



Περίληψη :

During the Byzantine era Miletus, a city by the mouth of the Maeander River, was the diocese see of the province of Caria. It later became an archdiocese (before 538) and later a metropolis (12th century), without any dioceses under its jurisdiction.

Άλλες Ονομασίες

Diocese/ Archdiocese/ Metropolis of Palatia

Γεωγραφική Θέση

Western Asia Minor, modern Western Turkey

Ιστορική Περιοχή

Caria

Διοικητική Υπαγωγή

Patriarchate of Constantinople

1. Ecclesiastical history

1.1. The seat

The city of [Miletus](#), by the mouth of the Maeander River, was the seat of the diocese of the [province of Caria](#) already by the 4th century. In Late Antiquity the city may have featured an [Arian](#) diocese too. An inscription that dates to 538 testifies that by that date Miletus had become an autocephalous archdiocese, a status which it retained during the Middle Byzantine period as well.

Possibly in the 12th century, and certainly before 1166, Miletus became a metropolis of the ecclesiastical province of Caria, under the jurisdiction of the [Patriarchate of Constantinople](#), without any dioceses belonging to it. In 1369, due to the turmoil caused by the Ottoman conquest, the metropolis of Miletus was ceded [kat epidosis](#) to the metropolitan of [Aphrodisias \(Stauropolis\)](#).

1.2. The faces

In 325 the bishop of Miletus participated in the [First Ecumenical Council](#), at [Nicaea](#). The archbishops of Miletus participated in the [Sixth Ecumenical](#) (681) and [Quinisext](#) (691) councils at Constantinople, in the [Seventh Ecumenical Council](#) (787) at Nicaea and to the [Fourth Council of Constantinople](#) in 879. One famous archbishop was Saint Nikephoros of Miletus (10th century). Other archbishops are known by their Middle Byzantine seals. The metropolitans of the city participated in the councils of 1166 and 1170 and are further known by documents found in the archives of the monastery of St John the Theologian on the island of [Patmos](#), dating to the 13th century. In the archive of the monastery of Patmos, Miletus is also called Palatia.¹ Nilos, who passed away in 1369, is the last prelate to have held the metropolitan throne of Miletus.

2. The seat of Miletus in the notitiae episcopatum

In the [notitiae episcopatum](#) the archdiocese of Miletus was ranked 15th-6th (*Notitia* 12, of the 12th century), out of 34 to 42 archdioceses. As a metropolis, Miletus was ranked 81st to 101st (or 102nd), after its relegation by Emperor [Andronikos II Palaiologos](#) (1282-1328).

1. Miklosich, F. – Müller, J. (ed.), *Acta et diplomata graeca medii aevi sacra et profana* VI (Wien 1862), p. 158.



Βιβλιογραφία :

	Darrouzès J. , <i>Les régestes des actes du patriarcat de Constantinople. vol. I/fasc.V, les regestes de 1310 à 1376</i> , Paris 1977
	Polemis D. , "An Unknown Metropolitan of Miletus", <i>Revue des Études Byzantines</i> , 29, 1971, 309-312
	Ruggieri V. , "A Historical Addendum to the episcopal Lists of Caria", <i>Revue des Études Byzantines</i> , 54, 1996, 221-234

Γλωσσάριο :

	Notitia episcopatum
The Notitiae episcopatum are official documents of the Patriarchate of Constantinople and Antioch, containing the ecclesiastical dioceses in hierarchical order. These documents were modified regularly.	
	service (kat epidosin)
The term "service" in canonical law signifies the temporary commission of one ecclesiastical see to another, in order to ensure the function of the see for the sake of the people; the service used to be arranged if it was inevitable for the ordained bishop to attend the site, due to force majeure. Service could not break the ecclesiastical rank.	
	Sixth Ecumenical Council/ Quinisext/ Dome (Constantinople, 681/ 691)
The Sixth Ecumenical Council (also called: Quinisext<Penthekti or Dome Council<in Trullo, mean. in the dome) assembled at Constantinople twice, the years 680/1 (the Sixth) and 691/2 (the Quinisext/Dome), to discuss the restoration of the association with the Holy See of Rome as well as to clarify practical issues of everyday life for the Christians.	

Πηγές

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Darrouzes, J. (ed.), *Notitiae episcopatum Ecclesiae Constantinopolitanae* (Paris 1981), nos. 1.53; 2.56; 3.73; 4.54; 5.58; 7.60; 8.74; 11.94; 12.84, 98; 13.792, 820; 14.80; 15.84, 88, 107; 16.81, 90; 17.103; 18.103, 156; 19.112; 20.46.

Nesbitt, J. - Oikonomides, N. (ed.), *Catalogue of Byzantine Seals at Dumbarton Oaks and in the Fogg Museum of Art 3: West, Northwest, Central Asia Minor and the Orient* (Washington D.C., 1994), no. 26.3.

Laurent, V. (ed.), *Le Corpus des sceaux de l'empire byzantin V: L' Eglise* (Paris 1963), no. 828.

Gregoire, H. (ed.), *Recueil des inscriptions grecques-chretiennes d'Asie Mineure* (Paris 1922), nos. 219-224.2.

Vita of Nikephoros of Miletus, in Wiegand, T. (ed.), *Milet 3.1: Der Latmos* (Berlin 1913).

Παραθέματα

Inscription on the lead seal of the archbishop Sophronius of Miletus, 10th/11th c.

Σωφρό[ν(ιος)] ἀρχιεπίσκ[οπ(ος)] Μηλίτα(ου)

Nesbitt, J. - Oikonomides, N. (ed.), *Catalogue of Byzantine Seals at Dumbarton Oaks and in the Fogg Museum of Art 3:*



West, Northwest, Central Asia Minor and the Orient (Washington D.C., 1994), no. 26.3. (See image in Audiovisual sector)

Βοηθ. Κατάλογοι

List of hierarchs of Miletus (bishops, archbishops, metropolitans)

1. Bishops:

Kaisarios Eusebios (325)

Ambrakios (343/4)

2. Archbishops:

Hyakinthos (536-538)

John (6th c.)

George (681-692)

Epiphanius (787)

Peter (843, 847)

Ignatios (879)

Sophronios (9ος αι.)

Nikephoros (965-969;)

Michael (10ος-12ος αι.)

3. Metropolitans:

Niketas (1170)

Nikephoros (1170)

Niketas (1172)

Nikephoros (1256)

Nikandros (1256)

Nilos (1365-1369)

Lists compiled according to Fedalto, G., *Hierarchia Ecclesiastica Orientalis. Series Episcoporum Ecclesiarum Christianarum Orientalium I: Patriarchates Constantinopolitanus* (Padova 1988), pp. 199-200, and Ruggieri, V., "A Historical Addendum to the episcopal Lists of Caria," *Revue des Etudes Byzantines* 54 (1996), pp. 230, 233-234, although Ruggieri does not cite the sources for the names of his list. In our list, the representatives (*locus tenens*) of the bishops in the councils are included, whenever the names of bishops remain unknown.