

Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations

ROMA NEWSLETTER

Roma: Connecting with Indian Roots

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The Institute of Roma Culture in Albania (IRCA) organized the activity entitled "Platform of Roma Women"

The event, which was organised by IRCA in Tirana on 29th September, was part of its initiative "Empowerment of Roma girls and women through education". The programme aimed at demonstrating the role of Roma women in Albania through their successful activities in the service of the development of culture, democracy and social inclusion. The event was attended by Albanian Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection Mr. Albert Nikolla and Deputy Minister of Education, Sports and Youth Mrs. Aspasjana Congo besides other dignitaries. Both Ministers expressed their support for implementation of central and local plans for the benefit of Roma minority.

Read More at

<https://irca.al/platforma-e-grave-rome>

RROMANI ČHIB: Towards the International Roma Language Day

An article, written by Hedina Tahirović-Sijerčić, gives an account of De jure protection of the Romani language, ensured by several legal instruments like the European Charter, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and Framework Conventions for the Protection of National Minorities, etc. It talks about the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, ratified by 25 countries, signed by 8 countries and 16 countries recognized Romani as a minority language. The author gives the vivid picture of the role of Romani language in political participation and policies' formation.

Read More at

<http://www.portal-udar.net/en/rromani-chib-u-susret-medjunarodnom-danu-romskog-jezika/>

Romani Communities and the Promise of a New Social Europe

The book, titled Romani Communities and Transformative Change: A New Social Europe was launched in an event, hosted by the Central European University - Budapest 29th October 2020. The book offers insight into the root causes of Romani exclusion and challenges the conventional discourses on Romani identity and poverty. The book has been edited by A. Ryder, M. Taba, and N. Trehan, containing the new concepts and strategies for framing social justice for Romani communities across Europe. The book expounds the concept of Social Europe centred on wealth redistribution; social and economic planning; economic democratization; improved working and living conditions, etc.

Read More at

<http://www.errc.org/news/romani-communities-and-the-promise-of-a-new-social-europe>

Roma Cultural History Initiative

The European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERAC) in partnership with the Council of Europe and the Plurilingualism Research Unit of the University of Graz has been hosting a series of virtual conferences on numerous themes including Romani Language Reform, Roma Cultural History Initiative (RCHI), Romani Identity, and connecting political and cultural movements, from May 2020 to December 2020. The other important initiative of ERAC with the support of Open Society Foundations and Central European University is Bavarlipe Roma Online University that is an online educational platform where Roma and non-Roma can access authoritative knowledge about the Roma identity, history and culture. ERAC also initiated the transnational, collaborative and discursive art project "RomaMoMa" – the Digital Roma Museum. The aim is to create a platform where ideas on the necessity and possible roles of a transnational museum of Roma contemporary art can be exchanged and that allows imagining, discussing and presenting the possible forms of a Roma museum of modern and contemporary art.

Read More at

<https://eriac.org/roma-cultural-history-initiative-2>

Where are we (Roma) when the pandemic COVID-19 started?

Opre Roma Serbia conducted online survey at 15 major municipalities in Serbia to investigate how is the situation of the Roma community in Serbia during quarantine caused by the spread of the Corona virus. The survey raises the issue of drinking water and

electricity, faced by Roma, before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey also covers the measures taken by Serbian Government for assuaging the difficulties, especially two and three initiatives impacting the Roma community are a one-time aid of 100 Euros and humanitarian packages besides the payment of the minimum wages in two locations.

Read More at

<https://www.opreromasrbija.rs/news/24-gde-smo-mi-romi-kad-je-pocela-pandemija-covid-19>

World Romani Language Day

Women's Roma Network "Uspjeh" of Bosnia and Herzegovina has been marking the World Roma Language Day since 2015, however this year due to pandemic, the Network unfortunately did not hold all the planned activities, but it hosted a Round table in Tuzla Canton, Bosnia. On this occasion, Fikret Vrtagic, assistant in the cabinet of the Ministries of Science and Education of Tuzla Canton, said that work is still underway to finalize a document that should enable the study of the Romani language in primary schools. What currently complicates only the realization of this plan is the "lack of an expert on the Romani language" in this commission.

Read More at

<http://www.portal-udar.net/sedmica-obilježavanja-svjetskog-dana-romskog-jezika>

Macedonian Romani Actor Mr. Jordanco Chevrevski Lately Passed Away at the age 69

Famous theater and film actor and one of directors of the Roma Film Festival "GOLDEN WHEEL", Mr. Danco Chevrevski is known for acting and the production of hit movies like To the Hilt (2014), Eduart (2006) and Gypsy Magic (1997). He was one of the founders of the private film production company TIRANGL, and worked as a professor at the FDA in Skopje and was a dean of the Faculty. He also starred in various Yugoslav and Macedonian films, including "Red Horse", "The Longest Road", "Trieste via Skopje", "Tattooing", "Jeep Magic", and won several awards during his prolific career.

Read More at

<https://romatimes.news/index.php/en/categories/culture>