IECEA MARE

Local Council Office:
Iecea Mare no. 127 A, telephone 0256/365713, fax 0256/365885;
Coordinates:
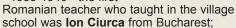45°50′58″ N lat.;
20°53′09″ E long.;
Historical landmarks:
-1317 - the documents of the time record the name "ad terram **Vsche** vocatam";
- 1332-1337- the papal records mention the name Juske, Uske or Vche;
-1479 - a Hungarian document speaks about the village **Ewche,** under the administration of Cenad district;
-1761 - the official map of imperial Banat records **Iesca "prediu"** (deserted village land area), located on the carriage route between Timişoara and Comloşu Mare;
-1767 - the Austrian counsellor Hildebrand founds a village and starts the building of 202 houses, as well as the first school;
-the German settlers based in the village came from Lorraine, Bavaria, Luxembourg, Trier etc.;
- 1767 - the event was recorded in the Monograph of the village of Ionel, written in 1906 by the teachers Marschall Mihaly, Weigerber Ferencz and Zappe Ferencz, in Hungarian and German;
-1778 - the settlement falls under the administration of Timiş-Torontal county;
-1836 - a cholera epidemic devastates the village and around 100 inhabitants die;
-1848-1849 - a violent encounter between the Austrian army and the Hungarian honvéd (homeland defence army) during the bourgeois revolution results in the death of 20 locals;
-1855-1856 - the cadastral register of the village is compiled;
-1330 - the village's name is Iecia Mare;
-1936 - Iecia Mare has three people's banks, a primary school, a steam mill, two mechanical weaving and cotton stiffening mills (a tradition which got lost was **Spinnstube**: the women in the neighbourhood would gather to spin the cotton or the wool,

for further knitting or weaving);
- the village also has a German women's association and a small Swabian museum;

- the commune has 571 houses and 2,294 inhabitants, ;
- 1938-1940 - the first Romanian teacher who taught in the village school was **Ion Ciurca** from Bucharest;
- the local authorities intended to change the name of Iecea into **Orzul-Mare**, but with no result;
-1954 - the village's name is Iecea Mare;
-1968 - the commune Iecea Mare is dissolved and is transferred to Cărpiniş;
-2004 - the commune Iecea Mare is reinstated by separation from Cărpiniş;
-2010 - over 200 locals work in Italy, Ireland and Spain;
- 2011 - the **Beizser Francisc** family from Germany obtained two fire intervention vehicles for the community of the native village, a necessary donation for the fire fighting unit of the locality;
Total population on 1 January 2010: 2,482 persons, of which:
- male = 1,246 persons
- female = 1,236 persons
Total number of households: 867
Educational institutions: Primary and Elementary School (I-VIII); Kindergartens with normal hours;
Health facilities: Medical practices: (two); Human pharmacy;
Cultural institutions: Community center; Library (2005);
Churches: Roman-Catholic church (1770-1880); Romanian Orthodox church (1946); Seventh Day Adventist Churches (two - 1993 and 1997); Pentecostal church (2003);
Annual Church Festival: the Romanian Orthodox Church festival (last Sunday of August).

CITY HALL AND LOCAL COUNCIL OF IECEA MARE

Codrescu Ovidiu - Ioan	**Mayor**	Felecan Vasile, LC Member	DLP
Jorza Ioan	**Vice Mayor**	Iftinchi Gheorghe, LC Member	DLP
Andrei Gheorghe, LC Member	DLP	Marc Gabriela, LC Member	DLP
Colţiş Dănuţ, LC Member	DLP	Nicola Francisc, LC Member	SDP
Drăgan Sorin, LC Member	NLP	Pop Valer, LC Member	DLP
Feleagă Ioan, LC Member	DLP	Sîrca Ioan, LC Member	DLP

IECEA MARE

SWABIAN IOSIF ZAHARIA, "Righteous Among the Nations"!

Near the Parliament of Israel (Knesset), in 1953 an Official Memorial was raised, dedicated to the Holocaust victims, **"Yad Vashem"**. The memorial honors the Non-Jews who saved Jews and their names is listed on the "Righteous Among the Nations" list. The Holocaust Memorial awarded 60 titles to Romanian citizens. The first Romanian to be referred to as "Righteous Among the Nations" was the mayor of Cernăuţi during the World War II, the one who saved thousands of Jews who were to be deported in Transnistria. The 60 "Righteous Among the Nations" included a man from Banat, too: **Iosif Zaharia (Zacharias)**, a Swabian from Iecea Mare. He was the son of a wealthy farmer (bauer). In 1941, after Romania entered the war joining the nazi German axis, and the anti-Jew legislation became even more rigid, Iosif met a 13 years old boy one day, wandering through his village, Iecea

"Yad Vashem" Memorial - Jerusalem

Mare. The boy was lost, hungry and tired, looking for food and shelter.

The child's name was **Benjamin Weiss** and belonged to the Jewish community from Arad, led by rabbin Brisk. Nobody knew how the boy managed to get to Iecea Mare. Regardless of the boy's Jewish origin, Iosif Zacharias took care of him, provided fake identification documents, taught him to raise the cattle and Iosif's father hired him on his farm. The young Swabian's attitude towards the Jewish adolescent from Arad brought Iosif Zaharia (Zacharias) the title "Righteous Among the Nations", the only man from Banat known to have received it so far.

ILIE PINTILIE, THE HEADLESS UNDERGROUND MILITANT

At the middle of the XXth century, the collectivization process was enforced upon the peasants from Iecea Mare, too. The communists from the Party Regional Directorate named the local Agricultural Institution "Ilie Pintilie", after the name of an underground militant close to Gh. Gheorghiu - Dej (the Communist leader of Romania from 1948 until 1965) who died in Doftana prison in 1940. The militant's bust was displayed in front of Iecea Mare GAC (Collective Agricultural Institution), and a brass band was present for the statue unveiling. An impressive celebration was organized on the football field, on the expense of GAC.

The fate of the statue of Ilie Pintilie was decided by a villager, **Mihai Boboc**, after the Revolution from December 1989. Boboc came from a refugee family from the Quadrangle (Cadrilater) which settled there in 1945. Mihai's father was arrest-

ed by the Securitate, and sentenced to forced labour at the Canal, released in 1955, arrested again, and released in 1964, together with many other political prisoners. Mihai Boboc found one way to take revenge on the communist regime which terrorized his family: he beheaded the statue of Ilie Pintilie in March 1990. He took a sledge hammer from the GAC's storage and applied several blows on the granite bust. The head of Ilie Pintile fell to the ground and Boboc took it home. He intended to flee in

Australia, but ultimately decided not to. Nowadays, the headless bust of Ilie Pintilie is in the same place it was 50 years ago, and the head is in the "personal collection" of the rebel Mihai Boboc.

While the bust of Ilie Pintilie still stands in Iecea Mare, the memorial museum "Ilie Pintilie" from Iasi was demolished immediately after 1989...