



ISTANBUL
GELISIM
UNIVERSITY

ATATURK'S PRINCIPLES AND HISTORY OF TURKISH REVOLUTION II

**TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY IN THE ATATURK ERA:
RESOLUTIONS OF TREATY OF LAUSANNE AND
MOSUL PROBLEM WITH THE GREAT BRITAIN**

WEEK 10

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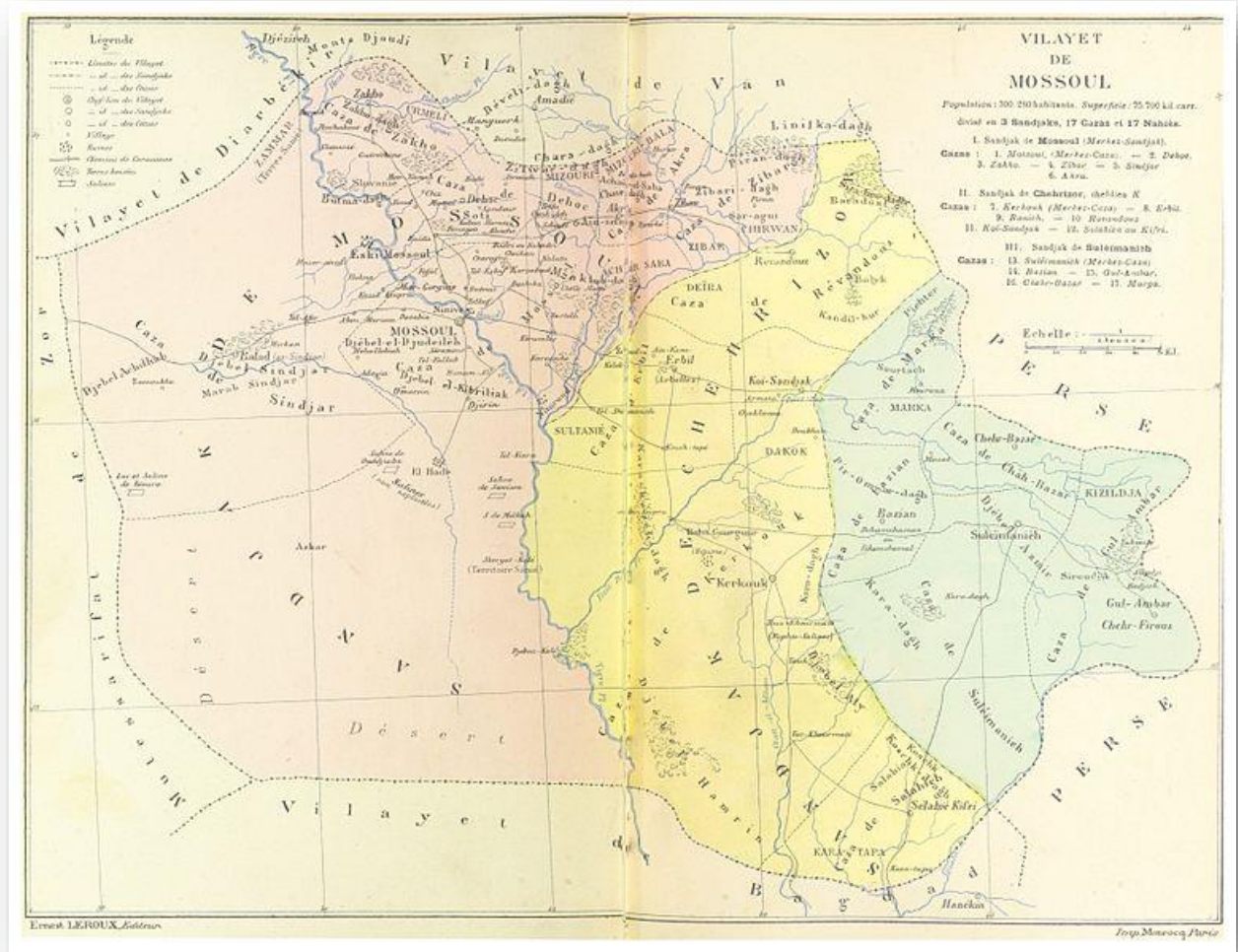


Foreign Policy of the Ataturk Era

Turkish Foreign Policy of Post-Independence War

- Subsequent to the Peace Treaty of Lausanne, Turkish Foreign Policy between 1923 and 1932 mainly focused on application of the Lausanne resolutions as well as clearing up the problems which remained from the Lausanne.
- Establishing friendly relations with the neighboring countries, solving the problems through peaceful methods and normalization of the relations with the Great Powers were the primary concerns.
- In this period, the major affairs for Turkey were Mosul Problem, debts, foreign schools and exchange of population.

Iraqi Border and Mosul Problem with the Great Britain



Mosul Vilayet in 1892

- One of the unsolved situation in the Treaty of Lausanne was the Iraqi border and the Mosul Question.
- During the negotiations at Lausanne Conference for the possession of Mosul, Turkish Delegation stated the Turkish majority of the region and wanted the region to be abandoned to Turkey.
- However, the Great Britain had the aim of keeping the Mosul and the region under its rule due to the rich oil reserves.

Borders of Turkey set by the Treaty of Lausanne (1923)

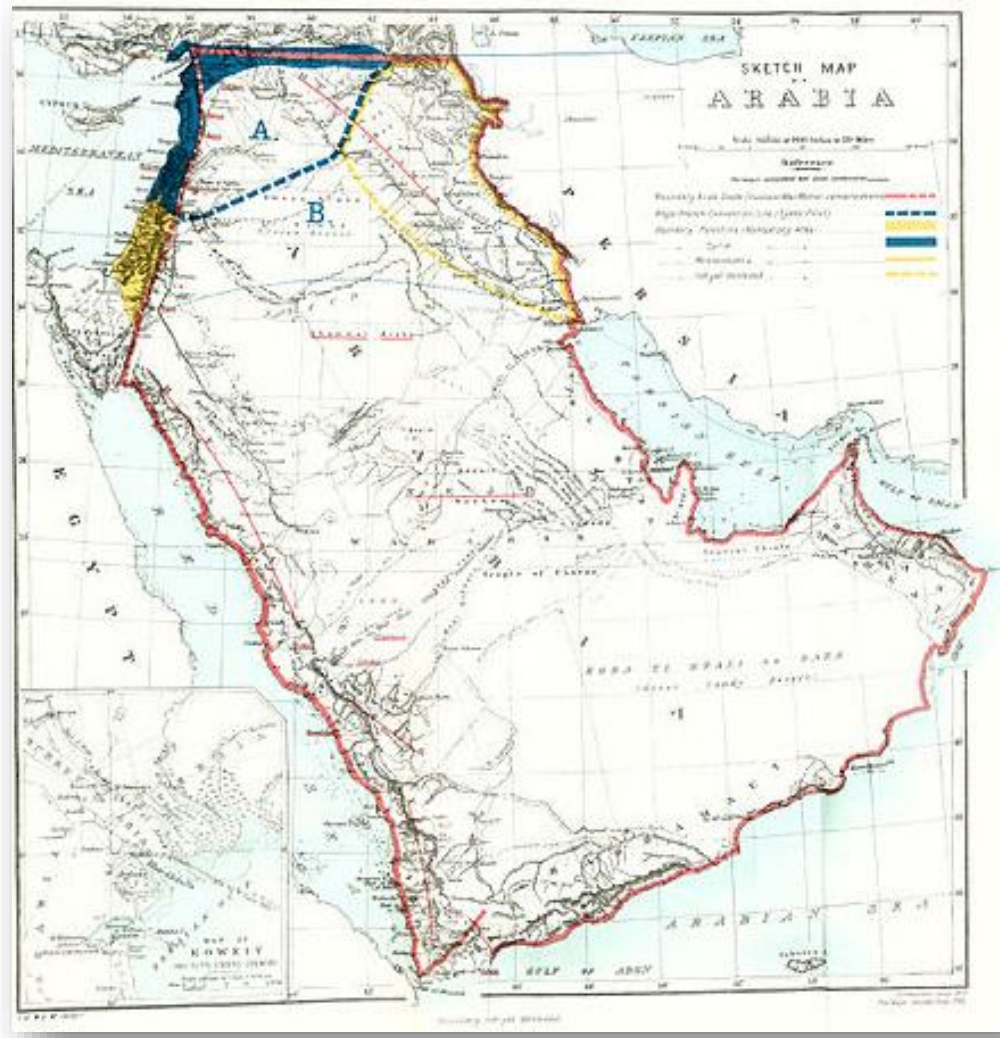




- Thus, the Great Britain opposed the Turkish view by suggesting Iraqi Government's possession of the region.
- Upon the support of the other participants of the Conference to the British view, the resolution of the problem was sorted out for the bilateral negotiations between the Great Britain and Turkey.
- Treaty of Lausanne accorded a 9-month term for the resolutions between the governments. In case of the continuance of the dispute, the League of Nations was defined as the final arbitrator.



British Agent Lawrence of Arabia
at Rabigh, north of Jeddah, 1917



British Map appended to cabinet memorandum showing proposed mandates.

- In accordance with the Lausanne Treaty, the bilateral negotiations on Mosul started on May 19, 1924, which were called later as «Haliç Görüşmeleri» [Golden Horn Meetings]. In the meetings, Spokesman of the National Assembly, Fethi Okyar, represented Turkey while the Great Britain sent Sir Percy Cox as the representative.
- Turkey wanted the possession of Mosul by describing the political, historical and geographical reasons and Turkish majority population in the region.
- The Great Britain continued to maintain the establishment of sovereignty of Iraq which was under British Mandate and even demanded the Turkish lands to Hakkari.



Turkish Representative Ali Fethi Okyar



British Representative Sir Percy Cox



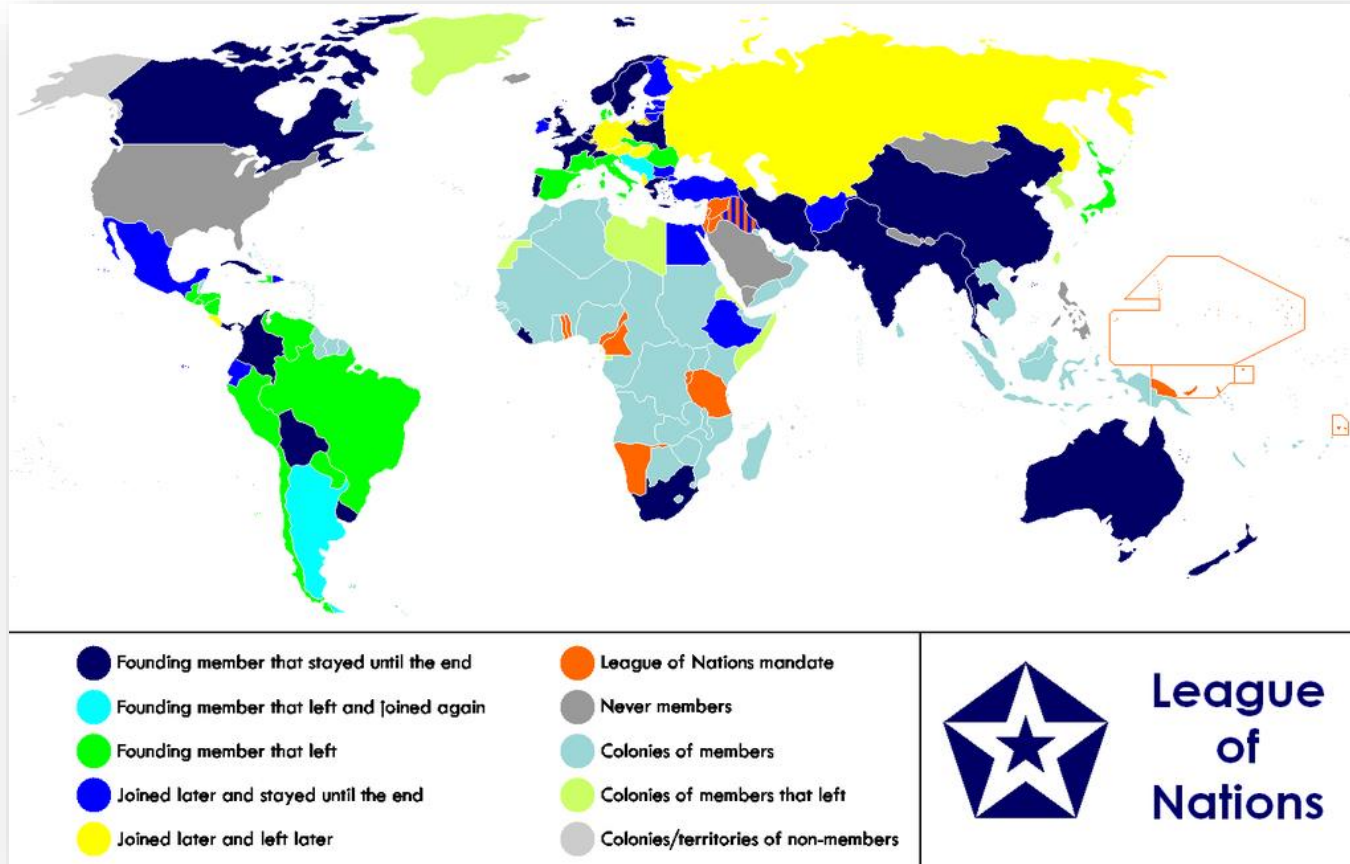
- The Great Britain exerted efforts to leave the Conference inconclusive to convey the issue to the League of Nations.
- The negotiations remained futile in 9 months and the Mosul Question was transferred to the League of Nations.
- The Great Britain was the most powerful and influential member of the League of Nations whereby it controlled the resolutions. Thus, the Great Britain aimed to transfer the issue to the League of Nations.



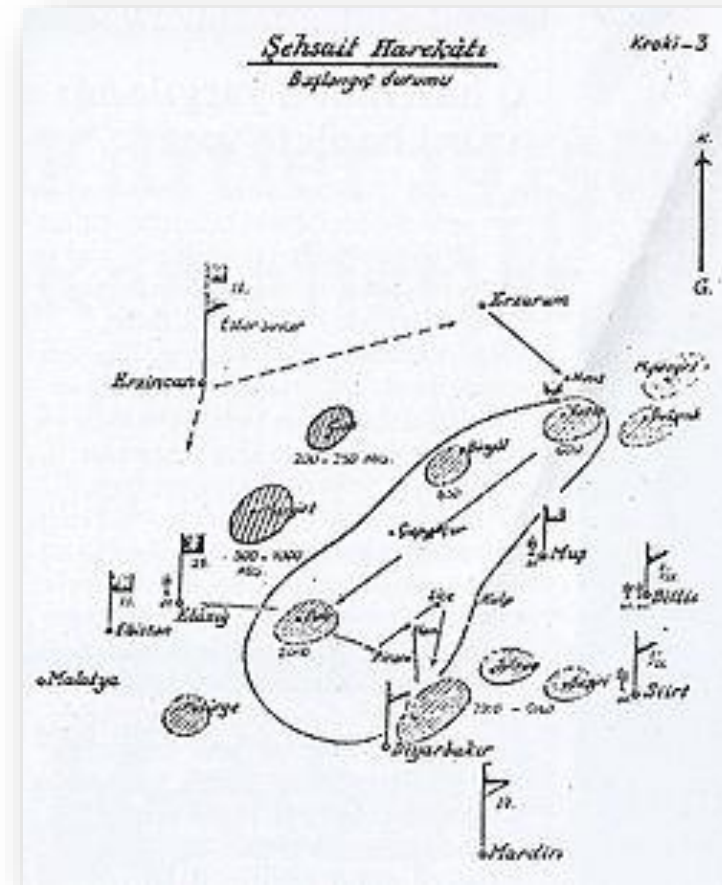
- Because British-controlled League of Nations would not conclude a decision for the good of Turkey and Mosul would be left to Iraq.
- The Mosul Question was initiated to be discussed by the League of Nations September 20, 1924.
- Turkey persisted in a plebiscite in Mosul to determine the fate of the region.
- However, the Great Britain did not accept this offer.

- Because the Great Britain was completely aware of the possible Turkish-favor result from Mosul which was populated mostly by Turkish and Muslims.
- The League of Nations started to work on Mosul Question and formed a commission to study the issue.
- The commission which was influenced by the British presented its report to the League of Nations in September 1925, which recommended the leave of Mosul to the Iraqi rule.

League of Nations 1920-1946



- * As the League of Nations was under the influence of the Great Britain, the report of the commission was exactly accepted and left Mosul to Iraq on December 16, 1925.
- * Turkey reacted bitterly to the decision of the League of Nations and the relations between Turkey and the Great Britain grew tense.
- * Even though Turkey started battle preparations, the breakout of the Sheikh Said Rebellion and the domestic reforms prevented Turkey from military actions.



The Sheikh Said Operation
Map of the Turkish Armed Forces

- * Furthermore, Turkey had many economic and social problems which were pending to be solved. Just emerging from the war, Turkey could not easily wage war again.
- * There was also a factor of British intervention and support for the Sheikh Said Rebellion to incite a Kurdish Problem in Turkey. Therefore, the British aimed to weaken Turkey to retrieve a pro-Britain resolution in Mosul.
- * Thus, Turkey had to retreat in Mosul Question and to sacrifice from the National Pact.



Sheikh Said in the middle in the front, Sheikh Sharif on his right, Major Kasım (Ataç) at the back and Sheikh Abdullah on his right.

TREATY OF ANKARA

- * Therefore, On June 5, 1926, Ankara Treaty was signed between the Great Britain and Ankara on the fate of the region.
- * As per the agreement, Mosul was left to Iraq and Turkey was to have the %10 share in the oil revenues of Mosul for 25 years. Turkey abdicated her rights in return for 500.000 British Sterling.

Treaty between the United Kingdom and Iraq and Turkey regarding the settlement of the frontier between Turkey and Iraq, together with notes exchanged	
Type	Peace Treaty
Signed	5th of June 1926
Location	Ankara
Signatories	Turkey United Kingdom Iraq
Parties	Tevfik Rüştü Aras Ronald Charl Lindzey Nuri Said Paşa
Dilleri	English, Turkish



Atatürk with King Faisal I of Iraq
in Ankara, 1931



Atatürk with King Edward VIII
of the United Kingdom
in Istanbul, 4 September 1936