

KAY 492

Turkish Administrative History

Week 2: Ortaylı, pp. 29-49

Eastern Roman Empire



Unannounced Pop Quiz Questions

- Please answer these questions **about the Eastern Roman Empire** (5 minutes, 5 points)
 1. Write down only one difference between Eastern & Western Roman Empires (1 point)
 2. What is the lingua franca? (1 pt)
 3. Is there cesaropapism? (1 pt)
 4. What are the type of taxes? (2 pt.s)
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EASTERN ROMAN (BYZANTINE) EMPIRE (330-1453)

□ Starting Point

■ 330 A.D.

□ Roman Emperor Constantine I dedicated a “new Rome” on the site of the ancient Greek colony of Byzantium.

■ The Migration Period & partition of the Roman Empire

□ Lasted for 11 centuries

■ A dynamic organism

■ Continuous interaction with Iran, Islamic Empire & Italian states of the Mediterranean

Evolution of the Eastern Roman Empire



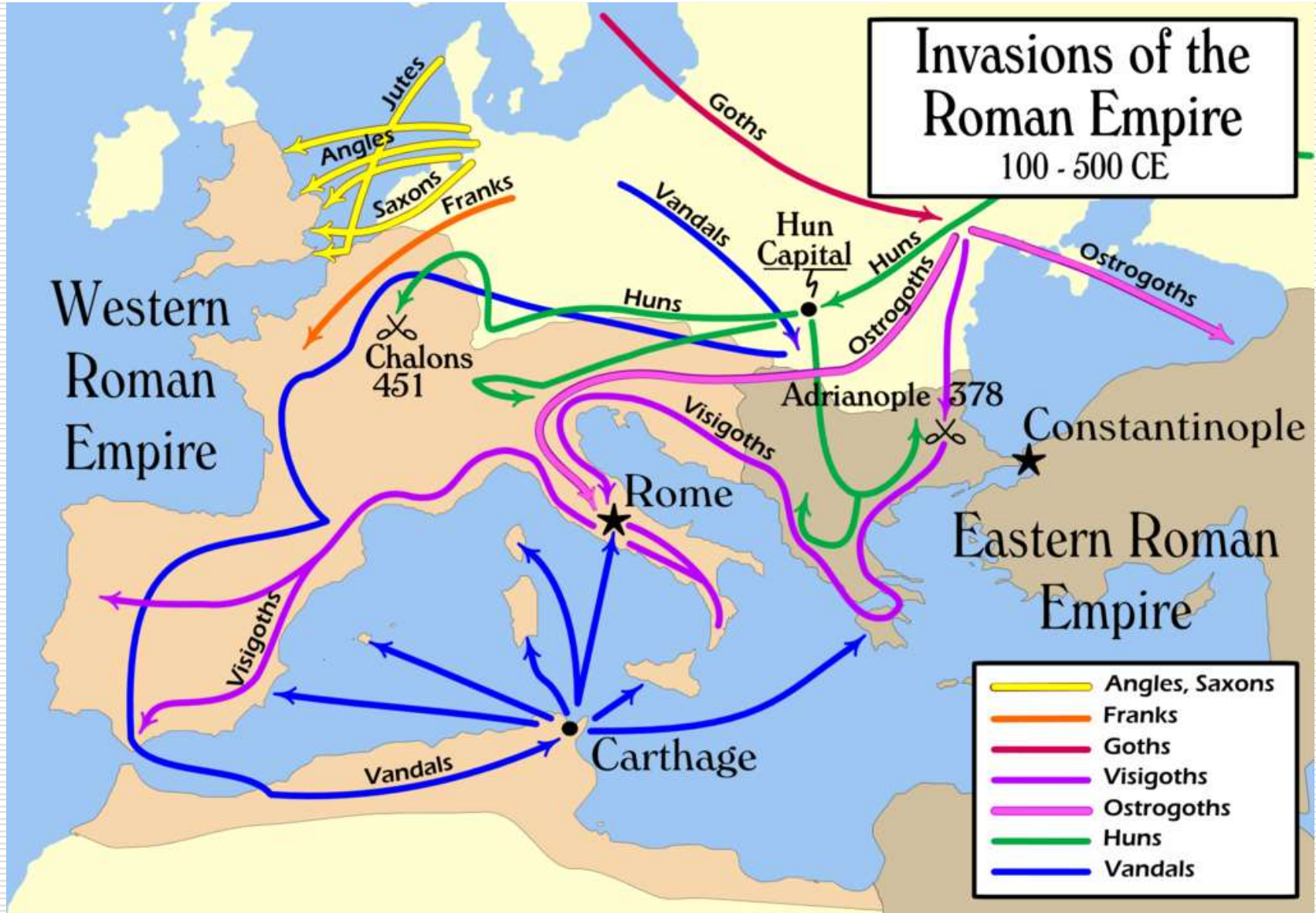
The "Byzantine" Concept: An Established Mistake

- «Byzantium» is the 4th century name of the city of Constantinople
 - Byzantine is a term used by Western European historians since the 16th century
 - People of the Eastern Roman Empire called themselves "Roman"
 - The Turks also called these people "Rum" and the country «İklim-i Rum»
 - Mevlana Celaleddin Rumi
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Before the Migration Period



During the Migration Period



After the Migration Period



Roman Empire

- Western and Eastern (Roman) States
 - Official division at 395
 - Collapse of western provinces
 - Cultural difference

 - Roman character in northwestern and northern Europe represented by
 - Roman law
 - Romanized Christianity
 - Use of Latin as the language

 - In the East, Rome's institutions will live
 - A Hellenized area before the arrival of the Romans
 - Roman language and culture have found established cultures and religions when it arrived
 - Interaction in government organization, religion and philosophy
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Roman Legacy

- After the division and collapse, the center of the Roman Empire shifted to the east
 - To Greece, Iran, Mesopotamia and Syria

 - The same tribes that destroyed Rome in the 4th & 5th Centuries claimed the Roman legacy
 - With the Renaissance that emerged after the 10th & 11th Centuries
 - In the 15th & 16th Centuries, the Russian Tsardom considered itself as the heir of Rome
 - In the 18th Century, enlightenment philosophers identified Byzantine with despotism and intrigue
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Differences

Roman Empire	Eastern Roman Empire
Diarchie (Emperor & Senate)	Monarchy (Senate is a ceremonial, symbolic institution)
Separation of spiritual & secular authority When the Pope crowns the Emperor (It is the recognition of the Emperor)	Emperor is the head of the Church Cesaro-papism When the Patriarch crowns the Emperor (It is the recognition of the Patriarch)
Separate military & civilian authority in provincial administration	The military & civilian authority is merged due to continuous warfare
Slavery exists	Slavery is abandoned after the 5th century

The Eastern Roman Emperor

- Becomes emperor with divine will
 - Cesaro-papism: Unity of earthly and divine authority in one person
 - Chief legislator, highest judge, administrative, financial and military authority
 - Power of all appointments & removals from office
 - Forces that restraints his authority
 - Laws
 - The Church
 - Land owners
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The Eastern Roman Subject

- In order to be considered Eastern Roman, a person has to be:
 - A good (Orthodox) Christian
 - Obedient to the Emperor
 - A subject to the rules and practices of the Roman legal system
 - The ethnic origin is unimportant
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Culture

- Literature of advice (Nasihatname)
 - The mission of the Emperor is bringing/restoring justice, to prevent religious deviations, etc.
 - Purpose: To protect the social order
 - With the Renaissance, a new kind of advice -foreseeing a new order- began to be given
 - Less normative & more realist
 - Machiavelli, Prince
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Organization of the Central Government

□ Important Positions/Posts

- Imperial First Secretary
 - Head of Senate
 - At the same time, the judge and mayor of the capital city
 - In time, a prime minister, such as Sasani's grand vizier, emerged
 - One person each responsible for the administrative & military administration of Anatolia & Rumeli
 - Similar to «beylerbeyi» in the Ottoman Empire
 - Use of «tsavisios» (çavuş) in palace services, postal & intelligence systems
 - Similar situation in Iran
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Army

1. Knights especially in the border provinces
 - Responsible from controlling agricultural production as well as defense/combat
 2. Imperial Guard (Hassa Army)
 3. Navy
 - Could not control the Mediterranean Sea
 - Could not compete first with Arab-Islam, then with the Italian Republic navies
 - There were some admiral states/estates in Aegean and Mediterranean Sea
 - Kaptanpaşa provinces in the Ottoman Empire
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Diplomacy

- A life under constant attack
 - Solution: Provoke nomadic tribes against each other, set up & break alliances («Byzantine» style diplomacy)
 - Generous gifts, giving tributes, establishing kinship with marriage, spreading (Orthodox) Christianity among barbarians
 - The authority to resolve border disputes & negotiate with barbarian tribes was given to the border governors
 - The same in the Ottoman Empire
 - All rulers and states in the region are not equal in protocol
 - Like Ottomans and Iranians
 - No permanent embassy delegations in other countries
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Law & Administration

- Role & mission
 - Developing & transferring the Roman legal system to the World
 - All the Roman laws constitute only a booklet when combined
 - The important things are principles, tradition & interpretations of the laws
 - Civil Law Collection (Corpus Iuris Civilis)
 - First in Latin, then in Greek
 - First personal law, debts & property law
 - Then civil law & criminal law
 - A model for Slavs and Russians, who adopted Christianity
 - Roman laws are used for governing the Orthodox subjects in the Ottoman Empire
 - After the 12th Century, the Western European doctrine of secular law had its origins in Roman Law
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Provincial Administration

- At first, there were two main provinces
 - Oriens (Asia Minor, Mesopotamia & Syria) & Illyricum (Balkans)
 - At the head of the provinces was a civilian governor and a commander
 - Continuous wars have resulted in a single person, who is responsible for both tasks
 - Supervision of the central government through bishops and spies
 - Financial officers & judges were appointed by the Center
 - These high-level officers could directly correspond with the emperor
 - Separation of Powers in the provinces
 - Civilian, military & judicial
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Land Management System

□ Classification of Land Systems

1. Land belonging to the Monarch/Emperor
2. Land belonging to administrators/soldiers (Miri Arazi- Dirlik)
3. Church-owned land or private property

□ Land aristocracy

- Protects its power despite attempts to be crushed

□ Free villagers and serfs

- The state would not allow immigration and land abandonment
 - Slavery had been abolished since the 5th century
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Land Management System-2

- In the 5th and 6th centuries, the lands of the monasteries grew in size
 - Monastic feudalism
 - Reaction: Iconoclasm, the practice of destroying icons
 - The territories given as a prize to military men for their services
 - Tahrir process: Taking inventory of the land & people
 - In time there military men has become similar to feudal lords, tekfurs
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Taxes

- Land tax

- Poll/head tax

- «Kefaletion" (similar to cizye) from non-Christian urban & peasant groups
- First given in kind/ocular (ayni), then as money

- Other taxes

- Land title, feed, grass, barn & marriage taxes/duties
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Cities

- Guilds (of artisans or tradespeople)
 - Trade controls (controls on quality & quantity of production, employment and determination of sale price)
 - Selection and establishment of market places
 - City administrators and law enforcement officers
 - Provision of certain public services
 - Navy in battle, in peace provision of goods
 - Selective state control in exports and imports
 - Silk, salted fish, etc.
 - Police task: Agoranomos
 - «muhtesip» in the Ottoman Empire
 - Hipparkos (judge and municipal officer)
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Trade

- Trade lines with China and Middle East
 - Parts outside Anatolia and Thrace could not be fully commercially integrated with the empire
 - Egypt, North Africa and Syria
 - Backward transport technology
 - Waterway and land caravans (kervan)
 - Ships without sails
 - The roads are insecure (thus, mass trade)
 - Merchants were an underdeveloped group
 - Low status
 - No free market conditions
 - No accumulation of capital
 - Customs exemptions for Italian cities after the war with the Seljuks – exploitation
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Languages

□ Multilingualism

- Latin language was the Roman heritage
- Syrians in Mesopotamia speaking Aramaic
- Southern provinces speak Arabic
- Koptic in Egypt

□ Language of communication (Lingua franca) is Greek

- The elite knew Greek well, besides their own language
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Religion

- A country with many different religions
 - The main axis was Orthodox Christianity
 - Also Maniheism, Mazdak religion, Islam, Judaism
 - Area of influence of the Orthodox Church
 - Greeks
 - Bulgarians, Macedonians, Romanians, Albanians, Serbs and Montenegrins in the Balkans
 - In the North, Russia, Ukraine and Belorussia
 - Orthodox Christian Arabs in Syria and Palestine in the East
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Interaction-Impact

- It affected all Europe up until the 10th century
 - Law and management system
 - Architecture, protocol, clothing style
 - Byzantine influences on Ottoman rule
 - Is there continuity between institutions?
 - Or are the roots of Ottoman institutions in Iranian, Ilkhanian and Asian Turkish traditions?
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