

THE CONTRIBUTORS

Mr Joseph M. Attard Tabone was born at Xaghra, Gozo in 1936. He was educated at the Gozo Lyceum and in 1955 joined the Malta Police Force, reaching the rank of Senior Inspector and retiring in 1981. His interests include Archaeology, Ornithology, Melitensia and Travel. In 1960 he founded the Xaghra Cultural Centre. Two years later with others, he founded the Malta Ornithological Society. He is now its Honorary President. Between 1959 and 1961 he collaborated with the Museum Department in field sites in Gozo. He located a Temple Period Hut at Ghajnsielem and identified two lost archaeological sites mentioned by Jean Houel in 1778, namely, the St Paul Catacomb and the Xaghra Stone Circle (both in Gozo). He was instrumental in saving the tools of the Xaghra Windmill and worked hard for it to be converted into a museum. He is a member of the British Museum Society. He has lectured on bird protection, Maltese Archaeology and on several 19th century Maltese artists in Malta and overseas. He is also a member on the Heritage Advisory Committee of the Planning Authority.

Rev. Dr Joseph Bezzina was born in Rabat, Gozo. He had his higher education at the University of Malta and at the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome. He was ordained priest in Rome by Pope Paul VI in 1975. He holds three history degrees, including a first class Honours doctorate in Church History, and has also won the Pope's Award, the University's highest honour, after being placed first in the 1982 finals. He also specialized in Archivology and Library Science. He is Head of the Department of Church History, Patrology and Christian Archaeology in the Faculty of Theology of the University of Malta, as well as lecturer in Church History and allied subjects in the same Faculty, in the Faculty of Arts and at the Sacred Heart Seminary in Gozo. He is also the keeper of the Bishop's Archives, Gozo, and of the Gozo Section of the National Archives and acts as advisor on archives to the Government of Malta. He is the author of over twenty books in English, Maltese, German and French, and of several papers in scientific journals.

Professor Anthony Bonanno studied and graduated at the Universities of Malta and Palermo and at the Institute of Archaeology, London University. He has taught Archaeology and Classics at the University of Malta since 1971. He is now Professor of Archaeology and Head of Department of Classics and Archaeology at the same University. Between 1990 and 1992 he was also Dean of the Faculty of Arts and between 1987 and 1992 he served on the Council of the University of Malta. He has convened two international conferences. He has authored a large number of scientific papers and various publications on Roman Art and Maltese Archaeology.

Professor Lino Briguglio directs the Gozo Centre of the University of Malta and the Islands and Small States Institute at the Foundation for International Studies. He lectures at the University of Malta and acts as consultant on island affairs to international organisations. He studied at the University of Malta, the University of Oxford and the University of Exeter, U.K. where he obtained a doctorate in Economics. He has published a large number of scientific papers and authored several books on topics related to Economics and Island Affairs.

Dr Albert G. Camilleri B.A. (Hons) History, LL. D. was born in Valletta in 1934, of Gozitan parents. He was educated at St Aloysius College (1945-1951), the Royal University of Malta (1951-1958). He was called to the Bar in 1959. Dr Camilleri was chairman of the Public Service Commission (1987-1992). He was appointed chairman of the Permanent Commission against Corruption in 1993. He has a keen interest in History and has carried out original research on the History of Gozo.

Rev. Dr Joseph Farrugia was born in Victoria, Gozo, in 1954 and educated in Gozo. In 1978 he proceeded to Rome where he acquired two post-graduate degrees in Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University. In 1983 he joined the academic staff of the Sacred Heart Seminary in Gozo, where he still lectures in Dogmatic Theology. In 1988 he became lecturer in the Faculty of Theology at the University in Dogmatic Theology. He has participated in various international conferences and

is the author of *The Church and the Muslims*, amongst other publications. Fr. Farrugia, who is deeply involved in the promotion of Gozo's culture, is the University Gozo Centre's coordinator of the highly successful series of public lectures focusing in the History and Culture of Gozo which started in 1994.

Professor Stanley Fiorini is Head of the Department of Mathematics at the University of Malta. His main interest in Maltese History is the late medieval period on which he has written a number of papers and three books. He is the former president of the Malta Historical Society and editor of a number of publications of the same society.

Mr Edwin Lanfranco graduated in Botany from the University of London. He is a lecturer of Botany and Evolutionary Biology in the Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, University of Malta. He is actively involved in research on the floristics and vegetation, both land and marine, with particular reference to the Maltese Islands. He is also very much involved in environmental conservation work. He serves on various national and international committees and consultative bodies in relation to conservational botanical associations. Mr Lanfranco is currently involved in compiling an updated list of flora of the Maltese Islands.

Professor Victor Mallia Milanés BA, MA, PhD, FRHistS (Lond.) is Head of the Department of History of the University of Malta. His special research interests are Venice, the Order of St John and the Mediterranean in early modern times. His publications include *Louis XIV and France* (London: Macmillan, 1986), *The Origins of the Second World War* (London: Macmillan 1987) *Descrittione di Malta - Anno 1716: A Venetian Account* (Malta: Bugelli, 1988), *The British Colonial Experience. 1800-1964: The Impact on Maltese Society* (Malta: Mireva, 1988), *Venice and Hospitaller Malta 1530-1798: Aspects of a Relationship* (Malta: PEG, 1992), and *Hospitaller Malta 1530-1798: Studies on Early Modern Malta and the Order of St John of Jerusalem* (Malta: Mireva, 1993). He is the General Editor of the annual *Library of Mediterranean History*.

Mr Franco Masini was educated at St Aloysius College, B'Kara and the University of Malta where he read Arts graduating B.A. and obtaining the Diploma of Legal Procurator. He is Deputy to the Managing Director at Farsons. He has had an active business career of over thirty years and has had an important role in the sphere of organised business. He is a former President of the Malta International Fair (1974-76), the Federation of Industry (1983-84 and 1994-95) and the Malta Employers Association (1993-94). He sits on a number of councils and committees including the University Council. He is a director on the Board of the Bank of Valletta, the Food Chain Group and Wands Ltd. among others. Gozo born Franco Masini has been writing, broadcasting and lecturing on Gozo for the past forty years.

Mr Pawlu Mizzi was born in Rabat (Gozo) and educated at the Gozo Seminary and the University of Malta from where he graduated BA (Gen). He teaches History and Maltese in various public and private schools. Mr Mizzi is the author of various historical articles with special interest on Gozo. He edits *Heritage*, the popular magazine which builds up into an *Encyclopedia of Maltese Culture and Civilization*. He is a pioneer in Maltese publishing, and is the founder of Klabb Kotba Maltin and Midsea Book Ltd.

Dr Eugene P. Montanaro was born in Victoria, Gozo in 1947. He graduated LL.D. in 1981. He currently exercises profession of Notary Public. Dr Montanaro has published a number of studies on Maltese sculptors and painters, amongst whom Francesco Vincenzo Zahra (1984), Mariano Gerada (1986), and Pietro Paolo Azzopardi (1982). He is also the author of *The Sculptures at the Grotto of St Paul* (1990), and *Popular Statuary* (1989).

Dr Mario Tabone qualified M.D. from the University of Malta. He has specialised in ophthalmic surgery. He has been particularly interested in the applications of laser in his speciality. He is an Ex-president of the Medical Association of Malta, and an active member of the Malta Council

for Science and Technology. He has written several papers on the relevance of science to social development.

Professor Joseph Vella was born in Victoria Gozo in 1942. He is one of Malta's leading contemporary composers. He has written for a wide spectrum of musical combinations, including chamber, choral and symphonic works. Compositions of his have been performed all over Europe, the USA, and Japan. He has also commercially recorded three compact discs of his works, with the Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra. His activities as a conductor have taken him to Italy, Spain, France, Germany, Belgium, Greece, Ireland, Sofia, Tokyo and Canada. His pioneering work in the revival of old Maltese music has led to a wider knowledge and appreciation of an important part of our national heritage which, up to the late 60s was almost completely neglected. In this field he has researched, edited and performed previously unknown masterpieces by both Maltese and Italian composers, which over the years, he has presented in concerts not only in Malta, but also in Germany, France, and Spain. He has contributed articles to several local and foreign publications, and he has participated and read papers at music conferences in Malta, Italy, France, England, Turkey and Greece. Joseph Vella is an Associate Professor at the University of Malta.

Dr George Zammit Maempel graduated from the Royal University of Malta as a Pharmacist (1948) and later as a Doctor of Medicine and Surgery (1952). He worked as a General Practitioner in Birkirkara and later as a Field Physician with Oasis Oil Company in the Libyan Desert (1977-88). He developed a keen interest in Maltese Geology and fossils in (1945-48) and later followed a course in Engineering Geology at the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (1966-68). He was awarded a UNESCO Fellowship in Museography in the Federal Republic of Germany (1969) and joined the Museum Department in charge of Geology and Palaeontology Section and of Ghar Dalam Cave and Museum (1967). He devised and actuated the Geology and Palaeontology Halls at the Natural History Museum in 1973, and was appointed Part-Time Curator in 1989. In 1988 he retired from medical practice and

devoted himself to Palaeontological research and Curatorship. For his contributions and research in the field of Maltese Geology and Palaeontology, in 1992 he was honoured with the Award of the *Medalja ghal-Qadi tar-Republika* (M.Q.R.), a medal for the distinguished service to the Republic and in 1993, with the conferment of the Degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) from the University of Malta. Dr Zammit Maempel is member of various local and foreign scientific societies, including the Palaeontological Association, Palaeontological Society of America, Geologists Association, Geological Curator's Group, Società Toscana di Scienze Naturali (Pisa), Society for the Natural History (UK), History of Earth Sciences Society (USA) and Member of the International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO). He is the author of *An Outline of Maltese Geology* (1977), *Pioneers of Maltese Geology* (1989), *Ghar Dalam Cave and Deposits* (1989), *The Folklore of Maltese Fossils* (1989) and a number of scientific papers in refereed international journals.

A FOCUS ON GOZO

This is the third volume published by the University of Malta Gozo Centre. The first two books dealt respectively with Tourism and with Culture in Gozo.

The present volume contains a selection of papers originally presented in the form of lectures during the course entitled *A Focus on Gozo*, which the Gozo Centre organised in 1994-95.

Such is Gozo's small size that one can mistakenly assume that the personality and character of the island are of little significance, and need not be studied and understood. The contents of this volume show otherwise. The title *A Focus on Gozo*, was chosen precisely because the editors felt that it is very worthwhile zooming in on a number of areas related to the island's physical and cultural development, to understand the multifaceted impacts that have shaped the island's character as we know it today.

Gozo possesses a character which is distinctly perceptible and intrinsically its own. It is a character rooted in its physical features, its geographical location and abides in the island's geology, insularity, natural territorial features and vegetation.

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