



Book Presentation

Massari – Memories of a land

On January 16th, 2008, at the Annual Get together of the villagers of Massari Community, the first presentation of the book “Massari-memories of a land” took place. Authors are the current Chair of the Community Council (CC) Dr Eleftherios Antoniou and the Cultural Representative of the CC Ms Lygia Christoforou-Antoniou.

For the completion of the book the authors conducted a research for six years. The book has 460 pages full of photographic material of the occupied village. It has been published by Vivlioekdotiki Publications and was partially sponsored by the Ministry of Education and Culture. It is available in all the major bookshops. This publication has the authorization of the Ministry of Education to be included in all primary and secondary school libraries as assisting material for research to be used by instructors and students.

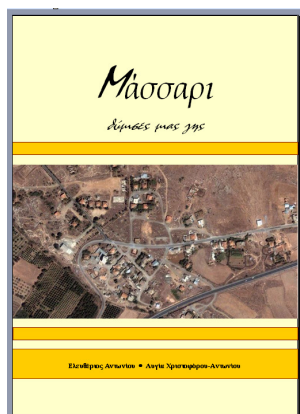
The opening speech was made by the author Lygia Christoforou-Antoniou. The author referred to the reasoning behind the title of the book “*Massari – memories of a land*” has been chosen since with this publication, we try to transfer the memories of the old generation that lived and grew up in the village to the new generation. Our purpose is nothing to be



forgotten. Our vision is that all that we know will be carried out to our children!”

The presentation of the book was made by the Researcher of the Kykkos Research Centre Mr Costis Kokkinoftas. Mr Kokkinoftas reporting to the content said “*it is a book that resulted after systematic study of sources and in depth research from archives and libraries, after performing many interviews of the old residents of the village and recording their remembrances. The reader watches through the pages of the book the history of the village from the years of the Latins, that the first report on its existence was located, until our days becomes familiar with the toponymy, the flora and the fauna, the churches and chapels, ... the contribution of the village to the social and national fights ... the spiritual creation of legends and traditions, the agricultural, veterinarian occupations and professions ... the number of difficulties they faced through the years and their struggle for survival.*”

The preface of the book is written by the Bishop of Morfou Metropolis Neophytos, who was also present at the presentation and expressed himself his best comments on the author’s structure, the apposition of social and historical elements, and their carefulness in reporting political events, as well as their extent of information collected for the creation and best



representation of the genealogical tree, that goes back from 1800 to 2007 accompanied with a rich selection of photographic material.

The event honored with their presence the Mayor of Morfou Mr Charlabos Pittas, the Chair of the Occupied Communities Association Mr Christakis Kattirzis, the representative of the the Sub-prefect of Nicosia Ms Gogaki, the Vice Chair of the Massari CC, Mr Eleftherios Vasiliou, the Chair of the "Massari Athletic Union" Mr Andros Demetriou, representatives from the Community of Massari in Rhode island, as well as a large number of Massari villagers.

On July 13th, 2008, a second presentation of the book took place at Massari Community in the island of Rhode. The presentation was part of the events that were organised by the local authority, within the scope of twining of the two homonym communities. In the book there is reference to the efforts made by the two parts for "twining". As characteristically they have been reported and during the presentation, the authors had the chance to get to know and love the village and the villagers of Masari Rhode, through their visits the last two years, and have realized how similar are the two homonym communities, and how the memories of their occupied village came to live.

The events honored with their presence the Chair of the Ecclesiastical Authority Chrysostomos Papalexis, the Chair of the Masari Community Council in Rhode Mr Christos Nikitas, the Chair of the Cultural Association "Kammyri" Mr Panayiotis Mastosavvakis, the Philologist Panayiotis Kechagias, members of the authorities of Masari Community and well as residents of Masari in Rhode.



*Lygia Christoforou-Antoniou
Cultural Representative
Massari CC*

Ο Δρ. Ελευθέριος Αντωνίου, κατά την εκεί εκδήλωση εξέφρασε το ενδιαφέρον του να ενδιατρίψει και προχωρήσει με εκτενέστερη έρευνα όσον αφορά τους συνδέσμους και κοινά στοιχεία των δύο Κοινοτήτων.