

# Traces of Jewish life in Ioannina, Greece

FRIDAY, 16.10.2015

On Friday, October the 16th, the group of students and teachers left the school at 6 o'clock to take the ferry to Corfu. In Corfu they visited first a synagogue where the group was informed with a little presentation about the history of the island and the Jewish community.



The situation of the Jews was dominated by permanent changes of their living conditions, e.g.: under the French occupation the Jews received all human rights but on the other hand under the English occupation the Jewish rights were limited, like prohibition for going out. During the time of the third Reich, 2000 corfiot Jews were brought to concentration camps and only 130 survived. As a sign of memorial of the Jews, a statue was built and also visited during the day. Furthermore, the contributor mentioned the divided Jewish community, which consists of Spanish Sephardic Jews and the Romaniots.

Then the leader of the Albert Cohen foundation gave some information about Cohen's life. Albert Cohen, born in 1895 on Corfu, was a well-known writer and he was famous for his novel "Die Schöne des Herrn." The Judaism was always an important issue in his work. Beneath his work as a writer, he was part of the Jewish agency in London. After this two informative presentations, the former house of Albert Cohen was visited. The last part of the schedule of the morning was a viewing of the archive of Corfu city in the old castell. In there, the pupils and teachers were informed about the work in an archive and some old plans of the city were shown to them.

