

Remarks

I have opted to use Italian abbreviations for the archival sources:

b., **bb.** = *busta*, *buste* (envelope/s)

f., **ff.** = *folio*, *folii* (sheet/s)

For the Archivio di Stato Firenze sources:

filza, **filze** = (volume/s),

c., **cc.** = *carta*, *carte* (sheet/s)

Unless otherwise indicated, all the Latin passages have been translated by the author.

The transcription of the sources—including the Arab names of the enslaved individuals—reflects the original manuscripts; hence any spelling and grammatical errors have been retained.

In the Italian context, galley rowers are generally referred to as *galeotti*. Initially, the term *galeotto* referred exclusively to convicts, but by the mid-16th century it had come to include convicts and slaves serving aboard Mediterranean galleys. While the literal translation into English would be “galley slaves,” this translation, I believe, can be misleading, as it risks obscuring the presence of convicts on board, and suggesting that the galleys were manned solely by enslaved oarsmen.

Given that this research focuses on both convicts and enslaved seamen, I will use *galeotti* (unless otherwise specified) to refer to the general category of galley crew—whether convicted or enslaved—reflecting the original Italian usage. The English term “galley slaves” will be reserved exclusively for enslaved individuals.

Although imperfect, I will use the terms “slaves” or “Turks,” in keeping with the early modern Italian sources, to refer to galley slaves. I am fully aware of the complex implications of the term *slave*, especially in light of the Anglophone preference for person-centered language such as “enslaved individuals,” which aims to foreground personhood over legal status. In this study, however, I have chosen to retain the term *slave* to remain linguistically close to the original Italian sources. Whenever the term *slave* appears, it refers specifically to galley slaves.

The term “Turk” was commonly used in early modern sources to refer to not only subjects of the Ottoman Empire, but more broadly to Muslims and non-Christian Africans.

When referring specifically to convicts, I will use “convicts,” “forced rowers,” or the Italian term *forzati*.

Finally, the term *doctor* will be used as a general designation for medical practitioners, including physicians and surgeons. While the term may appear anachronistic at first glance, it is frequently found in archival sources (as *dottore*), even in reference to educated surgeons, such as those aboard the galleys.