



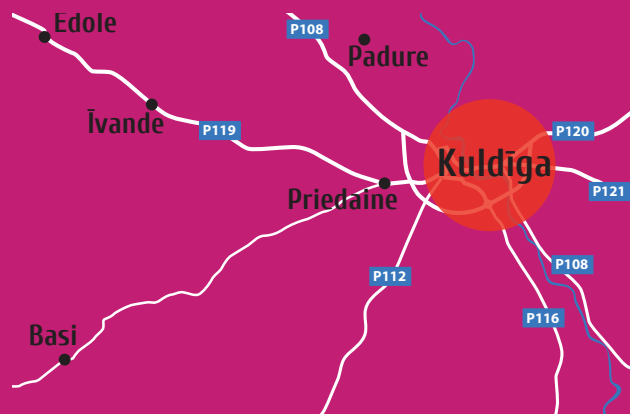
The exhibition is supplemented by audiovisual material - historical photographs showing traditional Suiet people at traditional celebrations and audio files featuring each tradition.

An important part of the exposition is also the movie "Motherland is Calling" or "Wedding in Alsunga", which was shot in 1935, with the participation of Alsunga, Jūrkalne Gudenieki and Basu residents.

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EXHIBITION *SUIET CUSTOMS* BASI COMMUNITY CENTER



Living as a small Catholic island in the surrounding Lutheran environment of the Kurzeme, the Suiti have retained what has never been so dense and concentrated in any other region of Latvia – the peculiar character, customs, traditional cultural items and objects.

(Dr. hab. filol. Janīna Kursīte)



BASI COMMUNITY CENTER'S

rich and magnificent exposition consists of both tangible and intangible cultural history, typical of the Suiet region. The exhibition includes items of Suiet customs, such as a twin cradle, a dowry chest, a coffin, a festive table. There is a specially designed Suiet wedding scene featuring Suiet folk costumes for wedding celebrations.

MORNING SUN – baptism.

Baptism is the giving of the name to the child, his admission to the family. Also in the congregation.

The most important parts of the tradition were choice and invitation of godparents, travel to church and back, dancing with godchild, cradle hanging, gift giving to the godchild as well as feast.



EVENING SUN – funeral.

Traditions in Suiet can be counted in the centuries, as, like baptism, the whole ritual is already permeated by the rites, songs and beliefs of the Catholic Church. Funeral traditions included preparation for passing away, funeral preparation, funeral service, and funeral meal.



Exhibition "Suiet Customs" tells about four major events in the life of Suiet people. These themes are divided into four different bins, each symbolically represented by the sun.

MIDDAY SUN – wedding.

Significant parts of the wedding were already getting ready for the wedding, bridal dowry, transportation of dowry, escorting the bride and groom to the church, church ceremony, welcoming of wedding guests at home, feast, the first dance, on the second day waking up the newlyweds, taking off the crown, gift giving, towel handling, money throwing, hook tearing.

SUITI SUN – joint work, annual traditions, church festival.

Most of the seasonal customs in the Suiet region are related to the Catholic Church celebration, but they also have a variety of beliefs and observations. It was a custom for bigger and harder works help out the neighbours.