

Katarina
Taikon (1932-
1995)



Katarina Taikon was a Swedish Romani (Gypsy) activist, writer, and civil rights leader who was born in 1932. She grew up in a time when Roma people in Sweden faced discrimination and were not treated equally. As a child, Katarina was not allowed to attend school regularly, which made it difficult for her to get an education. Despite these challenges, she became determined to fight for the rights of Roma people and to improve their living conditions and access to education.

As an adult, Katarina Taikon became one of the most important voices for Roma civil rights in Sweden. She campaigned for Roma children to have the right to go to school and for families to have proper housing. She worked alongside politicians and activists to change laws and attitudes, helping to bring about greater equality. In addition to her activism, she was a talented writer and used her books to raise awareness about Roma culture and the unfair treatment her community faced.

Katarina is especially well known for her series of children's books about a young Romani girl called Katitzi, which were inspired by her own childhood. These stories helped many readers understand what life was like for Roma people and encouraged empathy and respect. Today, Katarina Taikon is remembered as a courageous campaigner who helped improve the lives of Roma people in Sweden and beyond, and her work continues to inspire discussions about equality, identity, and human rights.

