

Cambridge University Press
978-1-316-61305-4 - The Patriarchs of Constantinople
Claude Delaval Cobham
Excerpt
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PREFATORY NOTE

The real Preface to this pamphlet is supplied by my learned and kind friends the Revs. Adrian Fortescue and H. T. F. Duckworth, but a few words from me are necessary to explain its origin and purport.

I do not claim an acquaintance with the original sources of the history of the Patriarchate of Constantinople. I do not know if the subject has received at later hands the treatment it deserves. But I lighted on a work entitled *Πατριαρχικὸὶ Πίνακες*, by Manuel I. Gedeon, printed at Constantinople (without date of publication, but written between 1885 and 1890), containing short lives of the bishops of Constantinople from the Apostle St Andrew to Joakim III.¹ It is a useful book, but an index was wanting, and this I now supply in two forms, chronological and alphabetical, as well as a list of the Patriarchs who are numbered with the Saints. Besides this I have done little but summarise Gedeon's text.

It may be noted that ninety-five Patriarchs reigned for less than a year. Also that of 328 vacancies between A.D. 36 and 1884

¹ It received the *imprimatur* of the Imperial Ministry of Public Instruction 25 Rabi'al-awwal, 1304—Dec. 23, 1887.

140	were by deposition,
41	by resignation,
3	Patriarchs were poisoned,
2	murdered,
1	beheaded,
1	blinded,
1	drowned,
1	hanged,
1	strangled.

In all 191: so that 137 only closed their term of office by a natural death.

After the fall of Jerusalem the Jews had leaders, at least in Alexandria and Tiberias, whom they called Patriarchs, and this office was recognized from the reign of Nerva to that of Theodosios II. (A.D. 420). Among Christians the bishop of Antioch was the first to be called Patriarch, but he probably shared the title with other leading metropolitans. Later it was held that 'as there are five senses,' so there should be five Patriarchs, Rome, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, Jerusalem. From 1589 to 1700 the Patriarch of Moscow was reckoned the fifth—Rome had fallen away in 1054—but only in 1723 the Great Church recognized the canonicity of the Russian Synod.

Patriarchs were elected by a synod of the bishops of the province, acting under the consent, the counsel or perhaps the orders, of the Emperor. Nor was the practice changed after the Turkish conquest of Constantinople, and in 1741 a *firman* of Mahmud I. sanctioned an orderly procedure, providing (*inter alia*) that the candidate should first have the approval of the bishops of Heracleia, Cyzicos, Nicomedeia, Nicaia and Chalcedon.

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The laity took some part, not well defined, in the election. The expenses amounted in 1769 to 150,000 francs, in 1869 to less than 500.

The order of consecration of a bishop, following the Fourth Canon of Nicaia, and according to the form prepared by Metrophanes, bishop of Nyssa (Euchologion Mega, 176), is performed by the Ἄρχιερεὺς and δύο συλλειτουργοί, elsewhere in the rubric called οἱ τρεῖς ἀρχιερεῖς. The earliest Patriarchs were generally priests or monks, and rarely before the fall of Constantinople chosen from among the bishops of the province: the translation of bishops from one see to another being held at least irregular. Latterly it has been the rule that they should have for at least seven years filled a metropolitical see within the province. The Patriarch-elect should be consecrated or installed by the bishop of Heracleia, or, in his absence, by the bishop of Caisareia.

An interval of more than four years occurred between the retirement of Athanasios II. and the appointment of Gennadios II., and again between the patriarchates of Antonios III. and Nicolaos II. M. Gedeon cannot say who ought to administer the affairs of the œcumenical throne during a vacancy.

The Patriarch-elect was received by the Byzantine Emperors in great state, and, after the fall of Constantinople, by the earliest Ottoman Sultans. He is still presented to the sovereign, but with little pomp or ceremony.

Disputes arising in sees other than his own should be referred to him for decision: generally, he may pronounce judgment in all questions between the Orthodox—and woe betide him who appeals from such

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judgment to a secular court. He may give the rights of *σταυροπήγια* to churches not already consecrated, though they may be in another province. He only can receive clerics from another province without an *ἀπολυτήριον* (letters dimissory) from their own diocesan.

Upon taking up his duties the new Patriarch sends a letter, called *ἐνθρονιστικὴ*, to his brother Patriarchs, to which they reply in letters called *εἰρημικαί*.

Homonymous Patriarchs are distinguished by the name of their birthplace, the see they had held, or by a nickname, never by numbers.

Probably no series of men, occupying through nearly eighteen centuries an exalted position, claim so little personal distinction as the Patriarchs of Constantinople. The early bishops are mere names :—

S. Andrew, Apostle and Martyr	Laurentios
Stachys	Alypios
Onesimos	Pertinax
Polycarpus I	Olympianos
Plutarchos	Marcos I
Sedekion	Philadelphos
Diogenes	Cyriacos I
Eleutherios	Castinos
Felix	Eugenios I
Polycarpus II	Titos
Athenodorus	Dometios
Euzeios	Ruphinos

Probos. The twenty-fifth in order of time.

Metrophanes I, A.D. 315–325, who saw the foundation of Constantinople, was too old to attend the first œcumenical council, and was represented in it by his successor,

Alexander, who was to have communicated with Arius on the very day of the heresiarch's appalling death.

Paulos, thrice expelled and twice restored, his place being first filled by

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- Eusebios, the Arian bishop of Nicomedeia, who consecrated S. Sophia: secondly by another Arian
 Macedonios. Paulos was at last exiled to Armenia, and there strangled with his own pall by Arians.
 Macedonios² deposed, anathematised by second œcumenical council, 381.
 Eudoxios, Arian, bishop of Antioch. Consecrated S. Sophia, Feb. 15, 360.
 Demophilos
 Evagrius, banished by Valens.
 Gregorios I, bishop of Nazianzum. Censured at second œcumenical council and resigned.
 Maximos I, deposed as a heretic by the same council.
 Nectarios, a senator of Tarsus, chosen while yet unbaptized, and installed by 150 bishops of the same council, at the bidding apparently of the Emperor Theodosios.
 Ioannes Chrystomos, born at Antioch, twice banished, died Sept. 14, 407, at Komana in Pontus. S. Sophia burnt, 404.
 Arsacios, brother of the Patriarch Nectarios.
 Atticos, consecrated in 415 the restored church of S. Sophia.
 Sisinius I
 Nestorios, the heresiarch, condemned as a monophysite by the third general council, of Ephesus, 431. Exiled to an oasis in Egypt, where he died, 440.
 Maximianos
 Proclos, bishop of Cyzicos.
 Flavianos, died of wounds received at the 'robber-synod' of Ephesus.
 Anatolios, installed by Dioscuros of Alexandria, fourth œcumenical council, of Chalcedon, 431, condemned the heresy of Eutyches: crowned the Emperor Leo I.
 Gennadios I
 Acacios. The first quarrel between the Church of the East and Pope Felix III. The 'Henoticon' of the Emperor Zenon. The finding of the body of S. Barnabas, and the independence of the Church of Cyprus, 478.
 Phravitas
 Euphemios, deposed and banished.

- Macedonios II, deposed and banished.
 (50) Timotheos I, Kelon.
 Ioannes II, Cappadoces.
 Epiphanius. Pope John II visited Constantinople.
 Anthimos I, bishop of Trapezus, promoted by the Empress
 Theodora, deposed by Pope Agapetus.
 Menas. Consecrated by Pope Agapetus. Menas in turn consecrated Pope Agathon. Controversy with Vigilius,
 Eutychios¹. Fifth œcumenical council, of Constantinople, 553.
 Second consecration of S. Sophia.
 Ioannes IV, Nesteutes. A synod at Constantinople, 587, declared the patriarch 'œcumenical.'
 Cyriacos
 Thomas I
 Sergios, monotholete. Incursion of the Avars, 626.
 Pyrrhos¹, monothetele, deposed.
 Pyrrhos²
 Petros, monothetele.
 Thomas II
 Ioannes V
 Constantinos I
 Theodoros I¹, deposed by Constantine Pogonatus.
 Gregorios I. Sixth œcumenical council, of Constantinople, 680,
 counted Pope Honorius among the monothetele heretics.
 Theodoros I²
 Paulos III. Council of Constantinople, 'Penthektes' or 'in
 Trullo II,' 692.
 Callinicos I, blinded, and banished to Rome by Justinian II.
 Cyros, deposed by Philippicus.
 Ioannes VI, monothetele.
 Germanos I, bishop of Cyzicos, a eunuch, resigned.
 Anastasios. The Patriarchate of Constantinople now conterminous
 with the Byzantine Empire.
 Constantinos II, bishop of Sylaiion, blinded, shaved and beheaded
 by Constantine Copronymus.
 Nicetas I, a slave.
 Paulos IV, a Cypriot, resigned.
 Tarasios, a layman. Seventh œcumenical council, of Nicaia, 787.

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- Nicephoros I, a layman, deposed and banished by Leo the Armenian.
 Theodotos, illiterate. *εικονομάχος*.
- Antonios I, Kasymatas; a tanner, then bishop of Sylaiou. *εικονομάχος*.
- Ioannes VII, Pancration. *εικονομάχος*, deposed by Theodora.
- Methodios I, bishop of Cyzicos, promoted by Theodora. First mention of M. Athos.
- Ignatios¹, son of the Emperor Michael Rhangabe and Procopia, eunuch; deposed and banished by Baidas. Conversion of the Bulgarians.
- Photios¹, a layman, deposed and banished by Basil the Macedonian. Conversion of the Russians.
- Ignatios², canonised by Rome. Fourth council, of Constantinople, 869.
- Photios², deposed and confined to a monastery by Leo the Wise. Synod of 879.
- Stephanos I, son of Basil the Macedonian and Eudocia.
- Antonios II, Kauleas.
- Nicolaos I¹, mysticos; deposed by Leo the Wise.
- Euthymios I, deposed and banished by Alexander.
- Nicolaos I², restored by Constantine Porphyrogenetos.
- Stephanos II, bishop of Amaseia; eunuch.
- Tryphon
- Theophylactos, a lad of sixteen, eunuch. Son of Romanus Lecapenus. Conversion of the Hungarians.
- Polyeuctos, eunuch.
- Basileios I, Scamandrenos. Deposed by John Tzimisces.
- Antonios III, Studites
- Nicolaos II, Chrysoberges
- Sisinios II
- Sergios II. The Patriarch of Alexandria declared *κριτής τῆς οἰκουμένης*.
- Eustathios
- (100) Alexios, appointed by Basil II.
- Michael I, Cerularios, appointed by Constantine IX, deposed and banished by Isaac Comnenos. Excommunicated by Papal legates (the see of Rome was vacant), July 16, 1054.
- Constantinos III, Leuchoudes: eunuch.

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Ioannes VIII, Xiphilinos
 Cosmas I, Hierosolymites
 Eustratios, eunuch.
 Nicolaos III, Grammaticos
 Ioannes IX, Agapetos
 Leon, Styppe
 Michael II, Kurkuas
 Cosmas II, deposed by a synod of bishops.
 Nicolaos IV, Muzalon, archbishop of Cyprus.
 Theodotos
 Neophytos I
 Constantinos IV, Chliarenos
 Lucas
 Michael III, bishop of Anchialos.
 Chariton
 Theodosios I
 Basileios II, Camateros, deposed by Isaac Angelus.
 Nicetas II, Muntanes
 Leontios
 Dositheos, Patriarch of Jerusalem. (In 1192 five ex-Patriarchs were alive.)
 Georgios II, Xiphilinos
 Ioannes IX, Camateros. Latin conquest of Constantinople, April 12, 1204.
 Michael IV, Antoreianos
 Theodoros II, Copas
 Maximos II
 Manuel, Sarantenos
 Germanos II
 Methodios II
 Manuel II
 Arsenios¹
 Nicephoros II
 Arsenios²
 Germanos III, present (after his deposition) at the second council of Lyons, 1274.
 Ioseph I¹
 Ioannes XI, Beccos

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- Joseph I²
 Gregorios II, a Cypriot.
 Athanasios I¹
 Ioannes XII, Cosmas
 Athanasios I²
 Nephon I
 Ioannes XIII, Glykys, a layman.
 Gerasimos I
 Hesaias
 Ioannes XIV, Calekas
 Isidoros
 Callistos I¹
 Philotheos¹
 Callistos I²
 Philotheos²
 Macarios¹
 Neilos
 Antonius IV¹, Macarios
 Macarios²
 (150) Antonius IV²
 Callistos II
 Matthaios I, sent the monk Joseph Bryennios to Cyprus, 1405.
 Euthymios II
 Joseph II, metropolitan of Ephesus: died at Florence, 1439, during
 the Council.
 Metrophanes II, metropolitan of Cyzicos.
 Gregorios III, died at Rome, 1459.
 Athanasios II, resigned, 1450. Fall of Constantinople, May 29,
 1453. [The vestments and ornaments of the Patriarch,
 imitated from those of the Byzantine Court, could hardly
 have been assumed before the fall of the city.]
 Gennadios II, Scholarios, resigned May, 1456.
 Isidoros II
 Sophronios I, Syropulos
 Ioasaph I, Kokkas: thrust forth about 1466 because he would not
 sanction the marriage of a Christian girl to a Moslem courtier.
 The Sultan, Mohammed II, spat in his face, and mowed away
 his beard with his sword. The Patriarch threw himself down
 a well.

Marcos II, Xylocaraves.

Dionysios I¹. [The Lazos for a thousand florins buy the Patriarchate for Symeon, a monk of Trebizond. He gave way to Dionysios, metropolitan of Philippopolis, for whom Maros, mother of Sultan Bayazid, bought the Patriarchate for 2000 sequins: after a reign of five years he was rejected as a eunuch. Symeon was recalled, and the synod paid 2000 sequins; but the Serb Raphael offered 2500. Symeon was deposed, and Raphael, an unlettered sot, succeeded; but as the money was not paid he was led chained hand and foot through the city to beg it from his flock: he failed, and died in prison.]

Symeon¹

Raphael

Maximos III

Symeon²

Nephon II¹

Dionysios I²

Maximos IV, paid 2500 florins. Deposed and died at M. Athos.

Nephon II²

Ioakeim I¹

Nephon II³

Pachomios I¹

Ioakeim I²

Pachomios I², poisoned by a servant.

Theoleptos I, bishop of Ioannina.

Ieremias I¹, bishop of Sophia: visited Cyprus, 1520.

Ioannikios I

Hieremias I²

Dionysios II¹

Hieremias I³

Dionysios II²

Ioasaph II, metropolitan of Adrianople.

Metrophanes III¹, metropolitan of Caisareia.

Hieremias II¹, Tranos, metropolitan of Larissa.

Metrophanes III²

Hieremias II², banished to Rhodes.

Pachomios II, Palestos: banished to Wallachia.

Theoleptos II

Hieremias II³