



Summary :

An ecumenical patriarch with a short service (1584-1585), who had previously served as the metropolitan of Caesarea (1583-1584). His ascent to the patriarchal throne was helped by the fact he was the teacher of sultan Mehmet III.

Other Names

Pachomios Patestos

Date and Place of Birth

First half or middle of the 16th century, Lesbos

Date and Place of Death

End of the 16th or beginning of the 17th century, Wallachia

Main Role

Ecumenical patriarch

1. Life and activity

He originated from [Lesbos](#), where he was born in the first half or during the middle of the 16th century. Pachomios Patestos (from the Italian name Battista) became the parish priest of the patriarchal church of [Constantinople](#) (Istanbul). Around 1583-1584 he was elected as the [metropolitan of Caesarea](#), but the Patriarch Ieremias II due to their personal rivalry did not validate his election. Meanwhile, however, a crisis broke out in the relations between Ieremias II and the sultan because the patriarch, although a popular figure, was accused by his Christian enemies that he had baptised Muslims; the patriarch was eventually imprisoned, tortured and, although the accusation was never proved, deposed. With the initiatives of sultan Mehmet III, who was once a student of Pachomios in geometry and philosophy,¹ Pachomios was placed on the patriarchal throne in the middle of March 1584. Apart from the personal relation of the two men, his appointment was also aided by Pachomios' promise to increase the yearly tax ([haraç](#)) which was paid by the church, a promise he never managed to fulfil, although he sold for this purpose precious ecclesiastical heirlooms.²

2. Deposition-missions abroad

The service of Pachomios II ended quickly, since he never had the favour of the supreme hierarchy of the church, neither of the people. A synod of prelates deposed him on 26th or 27th February of 1585, a decision the sultan did not oppose to. He then accepted the return of Ieremias II to the throne, since the supporters of the former offered to pay an amount of money equal to the one Pachomios had promised. Approximately one year later Pachomios was allowed to travel to Egypt and Cyprus in order to organize money contributions for the [patriarchate](#). During his travel there, however, he was accused of scandals,³ and was exiled to Wallachia. As a patriarch Pachomios II was not distinguished for any special activity. He was, however, probably an important scholar, as inferred by the fact he was the teacher of the sultan Mehmet III.

1. Γεδεών, Μ. (ed.), «Κυρίλλου Λαυριώτου Πατριαρχικών Χρονικών», *Αθήναιον* 6 (1877), p. 31.

2. Μέρτζιος, Κ.Δ., *Πατριαρχικά ήτοι Ανέκδοτοι Πληροφορίες Σχετικά προς τους Πατριάρχες Κωνσταντινουπόλεως από του 1556-1702* (Αθήναι 1951), p. 13-16.

3. We do not know what exactly these "scandals" were all about.



Bibliography :

	Γεδεών Μ. , <i>Πατριαρχικοί Πίνακες. Ειδήσεις ιστορικά, βιογραφικά περί των Πατριαρχών Κωνσταντινουπόλεως από Ανδρέου του Πρωτοκλήτου μέχρις Ιωακείμ Γ' του από Θεσσαλονίκης 36–1884</i> , Κωνσταντινούπολη 1885-1890
	Μέρτζιος Κ. , <i>Πατριαρχικά ήτοι Ανέκδοτοι Πληροφορίες Σχετικά προς τους Πατριάρχες Κωνσταντινουπόλεως από τον 1556-1702</i> , Αθήνα 1951
	Μεταλληνός Γ. , "Παχώμιος ο Β' πατριάρχης Κωνσταντινουπόλεως", <i>Θρησκευτική και Ηθική Εγκυκλοπαιδεία</i> , τ. 10, Αθήνα 1967, 242

Webliography :

	Οικουμενικό Πατριαρχείο
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<http://www.ec-patr.org/>

Glossary :

	haraç (Ottoman Turkish: <i>haraç</i> or <i>cizye</i>): an entity of taxes paid directly to the central authorities by the non-Muslim Ottoman subjects (in addition to the other taxes that were payable by Muslims and non-Muslims alike). The non-Muslims, according to Islamic holy law, recompensed thus for the tolerance and protection offered by the Islamic State. Since 1474, the Orthodox Church, i.e. the patriarchates and the autocephalus archdioceses, had to pay annually the <i>haraç</i> or <i>vasilikon haratsion</i> . The patriarch or the autocephalus archbishop was responsible for the payment of the <i>haraç</i> ; he collected the money through the taxes that the communities had to pay to the dioceses. The amount of these lump-sum (<i>maktu</i>) taxes was fixed by the sultanic authorities, although some aspirants of the patriarchal throne undertook to raise it in order to ascend to the throne.
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Sources

Γεδεών, Μ. (εκδ.), «Κυρίλλου Λαυριώτου Πατριαρχικόν Χρονικόν», *Αθήναιον* 6 (1877), p. 3-52.