

HIGHER TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

COURSE IN COMPUTER STUDIES

DIPLOMA PROJECT

THE WEB PAGE OF OLD NICOSIA

CS/284

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Introduction

In recent years, web publishing has become really popular and is used in every field of business and education. Through Internet there is a wide availability of information, addressing all kind of users' needs.

Therefore, when an individual or organization wants to present a subject to a wide audience, Internet provides the best way of accomplishing it. Having a web site, it is possible that millions of people will visit it, which is the goal of every web developer. However, a successful website is the one that viewers keep coming back to it.

The goal of this project is not to attract million of users, since it will be created as a final diploma project for Higher Technical Institute.

Nevertheless, it will be designed as if it was published on the web and as if we wanted to attract as many visitors as possible.

The subject of this project is the representation of a "virtual tour" through the hundreds of years of Nicosia's history. History stages will be presented using multimedia tools and techniques that will finally be presented on a CD-ROM. Using a CD-ROM we warranty the storage of a huge quantity of information that is quickly and easily retrievable.

The final product of this project can be used by any student making a research on Nicosia's history or by a grown-up that feels like learning something more. Since it will be presented in a multimedia form, it will be quite interesting and charming exploring the history of Nicosia.

Multimedia methods can provide actual benefits on learning history material, which is quite difficult with the traditional books. It's interactivity, encourages the viewer to participate in the presentation and provides him/her the opportunity to experience facts of history in an excellent way.

Nicosia – Last divided capital in the World.

Nicosia is the biggest city in Cyprus. It has been the capital of the island since the seventh century A.D. when raiders devastated the coastal towns. It is built on the site of one of the great “city-kingdoms” of antiquity, called Ledra, which today lends its name to the principal shopping centre of the town.

Tradition ascribes its foundation to Lefkos, the son of Ptolemy Soter (312 – 285 B.C.) hence its Greek name Lefkosia. Nicosia rose to fame in the middle ages when the Frankish Lusignan kings and overlords who ruled the island, built fabulous palaces and residences as well as the fine Gothic Cathedral of St. Sophia and many churches. The Mamelukes of Egypt destroyed most of them in the fifteenth century but the cathedral and many of the churches survived, though they were converted to Mosques after the Turkish occupation of the island in 1571.

The English followed the Turks and sadly Turkish occupation once again occurred in 1974, which as a result Nicosia remains the last divided capital in the world.

The methodology to be employed

The next few steps outline the planning sheet that will be followed during the establishment of this Multimedia/Web Page project.

- Accumulate the media elements that will be utilized in the project. (i.e. Graphics, Video, Sound, Animation, Maps and Text)
- Study and become skilled at the software to be used for the development, since Java Language and Flash are not officially taught in HTI.
- Begin the arrangement of the gathered media elements on a blank web document and connect them adding navigational tools.
- Construct the Java applet and Flash movies to be used, for presenting to the user, pictures and documentation related to the current subject.
- Construct the complete presentation on a CD or a DVD
- Include in the final product any software components needed by a user to view the web page as intended and make sure that on run time it performs all the necessary installations.

NOTE:

Due to the nature of the project the steps in the mentioned methodology could simultaneously be implemented. For instance the gathering of the media elements will take place at the beginning but will continue throughout the construction of the multimedia Web Page.

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