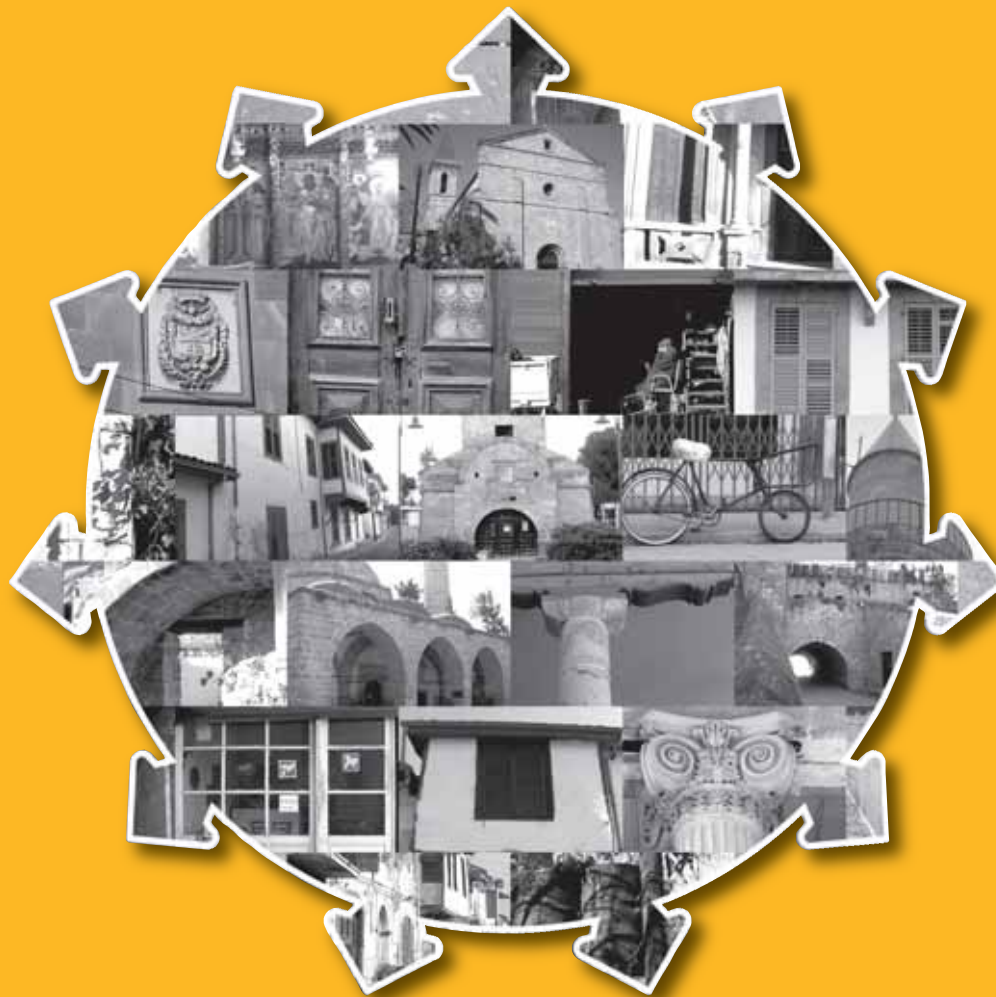


Nicosia is calling...

# Kyrenia Gate

Ages  
14-16



## Nicosia is calling

### **Dear Friends**

We are very excited to meet you!  
In your hands you are holding one of  
the first four booklets of the NICOSIA IS  
CALLING series.

Have fun by following the activities, reading,  
exploring and learning about the particular areas  
of Nicosia within the walls:

- Arabahmet Neighbourhood
- Chrysaliniotissa Neighbourhood
- Kyrenia Gate
- Paphos Gate

### **How did the idea come about for these booklets?**

Well, it all started when the Master Plan (turn your booklet upside down to find out what this is) renovated some very beautiful and important areas of Nicosia within the Walls.

In order to assist you in getting to know these renovated areas, the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research decided to bring together a group of teachers from primary and secondary education, across the existing divide, to cooperate and produce useful and creative educational materials for you, your teachers and parents.

Today,  
we will get  
to know the  
**Kyrenia Gate** and  
surrounding area!



## Activity 1

# The Venetian Walls of Nicosia - **Kyrenia Gate**

It was back in 1565 that the Venetians had decided to fortify the city of Nicosia against the rising threat of the Ottoman Empire. So, Giulio Savorgnano, an architect and engineer, arrived on the island to design new fortifications for the city according to contemporary defense methods. The new walls that Savorgnano designed had the shape of a star with eleven bastions that were almost finished by 1570. The bastions were named after the contributors which were local noble families and Venetian officers. Each contributor was in charge of the building of the bastion that bore his name.

Kyrenia Gate was the smallest of the three gates of the Venetian Walls. It was originally known as Porta del Provveditore, named after the Venetian Governor's title.

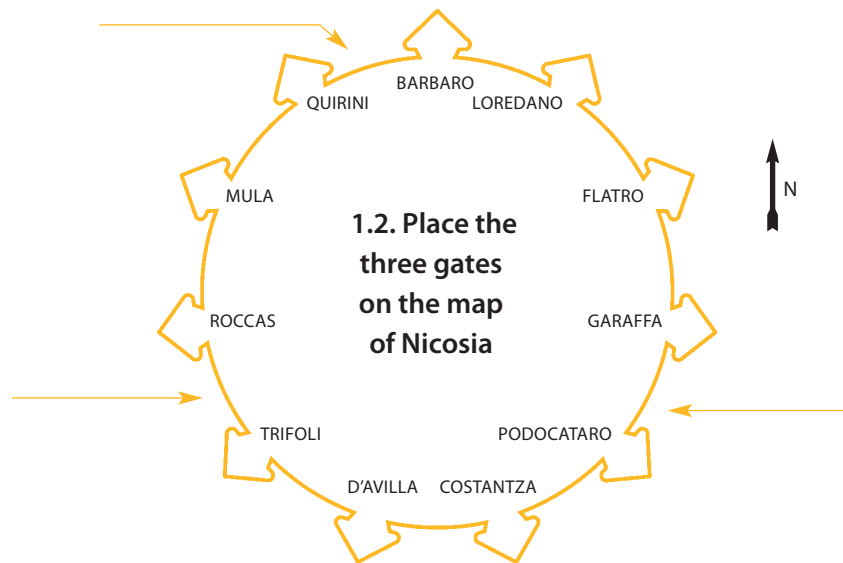
The other two entrances were Famagusta Gate (also known as Porta Giulia, after Giulio Savorgnano) at the eastern side of the walls and Pafos Gate (also known as Porta di San Domenico, after the Catholic Monastery opposite Pafos Gate) at the western side.

During the Ottoman period the three gates have become known after the names of the three cities opposite to them.

1.1. **Kyrenia gate was the smallest gate. Famagusta Gate was the biggest gate.** If you take into consideration the fact that Famagusta was also the richest city with the biggest harbour, what can you infer about the status of the city of Kyrenia at that time?

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## Activity 2

# Kyrenia Gate - Architectural elements

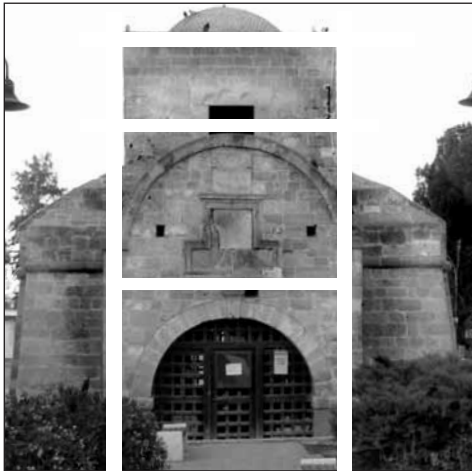
2.1. Look carefully at the gate from some distance:

How many parts can you identify?

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Which letter does it remind you of?

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Describe the gate using the words: inscription, arch, dome, arcade, voussoirs, key stone

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2.2. Which materials were used for the construction of the gate?

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2.3. Which part of the construction were added by the Ottomans? (The picture of Famagusta Gate will help you spot the addition)

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2.4. Which elements of the gate had a functional use?

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2.5. Which elements of the gate had a decorative use?

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## Activity 3

# Kyrenia Gate - A closer look!

Go closer to the gate. Observe the material the gate is made of.

3. 1. What kind of material is it?

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3.2. Do you know of any other buildings constructed out of this particular material? Name two:

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3.3. Why do you think all construction stones have a rectangular shape?

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Look at the inscriptions above the front arch.



3.4. How many different kinds of inscriptions are there?

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3.5. How are these inscriptions related to previous rulers of the island?

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3.6. Which is the oldest? When was it written (find the year in Latin characters and write it here):

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Three rulers of Cyprus left their trace on Kerynia Gate. What does that mean? Discuss it in your group.

## Activity 4

# Kyrenia Gate - A closer look!

Now walk through the arcade to the other elevation of the gate: The outer elevation is the side of the gate facing the outside of the walled city. The inner elevation is the side of the gate facing the walled city.

### 4.1. Compare the two elevations.

Similarities between the two elevations:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### 4.2. Differences between the two elevations:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

In the arcade you can see the heavy wooden doors that were used to close the gate.

Re-enter the gate and try to make as many observations as you can (use as many senses as possible!)

### 4.2. What is the current use of the gate?

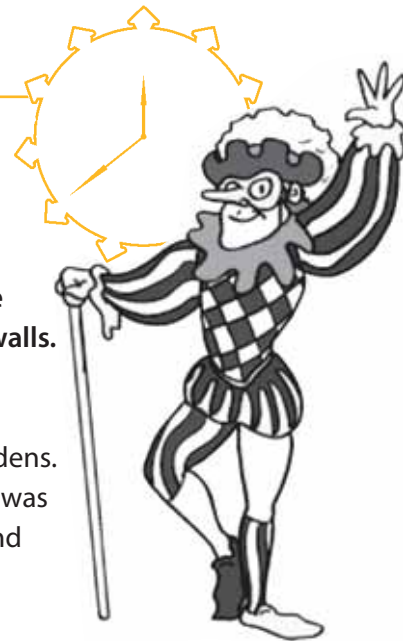
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## Activity 5

# Kyrenia Gate - Changes through time



Look at the photo:

5.1. Was the photo taken from within the walls or outside the walls? Explain your answer:

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5.2. Compare the gate as shown in the picture with the way it looks today. What has remained the same?

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5.3. The picture shows how the gate looked like before the demolition of the surrounding walls. You can see the same picture in the arcade.

During the Ottoman period there were gate wardens. Horoz Ali (Ali The Rooster) pictured in the photo, was a gate warden and lived in the gate, on the second floor, until he was 120 years old.

What do you think he was responsible for?

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5.4. There is a date above the arch: 19 \_\_ \_\_

This was the year when the gate was closed and was separated from the walls with a cut on each side.

## Activity 6

# Kyrenia Gate - Changes through time



This picture was taken the day that the British Authorities celebrated the opening of the road next to the gate.

Locate the point where the photographer was standing when he took the picture.

6.1. What has changed and what has remained the same in the gate and the surrounding area?

Changes:

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Similarities:

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6.2. Why did the initial use of the gate change?  
(The key-word for your answer is "vehicles")

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# Activity 7

## Kyrenia Gate - The surrounding area

7.1. Note three buildings that were built in the area surrounding the gate in recent years.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

7.2. Where were most of these buildings built? Within the walled city or outside the walls? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7.3. What kind of professions can you see around? Make a short list. Circle those who work permanently around the gate.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_



## Activity 8

# Kyrenia Gate - Suggestions

8. 1. How else could the gate be used today? Make some suggestions to the local authorities:

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8.2. Search and find the places pictured in the photos below. Ask and collect information about them:



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**Nicosia  
is calling**

## Congratulations!

You have completed the exploration of the Kyrenia Gate with the help of this booklet. Now you know many new things.

There are, however many more things for you to discover about the gates and the walls of Nicosia, so do not stop searching, researching and discovering.

Things you can do...

- ★ Take some photos for your personal and school archive.
- ★ For further reading and information look on website: [www.hisdialresearch.org](http://www.hisdialresearch.org)

Best wishes

"The Nicosia is Calling" team



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