

„The Gypsies“

Apparently Tshaya surprised the small Tshurara girl by catching some water from the river without taking care of the rules about *ujo* (note: *žužo*) and *mahrime*. For the *Lovara* this was a serious insult. Along the bank of the river there were 5 places defined for certain tasks: On the farthest place stream upwards one could go to catch drinking water and cooking water, then there was the place to rinse and to wash, further down-stream the horses could be watered and the clothes could be washed, and the last place was where the clothes of pregnant and menstruating women could be washed. For each purpose there were certain containers to catch water. Every Gypsy family draws an exact differentiation between clean and unclean. A Rom would never touch anything that was *mahrime*.

[Yours, Jan (1982) Die Zigeuner. Frankfurt.]