacity, the municipality of Skenderaj is interested to create green spaces, attractive parks and healthy and clean environment.

It is worth noting that recently there were thousands of flowers and trees planted within the city of Skenderaj while also the Klina riverbed is regulated. Thanks to the commitment and care of the Municipality towards the environment, Skenderaj city now possesses two parks and

Also thanks to the commitment of the Municipality and showing care towards the environment and nature, Skenderaj now has two attractive



parks that can be used for relaxation and rest. One park is flat and is located on the river Klina and other forest park and is regulated by the seaside seats for visitors with fresh air and the scent of pine trees make this place to be very loved and visited by citizens municipality.

Special attention is given to the waste treatment and thanks to USAID donation this city has become the best model in Kosovo for the isolation of waste containers in order not to let the garbage distributed by stray animals (dogs, cats, etc.).



After the emergency phase and reconstruction of **damages that took place after the war, in Skenderaj Municipality** there are more opportunities are created for the environment maintenance.





## Cooperation with USAID

In the case of the municipalities' assessment related to property taxes collection, the Municipality of Skenderaj was put in the first place so USAID in such a case gave 30 containers to the municipality.



## SKENDERAJ'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PILLARS

By applying democratic governance and following the regional and global development trends, Skenderaj municipality pledges to improve the life of the citizens through designing the partnership development models and paving prosperous paradigms towards capitalization of its economic potential.

### THE VISION OF SKENDERAJ MUNICIPALITY

Skenderaj will be devoted to applying the principles of democratic governance, showing accountability to citizens, enhancing the value system of economic potential, advancing the attractive business environment and promoting the Municipality as a Development Center for the North-western Region of Kosovo.

### MISSION

Skenderaj will be devoted to applying the principles of democratic governance, showing accountability to citizens, enhancing the value system of economic potential, advancing the attractive business environment and promoting the Municipality as a Development Center for the North-western Region of Kosovo.



## The strategic Goals for LED in Skenderaj Municipality / 2013- 2017

### The Strategic Goal:

Strengthening Local Economic Development and promotion of the Municipality of Skenderaj as an economic center and bridge to the North – western region of Kosovo

1. Capacity building of local administration and modernization of its infrastructure in order to provide efficient and quality services to citizens and businesses;
2. Strengthening economic development by helping local private sector development and promoting a favorable environment for attracting investment from potential investors (inside and outside the country);
3. Further development of rural and urban infrastructure with special care in preserving the environment and agricultural land;
4. Promoting of historical tourism and the cultural sector and tourists services development that will contribute to the growth of local economic development;
5. Agriculture development by improving infrastructure in order to increase the agricultural potential, providing assistance on farmers' capacity building in order to enhance their skills on agro-business development, marketing research and promotion, markets identification and their products sales' increase;
6. Further development and reformation of the education system in Skenderaj Municipality;
7. Addressing the needs of citizens through the development and implementation of the social project-programs, promoting equality applying the policy of inclusion and empowerment of all society groups, creating opportunities for citizens to have an easy access to health services;
8. Strengthening democracy and local partnership.

## ROADS



*Rruga për Llaushë/ The Road to Llausha*



*Rruga Runik - Leqinë/ The Road Runik - Leqinë*





## VLERËSIMI I PUNËS SË UDHËHEQËSISË SË KOMUNËS SË SKENDERAJT

For the dedicated work to the citizens and increase their standard of life, Skenderaj Municipality, has often been rewarded for efficiency, transparency and quality services given to the citizens. Below there are some of the awards and rewards dedicated to the Municipality.











