



# Literary celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Jeronim de Rada

26 September 2014

On Wednesday, at South East European University in Skopje, a literary celebration was held to mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Jeronim de Rada. The event was organized by SEEU and was held as part of the “Tingujt e Çarshisë” festivities.

The Rector of South East European University, Prof. Dr. Zamir Dika, expressed his satisfaction that this activity was held both at the University and in the specific location of the SEEU Skopje building, called “Ura/Most/Il Ponte/Bridge”. These physical premises, he noted, not only fulfill their traditional academic mission, but also represent a unique component in the space of higher education in the country.



“This is a project which integrates diversity in an environment that offers advanced standards of international contemporary knowledge. The diversity is not only of a linguistic and cultural character, but is architectural as well. This building is located in the heart of Balkan architecture and the integration of this positive cultural contribution today promotes the economic impact of the Old Bazaar and Skopje Centre”, said Rector Dika.

The keynote address of this event was given by Prof. Francesco Altimari, from the University of Cosenza, who explained and explored the role of De Rada in Albanian Romantic literature. An Arbëresh poet, Jeronim De Rada created a voluminous body of work, which retains its significance to this day.

“Jeronim de Rada--despite belonging to the period of Romanticism in Albanian literature--is a complex and modern poet, because through his characters he addresses complex and contemporary topics that are current even now in European literature.”

Prof. Mateo Mandala, Arbëresh scholar from the University of Palermo, spoke about the literary and historical impact of de Rada at the beginning of the Albanian National Renaissance.

“The promotion of the glory of our ancestors, along with language and Skanderbeg, would constitute an

important triangle of our historical and cultural calendar” said Prof. Mandala.

Prof. Françoško Altimari, in 2013 was awarded the Doctorate 'Honoris Causa' by South East European University.

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