

## “THE SINS OF THE FATHER BEING PLAYED BY THE SINS OF THE CHILDREN” MACEDONIANS, HELLENES AND DIASPORA



### A response to “Who in this celestial world gave the Greeks the right to take away the Macedonian language”

The sins of the fathers are being played out again by the actions of the children who should know better. It is a huge pity that we are instilling in our children our sins and those of our ancestors in order to keep issues that are inclined to inflame passions and rise to further negative actions within our society. The author makes reference to an article that appeared in the Slav-Macedonian Newspaper in 2009.

Although a judgment has been made, this author is of the belief that this judgement will have far reaching consequences in the future. In 1991 – 1992 when the treasures of Macedonia were travelling the world, a drama of momentous proportions were being played out across the globe by Hellenes and those from the neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM).

The treasurers of Phillip of Macedon and his son Alexander caused much controversy then as it is true today. Whatever that may mean to those who find it of interest to involve themselves in the affairs of the Hellenic Republic and that of the neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM) should remember that life will go on despite the machinations of both parties. This reminds the author of the actions of Australians of Hellenic and of the neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM) origins, who were conducting a silent guerrilla warfare behind the scenes of Australian society during the period 1990 to 1992.

**Hidden agendas.** During that period the author was stationed in Melbourne as a member of the Australian Defence Force, monitoring the news articles and the commentaries from both parties to ascertain what the issues were and what was at stake. The authors opinion was sought by many and the response was always the same. “It is a problem that needs to be resolved by both countries between their respective heads of State and not embroil those who now lived outside in their adopted countries.

As an Australian of Hellenic origins, the authors response may have been viewed as treasonable by those of Hellenic background, but the authors assessment was a correct one as events turned out to be just that. It is therefore amusing to reflect back on those days and see that those now in leadership or influential positions had used the drama as a stepping stone or a foundation upon which to build their own image and that of their organisations for the future.

**Clever neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM) marketing.** In 2011 when the drama was played in court recently regarding the inflammatory remarks by the writer of the article "Who in this celestial world gave the Greeks the right to take away the Macedonian language" is but another stunt and provide a platform to those support the idea of a neo Macedonia based on Slavic designs.

The writer Gandeto who wrote the article on the 14 May 2009 was well aware that his article would cause passions to rise, especially amongst those of Hellenic background and one thinks that it was created deliberately to create additional controversy and keep their issues in the public arena. One must acknowledge the clever thinking by these writers such as Gandeto and those from the neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM) in marketing their product of controversial issues.

Back in 1991 and 1992 when one thinks about the issues at stake then, taken from a rational and emotional intelligent point of view, there was no need for this type of drama to be played out publicly and/or behind the scenes and one wondered at the time whether these were hidden agendas by both protagonists. An interesting point as discussed above, events and anecdotal evidence proved that this was the case for some who apart from personal endeavours sought compensation, insurance frauds, political aspirations, flying the banner so to speak and foolishly at that.

**Political intervention.** One must admit that Jeff Kennett at the time did more for the Hellenic cause by acknowledging Alexander as Hellene and that Macedonia was Hellenic rather than belonging to the neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM) cause. Jeff Kennett whether you support him or not and despite any faults he may have had, was an astute and wise counsellor in these matters and brought some semblance of peace between the two protagonists.

Despite the serious of the issues at stake and the inflamed and at times passionate response from the two parties, it was a joke then and it is still considered a joke now after so many years. Churches were being allegedly been vandalised, posters all over the place, hate mail and vile remarks to and from both parties in the various media outlets at that time. The anger flowed over into the political arena where both parties were at logger heads with each other and only came to a head when the Government of the day was able to bring both parties to the reconciliation table for talks.

**Healing process.** To assist in the healing process the Hellenic Republic sent out one of their senior diplomats to advise the Australians of Hellenic origins that whatever was occurring in the Balkans was being discussed at the highest levels of government between Greece and that of the neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM).

It was also of interest to note that the Hellenic Diplomat advised the Australians of Hellenic origins that their loyalty was to their adopted country and to ensure that they adhered to the laws of the country. However he did concerned that the two countries had some issues to resolve and that it should be handled at their level and not affect the Hellenes who were abroad.

**Crossroads.** Australians of Hellenic origins are now at the crossroads regarding their identity and how they view themselves if such issues come to the fore again. This author is of the belief that despite their maturity, development and growth within the Australian wider community, the passions of the Australian Hellene run so deep and touch the soul so to speak that they will at heart retain the passions of their heritage and speak up when issues of culture, origins, religion and democracy are at stake without the need to feel guilty about their love of the Australian way of life as we know of it today.

**Free speech.** As for the judgement handed by the courts recently, I am reminded by the remarks made by Andrew Bolt who recently lost a court action which he felt was curtailing free speech. Love him or leave him, Andrew Bolts made a valid point when he said *"Is it a rule to be Anglo/ Saxon to be racist"* and went on to say that he did not endorse what was said about the Greeks by the neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM) as he loved the Greeks.

The author enjoys the friendships and camaraderie from Hellenic and neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM) origins and despite his views considers free speech paramount in any democratic society. Although the author like Andrew Bolt, believes in free speech, he also does not endorse the inflammatory remarks by the writer Gandeto allegedly representing the neo pseudo Macedonian state (FYROM) and its people. Free speech by a journalist is one thing, inflaming the passions to incite violence and creating an environment of discord and tension is another. **Peter Adamis**