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978-0-521-87181-5 - Being Byzantine: Greek Identity Before the Ottomans

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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.

GILL PAGE studied Classics at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, before beginning a career in museum education. After completing an MA in Medieval History at the University of Manchester, Dr Page went on to complete a doctorate at the University of Leeds.

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*This book is dedicated to my parents, Mike and Pam,
and also to Paul*

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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 *Constantinople* 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

<i>ABSA</i>	<i>Annual of the British School at Athens</i>
<i>AHR</i>	<i>American Historical Review</i>
<i>BMGS</i>	<i>Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies</i>
<i>BZ</i>	<i>Byzantinische Zeitschrift</i>
<i>DAI</i>	<i>De administrando imperio</i>
<i>DCAH</i>	<i>Deltion tes Christianikes Archaialogikes Hetaireias</i>
<i>DOP</i>	<i>Dumbarton Oaks Papers</i>
<i>EB</i>	<i>Études Balkaniques</i>
<i>ERS</i>	<i>Ethnic and Racial Studies</i>
<i>GRBS</i>	<i>Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies</i>
<i>JMH</i>	<i>Journal of Medieval History</i>
<i>MGH</i>	<i>Monumenta Germaniae Historica</i>
<i>PG</i>	Migne, J.-P. (ed.) (1857–66) <i>Patrologiae Graecae Cursus Completus</i> (166 vols.). Paris
<i>PL</i>	Migne, J.-P. (ed.) (1844–55) <i>Patrologiae Latinae Cursus Completus</i> (two series, 217 vols.). Paris
<i>REB</i>	<i>Revue d'études byzantines</i>

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Reference works

Liddell & Scott: Liddell, H. G. and R. Scott (1968) *A Greek–English Lexicon*. Oxford.

ODB: Kazhdan, A. and others (eds.) (1991) *The Oxford Dictionary of Byzantium* (3 vols.). Oxford.

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