



Research - Education – Preservation

Newsletter no: 32 Autumn - 2026

Welcome to our latest newsletter where we reflect on our upcoming bigger events and we already in the advanced stages of planning or have finalised for our next conference in **Istanbul** 'Connected Lives: Mapping British Commercial and Social Networks in Late Ottoman Constantinople' on 16th October with parallel themed events with partners a week before that date in the city. Then we are in **Paris**: for a Francophone joint conference 'Villes de Levant', Institut du Monde Arabe, 29 October 2026. In our first joint Travellers in Ottoman Lands / Levantine Heritage Foundation conference in the University of Macedonia, **Thessaloniki**, Greece, 20-24 April 2027. And finally, a conference with the provisional title of 'Dutch Levantines in the Ottoman World: Traders, networks, collections, archives' on 11-13th June 2027 in **Amsterdam and Haarlem**. More details below.

Our activities

Upcoming LHF Events

16 October 2026, 6 pm

In-person presentation: 'Connected Lives: Mapping British Commercial and Social Networks in Late Ottoman Constantinople': Presentation by Bengi Su Ertürkmen on her sponsored project + Akın Sefer + Dr. Brian Johnson + Liana Kuyumcuyan & Murat Tülek – St Helena Chapel, Istanbul – [flyer](#): - [registration](#):

17 October 2026, 6 pm

In-person presentation: 'Cities of the Levant', Philip Mansel – bookshop and gallery, Asmalimescit, Beyoğlu, Istanbul – [information and registration](#):

29 October 2026

Conference: 'Villes de Levant', Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris – [provisional flyer](#): – registration open soon:

19 November 2026, 6.30 pm (UK time)

Joint event Levantine Heritage Foundation with the Royal Asiatic Society with guest speaker Dr Leah R Clark: 'Early Modern Sensory Exchanges' – [flyer](#): - [registration](#):

2 February 2027, 6 pm (UK time)

Joint event Levantine Heritage Foundation with the Anglo-Turkish Society with guest speaker James Bettley: 'English Churches in Turkey: the architectural and social history of Anglican places of worship on foreign shores' – [flyer](#): - [registration](#):

20-24 April 2027

First joint [Travellers in Ottoman Lands](#) / Levantine Heritage Foundation conference in the University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece – [preliminary flyer](#): - [call for papers](#) (deadline 15 November 2026).

Please "save the date" and feel free to approach us for sponsorship/registration of interest.

11-13 June 2027

Conference at the University of Amsterdam with the provisional title 'Dutch Levantines in the Ottoman World: Traders, networks, collections, archives' – [provisional programme](#): - [call for papers](#): (deadline 31 December 2026).

Visits are also planned to the 'Turkish Cabinet' in the Rijksmuseum and to related collections in Haarlem.

Please "save the date" and feel free to approach us for sponsorship/registration of interest.

Recent LHF Events

24 August 2026, 6 pm (UK time)

Online presentation: 'Western Land on Ottoman Shores: The Austrian Lloyd Steamship Company', Prof M. Emre Kılıçaslan – [flyer](#): - [video](#):

1 September 2026, 6 pm (UK time)

Online presentation: 'Online presentation: 'The Levantine Frank community in Athens under Ottoman rule', Nicolas Nicolaïdes – [flyer](#): - [video](#): - [interview](#):

Recent Website additions

Interviews:

Ann Hudson: Samuel Crawley (1706–62), British Consul at Smyrna – [link:](#)

Nicolas Nicolaides: The Levantine Frank community in Athens under Ottoman rule – [link:](#)

Updated with map: Ben Singer: Rediscovering the Diversity of a Levantine Family – the Jewish, German, Austrian, French and Armenian branches of One Istanbul Family – [link:](#)

Galleries:

J.P. Foscolo photographs of Cyprus – [link:](#)

Old views of Moda, Istanbul – [link:](#)

Current research

If you are seeking help with research, please write to Craig Encer who will endeavour to point you to sources of material or connect you with people in the LHF network who may be able to help. Additionally, we can post requests for assistance in our newsletter. We give priority support to research requests from subscribing LHF Members. If you are not a Member, our support is free, but may take a little longer. Please consider making a donation to the LHF [here](#) to help us maintain this free service.

Colville Bridger (1729–97), merchant at Aleppo

Submitted by Ann Hudson

Colville Bridger (1729–97), from Shoreham in West Sussex quite close to where I live, was a Levant Company merchant at Aleppo in the 1750s and 60s. He is mentioned in various books on the Levant trade, and his business letter book and invoice book are in the West Sussex Record Office. Some fascinating personal correspondence, then in private hands, was transcribed and edited by the late Michael W. D. Norman, a local historian in Shoreham, and privately printed in 1998 as Colville Bridger in Aleppo; although there are copies in local libraries I have been unable to find one to buy. And I do not know if the original letters still survive and if so where they are.

He seems an interesting figure who would merit a short biography. I am keen to know if anyone is currently researching him, or has any information which they would be willing to share. Please contact me at annhudson84@gmail.com.

Researching the Italian fascist activities in Istanbul in the interwar period

I am preparing a book dealing with Italian fascist activities in Istanbul in the interwar period. One of the pictures I would like to add to the volume – see below- is of a number of notable personalities of the Italian community in Istanbul, from the Bartalini family archive. In the photograph is grouped together a number of the most eminent members of the Italian community living in Istanbul in 1940, including in the middle the apostolic delegate Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli. I can also identify the Italian consul Giuseppe Castruccio (in dark tie seated next to Roncalli), Bartalini and the local newspaperman Gilberto Primi. Any further identifications will be much appreciated. Please contact me, Giacomo Corsi on giacaho@outlook.com.



[Click image for enlarged version](#)

Recent community events

Visit of site contributor [Bernard d'Andria](#) to the exhibition 'İzmir Fotoğrafhanesi - Görsel Hafızanın İnşası (1840-1922)' [Smyrna photography studio: The construction of a visual memory, 1840-1922], 24 August 2026 – [gallery](#):



Visit of HRH Prince Albert II of Monaco to Naxos, Greece, 2 September 2026



The Prince (in the centre) was also accompanied by Dr. Vasilis Apostolopoulos (on the right), President of the Athens Medical Group, Honorary Consul of Monaco in Greece – [gallery:](#)

Leon Trotsky commemorated on Büyükada on the 86th anniversary of his death, 16 August 2026



Russian revolutionary and politician Leon Trotsky was commemorated on the 86th anniversary of his death on Büyükada, where he spent approximately four years of his exile. The Fourth International Leon Trotsky Commemoration was held on August 16, 2026, at Taş Mektep, hosted by the Adalar Municipality and organized in collaboration with the World Socialist Web Site and Mehring Publishing. [More](#) on Leon Trotsky on Büyükada / Prinkipo:



Trotsky with his wife Natalia Sedova in their garden of the Yanaros mansion on Prinkipo, 1929-33.

The opening of a new museum in Istanbul dedicated to the Bosphorus, 12 September 2026



Organised by the Istanbul Municipality, situated on the second floor of the Kabataş pier transfer station, free to visit – [gallery:](#)



New free to visit exhibition of historic plaster mouldings: The former French Orphanage of Istanbul —St. Joseph, now known as Tophane Mekan —has opened its doors to visitors free of charge. The historic building was originally constructed as an orphanage in 1868. In 1957, the orphanage relocated to Bebek, and the building served as a tobacco warehouse until 1970. Subsequently, the workshop was used for generations by master plaster craftsman

Parseh Cezayirliyan, his son Garabet Cezayirliyan, and the craftsmen they trained: Kemal Cinbiz and his son Cemal Cinbiz. Mouldings used for the ornamental details of nearly all historic buildings in Istanbul - including Dolmabahçe, Yıldız, and Beylerbeyi Palaces, Pera Palas Hotel, Grand Pera Cercle D'orient Club and others —are on display here.

The first two floors of the building served as a school, while the top floor was used as a dormitory. The image of the building is pre-restoration view from 2025, the building was acquired by the Beyoglu Municipality in 2022 and operates a garden café here.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday -10:30–16:30, Bostaniçi Çeşme Çk. Sokak, no.14, Tophane, Beyoğlu – [short video:](#)



Interview of Bernard d'Andria on the Turkish translation of the book on his late father's Izmir memoirs book, *Smyrne en ce Temps-la... Mémoires* - Gilbert d'Andria ([en Francais](#)) at Izmir book fair, 23 September 2026 – [gallery:](#)



Book launch at the Liszt Academy, Budapest, 24 September 2026, with Gábor Fodor (in the centre), one of the authors of the English-language volume on the 'A Hungarian pianist at the Ottoman court: Géza Hegyei', one of the curators of the exhibition, the head of the Turkological topic group of the Liszt research institute in Hungary. On the right fellow author [Evren Kutlay](#) and on the right [Richard Wittmann](#), editor of the volume and deputy director of the Orient Institute Istanbul. [Download](#) catalogue from this page:



The marriage reception of Mark Giraud of Izmir to Esin Uçkun in the Edward Whittall Garden, 3 October 2026 – [gallery:](#)

In Memoriam



Sad to report the death on 31 August 2026 of Édouard Balladur, born in Karşıyaka, İzmir, Turkey, on 2 May 1929, to a Levantine family of Armenian ancestry with longstanding ties to France. The original family name was Balladuryan, an Armeno-catholic family that came to Smyrna from the Nakhchivan region, Persia in the 18th century. The family, with five children, emigrated to Marseille in the mid-to-late 1930s. He served as France's prime minister under François Mitterrand from 29 March 1993 to 17 May 1995. He had previously served as minister of finance from 1986 to 1986 during Jacques Chirac's government. Following his death, President Emmanuel Macron called Balladur a "demanding, level-headed, and devoted public servant" – [obituary](#):

In addition sad to report the passing of Charlotte F. Seager born Istanbul 1939, died Tennessee, USA 14 September 2026 – [obituary](#): - [more](#) on this family history:



Sad to also report that the effective senior head of the Catholic community of Izmir, Fr Claude Caporal passed away 6th October 2026, aged 99. Funeral on 8th October 11 am at the St. Maria Catholic Church, Bornova, Izmir. [Archive photos](#) of him taking part in the 1960s Levantine theatre productions.

External activities

External Upcoming Events

In-person book launch: 'Imperial Predator: Britain and the destruction of the Ottoman Empire', David S. Tonge, 13 October 2026, 6.30 pm - Daunt Books Marylebone, London - [flyer:](#)

Exhibition: 'France, Sweden and the Ottoman Empire: Artistic Alliances', 12 June – 1 November 2026 - Institut suédois, 11 rue Payenne, F-75003 Paris - [link:](#)

Exhibition: 'Levantines of Istanbul & Istanbul of the Levantines', LKMKD, 8 October – 8 November 2026 - İstiklal Art Gallery, Beyoğlu, Istanbul - [link:](#)

In-person presentation: 'Between Constantinople, Smyrna and Amsterdam: Families De Hochepped and Testa', Mehmet Tütüncü, 9 October 2026, 4 pm - NL Consulate Dutch Chapel, Beyoğlu, Istanbul - [flyer:](#)

Exhibition: Constantinople to Istanbul: One City, Two Empires, 7 November 2026 onwards - Galleries 38 and 39, V&A South Kensington, Cromwell Road, London - [link:](#)

Hybrid presentation: 'Tracing the Ottomans in Britain: Newly Discovered Graves and Their Stories', Dr. Muhammed Hasanov, 9 November 2026, 6 pm - Anglo-Turkish Society - [flyer:](#)

In-person presentation: 'The Uses of Oppression: Greek Newspapers in the Ottoman Empire 1830-62', Lady Marks Marina Sakali with Dr Şükrü Ilıcak, 3 December 2026, 7 pm - Hellenic Centre London - [registration:](#)

Recent Publications

A Hungarian pianist at the Ottoman Court: Géza Hegyei, Evren Kutlay & Gábor Fodor – Pera-Blätter, 2026 (English and Turkish versions) - [link:](#)

Disputes and Settlements in the Mediterranean: Peace-Making in Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Contexts, 16th–19th Centuries, edited by Paolo Broggio – Routledge, 2026 - [link:](#)

Evidence, Crime, and Forensics in the Early Modern Mediterranean, edited by Lu Ann Homza, Amanda L. Scott – Routledge, 2025 - [link:](#)

Debt and Imperialism in the Mediterranean: Politics of Default and Diplomacy in the 19th Century, Giampaolo Conte – Routledge, 2026 – [link:](#)

The Travels of Cristoforo Buondelmonti and Ciriaco d'Ancona in the Aegean Sea: Humanism, Early Colonial Politics and Agency, Eleni Tounta - Routledge, 2026 – [link:](#)

Upcoming Publications

Constantinople to Istanbul: One City, Two Empires, Tim Stanley – V&A publication, October 2026 – [link:](#)

Imperial Predator: Britain and the Destruction of the Ottoman Empire, David S. Tonge – Hurst, October 2026 – [link:](#)

New External digitisations

The Construction of the Other: British Travelers' View of Ottoman Levantines in the First Half of the Nineteenth Century, Ufuk Özesmer, 2025 – [link:](#)

An Important Value in Izmir's Socio-Cultural Structure: Levantine Cuisine, Kitchen, and Rituals, Fatma Tombak, 2026 – [link:](#)

An Examination of the Levantine Influence on Turkish Culture in the Context of the Sixth Municipality Department, Mert Ağaoğlu and Ömer Göktaş, 2026 – [link:](#)

Refunctioned Levantine Heritage in İzmir: A Study on Buca and Bornova, Şerife Mumcu, Gizem İzmir Tunahan, 2024 – [link:](#)

“The Levant Company did me ye honour of appointing me consul of this place, Negropont and all Greece”: The Institutional Appearance of the British in Salonica, Mehmet Demiryürek, 2023 – [link:](#)

The Evolution of British Commercial Diplomacy in the Ottoman Empire, Necla Geyikdağı – [link:](#)

History of American Chamber of Commerce for The Levant (1911-1914), Nesrin Kanberoğlu & Ramazan Erhan Güllü, 2024 – [link:](#)

Christian Slaves of the Ottoman Empire: An analysis of the fifteenth-century captive lives and writings of Konstantin Mihailović, Johan Schiltberger and Brother George of Mühlenbach - Patrick Smith, 2020 – [link:](#)

Traces of Lost Greek Orthodox Churches in 19th Century Izmir City Centre - Sevim Erdoğan, Mine Tanaç Zeren, 2025 – [link:](#)

Saint Pierre Han in Galata district: Urban and social identities of a building from the late Ottoman to the early Republican Period - Gökberk Tezer, 2015 – [link:](#)

British Government Officials in the Ottoman Empire and Evolving Humanitarianism after the Balkan Wars and the First World War - Elisabeth Hope Murray, Cambridge University Press, 2024 – [link:](#)

New Podcasts

A Confederate General in the Ottoman Capital, Elizabeth Varon - Ottoman History Podcast, 3 March 2026 – [link:](#)

Inside the Royal Harems of the Ottoman Empire: Betwixt the Sheets - BBC History Hit Podcast, 9 January 2026 – [link:](#)

WWI and the End of the Ottoman Empire, Mustafa Aksakal - Ottoman History Podcast, 22 August 2026 – [link:](#)

Hebrew Orientalism in Late Ottoman and British Palestine, Mostafa Hussein - Ottoman History Podcast, 12 September 2026 – [link:](#)

New Videos

The Italian Levantines of Izmir documentary (in Italian), TV channel TG5, Veronica Gervaso, August 2026 – [segment link:](#)

Ephemera

"Grano Turco": A Grain, a Name, and the Networks of Trade in 1895 Istanbul, Sean Swanick, 24 August 2026 – [link](#):

Book segment: 'Travels of marshal duke of Ragusa', published in Paris, 1837 – [link](#):

An Ottoman age of experiments: Far from being the 'Sick Man of Europe', the late Ottoman Empire witnessed a period of extraordinary political adaptation, Daniel Neep, engelsbergideas.com, 4 September 2026 – [link](#):

Cyril A. Mango: An Englishman in Istanbul – Istanbul Research Institute blog, 19 February 2021 – [link](#):

Vincentian Missions in the Islamic World, Charles A. Frazee, 1984 – [link](#):

Listing compiled by [Nassif Mallouf](#), a member of the Société Asiatique, a professor of Eastern literature at the Collège de la Propagande at Smyrna, and Secretary-Interpreter to the irregular Anglo-Ottoman cavalry. The listing names 70 students at the College de la Propagande ([Lazarist school](#)) in Smyrna who were studying Turkish as of 1847 at the College. The listing, kindly provided by the [author](#) Charles Samaha, is here included to provide a slice of information for descendants and researchers:

Aghopian, Charles ; Apak, Emmanuel ; Alberti, Pierre ; Arachtingi, Vincent ; Balladur, Guillaume ; Baloghlu, Antoine ; Barker, Henri ; Biliotti, Alfred ; Bonnal, Alexandre ; Bonnal, Auguste ; Braggiotti, George ; Braggiotti, Pierre ; Cadramitz, Socrate ; Cadramitz, Théodore ; Capponi, Eugène ; Castelli, Ignace ; Castelli, Nicolas ; Chasseaud, Guillaume ; Comnéno, Etienne ; Corbetti, Joseph ; Corsi, François ; Datody, François ; Datody, Joseph ; Descharmet, Jean ; Didier, Gustave ; Dracopoli, Michel ; Edvvars, Richard ; Ekisler, Artin ; Ekisler, Auguste ; Falanga, Eugène ; Falanga, Jean ; Falanga, Richard ; Fercken, Edmond ; Fercken, Richard ; Giovanola, Henri ; Guys, Emile ; Icard, Alfred ; Ierinich, Joseph ; Issaverdens, Jean ; Issaverdens, Paul ; Lafont, Albert ; Marcopoli, George ; Marcopoli, Henri ; Masse, Pierre ; Melino, Paul ; Micriditz, Joseph ; Nipote, Joseph ; Pagy, Ernest ; Papasian, Simon ; Parodi, Frédéric ; Pasqua, Antoine ; Péloso, Antoine ; Péloso, Charles ; Pharaon, Antoine ; Pillioghlu, Constantin ; Prédonzan, Jean ; Prédonzan, Nicolas ; Riga, Epaminondas ; Rolland, Victor ; Samman, Gabriel ; Savalan, Pierre ; Sicoli, Louis ; Topuz, Alexandre ; Topuz, Jacob ; Vartan, Takvor ; Vélasti, Nicolas ; Venderschorff, Constantin ; Venderzée, Jean ; Vitale, Roch ; Zipcy, Polycarpe.

Former residences of Jules Edouard Huguenin in Istanbul





The parlous state of the former summer residence of Jules Edouard Huguenin, on the Asian side of Bostancı, a key person in the development of the German Berlin to Baghdad Railway company. Born in Switzerland in 1856, he received a basic education and entered the workforce at a very young age; he arrived in Turkey in 1879 and started working as a junior clerk at a small railway station, later as a control officer for the Anatolia-Baghdad Railway Company, a project of which only a small section had been laid at the time. Thanks to his professional competence, diligence, and intelligence, he quickly made a name for himself and became the general secretary to the company's German director, Dr. Kuhlmann. The granting of the concession to the Germans for the construction of a railway—intended to run from Istanbul, traverse all of Anatolia, and reach Baghdad—was not well received by the major European powers from an economic and political standpoint; Britain and Russia, in particular, had raised objections. Appointing Huguenin—a national of a neutral country—to the position of general secretary averted potentially unwelcome interference; the fact that he did not allow himself to become a tool for any foreign political agenda or interest earned him great personal trust, and in 1908, he succeeded Dr. Kuhlmann as director. Accelerating the pace of railway construction, he oversaw the extension of one line from Eskişehir to Ankara and another from Eskişehir via Konya to Ulukışla, at the foot of the Taurus Mountains. He amassed great wealth but spent his money locally rather than transferring it to Switzerland. He owned a beautiful home formerly on Taxim square, pulled down in the 1970s – shown below – and this mansion in Bostancı and was a great admirer of the Bosphorus. He passed away in Istanbul in 1926.

The plot containing the historic mansion was declared a 'Natural Site' in 1975 due to the mature trees growing on it. In 2010, the Istanbul No. 5 Regional Board for the Protection of Cultural and Natural Assets reclassified the plot as a '3rd-Degree Natural Site', opening the way to limited development but the building continues its decline.



Constantinople Catholic Pilgrimage poster aimed at the Levantine community in Istanbul in 1931, printed in 3 languages.

PELLEGRINAGGIO A LOURDES-PADOVA-ROMA

In questo anno benedetto due grandi ricorrenze si festeggeranno in tutto il mondo cattolico: il XV CENTENARIO del Concilio di Efeso ed il VII CENTENARIO dalla gloriosa morte di Sant'Antonio di Padova.

Noi Cattolici di queste terre d'Oriente che abbiamo la sorte di essere sì vicini al luogo stesso dove i Padri venerandi si adunarono per proclamare all'Universo le glorie e i privilegi della Madre di Dio, noi che al Taumaturgo di Padova, nel suo bel Tempio di Costantinopoli professiamo tanta devozione, celebriamo nel miglior modo i due avvenimenti, con funzioni, con giornate di studio. Poi, quasi a coronamento delle feste ci recheremo in devoto pellegrinaggio al grande Santuario di Maria in LOURDES e alla Basilica gloriosa del Santo in PADOVA. Ne ritorneremo alle nostre case senza esserci prima prostrati ai piedi del Vicario di Cristo per riceverne l'Apostolica Benedizione e per confermarci i sentimenti del nostro filiale affetto e della nostra fedele sudditanza.

Io spero che saremo numerosi perché so che la pietà verso Maria Santissima e verso il Taumaturgo di Padova, è grande in tutti i miei figliuoli. In questa attesa fiduciosa vi benedico fin d'ora e mi confermo in G. C.

♦ CARLO MARGOTTI
Arcivescovo di Mesembria
Delegato Apostolico

Itinerario

Istanbul - Fiume - Napoli - Marsiglia - LOURDES - Lione - Torino - Milano - Venezia - PADOVA - Bologna - Firenze - ROMA - ritorno a Istanbul.

Il pellegrinaggio, salvo spostamento di giorni, avrà luogo verso la fine di Giugno. La durata sarà di circa un mese.

Speciali facilitazioni per il ritorno isolato a Istanbul saranno accordate ai pellegrini che desiderano prolungare il loro soggiorno all'estero, a condizione di notificarlo all'istante d'iscrizione. Le iscrizioni saranno chiuse il 15 Maggio. Affin d'éviter eventuali lagnanze si precisa che le migliori cabine dei piroscafi di gran lusso "ITALIA" della Sittmar in partenza, e "TEVERE" del Lloyd Triestino in arrivo saranno assegnate secondo l'ordine della data d'iscrizione. La differenza di classe non sarà concessa che sul piroscafo in andata e ritorno. Durante tutto il percorso del pellegrinaggio non vi sarà che una classe unica.

Per ulteriori informazioni rivolgersi ai R^{ti} Parrocchi o alla Banca Commerciale Italiana a Galata.

PELERINAGE à LOURDES-PADOUE-ROME

En cette année bénie, deux grands centenaires seront célébrés dans tout le monde catholique: le XV^{ème} CENTENAIRE du Concile d'Ephèse et le VII^{ème} CENTENAIRE de la glorieuse mort de Saint Antoine de Padoue.

Nous Catholiques de ces terres d'Orient qui avons l'avantage d'être voisins du lieu même où les vénérables Pères du Concile se réunirent pour proclamer à l'Univers entier les gloires et les privilèges de la Mère de Dieu; nous qui professons une si grande dévotion au Taumaturge de Padoue, dans son beau Temple de Constantinople, célébrerons de la meilleure manière ces deux événements par des fonctions sacrées, par des journées d'étude. Puis, pour couronner ces fêtes, nous nous rendrons en pieux dévot pèlerinage au grand Sanctuaire de Marie à Lourdes et à la glorieuse Basilique du Saint, à Padoue. Nous ne rentrerons pas dans nos foyers sans aller auparavant nous prosterner aux pieds du Vicario du Christ pour en recevoir la Bénédiction Apostolique et Lui confirmer les sentiments de notre affection filiale et de notre fidèle soumission. J'espère que nous serons nombreux parce que je sais que la piété envers Marie et envers le Taumaturge de Padoue est grande parmi tous mes fils. Dans cette attente confiante, je vous bénis dès maintenant.

♦ CHARLES MARGOTTI
Archevêque de Mésebie
Délégué Apostolique

Itinéraire

Istanbul - Fiume - Naples - Marseille - LOURDES - Lyon - Turin - Milan - Venise - PADOUE

Bologne - Florence - ROME - retour à Istanbul.

Le Pèlerinage, sauf modification de date, aura lieu vers la fin de Juin.

La durée en sera d'environ un mois.

Des spéciales facilités seront accordées pour le retour isolé aux pèlerins qui désireraient prolonger leur séjour à l'étranger. Ils devront toutefois le notifier à l'acte de l'inscription. Les inscriptions seront reçues jusqu'au 15 Mai 1931.

Afin d'éviter des plaintes éventuelles, on prévient que les meilleures cabines des bateaux de grand luxe "ITALIA" de la Sittmar au départ et "TEVERE" du Lloyd Triestino pour le retour seront assignées suivant l'ordre de la date d'inscription.

La différence de classe s'entend uniquement pour le voyage au bateau. Le restant du voyage s'effectuera dans les mêmes conditions pour tous les pèlerins.

Pour renseignements supplémentaires on peut s'adresser à son propre Curé, ou encore à la Banca Commerciale Italiana, Siège de Galata.

ΠΡΟΣΚΥΝΗΜΑ ΕΙΣ ΛΟΥΡΔΗΝ-ΠΑΔΟΥΗΝ-ΡΩΜΗΝ

Κατὰ τὸ ἐγγεγραμμένον ἔτος δύο μεγάλα γεγονότα θὰ ἐορτασθῶν εἰς ὅλον τὸν καθολικὸν κόσμον ἡ Ἀσκήσις Πατρὸς Ἐκκοινοκρατορῆς τῆς ἐν Ἐφέσῳ οἰκουμένης Συνόδου καὶ ἡ Ἑβδόμη Ἐκοινοκρατορὶς τοῦ ἐνδόξου θανάτου τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἀντωνίου τῆς Παδοῦης.

Ἦμεῖς οἱ ἐν Ἀνατολῇ Καθολικοὶ, οἱ ἐγγεγραμμένοι νὰ εὐφραδῶμεθα τοῦ τόπου λαοῦ οἱ Ἅγιοι Πατέρες συνεισφέροντες ἀνεκχεῖν τὴν δόξαν καὶ τὰ πλεονήματα τῆς Θεοφύτου, ἡμεῖς οἱ μεγάλης εὐλάβειας δεικνύοντες πρὸς τὸν Μέγαν Θaumaturgόν τῆς Παδοῦης ἐν τῇ ἐν Κωνσταντινουπόλει Ἱερᾷ Ναφί αὐτοῦ, θὰ ἐορτάσωμεν μετὰ μεγάλης ἐμπνεύσεως τὰ δύο ταῦτα συμβάντα, μὲ ἐμπόνησιν τελειὰ καὶ μὴ λεγὸν κηρύτματα. Ἐπειτα ὡς ἑορτασθῶμεν τὸν Ἐορτήν θὰ ἀνέλθωμεν ἱερὸν προσκύνημα εἰς τὸ Μέγα Ἁγίασμα τῆς Παναγίας τῆς Λαυρῆς ἐν Γαλλίᾳ καὶ εἰς τὴν μεγαλοπρεπὴ Βασιλικὴν τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἀντωνίου τῆς Παδοῦης ἐν Ἰταλίᾳ. Ἐπανερχόμενοι δὲ εἰς τὰς οἰκίας μας θὰ διέλθωμεν ἐκ Ρώμης ὁποῦ καθυποβόλωνται τὰ νηὶ ἡμᾶς οὐβὴ εἰς τὸν Ἅγιον Πατέρα, Πιόν τὸν ΙΑ' καὶ ἐπανερχόμενοι τὴν ἀλόχην ἀγάπης καὶ πίστεως ἐπαταγῇ εἰς Ἀθήναι καὶ λαβόμεν εἰς ἀντάλλαγμα τὴν Ἀποστολικὴν Ἀρετὴν εὐλογίαν.

Ἐποῦ βέβαιος εἰμι πάντες ὅσοι θέλωμεν θὰ ἀνταποκριθῶσι προθύμως εἰς τὴν θεράν μὲν πρόσκλησιν. Καὶ ταὶ τῇ πεποθήσει ταύτῃ ἀπορίμω ἐκ τὸν ἀπὸ τῆς τῆς εὐλογίας μὲν εἰς πάντας.

♦ ΚΑΡΟΛΟΣ ΜΑΡΓΚΟΤΤΗ
Ἀρχιεπίσκοπος Μεσεμβρίας
Ἀποστολικὸς Δεληγὰς

ΑΡΟΜΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

Ιstanbul - Fiume - Napoli - Marsiglia - LOURDES - Lyon - Turin - Milan - Venise - PADOUE

PADOUE - Bologna - Firenze - ROME - ritorno a Istanbul.

Η διάρκεια του εἰς Ἰstanbul περί τὴν τέλη Ἰουνίου.

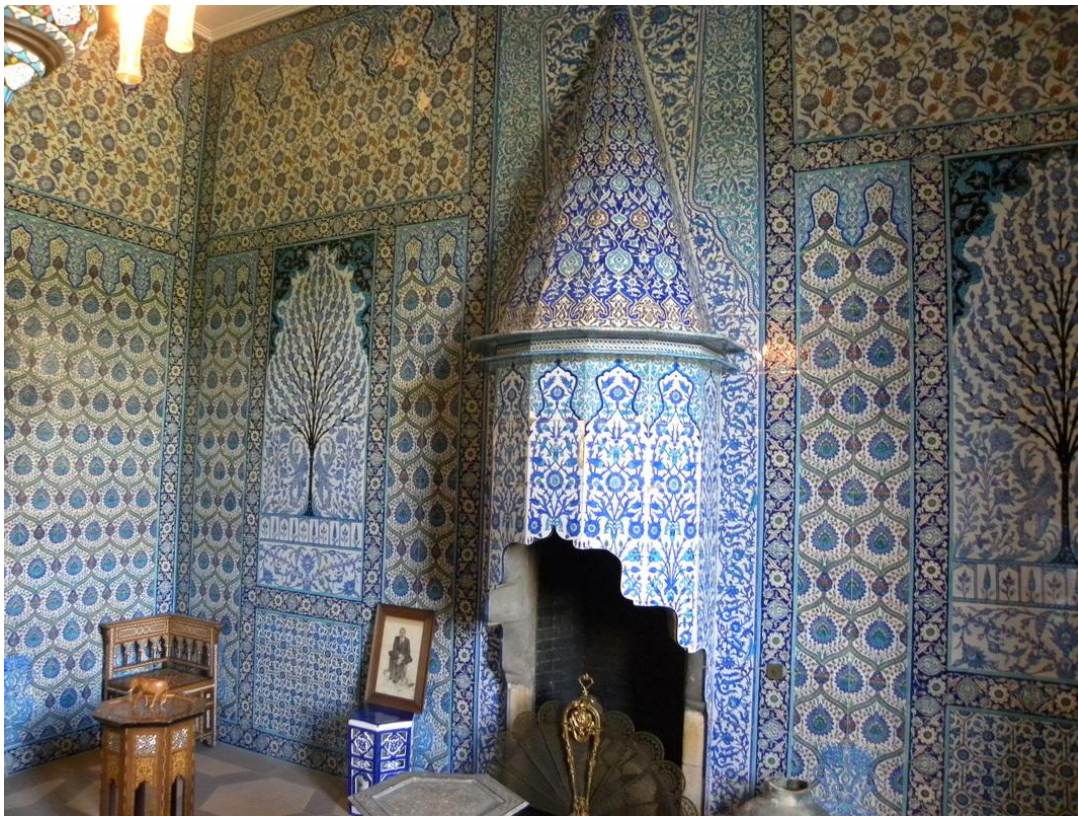
Διφοροῦν τοῦ ταξιδίου ἑκ μὲν πρὸς τὸν Ἅγιον Πατέρα. Ἡμεῖς ἐπεισὶν θὰ γίνωμεν εἰς τοὺς προσκυνητὰς ὁποῦ ἐπανερχόμενοι κατ' οἶκον ἐκ Ρώμης καὶ ἐπανερχόμενοι τὴν ἀλόχην τῶν εἰς τὸν Ἅγιον Πατέρα, ἀπὸ τὸν ἵα ἐπανερχόμενοι τὴν ἀλόχην ἀγάπης καὶ πίστεως ἐπαταγῇ εἰς Ἀθήναι καὶ λαβόμεν εἰς ἀντάλλαγμα τὴν Ἀποστολικὴν Ἀρετὴν εὐλογίαν.

Ἐπειτα ὡς ἑορτασθῶμεν τὸν Ἐορτήν θὰ ἀνέλθωμεν ἱερὸν προσκύνημα εἰς τὸ Μέγα Ἁγίασμα τῆς Παναγίας τῆς Λαυρῆς ἐν Γαλλίᾳ καὶ εἰς τὴν μεγαλοπρεπὴ Βασιλικὴν τοῦ Ἁγίου Ἀντωνίου τῆς Παδοῦης ἐν Ἰταλίᾳ. Ἐπανερχόμενοι δὲ εἰς τὰς οἰκίας μας θὰ διέλθωμεν ἐκ Ρώμης ὁποῦ καθυποβόλωνται τὰ νηὶ ἡμᾶς οὐβὴ εἰς τὸν Ἅγιον Πατέρα, Πιόν τὸν ΙΑ' καὶ ἐπανερχόμενοι τὴν ἀλόχην ἀγάπης καὶ πίστεως ἐπαταγῇ εἰς Ἀθήναι καὶ λαβόμεν εἰς ἀντάλλαγμα τὴν Ἀποστολικὴν Ἀρετὴν εὐλογίαν.

Ἀπὸ συμπληρωματικὰς πληροφορίας ἀποτανθῆναι εἰς τοὺς ἐφημερίους τὸν Ἐκκλησιαστικὸν ἢ εἰς τὴν Μάνικον Κομμερτικὴν Ἰταλίαν ἐν Γαλιτά.

Practical details: the pilgrimage will last approximately one month; registrations accepted until 15 May 1931, special return facilities for pilgrims wishing to extend their stay; the best cabins of the Lloyd Triestino ships "Italia" (outbound, Sittmar line) and "Tevere" (return) will be assigned by order of registration. For further information: contact your parish priest or the Banca Commerciale Italiana, Galata. Printing by "Zellich Frères, Imp. du St-Siège" (Zellich Brothers, Printers of the Holy See).

Turkish Room at Sledmere House in East Yorkshire



[Sledmere House](#), Driffield, Yorkshire was ancestral home of Sir Mark Sykes, 6th Baronet (1879–1919), signatory of the 1916 Sykes-Picot agreement that carved up the Ottoman empire in the Middle East between France and Britain, is a grand Georgian manor open to the public. Born in 1879, Mark was the only child of Sir Tatton Sykes, a Yorkshire baronet who spent a third of the year travelling, and young Mark accompanied him to visits around the Ottoman empire. At the age of 21 he published *Through Five Turkish Provinces*, the first of several books about the Middle East. Captivated by Ottoman styles, Sykes installed the Turkish Room with 2,700 Iznik-style tiles that he bought in Kütahya, designed by the Armenian ceramicist, [David Ohannessian](#) (1884–1953), and inspired by one of the sultan's apartments in the Yeni Mosque in Istanbul. Plans for a hammam were never realised. Featuring some of the finest examples of İznik tiles, the Turkish Room is a remarkable example of the deep and lasting influence of Turkish art and cultural heritage in Britain. The story of Sykes and Sledmere is told by his grandson, Christopher Simon Sykes, in [The Man Who Created the Middle East](#). [Gallery](#) of the tiled rooms.

Evidence of a relict Greek Orthodox church still standing in Smyrna / Izmir in the 1930s



An aerial photo taken in the 1930s still showing the widespread lack of standing buildings following the Great Fire of Smyrna. The building in front is the former Greek Central Girls' School ([Kentrikon Parthenagogeion](#), today İzmir Atatürk Lisesi), behind it the [Catholic Cathedral of Saint John](#), and further back on the right the small Greek Orthodox

Church of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary (Omireion Parthenagogeion, the parish church of the Fassoulas district), which at that time was probably still in use (makeshift house, a warehouse, a stable etc.), as evidenced by the door in place of the prothesis (altar apse) of the sanctuary (observation courtesy of Achilleas Chatziconstantinou). Further back and to the left we see the imprint, of a part of the famous [Frank Street](#) that started from Fasoulas Square and adjoining that street the remains of the [British Post Office](#) on the small junction, which had an entrance to it. Finally, the large retaining wall at the top left defines the area of the outdoor celebrations for Victory day (August 30th – anniversary of the Turkish victory over Greek forces in Dumlupınar in 1922) and the Izmir International Fair (before it moved to the Fuar [park](#) of the same name), where the Büyük Efes Hotel was built in 1957. This initial site was used first in 1933 and later Kültürpark was opened in 1936, so this photo is likely taken between those 2 dates. The [1927 census](#) in Turkey records that in Izmir there were 591 Orthodox Christians, many would have held foreign passports and some may have returned unofficially from Grece exile. There were 7,531 whose mother tongue was declared to be Greek, though many would have been Muslim immigrants from Crete, but also a minority of local Greek Catholics. Until 1952 when the new [Hagia Fotini](#) was leased from the Dutch, the only functioning Orthodox church in the city was the chapel hosted in one of the rooms of the Papadimitriou mansion on the quay, which served as the Greek Consulate and was used by the personnel. Another room was used as school class as well.



Postcard view of looking roughly in the opposite direction from the above image similar period (Ataturk statue erected 1932) with the dome of the Catholic Cathedral visible in the far right and what look like mounds of rubble in the mid-section.

Mysterious patent issued in Germany in 1894 for Paul Kottlors, proprietor of the Smyrna and Persian Carpet Factory, Vally & P. Kottlors in Krappitz, Upper Silesia for the process for the manufacture of Smyrna carpets



PATENTSCHRIFT

— № 82696 —

KLASSE 25: FLECHT- UND STRICKMASCHINEN.

PAUL KOTTLORS,
INHABER DER FIRMA SMYRNA- UND PERSERTEPPICH-FABRIK
VALLY & P. KOTTLORS IN KRAPPITZ I. SCHL.

Verfahren zur Herstellung von Smyrna-Teppichen.

Patentirt im Deutschen Reiche vom 12. April 1894 ab.

Gegenstand vorliegender Erfindung bildet ein Verfahren zum Herstellen von Smyrna-Teppichen, und zwar ein Verfahren, welches die Ausführung von Hand voraussetzt. Die Vorzüge dieses neuen Verfahrens sollen mit Bezugnahme auf die beiliegende Zeichnung des Näheren beschrieben werden.

Die Fig. 1 bis 3 stellen im Grundriss bzw. in Schnitten nach den Linien x-x, y-y der Fig. 1 einen Theil eines Teppichs dar, bei welchem der Wollfaden a, um einen Knoten zu bilden, durch je zwei benachbarte, und zwar auf derselben Diagonale liegende Gevierte gezogen ist, welche von je zwei neben einander liegenden Gewebefäden b gebildet werden. Man führt nämlich zunächst den Wollfaden a von derjenigen Seite unter einem Gewebefadenpaar b hindurch, welche dem anderen zugehörigen Gewebefadenpaar zugekehrt ist. Dann zieht man den Wollfaden a von der nach aufsen gekehrten Seite des zweiten Geviertes oder Gewebefadenpaares unter diesen hindurch, und der Knoten ist fertig.

Die vorliegende Erfindung ersetzt das dicke Gewebe der eben beschriebenen Teppichgattung durch ein undichtes (Canevas, Stramin), wie die Fig. 4 und 5 darthun. Dabei ist die Fig. 4 ein Grundriss, die Fig. 5 ein dazu gehöriger Aufriss. Der Wollfaden a' wird in folgender Weise geführt:

Man steckt zunächst die Nadel von oben nach unten zwischen zwei frei neben einander

liegende Gewebefäden c hindurch und führt den Wollfaden a' einmal vollständig um die Gewebefäden herum und führt dann von unten nach oben neben dem schon eingezogenen Theil des Wollfadens a' zwischen den Gewebefäden c c hindurch, derart, daß beide nach oben zeigenden Wollfadenhälften in der Richtung senkrecht zu diesen beiden Gewebefäden neben einander liegen. Zieht man alsdann das Fadenende 2 an, so nimmt der Knoten die in den Fig. 6 und 7, ebenfalls einem Grundriss und einem Aufriss, dargestellte Form an.

Ein solches Verfahren ist also eigenartig insofern, als folgende Vortheile gleichzeitig erreicht werden.

Erstens braucht man an Gerüthen nur eine Oehrnadel. Zweitens kann man einen langen, d. h. für mehr als eine Noppe zureichenden Faden benutzen. Drittens werden die Knoten unter Umschlingung der freiliegenden Stäbe eines schon fertigen undichten Grundgewebes gebildet, und zwar reihenweise.

PATENT-ANSPRUCH:

Verfahren zur Herstellung von Smyrna-Teppichen, bei welchem unter Anwendung von Oehrnadeln und langen (für mehr als eine Noppe zureichenden) Fäden die Noppen von der herkömmlichen Art (Fig. 5) in reihenweiser Anordnung auf schon fertigem, undichtem Grundgewebe (Canevas, Stramin) eingestickt werden.

Hierzu 1 Blatt Zeichnungen.

BERLIN. GEDRUCKT IN DER REICHESBÜCHEREI.

PAUL KOTTLORS,
INHABER DER FIRMA SMYRNA- UND PERSERTEPPICH-FABRIK
VALLY & P. KOTTLORS IN KRAPPITZ I. SCHL.

Verfahren zur Herstellung von Smyrna-Teppichen.

Fig. 1.

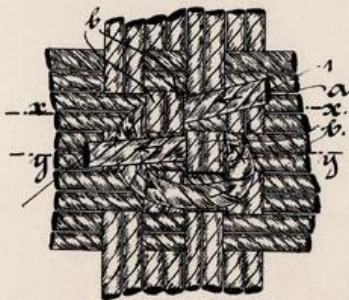


Fig. 2.

Schnitt x-x.



Fig. 3.

Schnitt y-y.



Fig. 4.

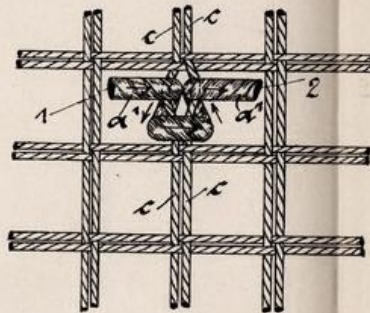


Fig. 5.

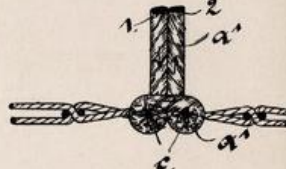


Fig. 6.

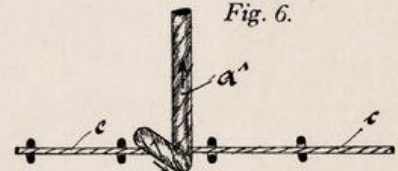
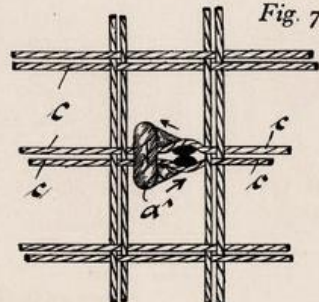


Fig. 7.



THE ISTANBUL PRESS.

D. = Daily, W. = Weekly, M. = Monthly, P. = Periodically.

Turkish.

Aksham, D.
Djoumhouriet, D.
Hakimiyeti Millie, D.
Inkilap, D
Milliet
Politika, D.
Ressimli, W.
Son Posta, D.
Vakit, D.
Hayat, W.
Muhit, M.

Armenian.

Abavod, W.
Adevis, W.
Gavrooge, W.
Haighin, W.
Jamanak, D.
Marmara, D.
Nor-Lour, D.
Vasdak, W.

French.

L'Akcham, D.
L'Economiste d'Orient, W.
Index Maritime d'Istanbul.

L'Information d'Orient, Bi-M.

Le Journal d'Orient, D.

La République, D.

PST., W.

L'Echo de Turquie, D.

Revue Technique, M.

Stamboul, D.

Revue Economique de Turquie, W.

German.

Türkische Post, D.—

Greek.

Apogevmatini, D.

Politeia, D.

To Phos, D.

Metharyssmissis, D.

Italian.

La Rassegna, M.

Organ of the Spanish Jews.

El Djoughto, W.

El Telegrapho, W.

El Tiempo, W.

Turkish and Bulgarian.

Istiklal, W.

The former country house of Alfred Biliotti in Rhodes



In the nineteenth century, the European vice-consuls in Rhodes generally lived and maintained their offices in Neohori, the quarter outside the walls of the Old Town where the island's small European Levantine community was concentrated. Some also maintained country residences outside the city, particularly in the fertile district of Trianda, southwest of Rhodes Town. This area had long been favoured by wealthy Rhodian families for their summer residences, country houses known locally as *pyrgoi*, or towers.

One of the most remarkable surviving examples is the *pyrgos* shown in the photograph, which belonged to the Mas(se) family of Catalan or Provencal extraction, who often provided French consular agents. The family included Stefano Mas, who was British consul in Rhodes in 1817. This connection, commemorated by the inscription "Dieu et mon droit" (God and my right) and the date 1813 above the gate, likely refer to him. Adjoining property belonged to the Biliotti family, who later in the nineteenth century would themselves become prominent representatives of the British Crown in Rhodes ([Alfred Biliotti](#)). The *pyrgos* still belongs to descendants of the Mas family but is no longer in use. Images and info courtesy of [Erik Bruns](#).



News of upcoming events by partners

Confirmed exhibition: 'Levantines of Istanbul, Istanbul of Levantines' – LKMKD, 2026

We would like to inform you about the next initiative of the Association Levanten K lt r ve Mirasını Koruma Derneđi ([LKMKD](#)), the 'Levantines of Istanbul, Istanbul of Levantines' Exhibition that will take place on 8 October – 8 November 2026 at the exhibition hall of the Beyođlu Municipality on İstiklal Street.

This exhibition will showcase the Levantine way of living and culture in various aspects along with the Levantine community's cultural, social, and economic impact between 1850 and 1950, offering the first holistic narrative of its heritage. The exhibition will highlight key contributions to the community in the fields such as architecture, art, commerce, and diplomacy, culminating in a meaningful historical story.

This exhibition also lays the groundwork for the next project, the "Levantine Library & Museum".

For further information please contact the exhibition project team by sending an e-mail to levanten@levanten.org.

Mystery item



A Levantine house gateway on Genclik street, Bornova, sourced from the internet. This is the Edward Whittall house entrance, present view placed below for comparison. Identification of persons if possible would be appreciated.



New website

Agelastos family genealogy pages – [link:](#)

Izmir Kent Kimliği Digital Arşivi [The digital archive of Izmir city heritage] – [link:](#)

Our messages

Current sponsored project: Documenting the British Footprints in Late Ottoman and Early Republican Istanbul (1868–1945)

With Researcher: Assist. Prof. Bengi Su Ertürkmen, Ph.D. (Gazi University)

We are currently nearing the end of a research project aimed at documenting and sharing with the public the historical legacy of the British community in late Ottoman Constantinople and early Republican Istanbul.

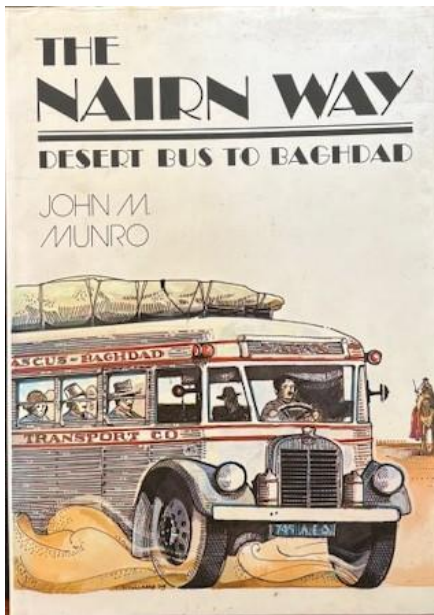
As part of the project, 20 trade annuals have so far been systematically examined, leading to the identification of an interconnected network of approximately 450 individuals, 95 families, 130 institutions, and 150 places. Through the relationships traced between these individuals, families, institutions, and places, the core structure of the network has now been established. With this foundation in place, the project is moving from data collection towards interpretation and visualisation. The next phase will focus on mapping these connections, both relationally and spatially, to explore how professional, familial, institutional, and social ties intersected across the city. In parallel, the biographical lexicon will continue to be developed and enriched through further archival and secondary research.

We will have the launch and presentation of this database in Istanbul in mid-October 2026, with supporting speakers Akin Sefer (British workers in the Imperial Arsenal in late Ottoman Istanbul), Dr Brian Johnson (Istanbul's Feriköy Protestant Cemetery, Preserving its Historical Legacy and the British Connection), Murat Tülek & Liana Kuyumcuyan (The former British Post Office and Staff of Galata) and registration and venue details are at the top.



The Levantine Heritage Library & Archive – New Acquisitions

The Nairn brothers, Norman and Gerald, were successful New Zealand entrepreneurs who established a successful transportation business in Beirut after WW1. They were most famous for their luxury buses that crossed the Syrian Desert to Baghdad. The LHF Library has been fortunate to acquire two out-of-print books which tell the story of the Nairn Transport Company.



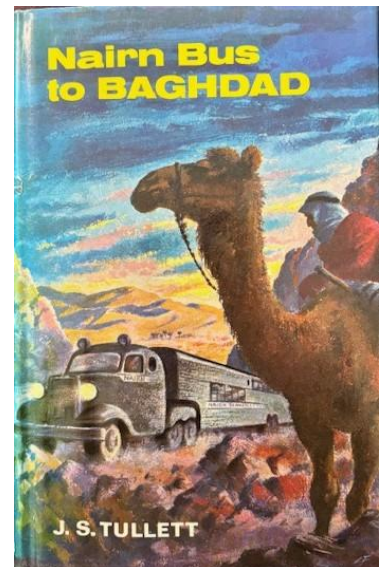
John M Munro's **"The Nairn Way – Desert Bus to Baghdad"** (1980 Caravan Books) focuses on Norman Nairn, the elder brother. He and Gerald had grown up in New Zealand tinkering with engines. Their father, a doctor, was one of the first in New Zealand to own an automobile. On finishing school, the boys set up a bicycle business, then moved to selling and repairing motorcycles. At the outbreak of war in 1914, Norman joined the British army's Royal Army Service Corps (RASC) and was posted in the Middle East. Gerald followed, joining the Canterbury Mounted Rifles and then transferring to the RASC because his mechanical skills were better suited to cars and trucks than horses.

On demobilization in 1919, the brothers set up an automobile trading business but soon moved to providing a taxi service between Beirut and Haifa. Norman was the strategic and financial brains of the business. When competition began to build on the Haifa route, they set up and dominated for many years the more ambitious but more lucrative Beirut to Baghdad service, transporting mail, diplomatic pouches, freight and passengers and servicing the needs of the nascent oil industry.

John Munro's book acknowledges the earlier book by J.S. Tullett **"Nairn Bus to Baghdad"** (1968 A.H. &A.W. Reed). This is a biography of Gerald Nairn, drawing on the papers and recollections of his widow, Rea. Gerald was the mechanical and operational expert of the business, managing the vehicle fleet, the routes and schedules. He spent much of his time in Baghdad.

This book has a fine collection of photographs and anecdotes that illustrate the daunting challenges of establishing and maintaining a fast and reliable service across 500 miles of hot and dusty desert. By 1923, the Nairn Transport Company had formed partnerships with Thomas Cook and Messagères Maritimes for packages that could get you from London to Baghdad in 10 days for a 1st class fare of £70. St. John Philby, Freya Stark and Gertrude Bell were amongst the first passengers. Notable too was Ahmad, Shah of Iran, who brought his own Cadillac to join the Nairn convoy on his journey to holiday (and, ultimately, exile) in France.

After many years of success, WW2 brought disruption and new opportunities, especially in transporting British troops. But the creation of the state of Israel, Arab nationalism, increasing distrust of foreigners and new competition from civil airline transport led to increasingly unfavourable conditions. Gerald decided that he would retire to New Zealand. After rejecting an offer from the Iraqi government to buy the business, the brothers decided to give the business to its employees when Norman retired. For a few years the business continued normally under new management until 1956. A combination of the exodus of European employees living in Damascus during the Suez crisis and new Iraqi customs tolls set to combat gold smuggling led to financial difficulties and, ultimately, the end of the business. Norman Nairn stayed on in retirement in Beirut.



By Quentin Compton-Bishop. If you can help find a permanent home for our library collection, or for more information on the books and items we hold, please contact us.

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Craig Encer

General Secretary – secretary@levantineheritage.com

The Levantine Heritage Foundation - www.levantineheritage.com

[Our Facebook page](#): (3.3K followers) | [Our Youtube channel](#): (1.06K subscribers) | [Our Twitter channel](#): (888 followers) | [Instagram](#): (1,135 followers) | [Bluesky](#): (11 followers)

The Levantine Heritage Foundation is a non-profit association with a constitution prepared and adopted according to the guidelines of The Charity Commission for England and Wales.

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