## KAY 492 Turkish Administrative History Weeks 11 & 12

Period of Political and Social Change Reorganization (Tanzimat) Period (Introduction) Modernization in Central Administration Centralism in Rural Administration Reactions to Tanzimat & Conclusions

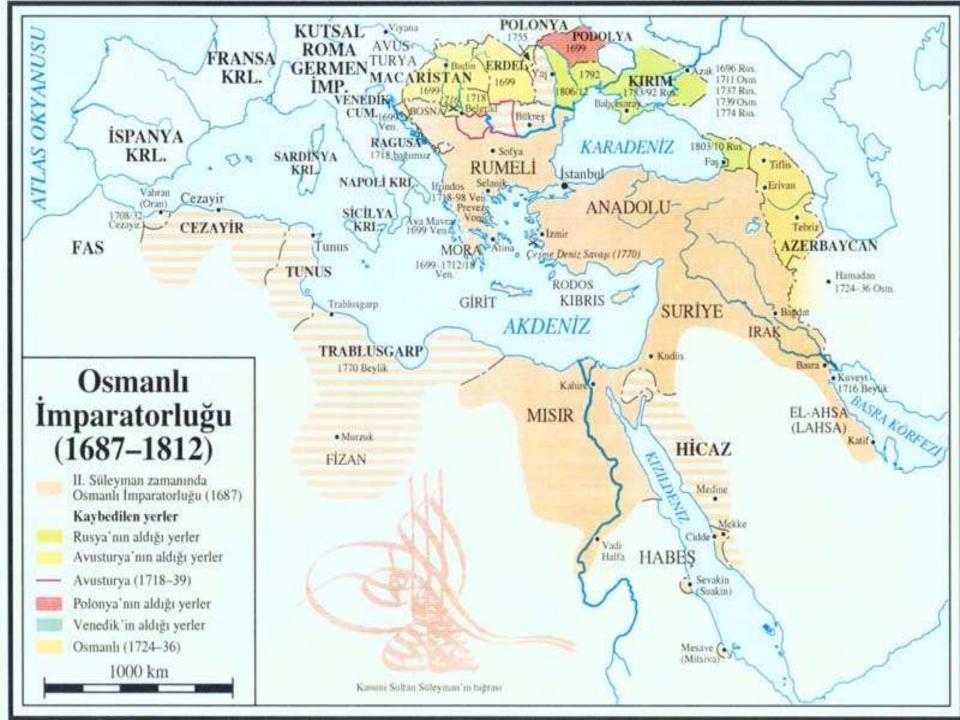
Ortaylı, 2007: 345-362; 401-448.

## **Pop Quiz Questions**

1. What were the driving forces of municipal development in the Ottoman Empire? (2 pt.s)

2. What is Sened-i İttifak and why is it important? (2 pt.s)

3. Please provide an example to the changes in the judicial system after the Tanzimat (1 pt.s)



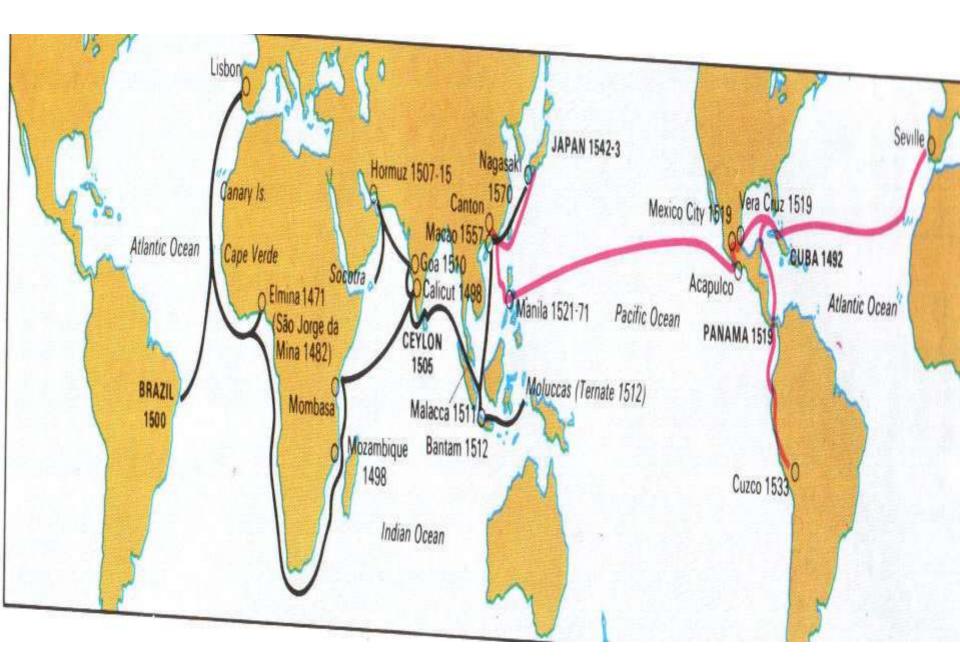
#### Deterioration of Classical Ottoman Order

- Ottomans beginning to lose their supremacy in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea after the İnebahtı naval defeat in 1571
  - Ottoman economic and political domination over overseas countries such as Egypt, North Africa and Lebanon began to weaken
- Inability to feed the growing population
  - The revolts of soldiers who were wandering in Anatolia
- Corruption of the timar system

#### Deterioration of Classical Ottoman Order

Changing world conditions at the end of the 16th Century

- Developments in shipping and firearm technology
- Silver inflation due to American silver & gold
- Change of overseas trade routes
- Dominance in the Mediterranean taken by the British & Dutch
- Powerful rivals
  - Wearful battles with Austria and Iran
  - Strengthening of the Moscow Tzardom in the 16th Century
  - Development of agricultural & industrial structures of Austria & Russia
- Nevertheless, the Ottoman Empire will continue to have considerable military & political influence until the 18th Century



## **Reform Idea**

- Despite the collapse of institutions, the society did not autimatically came to the idea of reform.
  - Significant changes in the Ottoman society and the world have not been understood & analyzed properly.
  - Purpose: To return institutions to their status in the Kanuni (Suleyman I) Era
- Military measures
  - Kuyucu Murad Pasha, IV. Murad
  - Conflicts ended with Köprülü Mehmed Pasha being the Grand Vizier.

## Köprülüler Period

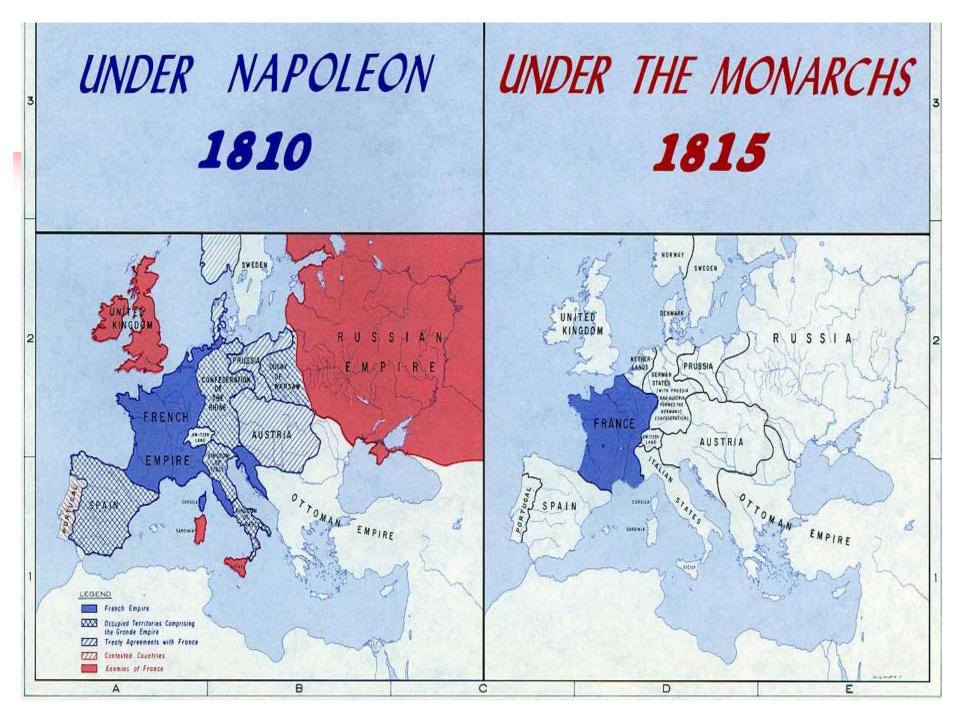
- Again, a dynasty has taken over the sultan's office.
  - Köprülü Mehmed Pasha came to power with full authority (omni potency).
    - Reforms suitable to the classical Ottoman state system in the army, public finance & administration
  - After his death, his son Köprülü Fazıl Ahmed Pasha was selected as the Grand Vizier.
- After the Köprülüler Period, the Empire entered a period of military decline.
  - At the end of the 17th Century Polish, German & Austrian armies united and pushed back Ottoman armies beyond the Danube (Tuna) River.
  - With the 1699 Karlofca Treaty, Hungary and Erdel were lost.

# Relations with Austria & Russia in the 18th Century

- It is a period of consciousness of backwardness in the Ottoman Empire.
  - European military & industrial superiority was well understood & a willingness for reform has arisen.
- Austria and Russia have gained strength
  - They both have followed an active war and economic expansion policy in the Mediterranean and the Balkans
  - In Treaty of Belgrade (1739), Austrian trade liberty and security of the Balkans were guaranteed.
  - In 1774 with the Treaty of Küçük Kaynarca:
    - The Ottomans were drawn out of the North Caucasus and Crimea.
    - Russia gained the right to establish consulates & safety of navigation.
    - Against the spiritual authority of the sultan on the Muslims of Russia as the caliph, Russia was recognized as the protector of the Ottoman Orthodox subjects.

• The revolution in Austria and Poland stopped the war against Russia.

Then the French Revolution made everything else unimportant



## **Balancing Policies**

- Strengthening alliance with France against Russia
  - Military reform and interactions with Western cultures via France & French language
  - France was entering the Eastern Mediterranean market as the most privileged state of commerce.
    - This privileged position of France in the 18th Century was taken by England in the 19th Century.

## **Reform Experiences**

- Selim III wanted to rebuild the army to centralize the public finance system
  - Removal of Jenissaries could be achieved by Mahmud II
  - The financial reform could not been completed successfully.
- The entrance to the new world system was not through internal dynamics, but through the pressures of the outside world.
  - The opening up to the West convinced the Ottoman statesmen that "it can only be possible to survive as a sovereign state by accepting the institutions of the West".

## **Eastern/Oriental Question**

Ottoman Empire's exploitation by the emergent empires

- Austria, unlike the Atlantic countries, was not yet able to engage in Oceanic activities.
  - After the 18th Century, Austria imported raw materials (tobacco, mohair, cotton, wool, leather...) from the Balkans & started to export its goods & products (porcelain, tile, fabric...) back
  - Illegal trade (tax evasion) increased.
- With increasing trade, bourgeoisiation began among Ottoman minorities, who became active in national movements
- Russia began to establish a trade network that included the Ottoman Black Sea and the Aegean coasts.
- In 1798, Napoleon's occupation of Egypt actually started the oriental problem/issue
  - In the 18th Century, the importance of the Mediterranean in the foreign trade of the Atlantic countries decreased while it increased again in the 19th Century.

## **Development of Russia**

- Centralization and increase in income in the economy
  - Establishment of customs
  - Reform in the army & navy
- Reform in agriculture
  - Establishment of German agricultural colonies
    - Cultivation of plants such as potatoes
- Developments in mining and production
  - Textile, iron-casting, leather...
- Improvement of river transportation
- Development of a bourgeoisie
  - Tsar providing peasants with serf status as workers to the factories



## Political & Social Change

 Foreign trade triggered significant changes in the agricultural systems as they were integrated in the World economic system

- In agriculture and animal husbandry (tobacco, cotton, mohair, etc.) a new kind of production that was oriented towards European demands
  - Typical production unit is farm, with commensalism (ortakçılık)
  - Dissolution of the timar system

## **Political and Social Change**

- The local land lords (ayans) began to emerge.
  - They filled the lack of authority & became the military guards, judges, administrators & financial authorities of their regions.
- This was not a new feudalization movement
  - The local aristocracy had always been a dominant group
  - They had an intermediary function between the local notables/families and the Ottoman bureaucrat lords.
  - Over time, they became «absentee landlords" and led lives of luxurious consumption
- The Ayans were also recognized by the state in the 18th century (formal recognition with the Sened-i İttifak in 1808/9).
  - They were removed from power one by one by Mahmud II, as the country was centralized and reorganized (Tanzimat)

## Military and Financial Change

#### In the first half of the 19th century:

- Sened-i İttifak (1809) was a late effort to document and institutionalize the then current feudal decentralization
- Mahmud II ignored this document and implemented reforms for the establishment of the centralist monarchy.
- Revolts in the 1820s
  - The Tepedelenli Rebellion, the Greek independence movement, the revolt of the Egyptian Governor Mehmed Ali Pasha
  - The Egyptian rebellion was suprassed only after a trade agreement was signed with the British in 1838.
  - Customs duty became only 5%, no import or export ban for any goods.
    - Semi-colonization process started.
  - Other European states are also from these privileged provisions.

#### Tanzimat Period (Modernization of Administration)

Announcement of Tanzimat Decleration in 1839

- A continuation of the tradition of classical adaletname (justice-documents)
  - The throne made a promise of justice to the subjects of the Sultan
- Difference: The whole nation, all subjects was promised justice and prosperity
- Seen as a measure against
  - Incitement of national uprisings & regional rebellions in the Balkans
  - European Powers' interventions in Ottoman domestic issues
- Accepted after internal and external pressures

### Tanzimat Period (Modernization of Administration)

- Power seizure/control of the state by enlighetened/intellectual Ottoman bureaucrats
  - To set up a stable structure in the financial, administrative and judicial areas.
  - Further integration with European economy and politics through a series of trade agreements

## **Tanzimat Edict/Proclamation**

- There is a duality arising from the clash of old traditions with the new institutions that did not take root yet.
  - Provision of punishment for non-compliance of seriat
- Significant changes in the government system
  - Proposing that all crimes & punishments to be based on laws
  - The preparation and enforcement of the Mecelle, which regulates the field of private law
  - Changes in judicial and administrative organization of the state
- Success of reforms was depended on the availability of able cadres of pioneer bureaucrats/implementors
  - Lack of qualified bureaucrats
  - Rehabilitation of classical institutions and methods
  - Switching to mesveret system in provincial administration

## **Tanzimat Edict/Proclamation**

- It was not a constitution neither in spirit nor in content
  - But it was a constitutional movements due to the overall system of institutions it created.
- With the Edict
  - The authority of the Sultan was restricted in favor of central bureaucrats.
  - Confiscation (müsadere) was no longer in effect
    - Securing the bureaucrats and the members of the newborn commercial bourgeoisie
- Timar & iltizam systems were abolished
  - The Iltizam was put into practice again in the future.
- For Muslims, there was no relief on tax and military matters.
  - Freedom of religion and conscience was only given to non-Muslim subjects

#### Modernization in Central Administration

- Since the time of Mahmud II, Divan-I Hümayun began to be replaced by ministries
  - For example Umur-u Hariciye and Umur-u Dahiliye ministries (nezaretler)
  - There were offices in charge of correspondence, inspections and personal affairs in every ministry
  - A development towards ministries with legal entities (tüzel kişilik)

## Modernization in Central Administration

#### General developments

- Meclis-i Ahkam-ı Adliye was established in 1837
  - It will later become a parliament and a higher court for the execution of judicial and municipal matters
- Encümen-i Daniş was established as Academy of Sciences
- The reform process in the army, which started with the removal of Jenissaries
- Limited centralization in government
  - Use of old methods of compulsory tax collection, recruitment and community management

## Modernization in Central Administration

- Tanzimat movement was essentially a financial reform
  - Ministry of Finance (Bab-ı Defteri)
  - At the center, public finance organization was reorganized.
    - Tax collectors (muhassil) were sent to the provinces.
    - They were assisted by tax collection assemblies & other civil servants.
- After the Crimean War, Divan-I Muhasebat (Court of Accounts) was establish
  - Responsible for controlling total expenditures
- Financial centralization could not be achieved due to
  - Primitive socio-economic and managerial structure of the country
  - Insufficient bureaucratic staff
  - Old taxes and taxation systems (iltizam) continued to be used
- Beginning of the control of Ottoman Public Finance system by foreign state due to bankruptcy

#### Umur-u Hariciye (Foreign Affairs) Ministry

- Office responsible for both foreign affairs and foreign trade relations
  - As the Ottoman minorities had become an international problem, a section on minorities was established within this office.
  - Subsections for each religious community
  - It also functioned as a diplomat training school.
  - It appointed the foreign affairs bureaucrats of the provinces.
  - French language was used in internal correspondence.

## Modernization in Educational Institutions

- Ministry of Education was established in 1866
- Secular schools had also been opened alongside the Madrasas.
  - It has caused a constant duality and conflict.
- Reform began at the level of higher education.
  - Secondary schools in the Tanzimat period (Rushtiye)
  - The spread of primary education was only in the last years of the empire.
- New schools in the fields of engineering, medicine, military and public administration
  - Mühendishane, Tıbbiye, Harbiye, Mülkiye...
- Dar'ul Muallimat as girls' secondary schools and for preparing higher education teachers
  - Educated Turkish women started to enter public & business life

## Modernization in Educational Institutions

- Darülfünun-u Osmani (University) in 1900
  - A modern university with faculties of medicine, law & literature
- With the declaration of Islahat Fermani (1856), non-Muslims began to establish primary, secondary and higher education institutions that provide education in their own languages and religions.
- Foreign schools aiming to spread Catholic and Protestant Christianity
- The turmoil in education was solved by the 1925 Tevhid-i Tedrisat (Unification of Education) Law.

## Changes in the Judicial System

- Nezaret-i Deavi (Ministry of Justice) founded by Mahmud II
  - To modernize the justice system and partially secularize it
- Transfer of the Criminal Code (1840) & the Commercial Code (1850) from France
- Law of the Organization of Judiciary System (1879)
  - Beginning of institutions such as public prosecution (savcılık)& notary public
- Preparation of a common law collection addressing every class and sectarian law in the field of law
  - Mecelle-i Ahkam-ı Adliyye in 1872
    - Co-implementation of Western law and Islamic law

## Changes in the Judicial System

- The duties & influence of the Sharia courts were narrowed.
  - Nizami courts and trade courts were established.
  - Monist (one judge: kadi as the only judge) system was replaced by a new system of multiple judges and the possibility of appeal.
  - Special medreses were established for judges.
- Foreign citizens were under the jurisdiction of foreign consulate courts
- Unity and a complete secular order could not be achieved in the judicial organization
  - Nevertheless, these developments were the beginnings of major changes that will lead to the judicial changes in the Republican era.

## Changes in Administration

- Increasing legality and security in public administration
  - Decrease arbitrariness (keyfilik)
- Subjects from every religious faith participating in government affairs
  - Relatively high-level non-Muslim representation at the offices in the provincial administration
  - Not only because of external pressures, but also because of the traditions of a very large and multiethnic/religion empire

## Changes in Administration

- Development of parliamentarism
- In 1838, the Meclis-i Vala-i Ahkam-i Adliye was established to prepare decrees and regulations, to appeal judicial decisions, and to control the legality of actions.
  - Replaced by the State Council (Council of State) in 1868 and then by Divan-Ahkam-I Adliye, responsible for high judiciary.
- A complete evolution to the assemblies that make decisions and supervise on behalf of the ruler
  - These consultative bodies in the center and provinces contributed to the parliament's performance and negotiation tradition.
- Members of the Parliament were appointed by the governors or sub-governors
- Abdülhamit II dissolved the Parliament in 1878.

### **Centralism in Rural Management**

- The necessary thing for the Tanzimat statesman was not liberty, but safety of profits, property and life.
  - The goal was not to establish local autonomy or local democracy in the countryside.
- The aims were to reform the provincial administration, increase incomes, and establish a consistent administration.
  - Central authority being able to control the sovereign groups in the province

#### Changes in the Provincial Organization

- Newly commercialized, new centers have also changed the provincial divisions.
- As a result of internal confusion and the intervention of foreign powers, Cebel-Lebanon is given a special status (mixed administrative board, courts ...)
  - The Europeans wanted this system to be implemented in all the Ottoman Rumelia and Mesopotamian provinces.
- A new provincial system was prepared (Centralist model, French "departmante" system)
  - There were governors in charge, who were not military officials.
  - There were councils of consultative nature, consisting of civil servants and local community leaders.

## **Provincial System**

- There were livas (mutasarrıf), kazas (kaymakam), nahiyes (director/müdür) and villages (muhtars and elder councils) under the province
  - The nahiyes were unable to be implemented
    - The danger of nationalist ideas entering into the countryside in the Balkans
    - Underdeveloped and autarchic structure of the villagers
    - In the east, nomadic tribal chiefs were given the status of nahiye directors
- Province system applications
  - From 1864 onwards, in the Danube (Bulgaria) province,
  - Then, in Lebanon (special status) & it began to be applied everywhere except Egypt, Bosnia and Crete (autonomous status), Hijaz and Yemen (distance and tribal order) and Istanbul (capital)

# Changes in the Provincial Organization

- A centralized policy was followed in the municipalities.
- In response to the centralized practices, the local notables, the ayans and the agalar came to the forefront of the uprisings.
  - Fear of losing authorities under the provincial system
  - In the new system, they entered the administrative councils, municipalities and courts as members and preserved their powers.

#### Changes in the Provincial Organization

- In 19th century, the transportation network and foreign trade channels of the Ottoman country changed.
  - Railways & postal (telegraph) infrastructure was constructed.
  - The telegraph was also used as an audit tool of centralized intelligence.
  - Foreign and Turkish ferry companies were also entered the market.
- Due to the disconnected transportation systems, a cheap and easy transport system connecting all the centers of the country has not been established.

- City administration was no longer working well since traditional system of administration began to collapse.
- The leaders of the Tanzimat were fascinated by the structure and organization of the Western cities.
  - For administrative reasons (regular cities ...) they wanted modern municipalities to be established.
- The request for local autonomy has not been the subject.
- Due to the financial deficiencies, no special income sources were given to the municipalities.

- Europeans wanted to rehabilitate ports/port cities to facilitate business activities.
  - They demanded infrastructure (transportation, water, sewerage, lighting and health ...) services as a precondition for their own economic investments.
  - These facilities and services have also created new business areas for themselves.
- Europeans wanted non-Muslims, who were their commercial representatives, to have a say in the municipal administrations.

- Municipal administrations in cities such as Istanbul (1854), Thessaloniki, Beirut, and İzmir were established before the 1877 Municipal Law came out.
  - A Sehremini appointed by the government and
  - A local assembly (Sehremaneti Meclisi) established by members elected by Bab-i Ali and appointed by the sultan (artisans and prominent officers)
- Sehremaneti
  - Authority was limited
  - It did not have independent income
  - The staff was inadequate.
  - In the countryside the performance was low.

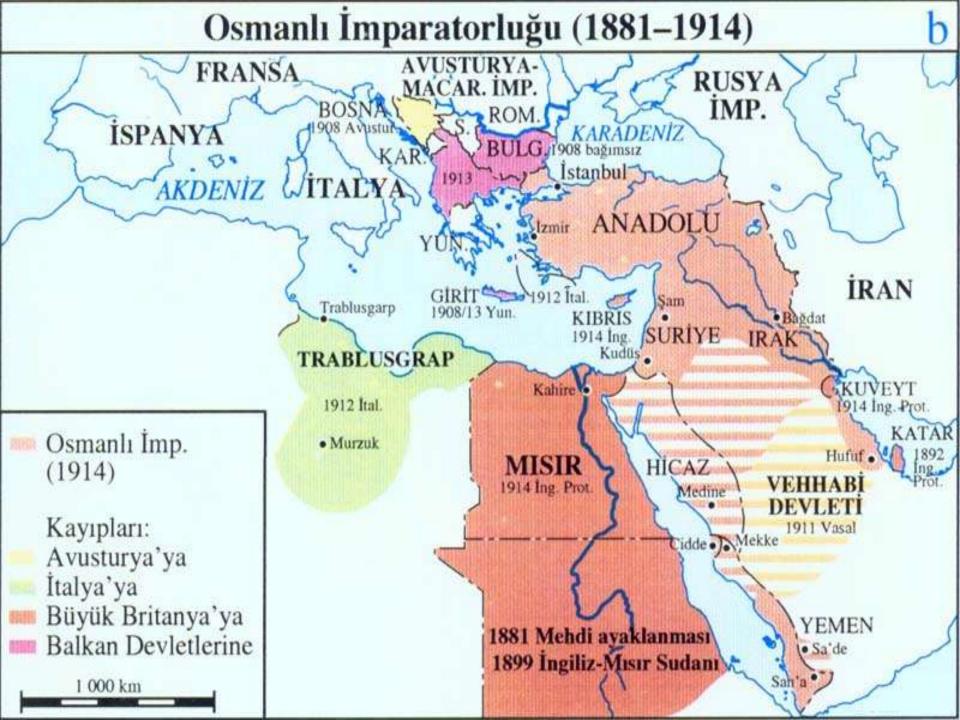
- The empire has left an increasingly modern municipal organization and services to the Republic but has not left a developing system of democratic participation.
- In Turkey, central government has a tradition of dominance over local governments in the form of controlling the financial resources and the positions of the local administrations such as municipalities.

# Reactions Created by the Tanzimat Movement

- Tanzimat did not improve lives of the peasant masses.
  - Peasant revolts, especially among minorities & national resistance
- The revolts of the rebels and the tribes whose interests were undermined by Tanzimat
  - Controlled only after restoration of the status-quo by Abdulhamit II
- The granting of ownership of the land to its users (the right to own land)
  - Foreigners have begun to own land.
  - Was advantegous for the ayans.
  - In the villages, the sipahi was replaced by weak civil servants.
  - Land invasions, extortion

## Reactions Created by the Tanzimat Movement

- After the 1838 Trade Agreement
  - Production declined
  - Semi-colonization process
    - Exports of raw materials (Bursa raw silk, Ankara mohair, etc.)
  - Factories opened after the Tanzimat could not be sustained with some exceptions, unemployment and unrest
  - Iltizam was removed but a central financial institution could not be established.
  - Due to foreign debts, the public financial system began to be controlled by foreign powers.
    - Galata Bankers, who lent to the state and bought tax revenues
    - Duyun-u Umumiye: It seized most of government revenues and was organized to collect its receivables.



## Conclusions

- Public finance system came under the control of foreigners.
  - Düyun-u Umumiye became a government within government.
- Infrastructure investments could not be made without money.
- Agricultural products have been transformed to the needs of Western European economies.
  - Migration from rural areas to smaller cities.
    - City life brought misery and shanty towns.
- Connecting provinces to a tighter central control
  - The tendency of nationalism obstructed any attempts at unity in the Balkans.
- Finally the Empire collapsed.