

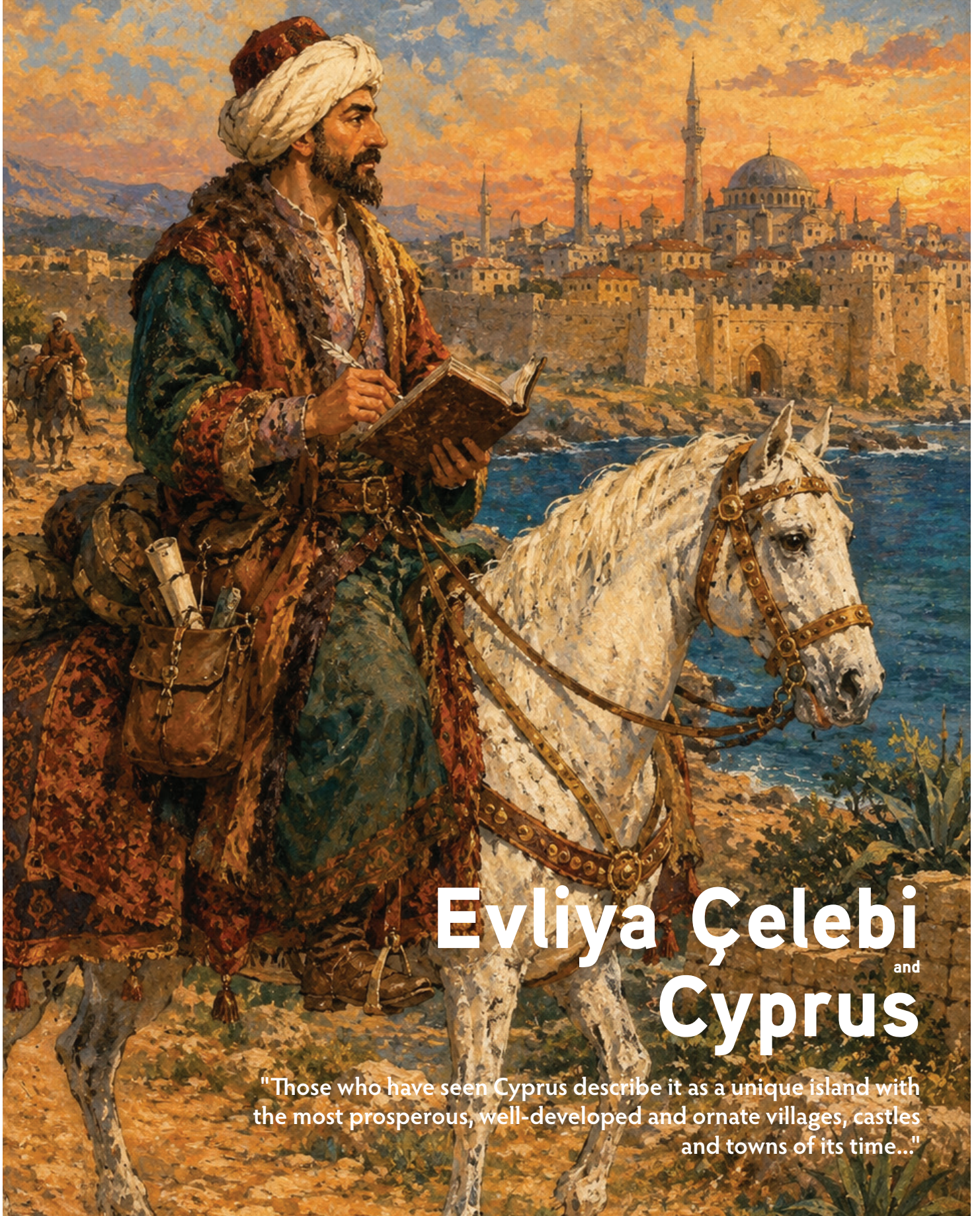


EVKAF

Newspaper of Goodness and Culture

"Your compassion will bring compassion."

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Evliya Çelebi and Cyprus

"Those who have seen Cyprus describe it as a unique island with the most prosperous, well-developed and ornate villages, castles and towns of its time..."

A Meaningful Visit to the Haspolat Barrier-Free Living Centre

The Cyprus Evkaf Administration's Goodness Volunteers Team visited the Haspolat Accessible Living Home and joined the residents for a soap-making workshop.

The handmade soaps, prepared together by the volunteers and the Home's residents as part of the event, will be put on sale at a charity fair to be organised by the Haspolat Barrier-Free Living Home. The proceeds will be used to support the centre's activities.

At the event, where the spirit of creation, sharing and solidarity took centre stage, participants enjoyed themselves whilst also helping to strengthen social solidarity.

The Cyprus Evkaf Administration continues to bring the values of mutual aid and sharing – which are fundamental to foundation culture – to different sections of society through the Goodness Volunteers Team, whilst continuing its social responsibility initiatives.



A Day Filled with Children's Smiles...

Organised in collaboration with the Cyprus Evkaf Administration, the Yunus Emre Institute, the TRNC Presidency of Religious Affairs, Bilim Lefkoşa and KIBZEV, the Children's Festival took place in the courtyard of Akdoğan Mosque with the participation of our children and their families.

From art workshops to science and discovery activities, and from brain teasers to fun games, our children not only had a wonderful time but also gained new experiences through a wide range of activities.

We would like to thank all our partners who

contributed to this meaningful event, which allowed our children to have fun whilst learning, discover new things and create wonderful memories.

We will continue to gather for events filled with kindness, sharing and learning for our children.



Summer School Students Visited Evkaf



Students from the Dört İşlem Tutoring Centre Summer School, who visited Closed Marash with the support of the Cyprus Evkaf Administration, paid a visit to the General Manager Prof. Dr Mustafa Tümer, accompanied by Serhat Bayar, the Centre's Director, following their excursion.

During the visit, the students shared the knowledge and impressions they had gained on their tour of Closed Marash, whilst Serhat Bayar thanked the Cyprus Evkaf Administration for its contribution to the programme.

General Director Prof. Dr Mustafa Tümer, who chatted with the students for a while, emphasised

the importance of passing on historical and cultural heritage to future generations, noting that young people's first-hand experience of the past makes a significant contribution to the development of historical awareness. In his speech, Tümer emphasised the responsibility that younger generations will assume in preserving historical heritage, stating: "What really matters is that you take ownership of these lands."

The visit concluded with the presentation of commemorative gifts to the students and a group photograph.

First Comprehensive Academic Work on Waqfs Was Presented to Ertuğruloğlu



The book "Turkish Cypriot Foundations and Foundation Culture: Their Legal Dimensions", prepared in partnership between the Cyprus Evkaf Administration and Ankara University of Social Sciences (ASBÜ) published in both Turkish and English, was presented to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tahsin Ertuğruloğlu.

The book, which is the Cyprus Evkaf Administration's first comprehensive academic work on waqfs, examines the Turkish Cypriot waqf heritage from its legal, historical and cultural dimensions, whilst aiming to create a lasting reference source for future generations. Published in both Turkish and English, the study also aims to contribute to the inclusion of

the Turkish Cypriot waqf heritage in the international academic literature.

As part of the book's launch, the Director General of the Cyprus Foundations Administration, Prof. Dr Mustafa Tümer, the Rector of Ankara University of Social Sciences (ASBÜ), Prof. Dr Enver Arpa, and ASBÜ Vice-Rector Dr Zeki Akçam visited the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Tahsin Ertuğruloğlu, at his office to provide information about the work.

Prepared with the contributions of numerous academics, the work serves as an important reference source in the fields of history, law and Cypriot studies.

Evliya Çelebi & Cyprus

"Those who have seen Cyprus describe it as a unique island, home to the most prosperous, well-developed and ornate villages, castles and towns of the time..." These lines were penned by Evliya Çelebi, one of the greatest travellers of the 17th century. What is interesting, however, is that he never actually set foot on Cyprus during the period in which he wrote these admiring words.

Evliya Çelebi, whilst gazing out from the Anatolian coast towards Cyprus, wrote with great admiration about what he had heard and seen of the island, describing Cyprus as one of the most prominent centres of the Mediterranean.

The Strategic Gateway to the Mediterranean

Evliya Çelebi's itinerary took him as far as Akliman, near Silifke. At that time, Akliman was one of the most important maritime transport hubs between Anatolia and Cyprus. The traveller describes in detail the bustling harbour life he encountered there, the ships sailing to and from Cyprus, and the people arriving from various regions.

The "Seyahatnâme" reveals that Akliman was not merely a port, but also a vital centre where trade, communication and administrative relations between Cyprus and Anatolia converged. The details provided by Evliya Çelebi demonstrate that Cyprus has been one of the most important crossroads of the Eastern Mediterranean for centuries.

Cyprus's Waqf Civilization

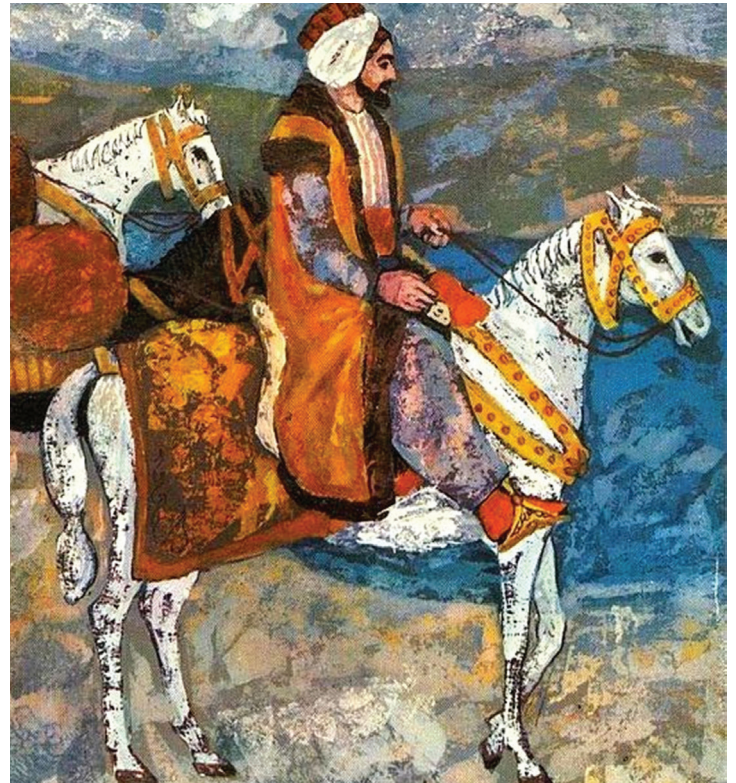
The cities and settlements praised by Evliya Çelebi are notable not only for their natural beauty but also for their mosques, merchants' inns, madrasas, fountains and the waqf works that supported social life.

During the Ottoman period, the waqfs were one of the cornerstones of education, social solidarity, worship and urban life. Every structure built was dedicated to serve not only its own era but also future generations; thus, Cyprus's cultural and architectural identity has been preserved for centuries.

Today, the historic endowment monuments standing across the island continue to serve as living testimonies to this deep-rooted understanding of civilisation.

A Responsibility Spanning from the Past to the Future

Historic monuments are not merely structures made of stone and mortar.



They are the silent witnesses that carry the accumulated knowledge, culture and social memory of the past into the future.

The Cyprus Evkaf Administration continues its work with the aim of preserving, restoring and passing on this valuable heritage, which has been preserved for centuries. Ensuring the survival of these endowment monuments means not only the protection of historical structures, but also the transmission of the culture of these endowments and the ethos of benevolence to future generations.

Cyprus, described with such admiration in the works of Evliya Çelebi, continues to serve as a strong bridge between the past and the future through its historical and cultural richness. The endowment properties, as the most valuable building blocks of this bridge, continue to keep the island's memory alive.



General Directorate of Cyprus Evkaf Administration

11-13 Kyrenia Street, PK118, Nicosia - TRNC

tel: 0392 22 83 134

tel: 0392 44 40 494

email: evkaf@evkaf.net

Evkaf on Social Media

www.evka.org

Facebook: @evkaf

Instagram: @evkaofficial

Twitter: @evkaofficial

