

GHIZELA

Local Council Office: Ghizela no. 41, telephone/fax 0256/232501;

Coordinates:

45°49'26" N lat.;

21°44'59" E long.;

Historical landmarks:

-1359 - allegedly, the first name of Șanovița village is Sasanfalva (according to C. Suciu), but N. Ilieșu believes the village is founded towards the end of the Ottoman occupation;

-1770 - an orthodox eparchy is located in Hisiaș, founded by the local Romanians, with the approval of emperor Maria Theresa, which makes the village an important pole of Romanian Orthodoxy from Banat;

-1779 - the village Șușanovăț (Șanovița) is transferred under the administration of Timiș county;

-6 August 1790 - the church from Șanovița is consecrated by bishop **Nicolae Putnic**;

-1860 - **George Roșca** is mentioned in documents as mayor of Șanovița;

-1880-1882 - the German settlers from **Gizellheim** village establish the village **Gizella**;

- the colonists' settlement is located on a cleared land area from Șanovița and Babșa;

-1890 - according to the census performed in Ghizela, the population includes 947 Germans, 21 Hungarians and 9 Romanians;

-1896 - German colonists of Catholic religion settle in Paniova, but the village preserves its Romanian character;

-1906 - 40 Hungarian families of colonists settle in Ghizela;

-4 June 1905 - **Nicolae Ursu** is born in Șanovița; composer and conductor (d. 10.02.1969);

-1924 - Șanovița village was named Codreni;

-1936 - Ghizela has a primary school, a credit union, two brass bands, a mill, a hunting association, a Swabian reunion;

- during the interwar period, Paniova is known under the name **Bănești**;



-2002 - Ghizela has a population of 1,247;

-2007- Timiș County Council decides to build in Șanovița the first ecological waste landfill from Banat, achieved between 2009-2011;

-25th April 2010 - the Greek-Catholic community from Șanovița continues its pastoral activity in its own church;

Total population on 1 January 2010:

1,179 persons, out of which:

- male = 585 persons

- female = 594 persons

Total number of households on 1 January 2010: 547

Member villages: Ghizela, Hisiaș (1410, Hatthyas), Paniova (1690, Panjeva), Șanovița (1359, Sasanfalva)

Educational institutions: Primary and Elementary School: Ghizela; Primary Schools: Paniova and Șanovița; Kindergartens with normal hours: Ghizela, Paniova and Șanovița;

Health facilities: Medical clinic: Șanovița; Veterinary clinic: Ghizela;

Cultural institutions: "Nicolae Ursu": National House from Șanovița; Community centers: Ghizela, Hisiaș and Paniova; Library: Ghizela (founded in 1974);

Churches: The Roman-Catholic Church from Ghizela (1907-1909); The Romanian Orthodox Chapel from Ghizela; Romanian orthodox churches: Șanovița (1911), Hisiaș (1929), Paniova (1932) and Șanovița (1776); The Greek-Catholic Church from Hisiaș (1932); Baptist churches: Ghizela (1995) and Paniova (1993);

Annual Church Festival: Paniova (15-16 August) and Șanovița (8-9 September);

Citizens of Honour: Emilia Oprea, Constantin Ostaficiuc and Ilie Sârbu.

CITY HALL AND LOCAL COUNCIL OF GHIZELA

Ursu Timotei Ionel	Mayor	Mirean Mircea-Dinu, LC member	SDP
Cenușe Dan	Vice Mayor	Fetcu Gheorghe, LC member	NLP
Coștean Mihaela-Maria, LC member	DLP	Steici Ioan, LC member	SDP
Galamboș Tibor-Petru, LC member	NLP	Ursu Ioan, LC member	DLP
Laichici Dănuț-Cristian, LC member	DLP		

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THE SON OF "MOȘ COLĂ
A LU PRÂNZU' "

Composer **Nicolae Ursu** was born on 4 June 1905, in Șanovița (at that time **Sziklás**), in the home of Nicolae Ursu and Livia (maiden name Cădariu, born in Chizățău). He attended the primary school from Șanovița, and continued his studies in Ghizela under the guidance of priest **Gustav Dietel**, who taught him to play the harmonium. In 1918 he was a student of the Lugoj High School, and his teacher was dr. **Aurel Peteanu**, father of the writer Anișoara Odeanu. He was also the student of the teacher and composer Ion Vidu, who stimulated his creativity by means of several cash prizes.



In 1924 Nicolae Ursu attended the Faculty of Law and the Music Academy from Cluj at the same time. Beneficiary of a scholarship, he compiled his first collections of folk songs between 1927-1928. He completed the courses of the Department of Pedagogy in 1928 and the courses of the Composition Department of the Music Academy in 1933. In 1929 he obtained a PhD in Law at the

University from Cluj. In 1930 he completed the courses in general pedagogy, didactics and methodology, ethnography and folklore within the Faculty of Letters from the University from Cluj. He married Magdalena Herțeg, and had two sons, Lucian and Timotei. The latter became a director, writer and historian, based in USA (photo, right). In March 1931, Nicolae Ursu founded a choir in his hometown, Șanovița. In 1933 he graduated a course for choir conductors, organized under the patronage of the Music Academy from Cluj, and later on he won the contest for the position of professor at "Vincențiu Babeș" College from Timișoara. 1937 represented the peak of his career as conductor and folklorist. He was a professor at "C.D. Loga" High School and he received the **Romanian Academy Prize** in the summer of 1942. In 1946, the Ministry of Arts established a State Music Academy in Timișoara, and Ursu was appointed substitute teacher of concord, then theory and solfege and folklore. Unfortunately, the Art Institute was closed in 1950. Twelve years later, in 1962, composer Nicolae Ursu returns to the newly created Pedagogic Institute within the University of Timișoara. He passed away on 10 February 1969, but endowed a valuable work, the biggest number of musical monographs, regarded by **Doru Murgu**, one of his biographers, as remarkable "**due to their scientific character**".



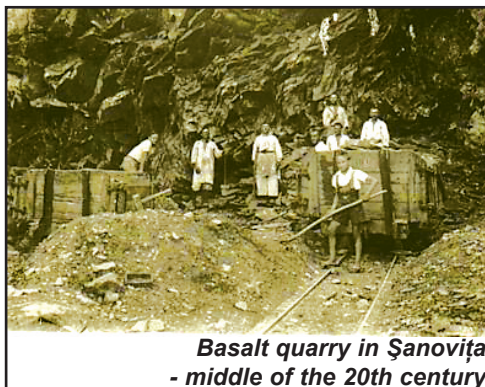
The cornerstone of the National House was laid in Șanovița in 1958, but its name changed in 2001 in "Nicolae Ursu" National House (photo, left). Another important cultural landmark in Șanovița is "Nicolae Ursu" Memorial House, his former parents' house, built of basalt by his father, who was known in the village under the name **Moș Colă a lu' Prânzu'**.

BASALT - THE WEALTH OF ȘANOVITĂ

Around the middle of the XIXth century, Șanovița and Lucareț, property of Ecaterina Agora, were purchased by Iosif Galu (in 1924, Lucareț - village under the administration of commune Brestovăț - was named after its owner - **Galu**). He began the exploitation of the nearby basalt quarry and he also built the narrow railway connecting the granite quarry to Topolovățu Mare station. The basalt from Șanovița was extracted in an open-pit quarry with-

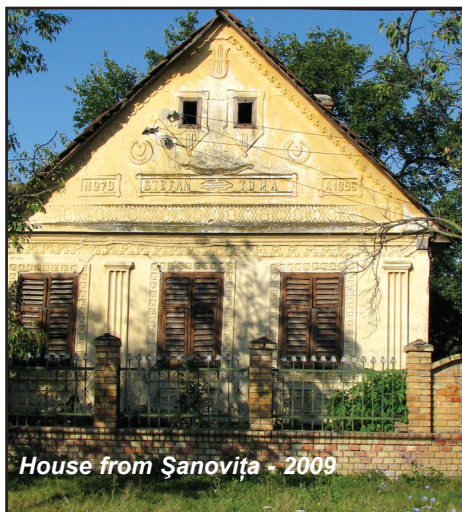
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in the extinct volcano crater located on the Șanovița-Denta fissure. Nearby Lucareț, on the southern flank of Lipovei Hills, Piatra Roșie rises at 211 m height, witness to some stormy times in our geological history (Cenozoic). The basaltic rocks extracted in open quarry within the volcano crater many years before have been used to build and develop the communication roads in the region. Basalt has an exceptional hardness, so it was exported to several countries, especially from Central Europe. The local workers used basalt for making cobblestone for the pavement of several streets in Timișoara and Lugoj.



**Basalt quarry in Șanovița
- middle of the 20th century**

The columnar basalt from Șanovița - Lucareț was formed one million years ago, when the volcanic activity in the area was intense, despite the eruptions being slow and non-explosive. A small natural lake is located close by, increasing the beauty of the scenery. Not too far, in Forocici, on Matca Valley, a Gryphon type mud volcano can be seen, which is just another touristic landmark of the region.



House from Șanovița - 2009

“ȘUȘILE” OF ȘANOVIȚA

Șanovița was first mentioned in an official document in 1717. The former core settlement, known today as “The Old Village” (Satul Bătrân), laid between Bega river and Chizdia. But the frequent floodings of Bega have forced the locals to search for a safer, weatherproof location, which is the location of today’s village, a former plum orchard. The fruits were preserved over winter in sheds called “șușile” (word derived from Slavon “sušiti”, meaning “to dry”). The village name, Șușanovăț (**Codreni**, in 1924) actually originates from this local tradition of drying the plums in a shed, a name retained until the 1930s. The musicologist Nicolae Ursu was the one who managed to change the name of the village from Șușanovăț in Șanovița.

PHOTO DOCUMENT

The construction of the Roman-Catholic Church by the ethnic Germans from Ghizela began in 1907. Images taken during the construction works (which took 2 years) were preserved on a printed postcard issued in the year the construction began.



Gruss aus Ghizelafalva.
Zur Erinnerung des Ghizelafalver Kirchenbaues. 1907.

A Ghizelafalva, felmunkés a templom építésének kezdetén 1907.
Üdvözlét - Ghizelafalva.