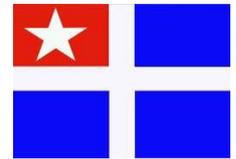




Informationen zur Umwelt und für Naturreisende auf Kreta:
Information about the Environment and for travellers in Crete:

The waxworks museum POTAMIANOS in Zoniana:
Snap-shots of Greek & Cretan history



Primary note:

We have already informed about the village Zoniana with our info-leaflet No. 357-11/E; therefore see our webpage at [http://www.kreta-umweltforum.de/Merkblaetter_en/357-11E.pdf]; same applies for the cave at Zoniana, therefore see our leaflet No. 010-04/E at [http://www.kreta-umweltforum.de/Merkblaetter_en/010-04E.pdf]. In advance you can find 26 contributions (with over 4.000 clicks) about 11 topics for further information about Zoniana (in German only); therefore see at [<http://www.kreta-umweltforum.de/wbb2/search.php?searchid=7304>]. With this (illustrated) info-leaflet we now inform about another place of interest of this history-charged village at Crete: the **Waxworks Museum POTAMIANOS**.

The museum (see picture right) is located on the main road of the village, on the right site of the village square. *Dionysis Potamianos* and his wife spend more than a quarter century to come up with this worth seeing private collection. There are more than 80 waxworks to see (formerly 103), among them important personalities of Greek and Cretan history, in the midst of impressing historical moments. Those very descriptive and informatively arranged scenes, equipped with explanation boards (also in English, French and German language), supply all necessary information to the represented historical snapshots; therefore hereafter some examples:



The scene at the entrance shows *Spiros Kajiadelakis* (**fig. left**): “He fought in Souda as a rebel for the liberty, like all Cretan. The allied fleets of England, Germany, Italy and Russia had the order to suppress a rebellion in the port of Chania, the city was bombarded. A grenade hit the stake with the Greek flag. Before it could hit the ground, *S. Kajiadelakis* caught the flag, lifted it up and made his body the stake. When the commanding admiral saw this by his binoculars, he ceased the bombardments with the words: “You cannot win against humans like this; they are crazy about their liberty.” In this

way Chania was saved and *S. Kajiadelakis* entered history.

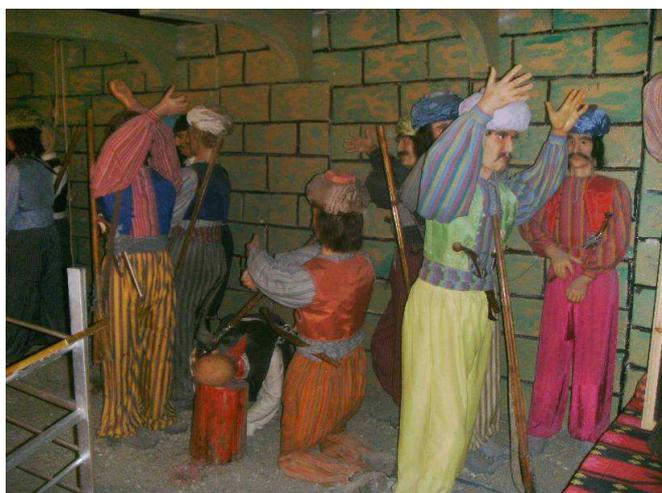
The scene right shows *Nikiforos Fokas II*: Crete’s liberation is the courtesy of his brilliancy. He cleaned Crete with systematic purges of the traces of the Arabs and brought it (after approximately 140 years of the enslavement) back again into the lap of the Byzantine sovereignty. After the early death of Emperor Romanos II. (963), *Nikiforos Fokas* was lifted on the throne by marry Theofanes, the widow of Romanos. Although he was only for short time on the throne (963 - 969), he was one of the most important Byzantine emperors “



The following 2 scenes images are showing the “prison” (“into that the whole elite of the Cretan people was put”) and “secret schools” (where priests and monks gave lessons; “secret” because they did it without the permission of the Turks”).



Finally some illustrations without comments, they however speak in their scenario for themselves.



The waxworks museum is open all year long; entrance fee is € 3.50 per person – a visit is highly recommended to every traveller.