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Luigi Ferdinando Marsili and his Slavery to the Turks in Memories and Documents

(Summary)

This article examines the experiences of Count Luigi Ferdinando Marsili (1658–1730) during his nine-month captivity under the Turks, following his capture on the eve of the siege of Vienna in 1683. Translated into Bulgarian, parts of his major works on this subject – "Autobiography" and "Information on Slavery / Ragguaglio della schiavitù" – are presented and analyzed. These texts are compared with other documents and studies to explore the formation and development of Marsili's ideas about slavery, the means of combating this phenomenon, and the forms of redemption. Above all, the analysis highlights the universal human values embedded in these examples of European memoir literature from the dawn of the eighteenth century.

Keywords: Luigi Ferdinando Marsili, captivity and Turkish slavery, memoir literature, 18th century.

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