Introduction

Antonis Anastasopoulos

Associate Professor, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Crete, Rethymno, Greece

Collaborating Faculty Member, Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas, Rethymno, Greece
anastasopoulos@uoc.gr

Marinos Sariyannis

Research Director, Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas, Rethymno, Greece
sariyannis@ims.forth.gr

The passing of Elizabeth A. Zachariadou, Professor Emerita of the University of Crete and Honorary Researcher at the Institute for Mediterranean Studies of the Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas (IMS/FORTH), on 26 December 2018 deeply saddened everyone who knew her. For us, who had the luck to work under her aegis and benefit from her guidance, to share office space and collaborate in research projects with her, but also to enjoy her company on numerous social occasions, her loss has left a void which will never be filled.

Her colleagues honoured Elizabeth A. Zachariadou on more than one instance during her lifetime. She received an honorary doctorate from the University of Ankara in 1990, and was elected to Academia Europaea in 1993. Volume 23 (2005/06) of *Archivum Ottomanicum* appeared with 22 contributions published in her honour, while *The Eastern Mediterranean under Ottoman Rule: Crete, 1645–1840*, ed. Antonis Anastasopoulos (Rethymno: Crete University Press, 2008), the volume containing the papers of the Sixth Halcyon Days in Crete Symposium, held in Rethymno, Crete, in 2006, was dedicated to her and Professor Vassilis Demetriades. Furthermore, the two institutions that she served from the mid 1980s until the late 1990s, namely the University of Crete and the IMS/FORTH, honoured her by granting her the titles of Professor Emerita and Honorary Researcher, respectively, after her retirement.

Her contribution to the fields of pre-Ottoman and Ottoman history cannot be overstated, and she was respected internationally as a leading authority in the subfields of the emirates of medieval Anatolia, early Ottoman history, and the Greek Orthodox church and subjects of the Ottoman sultan. In fact, without underestimating the international stature of other Greek Ottomanists such as Professors John C. Alexander, Evangelia Balta, Vassilis Demetriades and Paraskevas Konortas, it is fair to say that it was Elizabeth A. Zachariadou who internationalised Greek Turkology with her many publications,¹ her networking, and the Halcyon Days in Crete symposia that she established in 1991. The symposia, which are held every three years in Rethymno, quickly became a respectable institution of international reputation and a hub of fruitful and innovative academic exchanges. Her academic record has been presented adequately in the obituaries published for her and in the address that Professor Elias Kolovos, of the University of Crete, delivered at her inauguration as Professor Emerita.² Therefore, we deem it superfluous to repeat this information here, and it is to these texts that we refer readers on this matter.

If we are to select five traits that characterised Elizabeth A. Zachariadou both as a person and a scholar, we may say that she was erudite, generous, passionate, inspiring, and a critical thinker. Her vast knowledge of medieval and early modern Turkish and Greek history and more particularly of both narrative and archival sources in several languages about these periods made her a treasure trove of information and wisdom. Critical thinking was not only a factor which constantly complemented this deep and wide historical knowledge to produce incisive analyses of the topics with which she dealt in her writings, but in fact an inherent part of her personality. She was generous in all senses: as a scholar she was most happy to share her wisdom and ideas and to offer her support and advice to younger colleagues and students, and as a person she was concerned with the well-being of others and most willing to assist in every possible way, not to mention what a great host she was to her guests. She was

1 She is the author or co-author or editor of 15 books, and she has also published more than 100 articles in academic journals, edited volumes, and reference works. 42 of them have been reprinted in *Romania and the Turks (c. 1300 – c. 1500)* (London: Variorum Reprints, 1985) and *Studies in Pre-Ottoman Turkey and the Ottomans* (Aldershot: Ashgate Variorum, 2007).

2 Kolovos, Elias, “Η προσωπικότητα και το έργο της Ελισάβετ Ζαχαριάδου (1931–2018)” [The personality and work of Elizabeth Zachariadou (1931–2018)], *Ariadne: The Journal of the School of Philosophy of the University of Crete*, 23/24 (2016–17/2017–18), 298–306; Anastasopoulos, Antonis, “Elizabeth A. Zachariadou (1931–2018)”, *Review of Middle East Studies*, 53/2 (2019), 343–45; Kolovos, Elias, and Gülsün Aivali-Aksoy, “Prof. Dr. Elizabeth Zachariadou (1931–2018): Yunan Bir Osmanlı Tarihçisinin Şahsiyeti ve Eseri”, *Toplumsal Tarih*, 302 (February 2019), 80–82; Vatin, Nicolas, “In memoriam Elizabeth Zachariadou (1931–2018)”, *Turcica*, 50 (2019), 1–6; Sariyannis, Marinos, “Elizabeth A. Zachariadou (1931–2018)”, *Osmanlı Araştırmaları / The Journal of Ottoman Studies*, 55 (2020), 339–41.

passionate about all things which interested her, from politics to her research topics. And she was an inspiration to all around her with her integrity, enthusiasm, unwavering energy, positivity, sense of humour, and research.

When Dr Charalambos Dendrinis of Royal Holloway, University of London, kindly contacted us about an unpublished paper on the Saruhanids that he had co-written with Elizabeth A. Zachariadou, and asked if we might envisage a memorial volume for her, we felt grateful for the opportunity we were given to honour her memory and thought it appropriate to invite some select friends and colleagues of hers to contribute articles which would accompany her own. The result is this special issue to which Professors Suraiya Faroqhi of Ibn Haldun University, Claudia Römer of the University of Vienna, Michael Ursinus of Heidelberg University, and Dr Nicolas Vatin of CETOBaC (CNRS-EHESS-Collège de France), EPHE, PSL, contributed articles at short notice. We feel greatly indebted to them for doing so.

The article by Zachariadou and Dendrinis is a reminder of the fertile ground that still exists in research in what has been labelled 'pre-Ottoman' from a teleological perspective but in fact concerns state, society, economy and culture in the medieval Anatolian emirates, a topic in which Zachariadou was justly considered a leading expert. Ursinus' article concerns the fiscal status of Franciscan monasteries in Ottoman Bosnia in the fifteenth and first half of the sixteenth centuries; monasticism was another topic that Zachariadou investigated from various standpoints in many of her publications. Vatin's study of the case of Hasan Ağa, the renegade governor of Algiers in the 1530s and the first half of the 1540s, brings to mind not only Zachariadou's interest in religious identities and the question of conversion to Islam more specifically but also her source-based attention to detail. Römer's contribution on double clause conjunction in fifteenth and sixteenth-century Ottoman documents pays homage to Zachariadou's lifelong and meticulous engagement with the editing of Ottoman narrative and archival sources, but also stands as a reminder of the constructive personal and academic exchanges that she had with scholars whose research focused on or extended also over fields other than history *sensu stricto*, including linguists. Finally, the article by Faroqhi on the jewels, robes and domestic furnishings of Ottoman women in the seventeenth, eighteenth, and early nineteenth centuries calls to mind the fact that Zachariadou's research did not concern only medieval Anatolia and the early centuries of Ottoman history but also the later period of the Ottoman Empire; from a thematic point of view, it brings to mind her work on questions of wealth and material culture but also the women with which she dealt.