

The *Chitalishte*: Transmission, Unity, Institution ...

Mila Santova

(Summary)

Asserting for decades on end its status of a focal point of the (social and) cultural life of (predominantly small) communities, the institution of the Bulgarian *chitalishte* in its more than a century existence has gradually but firmly accepted and realized its functions related to the transmission of the local culture. The text develops the discourse about the *chitalishte* as “memory” as well as a “generator” of local culture, closely related to its institutional status based on community unification.

Keywords: *chitalishte*; communities; transmission; institution

Mila Santova
Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies
with Ethnographic Museum – BAS
Bl. 6 Acad. Georgi Bonchev St.
1113 Sofia, BULGARIA
mila_santova@ yahoo.com