

Remembering

Dun Mikiel Xerri, Dun Karm Psaila, Dun Ġorġ Preca

Around Floriana and Valletta

**Year 4 Social Studies
fieldwork**



INTRODUCTION

In preparation for this fieldwork we suggest that the students watch these videos, which have all been prepared by the Department for Curriculum:



(A) Dun Karm Psaila: <http://youtu.be/VePOvzJKNww>

(B) Dun Mikiel Xerri: <http://youtu.be/guLYp7hSJVY>

(C) Dun Ġorġ Preca: <http://youtu.be/XaBlf3-je6c>

We suggest this route: the Parvi of Floriana, we pass through M. Caruana street, we see the boys MUSEUM, we walk to the monument of Dun Karm, we enter into Valletta and we go to Saint George Square, we go to Bakery street, the house where Dun Karm used to live, Theatre street, a memorial on the house of Dun Mikiel Xerri, Independence square and the Monument.

The First Part: **Remembrances in Floriana**

The fieldwork commences on the Parvi of the Floriana Church.

1. Reply according to the picture:

a) In the picture we can see the parish church of

b) Who is this church dedicated to?

c) In front of the Floriana church we find space or square.

This space is known as (the large garden, Argotti, the granaries) of Floriana.



2. On the side wall of the Floriana church, on the side of the Mall, we look for a memorial stone on which the name of Dun Mikiel Xerri is mentioned. Answer the questions with the help of the marble memorial stone:

a) Write the name of another priest who was killed together with Dun Mikiel Xerri:

b) Write the names of two people who were not priests but who were also killed by the French in 1799:

(i) _____

(ii) _____



c) What are people who are ready to give up their lives for their country called?

3. Continue answering with the help of the memorial stone.

a) Which year was the memorial put up?

b) Who looked after the work on this memorial?

c) If Dun Mikiel Xerri was killed in the year 1799, work out a simple sum to find how many years had passed before this memorial was finished.

4. Dun Mikiel Xerri and his friends were killed in Saint George's Square in Valletta.

Why do you think that this memorial was hung in Floriana and not in Valletta?

5. In all, together with Dun Mikiel Xerri, there were (twenty, forty, two hundred) people killed by the French soldiers.

6. Read, then answer by marking the right ones or by filling the blanks.

This map shows us a part of Floriana. The letter 'L' shows us where the memorial for Dun Mikiel Xerri is found. The letter 'M' shows us where the MUŻEUM section of Floriana is situated. To find the MUŻEUM of Floriana, go down through Saint Thomas Street. On the right you will see the primary school of Floriana. Skip Saint Publius Street and enter Mauro Caruana Street. You will find the MUŻEUM on the right.



Answer.

7. I found the Museum of Floriana:

On my own, with the help of the map and the directions _____

On my own, because I already knew where it was _____

With the help of my teacher _____

8. The Museum is a place where many Maltese children go to:

Learn how to play football _____

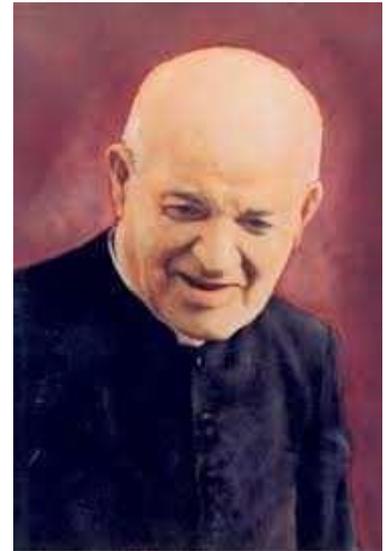
Learn how they can live a good life _____

Do their homework _____

9. We also call the Museums (Parish Schools, Doctrine houses, Catholic Health centres).

10. Who is the priest in the picture?

11. From what you learned in class, or from what you read, write a sentence which explains who this personage was:



12. In the photo we can see the Floriana Museum.

What exactly is the name of the house where the Museum is found?

13. What do you think is the connection of this house, or better still the Floriana Museum, with the personage previously mentioned, in question number 10?



14. On the front door there is the sign of the Museum. This sign is known as (the standard, the Verbum Dei, the banner).

15. The words written on the sign are (in Maltese, in English, in Latin).



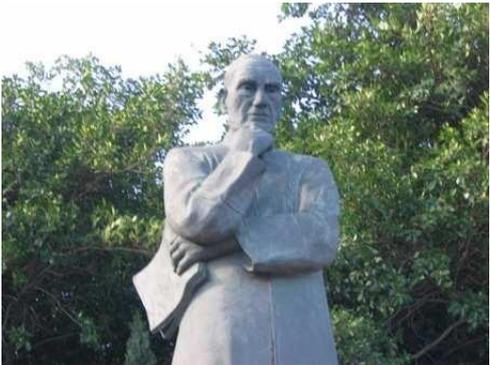
16. The words we find on these arms, in our language mean the son of God became Human.

a) With which important feast are these words found on the badge connected?

b) How do we know that the members of the Museum give a lot of importance to this feast?

17. Why do you think that the Museum can do a lot of good to Maltese children?

From near the Floriana Museum we walk down Saint Ann Street. We walk under the arcades of Saint Ann Street in the direction of Valletta until we arrive at the monument of Dun Karm.



18. Look well at the monument of Dun Karm in order to fill in the blanks in this sentence:

In the monument to Dun Karm P_____ which we find in F_____, Dun Karm is seen with his left hand holding a b_____ whilst his right hand is lifted towards his chin as though he is t_____.



19. Collect the following information by observing well the monument of Dun Karm:

a) the year when Dun Karm was born:

- b) the year he died: _____
- c) the year when the monument was erected: _____
- d) the name of the organisation which worked so hard to get this monument: _____

e) Why do you think Dun Karm merited a monument in such a central place, in the entrance to Valletta, the capital city of Malta?

The Second Part: Remembrances in Valletta

The *fieldwork* continues in Valletta. From near the monument of Dun Karm we walk towards Valletta. We always cross on the white lines of the 'zebra crossing'. We walk along Republic Street to arrive in Saint George's Square.



Mark all that you managed to see on the way from the street in Floriana to Saint George's Square.

The bus terminus	City gate	The Maltese Law Courts	Auberge d'Italie
The ruins of the theatre	Mediterranean house	Saint Francis Church	Barrakka Gardens
Fort Saint Elmo	Queen's square	The new parliament	The co-cathedral

We arrive at Saint George's Square.

- f) **Read:** It was in this square that the French soldiers shot and killed Dun Mikiel Xerri and around another 39 Maltese people. Answer:
- i) What is the main building in this square called? (shown in the picture)?



ii) Why were Dun Mikiel Xerri and the other Maltese people killed?

j) Answer with the help of the picture:

i) Do you think that this picture is a photograph or a drawing?

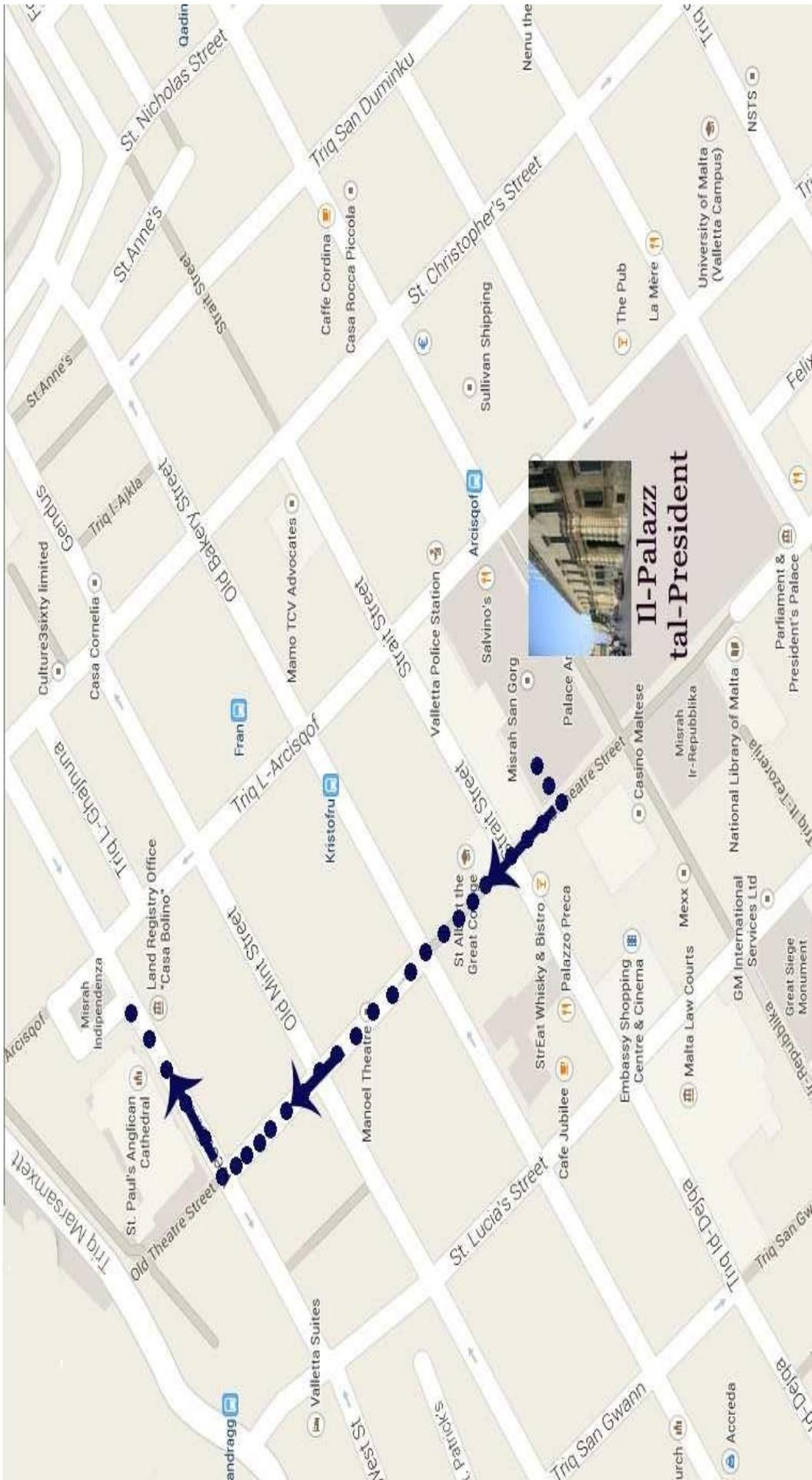


ii) Why do you think so?

k) Why do you think that Dun Mikiel Xerri and his friends were shot and killed in a central place, where everyone could see them and not in a hidden place where no one could see them?



With the help of the map, from Saint George's Square we go down Theatre Street to go to Independence Square. As we walk along we notice the Manoel Theatre and the church of the Lady of Carmelon our right.



As we arrive in West Street, we take a right turning. On our left we see Saint Paul's Anglican Cathedral. On our right, we look for an old house which has a marble plaque on the façade on which Dun Mikiel Xerri is mentioned.

l) Answer with the help of the marble plaque.

i) Write the exact date when Dun Mikiel

Xerri was shot by the French:



ii) Write the year when Dun Mikiel Xerri

started to live in this house:

iii) Work an easy sum to work out how many years Dun Mikiel Xerri lived in this house.

iv) Dun Mikiel Xerri was from Żebbuġ. Why do you think he came to live in Valletta?

v) Had Dun Mikiel Xerri to live today, do you think he would have needed to go and live in Valletta? Why do you think so?

m) In Independence Square we find a monument dedicated to Dun Mikiel Xerri. Answer with the help of the monument.

i) Write the exact words which are in the dedication on the monument:

ii) How many figures are in the monument?

iii) How can you recognise Dun Mikiel Xerri?

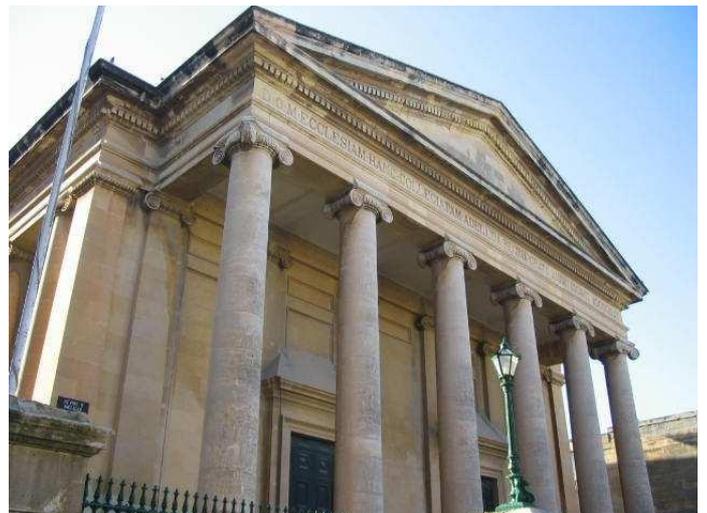
iv) Why do you think the sculptor placed Dun Mikiel Xerri at the top of the monument?



n) **Read:** Dun Mikiel Xerri came to live in Valletta when Malta was run by the Knights of Saint John. In the same square where there is the monument of Dun Mikiel Xerri, we can still see one of the auberges which the Knights built in Valletta (it can be seen in the photo). What is the name of this auberge?



o) This is the Anglican Cathedral dedicated to Saint Paul. When Dun Mikiel Xerri lived here, meaning at the time of the Knights, instead of this cathedral there was another auberge of the Knights. Find a marble plaque on the facade of the cathedral to find out which auberge used to be here:



THE END

Extract from the publication: Social Studies Primary – a handbook

For the annual assessment, teachers of Years Four, Five and Six may choose to work on **one** of these:

a) the second fieldwork

OR

b) Project

The notes for the second fieldwork may be downloaded in order to be printed from the Social Studies site: <http://primarysocialstudies.skola.edu.mt>

The fieldwork is assessed by the teacher from a maximum of 20 marks. The given mark will be forming part of the annual report sent to the homes of the students.

The fieldwork should be assessed on these criteria:

		The marks
a	The participation and ability to follow instructions	5
b	The observation, identification and recording	5
c	The interpretation of the collected information	5
d	The final presentation of the completed document	5
	TOTAL	20

Tony Pace

Education Officer Primary Level