

Rozina Vavetsi
Mayor of Nikolaos Skoufas Municipality

Greetings



The Battle of Peta, fought on 4 July 1822, was one of the most important battles in the Greek War of Independence that had begun in 1821, and it contributed significantly to the Greek struggle's spreading fame in Europe and to strengthening the Philhellenic movement.

Many Philhellene volunteers from all over Europe took part in the battle against the Turks.

The role of Polish Philhellenes in the fight for independence at Peta was especially important. The commander of the 2nd Company of the Philhellenes Battalion was Captain Mierzejewski.

Mierzejewski's company, which comprised Polish Philhellenes, died a tragic death despite their incredible courage and valour in the final stage of the battle. They took cover in St George's Church, where they were decimated when the barbarian hordes intending to break their resistance set fire to the church. The only Pole who survived, Aleksander Kusianowski, a physician, was taken captive and held prisoner until 1823.

The elite of the European Philhellenic movement perished in the Battle of Peta. Two-thirds of the two Philhellenic units died and were buried at Peta, remaining true to the high ideals that had brought them to Greece, fighting for our country's freedom and making the most precious sacrifice – giving their lives.

Transl. by Joanna Dutkiewicz