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Venetian-Ottoman Wars

EDITED BY STATHIS BIRTACHAS



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On the cover: lantern of an Ottoman galley captured at Lepanto.
Venice, Armory rooms of the Council of Ten at the Doge's Palace.
Topwar.ru website of Vjačeslav Špakovsky.



Venice and the Ottoman Empire as warriors. Source: [Roger PALMER, Earl of Castlemaine], *Das von den Türcken außs äusserst bedrangte, aber: Durch die christliche Waffen der heroischen Republic Venedig außs tapfferst beschützte Candia* [...], Frankfurt, Wilhelm Serlin, 1669.



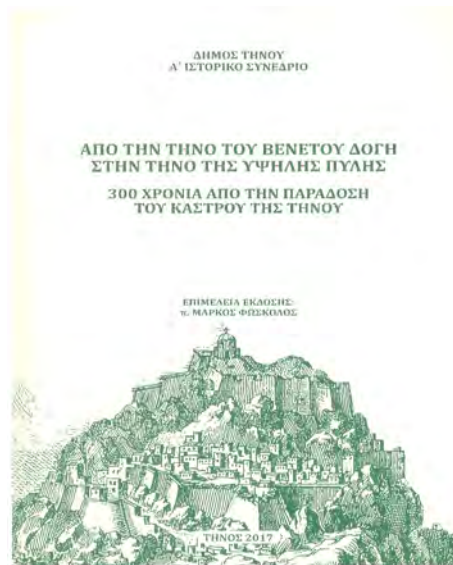
“Oltremarini” (Overseas) Regiments in Venetian service, nicknamed ‘Schiavoni’
(Vinkhuzen Collection, NYPL)

FR. MARKOS FOSKOLOS (ED.),

*Από την Τήνο του βενετού δόγη στην Τήνο
της Υψηλής Πύλης.*

*300 χρόνια από την παράδοση του Κάστρου της Τήνου
[= From Tinos of the Venetian doge to Tinos of the Sublime
Porte. 300 years since the surrender of the Castle of Tinos]*

Tinos, Municipality of Tinos, 2017, pp. 468.



This book explores the history of the island of Tinos during the early modern period and is the common effort of significant researchers in the field from Greece, with the addition of the Italian byzantinist's Antonio Carile essay, entitled «Το όνειρο του Ναβουχοδονόσορ και η αλληλοδιαδοχή των αυτοκρατοριών στην ιστορία της σωτηρίας»¹. It has been edited by the Tinian

1 English title: «The dream of Nebuchadnezzar and the succession of empires in the his-

scholar Fr. Markos Foskolos. The editor has studied for a long time the history of Tinos under the Ghisi's dynasty, but also during the Venetian and Ottoman rules on the basis of primary archival sources from Rome and Venice.

This collective volume contains a series of essays investigating various aspects of the war and mainly its consequences (political, social, economic) during the *Serenissima's* domination on the island, and more specifically from the Fourth Venetian–Ottoman War (1570–1573) onwards, and its passage to the Ottoman rule after the Second Morean War (1714–1718) and the signing of the Treaty of Passarowitz. In particular, the volume includes the following essays directly or indirectly related to the war (the remaining essays have not highlighted in this book review).

Kostas Tsiknakis («Η Τήνος μετά τον τέταρτο Βενετοτουρκικό πόλεμο»², pp. 55-86) investigates the situation on Tinos after the catastrophic three-year military operations of the Fourth Venetian–Ottoman War (1570–1573), during which the problems in the East were exacerbated. At first, the author offers a bibliographical sketch on the suffering endured Tinos during the War. Next, he examines on the one hand a signed protest of some inhabitants of the island addressed to the Venetian metropolitan authorities (1576); and on the other hand: a) a request of the local Community's commissioners of the same period to the *provveditore generale* and *inquisitore* (namely, travelling inspector or inquisitor) Giacomo Foscarini, and (b) the relevant provisions of that official (1577). These documents reflect the problems in the relationship between rulers and ruled; the dysfunctions in the State apparatus, in the military organization and the defense system of the possession, the abuses of the local administrative and military officials, and their various abuses against the local population; the illicit everyday reality and the need to restore law and order, as well as a series of proposals for relevant provisions; and some demands relating to the estates of those Tinians who migrated to other areas due to the war tensions and the consequent economic hardship on the island. Finally, the issue of the slaves' refuge on Tinos, coming from various parts of the Ottoman Empire, is raised.

George Tolia («Το Αιγείο του Francesco Lupazzolo και η ανασυγκρότηση

tory of salvation».

2 English title: «Tinos after the Fourth Venetian-Ottoman war».

του Λεβάντε κατά τον 17ο αιώνα»³, pp. 165-186) examines the life and activity of a known person to researchers in recent years, namely Francesco Lupazzolo. He also presents an image of the Aegean islands shortly before the start of the Cretan War on the basis of a map and two *isolarii* [cartographic encyclopedias of islands] (1638), compiled by Lupazzolo, which are of great economic, ethnographic and religious interest. The latter was a typical example of a Franco-Levantine adventurer, who for about eighty years played an active role in Western penetration strategies on the shores and islands of the Aegean: he was a member of the first Apostolic Visitation to the Aegean islands; an agent of the Sacra Congregatio de Propaganda Fide, with close links to the Jesuits (from Constantinople to Tinos); a liaison to Venice's secret service during the Cretan War (acting as an intermediary between the Republic of Saint Mark and the Venetian patricians imprisoned in Constantinople); and after the War, consul of Venice in Smyrna during the last years of his long life (he lived over a hundred years). According to Tolia, during the Morean War (1684–1699) Lupazzolo moved from Chios to Tinos, from where he informed the Venetian authorities about the movements of the Ottoman fleet in the Aegean. In Smyrna, he secured significant financial because of his protection offered to immigrants from Venetian Tinos, who left the island and settled in Smyrna permanently or occasionally due to the economic hardship that followed the Cretan War. From them he received a golden *scudo* per year. The Tinian community of Smyrna numbered 1,200 members, authentic Tinians or others who pretended to be Tinians in order to avoid Ottoman taxation.

Chryssa Maltezos deals with this very topic in her essay («Sudditi veneti σε τουρκικό έδαφος: Τήνιοι στη Σμύρνη μετά τον Κρητικό πόλεμο»⁴, pp. 187-196), i.e. the migration of Tinians to Smyrna after the Cretan War. Initially, the author describes in detail the situation of Tinos and the role that the island played during the Cretan War: it was a supply base, but also a base for the Venetian fleet's operations, and suffered multiple Ottoman attacks. Particular reference is made to two raids that took place in the summer of 1654 and had a devastating effect on the economy of the island. To these should be added the raids of pirates and corsairs, whose action was intense in the Aegean not only during that time, but

3 English title: «The Aegean Sea of Francesco Lupazzolo and the reconstruction of the Levant in the 17th century».

4 English title: «Venetian subjects in Turkish territory: Tinians in Smyrna after the Cretan War».

also later during the two Morean Wars. Although the Ottoman invasions were not aimed at conquering Tinos, but at demonstrating power and terrorizing the local society, their negative effects on the local rural economy and the threat of famine caused the aforementioned migratory flow from Tinos to the opposite Ottoman territories and Smyrna in particular. Maltezou investigates the immigrants' efforts to be treated by the Ottoman authorities as Venetian subjects in order to avoid taxation; and the policy of Venice and the Venetian consul in the city towards them. It should be noted here that in 1700, shortly before the surrender of Tinos to the Ottomans (1715), the number of Tinian migrants in Smyrna was amounted to 2,000.

Andreas Mazarakis essay («Νομισματικές μαρτυρίες: Τήνος 1700–1701, 1710–1713»⁵, pp. 197-210) highlights the fact that in the early 18th century, shortly before the surrender of Tinos to the Ottomans (1715), the penetration of the Ottoman monetary economy in Tinos was already clearly apparent, given the high volume of trades imported from the Ottoman Empire and the role of the island on the transit in the Ottoman trade with the other Aegean islands.

After the conquest of Constantinople by the Ottomans (1453), many Latin families migrated to the Aegean islands. Over time, however, especially from 1537 onwards when the islands were occupied one after the other by the Ottomans, some of these families follow the opposite path. Rinaldo Marmara («Οι Τήνιοι της Κωνσταντινούπολης: Η Σπουδαιότητα των εκκλησιαστικών αρχείων»⁶, pp. 211-217) examines the settlement of Latin families from Tinos in the Ottoman capital during the 18th and 19th centuries, a consequence of the Ottoman conquest of the island. The author highlights the importance of some primary sources, in particular those from the Vatican Apostolic Archives and the Archive of the Apostolic Vicariate of Constantinople, to understand the extent of this migratory flow.

Fr. Markos Foskolos («Η παράδοση της Τήνου στους Οθωμανούς (5–7 Ιουνίου 1715)»⁷, pp. 221-253) explores the conditions of the final expulsion of Venice from the Aegean Sea after the conquest of Tinos by the Ottoman fleet in

5 English title: «Numismatic evidence: Tinos 1700-1701, 1710-1713».

6 English title: «The Tinians of Constantinople: The importance of the ecclesiastical archives».

7 English title: «The surrender of Tinos to the Ottomans (June 5-7, 1715)».

June 1715. Firstly, the author refers to the tacit transformation of Tinos from the period of the Cretan War onwards into a refuge of pirates and corsairs, a base of raids organized by them, but also a place of storage of their booty, a fact that served the Venetian interests. In this context, the Venetian *rettori* of the island sought to balance between the instructions given them from metropolitan authorities for overgrowing the pirates' activity and the fictitious cooperation they were obliged to maintain with the Ottoman fleet in order to prevent invasions and looting. Secondly, he points out that the events of 1715 regarding Tinos did not highly occupy the Greek and European bibliography. Instead, researchers focused on the conquest of Morea and other military and diplomatic events of the last Venetian–Ottoman War. He also examines the information, regarding the surrender of Tinos by the Venetians to the Ottomans, found in works of the local historiography, as well as the primary sources on which they are based. Thirdly, he describes in detail the military operations and the invasion of the island by the Ottomans, the siege of its Castle, the tactics of the attackers and the attempt of resistance by the insufficient Venetian guard (assisted by a militia body), the meager ammunition and food supplies, and, ultimately, the negotiations and the terms of the surrender of the island to the conquerors. These included, on the one hand, the departure of the Venetians and the Venetian garrison for other Venetian possessions; and, on the other, the non-looting of the island by the Ottoman army and guarantees of safety to its inhabitants for their life, property and religion. Foskolos concludes with a reference to the explosion and destruction of the Castle, the houses and the other buildings of the medieval capital of Tinos, a fact that marked the consolidation of the Ottoman rule.

After a brief introduction to the military and diplomatic phases of the last Venetian–Ottoman War and the conquest of Tinos by military forces landed on the island by the Admiral of the Ottoman fleet Canim Hoca Mehmed Pasha – also known as Canum Hoca in European sources – in June 1715, Elias Kolovos («Το μπεράτι για το φορολογικό καθεστώς της Τήνου μετά από την οθωμανική κατάκτηση (1719)»⁸, pp. 273-282) mentions the two-year exemption from the capital tax granted by Canim Hoca to the Tinians. Subsequently, he scrutinizes the non-tax capacity of the latter after the passage of the above two years, a fact

8 English title: «The Berat [*berath*] on the tax regime of Tinos after the Ottoman conquest (1719)».

attributed to the departure of a large number of wealthy families from the island after the Ottoman conquest to either Italian territories or the Castle of Naxos. Regarding this issue, on the basis of two Ottoman archival documents of the year 1719, he considers the concession of a *berat* by the Ottoman authorities at the request of Tinos envoys for the reduction of the annual tax and the privilege of the tax collection by part of the Tinian community.

In conclusion, Tinos was the only Venetian possession left in the Archipelago from the second half of the 16th century onwards. The above presented essays of the volume compose a panorama of the role of Tinos in the armed conflicts between the Venetian Republic and the Ottoman Empire (from the Third Venetian–Ottoman War [1537–1540] to the Second Morean War [1714–1718]), as well as their consequences on the local society and economy. In some of them, the authors studied the raids and the activity of pirates and corsairs, the migration of the Tinians, as well as the changes that marked the area due to the passage of Tinos from the Venetian to the Ottoman rule. A special place was reserved for the Ottoman invasion and conquest of the island (1715). These essays are scientifically sound original contributions, based on primary sources.

STATHIS BIRTACHAS



Icon of the naval Battle of Curzolari (Echinades in Greek) islands, by the Cretan painter Georgios Klontzas, last decades of the 16th century; one of the most famous depictions of the naval Battle of Lepanto in post-Byzantine art. Courtesy of the National Historical Museum, Athens (cat. n. 3578).

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