

RESEARCH STUDY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

«MOTHER LANGUAGE OVER THE HISTORY»

**Community Initiative
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Editorial note

Within the previous century, the development and evolution of the societies belonging to the wider area of the region of Western Greece, was booming. Within the framework of the program Interreg IIIA 2000 – 2006 (Greece – Italy) and in specific of the project «Mother Language over the History», the woman's contribution within this universal regional change is a matter of search and exploration.

Female researchers and collaborators of Patras Science Park (PSP) undertook the challenge of implementing a series of research studies relevant to the role of woman in various sectors of society (economic, social and religious). The figure of woman as a catalyst of developments and contribution to the society is highlighted through the results of the studies.

PSP collected the outcomes of the research and created the present volume, within which the image of the woman of the previous century is sketched, in other words a familiar figure and not a distant one, is presented. This woman's contribution is not recorded and that leads modern people to believe that the societal evolution is an automated process.

What the reader of this book is getting is that the aforementioned process is not an automated one. It is characterized by labour, efforts, mistakes and quite often, tragic selections. In the same time frame, the evolution of production that was engraved in two different areas of Western Greece, shaped different societies and the results of this economic affluence and local development are visible, permitting for the evaluation of the past selections.

Moreover, by the study of activities that took place in Patras, it is proved that, within a social level, when a woman has the opportunity and the freedom to establish associations, to actively participate in matters of common interests and to organise activities and events, her contribution within the society is becoming crucial and substantial.

The present volume is concluding with the presentation of a more sentimental role that is being performed by the visual image of a mother, especially in difficult areas. The figure of Saint Mary the Virgin and her symbolic attribute as a shelter of the pestering and the beaten, more generally for all those people who they hope in a radical change against an oppressive situation, reflects the recognition and the respect that society nourished not only for the religious symbol, but also in the role of mother.

Concluding in this note, we would like to thank the collaborators of PSP for their contribution and excellent work, for their patience and tenacity as well as for their diligence in the elaboration of the research studies.

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