

PRESS RELEASE

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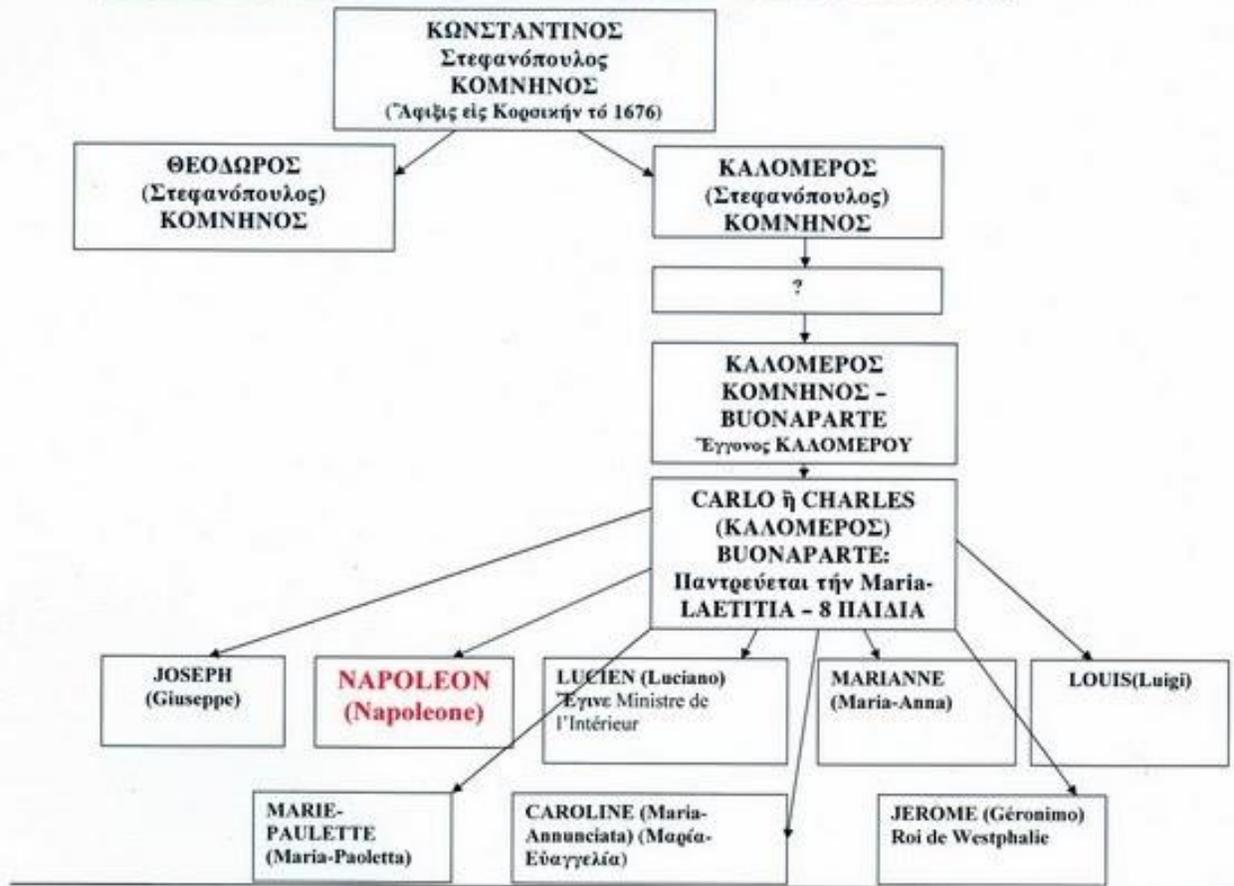
Cypriot History Researcher documents the Hellenic Descent of Napoleon Bonaparte



Nicosia, 7 March 2014 – In a lecture delivered on the 6th of March 2014 at the Cultural Centre of the Bank of Cyprus, Cypriot History Researcher Mr. Lambis G. Constantinides, documented that the French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte owed his descent to the Hellenic aristocratic families of the Komnenós and Kalomeros, who in the 17th century found refuge on the island of Corsica, coming mainly from Mani (South Laconia- Peloponnese) near the city of Sparta.

Theodore Stephanopoulos-Komnenós and Kalomeros Stephanopoulos-Komnenós were both children of Constantine Stephanopoulos-Komnenós IV, who arrived in Corsica in 1676 as leader of the Greek Maniates about to settle in Corsica. Carlo or Charles (Calomeros) Buonaparte was the son of Calomeros Comnene Buonaparte, grandson of Calomeros Stephanopoulos-Komnenós. Napoleon Bonaparte who was born in Corsica on 15th August 1769 was the second child of Carlo or Charles (Calomeros) Buonaparte and Maria-Laetitia.

ΓΕΝΕΑΛΟΓΙΚΟΝ ΔΕΝΔΡΟΝ ΚΑΛΟΜΕΡΟΥ ΚΟΜΝΗΝΟΥ



In as far as Calomeros Stephanopoulos-Komnenós is concerned, Mr. Constantinides mentioned that, due to his long living in Italy, his name, Calomeros, was italianised, as was habitual with the composite names of most Greek immigrants in Italy. Calomeros has therefore been translated word by word to Buonaparte from "buona=*kalos*" and "parte=*meros*".

In the course of his speech, Mr. Constantinides successfully documented the transition of the Greek ancestors of Napoleon from Mani to Corsica via Genoa. Following an official invitation from the Genovese noblemen on 3 October 1675, around 730 Maniates headed by Bishop Parthenios Kalkadis and led by Constantine Stephanopoulos-Komnenós, the 10th Eldest Notable of Mani, as well as certain members of the renowned Mani Family of Stephanopoulos - Komnenós, **direct descendants of the Byzantine Imperial family of the Komnenós**, departed from the settlement of Oitilos (Vitylo) in Mani, having Corsica as their final destination, where they arrived and settled the year after.



Πίνακας που απεικονίζει τον Ναπολέοντα Α΄ με την στολή του αυτοκράτορα των Γάλλων.

In closing, Mr. Constantinides emphasized that the official recognition by the French Republic of Napoleon's direct descent out of the Greek Komnenós element of Corsica will confer even more glamour and magnificence to the French Revolution, as well as to the French people of the time and the French Nation.
