



VİYANA MERKEZ MEZARLIĞINDA İSTİRAHAT EDEN GALIÇYA CEPHESİ OSMANLI ŞEHİTLERİ

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OTTOMAN MARTYRS OF THE GALICIAN FRONT, RESTING IN VIENNA CENTRAL CEMETERY

ÖZ

Birinci Dünya Savaşı esnasında Avusturya ve Çarlık Rusyası'nın uzun süren şiddetli çatışmalar sonucunda birbirlerine üstünlük sağlayamaması üzerine, Osmanlı Devleti Başkomutan Yardımcısı Enver Paşa'nın Doğu'daki müttefik cephelerini takviye etmek amacıyla, 1915 yılında Galiçya Cephesi'ne 100.000'den fazla seçkin subay ve askerden oluşan üç Osmanlı kolordusunu sevk etmiştir. Böylece Osmanlı Ordusu, müttefikleri Almanya ve Avusturya-Macaristan İmparatorluğu ile birlikte 1916-1917 yılları arasında Galiçya cephesinde Çarlık Rusyası'na karşı savaşmıştır. Bu dönemde Galiçya Cephesi'nde esir alınan, yaralanan, kayıp ve şehit olan askerlerin toplam sayısının on beş bin civarında olduğu tahmin edilmektedir. Galiçya cephesinde şehit olan askerlerin çoğu şehit düştükleri cephelerde defnedilmiştir. Ancak çatışmaların sona ermesinden sonra Osmanlı şehit askerlerinin cenazelerinin önemli bir bölümü sonradan Türk Mezarlığı olarak kaydedilen şehitliklere nakledilerek defnedilmiştir. Galiçya cephesinde esir düşen çok sayıda Osmanlı askeri ise, geri çekilen Rus ordusuyla birlikte gerçekleştirdikleri intikaller esnasında, Moskova, Kazan ve Sibiry'a'daki kamplarda şehit düşmüş ve şehit düştükleri bölgelere defnedilmiştir. Yine birçok Osmanlı askeri de tedavi için bulunduğu Viyana'daki Avusturya Askeri Hastanelerinde hayatlarını kaybederek şehit olmuşlardır. Günümüzde, Galiçya cephesinde şehit olan Osmanlı askerleriyle ilgili olarak Çek Cumhuriyeti, Macaristan, Romanya, Polonya, Rusya Federasyonu ve Ukrayna gibi 13 farklı yerde Türk şehitlikleri ve anıtları bulunmakta ancak Viyana/Avusturya'da henüz bir Türk Şehitliği mevcut değildir. Bu çalışmada bu hususla ilgili tarihi perspektifle güncel bir analiz gerçekleştirilmiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Türk Askeri Şehitlikleri, Galiçya Cephesi, Osmanlı Askerleri, Viyana Merkez Mezarlığı

ABSTRACT

In the Galician Front in 1915, Upon Austria and Tsarist Russia could not gain an advantage over each other as a result of prolonged brutal clashes, by the Ottoman State Deputy Commander-in-Chief Enver Pasha, in order to reinforce the allied fronts in Eastern Europe, three Ottoman corps of more than 100,000 elite officers and soldiers were deployed to the Galician Front. Thus, the Ottoman Army, together with its allies Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire, fought against Tsarist Russia on the Galicia front between 1916-1917. During this period, it is estimated that the total number of captured, wounded, missing and martyred soldiers on the Galicia Front was around fifteen thousand. Most of the soldiers who were martyred on the Galician front were buried around the trenches; however, after the end of the fighting, many of our martyrs were buried in the martyrdoms recorded as the Turkish Cemetery. Many Ottoman soldiers, who were captured on the Galician front, died in camps in Moscow, Kazan and Siberia, along with the retreating Russian army. Again, many of them lost their lives in Vienna while they were being treated at the Austrian Military Hospitals. In addition to some areas known and where there are still Turkish martyrdoms. Regarding the Ottoman soldiers martyred on the Galician front, today, there are Turkish martyrdoms and memorials in 13 different places, such as the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Poland, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, but Vienna / Austria is not included. In this study, a current analysis has been carried out with a historical perspective on this issue.

Keywords: Turkish Military Martyrdoms, Galician Front, Ottoman Soldiers, Vienna Central Cemetery



INTRODUCTION

Present-day Austria has its roots in prehistoric times. The first state entity was the Celtic kingdom, which was largely integrated into the Roman Empire at the time of the birth of Jesus. At that time, many Roman settlements were built, such as Vienna or Salzburg. As a result of the impact of the Migration of Tribes that occurred with the invasion and invasion of the Hun State by Attila, the Roman State disintegrated and turned into thousands of city-states. With the spread of Germanic tribes to present-day Bavaria, Danube and Alpine regions, Austria lost its Roman-era lands. It exploits the core lands of Austria as it is used today. The fact that the Austrian State took place in the history scene with its current name only coincides with the years of 996 (Stevens and Abbot, 2007).

Turkish-Austrian relations are essentially much older. Considering the Siege of Vienna, which is one of the most important events between the two countries, many remember Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent's siege of Vienna. The date of this siege is 1529, and in fact, the incident is more of an opportunity attack than a classical siege, perhaps an operation to take advantage of success. Suleiman the Magnificent's siege of Vienna was essentially an operation performed as an instrument of coercive diplomacy and intimidation rather than a military operation carried out to seize Vienna. Therefore, the gains of the operation carried out by Suleiman the Magnificent are rather diplomatic. In fact, it is the siege that the majority of the society knows the story of, the heroes of which are Kara Mustafa Pasha and Crimean Khan Giray Khan, and much later, in 1683, and later in the process that continued until 1699, the Ottoman State suffered great losses with the Karlowitz (Sremsky Karovci) Agreement. This siege was the source of a socio-cultural and socio-economic accumulation that formed the formation of the United European Union, rather than the losses of the Ottoman State.

No matter how you look at it, the years 1529 and 1683 are two important dates for Turks and Austrians (Matzka, 2009). As of 1529, like all other European states in Austria, the Turkish paradigm was coded as fear and threat. This paradigm continued until the Allied Command of Europe, under the command of Prince Sobieski, broke the Turkish siege after the military success on the Kahlenberg hill in September 1683 and started the operation to repel the Ottoman Empire. September of 1683 represents a critical time when it was understood that the Ottoman Empire, which was called invincible, could be defeated, and all mystery was solved against the Ottoman Empire. As a matter of fact, with the Karlowitz (Sremsky Karlovci) Agreement in 1699, the Great Turkish War ended for the Austrians. In concluding this discussion, it should be stated that the Vienna siege by the Ottoman State is remembered in Austria-Turkey relations for some reason, but both states were allies in the First World War and the elite soldiers of the Ottoman Empire fought in the Austrian ranks in Galicia, and in fact, just after the 1699 Karlowitz (Sremsky Karlovci) Agreement, the Turkish influence of its fashion, architectural art, palace ceremonies and dramas and operas dealing with the Ottoman Empire on Austria is hardly remembered.

Archaeological studies have an important place in the relations between Austria and Turkey. Since 1893, archaeological excavations have been carried out in Turkey by the presidency of the Austrian Archeology Institute. The most important of these were the excavations and research carried out in Ephesus. Some artifacts brought from Ephesus are exhibited in the Ephesus Museum in Heroes' Square in Vienna. In addition, one hundred and fifty-two original painted relief plates exhibited in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in the museum quarter in Vienna should be mentioned. The works in question belong to Trysa



Hero, a unique tomb in Lycia, in southwestern Turkey. Approximately one hundred and fifty-two original painted relief plates were transferred to Vienna with the approval of the Turkish authorities of the period, and are exhibited in the Kunsthistorisches Museum.

Regarding diplomatic relations between Austria and Turkey; Between Austria and the Ottoman Empire. It should be stated that permanent diplomatic representations have been established since the second half of the 18th century. The Ottoman State has been represented by a permanent embassy in Vienna since 1798 (Kasaba, 2008: 192). The first diplomatic representation of the Ottoman Empire at the embassy level in a European country was also established in Vienna.

The Vienna Diplomatic Academy was founded in 1754 by Empress Maria Theresa as the "Eastern Academy". The Vienna Diplomatic Academy is the oldest diplomatic academy in the world. What makes Vienna Diplomatic Academy special for Turkey is that Ottoman Turkish was accepted as the first foreign language in the Academy in its establishment, and it contributed to the deepening of relations with the Ottoman Empire in particular.

Islam has been recognized as an official religion in Austria since 1912. Austria has a special position among other European countries in terms of the recognition of Islam by Austria since 1912 and the institutionalization of Islam in the country since 1979. Legal recognition of Islam as a religious community dates back to the 19th century. With the addition of Bosnia-Herzegovina to the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy in 1878, approximately one million Muslim populations were included in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It is important that the entire Muslim population, together with the ethnic Turks under Austrian rule at that time, was also described as Turkish. In fact, Islam has been recognized as a religious society by the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy since 1874. Officially, most Turkish Muslims living in Austria are organized in parallel structures of the Austrian Religious Affairs Directorate (ATIB) and mosque associations. These facilities are kept only by the Turkish state and personnel are employed. In addition to the religion of Islam, Alevism is also officially recognized in Austria. Alevism religion is quite common among Turks in Austria.

Today, more than a thousand Turkish young people come to Vienna and other cities of Austria for university education every year. Every year, more than five hundred thousand Austrians spend their vacations in Turkey, and many acquire residences on Turkey's south and west coasts. As a matter of fact, it can be stated at this point that the bilateral relations between the Republic of Turkey and Austria and the friendship and solidarity established between the two countries are relatively ancient and deep-rooted when compared to the bilateral relations that the Republic of Turkey has developed with other European states. In this respect, I would like to express my opinion that this study will be very beneficial especially for members of the Turkish Republic and even Austrians living in Austria and even in other European countries and thus will make an important contribution to the development or substitution of intercultural relations.

GALICIAN FRONT

This document is a sample paper prepared with the A-consequence for the Ottoman Empire after joining the First World War. The Ottoman Empire fought on several fronts, some with support from Germany and Austria-Hungary (Trumpener, 1968: 62). The battle in Galicia during the initial phase of the First World War, more than one hundred years have already passed. The battles began in 1914 and lasted until 1918. This was a great political defeat for the Ottoman Empire at that time and changed the geographical position of the Ottomans and the Turks. Thousands of Ottoman soldiers were involved in this battle. Meanwhile, other



fronts were in danger and still 35,000 soldiers were at the Galicia mountains (Erickson, 2001: 137). Galicia became part of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy in 1804. Austria-Hungary was allied with the Ottoman Empire during the First World War. Galicia is a region currently within the borders of Poland and Ukraine. The aforementioned region was a province of the Austro-Hungarian Empire during the First World War. Although the place where the main battles were fought before the division of Poland was within the borders of Poland at that time, after the Second World War, the regions where the war was actually experienced remained within the borders of today's Ukraine. According to today's geographic location, Galicia is located west of Russia, south of Poland, and part of the Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains. Russia attacked Galicia in the very first days of the First World War. The attacks lasted from August 29, 1914 to September 11, 1914.

The Austro-Hungarian fronts suffered a major defeat and nearly 100,000 soldiers were captured under the Russian army. One consequence of the enormous losses was that they feared that The Habsburg Empire could not continue its defensive on the Eastern Front without further support from allies. But the German Reich was at the same time heavily burdened on their own fronts and could not do any additional Provide troops (Erickson, 2001: 137). Then, Germany made the urgent request to the Ottoman Empire, the Habsburgs, to support it with additional troops on the Eastern Front. The Habsburgs responded Undecided on the request, and the Army High Command asked for more time and better arguments for using the Ottoman soldiers in Galicia. At the same time, on June 4, 1916, Enver Pasha accepted the request.

DEPLOYMENT OF TÜRKISH TROOPS TO THE GALICIAN FRONT

Despite the criticism of this strategic process, there were other urgent ones Requests for reinforcement to the Ottoman Empire. Enver Pasha ordered the 15th troop of the Ottoman army to march towards Galicia and support the Austro-Hungarian troops against the Russians. Meanwhile, the two monarchies were still allied with each other. The 19th and 20th divisions of the Ottomans were additionally selected, with officers and soldiers reinforced and had to prepare for deployment in Galicia. In August 1916 the troops were sent to Galicia and stayed there when support of the Austrian troops until September 1917 (Erickson, 2001: 264).

The 19th Division served in the Gallipoli battle under Mustafa Kemal and had a heroic and war-experienced reputation in the Ottoman Empire (Tuncer, 2011: 73). The 19th Infantry Division was ordered where they were before departure to Galicia was amalgamated with the 20th Infantry Division. From both divisions, the 15th troop was formed (Ertem, 1992: 78). The two divisions were to receive new supplies before they left for Galicia. The divisions were inspected, and orders were given to exchange weapons. The troops were gradually being prepared for a new mission, and still during the preparations that leaked, the soldiers to Galicia should be sent (Arıkan, 2010, 77). The information that was withheld from most of the force was that Enver Pasha had already accepted the request for troop reinforcements on the front in Galicia, and that the troops should be prepared for their use. 33,000 Turkish soldiers marched from Keshan and Uzunköprü to the Galicia front. The Ottoman soldiers had to defend another country for the first time and had to follow another commander-in-chief (Erickson, 2001: 138).

On July 27, 1916, the soldiers of Enver Pasha and the German general Liman von Sanders, inspected at Uzunköprü train station before departure (Taşyürek, 2008: 62). However, in the meantime, most of the soldiers did not know where Galicia was (Ertem, 1992: 89). Of the 33,000 men who left Istanbul in 1916 for

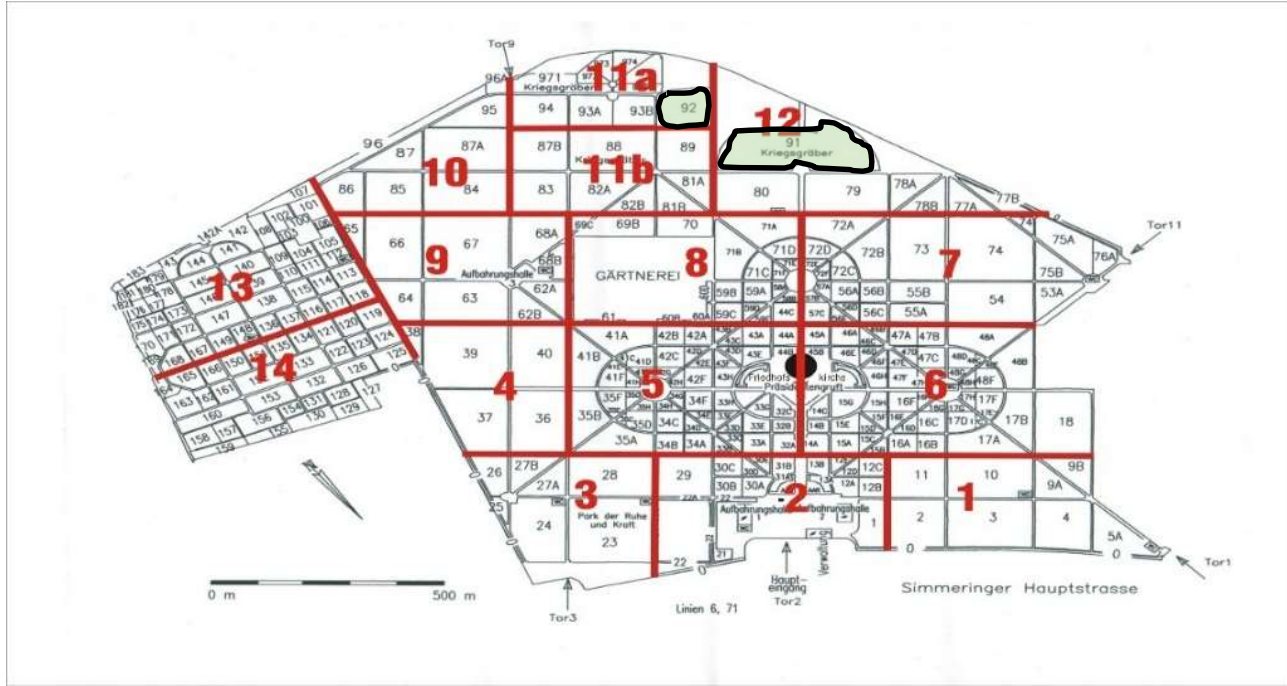
Galicia fighting, it is believed that up to 25,000 men died in Galicia. About 8,000 men returned home. (Erickson, 2001: 137).

During this cooperation there were no conflicts between German soldiers; they all performed their tasks with the highest degree of discipline and belonging. Just like their own country, they defended the Austrian borders and were mostly in front of the Austrian soldiers to protect them. The Austrian soldiers were initially suspicious of the Ottoman soldiers, whom they had to fight against each other very often so far. It took a long time until they showed confidence and stood together on a front against Russian forces. However, in a later episode, after some successes against Russians, the two allied armed forces merged and formed inseparable friendships among themselves. When the Austrian population learned of the Ottoman successes against the Russians, a great deal of gratitude developed among the Austrian population against the Turkish troops. On the Galician fronts, the Ottoman soldiers fulfilled their task of protecting the Austrian borders with great success. In addition to general successes during the war, both political and population successes developed behind the war fronts. Galicia is only one example of Austrian-Turkish friendship. In the past, both countries were very often on the same side, and Turks lost 25,000 soldiers and many war veterans to the Austrian Empire. The heroic martyrs naturally want to be known by their nation and especially by their families and to be remembered with respect, gratitude and mercy.

OTTOMAN SOLDIERS RESTING IN VIENNA CENTRAL CEMETERY

The Ottoman Empire in the First World War; He participated in the war in Galicia, along with many other fronts. During the First World War, hundreds of thousands of Ottoman soldiers were martyred or captured in total. Those who were martyred at the fronts during the war were buried in the regions where they were martyred. Those who were captured by the enemy; They were taken to various prison camps and many of them died in prison camps where they were taken. Many soldiers injured during the war lost their lives in hospitals they were transferred to for treatment (Öndeş, 1973). In the period after the war, various Turkish martyrdoms were built both in war zones and in countries where Turkish soldiers were taken to prison camps, based on various international treaties, especially the Lausanne Treaty. In this context, Ottoman soldiers who fought and died on the Galicia front are still resting in various martyrdoms in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Poland, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. Hodonin, Pardubice and Valasske in the Czech Republic; Budapest in Hungary; Krakow in Poland; Slobozia in Romania; Krasnoyarsk in Russia; Gutisko, Lopushnya, Verhnya, Mechishviv, Pukiv and Rohatin Martyrs in Ukraine are the martyrdoms where the Ottoman soldiers who were martyred on the Galicia front (Dönmez, 2014: 137-162). In addition, there are graves of more than a hundred Ottoman soldiers in the Vienna Central Cemetery. Groups 91 and 92 (Figure 1), who were injured or got heavily sick on the Galicia front during the First World War and lost their lives in the various Vienna Military Hospitals during their treatments. Groups 91 and 92 are allocated memorials to commemorate First World War, in the Central Cemetery in Vienna.

Figure 1: Vienna Central Cemetery, Simmeringer Hauptstraße 339, 1110 Wien
(Group 91 and 92 are illustrated by yellow colour)



In the Central Cemetery in Vienna (Wiener Zentralfriedhof), the Ottoman soldiers, who lie shoulder to shoulder with other allied soldiers, who lost their lives and died in the First World War and the crescent and star on their tombstones, to give the status of Turkish martyrdom abroad and to make possible the visits of the Muslims living in Vienna and other regions rather than Vienna and even to enable families to visit relatives who were martyred in the Galicia front during the First World War. The 91st group of the central cemetery of Vienna (Figure 1) was allocated to the soldiers of the united forces of Austria and Hungary who were martyred during the First World War.

In this region, Ottoman soldiers who were martyred on the Galicia front sleep with the soldiers of other allied countries who were martyred in the First World War. It is thought that it is a debt to our martyrs and their families to make a monument in this part of the cemetery for the memories of the martyred Ottoman soldiers, and to clarify the graves of the martyred Ottoman soldiers. In addition, the rearrangement of this part of the cemetery is considered to contribute to the development of social and cultural relations between the two countries.

According to Hikmet Özdemir's report (2005: 139), the total number of soldiers who lost their lives on the Galician Front is 3,859. It is understood from here that the graves of many Ottoman soldiers who lost their lives on the Galician Front are unknown. Because there is insufficient information about the burials of Ottoman soldiers who lost their lives during their treatment in city hospitals behind the front, as well as those who were martyred at the front. According to Hikmet Özdemir's report (2005: 139), 7.115 soldiers on the Galicia front were transferred to hospitals due to illness and 10.326 soldiers due to various war injuries. 124 of these soldiers died from illness and 522 from war wounds. According to official records, the total number of soldiers who died in Galicia is 3,859.

According to Cengiz Dönmez (2014: 137-162); The Ottoman state had more than 1050 martyrs on the Galicia front (Boğuşlu, 1990: 130). For the soldiers who were martyred on the Galicia front, there is currently a Turkish Military Martyrdom in 13 different regions abroad (Table 1), but among them there is no Turkish Military Martyrdom in Vienna. The Turkish martyrdom abroad of our soldiers who were martyred on the Galicia Front is given in the table below (Dönmez, 2014: 137-162).

Table 1: Galician Front Martyrs Resting in Cemeteries Abroad

No	Turkish Martyrdom Abroad (Turkish Military Martyrdom)	Country	Number of Martyrs
1	Hodonin	Czech Republic	387
2	Pardubice	Czech Republic	508
3	Valasske	Czech Republic	205
4	Budapest	Hungary	512
5	Krakow	Poland	53
6	Slobozia	Romania	1493 (mixed with Romanian Front Martyrs)
7	Krasnoyarsk	Russian Federation	unknown
8	Gutisko	Ukraine	more than 200
9	Lopushnya	Ukraine	106
10	Verhnya Lipitsya	Ukraine	unknown
11	Meçişçiv	Ukraine	unknown
12	Pukiv	Ukraine	160
13	Rohatin	Ukraine	54
14	Vienna (Currently there is no Turkish Military Martyrdom)	Austria	the exact number of martyrs should be determined

However, there is still a cemetery belonging to the soldiers who fought and died during the first world war in groups 91 and 92 in the central cemetery of Vienna on behalf of the Hungarian Empire of Austria. There are also Muslim soldiers among these soldiers. The graves of Muslim soldiers are easily recognizable by the crescent and star symbols on their tombstones. Of course, not every Muslim grave belongs to Ottoman soldiers. Because, during the First World War, many Muslim soldiers of Balkan origin were also fighting for Austria within the Austrian Hungary Army. However, some of these graves must have belonged to Ottoman soldiers. In this context, the Ottoman graves should be determined by developing the necessary coordination and cooperation with the Austrian official authorities. In addition, a monument should be built in the region for the memory of our martyrs. In addition to this, it must be registered in the Republic of Turkey Defense Ministry records as Vienna, Turkish Military Martyrdom.

There were also some difficulties in the burial procedures of the Ottoman soldiers, who were dispatched to hospitals behind the front in a scattered way because they were seriously injured and sick. For this reason, although it is possible to obtain some information from the reports sent to the Ottoman War Ministry by the Medicine Doctor Hulusi Fuat Tugay about the Ottoman soldiers who were sent from the Galician front to the city hospitals of the Austrian Hungarian Empire (Şenyol et al., 1967: 17). However, the date of Hulusi Fuat Tugay's arrival in Vienna was October 1, 1916. For this reason, however, the date of Hulusi Fuat's arrival in Vienna was October 1, 1916. Dr. Hulusi Fuat prepared a report by visiting the

hospitals and facilities where Ottoman soldiers were treated one by one between 30 October 2016 and 14 December 1916. Therefore, even if the information about the Ottoman soldiers who were treated in city hospitals between these dates is complete and correct, it is not possible to accept that there is sufficient and satisfactory information prepared by the Ottoman government officials regarding the previous and later dates of this report. In this context, in Vienna; Ottoman soldiers were being treated in 10 different hospitals, such as the Garrison Number 1 and 2 Hospitals and the University Hospital (AKH) (Macar, 2009: 35-59). In addition to this, Ottoman soldiers were being treated in some other military health facilities, spa centers, and rehabilitation centers in the periphery of Vienna. That's why it is not available to have a complete, precise and detailed information of the soldiers who died and were buried during their treatment phase at the hospitals behind the front. For this reason, it may be possible to say that there is currently no complete and regular information about Ottoman soldiers who were transferred to city hospitals for treatment because they were severely ill or injured while fighting on the Galicia front in the First World War. Unfortunately, there is no complete and sufficient information about the Ottoman soldiers who lost their lives and were buried in Vienna and its surroundings during this process. In this context, a martyrdom was not organized for our soldiers who lost their lives and were buried in Vienna up to now.

CONCLUSION

During the first world war there were three full-fledged military hospitals in Vienna. Eight more military hospitals were added during the war. For this purpose, various public facilities such as university buildings, dormitories for children and elderly people, museums were transformed into serial hospitals. Bases of these facilities continued their existence as post-war hospitals (The Warfare of the City of Vienna, 1520 to 1740, 2021). The activities of the existing military hospitals and clinics are coordinated by the Military Medicine Directorate, which was operational till 1960s (Czeike, 1992) For this reason, it may be possible that the records of Ottoman soldiers who were injured while fighting against the Galicia front or were sent to Vienna from the regional hospitals stationed at the front, could be found in the archives of the military medicine directorate. Thus, information about the treatment and burial processes of martyred Ottoman soldiers who lost their lives and rested in the central cemetery of Vienna can be confirmed from the archives of the Military Medicine Directorate of Austria. Of course, the most accurate information about the martyred Ottoman soldiers is likely to be found in the archives of the cemetery management.

In conclusion, it may be more correct to state that many of the families of the Austrian Hungarian soldiers who were lying in the central cemetery of Vienna live outside of Austria today. Therefore, an inclusive and all-honoring martyrdom arrangement can be made for the martyrs of the First World War, who are buried in groups 91 and 92 in the central cemetery of Vienna, regardless of their country of origin. In this context, a monument can be built that draws attention to the deadly and wild side of war for all humanity, regardless of race, religion and country.

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