

#### 4.2.2. The Latin Occupation and the Greek States

1. What were the Latin states that were created after the first conquest?
  - With the distribution of the Byzantine lands (Romania), the period of Latin occupation begins:
  - The Venetians took the largest part of Constantinople, the islands of the Aegean and Ionian Seas.
  - On the lands of the Byzantine Empire, a series of Latin kingdoms were created:
  - Empire of Constantinople with the leader Count Baldwin of Flanders.
  - Kingdom of Thessaloniki, which included Thracian and Macedonian lands.
  - Duchy of Athens, where the Catalans had power at first and later a Florentine banking family.
  - Principality of Achaia, from which the Despotate of Mistras was created.
2. What were the Greek states that were created after the first conquest?

After the conquest of Constantinople by the Westerners, three Greek states were created:

- Empire of Trebizond, which extended to the southeastern shores of the Black Sea.
  - Empire of Nicaea, which extended to the northwestern part of Asia Minor and was the strongest.
  - State of Epirus, which included Epirus and Aetolia-Acarnania.
3. How was the Despotate of Mistras created?
    - The Byzantines of the Empire of Nicaea defeated the Franks in the Battle of Pelagonia (1259).
    - They were granted the castles of Mani, Gerakas, Monemvasia and Mistras.
    - These castles formed the core of a state that absorbed the Frankish possessions and developed into the Despotate of Mistras.
    - The ruler of it (despot) was the brother of the Byzantine Emperor.
  4. What do you know about the relationship between the Latins and the Greeks?
    - The Westerners, the Latins, showed contempt for the "schismatic" Greeks.
    - The Greeks resisted the Latins decisively.
  5. What is the new ideology and how did it help to regain the city?
    - After the conquest of Constantinople by the Latins, the national feeling of Hellenism begins to form.
    - The ancient Greek heritage and the Christian faith are united in his consciousness.
    - This new ideology is equivalent to the awakening of a national feeling in Hellenism, which is now the only support of Byzantium.
    - After the formation of the above ideology, the Greek states were organized militarily and politically.
    - The states fought for the immediate reconquest of the city.
    - The reconquest of the city took place in 1261, by the Emperor of Nicaea Michael VIII Palaiologos.

## Tasks:

### A. Correct the mistakes where they are hidden:

1. The Venetians placed under their control the islands of the Aegean and Ionian seas, but left Constantinople to the Byzantines.
2. Athens after the dissolution of the Byzantine Empire was a possession of the Empire of Nicaea.
3. The Catalans are Arabs.
4. Flanders is in Italy.
5. Mistras and Monemvasia are in the Peloponnese.
6. Mistras came from the Duchy of Athens.
7. The Lord of the Morea was the brother of the Byzantine Emperor.
8. Mani, Gerakas, Monemvasia and Mistras were city-fortresses.
9. When we say City, we are referring to the city of Nicaea.
10. The state of Epirus then included the Ionian islands.
11. The Latins treated the Greeks with respect.
12. The City was regained by Emperor Constantine Palaiologos.

### B. Explain the historical concept "Latin Occupation".

### C. What does the fact that the ruler of Mistras was the brother of the Byzantine Emperor show us?

### D. Create a conceptual map with the Greek and Latin states.

### E. Identify the areas in a modern map.