BEING BYZANTINE

In 1204, the Byzantine empire was conquered by troops from western Europe ostensibly taking part in the Fourth Crusade. This was a hugely significant event for the subjects of the empire, radically altering the Byzantines’ self-image and weakening their state for the later conflict with the Ottoman Turks. Using the theory of ethnicity – a comparatively recent tool with regard to the pre-modern era – Gill Page provides fresh insight into the late Byzantine period, providing a corrective to nationalistic interpretations of the period of Frankish rule and more broadly to generally held assumptions of ethnic hostility in the period. A systematic analysis of texts in Greek from the period 1200–1420, from both ends of the social spectrum, is backed up by an in-depth study of Frankish rule in the Peloponnese to reveal the trends in the development of Byzantine identity under the impact of the Franks.

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BEING BYZANTINE

Greek identity before the Ottomans

GILL PAGE
This book is dedicated to my parents, Mike and Pam, and also to Paul.
Contents

List of illustrations page ix
Acknowledgements x
A note on the use and transliteration of Greek xi
Abbreviations xii
Reference works xiii

Introduction: The Frankish conquest of Greece
Identity and the Frankish conquest: the story so far 1

1 Ethnic identity?
Subjectivity, tradition and naming 11
Ethnic criteria 13
Boundaries: us and them 17
Method: the historians 18

2 Byzantine identities
Byzantium before the Fourth Crusade 27
The terminology 40
Before 1204: a crisis of identity 67

3 Niketas Choniates
Choniates: the collective political identity 72
Choniates: the ethnic identity 76
Other forms of self-identification 79
The vocabulary of otherness 85

4 The thirteenth century: ambition, euphoria and the loss of illusion
George Akropolites and the rise of Nikaia 94
Pachymeres and the Palaiologoi 107
Political, territorial and ethnic identities: the story so far 120
Akropolites and Pachymeres: other forms of self-identification 123
Definitely not Romans . . . 129
## Contents

5  The nightmare of the fourteenth century
   Nikephoros Gregoras and John Kantakouzenos
   The political Roman identity in the fourteenth century
   The ethnic Roman identity in the fourteenth century
   Not only Roman but also . . . ?
   Definitely not Roman – but why?

6  Meanwhile, a long way from Constantinople . . .
   The Peloponnese and the *Chronicle of the Morea*
   The Villehardouin principality
   The principality after the Villehardouins
   The *Chronicle of the Morea*: an analysis
   The *Chronicle* in context: Franks and Romans under the Angevins
   Being Roman in Frankish Morea

7  The long defeat
   The sources
   Romans and others at the court of Mistra
   Peloponnesian identities in the later Greek *Chronicle of the Morea*
   Being Roman in the fifteenth-century Peloponneses

8  Roman identity and the response to the Franks
   Questions . . .
   And answers . . .

Glossary

Map 1: The Aegean region
Map 2: The Peloponnese
Appendix 1: Key content items
Appendix 2: The origins of the *Chronicle of the Morea*
Bibliography
Index
Illustrations

(All photographs taken by the author)

1 Decorative pillars at the ruined Frankish cathedral, Glarentsa (Kyllini) in the Peloponnese page 233
2 Window on the south wall of the monastery at Vlakherna, near Kyllini in the Peloponnese 234
3 The earliest wing of the despot’s palace, Mistra 235
4 St George, from Agios Nikolaos at Polemitas in the Inner Mani 236
5 St Theodore, from Trissakia near Tsopakas in the Inner Mani 237
6 Frankish soldiers featured in the arrest at Gethsemane, from Trissakia near Tsopakas in the Inner Mani 238
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A note on the use and transliteration of Greek

As far as is possible without confusing the contemporary reader in English, I have utilised direct transliterations from the Greek. Thus I have written Kantakouzenos rather than Cantacuzenus, Palaiologos rather than Palaeologus, and Nikaia rather than Nicaea. However, I have made use of some non-direct transliteration in the case of those names which have passed into everyday English usage; thus, for example, I have written Constantino-ple rather than Konstantinoupolis, Theodore rather than Theodoros, George rather than Georgios.

The analysis of Greek texts requires that a lot of vocabulary must be cited in Greek. Where Greek words are used more than once I have, at the first occurrence, given the word in Greek, accompanied by a transliteration and a translation. For subsequent occurrences, I have given only the transliteration. A Glossary at the end of the text lists all these words in Greek, transliterated and translated.
Abbreviations

ABSA  Annual of the British School at Athens
AHR  American Historical Review
BMGS  Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies
BZ  Byzantinische Zeitschrift
DAI  De administrando imperio
DCAH  Deltion tes Christianikes Archaiologikes Hetaireias
DOP  Dumbarton Oaks Papers
EB  Études Balkaniques
ERS  Ethnic and Racial Studies
GRBS  Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies
JMH  Journal of Medieval History
MGH  Monumenta Germania Historica
REB  Revue d’études byzantines
Reference works

