



Research - Education - Preservation

Newsletter no: 15 (Autumn 2020)

Upcoming events

12 December 2020, 6 pm (UK time)

1st The Association of Levantines online presentation with guest speaker Philip Mansel: 'Istanbul and Smyrna through the eyes of Levantine artists from Luigi Mayer to Fausto Zonaro' - [flyer](#) - [registration](#):

16 December 2020, 5 pm (UK time)

2nd LHF online presentation with guest speaker Diana Darke: 'Stealing from the Saracens: How Islamic Architecture shaped Europe' - [flyer](#) - [registration](#):

20 January 2021

3rd LHF online presentation with guest speaker Deniz Türker: 'The Yıldız Palace and Sultan Abdülhamid II's Flat-Pack Homes' - [flyer](#) - [registration](#):

17 February 2021

4th LHF online presentation with guest speaker Houssine Alloul – details coming soon.

Vision for our Future Events

Clearly this past year has been challenging for all of you and wishing you good health in these troubling and uncertain times. Like all cultural institutions this has meant all of our physical events have had to be put on hold and this situation is clearly going to continue through at least till next summer. We are however already in the early stages of our post-Covid plans for events both in the UK and overseas and these will be announced in due course. We are of course always on the look-out for collaborator organisations and sponsors. Please get in touch with us if you would like to like to get involved in some way.

There are other opportunities to support the LHF by becoming a member, making a donation, sponsoring a gathering or contributing your time. If you wish to contribute in some way towards the activities of the LHF, please contact Quentin Compton-Bishop at chairman@levantineheritage.com.

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.

PhD on Life Insurance Companies in Turkey between 1860 and the early 1920s

Claus Musterle is currently pursuing a joint doctoral degree in History at Basel University (Switzerland) and Sciences Po (Paris). Upon graduating from the University of St Andrews (United Kingdom) in 2014, he has completed a Research Master's in History at Sciences Po (Paris). His PhD undertaking concerns the activities of British and French insurers within the confines of today's Republic of Turkey between 1860 and the early 1920s. For further information on his project as well as the overarching research programme funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), please refer to: <https://www.culturesofrisk.net>

The purpose of this posting is to reach out to British and French Levantine families whose ancestors were either personally or by way of an agency house representing a (life) insurance company in today's Turkey, and this in

the hope of gathering otherwise inaccessible source material of any kind pertaining to those activities.

Families I'd be particularly interested in include, but are not limited to (in alphabetic order):

- Belhomme (Smyrna/Izmir) - Sun Fire and Sun Life Offices
- Gilchrist and Walker/Reginald Whittall (Constantinople/Istanbul) - Norwich Union Life Insurance
- La Fontaine (Smyrna/Izmir/Bornova) - Royal Insurance
- (Arthur) Tully (Constantinople/Istanbul) - The Gresham Life
- (J.W.) Whittall (Constantinople/Istanbul) - Royal Exchange Assurance, The Gresham Life, and New York Life (I am aware of the deposits made to Exeter University Library)

Claus M. Musterle
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Illustration of the French Union's office building on today's Bankalar Caddesi, Galata/Karaköy – [further images:](#)

Recent Events



Post Presentation: [Péra, Istanbul: sur la trace des Levantins](#), Francesca Ilaria Faiella, 3 September 2020 – Fondation Jan Michalski, En Bois Désert, Montricher, Switzerland

Left to right: Francesca Faiella, Craig Encer, Edward Linguri, Beth Linguri.



Online presentation by Nilay Özlü: 'A Levantine Architect: Alexandre Vallauray (1850-1921)', 19 November 2020 - [flyer:](#) / [video:](#)

External Upcoming Events

7 December 2020, 12-2 pm EDT

Online presentation: Istanbul's Russian Moment, 1919-1923, Vladimir Alexandrov: 'The Case of the Black Russian', András Riedlmayer: 'Russian Refugee Lives' - [link:](#)

15 December 2020, 6 pm (UK time)

Online presentation: 'The Lily and the Crescent: Louis XIV and the Ottomans, Culture, Commerce and Crusades', Philip Mansel - [link:](#)

17 December 2020, 12.15 pm

Online presentation: 'The 'Deserving Foreigner': Venetian Protection in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire', Dr. Umberto Signori - [link:](#)

Recent Publications

Osmanlı Dönemi İzmir Planları ve Haritaları [Ottoman period Smyrna plans and maps] - Ömer Durmaz, İzmir Kalkınma Ajansı Kültür Yayınları, 2020 - [link:](#)

Manzaram İzmir [Izmir Views] - Ömer Durmaz, İzmir Kalkınma Ajansı Kültür Yayınları, 2020 - [link:](#)

İzmir'de Ticaret Hayatı ve Çarşılar [Bazaars and trade life in Izmir] (1850-1930) - Yaşar Ürük, Ege Sanayicileri ve İşinsanları Derneği (ESİAD), 2020 - [info in Turkish:](#)

Yabancı Kaynaklardan Kordoelontos'tan Karşıyaka'ya [From Kordoelontos to Karşıyaka based on foreign sources] - Tufan Atakişi, Atadost Matbaacılık ve Yayıncılık A.Ş., 2020 - [link:](#)

Il Dodecaneso Italiano [The Italian Dodecanese Islands] 1912-1947 - Luca Pignataro, [volume 1](#) (1912-1922), [Volume 2](#) (1923-36), [Volume 3](#) (1936-1947/50)

That Most Precious Merchandise: The Mediterranean Trade in Black Sea Slaves, 1260-1500 - Hannah Barker, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019 – [link:](#)

Thomas Sandwith a British Consul in the Levant, 1855-1891 - Stephen Boys Smith, Isis Press, 2020 – [link:](#)

La Turquie de mon temps: Articles & Essais - Gilbert D'Andria, Libra Kitap, 2020 – [link:](#)

59 Numaralı Ev - İzmirli Bir Levanten'in Anıları [House no 59 - Memories of a Levantine from Izmir] - Gilbert D'Andria, Heyamola Yayınları, 2020 – [link:](#)

Cultures and Practices of Coexistence from the Thirteenth Through the Seventeenth Centuries: Multi-Ethnic Cities in the Mediterranean World, Volume 1 - Edited By Marco Folin, Antonio Musarra, Routledge, 2020 – [link:](#)

İstanbul'un yabancı ve Levanten mimarları [The foreign and Levantine architects of Istanbul] - Cengiz Can, Arketon, 2020

Working in Greece and Turkey: A Comparative Labour History from Empires to Nation-States, 1840-1940 - Edited by Leda Papastefanaki and M. Erdem Kabadayı, Berghahn, 2020 – [link:](#)

Not yet published:

Midnight in Cairo: The Female Stars of Egypt's Roaring '20s - Raphael Cormack, Saqi Books, 2021

The Romance of Ruins: The Search for Ancient Ionia, 1764 - Sir John Soane's Museum, 2021 - edited by Ian Jenkins, to accompany the exhibition at the Soane Museum, March to May 2021

New External digitisations:

Maltese Levantines of Constantinople: the Calleja family – Angela Fry, May 2020 – [link:](#)

Frankokratia: A Journal for the Study of Greek Lands under Latin Rule – Brill, 2020 – [link:](#)

Is there a Diplomat in the House, Sheila Markham, 2020 (with the Travellers Club's permission) – [link:](#)

Her Majesty's Protected Subjects: The Mishaqa Family in Ottoman Damascus - Erdoğan Keskinçilic & Ebubekir Ceylan, 2014 – [link:](#)

Mediterranean Futures: Historical Time and the Departure of Italians from Egypt, 1919–1937 - Joseph John Viscomi, The Journal of Modern History 91, no. 2, 2019 – [link:](#)

Dr Violi: Pioneering Paediatrician of Constantinople 1849-1928 - Angela Fry, From Lancs to the Levant, 7 July 2020 - [link:](#)

Pontremoli's cry: Personhood, scale, and history in the Eastern Mediterranean - Joseph John Viscomi, History and Anthropology, 2019 - [link:](#)

The Levantines: the Constantinople Italians - Domenico Nocerino, Opinio Juris, 2019 - [link:](#)

Exile, dignity and love: an Istanbul story - Ayşe Kadioğlu, 2019 - [link:](#)

The origins of opera houses in Egypt - Paolo Petrocelli, 2020 - [link:](#)

Early Ottoman Diplomacy: Ad Hoc Period - Bülent Arı, 2004 – [link:](#)

A Struggle for Survival: Genoese Diplomacy with the Sublime Porte in the Face of Spanish and French Opposition - F. Özden Mercan, 2019 – [link:](#)

Electrification of İstanbul (1878-1923) - Aysal Cin, Ulaş Duygu, 2019 - [link:](#)

“Osmanlı Devrinin Kadın Doğum Hekimlerinden [One Of The Obstetricians Of The Ottoman Period] Dr. A. Vuccino (1829-1893)”, - Yeşim Işıl Ülman, Hastane, 2006 – [link:](#)

Perceiving French Presence in the Levant: French Subjects in the Sicily of 18th Century Ottoman Salonica - Eyal Ginio, 2007 – [link:](#)

Co-Existence and Conflict Between Muslims and Non-Muslims in the 16th Century Ottoman Istanbul - Hasan Çolak, 2008 – [link:](#)

“L’Aimable Visir”: Pierre David’s Consulship under Hüsrev Mehemed Pasha’s Rule as Governor of Bosnia - Giuseppe Pio Cascavilla, French Historical Studies, 2018 - [link:](#)

Matteo Vitali: 100 Lira Alan Padişahı [The footballer Sultan who was on a pay of 100 Lira] – Dinyakos, 2015 – [link:](#)

Ceneviz kolonisi, Ceneviz Mahallesi (Istanbul) [The Genoese quarter of Galata]- Özhan Öztürk, 2017 – [link:](#)

From immigrants to emigrants: Salesian education and the failed integration of Italians in Egypt, 1937-1960 - Annalaura Turiano & Joseph John Viscomi, 2017 – [link:](#)

Reminiscences of Ottoman vernacular in Galata - ISVS e-journal, Luca Orlandi, 2019 – [link:](#)

One of Turkey’s Germans: Portrait of the Orientalist Friedrich Schrader - Ceyda Nurtsch, Qantara.de, 2018 - [link:](#)

Spatial Stories of Izmir: A Narrative Study on the Influence of Trader Families on the Spatial Development of the Port City - Fatma Tanış & Klaske Havik, 2020 – [link:](#)

New Podcasts:

Precursors to the Prince, the grand tour in the Ottoman Empire, [Dr Philip Mansel](#), December 2014 – [link:](#) - [transcript:](#)

Ottomans, Orientalists, and 19th-Century Visual Culture - Ottoman History Podcast with Mary Roberts, 19 January 2020 – [link:](#)

Meanwhile in Damascus - Jeremy Bowen, BBC4, 15 June 2020 - [link:](#)

Refugees: Free Thinking - John Gallagher, BBC Radio 3, 18 June 2020 - [link:](#)

The Mediterranean Viewed from the Southern Shore - Ottoman History Podcast with Andreas Guidi, 18 July 2020 – [link:](#)

Mementos from Habsburg Life in Ottoman Istanbul - Ottoman History Podcast with Robyn Dora Radway, 5 July 2020 – [link:](#)

The Many Colours of Raqqa - BBC Radio 4, 23-7-2020 - [link:](#) ([article](#))

Travel Images Between Europe and the Ottoman Empire - Ottoman History Podcast with Elisabeth Fraser, 25 August 2020 – [link:](#)

Italian Empire and the Dodecanese - Ottoman History Podcast with Valerie McGuire, 13 September 2020 – [link:](#)

Mayday: James Le Mesurier and the White Helmets, 9 Nov 2020 (15 episodes), BBC Radio 4 – [link:](#)

New Video productions:

Cumartesi Aurası: Fabrizio Casaretto “Sébah & Joaillier Merceğinden Osmanlı” [The Ottomans from the lens of Sébah & Joaillier], 4 April 2020 – [link:](#)

Aliotti Family album Fernand tells his story (1898-1996), 25 April 2020 – [link:](#)

Giovanni Scognamiglio – Görsel Hafıza Projesi, (filmed 2005, published 2020) – [link:](#)

Canon Ian Sherwood’s talk: ‘Notes on The Crimean Memorial Istanbul and its living history’, 2018 – [link:](#)

Casa Garibaldi. La Società Operaia di Mutuo Soccorso in Costantinopoli - Francesca Faiella, 2016 - [link:](#)

Pera House Garden - Ft Ian Sherwood & Victoria Short, 20 August 2020 - [link:](#)

Between Empires, Beyond Borders. The Late Ottoman Empire and the Early Republican Era Through the Lens of the Köpe Family - Gábor Fodor, Elizabeth F. Thompson and Emre Sara, 3 Nov 2020 - [link:](#)

New news articles:

The Scars of Ottoman San Stefano: Traces of a Contested Past in Istanbul's Yeşilköy, Gabriel Doyle - Ajam Media Collective, 7 March 2020 – [link:](#)

Mediterranean shipwrecks reveal 'birth of globalisation' in trade, Dalya Alberge, Guardian, 18 April 2020 - [link:](#)
Istanbul Municipality buys Ottoman sultan's portrait for \$955,000 at London auction, Duvar English, 25-6-2020 - [link:](#)

Egypt inaugurates iconic Baron Palace amid renewed interest in Heliopolis heritage - al Monitor, 8 July 2020 - [link:](#)

Les Levantins, vestiges chrétiens de l'Empire ottoman - Mélinée Le Priol, La Croix, 30-8-2018 – [link:](#)

Ephemera:

A day's journey: Constantinople, December 9, 1919 - Artemis Leontis & Lauren E. Talalay, 2006 - [link:](#)

To Constantinople on a Bicycle: The Journey of Two American Adventurers in 1891 - Ilker Yaman, 2016 - [link:](#)
Ottoman Greeks of the United States 1904-1924: Los Angeles – [link:](#) / San Francisco – [link:](#) / Cleveland, Ohio – [link:](#) / Somerville (Massachusetts) – [link:](#) / Jersey City (New Jersey) – [link:](#) - [overview video](#) (Seven cities, seven stories)

The Turquerie collection in the Ptuj castle, Slovenia - [link:](#)

New websites:

Zmi3 Museum: Family Relicts & Collection – [link:](#)

İzmir Akdeniz Akademisi [Izmir Mediterranean Academy] – [link:](#)

Al-Madaq: A new virtual archive documenting Cairo's history - [article:](#) - [link:](#)

Fausto Zonaro – [link:](#)

Khamseen: Islamic History Online – [link:](#)

In Memoriam:

Unfortunately one of our site contributors Mr Patrick Grigsby passed away on the 8th June 2020. May he rest in peace – [submission:](#)

Latest Website additions

Submissions:

The Alleon Family, Two Centuries of French Presence in Istanbul - Christophe Alleon – [link:](#)

Photo galleries / analysis:

Foreign banks – [link:](#)

Foreign schools – [link:](#)

Foreign post-offices – [link:](#)

Insurance certificates (updated) – [link:](#)

Forbes house (updated) – [link:](#)

Ralph Gout of London watches and clocks – [link:](#)

Bible Society of Constantinople – [link:](#)

Interviews:

Miguel Selvelli – [link:](#)

Impressions:

My Essene and Spirit lie in Smyrna - Gregory Vickas - [link:](#)

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 on line 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.

Gift Aid:

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

Corporate Sponsorship

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.

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:

[Our Facebook page:](#) (2138 followers) | [Our Youtube channel:](#) (220 subscribers) | [Our Twitter channel:](#) (184 followers)

Subscription to this newsletter and other LHF communications

If you wish to no longer receive our future newsletters and communications please let us know by writing to contact@levantineheritage.com. We hold your personal data securely for the purpose of providing you with information on LHF research, events, publications and membership. We will not share your personal data with 3rd parties.

Contribute to our newsletter

Next newsletter is scheduled for 15 January 2021; contact us if you wish for an entry / announcement.

Craig Encer

General Secretary – secretary@levantineheritage.com

The Levantine Heritage Foundation - www.levantineheritage.com

Wishing our friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to come, and be safe...

<p>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, Dr Philip Mansel FRHS, Dr Axel Corlu, Dr Kalliopi Amygdalou, Zeynep Cebeci Süvari, Jonathan Beard, Nuri Çolakoğlu, Achilleas Chatziconstantinou</p>
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