



Summary :

He was the first Ecumenical Patriarch from Smyrna. Metropolitan of Chalcedon at first, he ascended the patriarchal throne in 1702, where he remained until his death, in 1707. His term in office was a period of peace and calm for the Patriarchate.

Date and Place of Birth

First half or middle of 17th century – Smyrna

Date and Place of Death

1707 – Constantinople

Main Role

Ecumenical Patriarch

1. Background – Career

Gabriel was born in [Smyrna](#) in the first half or in the middle of the 17th century. His parents were from [Andros](#) and he became known before 1702 as the [metropolitan of Chalcedon](#). He was quite old when he was elected Ecumenical Patriarch, on August 29, 1702, thus succeeding the deceased [Kallinikos II](#) to the throne. He must have been widely accepted throughout his term in office, which was described by peace and calm. Gabriel remained in the patriarchal throne until he died (October 17, 1707). He was buried at the monastery of Kamariotissa at [Chalki](#).

He was the first Patriarch from Smyrna in the Ottoman period, which reflects the gradual development of the city, and took particular care of his birthplace. During his patriarchal years, he encouraged the foundation of the first Greek school in Smyrna, the subsequent '[Evangeliki Scholi](#)', where the notable scholar [Adamantios Rysios](#), grandfather of [Adamantios Korais](#), was teaching. Among his numerous activities concerning administrative matters, parish cases and monastic laws, was his letter to the [metropolitan of Chaldia](#) where he cautioned him not to intervene in villages under the jurisdiction of the [metropolitan of Trebizond](#).

2. Evaluation

According to [Gedeon](#), Gabriel received only a modest education. However, in the memorandum of his election, he is described as «...πάση ἐ κκλησιαστικῇ παιδείᾳ καὶ μαθήσει καλῶς καὶ ἄκριβῶς ἐ ξησκημένος» (...having received a full ecclesiastical education and having studied well and been trained properly).¹ He was without doubt a mild-tempered and wise man, with a true zeal for ecclesiastical matters. In general, he was conservative and opposed to the translation of ecclesiastical texts into a more colloquial language, which had first been brought forward in the years of [Kyrillos Loukaris](#). He held an unfailingly anti-Latin attitude.

1. Γεδεών, Μ., *Πατριαρχικοί Πίνακες. Ειδήσεις Ιστορικά Βιογραφικά περί των Πατριαρχών Κωνσταντινουπόλεως από Ανδρέου του Πρωτοκλήτου μέχρις Ιωακείμ Γ' του από Θεσσαλονίκης, 36-1884* (Constantinople 1885-1890) p. 614; Γριτσόπουλος, Τ., 'Γαβριήλ Γ' πατριάρχης Κωνσταντινουπόλεως', *Θρησκευτική και Ηθική Εγκυκλοπαίδεια*, vol. 4 (Athens 1964) l. 110-111.

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Γριτσόπουλος Τ., "Γαβριήλ ο Γ' πατριάρχης Κωνσταντινουπόλεως", *Θρησκευτική και Ηθική Εγκυκλοπαιδεία*, τομ. 4, Αθήνα 1964, στ. 110-111

Webliography :

Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

<http://www.ecupatriarchate.org/>