



ISTANBUL
GELISIM
UNIVERSITY

ATATURK'S PRINCIPLES AND HISTORY OF TURKISH REVOLUTION I

**The Turkish War of Independence:
War Fronts – Western Front
(Battle of Sakarya and Battle of Dumlupinar)**

WEEK 13

Assc. Prof. Ercan KARAKOÇ

Stages of Turkish War of Independence





The Independence War

- The severe campaign of the Greek Army to the Turkish defense line forced the Turkish Army to retreat beyond the Sakarya River to have a natural barrier to the further Greek advancement.
- Mustafa Kemal Pasha was invited to take over the command of the Army along with Fevzi Pasha to counter the Greek attack which reached almost to the outskirts of Ankara.
- Mustafa Kemal accepted the command of the Army on condition that the executive and legislative powers of the Assembly would be granted to him for three months on August 5, 1921.
- After the approval of the Assembly, Mustafa Kemal enacted a law to equip the army through the support and donations of the nation on August 7, 1921.



Battle of Sakarya, 10 September 1921.
At Duatepe, Polatli, observation hill.

Accordingly, food, clothes, guns and ammunitions were ordered to be submitted to the Army through local commissions.



Craftsmen and cart owners were required to serve for the military transportation and production.



While Mustafa Kemal went to the front to inspect the Army, King Constantine of Greece landed in Izmir and ordered a new assault towards Ankara.

- Meanwhile, the Greeks began their attack on Turkish Army on the Sakarya River and clashes started on August 23, 1921.
- As reported by the deputies later, the sound of the cannons even reached to Ankara as the Greek Army advanced.
- However, Turkish Army managed to stop the Greek progress on September 6, 1921, and Greek Forces were forced to retreat beyond their lines in Afyon leaving big numbers of casualties and losses.



Mustafa Kemal Pasha



Sakarya River:
The battle took place along the Sakarya River around the vicinity of Polatli, stretching a 62 miles long battle line.

- This victory changed the course of the Greco-Turkish War.
- Whereas the Greek Army lost its capacity to attack, the Turkish Army gained power and morale to start the final determining campaign.
- Furthermore, Ankara Government increased the support from the people and regained the trust of the National Assembly again.
- Mustafa Kemal Pasha was awarded with the rank of Field Marshal and the title of «Gazi» (the Victorious).
- Turkish Parliament awarded Fevzi Pasha with the title of Field Marshal for their service in this battle as well.



Fevzi Çakmak



- As another result, France evacuated Anatolia by signing the Ankara Treaty on October 20, 1921.
 - This treaty was the first recognition of the National Pact and the national boundaries of the National Assembly by an Allied Power.
 - Turkish-Syrian border was determined except for Hatay.
- Italians also left the southern lands and this enabled Mustafa Kemal Pasha to move the Turkish forces to the Western Front.
- The Caucasian States under the Soviets signed the Kars Treaty, which finalized the eastern boundaries of Turkey on October 13, 1921.

The Treaty of Ankara

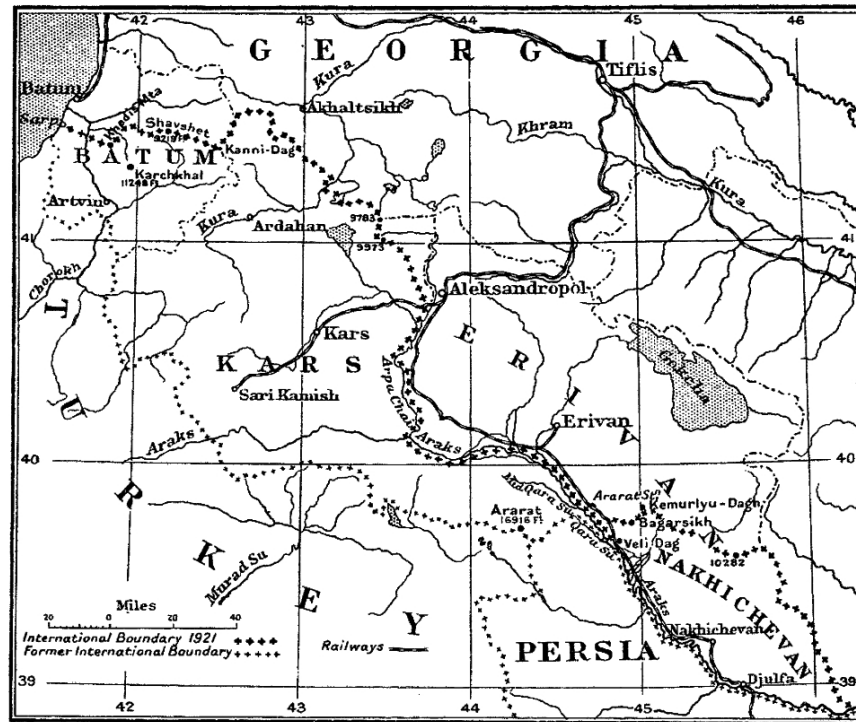
- The Ankara Agreement (1921) (or the Accord of Ankara; Franklin-Bouillon Agreement; Franco-Turkish Agreement of Ankara) was signed on 20 October 1921 at Ankara between France and the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, ending the Franco-Turkish War.
- Based on the terms of the agreement, the French ceded large areas to Turkey.
- This treaty changed the Syria–Turkey border set by the 1920 Treaty of Sèvres to the benefit of Turkey, ceding it large areas of the Aleppo and Adana vilayets.
- From west to east, the cities and districts of Adana, Osmaniye, Marash, Aintab, Kilis, Urfa, Mardin, Nusaybin, and Jazirat ibn Umar (Cizre) were consequently ceded to Turkey.
- The new border was recognized in the subsequent Treaty of Lausanne in 1923.



The signatories were French diplomat Henry Franklin-Bouillon (right) and Turkish foreign minister Yusuf Kemal Bey (left).

The Treaty of Kars

- The Treaty of Kars was a peace treaty that established the common borders between Turkey and the three Transcaucasian republics of the Soviet Union (today the independent republics of Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan).
- The treaty was signed in the city of Kars on 13 October 1921.
- The Treaty of Kars reaffirmed the terms of the earlier Treaty of Moscow concluded in 1921.
- It defined the boundaries between the new Turkish Republic and all three Transcaucasian republics.



Corrected Sketch-map of new Russo-Turkish Boundary.

The frontier established in the Treaty of Kars



The Turkish Commanders in Akşehir,
where a secret meeting took place for the preparations.





Mustafa Kemal and İsmet Pashas were inspecting a military exercise of the Turkish First Army on 1 April 1922.



Battle of Dumlupinar

- On March 22-26, 1922, the Allied forces, by the way, suggested a ceasefire to both sides, which was accepted by the Greeks but rejected by Turkey, stipulating the leave of Greek soldiers from Anatolia.
- While the Greek forces fortified their defense around Afyon, Kutahya and Eskişehir, Turkish Army accelerated preparations for the termination of the Greek occupation in Anatolia.
- The preparations were completed on August 15, 1922 and Turkish forces started their assault under the direct command of Mustafa Kemal, Fevzi and İsmet Pashas.
- The major part of the Greek Army was encircled in Dumlupinar and destroyed while the Chief Commander of the Greek Army, General Trikopis was captured.
- The Great Offensive reached in İzmir on September 9, 1922 thereby finalizing the long-time struggle of Turkish nation.



-  Greek movements; May-Sep 1920
-  Greek movements; Oct-Dec 1920
-  Greek movements; Jul-Sep 1921
-  Turkish movements; Aug-Sep 1922
-  Battle Sites

- After the recapture of İzmir, the Nationalist Forces turned towards the Straits which were declared neutral zone by the Allies after the Mudros.
- The British High Commissioner Harrington ordered the British Forces to preserve their positions and warned Ankara Government to stop advancing and obey the conditions of the Mudros.





- British Prime Minister Lloyd George insisted on reacting against the Nationalists but could not provide support from the British Parliament, Canada (then a British Dominion) or the other Allied Powers.
- As a result, he had to resign and the new British Cabinet accepted the evacuation of Eastern Thrace by the Greeks and its submission to the Turkish Forces.
- Mustafa Kemal Pasha and the British agreed on the start of negotiations for a ceasefire in Mudanya, in the southern part of Marmara.

The talks began on October 3, 1922, and the final agreement was concluded on October 11, 1922, under the terms below:

- Greek troops were to leave Eastern Thrace as far as the Maritsa River (River Meriç) and Adrianople (Edirne) within 15 days.
- Civil power would become Turkish 30 days after the Greek troops left.
- No more than 8,000 Turkish gendarmes were to be in East Thrace until a peace treaty was completed.



Mudanya Mütarekesini (11 Ekim 1922) imzalayan Türk ve İtilaf Devletleri generalleri. Soldan sıra ile; Fransız Generali Charpy, İngiliz Generali Harrington, Garp Cephesi Orduları Kumandanı İsmet Paşa, İtalyan Generali Mombelli.

(Turgut Özakman, 1881-1938 Atatürk, Kurtuluş Savaşı ve Cumhuriyet Kronolojisi, Ankara, Bilgi Y., 1999, s. 303).



Following the Mudanya Armistice, the Turkish Forces recaptured the Eastern Thrace and Istanbul without further fighting and also declared victory over the Greeks, thereby invalidating the Sevres Treaty.



Nationalist Forces in Istanbul



- On October 22, 1922, the Allied Powers invited both the Istanbul and Ankara Governments to the Peace Conference to start in Lausanne on November 11, 1922.
- Upon this invitation, Ankara Government abolished the sultanate on November 1, 1922 to end the dual representation of the Turkish state.