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Book Review

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Economy Overview of Alexandroupolis, 1870-1970

by Michael Patelis

Alexandroupolis, 2007

346 pages

ISBN 9789608882225

This stylish colored scrapbook enclosures the history of all professionals of Alexandroupolis.

A different way to expose a forgotten world rises through this issue. With pation and persistent effort the collector Michael Patelis collected, classified and presented the documents of human activity in the city. It is his fourth book where he has accomplished a great level of accuracy of evidence.

The introduction is written by Ifigenia Vamvakidou, assistant Professor of University of West Macedonia, in Florina.

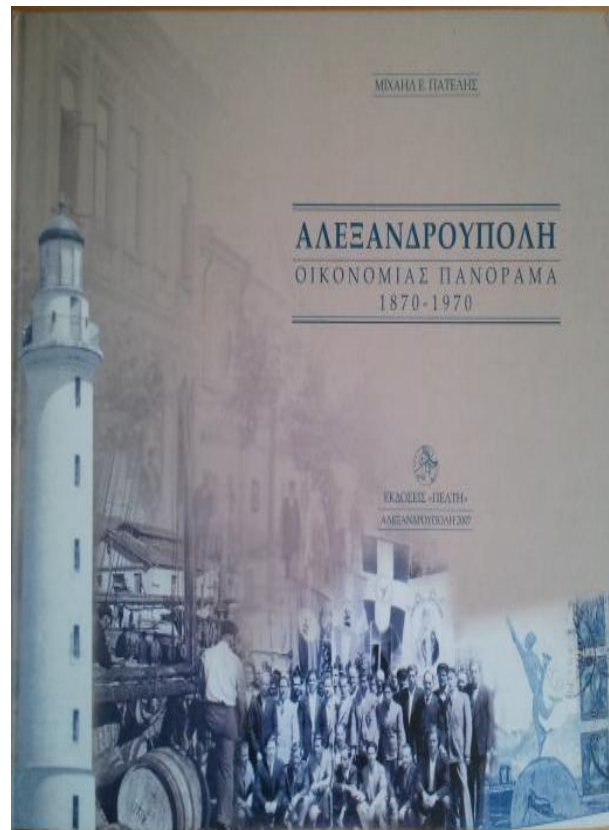
It is a missing piece which now completes the history-puzzle of Alexandroupolis. With 346 broadsheet pages, we could say that it is a huge publishing achievement from "PUBLICATIONS PELTI".

Rare photographs, invoices, receipts, advertisements, financial data, history of the railway, the harbor, the lighthouse and the city's airport as well as hotels, clinics and so on. In the end of the book there is a chronological table and rich bibliography of family records, journals, diaries, scrapbooks and independent publications.

Specifically all consulates are catalogued, all the mayors, the governors and the local authorities.

Recently the author was rewarded of this amazing book by the "Cultural Institution of Evros' Prefecture". His work is concerned to be significant and timeless.

The great taste of the book is included in photos very rare to find even among collectors. One of these kinds of photo is the one where Pasaliki is portrayed and it is the only one which we can see the legendary wooden construction destroyed by fire. We stop over another where a sheet of newspaper became a bag and the kid a lovely fishmonger. The local economy is just in front of you when a careful look shows milk sold with 8% water and a grocer selling sardines 23 drachmas instead of 21. The transport in past time is like you are in a time machine.



Maps and schedules are also included and make the time lapse vivid and unforgettable. History depicted without words and texts. If a picture is a thousand words, this book used a million at least they are your own words.