

Nilay oraęan, *The Wall Paintings of the Church of St. Nicholas in Demre*, Ko University AKMED – KUP, Istanbul, 2023. xii+318 pages + color photographs and drawings.

The wall paintings of the Church of St. Nicholas in Demre, Turkey are among the few yet significant examples of monumental painting in Anatolia that bear characteristics of the paintings found in the Byzantine capital of Constantinople/Istanbul. The paintings in the church consist of 39 scenes (15 of which depict the life of the church’s patron saint, Nicholas), 150 figures, certain symbolic images, and vegetal/geometric ornamentation.

The paintings are located in the apse, the bema, the naos, the side aisles, the northeastern and southwestern corners, the esonarthex, the southeastern chapels, the burial chamber, the northern annexes, and the arcosolium of the western courtyard. Just as there is no monograph devoted to these paintings, there is also a paucity of publications providing information about them. In this study, the church’s wall paintings have been enumerated and described; their iconographic, stylistic, and technical qualities as well as the overall program of the paintings have been introduced; and an attempt has been made to date them through comparison with similar works. Overall, the study determines the place and significance of this church’s paintings in the field of Byzantine painting.