

Assiros, my village



Some Historical Facts

- The oldest known evidence for the area of Assiros dates back to 2,000 BC. and they concern Toumba Assiros. Toumba was inhabited from 2,000 to 900 BC. and according to the findings of the English archaeologists who were in charge of the excavation work, it was the administrative and economic center of the region.
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- Later we find a reference by Claudius Ptolemy in the "Geographia Hyphigisis" (III, 13, 36), who mentions an ancient city in Mygdonia called Assoros. Assiros, together with the other Christian cities, must have been the intermediate transportation hub of the remote antiquity of the geographical Mygdonian region B', which connected Leti with the rest of ancient Mygdonia and led to the lake and sea world of the ancient Mygdons.
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- The next data we have about Assiro are from the tax lists of the 17th century. of the Ottoman Empire. To them Assyria is referred to as Guvezna. Giuvezna was then a mixed village and a relatively large one, sixth in the series of mixed villages. The fact that Assiros was a mixed village (in addition to Muslims, it also included Christians) shows us that the village was older than the Ottoman Empire, since the Turks either built new villages with Muslims, or attached themselves to the existing ones.
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- The historical elements of Assiros continue in 1922, when refugees from Asia Minor settled in the village. In 1929, Giuvezna was renamed "Assyros". Finally, in the 1940s Sarakatsan families settled in Assiro, initially outside the village and later - like the refugees from Asia Minor - inside Assiro. [8]

Churches of the village

- Assiros is a town in the prefecture of Thessaloniki and seat of the municipality of the same name in the municipality of Lagada. It has a real population of 3,000 inhabitants. Assiros is located northeast of Thessaloniki, 22 kilometers from its center. In the village there are two parishes: of the Prophet Elias and of Saints Constantine and Helen.



Church of Saints Kostantinou and Elenis

- The church dominates in the square of the village, it started to be built in the early 90s with the efforts of the inhabitants of the village, the Dorites and the bishop Theofilos. The church is built in the type of three-aisled basilica with a dome. It is the largest church of the municipality of Lagada. It is dedicated to Saints Constantine and Helen.
- The church celebrates on May 21st and on that day festive events take place.



Some words about the church of Prophet Ilias

- It was built around 1810. At that time Greece was enslaved by the Turks. In 1904 there was a big earthquake where almost all the settlements in the village were demolished. The roof of the church fell and only the walls remained. After the earthquake, the temple was rebuilt until 2006.
- After the temple was reconstructed (2006), the external narthex was added, which is surrounded by glass. Within this space there is also the place where people light the candles



Also...

- in Assiros there are: a daycare center, a kindergarten, the Primary school, the Gymnasium and finally the Assiros High School.



The associations which have been founded in Assiros

- Various clubs have been founded in the first primary school of Assiros. Not only inside the building but also outside. Associations such as:
- Cultural club
- Martial arts
- Dance club (and more)



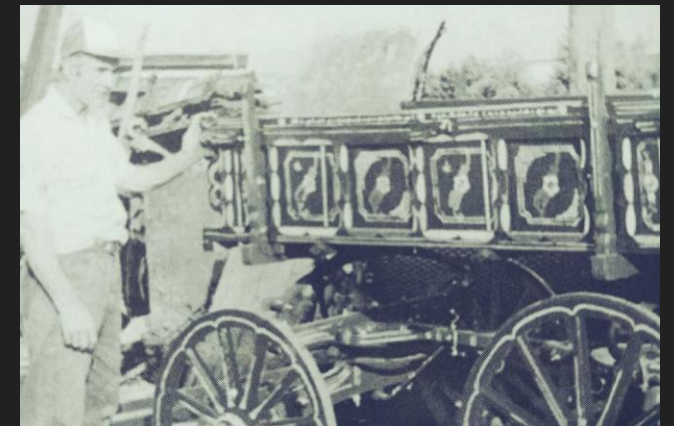
Assiros cultural association

- In the first elementary school, there is also a very beautiful and equally important room. Several years ago, a small museum was built, which contains old and cultural objects of Assiros
- Since 1977, which is the year of its foundation, the Assiro Cultural Association has been the guardian of the morals, traditions and culture.
- All these years, through its rich activities, it promotes culture and through its dance classes, it transmits the entire tradition to the next generations.



A few things about the last carver of the Prefecture of Thessaloniki

- Beyond the places and moments we lived in this city, there are also people who, no matter how many years pass, will always have a special place in our hearts. And this, because with their presence and work they characterized this place. One of them is Konstantinos Kopelis, who left his mark on the folk art and tradition of Thessaloniki and beyond. He was the last charmaker from Assiros Thessaloniki.
- He began his career in 1953 as a journeyman, apprenticed to the Andrianoupolis master charmaker Nikos Hafouz, in his workshop on Lagada street no. 44. There, after succeeding his teacher, he worked until 1980 and since then he continued in Assiros, where he created real works of art in his



Our football team

- Today it seems to live in the shadow of the city of Lagadas, which is also the seat of the municipality. On a football level, its representative is Doxa Assirou. This is a group, which was founded in 1957. In recent years, it has been one of the few groups available in the province and Municipality of Lagada. It has been competing in the A1 category of the Macedonian Football Association, and fourth tier in Greek football, since the 2021-2022 season, when it secured promotion. At the same time, it is worth mentioning that football and more broadly sports can function as cohesive elements in local societies, through the team-city connection. In the present case, it is not a city with urban characteristics. Thus, Assiros and its local team, Doxa Assiros, can act as a point of reference for the northwestern region of Lagada municipality. This is the area that consists of the municipal units of Assirou, Lachana and Vertikos.



Thus jointly establishing, given the prevailing demographic situation in the Greek countryside, an urban center (city) of rural type, with a team - representative at the football level. Doxa Assirou can play this role. Even if there are some other smaller active or inactive groups in this area. Joining forces is the only way to create strong and regionally competitive clubs, with a network of sports facilities scattered throughout the region.



Morals and customs

- Betrothal custom.
- In the evening, the matchmaker would go to the house of the prospective bride with the mandated 'matchmaker' that she wanted to do with another family. If the bride's father agreed with the consul and accepted the Groom then the consul was caught! The matchmaker and 2 others went out into the street together and sang a typical song: Ships came out in the glass... Which meant an engagement. But the inhabitants who heard the song could not see because it was night and so they were consumed with anxiety to learn about the new engagement. On Sunday, the groom would go with his friends and the bride would feed them fried eggs (because they had nothing else to kiss them).

- Custom of the Swallow
- Every March 1st the children went out to the village to sing Helidona. Helidona is a traditional song that was sung only by children to signal the arrival of Spring. Eggs were given to them at every house they went to.

Celebration of Ai Liatika

- On July 20, the memory of the Prophet Elias is celebrated. The church of the village is Prophet Elias. So all the inhabitants together in those years gathered meat, usually beef and cooked it on the morning of the feast of the prophet Elias. After the Divine Liturgy, the village priest blessed the kurbanı, the food, and they rang the bell for the villagers to come and take some of the food for blessing in their homes.



Thanks for watching!

- Work :
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