

**Kyriakos Matsis. The Physiognomy of a Thinker who
Took Part in the EOKA Struggle
[Κυριάκος Μάτσης. Η φυσιognωμία ενός Στοχαστή που
Τάχθηκε στον Αγώνα της ΕΟΚΑ]**

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Limassol, 2017 [pp. 178]

ISBN: 978-9963-681-69-3

In addition to the preface, introduction and epilogue, the book is structured in seven chapters. In the first chapter, a brief historical review of Kyriakos Matsis' path, from his birth in Palaichori in 1926 to his heroic death in Dikomo in 1958, is listed. In the second chapter, there is mention of the case of the British soldier Frank Davis, who was ordered to throw the grenade into the hideout of the EOKA (National Organisation of Cypriot Fighters) hero and the meeting he had, several years later, with the hero's brother, Giannakis. In the third chapter, the path of the intellectual fighter towards the sacrifice for the country is recorded, while in the fourth and fifth chapters, personal testimonies, thoughts and judgments of people about the hero, are mentioned. The sixth chapter describes the period that preceded the national liberation struggle of Cyprus, along with the hero's political and ideological stimuli that contributed to his spiritual formation. In the seventh chapter, the echo of the hero's sacrifice is recorded in the Greek and British press of the time. An important contribution of the publication is the appendix at the end of the book, which includes information on the fighter's wider interests, which included folklore, poetry and literature.

The book draws heavily on both the basic literature on Kyriakos Matsis and his rich archive, which is in the possession of his brother Giannakis. The compilation of the book allows the simple reader, as well as the historical researcher, to study thoroughly and from many aspects the character and ideology of the Cypriot fighter. The primary material published covers the period from 1943 to 1958 and includes anecdotal manuscripts, diaries, letters and photographs. In a handwritten note, on 4 June 1950, a few months after the Union (Enosis) Referendum, Kyriakos Matsis, reflecting the prevailing pre-revolutionary climate, wrote: 'The time for action will come someday. Nothing is won without sacrifice, or freedom without blood.'

The writing style of the book is direct and comprehensible, without affecting its scientificity. The publication completes the bibliography on Kyriakos Matsis and, for this reason, such studies are welcome, proving useful for the general public interested in the history of the national liberation struggle of EOKA.

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