

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
Department of History  
Semester II, 1985/86

History 539

Karpat

OTTOMAN EMPIRE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE BALKANS

LECTURE TOPICS:

JANUARY 21, 23, 28, 30

Introduction. The origins of the Turks and the Ottoman Empire. Wittek's Nazi state. The migrations -- Koprulu's theory. The predecessors of the Ottoman Empire: the Seljuki state; the Mongols, the political heritage and the relationship to Islam; the situation in the Roman Empire (Byzantium) and the Western frontier. The Ahi guilds.

FEBRUARY 4, 6, 11 13

The feudal beys and relation to central authority. The founder of the dynasty Osman (1299-1326). Orhan (1326-1359). The Ottoman expansion into the Balkans. The nature (frontier, feudal, gazi) of the early Ottoman state; Murat I (1359-1389). Bayezid (1389-1402); the march of Tamerlane; the population factors in the Ottoman expansion. The system of marches (u<sup>ç</sup> beylik) and the idea of justice. The drive towards centralization and the emergence of a new feudalism. The establishment of a permanent military force and of the state land tenure or the timar.

FEBRUARY 18, 20

The Ottoman social-political organization. The system of balances and the central position of the throne. The Balkan states and their incorporation into the Ottoman system. The conflict between local and central authority and the political roles of the old social organizations. Tamerlane and the downfall of the Ottoman state, the battle of Ankara, 1402.

FEBRUARY 25, 27

The interregnum. Social upheaval in the Balkans (1403-1413). The new religious ideology; Bedreddin Simavi -- The reestablishment of the central authority -- Mehmet I, 1413-1421, Relations with the Balkans.

MARCH 4, 6, 11

The Ottoman Empire during Murat II (1421-1451). The economic and social situation of Anatolia and the Balkans during the period. The Hungarians and the crusade of Varna, 1444. The foreign policy and territorial security.

MARCH 4, 6, 11

The consolidation of the state. The emergence of a constitutional order. Sultan Mehmet II (1451-1481) and the conquest of the Constantinople. Expansion into the Northeast Anatolia, the incorporation of the Turkman State, and Crimea. War and peace groups in the court: Chandarli and Zaganos. The social-religious factors, Orthodox and Catholic rivalry. Trade in the Adriatic and Mediterranean and relations with Venice.

MARCH 14, 18, 20

The socio-political order and its institutional foundations. The new juridical, social and economic systems. The timar system and its functioning. The reorganization of the wakfs, the taxation policy and the military organization. The Ottoman constitutional order and its institutional foundations. The military and administrative elites (Janissaries).

APRIL 1, 3

Spring recess. The reign of Bayezid II (1481-1512). The expansion into the Middle East. Djem sultan and the growth of Ulema's power. The economic causes of the wars with Venice. The sunni-shiite (Safavid) conflict and the social causes of the wars with the Persians. Selim I (1512-1520): the destruction of the Mameluks and the occupation of Syria and Egypt. The Caliphate and Sultanate. The Islamization of the state institution. The shariat court system and judges.

APRIL 8 -- Midterm exam

APRIL 10, 15, 17

Suleyman the Magnificent (Kanuni) and Charles (1520-1566). The peak of Ottoman power. The Empire's internal situation. Relations with Europe (England and France) and the conflict with the Habsburgs. The rise of Protestantism in Europe. Expansion into North Africa. The beginning of disintegration in the land system.

APRIL 22, 24

The bureaucratic order, the religious orders, the wakfs, the guilds, the cities (imaret policy), trade, etc., in the 15th and 16th centuries. The Ottoman City.

APRIL 29, MAY 1

The reign of Selim II (1566-1574). The Northern policy of the Ottoman's. The emergence of Russia and conflict for the Astrahan. The Jelail revolts;

the beginning of a new developmental phase. The rise of the bureaucracy as the center of power. The shift of agricultural surplus to consumption. Town and village relationships and changes in the tax policy. The rise of the religious establishment.

MAY 6, 8

Murad III (1574-1595)

The wars with Iran. The reconquest of Iraq and the general situation of the Middle East. The pilgrimage road to Mecca and its economic and political significance.

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HISTORY 539

Kemal Karpat

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE BALKANS  
(1200-1800)

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