# SOME ELEMENTS OF THE BULGARIAN INFLUENCE ON AROMANIAN ONOMASTICS

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**Abstract**

The onomastics material that I will present shows us that Aromanian anthroponymy incorporates Bulgarian elements from the Balkan context amid which it has developed, in two stages: the profound or early one and the new or recent one.

Living with the Bulgarians has been a long period, beginning with their arrival on these lands in the 7th century, and continuing to this day.

The fact that Aromanian anthroponymy retained especially surnames, as influences of Bulgarian origin, shows that these loans were made officially, dating back to the old period, of the Vlach-Bulgarian Empire, continuing until now, at least as far as the Aromanians in Bulgaria are concerned.

The loans from Slavic were made chiefly from southern Slavic and especially from Macedonian. The local Slavic influence, namely Serbian-Macedonian within the Yugoslavian space, Bulgarian in Bulgaria, is continuous and has different intensities from one location to another, from one social group to another, from one family to another, from one speaker to another.

**Key words:** *Aromanians*, *onomastics*, *anthroponymy*, *Balkan*, *Bulgarian influences*

**Résumé**

Le matériel onomastique qu'on va présenter montre que l'anthroponymie aroumaine intègre des éléments bulgares du contexte balkanique où elle s'est développée en deux étapes: celle profonde ou de début et celle nouvelle ou récente. La cohabitation avec les Bulgares a duré une longue période, à partir de leur arrivée sur ces territoires au VII$^{e}$ siècle et jusqu'à présent. Le fait que l'anthroponymie aroumaine a conservé en tant qu'influences bulgares spécialement des noms de famille montre que ces emprunts se sont faits officiellement, depuis l'ancienne période de l'empire Vlacho-Bulgare, et jusqu'à présent, tout au moins jusqu'aux Aroumains de Bulgarie. Les emprunts de la partie slave ont été spécialement réalisés du Sud slave, et surtout de la partie macédonienne. L'influence slave locale, à savoir celle serbe-macédonienne dans l'espace yougoslave, et bulgare en Bulgarie, est continuée et elle a des intensités différentes d'une location à une autre, d'un groupe social à un autre, d'une famille à une autre, d'un locuteur à un autre.

**Mots-clés:** *aroumains*, *onomastique*, *anthroponymie*, *Balkans*, *l'influence bulgare*

## Introduction

Aromanians are part of the Southeastern European universe. The first documentary information about this population appeared in this part of the world, here they have crystallized their traditions, customs, dances, songs, language and here they



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have been living, ever since, from their beginnings. Whether historians link their ancient origins to Alexander the Great, whether they are the descendants of the Vlachs from the north of the Danube, descended to these areas in a historical context, whether here is their homeland, a fact is certain and the views of all the researchers are, on this topic, in unison: the Aromanian language is of Latin origin[1].

Their survival in Southeastern Europe made them meet the people who passed by here, some of whom settled and remained in this area.

Together with the Bulgarian people, the South-Danubian Vlachs built one of the most interesting medieval politico-military edifices of the Southeastern European region, namely the Vlach-Bulgarian Empire. In the present study we will not insist on the historical aspects of this state, but merely limit ourselves to emphasizing the unquestionable Latin ethnicity of the founders of this Balkan state, the brothers Peter, Asan and Ionita Caloian, whom Pope Innocent III reminds, in their vast correspondence, of his Latin roots.

The space of their manifestation, no matter how vast it was in history, is today limited to: Northern Greece, Southern Albania, Macedonia and Western Bulgaria. That is why the Aromanian name can be studied only in the Balkan context to which it belongs.

**The origin of Aromanian vocabulary**

We will start with a brief presentation of the origin of Aromanian vocabulary, focusing on two aspects: that anthroponymy borrows forms from the common names of a language and forms of them by nicknames usually first names and surnames, and the fact that the vocabulary and the anthroponyms usually have the same origins and assimilate the same influences.

Most of the terms that form the Aromanian basic vocabulary are of Latin origin[2] and above this layer lie the Greek, Slavic, Turkish and Albanian ones.

Besides words of Latin origin, the Aromanian vocabulary also contains a large number of non-Latin elements. This is due to the long living with populations speaking languages as sources of borrowings: Byzantine Greek, Old Bulgarian or Old Albanian. Many Albanian elements were preserved in the Aromanian spoken in Albany, Greek elements from Neo-Greek, in the Aromanian spoken in Greece, Serbian elements in the language spoken in the former Yugoslavian republics. An exact quantification of borrowings from each language within this area is almost impossible, due to the mutual influences and close living of the Balkan peoples, mainly in the context provided by the Ottoman Empire, of ethnic and religious freedom, after the Middle Ages, therefore these words became "Balkan", without any possibility of precisely establishing their origin[3].

Words of Turkish origin are also numerous in Aromanian[4]. Their share is appreciated, strictly in point of number, by Matilda Caragiu Marioţeanu as almost on par with the Latin element[5]. Although their number in Aromanian is impressive, most terms of Turkish origin have not entered directly Aromanian, but through other Balkan

[1] Matilda Caragiu Marioţeanu, *op. cit.,* p. 256 and I. Coteanu, *op. cit.,* p. 144.
[2] Caragiu Marioţeanu, 1975, p. 256; Coteanu, 1961, p. 144.
[3] Caragiu Marioţeanu, 1975, p. 256.
[4] Caragiu Marioţeanu, 1975, p. 262.
[5] Caragiu Marioţeanu, 1975, p. 256, 262.



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languages. Those Balkan languages have borrowed from Turkish, due to the cohabitation in the Balkan Peninsula, notions of administration, housing, tools, dishes, names of plants and animals, etc. From here, through the bilingualism or, more correctly, multilingualism[6] of the Aromanians these terms entered Aromanian[7].

Aromanian preserves terms from non-Balkan languages as well. Of them, the highest influence is exerted by Italian, indirectly, through the Neo-Greek spoken by most Aromanians in Greece, or directly, trough the commercial relation between the Aromanians and the Venetians[8].

In the last century, one can notice an orientation process of Aromanian towards the languages of the countries inhabited by Aromanians, either due to the socio-political conditions within those states, or due to the easy way of using a single language in the public space and in the personal one, at home. This state of affairs relies on a reality, i.e. the Aromanians are at least bilingual, being fluent in both Aromanian and the language of the population together with which they live. So the influences from those populations bring more and more differences between Aromanian specific branches, continuously narrowing its common vocabulary due to the borrowing process from the official language, process that is followed up by Aromanian anthroponymy as well.

**Aromanian anthroponymy and the Bulgarian influences**

Given the linguistic context in which Aromanian anthroponymy has developed, the fact that several peoples with such different languages coexist within a relatively small geographical area: Romanian, Greek, Bulgarian, Serbian, Albanian, Turkish, but especially when we take into consideration the cultural-linguistic exchange between these communities, which always has a double sense, both of giving and of taking terms, notions, forms, meanings, I can emphasize the difficulties encountered in accurately establishing both the etymologies and the primary name. In some case we can talk about "Balkan words"[9] or "Balkan name". That is why, here I shall refer only to the names whose etymology has been identified beyond all doubt, presenting them strictly in alphabetical order, as they can be found with the necessary explanations in the following chapter, so I shall only state their anthroponymic value here (FGN – feminine given name, MGN – male given name, AGN – agnomen, SN – surname, NN - nickname).

Bulgarian elements: Bajdavela (SN), Beka (SN), Beta (SN), Bija (SN), Boşcu (SN), Bota (SN), Branco (MGN), Brişcu (SN), Burciu (SN), Ceacu (SN), Celea (SN), Cenca (SN), Chiţu (SN), Curculescu (SN), Cutova (SN), Dabura (SN), Darvari (SN), Drena (SN), Gaţu (SN), Geagea (SN), Gima (SN), Goşu (SN), Jecu (SN), Jica (SN), Jivu (SN), Lala (SN), Lepar (SN), Macu (SN), Pancu (MGN), Pechea (SN), Sincu (SN), Staicu (SN), Surcu (SN), Tola (SN), Vanţu (SN), etc.

The fact that most of the loans from the Bulgarian anthroponymy have as object

[6] I bring the testimony of my grandfather, Dumitru S. Carabas, born in 1906, in Peştera, Bulgaria, who, although he had only two primary classes, possessed a sufficient vocabulary of everyday life in Greek, Bulgarian, Serbian, Turkish, in the languages of the people he met during transhumance from the Balkan Mountains to Edirne, where they usually kept their sheep.

[7] Caragiu Marioţeanu, 1975, p. 262.

[8] Valeriu Papahagi, Neculai Iorga, *Aromânii moscopoleni şi comerţul veneţian în secolele al 17-lea şi al 18-lea,* Bucureşti, Societeatea de cultură macedo-română, 1935, apud Caragiu Marioţeanu, 1975, p. 263.

[9] Matilda Caragiu Marioţeanu, *op. cit.,* p. 258.



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the SN and that we encounter only rarely a name that has also some emotional content proves that these forms were used in official relations, possibly with authorities in the Middle Ages. Even the two forms from the enumeration that are not SN stem from a Bg. SN.

The anthroponymy of the Aromanians reflects their history as well as the realities of the ethnic and geographical space in which they live. Thus, we will encounter in the structure of their anthroponymy both biblical and calendar names that enjoy greater popularity in the community they come from, as well as common names in the everyday language of the peoples they have been living with for centuries.

**Bulgarian elements in Aromanian onomastics**

**Badéca,** SN < Serb. *bata* "brother, little brother", Rom. *bade, Bg.* бáте "uncle"; ***Badea, Badecă, Badega.***

**Báia,** SN < Bg. бая "to spit, to spell" or Turk. *bey* "ruler, governor of a province or a city", "oriental prince", "rank given by Turks to the prices of the Romanian Countries in the Middle Ages".

**Baícu,** SN < u.t., Serb. *bajka* "story", fig. "lie, stuff" or rad. Bg. баж "to charm".

**Báj,** NN, SN < Bg. важа "to be important" or *bog* „God" or rad. Bg. баж "to charm"; ***Bajdani, Bajdavela, Bajdeche, Bajdechi, Bajdu.***

**Bajdáni,** SN < with Bg. важа "to be important" or вожд "ruler, governor", ***Baj.***

**Bajdavéla,** AGN, SN < Bg. важа or вожд + suff. *–vela*, Bg. *Bajdavelo*; s. ***Baj.***

**Bajdéche,** SN < Bg. важа or вожд; s. ***Baj.***

**Bajdéchi,** SN, s. ***Bajdeche.***

**Bájdu,** SN < Bg. вожд; s. also ***Baj.***

**Bálcu,** SN < SN Rom. *Balc*, from *Balcan, Turk. balkan* "mountain region with forest", "holt, woods" or Bg. белйк "very big", "exceptional", "great".

**Báliu,** SN < Serb. *Balja*, rad. *bal* „wizard", rad. Bg. баж "to charm", Bg. *baljo* endearment for "daddy".

**Bára,** SN < Arm., Serb. *bara* "marsh, puddle" or Bg. берá "to collect, to gather, to harvest", "to fit, to include"; ***Barascu, Bară.***

**Başbanéla,** SN < Bg. баща "father, parent", "ancestor", "upholder", "creator", Turk. *baş* "head, chef" + *-nela*; s. ***Başta.***

**Báşta,** AGN < Bg. баща, Turk. *baş*; ***Basbanela, Bastavela, Başbanela, Baştavela, Başte.***

**Báta,** SN < u.t., Serb. *bata*, Rom. *bade, Bg.* бáте, or interjection Arm. *bata!* "the same"; s. also ***Batai, Batacu, Batu.***

**Batái,** SN, s. ***Bata.***

**Bátcu,** SN < *Bata* with Bg. *–ko, -cu*; s. ***Bata.***

**Báţu,** SN < Arm. *baţă* "palm, spank", Bg. *Batso.*

**Bavaléta,** SN < u.t., Turk. *baba* "father, parent", "venerated, respected", *Bg.* баба "old lady, grandmother, mother-in-law"; s. ***Baba, Bavela.***

**Bavéla,** SN < u.t., probably Turk. *baba, Bg.* баба; s. ***Baba, Bavaleta***

**Bădále,** SN < Rom. *bade, Bg.* бáте.

**Bấşu,** AGN, SN < u.t., probably from Arm. *başu* "kiss her" or Turk. *baş* "head, peak, leader, ruler", expr. *başa baş* "equal" or Bg. ваш "yours".

**Bébi,** SN < Bg. бебе "little baby"; s. also ***Bebu.***

**Bébu,** SN, s. ***Bebi.***

**Béca,** SN < u.t., Bg. *Beka, Beko* or *bece* from *beci* " two-year old ram", probably



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hypocoristic form from FGN *Rebeca;* ***Beaci, Rebeca.***
**Becáli,** SN < *Beca* + suff. *–li*; s. ***Beca.***
**Becáţa,** SN < *Beca* + suff. *–aţa*; s. ***Beca.***
**Bécea,** MGN, SN < u.t., SN Bg. *Beka, Beko* or *Beca* + suff. *–ea*; s. ***Beca.***
**Becíca,** SN < *Beca* + suff. *–ica*; s. ***Beca.***
**Béda, SN** < Bg. веда "trouble, care, anger, nuisance".
**Bégu,** SN < rad. Bg. бег- "flight, run, escape", but Serb. *beg* = Turk. *bey* "bey", Arm. *beg, begă* "bey".
**Bejdúna,** SN < from Bg. важа or *bog* "God"; s. ***Baj, Bizdu.***
**Béncu,** SN < u.t., Bg. бенка "mole".
**Béra,** SN < Bg. берá "to collect, to gather, to harvest", "to fit, to include" or Bg. вир "whirlpool, vortex, lake"; ***Beru, Birău, Bircea, Bircu, Birda.***
**Béşu,** SN < "skinny, little child", Bg. *Beša*.
**Béta,** SN < Bg. *Beto.*
**Bíca,** SN < Bg. бик "bull"; ***Bică, Bichi, Biciala, Bicică, Bicu.***
**Bíja,** SN < Bg. *Bižo.*
**Bíla,** SN < Rom. *Bilă* "ball" *Bg.* било "ridge, water balance".
**Biléca,** SN < Bg. било "ridge, water balance" or билка " plant, (medicinal) herb" or Ukrainian *bilijak,* genitive *–ka* "man with a white face"; ***Biliceanu.***
**Bíşcă,** SN < Arm. *bişcă* "object used to play a game named *poarca*", *poarcă, Bg. Biško;* ***Bişcu.***
**Bizéchi,** SN < u.t., Gr. *Bizikos* or Bg. *Bizik.*
**Blacióti,** SN < u.t., probably from Bg. благ "good, gentle, tender, bland", благо "wealth, happiness"; ***Blaciotti, Blagica.***
**Blaciótti,** SN, s. ***Blacioti.***
**Bócu,** AGN, SN < Bg. бос "barefoot, greenhorn, profane" or Turk. *bok, boku* "dejection"; s. also ***Boclu.***
**Bológea,** SN < Bg. благ "good, gentle, tender, bland", благо "wealth, happiness".
**Bóra,** SN < Turk. *bora* "storm, strong wind", Bg. боря "to wrestle, to fight", fig. "to combat".
**Bóris,** SN < MGN Bg. *Boris* < rad. Bg. бор "fight".
**Bóşcu,** MGN, SN < SN Bg. *Boško*, Serb. *bošča* "bundle, apron".
**Bóşea,** MGN, SN < Bg. *Boša* < MGN sl. *Bogdan, Bogomir, Bogoslav,* rad. Bg. бог "God".
**Bránco,** MGN < SN Bg. *Branko.*
**Búcea, NN** < Bg. буча "to yell, to whistle"; ***Buca.***
**Bucéva,** SN < *Bucea* + suff. *–va;* s. ***Buca, Bucea.***
**Búchi,** SN < *buchi, buche Bg.* буку "the second letter of the Slavonic alphabet".
**Búda,** SN < Bg. водя "to rule"; ***Budac, Budes, Budescu, Budeş, Budeşiu, Budeşu.***
**Buicún,** SN < Bg. *Bujko.*
**Búrciu,** SN < Bg. *Burčo.*
**Búta,** SN < u.t., Bg. бут "pulp, ham, hip, thigh", Rom. *But* big piece of meat, the back thigh of a ruminant; ***Butu.***
**Cârlova,** SN < Bg. *Kărlov,* MGN *Carol* + suff. *–ov.*
**Ceácu,** SN < Bg. *Čako,* Rom. *ceac "*tool used by a woodcutter, the long wooden pole used to handle the logs on the water" or Turk. *çakı* "clasp-knife" or Turk. *çaca* "sailor, master", ***Ceaca, Ceacuş, Cheacu, Chiacu, Ciacu.***



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**Ceámba,** SN < Gr. *Tsambas, Bg. Čambov.*
**Célea,** SN < Bg. *Čela, Čeleev.*
**Célnicu,** SN < Arm. *čelnic* "celnice, big owner of large flocks", Serb. *čelni* "forehead, front, before, first, leading", Bg. челник "leading position, chief", чело́ "forehead, first".
**Cénca, SN** < Bg. *Čenko.*
**Cénea,** SN < Bg. *Čena;* ***Cenescu.***
**Cenéscu,** SN < *Cenea* + suff. *–escu; s.* ***Cenea.***
**Chicheánu, SN**. < u.t., Bg. *Kikju* or derivate form from *Chichimelu;* ***Chicheni, Chicheniu, Chichenu, Chichimelu.***
**Chişíş,** SN < Turk. *kişi* "man, individual", "hero, character", Magyar *kis* "little" or Bg. киша "bad weather, rainy weather"; ***Chisis, Chişişi, Chişu.***
**Chítca,** SN < Bg. китка "link, bundle, flower bouquet, forest, wrist".
**Coándă,** SN < Gr. *Kondas, Bg. Konda, s.* ***Condu.***
**Cóndu,** SN < Bg. *Kondo, Gr. Kondos, Kondu, u.t.*, probably Rom. *conu, coane* a formula of respect for a man, "sir", Gr. *κοκκόν; s.* also ***Coandă, Conda, Condara, Condea, Conducosta, Condulimas, Condulimazi, Condumihale.***
**Cotabíţă,** SN < u.t., MGN *Cota* + Bg. виц "anecdote" or "rod, whip" Gr. *βίτσα* "rod, whip"; ***Constantin, Cotabita, Cotobita, Cutabita, Curabiţa.***
**Criveánu,** SN < u.t., *crivă* "afforested region" or Bg. криво "crooked, wrong" + suff. *–eanu; s.* also ***Crivineanu.***
**Crivineánu,** SN, s. ***Criveanu.***
**Cúlda,** SN < Bg. *Kuldanski.*
**Curculéscu,** SN < Bg. *Kurkov* + *–ul* + suff. *–escu.*
**Cúşa,** MGN, SN < u.t., Bg. *Kuša,* from *Iancuşlu, Cuşlu;* ***Cusu, Cuşca, Cuşea, Cuşi, Cuşlu, Cuşu;*** hypocoristic form from MGN ***Ion*** or ***Nicolae.***
**Cutóva,** SN < Bg. *Kutov*.
**Cutúli,** SN < Gr. *Kutlis, Bg. Kutlev.*
**Dabáci,** SN < Bg. *Daba.*
**Dabíja,** SN < Bg. *Dabiža.*
**Dábu,** SN < Bg. *Dabo.*
**Damóv,** AGN, SN < *Damu* + suff. *–ov,* Slavic desinence, Bulgarian name; from MGN ***Adam.***
**Darvári,** SN < Bg. *Dărvar,* Rom. *dârvar* "woodcutter".
**Deála,** SN < Arm. *dală* "sour milk" or interj. Serb. *dela* "let's go!" or Bg. дело "work", "piece of work", "cause"; s. also ***Dealã, Dela.***
**Dobríta, FGN** < Bg. добре "good, well".
**Drăghíci,** SN < Rom. *drag* "dear", Bg. драг "darling, beloved" + *-ici*.
**Dragói,** SN < Rom. *drag, Bg.* драг + *-oi,* s. ***Drăghici.***
**Dragomír,** SN < Rom. *drag, Bg.* драг + Bg. мир "Peace", "harmony", "understanding" or "world", *mer-, Gr. μοροç-,* Celtic *maros,* Gothic *mar* "glorified, praised", Rom. *a mări, a mărturisi* "to enlarge, to confess" or Indo-European *mer, mor, mar* "man, young man/ woman, young woman".
**Dragón,** SN < Rom. *dragon* "thin, metallic wire, ending with a tassel, caught by the sword handle", Bg. драг "dear, lover" + *-on*.
**Dragóti,** SN < Bg. драг "dear, lover" + *-oti*.
**Dréna,** SN < Bg. *Drenev* or Serb. *dren* "cornus mas", "cornel" *drenov* made of "cornel", "cornus mas".



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**Drúmeş,** SN < Rom. *drum, drumeţ* "road, traveler", "way, wayfarer" or *Bg. Drumeški.*
**Galéţa, SN** < Bg. *Galitsa;* ***Galiţa.***
**Galíu, NN** < u.t., *Gallus,* TN *Galul,* Bg. *Galo.*
**Gána, SN** < Bg. *Gana,* from MGN *Geane, Giane;* from MGN ***Ion, Gană, Ganea, Ganera.***
**Gáţu, SN** < Bg. *Gatso;* ***Gatu, Gaţu, Găţu.***
**Gavríz, SN** < u.t., from MGN *Gabriel*, в = v or Bg. гавра "mockery, mischief" or Arm. *gavră* "hole".
**Geágea, SN** < Bg. *Džadžo.*
**Ghiughíc, NN** < Bg. джудже "midget", "little man"; ***Ghiughiclu.***
**Gíma, SN** < Bg. *Džimov;* ***Jima.***
**Giugíca, SN** < u.t., Bg. джудже "midget", "little man"; ***Gheorghe.***
**GÎţa, SN** < Bg. *Gătso,* Rom. *goţă* "bogy";
**Gospodín, SN** < Bg. господйн "sir, gentleman";
**Jécu, SN** < Bg. *Žeco.*
**Jífcu, SN** < Bg. *Žifco.*
**Jívu, SN** < Bg. *Živo; s.* also ***Jive.***
**Lépar, SN** < Bg. *Leparov;* ***Lepa, Lepara, Lipara.***
**Mácu, SN** < Bg. *Mako,* from MGN *Marcu;* ***Marcu.***
**Mazdráche, SN** < Rom. *mazdrac* "spear, long lance, ragged thorn", Bg. *majfrak,* Arab *mizrak;* ***Mazdarachi, Mazdrachi.***
**Mâgea, NN** < Bg. Маджун "Molasses, putty", мажа "to grease, to plaster, to paint", fig. "to flatter".
**Míla, SN** < Bg. мил "dear, darling, pleasant", Bg. милея "to love, to care"; ***Mile, Milea, Mileanu, Miliu, Milla, Millio, Milu.***
**Míle,** MGN, s. ***Mila.***
**Míircea,** MGN < *mir* - *Bg.* мир "peace, harmony, understanding", or "world", *mer-, Gr. μορος-,* Celtic *maros,* Gothic *mar* "praise, Rom. *a mări, a mărturisi* or Indo-European *mer, mor, mar* "man, young man/ woman, young woman"; ***Mirciu, Mirela, Mirşavela.***
**Míncă, SN** < Bg. *Minka.*
**Móra,** AGN, SN < Bg. море "big", fig. "ocean, immense" or SN Italian *Morra.*
**Moráva, SN** < Bg. морава "meadow, lawn", *Moravia* region between Poland and the Czech Republic, *Morava* river.
**Múcea, SN** < SN Bg. *Mučo;* ***Mucicu, Mucina, Mucină.***
**Múha, SN** < u.t., probably Serb. *muha* "fly" or Alb. *muhabet* "conversation, talk, gossip, chat-chat", Arm. *muabeti;* ***Muhcina, Muhcină***.
**Múlene, SN** < Arm. *mulă, mule,* "mule", Bg. муле "mule", fig. "dunce, goose, dull, stupid"; ***Mules.***
**Muzác, SN** < Serb. *muzac* "milker", *muzara* " cow"; ***Muzaca.***
**Nadóta, SN** < Bg. *Nado* + suff. *–ta.*
**Núrci,** AGN, SN < SN Bg. *Nura, Nurja; Arm.*, Rom. *nurcă;* ***Nurciu.***
**Núrciu,** SN, s. ***Nurci.***
**Paceávra,** SN < Turk., Serb. *paçavra* "cloth, rag"; ***Pacea, Paceagiu, Paceavura, Paciu, Paciurea.***
**Paceavúra,** AGN < SN Bg. *Pačurov; s.* ***Paceavra.***
**Páncu,** MGN, SN < u.t., SN Bg. *Panko* or Rom. *panc* "foolish, timid"; ***Panca, Pancă, Panciu.***



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**Pándrea,** SN < Bg. *Pnadur(ov),* Rom. *pandur* "soldier in an irregular force", like Tudor Vladimirescu's army, Serb. *pandur* "gendarmerie".
**Paníca,** SN < Gr. *παví* "canvas, velo, cloth", πανικά "linen, linen drapery" or Serb. *panica* "dish, bowl"; ***Panita, Paniţa.***
**Pârvu,** NN < Bg. *pîrv* about sheep, with little, short and thick wool; about men, "short"; SN Rom. *Pârvu,* the name of the prime-secretary of the city hall, in the communist era.
**Pâţ,** AGN < Bg. *Pitso, SN* Rom. *Pîţu, Pîţă,* "grilled meat", "weak man, feeble".
**Pâţa, SN** < *Pâţ* + suff. *–a, s.* ***Pâţ.***
**Péchea,** AGN < SN Bg. *Pekè.*
**Péţu, SN** < Bg. *Petso, Gr. Petso(s), u.t.*, Arm. *peţumă* "shoe sole", *piţusescu* "to put a sole to the shoe", *piţisit* "resole".
**Píţu, SN** < Bg. *Pitso.*
**Púşlu, NN** < u.t., SN Bg. *Pušo.*
**Présa, SN** < Serb. *Preša, Presa* "winepress, press".
**Priipói, SN** < Serb. *Pripoj* "metal that serves to bond".
**Ráica, SN** < Bg. *Rajko; s.* ***Raiciu.***
**Ráiciu,** MGN, SN < Bg. *Rajko; s.* ***Raica.***
**Réncu, SN** < Bg. *Renko.*
**Ríciu, SN** < Bg. *Riço.*
**Rída, SN** < u.t., Serb. *rid* "reddish, carob", about horses "chestnut, sorrel, alezan".
**Rovína, SN** < TN *Rovine,* Rom., Bg. *rovina* "pit, ditch, land surprise, crumbling, muddy water".
**Scócu, SN** < Rom. *scoc* "the chute through which the water passes to the mill wheel", Bg. *skok.*
**Síncu, SN** < Bg. *Sinko;* ***Sinca, Sinicu.***
**Sóta, SN** < Bg. *Sota.*
**Stáicu, SN** < Bg. *Stajko.*
**Stán, MGN**, SN < Bg. стан "body, stature", "camp, encampment"; ***Stana, Stanchi, Stanciu, Stanila, Staniu.***
**Stóica,** MGN, NF < Bg. стойка "attire, posture, attitude"; ***Stoicescu.***
**Stróe, SN** < Bg. *Stroje.*
**Súrcu, SN** < Bg. *Surko.*
**Tóca, SN** < Bg. *Toka* or Gr. *Toka(s).*
**Tóla, SN** < Bg. *Tola.*
**Vánţu, SN** < SN Bg. *Vantso.*
**Vâşcu, SN** < SN Bg. *Vaşko* from MGN *Vasco* or *Ivaško;* from MGN ***Ivan.***
**Vâlcu,** NN < SN Bg. *Vălko.*
**Velíca,** FGN < Bg. велйк "very big, exceptional, magnificent".
**Velímir,** MGN < Bg. велик "very big, exceptional, magnificent" + мир "peace, world".
**Vélo, SN** < Bg. *Velo, Gr. Vellas.*
**Vélo, SN** < Bg. *Velo, Gr. Vellas.*
**Véncu, SN** < SN Bg. *Venko.*
**Véra,** FGN, BF < Bg. бзра "belief, conviction", "religion, confession", fig. "faithfulness, devotion, trust", verb бepy "to promise, to vow".
**Víca,** NN < Bg. *Vika.*
**Vlâşcu,** SN < Bg. *Vlasko.*
**Vlád,** MGN < Bg. владея "to possess, to master, to hold, to rule"; s. ***Vladimir.***



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**Vladimír,** MGN < Bg. владея “to possess, to master, to hold, to rule” + мир “peace, world”; s. ***Vlad.***
**Vóicu,** MGN < old Bg. воин “soldier, fighter”, *Voina* peak in the Făgăraş mountains in Romania.
**Vránă, SN** < Arm., Rom. *vrană* “bunghole, barrel vent”, “part of the mill through which flour flows”, Bg. *vrana*.
**Vulcănéscu, SN** < *Vulcan* + suff. *–escu,* ***Vulcan.***
**Zána, FGN** < u.t., Bg. *Zana,* or Arm. *dzeanî* “eyebrow”, “choline”, Arm. *zănate* “job, occupation”.
**Zárcu, SN** < Bg. *Zarko, Gr. Zarko(s).*
**Zlátcu, SN** < Bg. *Zlatko.*
**Zóe,** FGN < verb Gr. *ζω* “to live”, “to be alive”, substantive Gr. *ζωη* “life, existence, being, man’s soul, breathing”, Latin *vita,* Sanskrit *jivas, Bg.* живот “life, existence, livelihood”, *Arm. s’ bâneadzî* “to live, to be alive”, GN for a child to remain alive, after other big brothers have died, Septuagint uses **Zoe** for translating the Hebrew **Eva** “the mother of the living”; s. ***Iţa, Joiţa, Zica, Zizi, Zoea, Zoia, Zoica, Zoiţa, Zorica, Zuica, Zuiţa, Zurica, Zisa.***
**Zubéri, NN** < probably Bg. зъб “tooth, jaw tooth, fang”.

**Abbreviations**

Arm. = Aromanian
Bg. = Bulgarian
u.t. = uncertain etymology
fig. = figurative
Gr. = Greek
SN = Surname, family name
TN = toponym
FGN = female given name
MGN = male given name
NN = nickname
rad. = radical
Rom. = Romanian
Serb. = Serbian
AGN = agnomen
suff. = suffix
Turk. = Turkish
s. = see

**Conclusion**

Aromanian anthroponymy has crystallized in the Balkan context, whose traces it shows whether there are Greek, Slavic, Turkish or Albanian influences.

Aromanian onomastics preserves mainly Bulgarian surnames, due to their cohabitation with the respective population, which will dominate, after the 7th century, in the south as rulers. The Vlach-Bulgarian relationship will show its importance from the end of the 12th century until the end of the 14th century. In order to be more accurate, we identify the 1187 uprising of the brothers Peter and Asan, the precursors of Ionita Caloian, who definitively laid the foundations of the state known as the Vlach-Bulgarian



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Empire. The end of this period is the year 1386, namely the Battle of Nikopol, when the Bulgarian state which had a Bulgarian dynasty after 1241, became a Turkish province.

And here is how another language that influenced the Aromanian one and of course its onomastics, namely the Turkish language, whose influences we treated in another work, comes into play.

The coexistence in the same space, at a time, with the populations that passed through this place and with those that remained, has left its mark on the Aromanian onomastic background, especially in pronunciation. Therefore the richness of Aromanian onomastics lies in the multitude of forms of the same name. Forms that, under such different influences, end up in a situation where they can no longer be identified. There are many names for which even the process through which they are formed is difficult to identify, whether apheresis, anagram, composition or suppression of the beginning, end or even middle of the basic name. Thus, the etymological connection of the hypocoristic forms with the prototype name is no longer preserved, and the Aromanians no longer feel any connection between the uncompromised form and its hypocoristic results.

The names that we studied demonstrate that Aromanian onomastics is the product of the Balkan crucible, making it very difficult, if not impossible, to establish with certainty the etymology of each element of Aromanian anthroponymy, as for many forms of nomination, several possible pathways are identified.

The fact that Aromanian anthroponymy retained influences of Bulgarian origin, especially the surname, shows that these loans were made officially, dating back to the old period, maybe at the time of the Vlach-Bulgarian Empire, anyway it started in the Middle Ages and is still continuing as far as the Aromanians living in Bulgaria[10] are concerned.

It also shows that Aromanian onomastics was influenced by the Greek, Slavic, Turkish or Albanian context in which it developed in two stages: the deep or earlier stage and the new or recent period. It remains to establish the periodization as accurately as possible through research and subsequent conclusions, but one fact is certain: the recent period is not over yet, and Aromanian onomastics is an integral part of the Balkan world, whose anthroponymic systems are continuously interacting, being perpetually in transformation.

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[10] The paternal grandmother, Chirața Carabaș, born Findiricu, in 1924, in Peștera, Bulgaria, southwest of Sofia, had a cousin who had moved to Sofia and whose boys had as surname, the first name of the father + suff. *-ov,* the current characteristic of the Bulgarianization of names. Thus, the old family name, the emblem of the ancient origin, is lost.



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