

Migrations | North–South movements | The cross-Mediterranean movements of the privileged few

The cosmopolitan elite of Europe and the Arab and Ottoman world felt equally comfortable on both shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

The people who crossed the Mediterranean to live in another country included individual members of the upper classes who chose to move abroad – either temporarily or permanently – in order to follow their scholarly interests, to pursue their careers, for business, for education or for a wide range of other objectives. Meanwhile, 19th-century governments of the Ottoman Empire and of Arab countries sent serving or prospective government officials to study and broaden their skills overseas. On the whole, this flow of privileged individuals to and fro led to the creation of a Mediterranean elite that moved confidently between European and Arab and Ottoman cultures and traditions.



Working Number: TR2 036

Name: The daughter of the English ambassador riding in a palanquin

Holding Museum: Pera Museum

Date: Late 19th century

Materials: Oil on canvas

Curator Justification: During the 19th century, many European diplomats lived in Arab and Ottoman countries and vice versa. For example, in the 1830s there were 14 foreign consulates in Tunis. Ottoman Sultan Salim III (1789–1806) opened the Empire's first embassy in London in 1793, followed by others in Paris, Berlin and Vienna. In the early 19th century, Morocco had ambassadors in St Petersburg, London and Berlin.



Working Number: UK 160

Name: Djouni. The residence of Lady Hester Stanhope

Holding Museum: Victoria and Albert Museum

Date: c. 1835

Materials: Brown ink and wash

Curator Justification: Lady Hester Stanhope (1776–1839) was a niece of the British Prime Minister William Pitt the Younger. In 1810, she left England for the Middle East, where she lived for the rest of her life, travelling extensively. An assertive, unconventional woman, she adopted male Eastern dress. Her final home was in an abandoned convent in the mountains near Sidon (nowadays in Lebanon).



Working Number: ET1 081

Name: Clot Bey

Holding Museum: Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Date: -

Materials: -

Curator Justification: Antoine-Barthélemy Clot (Clot Bey) (1793–1868) was a French medical doctor, who joined the Egyptian army medical service with 20 other European physicians. In 1827, he founded a medical school for

300 students near Cairo, importing professors from France, Italy and Germany. He was the first Catholic to be awarded the title of Bey.



Working Number: ET1 003

Name: Muhammad 'Ali Pasha

Holding Museum: Bibliotheca Alexandrina

Date: 19th century

Materials: -

Curator Justification: As ruler of Egypt (1805–48), Muhammad 'Ali Pasha carried out an intense modernisation policy. He hired European professionals and technicians and removed obstacles to the activities of European immigrants.



Working Number: TN 074

Name: Dr Charles Nicolle, Nobel Laureate for Medicine

Holding Museum: Musée de la Médecine

Date: 20th century

Materials: Paper

Curator Justification: Charles Nicolle (1866–1936) was a French physician and biologist. After a successful career in France, he took over as head of the Pasteur Institute of Tunis in 1902. Soon afterwards, the government provided him with new enlarged facilities for the institute (1903–06).



Working Number: TN 038

Name: Hôpital Charles Nicolle

Holding Museum: -

Date: 19th century

Materials: -

Curator Justification: Charles Nicolle (1866–1936) was a French physician and biologist. After a successful career in France, he took over as head of the Pasteur Institute of Tunis in 1902. Soon afterwards, the government provided him with new enlarged facilities for the institute (1903–06).



Working Number: TN 072

Name: Dr Charles Nicolle

Holding Museum: Musée de la Médecine

Date: Early 20th century

Materials: Paper

Curator Justification: Under Charles Nicolle's guide, the Pasteur Institute in Tunis soon became a world-famous centre for bacteriological research and for the production of vaccines and serums to combat most of the prevalent infectious diseases. He carried out ground-breaking research on

several infectious diseases that earned him the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1928.



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Working Number: TN 073

Name: Dr Charles Nicolle

Holding Museum: Musée de la Médecine

Date: 20th century

Materials: Paper

Curator Justification: Under Charles Nicolle's guide, the Pasteur Institute in Tunis soon became a world-famous centre for bacteriological research and for the production of vaccines and serums to combat most of the prevalent infectious diseases. He carried out ground-breaking research on several infectious diseases that earned him the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1928.



Working Number: TN 039

Name: Institut Pasteur

Holding Museum: -

Date: 19th century

Materials: -

Curator Justification: Under Charles Nicolle's guide, the Pasteur Institute in Tunis soon became a world-famous centre for bacteriological research and for the production of vaccines and serums to combat most of the prevalent infectious diseases. He carried out ground-breaking research on several infectious diseases that earned him the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1928.



Working Number: TN 015

Name: Palais du Baron d'Erlanger

Holding Museum: -

Date: 19th–20th centuries

Materials: -

Curator Justification: Rodolphe d'Erlanger (Boulogne-Billancourt 1872 – Tunis 1932) was a painter and music scholar. Born in France to an aristocratic family of bankers, he moved to the UK and took British citizenship, before going to Tunisia in 1909 for health reasons. He later settled in Sidi Bu Said, near Tunis, and carried out monumental research on Arab music.



Working Number: TN 015

Name: Palais du Baron d'Erlanger

Holding Museum: -

Date: 19th–20th centuries

Materials: -

Curator Justification: Rodolphe d'Erlanger (Boulogne-Billancourt 1872 – Tunis 1932) was a painter and music scholar. Born in France to an aristocratic family of bankers, he moved to the UK and took British citizenship, before going to Tunisia in 1909 for health reasons. He later settled in Sidi Bu Said, near Tunis, and carried out monumental research on Arab music.



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Working Number: IT1 075

Name: Portrait of Paul Draneht

Holding Museum: Alexis Zervudachi Collection

Date: 1880s–90s

Materials: -

Curator Justification: Paul Draneht Pasha was born in Cyprus and grew up in Egypt. He was educated in France, had a brilliant career working for the Khedive of Egypt, married an Italian woman, had a Greek brother-in-law and bought his family house in Italy.



Working Number: IT1 077

Name: Record of the marriage between the Egyptian governmental official Paul Draneht Bey, aged 55, and the Italian Adele Casati, aged 19, celebrated in Oggebbio (Italy) in 1873

Holding Museum:

Date:

Materials: State Archives of Verbania

Curator 28 June 1873

Justification: -

Paul Draneht Pasha was born in Cyprus and grew up in Egypt. He was educated in France, made a brilliant career working for the Khedive of Egypt, married an Italian woman, had a Greek brother-in-law and bought his family house in Italy.



Working Number: IT1 078

Name: Paul Draneht, his wife Adele Casati and their daughter Despina

Holding Museum:

Date:

Marke Zervudachi Collection

Materials: c. 1880

Curator -

Justification: Paul Draneht Pasha was born in Cyprus and grew up in Egypt. He was educated in France, made a brilliant career working for the Khedive of Egypt, married an Italian woman, had a Greek brother-in-law and bought his family house in Italy.



Working Number: IT1 079

Name: An elderly Paul Draneht (1815–94) with his daughter Despina

Holding Museum:

Date:

Marke Zervudachi Collection

Materials: 1890s

Curator -

Justification: Paul Draneht Pasha was born in Cyprus and grew up in Egypt. He was educated in France, made a brilliant career working for the Khedive of Egypt, married an Italian woman, had a Greek brother-in-law and bought his family house in Italy.



Working Number: IT1 076

Name: The villa of Paul Draneht in Oggebbio (Verbania, Italy)

Holding Museum:

Fulvio Ramoni Collection

Date:

1906 or slightly earlier

Materials:

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Curator

Justification:

Paul Draneht Pasha was born in Cyprus and grew up in Egypt. He was educated in France, made a brilliant career working for the Khedive of Egypt, married an Italian woman, had a Greek brother-in-law and bought his family house in Italy.



Working Number: TN 026

Name: Le général Khaireddine (painting)

Holding Museum: Musée d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine de Kassar Saïd

Date: 1852

Materials: Canvas, wood, coloured pigments, gold leaf

Curator

Justification:

General Khair al-Din was a Circassian slave. He was raised in Istanbul by an Ottoman family, receiving a good education. Sold to a Tunisian envoy, he entered the court of Ahmad, Bey of Tunisia, where he continued his education. In 1846, he went to France as part of Ahmad Bey's staff. He returned to France several times, spending years in Paris on governmental missions.



Working Number: TN 057

Name: Khayr al-Din Pacha

Holding Museum: Institut Supérieur d'Histoire Contemporaine de la Tunisie

Date:

19th century

Materials:

Paper

Curator

Justification:

After his years as the Bey's envoy in Paris, Khair al-Din served as Tunisian minister of navy (1857–62) and prime minister (1873–77). The author of an influential book advocating constitutional government, the parliamentary system and the protection of individual liberty, he founded Sadiqi College (1875), which educated generations of Tunisia's modernist elite.



Working Number: IT1 009

Name: The Italian woman poet and peace activist of Armenian descent Vittoria Aganoor Pompilj (1855–1910), and a signed copy of her poem 'Peace'

Holding Museum:

State Archives of Perugia

Date:

3 September 1906

Materials:

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Curator

Justification:

Vittoria Aganoor Pompilj was the child of an aristocratic Armenian family who had migrated first to Persia, then to India in the 16th century, and eventually to Europe in 1835. Fond of Armenian culture and language, they settled in Venice to be near the Mekhitarist Congregation monastery. The Mekhitarists were active agents of Armenian cultural revival.
