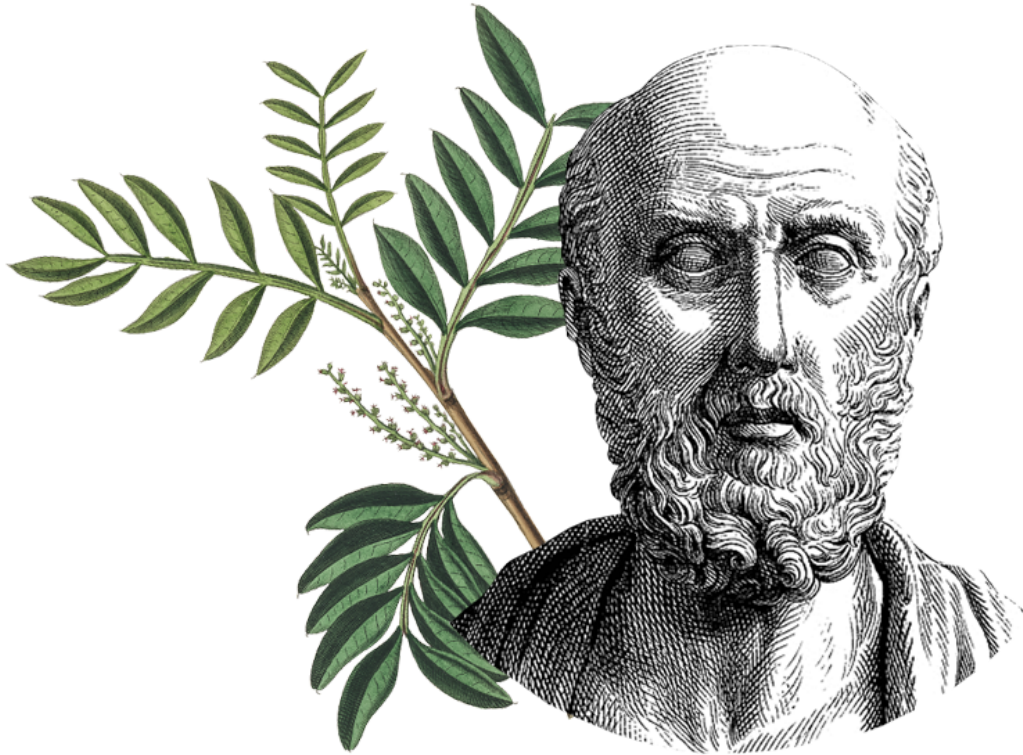


HISTORY OF MASTIC

Informations about the history of the **Mastic** product and how it is connected to the island of **Chios**. This product is grown only in **Chios** and nowhere else in the world, no matter how many attempts have been made in many parts of the planet to plant it. It is therefore a unique product that is produced only in **Chios**!



HIPPOCRATES

Ancient Years

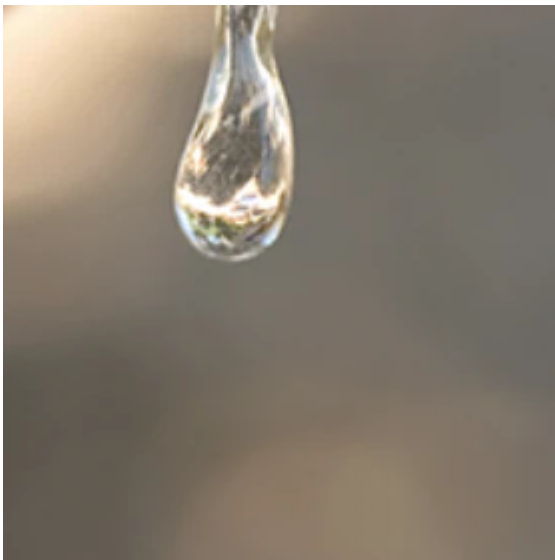
In antiquity, Greek and Latin physicians, such as Hippocrates, Galenos and Dioscorides discovered the medicinal properties of **Mastic**, which they called the "lentisk resin".

Roman Times - Byzantium

In Roman times, the emperor Heliogabalus first mixed **Mastic oil** with wine and called it "**Mastic wine**". The women use toothpicks made of **Mastic-tree** wood as a bleach. The custom is maintained in the Middle Ages.

During the Byzantine period, **Mastic** was amongst the few exportable luxury goods of Constantinople, bringing in 120,000 gold coins to the imperial coffers of the island's governor.

The end of the war and the restoration of normalcy prompted producers to re-gum production. Product but could not gain the previous entire production, the State.



Genoese domination - Ottoman empire

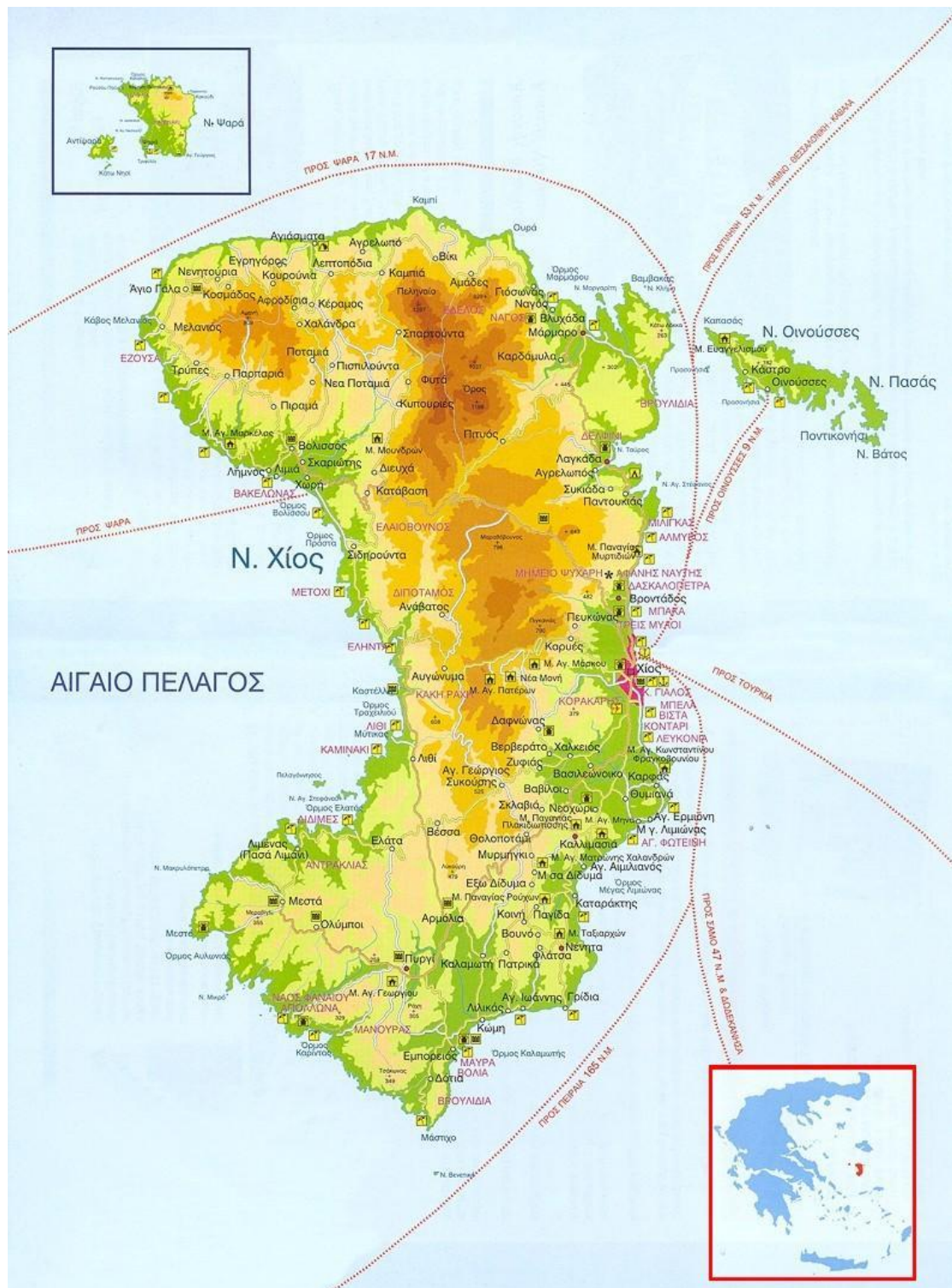
The passage of the Genovese from Chios (1346-1566) systematized the trade in

Mastic, opening markets in East and West. **Mastic** travels to Yerevan, Cyprus, Rhodes, Venice and London, cities in which civilizations, people, religions and flavours mingled.

During the period of the Ottoman Empire the **Masticohoria** (**Mastic** producing villages) were experiencing a period of great prosperity, though they were obliged to send the best quality of **Mastic**, to Constantinople, with the Sultan's harem being the most prominent recipient.

According to Johann Michael Wansleben, a German theologian and traveller of the mid 17th century, notable Egyptians used to flavour their water vessels with **Mastic** to give the water a more pleasant taste.





CHIOS ISLAND

Today

Thousands of years after the revelation of its secret, **Mastic** continues its journey around the world, always starting from 24 villages of **Chios**.

These villages, characterized as traditional or preserved settlements, are Agios Georgios, Armolia, Vavyli, Vessa, Vouno, Elata, Exo Didyma, Tholopotami, Thymiana, Kalamoti, Kallimasia, Katarraktis Lithi, Mesa Didyma, Mesta, Myrmigi, Nenita, Nechori, Olympi, Pagida, Patrika, Pyrgi and Flatia.

Production Details:

"This year's production is 215 tonnes and this increase has more to do with weather conditions. In the last 30 years, the production amounted to 120 to 150 tons, but due to the development of the product, in 2020 it was 180, in 2021 it reached 200 tons and this year we got 215". It is noted that the island currently has 1,200,000 trees and the remarkable thing is that each tree produces around 200-250 grams of **Mastic**.