

= Hermes o Logios =

Hermes o Logios , also known as Logios Ermis ( Greek : ????? ? ????? , " Hermes the Scholar " ) was a Greek periodical printed in Vienna , Austria , from 1811 to 1821 . It is regarded as the most significant and longest running periodical of the period prior to the outbreak of the Greek War of Independence , containing contributions by key scholars and intellectuals . Hermes o Logios aimed at creating intellectual contacts between the Greek communities of the Ottoman Empire and the Diaspora in Western Europe , as well as the preparing national awakening of the Greek people .

The periodical started its circulation after a proposal by Adamantios Korais , a leading figure of the modern Greek Enlightenment , who had stressed the need of a printed medium , written in vernacular Greek . This initiative was supported by the Philological Society in Bucharest , an organization consisting of Greek intellectuals . Hermes o Logios reflected the style of other European periodicals of early 19th century and reviewed developments in arts and sciences , being an important channel for bringing contemporary intellectual movements to the attention of the Greeks that lived in the Ottoman Empire . It was closed down by the Austrian authorities when the Greek War of Independence broke out .

= = Background = =

During the 18th century the ideals of the Western European Enlightenment and the French Revolution became widely known to the Greek scholars . They soon realized the potential of these new ideals , and especially of popular freedom and sovereignty for their own national struggle against Ottoman rule . Adamantios Korais , a humanist scholar and leading figure of the modern Greek Enlightenment , had stressed the desirability of a printed medium , written in the vernacular language , in order to spread these ideas to the Greek people , that lived in the Ottoman Empire and the Diaspora in Western Europe as well . Korais explained about the necessity of a periodical that would gather material from political and philological newspapers of the enlightened peoples of Europe and contain reports from Ottoman @-@ ruled Greece . He also stressed that this should be edited by a man of learning , and proposed that his friend Anthimos Gazis , scholar and Orthodox priest in Vienna , would be the most suitable person .

Vienna became the right place for such an initiative , since it was already the most important publishing centre for the Greek diaspora . In 1783 the Austrian Emperor had authorized the free printing of Greek books in the city , while in 1790 the first Greek newspaper , named Ephimeris , was published there .

= = History = =

= = = Establishment ( 1811 ? 1813 ) = = =

Hermes o Logios was established with the support of the Philological Society in Bucharest , an organization consisting of Greek intellectuals headed by the local Greek Orthodox Bishop , Ignatios II . The Society ' s goals , as published in the first issue of the periodical , were " the awakening to the progress of learning " and " the cultivation of the newer Greek language " . Apart from Hermes o Logios , the Society supervised also a Greek @-@ language school , financed translations of schoolbooks into modern Greek and provided scholarships for students to study abroad . Ignatios has already stated the need for a philological newspaper , in which each man of learning could publish his ideas , adding that " This is what the wise man Korais advises us to do and he has wisely chosen a worthy man , archimandrite Anthimos Gazis " . The members of the Society then all agreed to cover part of the printing expenses .

The first issue of Hermes o Logios was published on January 1 , 1811 , under the full title ????? ? ????? , ? ????????????? ????????? ( Hermes the Scholar , or Philological Reports ) . In the first three years of its existence ( 1811 ? 1813 ) , Hermes o Logios appeared twice a month and each

issue usually consisted of 16 pages . In April 1813 , Anthimos Gazis left Vienna and the editorship of the periodical was taken over by Theoklitos Farmakidis , another priest and an even more fanatical supporter of Korais .

= = = Crisis and revival ( 1814 ? 1820 ) = = =

Hermes o Logios faced serious financial problems during this period . When the Russo @-@ Turkish War of 1806 ? 1812 ended , Ignatios was forced to resign and leave Bucharest and its main sponsor , the Philological Society , ceased to exist . In an announcement published as an appendix to the issues of 1813 ( dated April 1 , 1813 ) , Alexandros Vasileiou , a supporter of Korais and influential personality within the Greek community of Vienna , states this fact , as well as that the periodical had too few subscribers . He therefore called on all readers to canvass for new subscribers ; moreover he called upon all scholars to send in their contributions .

During the period 1814 ? 1815 , Hermes o Logios reached an absolute low , with seven issues in 1814 and only one in 1815 , which consisted of 16 pages written by Korais and directed against his ideological adversary , the conservative scholar , Neophytos Doukas . On the other hand , Gazis returned . In the following years , however , the periodical was subsidized by the princes of Moldavia , Scarlat Callimachi and Michael Soutzos . Apart from the difficulties faced , 1816 was a turning point , as two scholars and adherents of Korais , Theoklitos Farmakidis and Konstantinos Kokkinakis , were placed in charge . Consequently , Hermes o Logios actually became an outlet for Korais and continued to appear without interruption until the Greek War of Independence .

= = = Outbreak of the Greek War of Independence ( 1821 ) = = =

In 1821 , the year that the War of Independence broke out , nine issues appeared between January and May . There is a special appendix to the issue of April 1 , 1821 , containing a Greek translation of an article dated March 29 , taken from the Wiener Zeitung , which reports on the uprising of Alexandros Ypsilantis and Tudor Vladimirescu in the Danubian Principalities , that marked the beginning of the Greek War of Independence , and also states the official Austrian standpoint . In the issue of May 1 , while Ypsilantis ? campaign was in full swing , the Austrian authorities required the editors to publish the excommunication issued by the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople , Gregory V , against the architects of this uprising . This was the last issue of Hermes o Logios which then was closed down by the local authorities and Kokkinakis was arrested as a member of the patriotic organization Filiki Etaireia .

= = Contents = =

Hermes o Logios is regarded as the most important Greek periodical of the era of modern Greek Enlightenment , also known as Diafotismos . It appeared regularly over a period of ten and a half years and was the longest @-@ running periodical prior to the outbreak of the Revolution . All volumes cover a total of 5131 pages , with texts on various subjects written by 918 contributors .

= = = Arts and sciences = = =

Its primary goal was to inform the Greek @-@ speaking public within the Ottoman Empire and in the diaspora . Moreover , in favouring the views of Adamantios Korais it reflected the style of other European periodicals of that era . It reviewed developments in arts and sciences and was an important channel for bringing contemporary intellectual movements to the attention of the Ottoman @-@ ruled Greeks . Additionally , it reproduced catalogues of European scientific books , and exhorted Greek scholars to translate and publish them , like those of Louis Jacques Thénard . The journal also published comments on astronomical observations , experiments and various articles on natural philosophy , which alternated with articles on history and philosophy . Greek scholars used as sources German or French educational books on physics , or translated and published texts on

natural philosophy with large circulations in Europe , like the works of Antoine Fourcroy , René Just Haüy , and Jérôme Lalande .

= = = Possible revolutionary background = = =

Although Hermes o Logios was the most important publication for the transmission of progressive ideas to the Greek people , which should ultimately lead to the emancipation and independence , there was hardly any information of signs of an ongoing revolution , at least on the surface . There was the Austrian censure to be reckoned with , as the reactionary minister Klemens von Metternich and his secret police kept a very close eye on the activities of the local Greek community . The lack of items on politics , polity , law and social structures does not indicate an immanent revolution . Several editors were also members of the patriotic organization Filiki Etaireia and staunch supporters of the struggle for independence , but one can hardly maintain that this fervent patriotism is reflected in the subjects treated inside the periodical . Even in the last years , on the eve of the Greek War of Independence , in the fields of philology , sciences , philanthropy , etc . , nothing out of the ordinary was published . On the other hand , there is no doubt that the contributors of Hermes o Logios dreamed of the liberation of the Greek nation and of an independent state .

= = = Positions in the Greek language question = = =

In respect to the Greek language question , it becomes obvious that from the very beginning Hermes o Logios adhered to Korais ' views . Korais claimed that the appropriate language for the Greek nation should be a vernacular ( Demotic ) language without foreign words and accepted some views by conservative scholars to retain a tincture of archaism . On the other hand , some of Korais ' opponents , both conservatives and vernacularists , published their own magazines in which they attacked his linguistic views .