

# Ganni Beaver tours

## Malta and Gozo

discovering  
customs  
and  
traditions



Part 2

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# Traditional Games of Our Islands



# Maltese Traditional Games

“INTEKTKUH”



For this game a coin would be place upright next to a wall. Children would one by one try their luck at throwing nuts at the coin. Whoever hits the coin takes it whilst whoever put the coin next to the wall takes all the nuts. Whoever wins can leave the coin in its place so the game can continue and everyone gets a go at hitting the coin.

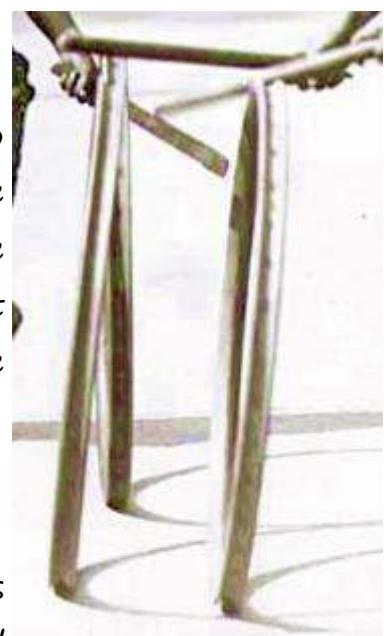


Ic – “CIPPITATU”

This game was very popular with girls. Children stay in a circle. In the middle of the circle a bowl is placed. Each child places an number of nuts. Each child rolls the dice and whoever gets ‘six’ wins all the nuts. The nuts can be placed back into the bowl until everyone gets a go at winning the nuts.

Ic – “CIRKU”

A hoop, of any size, free from spokes and hubs, used to be seen frequently trundled along the ground with the help of a piece of wire bent at one end to guide the rim of the hoop. Can be played on your own, but where is the fun in that? A hoop race can be organised.



Iz – “ZIBEG”

Children compete for beads dealt out by every individual player. The most common game involves making a shallow depression in the ground (hofra) into which beads are flicked using the fingers. In some games the colours of the beads have different values.

# Maltese Traditional Games



## “BOMBOS”

This popular game could be played in several styles but all involve a boy at the front, on all fours, whilst the other vaults over him, using his hands in leap frog fashion. The game continues by the players alternating—One being the frog and one being the stepping stone. Sometimes two groups run parallel to race each other.

different values.



## “XIXU”

A small length of wood was placed on a rigid edge on the ground and with a stick or rod was hit sharply on one end to make it fly as high as possible into the air.



## “ŽUGRAGA”

To spin a wooden top, children wound a string several times around it and learned to throw it sharply while holding on to the end of the string. This made the top spin for a short while.

## “BZIEZAQ TAS-SAPUN”

This provided a pastime for all ages. A good mixture of soap in water blown slowly through a short length of cane tube produced beautiful, colourful bubbles. Commoner than the cane is a page from an old exercise book rolled, taped and trimmed into a tube.



# Il-Passju

Il-passju jintlagħab bejn tħafna tfal u huwa l-aktar favorit mal-bniet. F'xi intħawi għaddekk issib tfal jilagħbuha fl-iskejjel. Qabel fiż-żmien din il-logħba kienet tintlagħab l-aktar fit-triq.

Il-logħba tal-passju tingasam f'disa' partijiet. Kaxxa kbira titħażżeż mal-art permezz ta'ġebla. Din il-kaxxa tingasam fit-tmien partijiet. Fl-akħar

tagħmel nofs ċirku u dan jiġi n-numru disgħia. L-ewwel tifla tibda tilgħab billi tixxet ġebla fuq in-numru wieħed. Meta hija qiegħda tagħmel dan, hi trid taqbeż fuq in-numru Wieħed u tnejn, fuq in-numru tlieta trid taqbeż fuq sieq watħda, terġa' taqbeż fuq in-numru erbgħa u l-ħamsa u terġa' fuq sieq watħda fuq il-kaxxa numru sitta.

It-tifla terġa' tniżżeż saqajha fuq in-numri sebgħha u tmienja u fuq sieq watħda fuq il-kaxxa numru disgħia u trid terġa' lura bl-istess mod sa ma tasal fuq il-kaxxa numru wieħed u tigħbi il-ġebla u totħroġ. Il-logħba tkompli minn min ikun imissu jilgħab.



\* \* \* \* \*

# Noli

Din kienet probabbilment l-aktar logħba popolari. Isem ietħor għaliha huwa il-Mistotibja, imma aktar hi magħrufa llum bħala in-Noli.

Il-Persuna li tkun 'biha' trid tfittex lill-bqija li jkunu marru jistatħbew f'xi post mhux 'il bogħod sakemm hi tkun tgħodd in-numri, filwaqt li tispicċa "Min hu barra barra, 123 min hu warajja!"

# Iż-Żunzana Iddur Iddur



“Iż-żunzana ddur iddur, fuq il-bejt tal-kaċċatur,  
Gvernatur, arkitektur, jew pittur, meta tasal taħt il-mina, tagħmel żinn,  
żunn, żann.”

Din il-logħba tintlagħib bejn grupp ta' tfal ta' iktar minn tlieta. Kulthadd ipo-  
ġġi ғċirku waqt li titkanta din it-taqbila.

Xi ħadd mill-grupp ikun qed jigri madwar dan iċ-ċirku b'gebla żgħira fidu  
donnu żunzana. Malli tispicċċa t-taqbila, dak li jkun qed jigri (iż-żunzana) ipo-  
ġġi l-gebla wara dahar it-tifel li jkun wasal warajh.

Dak li jkollu l-gebla warajh imbagħad irid iqum jigri  
wara ż-żunzana u jipprova jaqbadha.





Songs

and

Rhymes

# Pizzi Pizzi Kanna

Pizzi Pizzi Kanna

Dolores ta' Sant' Anna

Sant' Anna tal-Morina

Qatgħet biċċa Pellegrina

Mgħaref tal-fidda

Bandiera tal-ħarir

Noli kannoli,

L-Insara kollha qaddisin

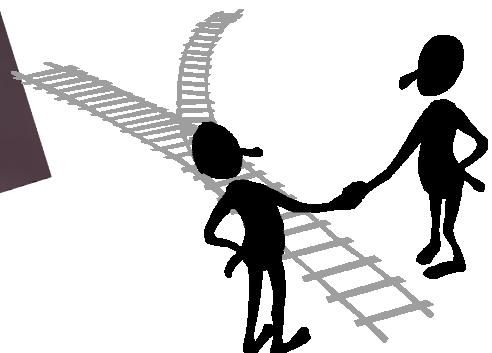
Din il-logħba tintlagħib bejn żewgt itfal jew iktar.

Niflu s-swaba' kollha ta' jdejna waqt li xi tradd jgħid din it-taqbila u ma' kull sillaba jimxi minn fuq seba' għal iektor ta' kull min ikun qed jilgħab.



Malli tispicċa t-taqbila,  
innet lu dak is-seba' li  
jkun waqaf fuqu dak li  
jkun qed jgħid din it-  
taqbila.

Min jispicċa bis-swaba'  
kollha mdatħi lin 'il gew-  
wa l-ewwel ikun it-  
tellief.



# Bumm Bumm Il-Bieb

Din hija logħba oħra marbuta mal-kant.

Hemm żewġ gruppi; Dawn ikunu flinja dritt u facċata ta' xulxin.  
Waqt li qed ikantaw iridu jimxu 'l quddiem u jaqbżu.

Meta tintlagħab din il-logħba, il-partecipanti jridu jkantaw din it-taqbila:

- ⌚ Grupp 1 : Bumm bumm il-bieb, ongi ongi ongella; bumm bumm il-bieb ongio kavallier
- ⌚ Grupp 2 : Min gie min gie min gie ongio...
- ⌚ Grupp 1: Gie l-ambaxxatore ongio...
- ⌚ Grupp 2: X'irid l-ambaxxatore ongion..
- ⌚ Grupp 1: irid tifla sabiħa ongi ongion...
- ⌚ Grupp 2 : Min hija din it-tifla ongi ongion...
- ⌚ Grupp 2: Huduha la triduha, għaxx aħna m'għandniex x'nambuha'

Imbagħad meta  
jlestu jibdew il-  
bniet mill-bidu  
sakemm kull tifel u  
tifla jissejjat  
sabiħ!



# **Id-Dghajsa Tal-Latini**

## **- New Cuorey**

Maghrufa b'tal-latini bi l-wienek kollok gmiel  
'I Malta w Ghawdex tghaqqaq qalb wahda t-tnejn flimkien  
U gejja w sejra tferraq il-mewg bajdani u kbir  
Mhux darba w tnejn tingqabad f'bahar qawwi u krudil

Chorus: Mewweg mewweg dghajsa tagħna  
Fuq bahar kahlani u nir  
Ta kuljum narak jien hierga (x2)

Minn ta Malta il-Port il-Kbir  
Tofroq dritta l-mewg bajdani  
qhall-Imgarr t'Għawdex il-port  
Kull fil-ghodu taqdi dmirek  
it-tagħbi ja tiegħek tmur thott



Lill gżejjer tagħna tħaxxaq x'hin taqsam minn gol-fligu  
Fejn xewqet il-ghedewwa jagħrquk kull darba riedu  
Dan kien fi zmien il-gwerra  
x'hin kont twettaq il-hidma  
Kont tigi bbumbardjata tal-ghadu tkun il-vittma

Chorus: Mewweg mewweg dghajsa  
tagħna  
Fuq bahar kahlani u nir  
Ta kuljum narak jien  
hierga (x3)



# Lanċa Gejja u Ohra Sejra

Lanċa gejja w oħra sejra  
minn Tas-Sliema għal Marsamxett,  
il-kaptan bil-pipa f'halqu,  
jidderiegi l-bastiment.

Sewwa sewwa f'nofs ta' batħar,  
il-kaptan tħassu tħażin,  
ma kellux min idur miegħtu,  
daru miegħtu il-batħrin

Agtimillu karta,  
agtimillu karta,  
Agtimillu karta  
għal tax-xjut!



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