



Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations

ANTAR-RASHTRIYA SAHAYOG PARISHAD

ROMA NEWSLETTER

Roma: Connecting with Indians

New Delhi, 5th June, 2023

Issue: 34

Suggestions invited regarding proposed Roma Commemorative Memorial at Kannauj

Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations-ARSP is extremely delighted to inform that the proposal for construction of the Roma Commemorative Memorial at a prime location in Kannauj, Uttar Pradesh, India has been approved. Success of this initiative has been possible as a result of efforts and support extended at various levels in the Government of Uttar Pradesh. In addition to an amphitheatre, the Memorial proposes to include Gallery, Wall murals and Obelisk. Consultant of the project has welcomed suggestions and ideas for finalizing the design of the Memorial. Therefore, we invite suggestions and ideas for the Memorial, which may be sent to us at romaarsp@gmail.com. Additionally, we request for your assistance in compiling a list of eminent Roma (past and present). Details may be forwarded to romaarsp@gmail.com.

Europe's Biggest Gypsy/Roma Appleby Horse Fair

The Appleby Horse Fair is 250-year-old, globally popular 4 day-long fair that takes place at Cumbria in North West England. This year, it is expected to see 30,000 visitors at the fair. Roma/Gypsies/Travellers ride and wash their horses in the River Eden and this tradition continues since the 20th century. As per available records, the fair started in 1775 with the aim of selling horses, sheep and cattle. Since 1990, it has evolved as a major traveller event that attracted families from across the UK and Europe.

Read More at

https://www.msn.com/en-gb/travel/news/tens-of-thousands-of-travellers-flock-to-cumbria-for-first-day-of-appleby-horse-fair/ar-AA1chrI9?fbclid=IwAR02IhnbI_6uvAhKqzFfoF8cayJF6twiV37kSlr8nfNI82DnBMreOBjLPE

Why Europe Needs Roma to Drive its Economy

The article, written by Ciprian Necula, points out that declining work force is a grave concern for European countries on account of ageing population and declining birth rate. European policymakers are faced with striking challenges for expanding Europe's labour force in order to maintain economic growth. The article stressed the significance of harnessing the demographic potential of Roma community, which is the continent's largest minority, in bridging the gap. It also notes that EU leaders should overcome a series of domestic challenges including prejudice, anti-Roma rhetoric and investment in the education and employment of the Roma community.

Read More at

<https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2023/5/22/why-europe-needs-roma-to-drive-its-economy>

Roma in Romania soon have a National Museum of History and Culture

The Senate in Romania adopted on 17th May the legislative proposal for establishment of the National Museum of History and Culture of the Roma in Romania. The museum will showcase collections of artifacts and documents, contributed by the Pro-Europe Roma Party Association in collaboration with other public or private institutions, non-governmental organizations from the country and abroad. Deputy Catalin Manea, who is representative of Roma in Parliament and is the initiator of this proposal, said that the construction of the museum was a reparative step and would also counteract negative stereotypes related to the Roma community. The Culture Committee of the Chamber of Deputies and Human Rights Commission have adopted a favourable report for the proposal.

Read More at

https://www.b1tv.ro/politica/romii-vor-avea-un-muzeu-national-de-istorie-si-cultura-1318565.html?fbclid=IwAR0PJMjiEhs783A9nQC-SO76-FtUcWSFISo7dJkZI_cxqagW43xAYcHAGoQ

Gypsy, Roma and Travellers Suffer 'Persistent' Discrimination in UK

The Council of Europe committee noted shocking levels of bullying in the education system, prejudices in the media and threats to legal status and rights of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller, as a result of recent legislative changes. Europe's leading human rights body has also reported the consistent discrimination against Gypsy, Roma and Travellers (GRT) in the UK. The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act (PCSCA), having criminalized the trespass with the vehicle, appears to the GRT Community as a criminalization of the option of the last resort of Gypsies and Travellers in England.

Read More at

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/may/25/gypsy-roma-travellers-suffer-persistent-discrimination-uk>

Report on Roma Community in Poznan, Poland

The Roma community has been living in Ponzan, Poland for the last many years though their presence in Poland dates back to the 15th century. Roma housing estate in Lechicka Street, with an area of several hectares, accommodates over 100 Romani people. The houses have been built from various types of countertops, cabinets, doors or boards but there is no adequate access to drinking water and electricity. The area has one water intake, two portable toilets, garbage containers and waste segregation containers which do not meet basic need of amenities, but causing the deprivation of the community. The news report covers in details the difficulties and challenges faced by Roma community in the area.

Read More at

https://wpoznaniu.pl/romskie-osiedle-przy-lechickiej-nie-jest-nam-tu-latwo/?fbclid=IwAR0PtnB_uNOojV99R4y6UIzclhusAilCDCMJODD7HHLEIAYptDn5dZSkq2Q

Top French Museum Flips the Roma Narrative

The exhibition titled "Barvalo", which means spirituality and materially rich in Romani language, was organized in the MUCEM museum in Marseille, France. It is first such exhibition to draw contributions from so many artists and curators of Europe's Roma community. The exhibition sheds light on Romani members of the French Resistance during the Nazi occupation. Romani-

Romanian academic Cristian Padure said that the show was meant to recognize the Roma's contribution to European culture and history after centuries of discrimination. US anthropologist Jonah Steinberg said that Roma history, art and culture has been presented at such a scale and the show was unique as driven by the community voice, vision, experts, advisors, artists and guides.

Read More at

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230512-top-french-museum-flips-the-roma-narrative?fbclid=IwAR0S5ptwFOr-Dsto1127jbHFW5GYLPG2r9zBcnNK-uqul7RrXfYPjvoQl2g>

The Film "Departure" Shows the Roma as never seen before

The documentary film "Departure", directed by Mira Erdevicki, manifests the image of Roma heroes and heroines as well as mirrors a non-violent but very uncompromising identity of Roma. The film narrates the story of how the opposite of poverty is not wealth, but justice. If there was fair social condition and equal access to education, young Romani people from the settlements could make significant contributions to their societies. The "Departure" was co-produced by Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Great Britain. It enjoys enormous audience interest and wider spectators. The movie is available for free after the free registration on the DAFilms.sk platform.

Read More at

https://kultura.pravda.sk/film-a-televizia/clanok/668482-film-odchadzania-ukazuje-romov-ako-sme-ich-doteraz-nevideli-online-sa-da-vidiet-zadarmo/?fbclid=IwAR3isXyXoKciB_9fLVwfzKFwtssmoaa3avIMikl1k2Wn3fczdo6K5DLle9E

Cultural, Historical, Linguistic and Legal Position of Roma in Slovenia

Centre for Roma Studies and Cultural Relations (CRSCR)-Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (ARSP) organized the Twenty-third Virtual Lecture of its Monthly Lecture Series on the theme of "Cultural, Historical, Linguistic and Legal Position of Roma in Slovenia" on 31st May, 2023. Dr. Vera Klopčič, Assistant Professor- the Faculty of Law in Maribor and Honourable Member of the Roma Union of Slovenia in her lecture gave an overview of historical and contemporary situations and issues of Roma in Slovenia. She pointed out that integration of Roma in Slovenia was faced with stereotype and discrimination similar to other countries of Europe. The stereotypes are based on exclusion owing to a lack of communication between Roma and non

Roma. The majority community is not ready to accept a nomadic way of life of Roma. She further stated that Roma community was well known across Slovenia as collector of natural and medicinal herbs.

Read More at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zO-Am6j5RTY&t=1749s>