



TURKOKRATIA

The fall and decline of Byzantium engenders Renaissance in Europe, the New World is discovered and exploited by northern European countries while Greece is enslaved for centuries by the Ottoman Turks, but survives.

TURKOKRATIA: DEPRIVATION, SUBJUGATION

A Dark End of the Byzantine Empire/Taiganides174

One of the most devastating consequences of the loss of Constantinople on Black Tuesday 29 May, 1453 to the Muslim Ottoman Turks and their subjugation of the Christian Balkans was the loss of opportunity for the Greeks to be a part of the liberating developments of the Renaissance that began to take place in the rest of Europe and spread to

Constantinople Falls, 1453-05-29/DeForest.....176

The City's forces numbered perhaps as many as 7,000, while the Sultan would eventually muster near 80,000. On the morning of April 2, 1453, Easter Monday, the advance guard of Mehmed's army appeared before the gates of Constantinople and pitched camp. Three days later Mehmed himself arrived with his remaining forces and encamped near the Gate of St. Romanos. On April 6 the bombardment of the City began with the Sultan's cannons. The largest cannon had been transported from Adrianople by 60 oxen and 200 soldiers. Its sound was deafening but it could only be fired 7 times a day, such was its size. The defenders of the city had primitive muskets and some heavier guns as well, but their cannons were useless, since they shook the masonry of the....

Thessaloniki, Capital of the Balkans/Taiganides.....179

The name means victory (niki = νίκη) in Thessaly, the region on the south side of Mt Olympus conquered by Philip the Great. He named his daughter Thessaloniki, but it was her husband Cassander, one of the generals of Alexander, who so named the city in 315 BC. The first ever letter written by Apostle Paul was to the Thessalonians, demonstrating the high prominence of the city. During Roman and Byzantine times, Thessaloniki increased in importance as a commercial center and as a strategic European harbor for spices and oriental goods imported from Asian countries along the 6000-km Silk Road from Beijing to

2 Brothers, One Christian One Muslim/Jusdanis.....182

Celebrated as one of the most accomplished Greek novels of the last 30 years, the book follows the life of Ismail Ferik Pasha who arrives in Crete from Egypt in 1866 in order to crush the rebellion by the islanders against Ottoman rule. But this is not Ismail's first journey to Crete. He has been here before. In fact, he was born there over 50 years earlier to Greek parents. It is in a way a homecoming, a nostalgic return to the place where he was originally enslaved. But this time he has come to plunder, capture, and kill. How is this possible? The book explains

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His name was Domenikos Theotokopoulos but he is known today by his Italian nickname "El Greco" ("The Greek"). He was not the first Greek artist to work abroad, but he is certainly the most famous. Before he settled permanently in Toledo, Spain, he spent ten years in Italy, first in Venice where he studied the methods of Titian and Tintoretto, and then in Rome where he opened his own workshop. But he remained Greek in identity, and until the end of his life he signed all his paintings in Greek letters with

Erotokritos, Delightful Poem and Story/Jusdanis.....187

“ Of all that man has good on earth, 'tis words that have the power
 To give to every human heart their comfort in its hour;
 And he who has the gift to speak with knowledge and with style
 Can make the eyes of other men weep, and also make them smile.”

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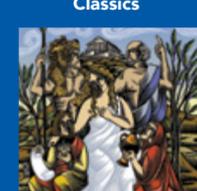
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