ATATURK’S PRINCIPLES AND HISTORY OF TURKISH REVOLUTION

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What is History?

• History is the study of the past through the archives, memoirs, ruins and all other remnants of previous civilizations and societies, by considering the conditions, correlations, causes and results of historical records as well.

• History provides the foundations of national identity and culture which enable the survival of the modern nation-state, by forming and strengthening the ties among the imagined communities.

• History repeats itself.
The Ottoman Empire: An Overview

- A frontier principality (Beylik) circa 1300 in Asia Minor, Anatolia.
- 1453, Istanbul
- The Turkish Empire.

Beyliks and other states in Asia minor in the 12th century
• Osman Bey, the warrior
  • Fought against the Byzantine Empire

• Orhan the warrior, Bursa

• Murat Hüdavendigar, the devotee of God, Adrianople

• Thanks to Sucesses and Trade
  • the support of Turkish migrant tribes and obtained a wider source of soldiers.

• Transition to Europe and conquests
  • Lands of Bulgaria and Greece

• The Fall of the Byzantium Empire, formerly Constantinople

Founder of the Ottoman Empire: Osman the Warrior and his warriors
The entry of Mehmed the Conqueror (1432-1481) into Constantinople

Selim the Resolute (1470-1520)

Suleiman the Magnificent, or Suleiman the Lawgiver (1494-1566)
Old Trade Routes

The Silk Road (red) and the Spice Road
Rise of the Ottoman Empire

- Why was the Ottoman Empire so successful?
  - Highly centralized:
    - Power was always transferred to a single person, and not split between rival princes
    - The Ottoman Empire was successfully ruled by a single family for 7 centuries.
  - State-run education system
  - Religion was incorporated in the state structure, and the Sultan was regarded as "the protector of Islam".
  - State-run judicial system
  - Ruthless in dealing with local leaders
  - Created alliances across political and racial groups
  - United by Islamic ideology
Rise of the Ottoman Empire (continued)

- Highly pragmatic, taking the best ideas from other cultures and making them their own
- Encouraged loyalty from other faith groups
- Private power and wealth were controlled
- Very strong military
  - Strong slave-based army (The Janissaries)
  - Expert in developing gunpowder as a military tool
- To consolidate their Empire the Ottoman Sultans formed groups of fanatical fighters - the orders of the Janissaries, a crack infantry group of slaves and Christian and converts to Islam.
Ottoman Imperial Administration System

The Ottoman Centralized Bureaucracy

- Led by Sultan – Absolute power
- Process of succession was not distinct – could cause conflict
- Chief minister, or adviser, to the Sultan

Sultan

Grand Vizier, Viziers

- Heads of Individual Religious Millets
- Muslims
- Jews
- Christians

- Provincial Governors (Beyl"us), And Military elite - The Janissaries

Local Administrators & Military

Landowners / Tax Collectors

Who do you think had the real power?

Positions were based on merit, not birth.
## Ruling Class and System of the Empire during classical period

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Sultan</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Divan-ı Hûmayun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Military Elite</td>
<td>Administrative Elite</td>
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<tr>
<td>Military Officers</td>
<td>Civil bureaucrats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undertake administrative</td>
<td>Carry out correspondence and finance Works</td>
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<td>and military duties</td>
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<td>Representatives are viziers</td>
<td>Nisancı (Sealer) and defterdar</td>
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<td>and admiral in chief</td>
<td>(as Finance Minister)</td>
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Social Structure of Class in Classical Period of the Empire
The Ottoman Millet (Nation) System

The Millet «Nation» System ("Millet" = Religious Community)

"Millet-i Hakime"
The Dominant Millet
(All Muslims regardless of ethnic origin)

"Millet-i Mahkume"
(The Dominated Millet[s])
(Non-Muslims organized into autonomous communities)
THE DECLINE OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE (c.1565-1918)

- Ottomans dominate Mid-East & E. Mediterranean by 1565 (FC.48)
- Empire starts to experience problems:
  - Sultans get soft & lazy
  - Emp. too big to launch wars across far flung frontiers
  - Janissaries get soft & lazy

- No major provinces or sources of revenue added after Suleiman I's death in 1565
- Spanish Emp. in Americas (FC.81)
  - Influx of silver & gold from Americas
  - Rapid inflation
- Portuguese Emp. in SE Asia (FC.82)
  - Ottomans lose monopoly on spice trade
  - Lose revenues

- Econ. decline of Ottoman Emp.
  - Military & econ. decline of Turkish feudal cavalry who relied for survival on plunder from new conquests
  - Rebellions

- Major milit. defeats vs. Austria in 1600s (FC.91)
  - Steady political & economic decay of the Ottoman Empire until its demise in 1919 after World War I

- Foundation of modern Turkey by Kemal Ataturk in 1921 (FC.129)

- Eventual emergence of modern Arab nations (FC.146A)
  - Influx of Jewish settlers after WWI
  - Found Israel in 1948 (FC.146A)
The Background of the Ottoman Decline—Internal Reasons
The Deterioration in the Administration

- Sanjak System:
  - Until 17th Century,
  - The princes (Şehzade), Prince Governor

- Better experience
  - Fight against their brothers.
  - Killing his brothers or sons as well.

- Change in the 17th Century by Ahmet the First.

- The firstborn of the dynasty
  - Primogeniture ascended to the throne
  - Princes waited

- Preventing gaining experience
  - Not elimination of the less capable princes.

- The inexperienced sultans
  - Under influences of the Palace officials,
  - Janissaries and
  - their mothers and wives.
The Deterioration in the Economy

- Weakening of the Central Authority
  - The misrule and turmoil in the provinces.
  - Ongoing wars against the Austrians and Safavids
  - Economic hardships

- Revolts
  - Migration

- New tax collecting system
  - Tax farming (İltizam)

- Huge costs of the wars,

- Bonuses for the enthronement (Cülüs Bahşişi),

- Decline in the taxes,

- Lavish expenditures of the Palace and

- the collapse of the Ottoman local artisans

- Flow of precious materials from the New World to Europe and

- Cheap products

- The Capitulations
  - France, Britain, Holland etc

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**The economy of the Ottoman Empire weakened for several reasons:**

- Europeans achieved direct sea access to Asia = no longer a need for them to go through the Ottoman and Arab land routes to get there = loss of revenue for those groups

- Ottoman artisans and workers hit hard by competition from cheap European manufactured goods
Economic Problems

- Series of unbalanced agreements between European powers and the Ottoman Empire allowed Europeans many exemptions from Ottoman law and taxation
  - Allowed these Westerners to easily “infiltrate” the Ottoman economy
- Ottoman Empire came to rely on foreign loans to sustain itself
  - Unable to repay those debts OR the interest on them
  - Led to foreign control of much of its revenue-generating system
• Weak central government
• Increasing power of local authorities and rulers
• Unable to effectively raise revenue (taxes)
• Growing technological and military gap with Europe
• Decreasing power of the Janissaries (elite infantry units of the Ottoman Empire)
The Deterioration in the Army

• The Janissaries
  • More burdens on the Ottoman Treasury

• Timarli Sipahis
  • Fief Holders (Timar Holders)

• Later Sekbans.
  • The province soldiers
Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, founder of Modern Turkey, wearing the traditional Janissary uniform at a masquerade ball during his early years in the Ottoman Army.
- long decline
- reached limits of expansive power early on
- too large to be maintained
- new conquest possibilities run out – lands begin to be lost to Ottoman Christian & Muslim enemies
- decline of effectiveness of administrative system
- corruption of officials
- oppressive demands of local officials & land owners leads to rebellions

- succession not thought out well
- weak rulers, addicted to pleasures
- viziers gain too much power
- imperial apparatus geared to strong, military leaders, decline in sultans hurts whole empire
The Beginning of the End

My sultan, the empire is struggling to compete with modern Europe. This will lead to a... Stop! Don’t you see me admiring the view of my empire. It’s not everyday that an important man like me can go outside and admire what he has built. So be useful and watch the peasants.

Sleeping for the Military

My sultan, the empire has been in many wars and has increased the financial burden and spoiled the classical military structure. You are an assistant. You are suppose to assist me when I need assisting. I am sleeping! I don’t need assisting!

Military problems led to the failure to keep up with the West and the increasingly rebellious army, led back into the empire’s economic decline, which further aggravated its military problems.

The Ottoman Empire did not greatly affect the development of modern Europe, but it still had its influences. The Ottoman empire at one point almost took over Italy, but they didn’t. Europe and the Ottoman empire were intertwined in different political and economic ways.

Sitting is the New Change

A few years later. Assistant! We are one of the strongest empires in the world. My empire has been a live for almost 550 years now. Do you understand? Now be a good assistant and go assist.

My sultan, the versatility and incompetence of state bureaucrats prompted regional and local officials to retain more revenue for their own purposes. I’m sorry for saying this my sultan, but your empire is... My sultan’s job was primarily to keep a watch on all the officials. Public agents and officials that abused their power and the peasantry were subjected to a special jurisdiction. In this case, the sultan in this story isn’t doing his job.
Peasants are Overrated

That is enough! My empire is strong and this unreasonable uprising isn’t going to affect my empire in any way. Instead of you just standing there, GO GET MY PEASANTS!

Where are my peasants, my local officials, and my estate owners?

Well, my sultan, there have been peasant uprisings which resulted in the abandonment of cultivated lands and social dislocations that further drain the resources of the empire. As I stated before, my sultan, the empire is dooming.

Overall

ASSISTANT! WHY DIDN’T YOU WARN ME THAT MY EMPIRE WAS DECLINING?

WHAT?! I HAVE WARNED YOU ABOUT EVERYTHING FROM THE DANGERS OF MODERN EUROPE TO THE GROWING PROBLEMS IN THE CENTER OF IMPERIAL ADMINISTRATION! AND ONE MORE THING... MY NAME IS ADAM NOT ASSISTANT!

Some of the events that happened were a halt to expansion ended state revenue from the lucrative source. the emerging land arrangement meant that the center was gradually deprived of some of its revenue, and mismanagement by local administrators damaged the land and helped further decrease revenue.

Looking Back

THE DECLINE OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Even though the Ottoman Empire declined, it was in fact one of the strongest empires. The empire lived for about 600 years. The Ottoman Empire stretched through Turkey, Russia, the Ukraine, Greece, Italy, Hungary, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Israel, Libya, Morocco, Romania, Jordan, and many more.
Thank you for listening.