Università di Firenze Dipartimento di Formazione, Lingue, Intercultura, Letterature e Psicologia

Corso di Traduzione in Lingua inglese John Gilbert

from "Una storia complicata. Rom, che cos'è il pane per il popolo senza terra"

with no Country/Homeland

(“A Complicated Story. The Roma: What is Bread for the People without a Land/Country”?)

(History?) The Romany. What Bread is to/for the People (***not*** landless)

(Rom?)/The Romani People

by Pedrag Matvejevic in *Il Corriere della sera,* 30 May 2008 (translation by Giacomo Scotti)

(remembered?/recollected????)

(…) for many Europeans(,) and Italians, as Claudio Magris recalled in the/*Il* *Corriere* (on) Monday

reminded readers/(us??)

they scare people more than/they are scarier/make people more afraid with

26 May, they are more frightening than the Mafia or (the) Camorra\*, even though compared to

they cause more fear than although/though in/by comparison to

inconveniences/difficulties bring (about) (best/worst)

that social cancer, the problems they cause can be compared at (the) most to a (common) cold.

tumor, trouble/annoyances (that/which) they make could be likened at most to

to no more than

went through One often forgets/we?/people forget

The Roma experienced their (own) Shoah. Often it is forgotten that they were killed by

have gone through that tens of thousands of them were killed in

the tens of thousands in the Nazi extermination/death camps, together/along with the Jews. (…)

(NOT Hebrews)

No one knows precisely live But it is known

It is not known exactly how many Roma reside in each country. We know however that

resident Roma there are state. But we do know

What we do know/is known however

in some there are many (of them), above all

in some (of them) they are quite numerous, especially in the eastern Balkans. (…)

came/got/(gathered) together,

In Europe there are more than ten million (of them). If they were put/brought together,

Europe counts more than were to come together put themselves together,

Combined,

larger/greater those of half a dozen countries in

they would form a more numerous population than that of a half dozen states of our continent.

constitute/make up a population larger

either… or… a birthplace/a native country

They do not have their own territory or (their own) government. They all have a country

They have neither their own territory nor a government of their own. All of them

origin, (who/that) they live among/with,

of birth, but (they do) not (have) a homeland. They are (a) part of the people in the midst of

among/with whom they live,

whom they live, but not of a nation. They are not even a national minority: they are

transnational.

arrived They descend from populations of

They came from Asia. They are (the) descendants of populations from northern India.

time their have differentiated themselves by tribe.

Since the remote times of the exodus, they have been distinguished by tribes. Through Persia,

(were?) (N.B. Why *imperfetto* & not *presente indicative*?)

observed (how) to make bread. basic/primary

Armenia and Asia Minor, they saw and learned how bread is made. This elementary food,

Furthermore,/What is more,

moreover, was not unknown to/by//unfamiliar to their distant ancestors.

about great the

In their proverbs on bread there is much wisdom. (…) “If a poor man were beaten

Much wisdom lies/can be found in their proverbs were to be flogged

he who strikes/hits.”

with bread, he would kiss the hand of the one who beats him.” (…) “Bread can do what

beating him”.

wish is unable to do/cannot (do).”

God does not want and what the emperor is not able to do.” (…) “If there were enough

all in the world, courthouses

bread for everyone in this world, (the) churches and (the) tribunals would be deserted\*\*.” (…)

courts (of law)/court rooms empty.”

(***not*** desert)

\* No italics because Camorra like Mafia has entered the English language.

\*\* a deserted town: a desert town (in the desert): to desert: *abbandonare, disertare*