



Summary :

Arzoglou was born into a family of immigrants from Androniki (Endürlük) of Cappadocia and had been a tobacco merchant in Samsun before he became mayor and deputy of Samsun (1914-18).

Date and Place of Birth

Between 1858 and 1860, Bafra

Date and Place of Death

After 1929, Thessaloniki

Main Role

Mayor, deputy of Samsun

1. Background – Vocational Activities

Theodorakis Arzoglou was born in [Bafra](#) between 1858 and 1860, but his parents were immigrants from [Androniki](#). According to a source, he probably studied in Switzerland, although the object of his studies is unknown.¹ He was involved in tobacco trade in [Samsun](#) and became one of the most important [tobacco merchants](#) of the city. He was also involved in common affairs.

2. Political Activities and Career

In 1891, Arzoglou was possibly the president of the [Society 'Proodos'](#) of Samsun. In 1905, he was a member of the council of the [Diocese of Amaseia](#) and member of the [dimogerontia](#) (*δημογεροντία*).² Then he became mayor of Samsun and deputy of Samsun in 1914-18.³ During his career as a deputy, he mainly dealt with issues concerning the Orthodox populations of the Pontus and, particularly, the [transfer of populations](#) that took place in 1917. He also signed, along with the rest of the former [deputies](#) of Greek descent, in 1919, two memoranda on the situation and the requests of the Greeks of Turkey, which were submitted to the delegations of the Allied Powers (Entente) and the Americans.⁴

Arzoglou was sentenced to death in absentia by the [Kemalists](#), but managed to escape originally to [Constantinople](#) (Istanbul) and subsequently to the west. He married the daughter of a wealthy Greek in Marseilles who originated from [Trebizond](#). Then he moved to Thessaloniki, where he became a 'landowner'.⁵ In 1929, when Eleutherios Venizelos was prime minister, he was elected senator. It is believed that he died in Thessaloniki, although the date of his death remains unknown.

Theodorakis Arzoglou is by no means the typical example of an [immigrant](#). However, his activity was typical of Samsun at the time and very much important for his subsequent development.

1. Τσαλίκου, Ε., *Οι εν διασπορά Καππαδόκες: Βίος και δραστηριότητες αυτών* (Athens 1954) p. 188.

2. *Εθνικά Φιλανθρωπικά Καταστήματα εν Κωνσταντινουπόλει. Ημερολόγιον του Έτους 1905* (Constantinople 1904) p. 190.

3. Τσαλίκου, Ε., *Οι εν διασπορά Καππαδόκες: Βίος και δραστηριότητες αυτών* (Athens 1954) p. 188. About his career as a deputy, see also: Αλεξανδρής, Α, «Οι Έλληνες στην υπηρεσία της Οθωμανικής αυτοκρατορίας», *Δελτίον Ιστορικής και Εθνολογικής Εταιρείας Ελλάδος* 23 (1980), p. 397; Μπούρα, Κ., «Οι βουλευτικές εκλογές στην οθωμανική αυτοκρατορία: Οι Έλληνες βουλευτές 1908-1918», *Δελτίο Κέντρο Μικρασιατικών Σπουδών* 4 (1983) p. 85; Εμμανουηλίδης, Ε., *Τα τελευταία έτη της οθωμανικής αυτοκρατορίας* (Athens



1924) pp. 293, 323.

4. Εμμανουηλίδης, Ε., *Τα τελευταία έτη της οθωμανικής αυτοκρατορίας* (Athens 1924) pp. 393-401, 407-416.

5. Τσαλίκου, Ε., *Οι εν διασπορά Καππαδόκες: Βίος και δραστηριότητες αυτών* (Athens 1954) p. 189.

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	Αλεξανδρής Α. , "Οι Έλληνες στην υπηρεσία της Οθωμανικής Αυτοκρατορίας", <i>Δελτίον της Ιστορικής και Εθνολογικής Εταιρείας της Ελλάδος</i> , 23, 1980, 365-404
	Μπούρα Κ. , "Οι βουλευτικές εκλογές στην οθωμανική αυτοκρατορία: Οι Έλληνες βουλευτές 1908-1918", <i>Δελτίο Κέντρου Μικρασιατικών Σπουδών</i> , 4, 69-85
	Εμμανουηλίδης Ε. , <i>Τα τελευταία έτη της Οθωμανικής Αυτοκρατορίας</i> , Αθήνα, Τυπογραφείον Γ.Ν. Καλλέργη 1924
	<i>Ημερολόγιον των Εθνικών Φιλανθρωπικών Καταστημάτων του έτους 1907</i> , Κωνσταντινούπολις 1906

Glossary :

	dimogerontia
Communal authority consisting of the elected community officials, known as <i>archontes</i> (potentates), <i>proestoi</i> (notables), <i>epitropoi</i> (wardens), <i>dimogerontes</i> or simply <i>gerontes</i> (elders).	
	Populations' movements in 1917
The decree of 15/28 December 1916 provided that all men between 10-40 were to be exiled and the women and children were to be transferred inland. The decree was executed by Rafet Paşa who was appointed in January 1917 as the new governor of Pontus. The provision was firstly implemented in Ano Amisos (Kadiköy) and then in Bafra.	

Sources

Τσαλίκου, Ε., *Οι εν διασπορά Καππαδόκες: Βίος και δραστηριότητες αυτών* (Athens 1954, typed manuscript deposited at the Centre for Asia Minor Studies).