

Worksheet S6.2.5
 What did winning signify for the Knights and the Maltese?

What did this win signify?

(material collected by George Calleja)

1. Malta was seen as the shield of Christianity and the Turks never attacked it again.
2. Christian princes understood more the importance of Malta and assisted by sending money for the building of Valletta (which began immediately after the Siege).
3. The Knights decided to remain in Malta and they became closer to this country, so much so that they started to be called the Knights of the Order of St. John of Malta.
4. The wealth in our country started to grow and Malta started making progress.

A: Fill in the blanks with the given words.

shield	European	bastions	repair
Pope Pius V	of Malta	Suleiman	half-heartedly
Siege	population	capital	progress

The fact that the Ottoman Turks of King _____ were not able to win the Maltese Islands in 1565 had a big impact on the history of this country and even on the _____ countries.

The Knights that were in Malta during the _____, now had the courage to stay in Malta and even began to be called the Knights _____.

Malta had become an important _____ against the power of the Muslims in the Southern Mediterranean. The leader of the Christian Church, _____, as well as kings and princes of Europe, saw the need for Malta to be helped in order for it to get back on its feet and be able to withstand another attack in the future. These gave a lot of money such that Malta could be able to _____ and strengthen its fortifications, which were damaged during the _____, as well as to be able to build new fortifications. Hence, we can say that the new _____ city of Malta, Valletta, was born – a modern city, surrounded by strong _____.

All of this brought great wealth and _____ to Malta. Malta started to become a modern European country. The _____ also started to increase significantly.

B: For our interest – The monument of the Great Siege



The monument of the Great Siege is found in the square in front of the Law Courts in Valletta. It is the work of the Maltese sculptor Antonio Sciortino. The male figure in the middle of the monument represents the courage of the Maltese, the female figure on the left represents the Christian faith, and the female figure on the other side represents civilization.