



Research - Education - Preservation

Newsletter no: 8 (Autumn-Winter 2017)

Upcoming events

27th Levantine Heritage Foundation dinner gathering in London – Thursday 18 January 2018

with guest speakers Dr Philipp Wirtz (SOAS) ‘Rave reviews in Pera: German Residents in late Ottoman Istanbul as Observers of Ottoman Cultural Life, 1908 - 1918’ & Taylan Güngör (SOAS) ‘The late-Medieval Italian community in Pera’ & Tom Young ‘Lost Levantine Houses of Beirut’ - [flyer - registration:](#)

This is the first time we will have 3 speakers for a gathering, all of whom we rate as outstanding in their field, and hope to see as many of you as possible.

28th Levantine Heritage Foundation dinner gathering in London – Tuesday 10 April 2018

at the Friends Room, London Hellenic Centre, with guest speaker Prof Peter Mackridge ‘The delights of Istanbul in eighteenth-century Greek literature’ and Tom Rees with the title to be announced soon. - [flyer](#)

3rd Levantine Heritage Foundation international conference: ‘The Levantines: Identities and Heritage, Athens, Greece - 2-3 November 2018

We are still in the planning stages for this conference and would love to hear from you if you could assist us in terms potential speakers, sponsoring the event or side events, accommodation options and helping out for duties before and during the conference. We are also open to suggestions of holding joint events in the same period with partner organisations based in Greece to celebrate the shared culture.

For further information: lhf-athens2018@levantineheritage.com / [Call for papers:](#)



Recent events



26th Levantine Heritage Foundation dinner gathering in London, 21 September 2017, with guest speakers Dr Jonathan Conlin, senior lecturer in modern history at Southampton University on 'Very Loyal Subjects and Friends of Our Country': The Gulbenkians and Ottoman/Turkish Economic Development, 1880-1935 and Nicholas Pelham, author and Middle East correspondent of The Economist, on his Alexandrian and Levantine background – [flyer](#):

2nd LHF-Istanbul Conference in association with Beyoğlu Municipality – 20-22 October 2017

Title: '**Levantines as pioneers of Modernization in Industry and Trade in the Ottoman Empire**' - [call for papers](#) - [flyer](#); / [Türkçe](#); - [gallery](#) - [videos](#):

We had an excellent conference again kindly sponsored by the Beyoğlu Municipality and the venue sponsors were the Yapı Kredi Arts Centre and the Zografyan Greek School, both in Beyoğlu district. The conference was opened by the mayor of Beyoğlu Ahmet Misbah Demircan who gave a welcoming talk and our trustee Philip Mansel delivered the keynote speech on Aleppo as a Levantine City. We had a total of 10 academic presentations over a day and half and we had 2 additional days of tours by knowledgeable guides of Beyoğlu and Büyükada Island. We thank all those who helped out, volunteered, in particular our trustee in Istanbul Nuri Çolakoğlu and the LHF-Istanbul team. We hope to continue our events in Istanbul and will announce this calendar shortly.



Some of the organisers of the conference.



Some of speakers and delegates at the post conference reception.



Some of the group during the one of the post conference tours: Büyükada.



Members of LHF-Izmir meeting with Mrs Sema Pekdaş (sitting on the left), head of Konak Municipality, on possible avenues of future collaboration, 20 October 2017.

Requests

Become a member of the LHF

We hope you find our website and events interesting and useful. Access to the website and to many of our talks are free. Our work is mainly achieved thanks to our volunteers and site contributors. However, we do have significant real costs in adding to and maintaining the website, funding small research projects, organising events and preparing publications and other materials. Where we charge for events, we aim to cover only the direct costs of catering in order to make them accessible to as wide an audience as possible, including students and early career researchers.

The Levantine Heritage Foundation is reliant on membership subscriptions, donations and sponsorship. Please consider becoming a member or renewing your membership. Membership is just £20 a year, or £80 for 5 years or you can become a life member for £500. Benefits include priority booking for events and discounts on LHF publications and events where we have to charge a fee.

You can join the LHF or renew your membership online at <http://www.levantineheritage.com/join-us.html> or email membership@levantineheritage.com. You can also pay by cheque and send it to: The Levantine Heritage Foundation, 71-75 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9JQ.

We would appreciate a volunteer to help us manage our membership lists, renewals, reminders better. If you can spare the time, please get in touch.

Donations and legacies

If you wish to make a donation to the LHF, you can also do this online at <http://www.levantineheritage.com/support-us.html>. Our bank details are there if you wish to make a direct transfer. Or you can send cheques to the LHF at The Levantine Heritage Foundation, 71-75 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9JQ.

If you wish to provide a legacy for the LHF in your will or if you have family archives that are relevant to Levantine research, please contact Quentin Compton-Bishop at chairman@levantineheritage.com to discuss your wishes.

Corporate Sponsorship

Major events, such as the upcoming Athens 2018 conference and other planned events which need detailed preparation, cannot be financed by ticket sales alone. We do have a small number of commercial sponsors and supporters to whom we are very grateful and we seek further partnerships and commercial sponsors. Benefits include your name and logo on our website and in publications such as conference programmes.

We have a number of package levels for sponsorship and if you would like to discuss these opportunities further please contact our Chairman Quentin Compton-Bishop on chairman@levantineheritage.com.

Join the LHF team

We are a small team of volunteers growing an expanding international network of academic and amateur researchers, historians and people with a great diversity of connections and interests in the heritage of the Levant region. Our headquarters is in London, we have active groups in Istanbul and Athens, and many collaborators in other countries and cities including, Izmir, Paris, Amsterdam, Rome, Toronto, New York and Los Angeles. We are looking for volunteers who can commit time to advise us and help organise events and communicate with our wide network. Specific opportunities include:

- Academics or historians to advise the Trustees and help with conference programmes and publications
- Membership Secretary to grow membership and take charge of member support and

communications

If you are interested in getting more involved with the LHF, please contact Craig Encer, General Secretary on secretary@levantineheritage.com.

Purchasing copies of past LHF Conference books:

If you wish to purchase copies of conference presentations books: **First Levantine Conference in Istanbul**, 'The Levantines: Commerce and Diplomacy', held in Istanbul November 2014 - [details](#) or

Levantines Past, Present, Future Symposium, Izmir, November 2010 - [details](#):

Please refer to the pricing instructions here ([doc](#) / [pdf](#) version), and send the correct amount (including postage) through our [paypal buttons](#) (or bank transfer - details on support us page) with your address details please:

Current research

Calling our friends for exchange of information and potential networking

John McCarthy one of our members, and a generous supporter who has sponsored our reception in the 2016 LHF Conference in London. In this [page](#) on our website we acknowledge that support with a biography of him and in it he details his current research on the poorly studied links of the important historical commerce network between Boston, Smyrna, Shanghai etc. The 'Boston Concern' as it became known to its contemporaries, bankers, clients, investors and competitors (the origin of the name is attributed to their arch-yet occasionally cozy-competitors, Jardines) was a dynamic grouping consisting of four prominent Protestant Boston families: Russell, Forbes, Perkins and Sturgis. Though competitors, they were united by Yankee pragmatism; they were deeply interconnected in business ventures and, often, by marriage. Mr McCarthy has set a goal to complete his project soon after his formal retirement by 2020. Any guidance on the activities between Smyrniot Levantines and the Boston concern, or Americans in general, during 1795-1861 will be appreciated. He can be contacted through our Foundation.

The Levantine Heritage Foundation's early networking activities in Italy

The Levantine Heritage Foundation is taking its first steps in Italy, an area of great interest for the history of the Levantine community. Emanuela Pergolizzi (SOAS alumna) and Francesco Pongiluppi (PhD, University La Sapienza of Rome) are currently at the early stages of building a network of people interested in LHF's activities in Northern, Central and Southern Italy, both within and outside the academic field. We would love to hear from you if you would like to assist us in our early planning activities with ideas and suggestions. We hope we will be able to soon host a first LHF gathering in Italy. For further information please contact:

lhf-italy@levantineheritage.com.

Smyrna railway history book project first call for support

A group of Izmir based volunteer researchers are prepared to work next year on a possible book next year on railways of Smyrna in which Levantines had a key role, accessing records held in the city, to which they

now have permission to access. We would want partners in this project to allow it to become a reality, through sponsorship, where the total level of sponsorship will determine the scope, content and book print run. Please contact us to be informed more and to be put in contact with Alan Prior who is project leader in Izmir.

External Upcoming Events

Postcard Exhibition: 'Gezdim İzmir'in Sokaklarını, 1895-1910'

until 3 January 2018

ESBO, Cumhuriyet Bulvarı No:63, Alsancak, Izmir

Exhibition: 'Oriental Christians: 2,000 Years of History'

until 4 January 2018

Arab World Institute, 1 Rue des Fossés, Saint-Bernard, Paris, France – [info](#)

Lecture: Devastated Lands: Lebanon at the End of the Great War, 1918 - Professor Eugene Rogan

16 January 2018, 5.45 - 7 pm

Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London – [info](#)

Lecture: Who's who in sixteenth-century Ottoman Istanbul, Helen Pfeifer (Cambridge)

18 January 2018, 5.15 - 6.30 pm

Whitting Room - Arts Building (Room 436), University of Birmingham, England – [info](#)

Conference: Re-thinking Nationalism, Sectarianism, and Ethno-Religious Mobilisation in the Middle East

26-28 January 2018

Pembroke College, Oxford, England – [info](#)

Lecture: Jewish and Greek Communities in Egypt: Entrepreneurship and Business Before Nasser - Najat Abdulhaq, author

30 January 2018, 5.45 pm

Khalili Lecture Theatre, Russell Square, SOAS, London – [info](#)

Exhibition: A visit to the Ottoman Empire: Dr. Dezső Bozóky

until 18 February 2018

Hungarian Cultural Centre, İmrahor Cad., No:23 B Blok, Kağıthane, İstanbul – [info](#)

Seminar: Travellers to the Near East and the Great Wary

5 March 2018

by Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East (ASTENE) - Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR – [info](#)

Seminar: Working in Egypt in the 19th Century

30-31 March 2018

Oriental Hall, Tahrir Square Campus, Cairo, Egypt – [info](#)

Recent Publications

De l'utilité commerciale des consuls. L'institution consulaire et les marchands dans le monde méditerranéen (XVIIe-XXe siècle) - Arnaud Bartolomei (ed), Publications de l'École française de Rome, 2017 – [info](#):

Lost and Now Found: Explorers, Diplomats and Artists in Egypt and the Near East - edited by Neil Cooke and Vanessa Daubney, Archaeopress, 2017 – [info](#):

The Middle East and the Making of the Modern World - Cyrus Schayegh, Harvard University Press, 2017 – [info](#): - [Google book segment](#):

Depicting the Late Ottoman Empire in Turkish Autobiographies: Images of a Past World - Philipp Wirtz, Routledge, 2017– [info](#): - [Google book segment](#):

The Late Ottoman Empire and Egypt: Hybridity, Law and Gender - Elizabeth H. Shlala, Routledge, 2017 – [info](#): - [Google book segment](#): (interesting examination of the term and concept of 'Levantines').

Germany and the Ottoman Railways: Art, Empire, and Infrastructure - Peter H. Christensen, Yale University Press, 2017 – [info](#):

Costa Gaziadi et Les Mémoires de 50 Ans d'un Journaliste d'Istanbul (1905-1955) - Rifat N. Bali, Libra, 2017 – [info](#):

Review of Blue Guide Turkey by Paola Pugsley:

The Blue Guide today is still the definitive guide to places of historical interest. Based on reviewing the 120-page chapter on the Black Sea Coast, Blue Guide Turkey packs in detail on places and monuments with helpful historical context, timeline, glossary and index. You know the author, Paola Pugsley, has been to every place. There is a certain amount of practical information on how to get around and where to stay, but don't expect extensive descriptions and ratings of hotels and restaurants which one can find easily enough these days online. This is a scholarly guide for the intrepid traveller.

Published by Blue Guides Limited

ISBN 978-1-905131-81-5

Not yet published:

A Short History of Venice and the Venetian Empire - Maria Fusaro – [link](#):

Britain and the Collapse of the Ottoman Empire: British Diplomacy and the Birth of the Modern Middle East - Warren Dockter, Christopher Catherwood – [link](#):

Orientalist Lives: Western Artists in the Middle East, 1830-1920, James Parry, I.B. Tauris – [link](#):

Enlightening Europe on Islam and the Ottomans: Mouradgea d'Ohsson and His Masterpiece - Carter Findley

Peter the Great humbled: The Russo-Ottoman war of 1711 – Nicholas Dorrell, Helion & Company – [info](#):

New External digitisations:

Gerald Harman Warner eyewitness account of Smyrna 1922 - Jenny Saggers – [link](#):

Dressing Turks in the French manner: Mouradgea d'Ohsson's panorama of the Ottoman Empire - Elisabeth A. Fraser, ARS Orientalis 39, 2010 – [link](#)

Looking East, Jean-Etienne Liotard, the Turkish Painter - Kristel Smentek, ARS Orientalis 39, 2010 – [link](#)

The rise of Ottoman Izmir as a commercial centre - Tuğçe Atik, 2014 – [link](#)

Reconstruction of collective memory through spacial representations of Izmir waterfront, since the 1920s - Pınar Yüksel, 2014 – [link](#)

The first Protestants in the Arab World: The contribution to Christian mission of the English Aleppo chaplains 1597-1782 - Andrew Lake, Melbourne School of Theology, 2015 – [link](#):

The making of an Ottoman port-city: The State, local elites and urban space in Salonica, 1870-1912 - Sotirios Dimitriadis, 2013 – [link](#):

The Genoese Levantine colonies at the birth of Ottoman Imperial power: A framework for inquiry - Padraig Rohan, 2015 – [link](#):

The Transformation of Pera into the Cultural District of Istanbul in the Second Half of the 19th Century - M. Sami Bayram, 2016 – [link](#):

Recherches sur l'histoire de la latinité de Constantinople - E. Dalleggio d'Alessio, 1926 – [link](#):

Constantinople: Ses Cités Franques et Levantines (Pera - Galata - Banlieue) - Bertrand Bareilles, Editions Bossard, Paris, 1918 – [link](#):

Büyükkada, its summer residences and the bourgeois Ottoman interior at the turn of the twentieth century, Zeynep Ceylanlı, 2015 – [link](#):

Mr and Mrs Barker and Family: Franks in the Levant - Deborah Manley, Archaeology & History in the Lebanon, 2002 – [link](#):

Gendering East and West: Transnational Politics of Belonging in the Ottoman Empire and France, 1718-1905, Ayşe Neveser Koker, 2017 – [link](#):

'Levantine' Dragomans in Nineteenth Century Istanbul: The Pisanis, the British, and Issues of Subjecthood - Frank Castiglione, The Journal Of Ottoman Studies, 2014 – [link](#):

Mediterranean History as Global History - David Abulafia, 2011 – [link](#):

The Ionian Sea in the 19th Century: Ports, the port system and the formation of the Ionian commercial and maritime network - Panayiotis Kapetanakis, 2007 – [link](#):

Greek Mercantile Activities in the Eastern Mediterranean, 1780-1820 - Elena Frangakis-Syrett, Journal of Balkan Studies, 1987 – [link](#):

The Catholic church in Constantinople, 1204-1453 - Charles A. Frazee, Journal of Balkan Studies, 1978 – [link](#):

Precursors to the Prince: The Grand Tour in the Ottoman Empire - Philip Mansel (lecture transcript), 2014 – [link](#)

[link:](#)

- Conflicts between the Dutch merchants and the Ottoman local authorities according to the 'Felemenk Ahdnâme Defteri' dated 1091/1680 - Bülent Ari, 1996 – [link:](#)
- Grieving Cosmopolitanism in Middle East Studies - Will Hanley, 2008 – [link:](#)
- Capitulations and Negotiations: The Role of the Venetian Consul in Early Ottoman Egypt - Yutako Horii, 2008 – [link:](#)
- Cosmopolitanism in the Middle East as part of global history - Ulrike Freitag, 2010 – [link:](#)
- The French Revolution's Gift to the Ottomans: The Newspaper, The Emergence of Turkish Media - Ali Budak, 2012 – [link:](#)
- Highbrow Harem Portraiture, or Turquerie and Its Discontents in the Eighteenth Century - Jennifer Lynn Kirsch, 2017 – [link:](#)
- "Malhamé – Malfamé": Levantine Elites and Transimperial Networks on the Eve of the Young Turk Revolution - Jens Hanssen, 2011 – [link:](#)
- Notes on the family wealth and career progression of Cristoforo Tarsia and his sons, Dragomans of the Venetian Embassy in Constantinople (1618-1716) - Cristian Luca, 2011 – [link:](#)
- Notes on the origins of the diplomatic corps: Constantinople in the 1620s - G.R. Berridge, 2004 – [link:](#)
- The first Spanish Ambassador to the Sublime Porte: Juan de Bouligny and his early activities in Istanbul based on his diary - Ayşe Çiçek Ünal, 2015 – [link:](#)
- New interpretations of domestic space and life: The emergence of apartment buildings in nineteenth century Istanbul - Dilşad Gözübüyük Melek, 2004 – [link:](#)
- The Origins of Modern Banking in the Levant: The Branch Network of the Imperial Ottoman Bank, 1890-1914 - Christopher Clay, International Journal of Middle East Studies, 1994 – [link:](#)
- Levant Trade Review: American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant (monthly trade bulletin), 1911-1931– [link:](#)

New Podcasts:

- The Siege of Malta, 1565 - 11 Jan 2018 - [link:](#) - available to listen from that date.
- Conflict and co-operation: A history of trade - 1-1-2018 - [link:](#)
- America's Ottoman Diaspora - 24 December 2017 – and available for a month to listen online - BBC World Service – [link:](#)
- Balfour's Promised Land - 10 December 2017 – [link:](#)
- Our Man in the Middle East, 25 episodes - June 2017 – [link:](#)
- Diplomacy and culture at the Ottoman Court - with Tracy Sowerby, Maxwell Hudson, Aneliya Stoyanova, Talitha Schepers - 7 April 2017 - [link:](#)
- German Expatriates in Late Ottoman Istanbul - with Philipp Wirtz, hosted by Taylan Güngör and Michael Talbot - 22 August 2016 - [link:](#)
- Landscapes of the Eastern Question - with Paolo Girardelli, hosted by Emily Neumeier - 5 July 2016 - [link:](#)
- Lawrence of Arabia: The Man and the Myth - 1 May 2016 - [link:](#)
- Galata and the Capitulations - with Fariba Zarinebaf, hosted by Nir Shafir and Zoe Griffith - 8 February 2014 - [link:](#)
- Producing Pera - with Nilay Özlü hosted by Chris Gratien - 25 January 2013 - [link:](#)
- Great Lives: Gertrude Bell - 21 January 2011 - [link:](#)

New Video productions:

- In Diverso Stat Humanitas - Doğunun İtalyanları [Humanities in different states: Italians of the East] - June 2016 - [link:](#)

Gli Ultimi Levantini - Italiani all'ombra del sultano [The Last Levantines - Italians in the shadow of the Sultan] - Ilario Piagnerelli, August 2017 - [link](#):
The Legacy of Lawrence of Arabia, BBC 2 - [part 1](#): - [part 2](#):
Letters from Baghdad: Gertrude Bell - October 2017 - [link](#):

Latest Website additions

Photo galleries / analysis:

Aidin personnel: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/aidin-personnel.html>
Constantinople Pantomime: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/constantinople-pantomime.html>
Padova Freres postcards: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/padova-freres.html>
Smyrna / Izmir cyclists: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/izmir-cyclists.html>
Fire insurance certificate: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/fire-insurance-certificate.html>
British Institutions in Smyrna: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/british-institutions-smyrna.html>

Listings:

[Levant Company: Admissions of Freemen and Grants of Liberty of Trade, 1695-1824](#) - David Wilson, 2017
[Levant Company: Earliest members, 1581-1605](#) - David Wilson, 2017

Interviews:

Sedat Bornovali: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/sedat-bornovali-interview.html>
Tom Young: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/tom-young-interview.html>

Family history submission:

Fercken family of the Levant, Richard Fercken: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/fercken-story-richard-fercken.html>

In Search of Tristrams: The Uvedale Barrington Tristram family in Turkey and the Levant, Elizabeth Knight: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/uvedale-barrington-tristram-family-in-turkey.html>

Gift Aid: if you are a UK tax payer, you can make your donation go further with gift-aid – [word](#) / [pdf](#) documents:

A reminder to existing members that the membership year expires at the end of September and that we will be writing to those due to renew shortly.

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LevantineHeritageFoundation>

Our Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/LevantineHeritage>

Our Updated Mission Statement: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/pdf/Mission-Statement-for-Levantine-Heritage-Foundation.pdf>

You have received this newsletter as you have indicated that you wish to receive this or have shown a past interest / contributed to our project. If you wish to no longer receive this communication, please e-mail us contact@levantineheritage.com to indicate you are no longer interested.

Next newsletter is scheduled for 1 April 2018, contact us if you wish for an entry / announcement.

Craig Encer

General Secretary – secretary@levantineheritage.com

The Levantine Heritage Foundation



Wishing all our members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and a Happy Hanukah past!

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.

Trustees: Quentin Compton-Bishop, Craig Encer, Dr Philip Mansel FRHS, Dr Axel Corlu, Dr Kalliopi Amygdalou, Zeynep Cebeci Süvari, Jonathan Beard, Nuri Çolakoğlu