

ANALECTA ISISIANA
CXXXII

EVANGELIA BALTA

POPULATION AND
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
IN OTTOMAN MOREA



THE ISIS PRESS
ISTANBUL

ANALECTA ISISIANA
CXXXII

Evangelia BALTA

POPULATION AND
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
IN OTTOMAN MOREA

© 2015 Evangelia Balta & The Isis Press

Published by
The Isis Press
Yazmacı Emine sokak 4/A
Burhaniye-Beylerbeyi
34676 Istanbul
Tel.: 90 (0216) 321 38 51
Fax: 90 (0216) 321 86 66
e-mail: isis@theisispress.org
www.theisispress.org

First edition 2015

ISBN: 978-975-428-534-5

Baskı: İSİS
Yazmacı Emine sokak 4/A
Burhaniye-Beylerbeyi
34676 Istanbul
Tel.: 90 (0216) 321 38 51
Fax: 90 (0216) 321 86 66
e-mail: isis@theisispress.org

THE ISIS PRESS
ISTANBUL

Evangelia Balta was born in Kavala (1955). She studied history at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and on a scholarship from the Alexandros S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation she went on to postgraduate studies in Paris (Paris I – Sorbonne, École Pratique des Hautes Études IV Section), from where she gained her PhD. She worked in the Historical Archive of Macedonia (Thessaloniki, 1979), at the Centre for Asia Minor Studies (1978, 1984-1987) and taught at the Ionian University during the first two years after its foundation (Corfu, 1985-1987). Since 1987 she has worked at the National Hellenic Research Foundation (Research Director of Ottoman Studies Programme).

Her interests are centered on subjects related to economic and social history during the Ottoman period, as well as the Greek culture of Asia Minor. In addition to her commitment to various programmes at the National Research Foundation, she has also served as a scholarly advisor for the Museum of the Olive and Greek Olive Oil in Sparta, the Museum of Industrial Olive-Oil Production in Lesvos, and the Museums of Wine at the Ktima Hatzimihalis and the Ktima Gerovassileiou (Epanomi). She was academic supervisor for the restoration of the Kayakapi neighbourhood (Project Kayakapi) in Ürgüp, Turkey (2003-2008). She is a founding member of the planning committee of ΟΙΝΟΝ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑ (History of Wine), a scholarly group which has organized seven conferences on subjects related to wine and wine production (2000-2008).

Evangelia Balta has been invited to teach seminars for groups of graduate students by Universities both in Greece and abroad. Since 2008 she has regularly organized International Workshops of Karamanlidika Studies and since 2011 she has been conducting a Seminar on Karamanlidika Studies in the Intensive Ottoman and Turkish Summer School at Cunda, Ayvalık (Ottoman Studies Foundation).

In memoriam
Michalis Sakellariou

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	9
Settlements and Population in the Morea (1645)	13
Venetians and Ottomans in the Southeast Peloponnese (15 th -18 th c.) ...	27
Kythera under the Ottomans (1715-1718)	61
Evliya Çelebi on Viticulture and the Wines of the Peloponnese and Crete	89
The Testimony of the Ottoman Tax Registers on Viticulture and Wine-production in the Peloponnese (15 th -18 th c.)	115
Megaris and the History of Viticulture in the Region (16 th -18 th c.)	123
Viticulture in the Kaza of Tripolitsa (16 th -18 th c.)	167
Olive Cultivation in the Ottoman Peloponnese	211
Bibliography	227
Index	249

PREFACE

The studies on the Ottoman Morea amassed in the volume, all published over the last decade in various languages, can, I believe, be of use to the reader (who finds hitherto scattered and/or unknown material gathered together in one place) as well as to the writer (who is able to carry out a kind of evaluation or self-examination). Besides, such collections offer more general advantages; we need only to consider, for instance, that they lead to a dialogue on the texts presented or that their repetitions, usually inevitable in such cases, highlight certain significant ideas, proposals, opinions or even obsessions. The studies in this volume have in one way or another emerged from the interests I have developed over the last 30 years. So the volume finds me inevitably ploughing the same old furrows.

The volume, consisting of eight studies, results from drawing on Ottoman tax registers compiled over three centuries, from the 15th to the 18th century. The information from the given sources indirectly describes reality in the Morea, the appearance of the inhabited and cultivated areas during the aforementioned period. The documentary evidence from the project was set out in tables, which allowed in a simple way for formulated opinions, presenting it at the same time as each analytical project should be, and the case studies included in the volume have a dual character, explanatory yet at the same time documentary, as they are almost all based on unpublished sources.

Ottoman registers are compared to corresponding Venetian ones and reveal that the Venetians' geographical divisions, the *territori*, are directly linked to the former Ottoman administrative sub-divisions imposed by the financial system of the Ottoman Empire. On reconquering the Morea in 1686, the Venetians basically retained the pre-existing administrative divisions, just as they found them after the many years of Ottoman rule. The figures in the registers, drawn up by the two rulers who successively conquered the Peloponnese and regarding the population, cultivated land and production, are compared and discussed so as to create a picture of the areas being studied during this particular period of time.

The studies though are not based exclusively on Ottoman and Venetian registers, but also on two other categories of sources. Accounts by travellers, primarily those of Evliya Çelebi, supplement and confirm certain findings about both the residential grid and productive activities of the population in

certain areas of the Peloponnese. Simultaneously published Greek sources come to complete and enrich the picture, to connect the links in the chain of evidence, their wealth helping to create a narrative. The contribution made by Greek sources in this field is crucial and this is why at the end of the book a lengthy bibliography has been included, mainly composed of studies that made use of Greek sources. The ulterior purpose of including the titles of studies in this category, which are mentioned or discussed in the texts in the book, is to make the international academic community aware of the volume of remarkable academic work that has been and is being done in Greece, which is not widely known due to the inaccessibility of the Greek language.

The case studies in the book constitute an attempt to trace the past of some typical productive activities in the Peloponnese, such as, from the 18th century onwards, the large-scale commercial production of oil and viticulture. Raisins, as is widely known, were a key export product from the area in the 19th century. Four essays explore the wine history of regions in the Peloponnese, the result of the conferences we organized as the group *Oivov Ιστορίο* (*History of Wine*) during the period 2000-2008, sponsored by Peloponnesian wine producers. It was a happy conjuncture. What took place then, we did with fun and enthusiasm. And if I may, I would also like to say that I am delighted knowing that during the years that followed younger colleagues, G. C. Liakopoulos (2009) and Mohammed Panahi (2011), continued to delve into the wine history of the Morea in Ottoman tax registers. I can only hope that the essays collected in this volume may point the way to further and better work on the part of other scholars.

Lastly, to conclude our reference to the studies on productive activities in the Ottoman Morea, mention must be made of the pioneer project on olive cultivation. It resulted from collaboration with the Piraeus Bank Group Cultural Foundation. A successful collaboration that produced the "Sparta Museum of the Olive", located in the heart of Laconia, one of the main oil-producing areas in Greece, and its primary aim is to promote the culture and technology of the olive and oil production.

Some clarifications for readers who will rightly wonder why a book dedicated to the Peloponnese includes places such as Megara and Kythera, which do not belong to its geographical area. I will explain. During the Ottoman period Megara and the entire area known as Megarida came under the administration of the kaza of Corinth. Kythera, an island located at the point where the Aegean, Ionian and Cretan seas meet, lies just 10-12 miles off Cape Malea, the southernmost part of the Peloponnese. So Kythera's close proximity to the Peloponnese allowed for the inclusion of the relevant study in the book "The Ottoman Morea". In addition, the brief Ottoman occupation of the island (1715-1718), explored by the study in question, is directly linked to the second occupation of the Peloponnese by the Ottomans.

Most of the articles were translated from the Greek language in which they were first published. All the studies in the book without exception have

been corrected and supplemented with new bibliographic data that emerged after its first edition. I owe a deep debt of gratitude to my colleague Georgios Nikolaou, a leading authority on the history of the Peloponnese, for his willingness to read, in the summer of 2012, the studies in the book and add any works that may possibly have been left out in the bibliography.

*
* *

As regards the dedication of this book, nothing came more naturally. Michalis Sakellariou (1912-2014), professor of Ancient History at the University of Thessaloniki and Research Director at the Centre of Greek and Roman Antiquity at the National Hellenic Research Foundation, was the person who determined my choice to become involved with Ottoman Studies, which as yet are not considered a special field on the academic scene in Greece. From 1939 in the preface to his thesis "The Peloponnese during the second period of Turkish Rule, 1715-1821", Michalis Sakellariou highlights the necessity of the existence of "specialist scholars who will explore the *terra incognita* of our historical past during Ottoman rule", essentially raising the issue of forming an autonomous historical field. By underlining the need for an independent study of the Turkish occupation and not as a prelude to the Revolution of 1821, in other words his awareness of the need for organized research into a new academic field, he became known as the pioneer of Ottoman Studies. He proved this in any case in his doctoral thesis on the Peloponnese. It is no coincidence that this thesis was not received as it should have been in 1939, but was only discovered in 1978 when the timeliness of its issues coincided with the historiographical quests of post-dictatorship years. It was then that it was published by 'Hermes' Publications. It was much too early for a thesis to be accepted in which, in the words of the author, "all local data on production, taxation, land acquisition, administration, self-government, population, are investigated and exposed", at a time when historiography was being monopolized by studies on Greek rebel movements against the Turks.

Now that he rests in eternal peace, this book is dedicated to his memory, a small token of respect, appreciation and debt to Michalis Sakellariou.

Athens, 31 January 2015