



Fragoulis S. Fragos was born in 1951 in Komotini, Greece. In 1970, he was admitted to the Hellenic Military Academy from where he graduated in 1974 in 1st place as a 2nd Lieutenant before joining the Infantry. He served in the Special Forces and served as a paratrooper until retirement. He is a graduate of the Hellenic Army War College and the Nato Defense College (NADEFCOL). For six years he served as Defense Attaché in the Greek Embassy in Ankara, Turkey. He served as the Director of the Inter-service Military Intelligence Directorate of the Hellenic Joint Chief of Staff during the Olympic Games (2004). He has also served as Commanding Officer of the Infantry and Lieutenant General and Commanding Officer of the Mechanized Infantry Division, Army Corps, 1st Army, as well as Inspector General of the Hellenic Army. He served as the Defense Minister in the government of the Prime Minister Mr. Panagiotis Pikramenos (May – June 2012). He is Honorary Chief of the Hellenic Army General Staff as well as an Honorary citizen of the prefectures of Rethymno, Amyntaio and Orestiada. His Undergraduate and Graduate studies took place at the Panteion University; he is also a Phd holder, gaining his Doctorate from Ionian University, in Geopolitics & Geostrategy. He speaks English, Turkish and Russian, and is married with two children. In 2010, his study on the battle of Marathon was published: "Without Cavalry. Battle of Marathon (490 BC) 2500 Years", and was immediately translated into English. The German translation is currently being prepared.

WHAT IS TURKEY? WHO ARE THE TURKS?

It was a cold day in November 1991 when as a Colonel I reached Ankara as the Defense Attaché to the Greek Embassy. My father Stergios, who was born in 1914 in Chariopolis in Eastern Thrace - whose father was from the Sfakia, Crete, and whose mother was from Eastern Thrace - would tell me about a blessed and lovely place, a place however filled with nightmares which led me to question whether I should love it too. I wanted to discover for myself whether after the uprooting of the Asia Minor disaster, about whether any fragments remained of the Greeks or the nations that made up Asia Minor, or was all that was left behind just broken pieces of marble?

I served in Ankara for three years and returned once again in the summer of 1998 as Defense Attaché, now armed not with the stories I had been told as a child, but an in depth knowledge about modern day Turkey and a sense of certainty that all of these peoples who had once inhabited this land still continued to exist. And this is how the idea was borne: To approach this subject in more depth, starting from the Battle of Manzikert (1071) until today, 2012, and strengthen my love for the inhabitants of modern day Turkey, always however questioning the neo-Ottomanism which continues to question the existence of these peoples, their values and their proximity.



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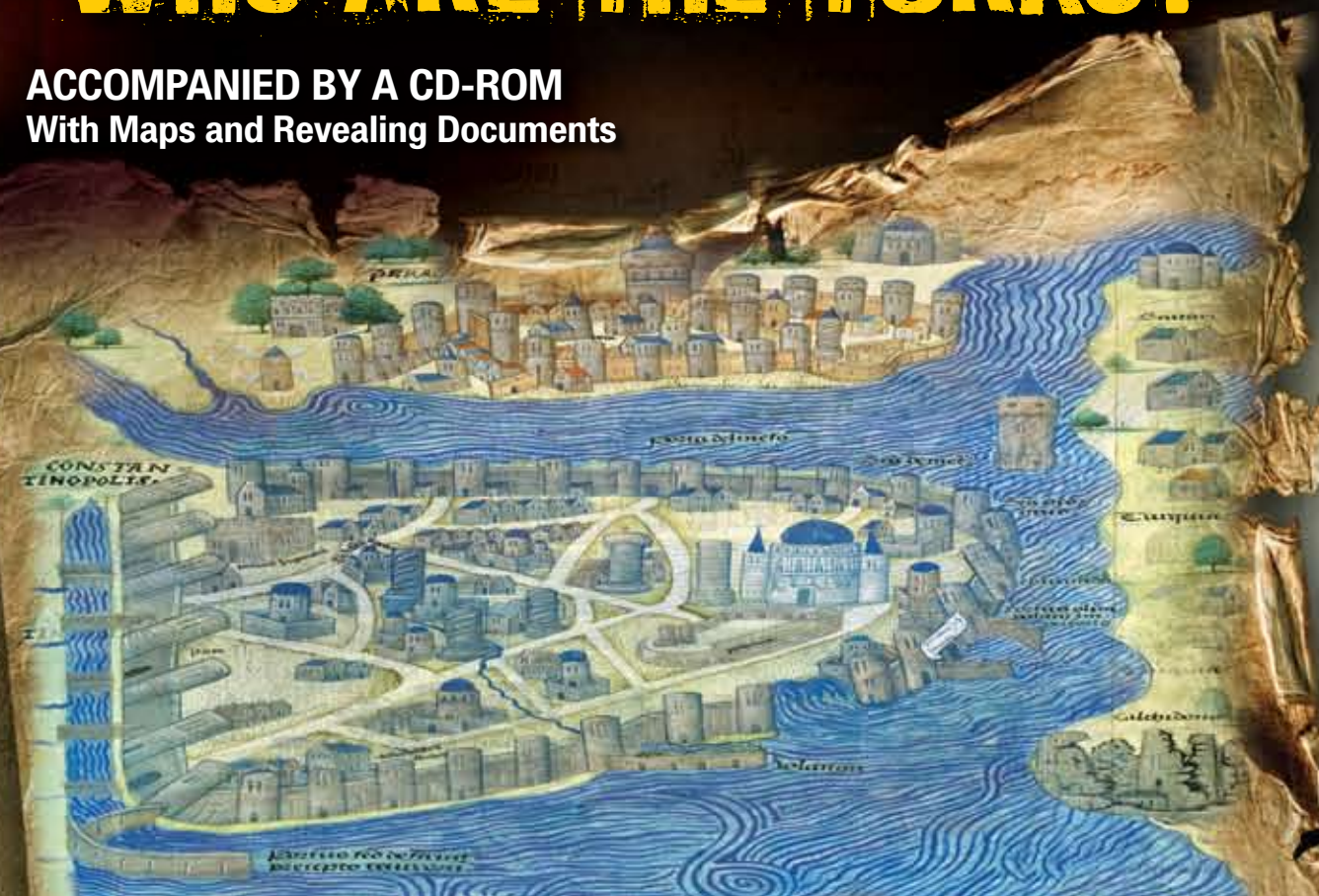
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ACCOMPANIED BY A CD-ROM
With Maps and Revealing Documents



In this study, the author referenced documents, files, data and the bibliography in order to shed light on the historical reality of Asia Minor, beginning a millennium before - with the conversion of its inhabitants into "Turks" and "Muslims" (culminating in recent research unveiling the ancestry of famous personalities such as Erdogan, Kemal and even Mohammed II).

The above, along with the conditions of survival that minorities in Asia Minor faced, lead us to conclude that all of the old and alienated inhabitants of Asia Minor are also seeking the truth, in regards to Orthodox Christianity in order to build a NEW BYZANTIUM - along with the now informed and aware Ottomans. These minority nationalities which make up Asia and whom are not Turks have the right to independence both in a national and religious capacity, as they themselves wish for.

Cover:
Map: The Byzantine Empire in the mid 11th century
Constantinople: A map of Constantinople, miniature (c. 1385-1430), Liber insularium archipelagi by Cristoforo Buondelmonti, f. 155r, British Library, London.
Hagia Sophia: An external depiction of Hagia Sophia, painting (19th century), Fossati brothers.