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of the TRNC Presidency**

ERASING THE PAST:

**Turkish Cypriot Culture & Religious Heritage under the Control of
the Greek Cypriot Administration:**

**LEFKOŞA
2006**

**ERASING THE PAST:
TURKISH CYPRIOT CULTURE & RELIGIOUS HERITAGE
UNDER THE CONTROL OF
GREEK CYPRIOT ADMINISTRATION:**

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CULTURAL ASSETS ARE OUR RICHES...

The island of Cyprus has been a host to various civilizations throughout history and witnessed the development of various cultures, different beliefs and traditions leaving behind their traces throughout the ages.

The various hegemonies, which have dominated our island for certain periods in history, have made the island of Cyprus culturally rich by leaving behind their cultural assets. Among these riches, the contributions of both the people living on the island and all other communities to the development of our cultural heritage have a great importance at the present time.

All cultural assets, which exist both in the TRNC and in South Cyprus, are part of the culture of the people of this island, and this multi-culturalism is our riches. In this context, we give a big importance to the protection of all places of worship and ancient monuments, and have a positive point of view for the bi-communal and/or international projects related to this issue.

Both in the North and South Cyprus, there are places of worship which need to be protected and perpetuated. This work only constitutes a minor portion of the Turkish monuments including the mosques, small mosques, Turkish bathes, tombs, fountains, cemeteries and ancient monuments that have all been left behind in the Greek Cypriot side. The purpose of this work is to draw attention to the rough handling, neglect, and even the destruction of these Turkish Cultural Assets, either by leaving them idle or destroying them consciously which has been the case in the Greek Cypriot side.

Our aim is not, however, to form a policy that would serve to the permanency of a deadlock.

Our wish is to merely protect and keep alive all cultural assets which are in need of care. As the Turkish Cypriot side, we have been making an extreme effort and have supported all sincere efforts to make this possible.

Please accept my deepest regards.

Mehmet Ali TALAT
President Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

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Turkish Cypriot Culture & Religious Heritage under the Control of the Greek Cypriot Administration:

Names of the settlements listed in the CD:

Nicosia: / 17-18

-Aretyu (Arechio)

Mosque: Demolished and razed, School: Demolished and razed

-Arpalık (Ayiosd Sezomenosw) / 19-20

Mosque: Razed

-Aşağı Deftera (Lower Deftera) / 21-22

Mosque: Demolished, School: Demolished, Cemetery: Demolished

-Denya (Denia) / 23-26

Mosque: Destroyed, Cemetery: Demolished

-Dizdarköy (Nisou) / 27-28

Mosque: Uncared state, Cemetery: Destroyed

-Esendağ (Flasu) / 29-30

Mosque: Demolished and razed, School: Demolished and razed,

Cemetery: Demolished and razed

-Koçyatağı (Kotsiatis) / 31-32

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Yukarı Kurtbopan (Upper Koutrapas) / 33-34

Mosque: Demolished

-Matyat (Mathiatis) / 35-36

Mosque: Neglected, Cemetery: Abolished

-Orunda (Orounta) / 37-38

Mosque: Neglected, Cemetery: Abolished

-Peristerona (Peristerona) / 39-44

Mosque: Uncared state Osman Ragıp Efendi Tomb: Uncared state, Medrese: Demolished

Cemetery: Destroyed

Larnaca: / 47-48

-Akkor (Anaphotida)

Mosque: Minaret destroyed, Cemetery: Destroyed

-Aksu (Anklisidhes) / 49-50

Cemetery: Damaged

-Alaminyo (Alaminos) / 51-52

Cemetery: Destroyed, Martyr tombs have also been damaged

-Boğaziçi (Ayios Theodoros) / 53-54

Cemetery: Damaged,

-Delicibo (Delikipos) / 55-56

Mosque: Ruined, Cemetery: Destroyed

-Esendağ (Petrophani) / 57-58

Cemetery: In the process of vanishing

-Geçitkale (Kofinou) / 59-60

Cemetery and Martyrdom: Subjected to vandalism and heavy damage

-Kalavason (Kalavason) / 61-62

Cemetery: Damaged

-Yukarı Lefkara (Upper Lefkara) / 63-64

Tombs: Vandalised and damaged

-Maroni (Maroni) / 65-68

Mosque: Damaged, Cemetery: In the process of vanishing

-Mormenekşe (Dromolaxia) / 69-70

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Softalar (Sophtadhes) / 71-72

Mosque: Damaged, Cemetery: Destroyed, School: Damaged

-Taşkent (Dohni) / 73-74

School: Damaged

-Üçşehitler (Goshi) / 75-76

Mosque: Damaged

-Town Centre / 77-80

Turabi Dede Tekke and Mousoleum: were put on fire six times and destroyed

Limassol: / 83-84

-Aşağı Binatlı (Lower Polemidia)

Mosque: Vandalised

-Bağlarbaşı (Malia) / 85-86

Cemetery: Tombs have been damaged

-Ceylan (Kilani) / 87-90

Mosque: The minaret has been damaged, Cemetery: Completely destroyed

-Çamlıca (Platanistia) / 91-92

Mosque: The minaret has been largely damaged, Cemetery: Completely destroyed

-Çayönü (Paranali) / 93-96

Mosque: Heavily damaged, Cemetery: Damaged

-Çeliktaş (Pratio) / 97-100

Cemetery: Heavily damaged, School: Largely damaged

-Çerkez (Tserkezi) / 101-102

Mosque: Largely damaged

-Düzkaya (Evdhimou) / 103-110

Emetullah Tomb: Completely destroyed, Turkish Bath: Completely destroyed, Tomb of Lalalar Martyrdom: Tombs have been damaged and vandalized, Cemetery: Neglected

-Esenköy (Armenokhimou) / 111-112

Cemetery: Damaged

-Gökağaç (Alekttora) / 113-116

Cemetery: Considerable damaged, Huzuri Sultan: Ruined

-Kayakale (Trahoni) / 117-118

Mosque: Destroyed, School: Destroyed

-Limasol (Lemosos) / 119-124

Arnavut Mosque: Considerable damaged, Cemetery (at the rear of Cami-I Kebir Ulucami): Neglected and damaged, Hamam-I Cedid (Yenihamam): Considerable damaged

-Mersinli (Ayios Thomas) / 125-126

Cemetery: Considerably damaged

-Mutluyaka (Moutlayiaka) / 127-128

Old and new cemeteries: Destroyed

-Silifke (Siliku) / 129-130

Cemetery: Ploughed and turned into a vineyard

-Taşlıca (Anoyira) / 131-132

Cemetery: Demolished

-Yerovası (Yerovası) / 133-134

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Yunus (Kolossi) / 135-138

Mosque: Completely destroyed, Cemetery: Destroyed

-Town Centre (Limasol Merkez) / 139-146

Kubbeli Çeşme (Domed Fountain): Totally destroyed,
Arnavut Mosque Domed Fountain: Considerable damaged

Paphos: / 149-150

-Aksu (Axilou)

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Yukarı Arşimandirya (Upper Arkhimandrita) / 151-152

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Aydın (Ayios Ionnis) / 153-156

Ömerzade Osman Mosque: Damaged, Cemetery: Destroyed

-Aydoğan (Stavrokonnou) / 157-158

Mosque: Neglected, Cemetery: Mostly destroyed

-Aşağı Baf (Lowe Paphos) / 159-166

Turkish Bath: Ruined, Hasan Ağa Tekke: undamaged,

Hacı Mehmet Buba and Arap Lala Tombs: Destroyed

Hasan Ağa Tekke Turkish Bath: Ruined

Cemetery: Subjected to vandalism

-Baf Kasqabası (Ktima) / 167-168

Cemetery: Subjected to vandalism

-Yuvalı (Prastio) / 169-170

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Beşiktepe (Melandra) / 171-174

Mosque: Neglected, Cemetery: Destroyed

-Çakırlar (Tera) / 175-178

Mosque: Damaged

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Dağaşan (Vretsia) / 179-186

Mosque: Neglected, Cemetery: Mostly damaged

-Dereboyu (Evretou) / 187-190

Mosque: Heavily destroyed, is in the process of been completely demolished

-Esentepe (Ayios Nikolaos) / 191-196

Mosque: Serious attrition in the interior and exterior parts, the minaret is under the threat of collapse, cones have been gunshot

Hoca Hasan Efendi Tomb: Destroyed

Cemetery: Mostly damaged

-Fesli (Fasli) / 197-198

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Finike (Finikas) / 199-202

Mosque: Subjected to vandalism

-Gökçebel (Falia) / 203-204

Cemetery: Destroyed

-Karağaç (Pelethousa) / 205-212

Mosque: Neglected, minaret and cone have been gunshot

Cemetery: Heavily damaged

-Kukla (Kouklia) / 213-214

Cemetery: Subject to vandalism, tombs have been broken and gunshot

-Kuşluca (Sarama) / 215-216

Mosque: Neglected, Cemetery: Totally destroyed

-Malatya (Meledhia) / 217-218
Cemetery: Seriously damaged

-Olukönü (Loukrounou) / 219-220
Mosque: Ruined, School: Ruined

-Poli (Polis) / 221-222
Mosque: works have been started to reconvert the mosque into a church
Cemetery and War Graves: Subjected to vandalism, tombs have been gunshot

-Susuz (Souskiou) / 223-224
Mosque: Destroyed, Cemetery: Destroyed

-Tabanlı (Zakharia) / 225-226
Cemetery: Totally destroyed

-Yakacık (Makounta) / 227-228
Cemetery: Totally destroyed

-Uluçam (Marona) / 229-232
Mosque: Neglected, its minaret and cone have been gunshot

-Uzunmeşe (Trimithousea) / 233-236
Hacı Mustafa Ağa Mosque: Uncared and damaged state, Cemetery: Totally destroyed

-Kasaba (Ktima) / 237-238
Baf New Mosque (Yeni Cami): Totally destroyed and turned into a car park