

***Chitalishte* and the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage
(From the Life of the Folklore Groups in Bistritsa and Alino)**

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(Summary)

The article represents the folklore groups created in the second half of the 20th century. They allow for the local village tradition (preserved as a living practice of its bearers) to enter the local *chitalishte*. The analysis of the field-work research in the villages of Bistritsa (Sofia City Municipality) and Alino (Samokov Region) reveals different aspects of the relation between *chitalishte* institution and intangible cultural heritage in the changing social and cultural contexts, as well as in relation to the changing cultural policies. Thus the article offers an anthropological point of view to the transmission of traditional knowledge, skills and experience in *chitalishte* environment.

Keywords: *chitalishtes*; safeguarding; intangible cultural heritage; folklore groups

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