

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
COUNTY OF SPLIT AND DALMATIA
TOWN OF SINJ
MAYOR
Class: 612-08/09-01/8
Entry number: 2175/01-03-09-2
Sinj, August 20, 2009

TRANSLATION

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
Attn. Mirela Hrovatin
Runjaninova 2
10 000 Zagreb

Re.: The Alka of Sinj – request granted

Dear Madam,

Pursuant to your request of August 12, 2009, we are informing you as follows:

- The Town of Sinj hereby grants its consent for the nomination of the Alka of Sinj for the inscription on the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- The Town co-finances the construction of the Alka Knights' Court (cro. Alkarski dvori), which has entered into its final phase, with the amount of 6.000.000, 00 kuna.
- The Town co-organizes the Alka of Sinj Tournament for which it allots the amount of 200.000,00 kuna annually.
- The Town is paying for the renovation of the Fortress of Grad, a historic site where in 1715 the battle against the Ottoman army took place, after which the Alka of Sinj chivalric tournament was founded in order to commemorate the victory and offer gratitude to Our Lady of Miracles of Sinj.
The reconstruction of the walls of the fortress will have been completed by 2015 (the year of the 300th anniversary of the battle). So far 2.000.000, 00 kuna has been invested into the project, and the estimates are that the reconstruction will cost over 5.000.000, 00 kuna.

Sincerely,

Mayor
Ivica Glavan, BA
[stamp]
[signature]

**REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA
SPLITSKO-DALMATINSKA ŽUPANIJA
GRAD SINJ
GRADONAČELNIK**

Klasa: 612-08/09-01/8
Ur.broj: 2175/01-03-09-2
U Sinju, 20. kolovoza 2009.

**REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA
MINISTARSTVO KULTURE**

n/p Mirela Hrovatin
Runjaninova 2,
10 000 Zagreb

Predmet: Sinjska Alka – odgovor – daje se

Poštovana!

Temeljem Vašeg upita od 12. kolovoza 2009.g. dajem Vam slijedeći odgovor:

- Grad Sinj suglasan je s nominacijom Alke za upis na UNESCO Reprezentativnu listu nematerijalne kulturne baštine svijeta.
- Grad sufinancira izgradnju Alkarskih dvora sa 6.000.000,00 kuna i isti su pri završetku.
- Grad suorganizira Sinjsku Alku i za to izdvaja 200.000,00 kuna godišnje.
- Grad financira obnovu „Tvrđave Grad“ povijesnog lokaliteta na kojem se 1715. godine vodila bitka sa Turcima nakon koje se utemeljuje Sinjska Alka kao viteško natjecanje u čast pobjede i zahvale čudotvornoj Gospi Sinjskoj.
Rekonstrukcija bedema Tvrđave biti će završena do 2015. godine (300. obljetnica) a do sada je u te svrhe Grad utrošio oko 2.000.000,00 kn. (Procjenjujemo kako će obnova koštati preko 5.000.000,00 kuna).

S poštovanjem,



Gradonačelnik:
Ivica Glavan, prof.

THE CHIVALRIC SOCIETY OF THE ALKA OF SINJ
N° 561/09
Sinj, August 18, 2009

TRANSLATION

MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
DIRECTORATE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE
Runjaninova 2
10 000 ZAGREB

Dear Sir, Madam

Enclosed, please find the data needed to supplement the nomination of the Alka of Sinj for the inscription on the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Here are several suggestions on how the Alka of Sinj could be safeguarded for future generations: safeguarding traditional costumes, equipment and weapons used by the Alka knights (restoration, preservation, renovation), breeding and grooming quality Alka horses, training young horsemen, organizing conferences on the topic of the Alka, publishing books, making films, safeguarding the legend of Our Lady of Miracles and its connection with the Alka, working in compliance with the bylaws, organizing promotional activities in Croatia and abroad, using word-of-mouth to promote the Alka...

Our view and the view of local tradition bearers on the extent to which the inscription of the Alka of Sinj would contribute to its safeguarding: The Alka of Sinj, a 300-year-old traditional chivalric, military and festive tournament, in which a horseman has to put a spear through a small ring at full gallop, is unique in Europe. Unlike other similar tournaments, the Alka of Sinj encompasses both the urban and the rural components. The Alka knights ('Alkars' - competitors and a part of their party) are representatives of the urban community wearing their military 18th century outfits whereas their men (and a part of their party) wear traditional peasants' clothes, thus representing the rural community. The chivalric tournament has ever since it begun been closely linked to the cult of Our Lady of Miracles of Sinj and has thus been a link between secular, military and religious elements. The authenticity of the knights and their men's clothes and weapons and their horses' equipment make Alka one of the most extraordinary chivalric tournaments in Europe and a first class visual experience.

At the time of the tournament, Sinj is visited by a great number of domestic and foreign tourists. At the time of qualifications (Bara and Čoja), there are usually some 10 000 spectators, and on the day of the central event of the tournament their number often exceeds 15 000. The town is ready to welcome all visitors – all shops, restaurants and cafes are open, different cultural, sports and leisure events are organized, so that tourists could enjoy a comprehensive tourist offer of the town.

The inscription of the Alka on the UNESCO's Representative List will contribute to a better promotion of this tournament in the world and will have a positive impact on the development of tourism and economy, thus securing funds needed for its organization.

The Alka of Sinj is an expression of love and a valuable memory that continues to live in generations of people from Sinj and Cetinje. It bears the love for chivalry, faith, honour, humanity, patriotism, freedom, togetherness, democracy and the memory of the heroic times of our ancestors.

The Alka of Sinj has got both material and spiritual importance. It is important for cultural, tourist, sport and economic development of the town, but it has also become the reflection of the inner strength of people from Sinj and Cetinje, a part of their roots and the testimony of their endurance, helping them cherish their spirit of freedom and love for their country.

In conclusion, we would like to stress that the Chivalric Society of the Alka of Sinj hereby grants its consent for the nomination of the Alka of Sinj for the inscription on the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Sincerely,

President

Stipe Jukić, PhD

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VITEŠKO ALKARSKO DRUŠTVO SINJ

Broj: 561/09

U Sinju, 18. kolovoza 2009.

MINISTARSTVO KULTURE REPUBLIKE HRVATSKE
UPRAVA ZA ZAŠTITU KULTURNE BAŠTINE
 Runjaninova 2
 10000 ZAGREB

Sinjska alka - natjecanje konjanika vitezova, jedinstveno u Europi - održava se svake godine u mjesecu kolovozu, u Sinju, Hrvatska - u znak sjećanja na uspješnu obranu grada od navale vojske Turskog carstva 1715. godine.

Sinjska alka - The Sinj Jousting at the Ring - a unique knight's contest in Europe is held each August in Sinj, the Republic of Croatia as a memento of the victory over the Turkish Empire in 1715.

Poštovani

Dostavljamo Vam podatke potrebne za dopunu nominacije Sinjske alke za upis u UNESCO Reprezentativnu listu nematerijalne kulturne baštine svijeta:

Nekoliko prijedloga na koji se način Sinjska alka može očuvati za daljnje generacije: očuvanje alkarske odore, opreme i oružja (restauracija, konzervacija, obnova); uzgoj kvalitetnih konja alkarskoga tipa i skrb o njima; obuka mladih jahača; organizacija simpozija o Alci; izdavanje knjiga i snimanje filmova na temu Alke; njegovanje povezanosti Alke s likom Čudotvorne Gospe Sinjske; poštivanje Statuta; promidžba u zemlji i inozemstvu; usmena predaja...

Naše viđenje i viđenje lokalnih nositelja Sinjske alke za svjetsku baštinu (koliko bi to doprinijelo očuvanju Alke i slično): Sinjska alka, kao viteško, dakle, vojničko i paradno natjecanje u gađanju kopljem u malen obruč s konja u punom galopu, sa svojom tristogodišnjom tradicijom, jedinstveno je u cijeloj Europi. Ona u sebi, za razliku od drugih sličnih, odavna izumrlih, konjaničkih natjecanja, sadrži *urbano* i *ruralno* komponentu. Alkari (natjecatelji i dio pratnje) *urbana* su, vojnički stilizirana, pojava iz 18. st. Alkarski momci (i dio pratnje) *ruralna* su pojava i odjeveni su u tradicionalne lokalne seljačke nošnje. Dakle, sadrži *aristokratski* i *pučki* (narodni) element. Ta viteška igra od početka je povezana s kultom Čudotvorne Gospe Sinjske, tako da povezuje *sekularne*, vojničke, i *religiozne* komponente. Sinjska alka se, autentičnošću alkarskih i momačkih nošnji i naoružanja te konjske opreme, ubraja među najblistavije karuselske tradicije u Europi pa je već vizualno, na razini događaja, prvorazredna atrakcija.

U vrijeme alkarskih svečanosti Sinj posjeti veliki broj turista iz zemlje i inozemstva. Na prednatjecanjima (Bara i Čoja) bude ih oko 10.000, a na dan Alke preko 15.000. Gradske službe spremne dočekaju posjetitelje - sve prodavaonice, restorani i kafići su otvoreni, organiziraju se razna kulturna, zabavna i sportska događanja, tako da turisti osim u alkarskim svečanostima uživaju i u ostaloj turističkoj ponudi našega grada.

Upis Alke u UNESCO listu svjetske kulturne baštine doprinijet će boljoj promociji u svijetu i time utjecati na razvoj turizma i gospodarstva, te osigurati sredstva potrebna za njenu organizaciju.

Sinjska alka je ljubav i vrijedna uspomena što neprestalno živi kroz nove generacije Sinjana i Cetinjana. U nju je utkana ljubav prema viteštvu, vjeri, časti, čovječnosti, domoljublju, slobodi, zajedništvu, demokraciji te čuvanju uspomene na junačka vremena svojih predaka.

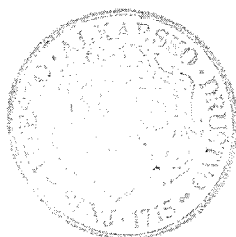
U današnjem društvu važna je kako materijalno - za razvitak kulture, turizma, sporta, gospodarstva - tako i duhovno, jer je postala unutarnja snaga Sinjana i Cetinjana, dio njihovih korijena, svjedočanstvo njihova trajanja, njegujući u njihovu srcu slobodarski duh i ljubav prema domovini.

Na kraju želimo naglasiti da je Viteško alkarsko društvo suglasno s nominacijom Sinjske alke za upis na UNESCO Reprezentativnu listu nematerijalne kulturne baštine svijeta.

S poštovanjem,

Predsjednik

Stipe Jukić, dr.med.



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VITEŠKO ALKARSKO DRUŠTVO SINJ

Reg. No.: 460/08

*Sinjska alka - natjecanje konjanika vitezova,
jedinstveno u Europi - održava se svake
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in 1715.*

LETTER OF CONFIRMATION

It is hereby confirmed that the

ALKA KNIGHT'S ASSOCIATION FROM THE CITY OF SINJ

agrees to have the intangible cultural property of the Republic of Croatia entitled

SINJSKA ALKA – A KNIGHTS' TOURNAMENT IN THE CITY OF SINJ

nominated for inscription on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity established by the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage from 2003.

The nominations have been prepared with the consent, cooperation and participation of the communities, groups or individuals the properties relate to.

Sinj, 7th August 2008



President
Stipe Jukić, dr. med.

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VITEŠKO ALKARSKO DRUŠTVO SINJ

Broj: 460/08

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PISMO POTVRDE

Potvrđuje se da je

VITEŠKO ALKARSKO DRUŠTVO, SINJ

suglasno da se nematerijalno kulturno dobro Republike Hrvatske pod nazivom

VITEŠKA IGRA SINJSKA ALKA, SINJ

nominira za upis na UNESCO-ovu Reprezentativnu listu nematerijalne kulturne baštine svijeta, ustanovljenu Konvencijom o zaštiti nematerijalne kulturne baštine iz 2003. godine.

Nominacije su pripremljene uz pristanak, suradnju i sudjelovanje zajednice, grupe ili pojedinca na koje se element odnosi.

U Sinju, 7. kolovoza 2008.



Predsjednik

Stipe Jukić, dr. med.