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Book Review

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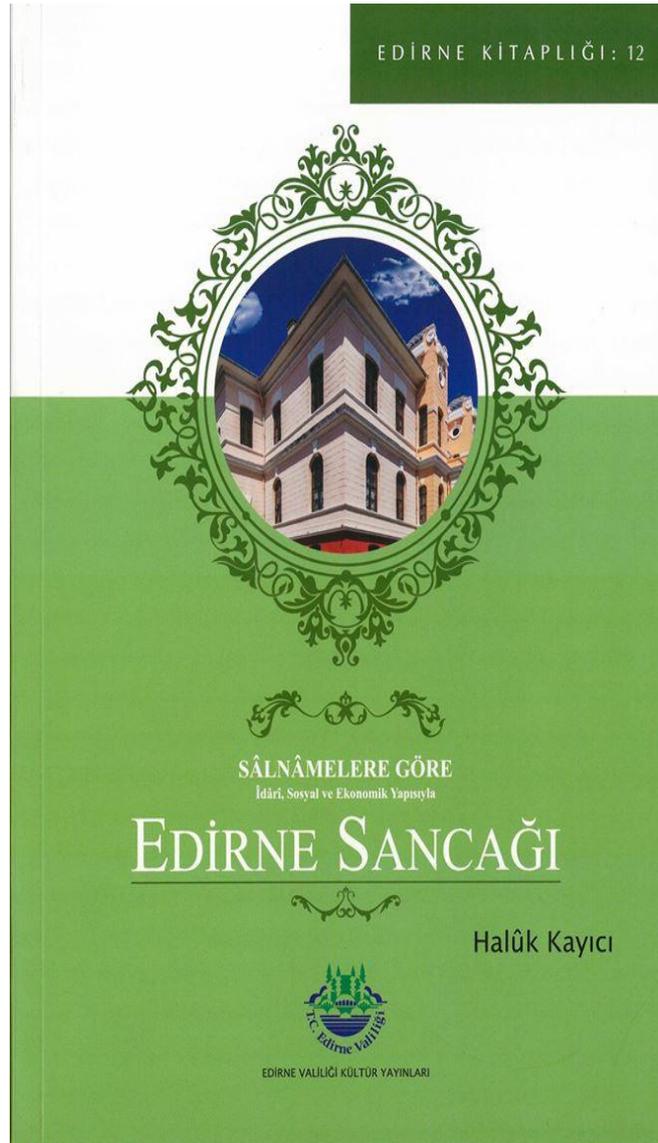
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Administrative, Social and Economic Structure of the Sanjak of Edirne According to Annuals
by Haluk Kayıcı
Edirne, 2013
357 pages
ISBN 9786051494852

In accordance with scientific criteria, annuals play an important role in exploring the economic and socio-cultural structure; religious institutions; intellectual life and training programs, law, justice, communication and transportation systems; works of architecture, literature, music and fine arts in relation with other cultures and civilizations other than archive documents, chronicles, particular histories, memoirs, journals of the period.

Annuals were important because of the period they were prepared and were accepted as "written historical records". They consist of information about the events that happened for a year as well as the information about the city, flag, state, provincial, district, county, villages of a geographical or administrative region. Annuals are such works that have extremely rich, descriptive and informative information. Accurate information about topographic, demographic, commercial, social, political, legal and cultural history is given in these.

Edirne has hosted several various civilizations, cultures and communities that have different religions and languages for centuries. "Administrative, Social and Economic Structure of the Sanjak of Edirne According to Annuals" is Haluk Kayıcı's work. The Master's Thesis of the author which was prepared in Trakya University, Institute of Social Sciences, in the Department of History constitutes the basis of the author's work and new additions were made to the work, a glossary of words that are not used today were prepared and added to the end of the book. In the place names of the era and the names of the non-Muslim people, the unknown or unrecognised letters in words were represented as (...) to avoid misunderstanding. This study reveals today's



Edirne, known as The Sanjak of Edirne before Turkish Republic and administrative position of the administrative departments of Edirne between 1869-1902 as well as their social and economic structures. Edirne and its surrounding, were occupied in the 1877-1878 Ottoman-Russian War The first annual was published in 1883 (1300) after the first one which was published in 1877 (1293) just before the war. In the work, The 28 of Edirne Province annuals were analyzed completely for the first time, and benefited from the archival documents, printed old and new works that describe the social life in Edirne, in the related period. The work “Administrative, Social and Economic Structure of the Sanjak of Edirne According to Annuals” is mainly based on annuals and its made up of three parts. In the first part, the regime after the historical process that began with the conquest of Edirne, the administrative situation, Muslim, Greek, Armenian, and Jewish quarters in townships, villages and districts were mentioned Also important information related to the period such as Edirne Municipality and its services, income and expenses, Edirne townships (Uzunköprü, Havsa, Dimetoka, Cis-i-Mustafa Pasha, Ortaköy, Kardzhali) and municipalities, mayors are presented. Also, in the second section entitled Social life, the histories of the mosques that were built in previous periods in the Sanjak of Edirne, Islamic monasteries, small Islamic monasteries, information about synagogues and churches belonging to non-Muslims, the demographic structure of the Sanjak of Edirne, censuses the population of the Sanjak of Edirne’s pre-and post Ottoman-Russian War in 1877-1878 were examined with great care. In addition, one of the most important parts of social life, educational institutions (schools, ottoman junior high schools, and high schools) were mentioned in this section. In the third section, economic position of the Sanjak and the activities are mentioned. Organizations guiding the economic life, banks, Sanjak’s income-expenditure items, agriculture and livestock were mentioned. Haluk Kayıcı mentioned the trade and industry in the Sanjak of Edirne, enriched the work by visually combining archival documents and photographs about traditional and traded products, and their mills, factories, markets and inns.

As a result, published by Governorship of Edirne, Haluk Kayıcı’s work “Administrative, Social and Economic Structure of the Sanjak of Edirne According to Annuals” has become a valuable study based on administrative, social, commercial and economic structure of the Sanjak of Edirne between the last quarter of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century. Prepared as an important historical source with respect to annuals, this work has shed light on both the last period of the administrative structure of the Ottoman Empire and Edirne in this period. Haluk Kayıcı refers to the smallest detail of each topic which is examined in the work and has prepared his work on the basis of the information and documents which were obtained as a result of long research.