

Bibliographical note on the beginnings of Coratine emigration to France (September 2020)

In our contacts with academics and descendants of Coratine emigrants, two questions repeatedly come up:

- when did Coratine emigration to France begin?
- what published documents specifically deal with the phenomenon of Coratine immigration to France?

As there is a certain vagueness regarding the answer to the first question, we wondered whether this does not reflect a lack of specific research on Coratine immigration to France. Indeed, works devoted entirely to Coratine immigration are quite rare; one finds mostly a few lines in articles, or a few pages in a chapter on Italian immigration.

In any case, it can be considered that a more precise identification of the date of the first wave of immigration should normally be part of an in-depth history of Coratine migration.

It would therefore be logical that genealogical research has a role to play in the quest for precision regarding the beginning of the migration flow. It would normally be necessary to identify those Coratine pioneers, whether clandestine or not, who took the road to Grenoble (or elsewhere?) to engage in work there, whether temporarily or not.

Of course, there are plausible hypotheses. We know that representatives of the French factories made the trip to Corato to stock up on animal skins, among other things. It is likely that they were also recruiting workers for the Grenoble factories (for example, in the gloves industry), which needed cheap, temporary labour.

Nevertheless, in Maurice Loisel's monumental work on naturalizations in France from 1900 to 1979, we found no mention of naturalization of Coratine immigrants during the period from 1900 to 1920 *.

Some bibliographical elements of works dealing specifically with Coratine emigration:

Tesi di Marina Labartino (a journalist who wrote many articles on Coratine emigration to Grenoble, although the subject of his thesis is broader)

'Gli studi sul "cambiamento" nell'analisi dei processi di acculturazione', Università degli studi Guglielmo Marconi, Facoltà di Scienze della Formazione, corso di laurea in Scienze della formazione e dell'educazione, relatore : Prof. Mauro Pacetti, candidato : Marine Labartino, Matr. SFO 01027/L19, Anno Accademico 2011-2012.

** Liste alphabétique des personnes ayant acquis ou perdu la nationalité française par décret, Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population, Direction des Peuplements et des Naturalisations, Maurice LOISEL, Paris, 1948 (années 1900 à 1920) à 1983 (années 1970 à 1979).*

In the bibliography of the thesis:

Scuola secondaria di primo grado “L.Santarella”, L’emigrazione dei coratini nel mondo, PON 2007/2013 Competenze per lo sviluppo progetto C1 – FSE - 2010 - pagine 4,5, 10,13, 14,15, 18,19, 24,25, 31,32.

LO STRADONE - Febbraio 2012- L’altra Corato- Aria di Corato a Grenoble, Marina LABARTINO, pagina 59

LO STRADONE - Agosto 2012- L’altra Corato- Les Italiens à Grenoble : histoire d’une communauté, Marina LABARTINO, pagine 56-57

LO STRADONE - Novembre 2012- come eravamo- il trasporto funebre accurato dal 1876 ad oggi, Marina LABARTINO, pagina 53

Other articles by Marina Labartino

LO STRADONE – ottobre 2015 – L’Altra Corato - Est-ce que vous parlez français ?
Tutta la storia del dialogo tra Corato e Grenoble – Maria LABARTINO. *She talks about the first wave since 1876 (in Fontaine), the second between 1910 and 1920, the third in 1931.*

LO STRADONE – luglio 2016 - Sotto il treno a far la spesa. L’immagine di Aldo Mrcone decora il più noto mercato di Grenoble – L’Altra Corato – Maria LABARTINO

LO STRADONE – aprile 2018 – L’Altra Corato – Dominique Rutigliano. Coratino celebrato a Grenoble in occasione del 50° anniversario dei Giochi Olimpici Invernali-
Marina LABARTINO.

CORATOLIVE.it – 5 luglio 2020 – Riscoprire le proprie radici : “Ecco perché mettere in rete gli archivi ecclesiali di Corato” – Marina LABARTINO.

Filippo Leone’s thesis :

Corato-Grenoble : due realtà a confronto unite da un gemellaggio fraterno – Filippo LEONE, Classe V, Sezione D – Esami di maturità, 1994/95 – Istituto Professionale Statale per i servizi commerciali e turistici, Corato.

"The first news of Coratini arriving in the area of Grenoble and precisely in Fontaine, however, date back to 1876 probably because of the commercial relations deriving from an important cattle market which made Corato an important supplier to the French city".

In the bibliography of Filippo Leone’s thesis :

GRENOBLE – Image par image – de “Grenoble animation information” (1982)

LO STRADONE – 1981-95

La GAZZETTA DEL MEZZOGIORNO – 13/10/1994

Resolutions of the City Council of Corato – 14/04/81 – prot. N. 18476
- 27/04/82 – prot. N. 8301
- 28/04/82 – prot. N. 8302

<http://fr.1001mags.com/parution/-38-isere-magazine/numero-121-novembre-2011>

Isère Magazine n°121, novembre 2011, article de Richard JUILLET : mentions a wave of Coratine immigration from 1911 (with an arrow map).

<http://www.ondaitalia.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Isere-Magazine-nov-2011-extraits.pdf>

The second wave

"From 1911, and even more so after the First World War, it was migrants from the south of Italy this time, from Corato in particular, who settled in Isère: mainly in Grenoble, Fontaine, Saint-Martin-d'Hères and Saint-Martin-le-Vinoux, but also in Nord-Isère (see page 21). The department, in full industrial and urban expansion, needs arms to build factories, open roads and run its industries: glove factories, paper mills, iron and steel works, cement works, mines, chemical plants, textiles... A natural disaster in Corato and a governmental agreement between France and Italy will also be mentioned to explain, in part, this important migratory wave. But it is above all the major social and economic crisis in Italy between 1919 and 1922, combined with the rise of fascism and repression, which explain this massive influx of Italians during the inter-war period. In 1931, Italians constituted the largest foreign population in France, with more than 800,000 people, mainly in the eastern regions of France, the Rhône-Alpes region and the Mediterranean basin. »

and fleeing famine in Puglia. A second wave came in 1947 when many Coratins arrived in Grenoble in search of work. "(Municipality of Grenoble).

<https://www.grenoble.fr/96-jumelages-et-cooperations.htm>

<https://circe.hypotheses.org/202>

State-of-the-places-twinning and cooperation-Prospects-2015.pdf

Study carried out by the Circé-Hypothèses consultancy firm and presented in December 2015: a comparative evaluation of the twinning arrangements contracted by the city of Grenoble.

http://www.ecarts-identite.org/french/numero/article/art_9596.html

Grenoble, l'immigration à travers le temps - Eric VIAL (Historian, Université Pierre Mendès France, Grenoble II) ~ Ecarts d'identité N° 95-96:~ L'immigration dans l'agglomération de Grenoble - Histoires et dynamiques - Spring 2001. In 1901, "no immigrants from Corato, nor from Puglia".

"And in 1911, there were 4,584 foreigners in Grenoble, and the first Coratins arrived, perhaps following the trade in skins for gloves...

...

Piedmont is relayed by Puglia, from which more than a quarter of Italians came in 1926, including almost 2,000 natives of Corato, 2,500 in 1931, more than twice the second nationality present, the Spaniards .

...

At Très-Cloître, among 42.5% of foreigners, Corato is almost as present, out of more than 1,650 Italians. »

<http://www.lepoint.fr/actualites-region/2007-06-07/enquete-sur-les-tribus/1556/0/186895>

"The only certainty is that Italian immigration to Grenoble has a long history. It began around 1850 and reached its peak between 1920 and the 60s and 70s. During this half-century, Grenoble and its nascent conurbation integrated thousands of Italians from the north of the peninsula, from Turin and Milan, but also Venetians, Friulians, some Neapolitans and Tuscans. They settled on the right bank of the Isère, in the miserable district of Saint-Laurent, and then spread out over rue Chenoise and rue Très-Cloître before scattering to the neighbouring towns of Fontaine, Saint-Martin-d'Hères, Echirolles and Pont-de-Claix.

They will be joined by the inhabitants of two small villages in the south of Italy, Corato in Puglia and Sommatino in Sicily, attracted by recruiters from Grenoble working for the Bouchayer, Merlin-Gerin and La Viscose factories.

TERRITORIES: Journey to the heart of "migratory landscapes", Jean-Baptiste FRANÇOIS, La Croix, March 2015.

"Between 1920 and the end of the 1950s, thousands of inhabitants of Corato, a town in Puglia in the south of the peninsula, settled there. They played a major role in the development of Isère (building, construction of hydroelectric dams) after the Second World War. »

<http://obsy.aurg.org/files/regards-croises-international-web-1.pdf>
www.grenoblealpesmetropole.fr - OBS'y (Réseau des Observatoires de l'Agglomération grenobloise) - March 2016.

"From the 1920s to the end of the 1950s, thousands of people from Corato - a town in Puglia in southern Italy - came to Grenoble where they held a special place due to the importance of their presence and the dissemination of their culture. They are the ones who, for the most part, built Grenoble and most of the towns of the Isère region. They will know how to integrate and preserve their identity. »

Le Roman des Grenoblois 1840-1980, in 6 acts & 44 paintings (117 pages): exhibition - Musée Dauphinois, 1982: section on glove-making (without mentioning the Coratins); good general bibliography on Grenoble.

<https://www.histoireimmigration.fr/projets/coratogrenoble#:~:text=Depuis%201920%20et%20jusque%20vers,venir%20s'installer%20%C3%A0%20Grenoble>

"Since 1920 and until the end of the 1950s, people from Corato - a town in Puglia in southern Italy - left their country to settle in Grenoble. These thousands of native Coratins are now an integral part of the Grenoble community and enrich it with their culture.

Who were they before they left their country? Why did they leave? How did they experience their journey and their settlement? How did they know how to preserve, in Grenoble and still today, their own identity?

All these questions are addressed in the 1989 exhibition at the Musée dauphinois".

"Un air d'Italie, la présence italienne en Isère" - November 2011 - collection Musée dauphinois - pp 91-93 (in 1931, one Italian in four is Coratin "...), pp 187-89 (portrait of Vito Fusaro).

Disgrazia - Coline PICAUD - 2012. Strikes in Grenoble in 1936 (page 98): list of companies that hired immigrants.

'Être ou se sentir coratin à Grenoble aujourd'hui. Identités visibles, inconscientes ou revendiquées', Anastasia CHAUCHARD and Elliott BOUANCHAUD, blog 'Migration, Frontières, Mémoires', sous la direction de Philippe HANUS, Valence, 2020 (<https://lecpa.hypotheses.org/>).

D'Italie et de France : Récits de migrants en Dauphiné 1920-1960, Yole MANZONI, Presses Universitaires de Grenoble, 2001. - *quelques témoignages de Coratins* (pp109-10, 118, 158-63).

Quel lontano viaggio - Mailys FORT - Under the direction of Mr Leonardo CASALINO - Stendhal- UFR de langues - Master 2 research thesis - 120 credits - 2013/2014 (110 pages).

"The city of Grenoble and the city of Corato have always had a special relationship and this since the beginning of the 20th century. Indeed, long before the arrival of the Coratins in Grenoble, there were trade agreements between the two cities which guaranteed several exchanges. Corato was responsible for supplying the Grenoble conurbation with raw materials for the industrial operation of the city. She undertook to supply them mainly with goat's wool and fur, necessary for the production of gloves, in which Grenoble had specialised. This manufacture was also one of the great industrial and economic specialities of the Italian city which enabled it to live. Unfortunately, as a result of the agricultural crisis, a large number of production plants closed down in Corato, and it was for this reason that coratins moved to the city of Grenoble, the French sister city of this artisan industrial activity, and the expression "Corato, nanny of Grenoble" was born, page 38, (Archives Municipales de Grenoble, 2934EL85).

Jean-Claude Duclos, " De l'immigration au Musée dauphinois ", *Hommes & migrations* [On line], 1297 | 2012, put online on December 31, 2014, URL : <http://journals.openedition.org/hommesmigrations/1551> ; DOI : <https://doi.org/10.4000/hommesmigrations.1551>

(pp 4, 5, 11).

https://www.revues-plurielles.org/_uploads/pdf/6_108_4.pdf

L'immigration au Musée Dauphinois, Jean-Claude DUCLOS, Ecartés d'identité N°108 - 2006, pp 18-26.

Les métiers des italiens en France - Ass. Ancêtres Italiens 20 rue des vinaigriers 75010 Paris Tel. 06.16.56.42.62 or de préf. 21h30-22h. 01 46 64 27 22 geneaita@geneaita.org Free access to 19,000 bibliographical records on www.geneaita.org: may contain works mentioning Coratine immigration (to be checked only on site).

Bianchi, Anne-Marie; Argento, Joseph; Agnelli, Suzanna (preface to) - Les Italiens de Grenoble: Gli italiani di Grenoble

[Grenoble]: Studio Dardelet, 1995, [100] p., ill. 30 x 24 cm, ISBN 2-95060-662-8, ITA-FRE Aires

geographical Francia; France; Rhône-Alpes; 38; Grenoble; Italia; Puglia; BA; Corato

Location Bibliothèque Municipale, Grenoble

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Italian immigration to France from 1920 to 1939: demographic and social aspects article] Edited by Pierre Milza

Pierre George, Publications de l'École française de Rome Year 1986 Volume 94 Number 1 pp. 45-67

http://www.persee.fr/doc/efr_0000-0000_1986_mon_94_1_3149

"The curious Grenoble-Corato couple in Puglia, born of relations forged on the occasion of the horse market: in 1931, there were 2,500 people from Corato in Grenoble, almost all of whom had come since 1925. From there, immigration from Puglia spread to the Bas-Dauphiné region as far as Romans (Fig. 6)".

*Les Coratins de Grenoble - Jaccoud Yves - In: Le Monde alpin et rhodanien. Revue régionale d'ethnologie, doi: <https://doi.org/10.3406/mar.1989.1427>
https://www.persee.fr/doc/mar_0758-4431_1989_num_17_3_1427 n°3-4/1989. Migrations. pp. 131-145.*

"In 1894, out of 2394 foreigners in Grenoble, 2013 were Italians. A few decades later, Piedmontese immigration was relayed by the arrival of "southerners", at the time of the end of the American dream. From the twenties onwards, Sicilians, Calabrians and especially Coratins arrived in Grenoble.

Les coratins de Grenoble, Jaccoud, Yves, Université Pierre Mendès-France (Grenoble 2), 1987, Master's thesis: Sociol. Dissertation : Grenoble 2 : 1987. - Bibliogr. p. 129-131 Pagination: 132 - 43 p. Illustration : ill. in black and bl.

"Quando i clandestini eravamo noi - Quand c'était nous les clandestins", Pasquale TANDOI with Santarella High School, Corato, originally published in 2011 after the Quota Act of 1921 and other immigration restrictions in the United States, "Italian immigration was then forced to go to other countries: France and other European nations...". (p. 38). There is no mention of emigration to France before 1920. It also speaks (pg. 18) of the factors that pushed the Coratinians to emigrate: fascism and the hydrological disaster of 1922. (translated by James Smith and Francine Canepa), Corato, 2019. pp 21, 23, 39.

'Quando Corato affondò 1921-22 : cronaca e immagini di un disastro urbanistico', Pasquale TANDOI, LINEA80 Azienda Grafica, Corato, 1997.

RHÔNE-ALPES: STUDY OF A REGION AND A PLURALITY OF MIGRATORY ROUTES

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TOME 1:.

*Page 78 : " In 1989, the Musée du Dauphinois presents an exhibition entitled Corato-Grenoble, which tells the story of the inhabitants of Corato (a town in Puglia, in the south of Italy) who came to settle in the Grenoble area. To create this exhibition, the museum's team relied on the testimonies of Coratins. The aim is to collect the memory of a population "which, although of foreign origin, has contributed through its work to regional history¹⁹⁰". 190 DUCLOS Jean-Claude, "Relier...Un siècle de mémoire, un siècle de lien: le Musée Dauphinois" in *Ecarts d'identité, Traces en Rhône-Alpes, des mémoires d'immigrés, Hors série, April 2000, p. 35.**

TOME 2: Extensive general bibliography

Les_emigrations_italiennes - Lorenzo Prencipe, renzoprencipe@cser.it, President of CSER (Centro Studi Emigrazione - Roma) Conference for Approaches Cultures & Territories, <http://www.approches.fr/Le-temps-des-Italiens>, 20 October 2009, Marseille 22 - overview of Italian emigration, but no mention of Corato. The Italian state began recording emigration statistics in 1876 (page 5).

<http://libbranchio2010.comune.modena.it/schedalibro.asp?id=182.html>

L'Emigrazione italiana in Francia : i Coratini di Grenoble. Raccolta di foto d'epoca, documenti e testimonianze

♣ *School: Secondary School of II gardo "I.T.C.S. Padre A.M. Tannoia "Corato (Bari), Apulia*

♣ *Teacher(s):*

La Forgia Nicola Anna (French

Piarulli Annamaria (French)

Cuonzo Anna (mother tongue reader)

♣ *Class(es) involved: V A Erica*

♣ *School year: 2007/2008*

- *From Corato (Puglia) to Grenoble, "Quando sul Frejus passavamo noi" - Corriere della Sera, 17 May 2018*

LONGO, Claude, "L'immigration coratine à Grenoble", Les Autres, revue régionale bimestrielle sur l'immigration, décembre 1983, n° 17, pp. 13-16.

ZERVUDACKI, Cécile, Les Italien- ne- s "Gens de Corato, de Sommatino et d'ailleurs... ils sont plus de 30 000 dans l'Isère et 5 700 à Grenoble", Grenoble mensuel, février 1984, n 5, pp. 50-52.

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FROSSATI (Yassu).- *L'immigration italienne dans le département de l'Isère: étude démographique et socio-économique de 1851 à 1939.* T.E.R. présenté devant l'Université des Sciences Sociales de Grenoble, U.E.R. d'Histoire et Histoire des Arts, 1975-1976.

1 vol. multigr., 181 p., graph.

*<http://www.comune.corato.ba.it/index.php?entity=news&idNews=80119> May
2005 - Corato-Grenoble Youth Exchange - Cultural training project - Municipality
of Corato*

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