

## CYPRIOTS IN THE GREEK REVOLUTION

### A NARRATIVE

Although the Greek Revolution began in 1821, it was preceded by decades of preparation, inside Greece, but also in other parts of Europe.

This narrative presents an under-explored and under-appreciated chapter of the struggle of the Greeks to liberate themselves from the Ottoman overlord. This is the contribution and sacrifice of the people of the beautiful island on which, according to Greek mythology, the goddess Aphrodite was born. The beautiful island of Aphrodite, Cyprus.

The Ottoman Empire's geography was formidable and outside of Greece proper there were many Greek communities that were persecuted.

Communities that were left behind after the fall of Constantinople in 1453, such as those in the geographic areas that are found today in Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Northern Macedonia, and Albania. Although many believe that the revolution began in 1821, in fact, the Revolution had begun much earlier.

By the 16<sup>th</sup> century, those Greeks who had fled the Balkans to live abroad, began the struggle at the level of publishing, of interacting with those who would later become Philhellenes during the period of the Enlightenment. Elsewhere, in the Ottoman Empire, small communities rebelled.

The heroes on the island of Crete in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century. The heroes in Mani who resisted the might of the Turkish military. The heroes of the Orlov rebellion in the Peloponnese in 1769. The heroes in Moldavia and Wallachia, Alexandros Ypsilantis, and the young warriors of the Ieros Lochos (the Holy Company) who initiated the formal military challenge to the Ottomans in 1821 even before the declaration at Aghia Lavra on March 25<sup>th</sup> 1821.

The heroes of Cyprus.

In fact, many revolutionary movements took place in Cyprus. Many of the community leaders especially the clergy were secret members of the Philike Etaireia and participated in different ways from collection of funds to purchase war material, food, provide safe transit of materials and even volunteer fighters to mainland Greece. These contributions began as early as 1810, however, it would be in 1821 where Cypriots would become very actively involved in the revolution.

In 1821, on the occasion the appearance of Greek revolutionary leader Konstantinos Kanaris at the coast of Lapithos near Kyrenia and the rumours about secret agreements between the Greek Cypriots and the Greek revolutionary movement, the Ottoman administration on the island sent 4.000 Turkish soldiers in Cyprus. These soldiers started disarming and terrorizing the Christian residents.

Renowned members of the Greek Cypriot community were arrested and some of them were executed. The massacres of Greek Cypriots in this month, July, 200 years ago were a notable and tragic event – a blood orgy punctuated by the hanging of 486 notable men and church hierarchs and with slaughters in various parts of the island. These slaughters continued for 30 days.

Immediately following the massacres, a number of Cypriots who escaped decided to go to Greece and volunteer in the revolution. Among these volunteers, 150 died in different battles.

It is estimated that at least 1000 volunteers left Cyprus to fight in mainland Greece. Today, we are only aware of those 150 who died in battle.

Cypriot volunteers were distinguished by the unique flag they took with them into battle, resembling what eventually became the Greek national flag but with the additional inscription:

“ΣΗΜΕΑ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΠΑΤΡΙΣ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ”: “Greek Flag of the Homeland Cyprus”

In Mesologgi, a monument for the Cypriot dead fighters reminds of their sacrifice among the besieged local population which died fighting in their attempt to break the siege and exit the town.

Cypriots also fought for their own emancipation and incorporation into the Greek State with the diplomatic and military means they had at their disposal following the Revolutionary War. One such attempt was an effort from Greece which was combined with a plan for the incitement of revolt in Lebanon which at the time was also under the Ottomans

Towards this objective, a mission was sent to Lebanon to investigate and find out the intentions of the Lebanese people. The mission was covertly blessed by Cypriot church hierarchs including Archbishop Damaskinos and the bishops Panaretos of Paphos, Leontios of Kitium and Charalambos of Kyrenia.

The mission was constituted by the Metropolitan Grigorios of Evdokiada and the Cypriot Charalambos Malis.

In spite of the enthusiasm and commitment of the Cypriots, the mission and objective was not officially acceptable by the Greek government. Various war chieftains however, and especially Vasos Maurovouniotis, Hadjimichalis Ntalianis, and Nikolaos Kriezotis, nevertheless undertook to materialize the plan in Lebanon and Cyprus on their own initiative.

Other Cypriots, such as Bishop Vikentios, supported the initiative of the Greek revolutionary chieftains. In spite of the opposition of Charalambos Malis who insisted that the mission would fail without formal Greek government support, the mission nonetheless was realized.

Unfortunately, the compliment of 2.000 men and 14 ships in March 1826 failed to mobilize the Cypriots as well as the Lebanese.

In spite of this failure, the Greek fighters did take on Turkish Ottoman troops in Cyprus in what is, at least under the currently-available history and documents, the only known formal battle between Greeks and Turks on Cyprus.

On March 1826, Greek Revolutionaries, together with Cypriots, attacked the Turkish Guard and the Turkish Military Department of the Famagusta Guard at Aghia Napa,

The historical reference to this is the report of the Dutch Consul in Larnaca Marco-Antonio Sant, in which states that about two hundred Greek Revolutionaries had arrived in the sea area of Ayia Napa with twenty Greek Ships and after a fierce battle they defeated the Turkish Guard of Famagusta.

"The Turkish Guard, which was assigned to guard the place, did not hesitate to attack them, although the battle was small and intensified when two hundred Turkish soldiers arrived in a hurry from Famagusta. In a few hours the Turks bent down, abandoned the fight and fled in disorder. Their losses in the dead, wounded and captives are estimated at fifteen people and the invaders received many munitions. After this battle, the Greeks boarded their ships with the collected loot. The fury of the Turks could have led to tragic events similar to those of July 1821 had not the wisdom of the commander of the Egyptian army on the island prevailed and impressed on the Turks to not retaliate".

After the end of the Greek Revolution, many Cypriot volunteers remained in Greece. Poor, ragged, miserable, many of them with large families to support, living in various parts of the newly created small Greek nation for the liberation of which they fought, with their wounds as medals awarded for bravery won with blood, lived the rest of their lives silently and quietly.

When many years had passed, many of them, old men, submitted the certificate of their participation in the Greek Revolution to the Greek state, signed by various known captains under whose orders they had fought, in order to obtain a meager pension. From these certificates, saved in the Greek state archives today, the names and actions of many Cypriots volunteer fighters in the Greek Revolution are known.

Having acquired Greek nationality, other fighters chose to return to Cyprus to spend the rest of their lives in their villages. In 1866, the consul of Greece in Cyprus, G.F. Menardos, had prepared a register of Greek subjects of Cyprus, of whom some were old volunteer fighters in the Greek revolution. Thus, the names of more Cypriot fighters became known.

Nevertheless, even today, many other Cypriot volunteers in the titanic struggle for the freedom of Greece remain unknown heroes. Either they remained in Greece free and their names were not recorded, or they lived their lives in other countries, or they returned later to Cyprus without proclaiming their participation in the revolution fearing the consequences.

The Cypriot fighters fought on land and sea and were present in the principal and biggest fights, serving under the orders of captains such as Kolokotronis, Makryannis, Nikitaras, Ypsilantis, Kanaris, Karaikaskis, Tzavellas and others. In addition, some were found in epics marked with martyrdom, such as the long resistance of Mesologgi.

During the revolution, and 1826 in particular, a formal company of Cypriot fighters was created for a short period of time and they were distinguished by carrying a unique Cypriot military flag. It is white in colour with a big blue cross in the centre. On the upper internal white square (one of the 4 squares which creates the cross) the sentence “ΣΗΜΕΑ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΠΑΤΡΙΣ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ” is inscribed.

This company of Cypriots, called the “Ionian Phalange”, took part in many and important military operations in the Peloponnese and Mainland Greece until its dissolution in 1827. The Ionian Phalange was formed after a “general meeting of Ionians and was named so because it consisted mainly of Greek fighters of Ionia (western Asia Minor). In addition, Greeks from the islands of the Eastern Aegean sea and from Cyprus were members, as well as from other Greek parts (Macedonia, Thrace, and Epiros, etc).

According to records, of the 359 fighters of the Ionian Phalange, it appears that at least 19 were Cypriots, because they are clearly mentioned, instead of by surname, by “Cypriot”:

Michales Kypraios (no.142), Constantis Kypraios (no.143), Georgios Kypraios (No.144), Kyriakos Kypraios (no.154), Stavros Kypraios (no. 155), Gabriel Kypraios (no.152), Eleftherios Kypraios (no.160), Avramis Kypraios (no.197), Kyriakos Kypraios (no.216), Savvas Kypraios (no.223), Hadjiavgoustis Kypraios (no. 224), Demetrios Kypraios (no. 229), Philippos Kypraios (no. 289), Kyriakos Kypraios (no. 306), Hadjipetros Kypraios (no. 331), Vasilios Kypraios (no. 343), Yiakoumis Kypraios (no.344), Paraskevas Kypraios (no.354), and Christophis Kypraios (no.355).

The Ionian Phalange, under the command of the Smyrnian fighter Yiannakos Karoglou, fought under the general command of captains such as Nikitaras against Ibrahim Pasha in the Peloponnese, and afterwards marched in Attica and took part in the battles against Kioutahis who sieged the Acropolis of Athens between 1826-1827.

According to the historical studies of F. Michalopoulos in his work “Cyprus and the Greek revolution”, more than 100 Cypriots were killed in the battles in Athens and Phaliro. The Ionian Phalange took part in the campaign under General Favier for the liberation of Chios and other military operations.

Further, 6 Cypriots are found in the lists of fighters among the people of Hydra who fought under Markyiannis, Demetrios Kallergis and Athanasios and Nicolaos Pappas: Kyriakos Kypraios, Tsaousis Savvas Kypraios, Nicolaos Vellas Kypraios, Simon Kypriotis, Ioannis Kypriotis and Ioannis Kypraios Tsaousis.

It seems that these men were members of Cypriot families (principally merchants and sailors) permanently established on the island of Hydra, who participated in the Hydrian corps. Similarly, other Cypriots who were established in various other parts of Greece had been enlisted in units formed in the places where they lived;

For example, the fighter Constantinos Kypriotis and his son Georgios Constantinou Kypriotis who, as testified from his certificates, lived before the revolution on the island of Psara and served on Psarian vessels that took part in various clashes, including on the fire vessel of Constantinos Kanaris.

The bishop Philotheos, a Cypriot prelate suffered martyrdom in the province of Arkadia in the Peloponnese). His birthname name was Philotheos Hatzis, and he was born in Cyprus, studying letters in Constantinople. In 1795, he was elevated to the episcopal throne of Dimititsana, an important town and region from which many of the Peloponesian revolutionaries began.

As a bishop, he gave particular emphasis to education, by creating or reinforcing schools in his region. He soon was initiated and became an active member of the Philike Etaireia. Immediately thereafter he pledged and recruited the entire population of Demetsana into the secret organization, an accomplishment which constitutes a unique phenomenon in the struggle of the Greeks. However another important accomplishment which served the struggle that was in the process of under preparation was his support of the "gun powder mills" of Nicolaos and Spyridon Spiliotopoulos in Demetsana. They produced large quantities of gun powder which was stored in various parts to be used at the beginning of the struggle.

The entire operation of manufacture and storage of gun powder was dangerous and was performed with the utmost secrecy under the supervision of bishop Philotheos.

At the beginning of 1821, Philotheos was invited by the Turks in Tripoli (the administrative capital of Peloponnese then, near Demetsana) together with other prelates of Peloponnese, the bishops of Monemvasia, of Christianoupolis, of Olenis, of Nafplion, Argos and Androusa.

There, together with other prominent citizens, they were arrested and imprisoned Bishop Philotheos died inside the prison under harsh torture on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 1821. Had he been able to survive a little longer he would have been able to witness the liberation of Tripoli by the Greeks on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 1821.

One interesting but as yet unconfirmed note of history is that the bishop of Old Patras, Germanos, the famous Germanos who raised the revolutionary flag at Agia Lavra, was of Cypriot origin - perhaps on his father's side, given that he was born in Dimititsana in 1771.

Minas Hamoudopoulos writes in "The Patriarchal Great School of the Nation" Alithia, volume I, 1880 - 1881 page 220, that bishop Germanos was of Cypriot origin.

## **ROLL CALL OF THE HEROES**

Ioannis Stavrinos (or Stavrianos), and captain Georgis the Cypriot offered important contributions to the struggle for the liberation of the Greeks. Captain Georgis went to Greece as a volunteer since the beginning of the revolution and fought for the entire duration. He was distinguished as a fighter and an officer and promoted to the rank of "hiliarchos". He took part in the most important battles and campaigns and after the end of the struggle, he remained in the newly-liberated Greece.

Ioannis Stavrinos was born in 1804 in the village of Lofou in the Limassol province and died in Greece in 1887. His father was a merchant and Ioannis often accompanied him on his trips. On one such trip to Alexandria in 1820, father and son were initiated into the Filiki Etairia.

In 1822 the father died, and young Ioannis went to Alexandria again. There, with his father's inheritance, he gathered and provided a group of 7 men (4 Cypriots and 3 Cretans) with arms and together they went to Greece.

In 1823 he was enlisted in the unit of his compatriot captain Georgis Kypriou as "boulouksis" (=group leader), and in 1825 he joined the Greek regular army which had been created in the meantime. He took part in many battles, including the Athens and Falero battles under Karaiskakis, where he was captured and made prisoner of war.

Stavrianos was later released and he promptly returned to military service. After the liberation of Greece, he remained there and had a family. There, he joined the movement that rose against Greece's King Otto and because of this, in 1863 he was downgraded to the military rank of major.

His memoirs remain under the title "Narrative of the adventures of my life and collection of various events still unknown in the Greek history".

Another Cypriot officer of the Greek revolution was captain Ioannis Kyprios (or captain Yiannis Kypriotis). Before the start of the revolution he served aboard a Turkish - Egyptian vessel. In Tenos, he was initiated into the Filiki Etairia. Shortly before the declaration of the struggle, he seized the vessel on which he served and commandeered it to Hydra. After having armed it, he put it in the service of the revolution and with it, he took part in many naval battles.

He served in Mesologgi where he fought during the first and the second siege, as well as in the Peloponnese in the critical battles against Dramalis under Theodoros Kolokotronis. He was captain of various other military vessels, such as "Poseidon" and the two-canon "Athina".

In the battle of Argos, he was seriously wounded on the head.

After the end of the struggle he remained in Greece and was honoured with the rank of captain of and was named an officer on land and sea.

Other Cypriot volunteer fighters took part and fought in the epic resistance of Mesologgi: Pantelis Georgiou Orphanos, an officer who fought at Dervenakia, in Crete and elsewhere, Yiannis Passaportis, and Hadji - Christodoulos Kokkinoftas.

Michael Kyprios was one of the youngest men to serve under general Makriyiannis (he mentions him in his "Memoirs").

Georgios Markou Kypraios fought under Favier and his brother, Adam Markou Kypraios fought under Kriezotis. The former was killed in the battle of Karystia (March 1826) while the latter fought in many

battles including the famous one of Dervenakia, and was wounded in Naupaktos. Later he was enlisted in the Greek regular army.

Christodoulos Demetriou Kypraios fought since the beginning of the revolution and was wounded in the battle of Argos. He was honoured with a silver and bronze medal of the battle.

Vasilios Andreou was honoured with an iron medal which was bestowed upon him after the struggle by king Otto.

The bronze medal of the struggle was also awarded in 1835 to Antonios Thomalis, known as Roussos (or Rossos).

Many other Cypriots were awarded medals:

Loizos Papachristou, who went to revolutionary Greece in 1826,

Georgos Kypraios - Kaltzis who fought since the beginning of the revolution under Alexandros Ypsilantis participating in the battles of Tripoli, Athens, Nafapaktos, then serving in Chios for 6 months, until its ravage by the Turks,

Georgios Philippou who fought from 1822 onwards, and was "penintarchos" (leader of a platoon of 50 men) serving under Hadjichristos, Londos and other captains, as well as under Karaiskakis in Athens.

Pavlos Ioannou Toufexis (or Kyprios) served as a non-commissioned officer under Makryiannis and other captains in Mainland Greece, Athens, and Dervenakia.

Ioannis Demetriou Kypraios served as non-commissioned officer in the cavalry and was wounded in battle.

Theoharis Avraam served since the beginning of the struggle under Ypsilantis, Makryiannis and other chieftains, participating in many battles and subsequently promoted to sergeant in the cavalry.

Nicolaos Hadjisavvas, another fighter, is noted serving as corporal under a number of chieftains.

Ioannis Kypraios served during the period of the struggle under Makryiannis, Nikitaras and other captains, as well as at sea as gunner on vessels.

Angelis Michail Kypraios, was sergeant and took part in many battles under Ypsilantis, Fabvier and captain Georgis Kyprios, Makryiannis, Kitsos Tzavellas and other chieftains. He was promoted to officer later and was captured and imprisoned by the Turks for a brief period of time.

Demetrios Antoniou Kyprios served since the beginning of the struggle and obtained the rank of corporal.

Ioannis Georgiou Kyprios, served since the beginning of the struggle as sailor under captain Apostolis in 1821, then as a fighter in the Peloponnese under Kolokotronis in 1822 - 1824, and then under Karaiskakis and other captains, participating in many battles. He was wounded in Phaliro in the same battle where Karaiskakis was killed; he obtained various promotions up to the rank of naval lieutenant.

Phylaktis Ioannou went to Greece in 1826 and served for 6 years principally as gunner under Fabvier.

Iossif (Yiosifis) Kyprios enrolled and fought since the beginning of the revolution.

Antonios Hatjichristou Kypraios took part in many battles, principally in Tripoli, Athens, Niokastro, Naupaktos.

Theodoros Ioannou Kyprios was an officer under Hadjichristos Nikitaras, Makriyiannis, and other chieftains.

Stavros Antoniou Kyprios served from 1822 - 1828 under Hadjichristos, and later enlisted in the gendarmerie (on some of his certificates he is mentioned with the surname Hadjiantoniou).

Paschalis Michail Kyprios served from 1826 - 1828 as a soldier and from 1828 as a gunner. Later he was enlisted in the gendarmerie.

Ioannis Michael was enlisted in 1821 in Samos where he mainly fought. He was seriously wounded on the foot.

Christos Michailou Kyprios served since the beginning of the struggle. He took part in many battles and campaigns as an officer under Yspilantis, Kolokotronis, Karaiskakis Nikitaras, Kriezotis and other captains.

Constantinos N. Kypriotis was a teacher in Trieste from where he volunteered for the revolution as a fighter in 1826. He fought under various leaders.

Christodoulos Vasiliades was another teacher who volunteered in the struggle from the start under Petrobeys Mavromichalis and other captains. Later he returned to teaching in the liberated Greece.

Nicolaos Papaioannou served from the beginning of the struggle as a "boulouksis" (leader of a group).

Antonios Pavli Kyprios served since 1825 in the regular army.

Michalis Markou became an officer (sergeant) when he went to Greece from Cyprus after the beginning of the struggle and served during the entire period under Nikitaras and other captains. He took part in many battles.

Peter Georgiou Malliaros served under Makriyiannis and other captains from 1821 until 1828. He fought in Myloi and other battles in Peloponnese, Crete and elsewhere.

Antonios Iakovou Loizou was the head of a family of fighters who went to Greece from Cyprus and served under Fabvier. He was wounded during the siege of the Acropolis (Athens). He was the father of Sozos Antoniou, who fought as a volunteer in Crete during the Cretan insurrection of 1866 and grandfather of the mayor of Limassol Chrisodoulos Sozos, who fought in the Balkan wars and was killed in Bizani on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October 1912.

Christos Papanicolaou Livaditis went to Greece in 1819 and served for the entire duration of the struggle at sea as a sailor.

Theoharis Tripsimos served in a group of euzones.

Kyriakos Christou went from Cyprus to Greece in 1825 and served for 11 years in the regular army.

Markos Ieronimos went to Greece in 1824 and took part in the struggle at sea as a sailor, serving until it ended.

Many members of the Economides Family volunteered in the struggle after being initiated into the Philike Etaireia. In July 1821, the entire family suffered unprecedented persecution by the Turks but several of its members succeeded in escaping abroad, through the foreign diplomatic missions in Larnaca. Other members of the family took refuge in Trieste, Marseilles and Corfu, and others fought as volunteers in the Greek revolution. After the end of the revolution, members of the Economides family remained in liberated Greece where they had careers, mainly as teachers.

Georgios D. Economides went to Greece together with 12 Cypriots in 1821. Together, they fought under Alexandros Ypsilantis and Kolokotronis. Later, he held various political posts, such as prefect of the Cyclades. He was awarded the prestigious Medal of the Silver Cross of the Order of the Saviour.

Demetrios Economides, departed secretly from Cyprus after the slaughters of July 1821 together with other members of the Economides family. In Greece he served as a volunteer until the end of the struggle and later he served in various government posts. He is known for his involvement in the later effort to liberate Cyprus.

Also belonging to the Economides family was the old notable of Nicosia, Petros Economides, who was executed by the Turks in July 1821, and Hadji-David Economides, great orator of the archbishopric who spread and extended the Greek education in Cyprus.

Hadji-Christodoulos Makris was one of the youngest volunteers to leave Cyprus in order to participate in the Greek Revolution.

Theoharis Hadji-Ilia Lapathiotis left Cyprus after the execution of his father by the Turks in July 1821, through the French consulate of Larnaca, in which he took refuge with other members of his family. He went to Greece where he fought until the end of the struggle. Later he served as adjutant of king Otto.

Among the Cypriots involved in the effort to liberate Cyprus were Kypridimos Georgiades and Kyprianos Vikentios. The former volunteered in the Greek revolution since the beginning and developed great fighting activities. He was later appointed in the very important post of member of the three-person Military Tribunal. The latter, also a remarkable fighter, was among those who escaped from Cyprus after the slaughters of July 1821.

Some of the lesser known Cypriot volunteers are:

Kyprianos Georgiades, who went to Greece in 1827.

Charalambos G. Frangos who went as a volunteer also in 1827 and served in the regular army until 1833.

Frangiskos Antoniou, who went to Greece in 1828.

Michail Antoniou Kyprios, who served as a non-commissioned officer.

Three brothers by the name of Kyprianos, Nicolaos and Theophylaktos (or Theophilos) Theseus, sons of Papasavvas from Strovolos, a cousin of the hieromartyr archbishop Kyprianos. The youngest brother, Theophylaktos (civilian name Themistoklis) became an archimandrite, during the time of Kyprianos, after he studied in Switzerland. When he was initiated into the Filiki Etairia, he showed overwhelming enthusiasm which was dangerous when expressed carelessly shortly before the outbreak of the secretly-prepared revolution. When he brought revolutionary leaflets to Cyprus, entrusted with to by Ypsilantis, he distributed them somewhat carelessly (as writes Vasilis Michaelides himself in his poem "9th July 1821"), which resulted in him being spotted by the Turks and his life put in danger and giving Koutsouk Mehmed another reason to proceed with the slaughters of July 1821.

Theophylaktos succeeded in escaping to Symi and from there to other places. He participated in the "synaxi" (meeting) of Rome and co-signed the proclamation of the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 1821.

He was later involved in the efforts to liberate Cyprus, and in this respect acted as emissary of his brother Kyprianos to the committee of the elders in Hydra and to Ypsilantis. He also carried out (in 1822) a money-raising campaign in Russia.

He was later involved in securing a loan for the campaign of general de Vintz for the liberation of Cyprus. After 1824 he went to Greece, where he fought, taking part in important battles (Tripoli, Mesologgi) where he was wounded and lost his left hand; he was promoted to officer and after the end of the revolution was put in the service of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

In 1833 he was in Cyprus where he was involved in the revolutionary movement under his brother Nicolaos. His last traces are some letters he sent in 1851 from Constantinople through which he tried to regain some confiscated land property of his as well as to claim the bishop seat of Kyrenia which was then vacant.

Kyprianos Theseus, the oldest of the three brothers, was a successful merchant and principal shareholder of their company ("Kyprianos Theseus and Co), which had its head office in Larnaca and in Marseilles (where in 1815 his brother Nicolaos was established as his representative). A document has been saved concerning a donation of Kyprianos Theseus of 2.000 gross in 1819 for the creation of a Greek School in Limassol. He was an important lender to the Church of Cyprus.

Escaping from Cyprus during the time of the slaughters of 1821, Kyprianos Theseus was actively involved in a leading role in the effort for the liberation of Cyprus; initially he addressed the inhabitants of Hydra and through them to Ypsilantis, trying to secure quantities of ammunition and other provisions for the Cypriot fighters and later repeatedly and insistently tried in Nafplion, to convince the Greek command to undertake some responsibility in the effort for the liberation of Cyprus; particularly to guarantee the enormous loan demanded in London for the campaign of general de Vintz.

After the end of the revolution Kyprianos Theseus settled in Syros.

The other of the three brothers, Nicolaos Theseus studied in the school of Kydonion in Italy and perhaps in the School of Tenedos in Corfu as the adopted scholar son of Ioannis Kapodistrias. He had a very broad education and was involved with publications; in Florence, he published "Homer's Iliad" in 1811 and the "Vatrahomyomachia, as a free translation by Th. Ghazis.

Nicolaos Theseus also taught for short periods of time (in 1808 and 1820 - 1821) at the school of Trieste. In 1815, having obtained Russian nationality, he settled in Marseilles and ran the branch of his brother's company, carrying out a wide network of trade, of products from the Middle and the Near East. Travelling to Marseilles, Paris and Trieste, he was involved in secret organizations working for the preparation of the Greek revolution, and went to Greece to fight.

Upon request of the Peloponnesian Senate, he took over the administration of the foreign fighters there. Having close relations with important leaders of the revolution (Demetrios Ypsilantis, Theodoros Kolokotronis, Nikitaras, etc.), Nicolaos Theseus fought by their side in many battles, especially in the Peloponnese, giving away his fortune in favour of the revolution. Later, it seems that he objected to the undertaking of the political leadership of the new Greek state by Ioannis Kapodistrias, and, perhaps this was the reason that made him leave Greece in 1829, returning to his business in Marseilles.

Among Nicolaos Theseus's friends in France were many remarkable intellectuals, such as the writer and politician Lamartine (Alfonse Maria-Luis de Lamartine) who, in his book "Voyage to the East" describes Nicolaos Theseus as "a man with sparkling spirit and courage, who speaks all languages and knows all countries, capable of interesting and endless narration, fast thinking and fast acting".

In 1832 and again in 1833 Lamartine came to Cyprus. He must have met with his friend Nicolaos Theseus who was then on the island leading an insurrection in 1833. There is little information about the outcome of that insurrection in any of the memoirs and available history.