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101

TRADITION AND MODERNITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

The subject of Vassos Argyrou’s study is modernization, as reflected in the changing nature of wedding celebrations in Cyprus over two generations. He argues that modernization is not a process that makes a society “modern,” but a legitimizing discourse. It is an idiom that Greek Cypriots employ to represent, and contest, relationships between social classes, old and young, men and women, the city and the village. It is also the way in which they conceptualize, and submit to, the symbolic domination of Europe.
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TRADITION AND MODERNITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

The wedding as symbolic struggle

VASSOS ARGYROU

College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Massachusetts
To my mother
and in memory of my father
This is because knowledge is not made for understanding; it is made for cutting.

Michel Foucault, *Nietzsche, Genealogy, History*
# Contents

*List of illustrations*  
*Acknowledgments*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preliminaries</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questions of method</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weddings</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 The island of Aphrodite</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The capital</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paphos</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernity and unintended consequences</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Nationalism and the poverty of imagination</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A brief history</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics and the Eurocentric ideology</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two ways of being Greek?</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The “exotic” within</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 The weddings of the 1930s</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rites of passage</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weddings as potlatches</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 The meaning of change</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Of vigilance and virgins”</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time and meaning</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A flood of guests</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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vi Contents

5 Distinction and symbolic class struggle 111
   Definitions 111
   Going to weddings 113
   Visions and divisions 130
   Analysis 137

6 Anthropology and the specter of “monoculture” 153
   Reifications 154
   The consequences of strategy 157
   Politics 166

7 The dialectics of symbolic domination 170
   Recognition and resistance 171
   Denials 177

Appendix 184
Notes 185
References 198
Index 205
Illustrations

Plates

1 A view of Nicosia  page 17
2 An imposing modern structure  18
3 The neoclassical center of Paphos  24
4 A view of Paphos from Konia village  24
5 An abandoned village house  34
6 The zosimon of the bride in a contemporary “village” wedding  66
7 An old man with the vraka and the tsangaropines  70
8 The crowning  119
9 Dancing around the bridal mattress  120
10 “Just married,” just copying . . .  126
11 Flower decoration at a “champagne” wedding  127
12 Champagne for everyone  128

Figures

1 Sketch map of Cyprus  8
2 Layout of hotel reception area  147
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