5 CURIOUS FACTS ABOUT ITALY

GIFTS FOR ALL SOULS' DAY



November 2 nd. is All Souls' Day. For this celebration, children usually receive gifts such as toys or tipical sweets called "ossa dei morti" which means dead's bones.

Children are told that the souls of **dead relatives** had brought those presents during the night. Obviously, only children who behave well are supposed to get them.



" 'NGIURIA "

U Luangu. TESTA GROSSA. labbru lientu. lu furnaru acciarinu. sferra. u tuortu u palermitanu. bedda matri. u curtu. taccitedda. u rantuni. cavatuni *" 'ngiuria "* is a dialectal word meaning **nickname**. However, it has a negative connotation. It is based on a tic, physical flaws, character aspects or habits

E.g: "Testa Grossa" means "Big Head"; "Labbru Lientu" means that you talk slowly; "Lu furnaru" means baker; "U palermitanu" means someone who is from Palermo; "Acciarinu" referes to someone who gets angry easily.

"GRANITA"



Granita was first made, between 9 th and 11 th centuries, with the snow taken on the **volcano Etna** by Sicilian Nobles

Therefore it was eaten at about 5 p.m., it is now eaten for breakfast.

There are several kinds of Granita, but the most famous ones are made with almonds, chocolate and lemon. They are all eaten with **brioche** which is a sort of sweet bread.

ICE CREAM



Ice cream and granita have the same origins: the **Arab sherbet.** The first kind of ice cream, the Popsicle, was born in **Firenze** around **1500**.

However, Ice cream was actually created in 1600 by <u>Francesco Procopio</u> <u>De' Coltelli</u>, a Sicilian man who inherited a machine to make sorbets. He went to Paris where he opened "Café Procope". Here he had the idea to add milk to the original ingredients. So Ice cream was born.

Ice cream became internationally known when a genovese, Giovanni Bosio, opened his first ice-cream shops in New York.

SICILIAN FLAG



The flag of Sicily was rised for the first time in **1282**.

Nowadays, it is the fourth longevous flag in the world.

In the middle is represented the mythological figure of "**trinacria**", the colors red and yellow represent the union between Palermo and Corleone who chased Angioini during the **Vespro Revolution**.