

Dimitrios Patsouris or Patsourakos was a senior student at the Law School of Athens and Sergeant of Artillery, graduate of the Artillery School of Corfu. During the Greek-Turkish War of 1897 he was killed on the Good Friday of this year, near the village of Aghia Paraskevi (Saint Friday) in Thessaly, together with his friend and double fellow, Sergeant and senior student of the Law School of Athens, Dikaios Giatrakos from the village of Lagia of Mani.

A dedicative column with all the names of the killed students during this war, still stands on the west side of the main building of the Athenian University in the center of Athens.

During the battle of that day and since both his legs were shivered by a hostile bombshell, while he was transferred with profuse bleeding to the military surgery of the front for amputation, was whispering the following sad, improvised dirge:

Who is good enough,  
and brave enough,  
and fast enough,  
with a lion's heart,  
to go and tell my mother,  
my double-married mother,<sup>1</sup>  
not to change her clothes for Easter,  
not to wait for me,  
I'm going.....Death is coming...  
with misty eyes.....  
Come, I provoke you!  
Mother country.....brothers....and parents....  
now....that....I'm.....dieing....  
for.....you....I.....p..f..a..y.....

and he passed away.

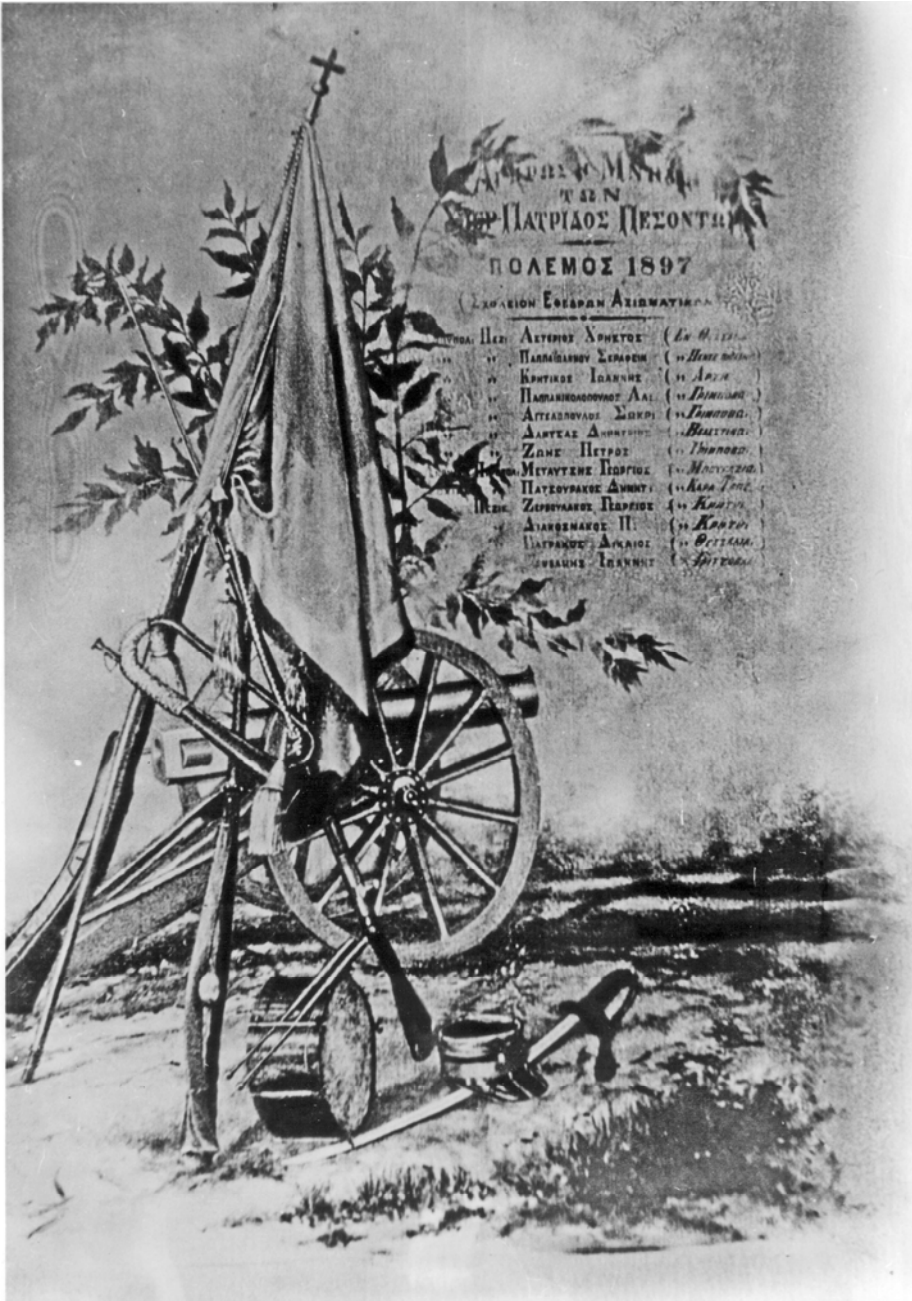
As an example for the valor and glorious death of this hero, after some time, in Athens posters were released figuring my father's brother and with the following quatrain:

**Who falls for his Country,  
never dies in battle,  
even if a thousand bombshell chips,  
smash his legs**

*(Extracts from the book to be published written by Vassilios Patsourakos, son of Anargyros Patsourakos, entitled "A Clan in Mani")*

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1 His mother's family was from Crete but she was born and raised in Mani. She married to my grandfather after the death of her first husband. She was very good looking and educated something quite rare for a woman at that time. From her first marriage she had five boys and from her second marriage another five boys. She used to say: "I was never defiled in my life" meaning that she had never gave birth to a girl! And she was so proud of it! Such was the pathological adoration for boys in Mani at the time!



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΜΗΧΑΝΗ  
ΤΩΝ  
ΠΑΤΡΙΔΟΣ ΠΕΣΟΝΤΩΝ

ΠΟΛΕΜΟΣ 1897

(ΣΥΝΑΓΙΟΝ ΕΞΕΛΕΞΑΝ ΑΣΙΩΜΑΤΙΣΤΑΙ)

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|---------|------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| ΠΡΩΤΑ   | ΠΕΣ. | ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ   | ( <i>Ελ. Θ. 132</i> )   |
|         | "    | ΠΑΡΩΝΑΣ ΣΤΑΘΟΥ     | ( <i>« Βασιλ. 100</i> ) |
|         | "    | ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΟΣ ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ | ( <i>« Δελ. 10</i> )    |
|         | "    | ΠΑΡΩΝΑΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ   | ( <i>« Σπυρ. 100</i> )  |
|         | "    | ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ   | ( <i>« Σπυρ. 100</i> )  |
|         | "    | ΔΑΥΙΔΑΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ   | ( <i>« Βασιλ. 100</i> ) |
|         | "    | ΖΩΗΣ ΠΕΤΡΟΣ        | ( <i>« Πυρ. 100</i> )   |
|         | "    | ΜΙΧΑΗΛ ΠΕΤΡΟΣ      | ( <i>« Μορ. 100</i> )   |
|         | "    | ΠΑΥΛΟΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ    | ( <i>« Δελ. 100</i> )   |
| ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ | ΠΕΣ. | ΖΩΗΣ ΠΕΤΡΟΣ        | ( <i>« Κωστ. 100</i> )  |
|         | "    | ΔΑΥΙΔΑΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ   | ( <i>« Βασιλ. 100</i> ) |
|         | "    | ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ   | ( <i>« Σπυρ. 100</i> )  |
|         | "    | ΠΑΥΛΟΣ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ    | ( <i>« Σπυρ. 100</i> )  |