

Gjilan/Gnjilane

September 2009

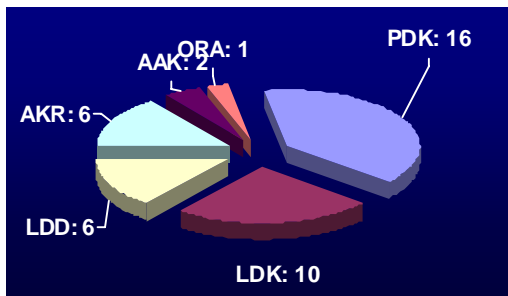
1. Area and population

Gjilan/Gnjilane municipality is located 47 km southeast of Prishtinë/Priština and covers an area of 515 square km. Gjilan/Gnjilane borders both the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (fYROM), Bujanovac and Preševo. There is a town and 63 villages in the municipality inhabited by over 130,000 residents. The majority are Kosovo Albanians (116,000), followed by a sizeable number of Kosovo Serbs (12,500). There are also approximately 1,300 Kosovo Turks and 410 Kosovo Roma. Non-majority communities move freely in town and most areas throughout the municipality. [Source: UNHCR] There are approximately 40 Kosovo Serb families (approximately 110 family members) in Gjilan/Gnjilane town. In 2008, Gjilna/Gnjilane was selected as a pilot municipality for the UNDP-funded project titled Return and Reintegration in Kosovo, which foresees the facilitated return of approximately 40 Kosovo Serb and Roma families. [Source: Municipal Return Officer, UNHCR]

2. Governing structures

• Legislative

The municipal assembly is composed of 41 members. Mr. Bujar Nevzadi (PDK) is the municipal assembly chairperson. The deputy chairperson for communities is Mr. Abylaqim Ismaili (Kosovo Turkish Democratic Party, KTDP).



PDK - Democratic Party of Kosovo
LDK - Democratic League of Kosovo
LDD - Democratic League of Dardania
AKR - Alliance New Kosova
AAK - Alliance for the Future of Kosovo
ORA - Reformist Party

• Executive

Mr. Qemajl Mustafa (PDK) is the mayor. The deputy mayor is Mr. Islam Zuzaku (AKR). The deputy mayor for communities is Mr. Srdjan Jovanović (Serbian Liberal Party, SLS). The mayor has appointed 11 municipal departmental directors: education (PDK); culture, youth and sports (AKR); health and social welfare (PDK); finance, economy and development (PDK); urban and environmental protection (AKR); general administration (PDK); inspection (PDK); public services (PDK); agriculture and forestry (PDK); cadastre and geodesy (PDK); and emergency services (PDK).

• Judiciary

There are six judges (Kosovo Albanians) at the district court. There are eight judges (including one Kosovo Serb) at the municipal court, and five judges (Kosovo Albanians) at the minor offences court. The district prosecution office has four prosecutors (Kosovo Albanians) and the municipal prosecution office has six prosecutors (including one Kosovo Serb).

• Security presence

The Kosovo police station in Gjilan/Gnjilane municipality is made up of 223 officers (including 36 Kosovo Serbs and six Kosovo Turks). There are 56 female officers. There are also five EULEX police monitors. Substations are located in the villages of Zhegrë/Žegra and Čërrnicë/Cernica. As for the international military presence, United States KFOR is in charge of the area. The Regional Directorate of Kosovo police and specialized regional units is located in Gjilan/Gnjilane town and made up 194 officers (including 17 Kosovo Serbs, seven Kosovo Turks, one Kosovo Bosnian, and one Kosovo Macedonian). There are 35 female officers. There are also eight EULEX police monitors. The regional director of Gjilan/Gnjilane Kosovo police region is a Kosovo Bosniak female. Gjilan/Gnjilane was one of the first municipalities to introduce ethnically-mixed patrols.

3. Political overview

In the municipal elections of November 2007, PDK won 34.26 percent of the vote, LDK 20.32 percent, LDD 15.03 per cent, AKR 14.25 per cent, AAK 9.21 percent, ORA 2.70 percent and PD 1.89

percent. In the run off to the mayoral elections, Mr Qemail Mustafa (PDK) was elected ahead of Ms. Lirije Kajtazi (LDK), by 67.4 percent of vote. In Gjiilan/Gnjilane, Kosovo Serbs adhered to the call for an election boycott, and voted only in small numbers. The new municipal government established a formal coalition between PDK, AKR, and AAK. [Source: Central Election Commission]

4. Economy

There are 5,840 registered private businesses employing approximately 17,520 people. A radiator factory is currently undergoing privatisation.. [Source: Municipal Department of Economy]

5. Public services

• Health

The regional hospital is based in Gjiilan/Gnjilane and maintains 538 staff members. There are 318 employees [Kosovo Albanian (269), Kosovo Serb (36), Kosovo Turk (10), and others (3)] providing primary services through a network of one main and 17 smaller family medicine centres, and 15 family medicine clinics. For secondary treatment, many Kosovo Serbs prefer to travel outside Kosovo or Gračanica/Gračanice and Mitrovica/Mitrovicë. The municipality also has two psychiatric institutions. [Source: municipal department of health and community office]

• Education

The education system is clearly divided into schools falling under the Kosovo system (overseen by the ministry of education, science and technology) and schools falling under a parallel system following the Serbian curricula (overseen by the Serbian ministry of education). There are 22 Kosovo-run primary schools with 19,614 students (including 75 Kosovo Turks) and 16 Serbian-run primary schools with approximately 1,700 students (including 90 Roma). There are six Albanian-run secondary schools with 7,108 students (including 31 Kosovo Turks) and eight-run Serbian secondary schools with approximately 900 students (including seven Roma). Public university in Prishtinë/Priština has a branch in Gjiilan/Gnjilane. [Source: municipal department of education and municipal community office]

6. Map of the region

Gjiilan / Gnjilane

