

CENAD

Local Council Office: Cenad no. 652, telephone/fax 0256/374501;

Coordinates:

46°08'02" N lat.;
20°34'60" E long.;

Historical landmarks:

- the XIth century - the Morisena (Cenad) settlement was recorded;

-1241 - the fortress of Cenad was conquered and destroyed by the Tatars led by **Budjic**, but it would be rebuilt during the time of Bishop **Bulcsú**;

-1459 - fearing the Ottoman invasion, Bishop **Albert Hango**csy ordered the digging of defense ditches around the fortress;

-1514 - the mutinous peasants of Gheorghe Doja besieged the fortress, destroyed the church and burnt the houses;

- the fortress would be rebuilt in several years by Bishop **Francisc Csa**holyi;

-1613 - the fortress, under Serbian ruling, was conquered by **Gavril Beth**len, who gave it to the Ottomans, under which ruling it remained until 1685;

-1701 - the medieval fortress was torn down, following the Karlovitz Peace (1699);

- the building of the village of Cenad began on the ruins of the old fortress;

-1781 - the locality divided into Cenadul Mare (inhabited by Serbs) and Cenadul Vechi (where the Germans settled between 1764 and 1765);

-1853 - the birth of **Carol Tel**bisz; lawyer, mayor of Timișoara between 1885 and 1914 (d. 14 July 1914);

-1858 - the land and the manor from Cenad belonged to the Aromanian family Nako;

- Cenadul Vechi and Cenadul Mare were reunited;

-31 July 1933 - the birth of **Gheorg**he Galetin; choreographer, conductor, instrumental performer;

-1936 - the birth of **Tomislav Giur**ici; conductor and composer;

-28 November 1936 - the birth of musician **Milan Luch**in (d. 11 July 2005);



-17 December 1949 - the birth of **Ioan Ha**țegan; historian and journalist;

-2002 - the commune of Cenad had 4,234 inhabitants;

-2003 - the Cenad customs was inaugurated;

-2009 – the study „Cenad, simply and solely” by Dușan Baiski appears;

Total population on 1 January 2010:

4,619 persons, of which:

- male = 2,230 persons

- female = 2,389 persons

Number of households on 1 January 2010: 1,561;

Educational institutions: Elementary School (I-VIII); Kindergarten with extended hours;

Health facilities: Medical practices: (three); Drugstore; Sanitary-veterinary practice;

Cultural institutions: Library (founded in 1958); Museum;

Fitness and sports facilities: Football pitch; Sports ground (at school);

Churches and monasteries: Romanian Orthodox Churches (1880); Serbian Orthodox Churches (1773); Greek - Catholic Churches (1911); Roman - Catholic Churches (1871); Pentecostal Churches; Baptist Churches (1922); Morisena Monastery;

Annual Church Festivals and other cultural and religious events: the annual Serbian orthodox church festival (22 May); the annual Romanian orthodox church festival (on Pentecost); the celebration of the Patron of Cenad Monastery (24 June - Nativity of Saint John the Baptist); the annual Greek-Catholic church festival (29 June); the annual Roman-Catholic church festival (24 September); the Festival of the Tamburitza Players (13 September).

THE CITY HALL AND THE LOCAL COUNCIL OF CENAD

Crăciun Nicolae	Mayor	Fodor Francisc, LC member	DUHR
Cimpoacă Emanuel	Vice Mayor	Jura-Stoia Carmen Violeta, LC member	DLP
Bălan Gheorghe, LC member	DLP	Köllo Zoltan, LC member	DLP
Bojin Letiția, LC member	DLP	Nicola Ion, LC member	RP
Bornea Victoria, LC member	DLP	Stancu Emilia, LC member	DLP
Clisic Marioara, LC member	SDP	Udrescu Cosmin, LC member	DLP
Cocioran Teodor, LC member	DLP	Vaidovici Mihai, LC member	SDP

CENAD

THE STORY OF AJTONY THE PAGAN

At the end of the 1st millennium, the duke of the Hungarian tribes, Vajk, decided to convert to Catholicism, which he actually did in 1000, changing his name into Ștefan - István (see image, right). The pagan Duke Ajtony ruled the area at the border of the kingdom, on the Mureș river, in Banat. The legend says that he was very cruel with his subjects, punishing them like a barbarian. This did not stop him from bringing famous architects from Thessaloniki, Greece, to build a grand palace in Morisena, close to the place where the old Roman camp Marrisenum used to be.

King Stephen, learning about the vicious deeds of Ajtony, sent a relative to Morisena (Mureșana), who used to be a friend of the pagan, a certain Csanád. Recently converted to Christianity in the town of Esztergom, Csanád fulfilled the order of King Stephen. Ajtony found out from his spies about Csanád's expedition and attacked him by surprise, forcing King Stephen's emissary to withdraw to Kanizsa. According to the memoirs of Saint Gerhard (Gellért), at night while he was praying to God, promising to build a monastery if he won the battle, a lion appeared in Csanád's dream encouraging him to attack Ajtony. Csanád gathered his army and attacked Ajtony's troops in the middle of the night. The battle was fought in the place of the present-day village of Tomnatic. Csanád won the battle, killed Ajtony the pagan and sent his head to King Stephen. As a reward for the winner, the king founded a new county, Csanád, which he gave to his relative. Stephen took over the possessions of the dead pagan and founded a bishopry at Cenad, and the fortress at the border of Banat became a Royal Fortress.



MORISENA MONASTERY

It was founded in 2003. There was an eastern monks' monastery at Cenad (Morisena) around the year 1002, the oldest one on the present-day Romanian territory mentioned in the documents. The current monastery is a nuns' monastery. They live as a community



and have four animals. The patron saint of the monastery is Saint John the Baptist, celebrated on the day of "the nativity of Saint John the Baptist" (24 June), the same patron saint the old monastery had a thousand years ago. The church building and the summer chapel, built in the open field, were consecrated on 24 June 2005 by His Holiness Vicar-Bishop Lucian Lugojanul. On 31 August 2008, Morisena Monastery was visited by His Holiness Paisie Lugojanul. The High Priest held the Divine Liturgy during which the hierodeacon **Matei Hădărig** was ordained as a priest.

PHOTOGRAPHIC
DOCUMENT:

1 December 2008 -

The National Day of Romania was celebrated in the centre of Cenad by hundreds of people.



CENAD

THE ONE MAN BAND



Gheorghe Galetin was born in Cenad on 31 July 1933. In 1949, he graduated the courses of the local Serbian language school. After that he became a butcher's apprentice and worked as a butcher until 1952. His first music teacher was **Sava Giuricin**. In 1953, he led the Military Band and the pop music band from Jimbolia, then he moved to the Estrade Ensemble from Bucharest, which moved to Timișoara after a month. He worked there until 1956, when he was disbanded.

Between 1956 and 1960, he worked at the Serbian State Ensemble (dancer, soloist instrumental performer, together with his wife, **Natalia**, member of the choir and dancer). He worked and studied with exceptional conductors (Ioan Kecenovici, Ișfan Pătru, Teodor Foale) and choreographers (Ionel Marcu and Mara Carauș). He graduated the "C.D. Loga" High School, then he attended the courses of the Popular Arts School from Timișoara, with the teachers Sava Ilin, Iosif Helman, Emilian Dumitru and Vanu Odrobot. In 1961, he was in charge of the artistic activities from the "Electromotor" plant and of the Union of the Working Youth Ensemble from Timișoara (as a conductor). Since 1962 (when he began the collaboration and the friendship with Ciprian Cipu) until 1977, he worked at the Pioneers' Palace ("Hora Timișului" ensemble and orchestra). He was a trainer, a teacher, a conductor and a composer of original music and orchestra, a choreographer, when needed an instrumental performer, and a manager with remarkable managerial skills in creating ensembles. Hundreds of amateur and professional artists formed part of the groups from the Palace, the Youth's Centre ("Hora Banatului", "Kolo"), the University ("Datina"), the Faculty of Medicine, the Culture and Creation Centre, the Constructorul Club, the Philology - History High School ("Izvorul"), the Club of the Romanian Railway Society ("Bănățeana"). In her book "The Song Knows the Cure for the Heart", Marinela Panțaru talked about 1,495 current and former collaborators and students, instrumental performers, dancers and singers in all the ensembles and folk bands led by Gheorghe Galetin "Giurița", or "Cicia", as generations of people used to know him! He received many prizes in folk festivals in the country or abroad. He gave a lot of concerts, did recordings and had TV and radio appearances ... He received honours and prizes, the last one was the "PROCULTURA 2008" trophy awarded by the Timiș County Council.

Nowadays, he enjoys spending time with his granddaughter **Bojița** (artist and... singer), his grandson **Bojidar** (pupil at the Music High School, a talented pianist), the children of his daughter **Deianca**. Giurița's son, **Deian Galetin**, is an exceptional accordionist, conductor of the "Timișul" Ensemble of Timișoara, and his daughter-in-law **Andreea Voica-Galetin**, **Nicoleta Voica's** daughter, is an excellent folk music singer from Banat.

A STUDY OF FAITH: THE HISTORY OF BANAT



The historian **Ioan Hațegan** from Banat was born in Cenad on 17 December 1949. He was a graduate and a doctor of history of the Babeș-Bolyai University of

Cluj-Napoca. The main scientific researcher at the Titu Maiorescu Institute of Human Sciences of the Romanian Academy, Timișoara branch. The founder president of the Banat Foundation. He published numerous books, studies and articles, among which "**The Tourist Map of Timiș County**", Bu-

charest, 1987; "**Paul the Knyaz**", Timișoara, 1994; "**From the Times of Dracula - The Miller's Son from Satchinez**" Timișoara, 1994; "**Medieval Culture and Civilisation in Mureșul de Jos**" Timișoara, 1995; "**The Monograph of the Chamber of Commerce Timișoara**" Timișoara, 2000; "**Habitat and Population from Banat (the XIth - XXth centuries)**" Timișoara, 2003; "**Filippo Scolari - A Italian Mercenary Chieftain on Danubian lands**", 1997; "**The Timișoara Vilayet 1552-1716**" Timișoara, 2005, "**Among the Historical Landmarks of Timiș County**" Timișoara, 2004, "**From the Times of Dracula - The Miller's Son from Satchinez**" 2nd edition, Timișoara, 2008.

CENAD

GERHARD DE SAGREDO - SAINT AND MARTYR

The Roman-Catholic Diocese from Timișoara celebrated in 2010 the 980-year anniversary of the foundation of the Bishopry of Cenad, founded by King Stephen the Saint of Hungary. The first bishop of the Bishopry of Cenad was Gerhard de Sagredo, an Italian Benedictine monk, who was ordained as a bishop in 1030. Gerhard was murdered at Buda on 24 September 1046, later on being honoured as a saint and a martyr (1083). The place of the bishop's martyrdom was Mount Gellért, in the Hungarian capital. Saint and Martyr Gerhard's sarcophagus lies nowadays in the Roman-Catholic Church of Cenad, although some sources claim that the remains of the Hungarian King Ladislav IV the Cuman (Ladislau IV, 1272-1290, son of Stephen V) are buried in it.



Saint Gerhard founded a theological school in Cenad, the Bishopry of Cenad, many parishes, he built several churches and monasteries in the area between the Mureș, Tisa and Danube rivers. Saint Gerhard was the author of an important theological study ("Deliberatio Gerardi Moresanae episcopi suora hymnum trium puerorum"), nowadays preserved in the München National Library.

Following the Treaty from Versailles-Trianon (1918-1919), the Bishopry of Cenad (consisting of the Historical Banat and Arad county) was divided between Hungary (32 parishes, with the centre at Szeged), the middle part, with 64 parishes and the centre at Zrenjanin - Becicherecu Mare, was given to the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and the largest part of the Bishopry of Cenad (with 162 parishes, together with Cenad and the bishopry residence in Timișoara) was given to the Kingdom of Romania. In 1930, through the Solemni Conventione Act, the Diocese of Timișoara was founded as a successor of the ancient Bishopry of Cenad on the territory of the Great Romania. Saint Gerhard, as well as Saint Stephen, are considered to be the protectors of the Roman-Catholic Bishopry of Timișoara.



TOMISLAV GIURICI

Conductor, composer, folklorist, prim/tamburitza player (primită), teacher of history and geography, born in Cenad in 1936, the teacher **Toma Giurici** worked in the Serbian Ensemble of Songs and Dances from Timișoara for 12 years (1958 - 1970) as a concertmaster. In 1973, he founded the vocal instrumental ensemble "The Lads of Mureș River"/"Lale sa Morisa" from Cenad through which he promoted the Serbian and Romanian folklore and recorded at TVR, the Belgrade Television Network, the Novi Sad Radio and Television Network. He was a methodologist at the Folk Creation Centre (1975-1985), then an artistic trainer at the Municipal Cultural Centre from Timișoara (1985-1992), organised and gave concerts in Timișoara, Variaș, Cenei, Dinaș, Cenad, Sântămartinu Sârbesc, but also in Banatsko Novo Selo, Vârșet, Zrenjanin, Guča. His orchestra used only plucked string instruments

like: tamburitzas (prims, prims with three strings, bas-prim), violas, cellos, contrabass without the bow. His repertoire consisted of works like **So clear is the sky (Nebo je tako vedro)**, **What are you so tormented, my thoughts? (Što se bore misli moje?)**, **Far Away in the distance (Tamo daleko)**, **The French Ship Sets Sail (Kreće se ladja francuskac)**, **Tell Me, oh, Tell Me (Kaži mi, kaži)**.

In 1981, he revived the "Sloga" choir (**Harmony/Armonia**, founded in 1922 by Pera Kostić), which was active until 1992, and, in 2003, he revived the "Zora" choir of the Serbian Orthodox Church from Mehala. He published a "Collection of Serbian Folk Songs". In 1974, he was awarded the order of "The Cultural Merit", and, in 2007, he was awarded the Diploma and the "Gold Badge" by the Ministry of Culture and Serbian Diaspora, and the Diploma of the Union of the Serbs from Romania.

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MILENCO "CENĂZEANUL"

Milan Luchin was born in Cenadul Mare on 28 November 1936. He inherited the musical talent from his father, Nedeljko, famous accordionist, and he discovered the violin and the prim with the help of **Sava Giuricin**, an instrumental performer in his home village. He graduated the Serbian Pedagogical School from Timișoara, attending at the same time the local Special School of Music (as a conductor, 1956). In 1961, he graduated and obtained his "bachelor of arts" diploma from the "Gheorghe Dima" Conservatory of Cluj, the specialty contrabass. The same year, he was employed by the "Banatul" Philharmonic of Timișoara (from 1964 the leader of the contrabass "party", until his retirement in 1990). He took part in many tours abroad. In 1962, he began teaching the classic guitar and the contrabass at the Popular School of Arts, being the mentor of some well-known artists. He collaborated with the Serbian Ensemble of Songs and Dances (together with his wife, Milena, initially a dancer, then a singer of the ensemble). The music leader of the "Mladost" Serbian Folk Orchestra (1969), member/soloist of the "Zora" Ensemble, but also a member (1969-1974) of "Rieder Cvintet", a professional band of local Swabian music. Milan Luchin played in several folk bands, pop music bands, he even played jazz or rock! A cosmopolite and talented figure in many fields, in short, a true inhabitant of Banat, he was appreciated and loved as a teacher, orchestra leader, conductor, polyvalent instrumental performer and as a singer. He recorded many disks with the Romanian Television and Radio Network from Timișoara and Bucharest, respectively with the Electrecord Record Label; he took part in "live-duplex" concert-shows Timișoara-Belgrade etc. He is the author of many original creations and of tens of classical orchestra arrangements in many musical genres.



Regarding the Serbian traditional folklore, he put together a musical synthesis of classical type orchestras playing the folklore on plucked string instruments, by the tamburitza players ("tamburași"), within the "The Tamburitza Players from Timișoara" ("Temišvarski tamburași") orchestra. He departed this life in Timișoara on 11 July 2005.

His daughter, Emina, violinist, played at the Philharmonic Orchestra from Novi Sad (since her graduation from the Music High School, in 1982), and within the "Mladost" Ensemble. Since 1992, she is a member of the "Philharmonic Orchestra" from Capetown, South Africa.

On the other hand, his nephew from his father's side, **Milenco Luchin (junior)**, Ph.D. engineer and university professor, graduate of his first generation of students at the Popular School of Arts, professional artist with collaborations with the Radio and Television Network, was the music and artistic leader of the "Mladost" Ensemble. He is the author of the music for the stage creation "Past Times of Banat" ("Trecute vremi bănățene") performed twice by the Opera from Timișoara in 2008; the second performance was bilingual, organised by the "Beli Bagrem" Cultural Association, whose president he was. In 2009, he was awarded the PROCULTURA prize for this show, by the Timiș County Council.



The sons of Milenco Luchin Jr., Goran (bachelor of letters, graduate of the Popular School of Arts, the guitar class) and Nenad (architect), inherited their father's passion for music and especially folklore, both of them (various instruments performers) playing for years - the Serbian viola - with the tamburitza players of Milan Luchin (Senior), respectively with the "Mladost" and "Doina Timișului" Student ensembles. In 1996, the two founded the Bezdán orchestra - in semi-symphonic structure - which currently is project based. Nenad has been (since 2010) the music coordinator of the "Doina Timișului" Ensemble.