

THE ROLE OF THE DONKEY (AND THE MULE) IN THE CULTURE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

Island of Hydra – October 2005

An international conference on donkey and mule cultures,
in the Mediterranean and elsewhere

PROGRAMME OF CONFERENCE

The list of papers offered at the conference was as follows (in alphabetical order of speakers):

Donkey-boys in nineteenth-century Egypt

Dionisius Agius [University of Leeds]

Donkeys in Greece: A review of current status and future trends

Georgios Arsenos and Elias Papadopoulos [University of Thessaloniki] [[Download PDF of paper](#)]

The donkey (and mule) in the Gallipoli Campaign – World War I

Jill Bough [University of Newcastle, NSW]:

The symbolism of donkeys: religious, sexual, cultural.

Richard Bulliet [Columbia University]

A Working Charter for the Mediterranean donkey

Angela Revel Chion [Nata Libera, Italy]:

The Rise and Fall of the Donkey: the Central Mediterranean Islands (Malta, Gozo, Pantelleria and Sicily)

Charles Dalli [University of Malta]:

Asinology: The Mediterranean – a preliminary survey

Ed Emery [Free University of Hydra]:

Apuleius' The Golden Ass in Boccaccio's Decameron (V, 10 & VII, 2) and in some literary and

pictorial expressions of Renaissance Italy

Bruno Ferraro [University of Auckland, New Zealand]:

The image and value of the donkey in Persian folk tales and mystical poetry

Heidi Ghomi [University of Goteborg]

The donkey in archaic Greek literature

Justina Gregory [Smith College, USA]

The role of the donkey in Turkish/Mediterranean painting and folk art

Berke Inel [Yildiz University]:

Mules and Donkeys in the Ancient World of Sport

Bettina Kratzmüller [University of Vienna]

The Roman jurists and the role of the donkey and mule in Roman transport

Susan D. Marshall [University of Tennessee]:

Pastoral perspectives on domestication of the donkey

Fiona Marshall [Washington University at St Louis]

The domestication of the donkey in the Middle East

Marjane Mashkour and Emmanuelle Vila [Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris]

From *himar* to *sceccu*: the transmission of medieval and modern terms for donkeys in Sicily

Alex Metcalfe [University of Lancaster]

The Donkey in Roma folklore in Skopje

Trajko Petrovski [Folklore Institute of Skopje]

Muleteer songs and the traditional musical festivals of the Alpujarras

Andrew Rosenfeld [Mount St. Mary's University]

Harnesses, trappings and accoutrements of the Mediterranean donkey

Jennifer Scarce [University of Dundee]

Four Donkeys and a Funeral

Corinna Seeds [Hydra]

The medical treatment of donkeys and mules in the Mamluk period (1250-1517)

Housni Alkhateeb Shehada [University of Tel Aviv]

The Prophet Mohammed's donkey and its role in early Shi'a Islam

Khalid Sindawi [University of Tel Aviv] [[Download PDF of paper](#)]

Donkey and mule culture: the broader vision

Paul Starkey [University of Reading]

The history of the donkey Foula and the mule Koula and/or a Greek history of occupation-resistance and the Greek Civil War (1940-50)

Tasoula Vervenioti [Athens] [[Download PDF of paper](#)]

REGISTRATION:

The Conference is open to all interested parties. Registration is free for all presenters of papers. By agreement with the Municipality it is also free for residents of the Island of Hydra.

WHY HYDRA FOR THE DONKEY CONFERENCE?

Hydra is one of the very few places in the world where the land transport needs of a developed economy are served solely by mules and donkeys.

Ecological concerns have kept road-building and motorised transport to an absolute minimum (small municipal dust carts, two small construction lorries and a fire engine). Hydra provides a unique opportunity to study how mule and donkey economies have worked in the past, and how they can work in the future. It is also a beautiful island with a strong conservationist history and is particularly worth a visit.

FREE UNIVERSITY OF HYDRA

This conference is a joint initiative of the Free University of Hydra, the Centre for Mediterranean Studies, University of Leeds [UK] and the Municipality of Hydra.

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