



DELTOS

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Editorial

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Editorial

This issue is the third of Deltos' new life. It continues the tradition of the previous two with a balance between Greek and foreign contributions and scientific works with art. The current contents include three biographies, two articles with a philosophical interest, two more articles on medicine and poetry as a continuation of Deltos 52 on the subject, a review article about the history of renal transplantation in Mexico in relation to its neighbouring countries, one on the history of veterinary medicine in Turkey, another one on medical sociology, a rather neglected theme in the literature, a Book Review and sadly, two Obituaries.

Professor Shifra Shvarts and colleagues from Jerusalem Israel, relate the story of the first woman doctor in the Holy Lands with interesting and in-depth research on her activities and the social environment which she worked in. The second biography is by Dr. Maria Rosa de Santo from Naples Italy and reveals details of Elio Lugaresi's: work on Sleep Medicine. The last biography is by Androniki Chrysafi and Marios Marselos presenting the life and works of Kírikos Herétis, a physician from Crete and a scholar of the European Enlightenment, one of the few Greek medical doctors educated then in a Western University and practiced his art mainly in Istanbul. The then pioneering work on renal transplantation in the middle of the 20th Century in Central and Latin America is presented by Carlos Viesca and Maríablanca Ramos R. de Viesca. We are used to similar articles about the history of Haemodialysis and Transplantation in European countries, USA and Australia, hence, we enjoy a contribution from another part of the world. Şahin, Elif from Istanbul, Turkey presents a rare, for a journal on the History of Medicine theme, the History of Veterinary Medicine in the Ottoman Empire and later in Modern Turkey. The two articles on Medicine and Poetry, one by Mouhssine Adnane and El Bachir Benjelloun from Fez, Morocco, the other by the author of this Editorial are dealing with verses on therapeutics in Islam Byzantium and beyond during similar eras, the Late Middle Ages. Konstantina Konstantinou from Athens, Greece, makes a short contribution on the relation of medicine and ancient philosophy, while Davide Viggiano from Naples, Italy, contemplates on a rather modern philosophical issue, the relation between knowledge production and locality of the researches. Efi Poulakou-Rebelakou's and colleagues' article on the social advancement of two Greek benefactors related to medicine elucidate the undercurrent strength of the two main elements of the New Greek Kingdom, Christian Orthodoxy and Classical revival, into underpinning the benefactors' Greek identity albeit in a foreign environment. Helios Poros' Book Review of Petros Bouras-Vallianatos' and Dionysios Stathakopoulos' (2024), eds., Drugs in the Medieval Mediterranean Transmission and Circulation of Pharmacological Knowledge, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, is a refreshing contribution by a young student attempting successfully to deal with this heavy subject. Lastly, there are the two obituaries. One on the retired Army General Medical Officer Elias Papadimitrakopoulos by Lambros Vazaios and the other on Professor Emeritus George Daikos by his nephew George Daikos and George Petrikkos. The merits of the deceased are well presented in the obituaries. Concluding this Editorial a comment is due on the bright and elegant and correct Greek language they both used in their written and spoken works. And the unavoidable regret on its deterioration by the z generation using greeklish and the abbreviated SMS dialect. As a consolation let us recall Horace's similar comments in the 1st century BC: "It has been, and ever will be, allowable to coin a word marked with the stamp in present request. As leaves in the woods are changed with the fleeting years; the earliest fall off first: in this manner words perish with old age, and those lately invented nourish and thrive, like men in the time of youth. We, and our works, are doomed to death: [...]. Mortal works must perish: much less can the honor and elegance of language be long-lived. Many words shall revive, which now have fallen off; and many which are now in esteem shall fall off, if it be the will of custom, in whose power is the decision and right and standard of language." (Horatii Flacci Epistola Ad Pisones, De Arte Poetica, translated by C. Smart.

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