

## St. Nicolas Church

Country or territory:

ALBANIA

Name of organisation

compiling the information:

Albanian Autocephalous Orthodox Church/  
Foundation "Love spirit"/  
Cultural Heritage Cell

Contact name:

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Name and address of building(s) or site:

ST. NICOLAS CHURCH, Upper  
Krutja, Lushnja.

Inventory reference number(s):

1228

Building type(s):

Architectural monument, church

Main date(s):

1811

Current use(s):

religious

Significance:

The Church of Saint Nicolas is a representative type of church in the Myzegeja region. The church is composed of a nave and galleries on its sides. The interior has two rows of wooden columns with wood carved capitals. The dimensions of the church are 15.75 x 8.70 m. The church was painted in 1811, by the famous painter Nikolla Çetiri.

Categories of significance:

Of outstanding national importance

Categories of ownership or interest:

This church is the only church for 900 Christian inhabitants of the three villages. It is regularly used for religious celebrations. The cemetery is used for burials.

Documentation and bibliographic references:

Documentation

Available in the Institute of Monuments of Culture and in the archives of Albanian Autocephalous Orthodox Church.

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### Bibliography

- 1 P. Thomo; *Post Byzantine churches in Albania*
- 2 A. Meksi; *Post Byzantine architecture in Albania*

### Condition:

Poor: deterioration of the masonry. Due to damage of the supporting structure of the roof, the walls in the southern and northern parts deviate from the vertical position. Mural paintings are damaged by roof leaks.

### Risk:

Risk is related to the state of conservation and lack of funding.

### Condition risk:

Immediate risk of further deterioration.

### Technical assessments and costing:

Technical assessment and costing are not available.

### Ownership:

The church is a State property.

### Occupation:

Regularly used for religious celebrations.

### Management:

The Institute of Monuments of Culture, through the Local Directorate of Monuments of Tirana, is responsible for management, administering funds and supervising restoration works.

### Summary:

The Church of Saint Nicolas is a representative type of church in the Myzegeja region. The church was painted in 1811 by the famous painter Nikolla Çetiri. This church is the only church for 900 Christian inhabitants of the three villages. It is regularly used for religious celebrations.

This monument is at risk of further deterioration.

The priority level for intervention is *high*.

### Sign. and date:

Arch. Gentian Stratoberdha  
10.03.2004.