



Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations

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ROMA NEWSLETTER

Roma: Connecting with Indians

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Romanian Roma Threaten Church with Lawsuit over Role in Slavery

The self-proclaimed king of the Roma in Romania, Dorin Cioaba threatened to file an international lawsuit against Romanian Orthodox Church for its involvement in the enslavement of the Roma between the 15th and 19th centuries in the Romanian Principalities. Cioaba further said that the church has never apologized but continued to cover up their misdeeds. However, the spokesperson of Romanian Orthodox Church refuted the charge of its role in the slavery of the Roma. He remarked that Roma and Romanians suffered together from slavery till 1855 or 1856 CE when the slavery was officially abolished in the Romanian Principalities.

Read More at

<https://balkaninsight.com/2023/03/02/romanian-roma-threaten-church-with-lawsuit-over-role-in-slavery/?fbclid=IwAR0StDYwex1TKyNFURgsQYOCZx1t3LsEs0g6qcUH7HO04CttzcfBi2byZKA>

Teachers Learn to Work with a Heterogeneous Class

The Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, Dunja Mijatovic was on the five-day visit to Czech Republic for fact-finding mission. She lambasted country's slow progress in addressing deeply-rooted prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination against Roma in almost every walks of life; education, housing, employment. She further added that segregation in the

school, the prejudices of the teachers and staff against Roma need to be addressed. She stated that the country needs to do more in dealing with the vicious circle of poverty and social-economic exclusion.

Read More at

<https://english.radio.cz/roma-community-organizer-teachers-have-learn-work-a-heterogeneous-class-8776343?fbclid=IwAR3V3OHinD-w-wNtNdfeZ927TbLNot80izxBQFaDTX7BZY-lZ6qESaaJ9rY>

Roma Community Hide their Ethnicity to Keep their Jobs in Ireland

According to the research related to Roma's experience at work by Maynooth University, the members of the Roma community lost jobs and suffered exploitation at work, once employers find out their ethnicity. Roma peer researcher, Vanessa Paszkowska pointed out that there was limited access to education and restricted opportunities of employment for young Roma. The research highlighted the cases like stigmatization and poor treatment at work and unfair payment to Roma employees. It also notes that it was quite difficult for Romani women to hide their ethnicity at work due to traditional dress which they wear.

Read More at

<https://www.irishtimes.com/ireland/social-affairs/2023/02/27/roma-community-hiding-ethnicity-to-keep-their-jobs-research/?fbclid=IwAR0tE7LmTMR8P5HSK3R8xbWdIWJZVDKMEWQugbhbYlOtWTF6R8HwCb5wA>

The Roma Vocational College Network of Hungary Participate in the European Parliament

The Christian Roma Vocational Colleges Network and the Roma Vocational Colleges Association will take part in the conference in Brussel on the invitation of Gyorgy Holvenyi, the member of Christian Democratic People's Party (KDNP) of the European Parliament. The Roma Vocational Colleges network, which comprises of eleven colleges, have been providing the higher education for the last ten years with the focus on the social and the institutional integration of young Roma people. The Roma Vocational Colleges, funded by the Hungarian government, are qualified institutions with independent professional programs. The purpose of this visit is to create awareness about the social integration of Roma for the wider European public and policy makers.

Read More at

<https://www.magyarkurir.hu/hazai/az-europai-parlamentben-is-bemutatkozok-roma-szakkollegiumi-halozat?fbclid=IwAR2-nIVaVBLaorD-CP45cA7UIzzzIRhexkxN5a5KFUp36tV1Pv87a8W89QI>

The Government Office Announced Elections to the Council of Roma Community in Slovenia

The government office of the Republic of Slovenia informed all elected representatives of Roma communities in the municipal councils of the procedure for filing candidacies and related deadlines for Council of the Roma Community elections to be held in the end of March. Romani councilors can send their possible candidacy for member of the Council of the Roma Community. The council is composed of 21 members, of which 14 are representatives of the Association of Roma of Slovenia and seven are elected municipal councilors of Roma communities. The Association of Roma of Slovenia has already appointed 14 of its representative for the Council.

Read More at

<https://www.sta.si/3147493/vladni-urad-za-narodnosti-razpisal-naknadne-volitve-v-svet-romske-skupnosti?fbclid=IwAR0ONil1fZ2qVnFjUNpAJzSUmyXWHCHloNw5jZyllGLHTqHZpCpGfD4AIXw>

More Money for Sinti and Roma

The Free State of Bavaria pumps up its financial support for the State Association of German Sinti and Roma. The Prime Minister Markus Soder (CSU) and head of the state association Erich Schneeberger signed a new contract for increasing the outlay from 434,700 Euros to 662,300 Euros in order to fight against antigypsyism. The Prime Minister said that the contract would improve the cooperation and boost dialogue with Roma community. The Minister of Education Michael Piazolo also warned that what Sinti and Roma had endured 80 years ago must not be repeated.

Read More at

https://www.zeit.de/news/2023-03/08/mehr-geld-fuer-sinti-und-roma-kampf-gegen-antiziganismus?utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F&fbclid=IwAR3G3KvGEUNW_HpKdBph9QQDVibrLGF9vFq6uwDd4Cn4cCzoSgh0fWQwA1c

Gypsy Tales series being broadcasted in Hungary

The Gypsy Tales series was produced using 3D technology by Magyar Nepmesek and Vízipokcsodapok. The series has been directed by Maria Horvath, who is one of the founding members of the Kecskemet Animation Studio. The movie series was made with the support of the National Film Institute to show the cultural history and ethnographic traditions of the Roma/Gypsies in a way meant for both children and adults. The objective of series is to make these beautiful tales public and showcase the fullness of life, love, humor, migration and origin of Roma and their culture and traditions. The broadcasting of the first season of the series began from 4 March, and then broadcast on every Saturday and will also be available for free on its YouTube channel.

Read More at

https://index.hu/kultur/2023/03/07/ingyenesen-elerheto-ciganymesek-kecskemetfilm-magyar-nepmesek-vizipokcsodapok/?fbclid=IwAR23MSRAQ_m0s3uC8_onVsZSmWdERX3DMA37Ro_OH-bhJcbf70o-I-b7DpE

Roma, Doma and Abdal Worst Victim of Earthquake in Turkey

The earthquake worsened the plight of Romani, Domari and Abdal communities (commonly referred to as Gypsies) who are deprived of even emergency aid. The members of these groups have lived in the poorest housing and the entire neighborhoods were destroyed by earthquake that made whole communities homeless. These groups are faced with outright discrimination from the authorities, from volunteers, and even from members of the public. Romani activists in the region have also reported the forced evictions from emergency shelters, denial of access to accommodation, removals of families from houses of mourning, and denial of food and water to families whom volunteers referred to as “dirty gypsies”.

Read More at

http://www.errc.org/news/romani-domari-and-abdal-earthquake-victims-face-discrimination-and-hate-crimes-in-turkey?fbclid=IwAR23MSRAQ_m0s3uC8_onVsZSmWdERX3DMA37Ro_OH-bhJcbf70o-I-b7DpE

Tradition in the Making: Lived Islam among Some Roma Communities in the Balkans

The twenty first Virtual Lecture of the monthly Lecture Series, hosted by Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations, was delivered by Ksenia Trofimova. Her lecture addresses cultural continuity and religious identities and landscape of Roma in the Balkans. She touched upon Sufi traditions and growing networks of Sufism, pilgrimages and religious life of Roma in North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo. Ms. Trofimova spoke about the impact of Ottoman Empire on religious order of Roma communities, so Islam has become an important part of their cultural background. She pointed out the secular characteristics of Roma who have been living side by side with members of various religious traditions.

Watch Full Lecture at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xllSnsEFSn8>