


Tracing the Process of Rome's Expansion in Anatolia

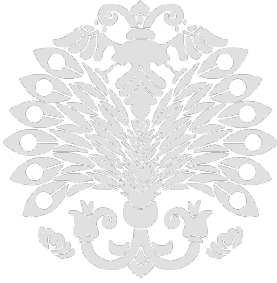
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ABSTRACT

As a result of Rome's nearly 60-year-long struggle that wore out the state, the Republican administration ended with Augustus. With this new system, large lands will now be governed by a single administrator. This new system brought the imperial structure to solve the problems of Rome. After Rome established a political authority and power in the Italian geography, a Roman-Italian union was established here. The policy followed by Rome this time in order to achieve the desired area of dominance was to explore areas of expansion outside Italy. As of the Roman period, it underwent changes in its area of expansion along with the changes in political structures and orders. In this context, it expanded its distribution area towards Anatolia. During the period when this expansion area took place, Rome experienced great struggles both externally and internally. Our study topic, "The Process of the Spread of Rome in Anatolia", contains cases and impressions that cannot be repeated due to the time period it covers. For this reason, criteria such as the content of the study, its field, and the time period to be researched are not suitable for quantitative research methods. Therefore, document analysis, one of the qualitative research methods that is thought to be more amenable to the criteria of the study, constitutes the method of the study. With this method, it was tried to reach various sources and documents about the policy followed by Rome in Anatolia and draw meaningful inferences from them.

Keywords: Rome, Anatolia, State, Empire.



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Introduction

As a result of Rome's nearly 60-year-long struggle that wore out the state, the Republican administration ended with Augustus. With this new system, large lands will now be governed by a single administrator. This new system brought the imperial structure to solve the problems of Rome. This system was not a structure dominated by absolute government, as seen in the Hellenistic period monarchies. This system was the product of a structure in which all legal institutions that existed during the Republic period continued to exist. The title Octavian received did not correspond exactly to the king. A new structure and administrative order emerged in Roman lands with Augustus in 27 BC. With this order, the qualifications of the senate and assemblies lost their power and this influence was directed towards the emperor.

During the reign of Caesar, there were 14 provinces within the scope of Rome's domination. As a result of the civil wars, it was included in Egypt and was made a province by Octavian. By this stage, the Mediterranean was surrounded by Roman power. During Rome's early expansion to the east, there was no mention of the existence of any state in its vicinity that could coincide with its own power. When Rome became dominant, it started making arrangements within the scope of the states that existed. In this context, in the administrative arrangement, the provincial administration was divided between Augustus and the senate. In the regulation, the administration of the provinces within the borders of Rome and in which there were military units was given to Augustus. Apart from this, the states that did not have any dangerous situations and were not problematic in terms of military were taken under the administration of the senate. While creating the administrative structure of the provinces under the rule of Augustus, he determined the following order and appointed governors by choosing among the people who had previously held consulship and senatorial positions, and appointed these people to the head of the provinces. During the imperial period when Augustus basically created such an order, many expansion processes towards Anatolia took place. During these periods, the Roman Empire experienced many emperors. However, the problems did not prevent Rome's expansion.

Methods

Qualitative research is defined as “research in which methods such as observation, interview and data collection are used and a qualitative process is followed to reveal perceptions and events in a realistic and holistic way in a mountain environment” (Yıldırım, 1999; Yıldırım & Şimşek, 2008; Yeşil, 2015). With a different definition, it is an approach based on researching and understanding phenomena within the environment in which they occur, with a perception that places theory creation at the center (Yıldırım, 1999; Yıldırım and Şimşek, 2008). Qualitative research is shaped with the aim of explaining, evaluating and describing entities, events or relationships between events. However, in achieving this purpose, conceptual solutions are used, not qualitative methods such as statistical data (Yeşil, 2015).

The document analysis technique, which is also used in the quantitative research method, is an important tool in accessing data for the qualitative method (Çapçioğlu & Kalkan Açıkgöz, 2018). The technique in question involves analyzing various materials within the scope of the research subject (Yıldırım & Şimşek, 2008; Çapçioğlu & Kalkan Açıkgöz, 2018). To put it differently, document analysis is a systematic procedure for examining or evaluating documents, both printed and electronic (computer-based and transmitted over the Internet). Like other analytical methods in qualitative research, document analysis requires examining and interpreting data to reveal meaning, gain understanding, and develop empirical knowledge (Bowen, 2009). The documents used include text (words) and images recorded without the intervention of a researcher (Bowen, 2009; Sak et al, 2011). Document analysis deals with the analysis, review (superficial review), reading (in-depth review) and interpretation of these accessed data (Bowen, 2009).

Our study topic, “The Process of the Spread of Rome in Anatolia”, contains cases and impressions that cannot be repeated due to the time period it covers. For this reason, criteria such as the content of the study, its field, and the time period to be researched are not suitable for quantitative research methods. Therefore, document analysis, one of the qualitative research methods that is thought to be more amenable to the criteria of the study, constitutes the method of the study. With this method, it was tried

to reach various sources and documents about the policy followed by Rome in Anatolia and draw meaningful inferences from them

The Arrival of the Novel in Anatolia

Rome saw that the most powerful state it faced was Carthage, when it expanded its borders by aiming for domination outside the Italian territory. He only ended this powerful state, which posed a danger to him, with the struggles that lasted from the mid-3rd century BC to the mid-2nd century and consisted of 3 major wars in total (Bahar, 2019; Tekin, 2007). With this termination, Rome gained dominance of the Western Mediterranean. Enthused by its success, Rome established provinces and further expanded its area of domination. After this stage, Rome turned to the east, where it saw that the greatest threat to itself was the Seleucid Kingdom. The central area of this kingdom was Syria. Apart from this central area, the kingdom also had important lands in Anatolia (Tekin, 2007). The ruling power of the Seleucids kingdom was III., who had the nickname "The Great". It was Antiochus. Antiochus was defeated in his fight with Rome at Thermopylai during his campaign in Greece. After this struggle with the Romans, a Hellenistic Antiochus of Rome went to Anatolia (Magie, 2001; Kaya, 1996). But the Romans also passed through the Hellespont and entered Anatolia. In the war fought in Magnesia (Manisa) near Sipylos Mountain, Antiochus was defeated by the Romans for the second time (189 BC) and fled to the East (Tekin, 2007; Kaya, 2019; Ergin, 2019; Tanilli, 1994). This struggle between Rome and the Seleucids, a Hellenistic kingdom, constitutes a milestone in the recognition of Anatolia by Rome. It can be said that the contact between Rome and Anatolia started with this struggle. The end of the struggle was achieved with a peace treaty. One year after the end of the war, the Apameia (Dinar) Peace Treaty was concluded in 188 BC. With this agreement, the Seleucids left the lands in the northern part of the Taurus Mountains to Rome. After this policy was implemented, Antiochus left the geography and went to Syria (Bahar, 2019; Tekin, 2007; Kaya, 2019; Ergin, 2019; Magie, 2001; Tozan, 2016). Following this situation, Rome's policy was to give the lands in the northern part of the Taurus Mountains left by the Seleucids to Pergamon and Rhodos. In addition, Rome showed its gratitude by giving land to the Ionian cities Miletus, Smyrna, Chios, Erythrai and Klazomenai, who agreed to be on its side during the fight against Antiochus. While Rome rewarded the cities that stood by it, it punished Ephesus, which chose to help Antiochus, and took its freedom away. Rhodos gained a more fortunate position during the distribution of Antiochus' dominions. So much so that, in addition to such a large area, Caria also gained the coastal regions of Lykia. However, these regions did not directly accept Rhodian domination. For this reason, the regions whose independence was granted by Rome also came under the protection of Rome. Rome took solution-oriented actions in the conflicts between cities. So much so that the cities continued their existence in a free structure and could mint their own coins (Tekin, 2007). There was a good relationship between the cities and Rome, where tolerance was effective. Rome was rewarded for its moderate attitude towards these city-states with the war waged by the Senate against the Macedonian King Perseus in 171 BC. In this war, Rhodos, Samos, Kalkhedon, Herakleia Pontike and many other Anatolian cities sided with Rome (Tekin, 2007; Magie, 2003). In line with this support, some cities provided ship support to Rome. Moreover, the Miletians said that they would do their best to provide all kinds of support in response to the demands of the Roman Senate. The struggle started with the support received resulted in Rome's success. This success enabled Rome to expand and continue its relations with the cities of Western Anatolia (Tekin, 2007). About fifty years had passed after the Peace of Apameia signed with the Seleucid ruler Apameia, when Attalos, the King of Pergamon (Bergama), made a decision that would be effective in expanding the borders of Rome and Attalos bequeathed his kingdom to Rome (Tekin, 2007; Bahar, 2019; Kurt, 2010a). This situation strengthens Rome's connection with Anatolia. So much so that it can be said that Rome has one foot in Anatolia from now on (Tekin, 2007).

Rome's relations with the Kingdom of Pontus, located in the southern part of the Black Sea, were in good condition until the kingdom began to pursue a policy aimed at expanding its expansion area. However, VI. Due to this policy during the reign of Mithradates Eupator, Rome and the Kingdom of Pontus left their friendship aside and entered into a structure dominated by war (Tekin, 2007; Atlan, 2014). The Mithradatic

Wars, which occurred due to territorial expansion, lasted exactly 25 years and resulted in the success of Rome. The policy followed by Rome at the end of the war was to unite Pontos with Bithynia and establish the Bithynia-Pontos State (Tekin, 2007; Kaya, 2019; Lloyn, 2000; Kaya, 1998; Taşdöner, 2015).

The beginning of the colonization process of Rome in Anatolia dates from the reign of Julius Caesar (Tekin, 2007; Bahar, 2019). We can list these colonies as follows: Colonia Gemina Lampsacus (Lapseki), Colonia Iulia Concordia Apamea (Mudanya), Heraclea Pontica (Karadeniz Ereğlisi) and Colonia Iulia Felix Sinope (Sinop) (Tekin, 2007; Kaya, 2019; Schwertheim, 2009). In the management strategy implemented by Rome in the Anatolian geography, there were practices that could be called privileges for some cities. In this regard, Rome granted some cities the status called free city. Although these cities are far from tax liability, they also have the authority to create their own laws (Tekin, 2007).

Augustus: Octavian won a victory against Antony and Cleopatra off the coast of Actium in Western Greece in 31 BC (Lloyn, 2000; İplikçioğlu, 2007; Taşdöner, 2017; Cornell and Matthews, 1988) This victory resulted in the elimination of the Ptolemies in Egypt, the last representative of the Hellenistic kingdoms (İplikçioğlu, 2007). The benefits of this victory were not limited to this. So much so that Rome also changed in terms of administrative structure and left the administration to the Empire instead of the Republic (Barrow, 2018; Türkoğlu, 2009; Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982). Octavian's success was crowned by the Senota and he was given the title of Augustus (Holy) (Barman, 2016). The administrative structure under the rule of Augustus included an arrangement that was divided into "subordinate to the emperor" and "subordinate to the senate" in the administration of the provinces (Tekin, 2007; Akurgal, 2005; Özsait, 1982; Demircioğlu, 1967). When Augustus ascended to the Roman throne, there were three states in Asia Minor: Asia (129 BC), Cilicia (101 BC), and Bithynia-Pontus (63 BC). While it was decided that Asia, one of these states, would be administered by the Cilicia senate, Cilicia Province was left to the administration of Augustus (Tekin, 2007; Kaya, 2003). After the murder of Amyntas, who was appointed to govern the Kingdom of Galatia, Augustus established the State of Galatia (Provincia Galatia). The province included the lands belonging to the Galatians, Pisidia, the eastern part of Phrygia, Lykaonia, Isauria, the inner parts of Paphlagonia and Lesser Armenia. The system applied to every new province was applied here as well, and the administration of the Galatia Province was left to Augustus (Tekin, 2007; Kaya, 2004). The administration of the province is carried out from Ankyra (Ankara), and five veteran colonies were established in the Pisidia region and efforts were made to keep the region under control. The most important of these colonies was undoubtedly Antiochia (Yalvaç). Among the other colonies established during the time of Augustus, we can mention Germe, Iconium, Ninica and Laranda. The communication and transportation of these colonies with each other was also provided by Via Sebaste, which was built to connect the west and east of Anatolia (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982).

Tiberius: After Augustus died in 14 AD, Tiberius took over the government (Tekin, 2007; Bahar, 2019; Çapar, 1980). Tiberius assigned his nephew Germanicus to make arrangements in the eastern provinces of the state. The situation that pushed Tiberius to take such a duty was that Artabanos, King of Parthia, intervened in the internal affairs of the Kingdom of Armenia, resulting in unrest in the region (Tekin, 2007; Yavuz, 2014). During this period, Cappadocia and Commagene were taken under control after their rulers lost their lives. Germanicus, who also went to Egypt during his time in the East, fell ill and died in Antioch (Antakya) in 19 AD. During the Tiberius period, geography also encountered some natural disasters. Famous geographer Strabon from Amasya and historian Pacitus mention in their information that an earthquake occurred in the west of Asia Minor in 17 AD. As a result of this earthquake, some cities were destroyed. Tiberius (AD 14-37) stated that he would not request taxes for a period of five years in order to provide convenience to the cities as a result of the victimization experienced. Tiberius, who did not limit his support to this, also provided financial support for some cities (Tekin, 2007)

Claudius: He is a ruler who had fears that he would be killed and was found hidden behind the curtain and was made emperor (Bahar, 2019). During the reign of Claudius, the Lykia and Thrace Provinces were established (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Çapar, 1980).

Nero: After Claudius, Nero took over the Roman administration (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Bahar, 2019). The empire that Nero took over was exhausted, weak and tired. There were four changes of rulers during a period of eighteen months (Gibbon, 1987). During his rule (54-68 AD), Armenia was under the rule of Parthia. In order to maintain control over Parthia and Armenia, Nero asked Corbulo to go east, and as a result of this duty, Corbulo captured Armenia (Kaya, 2005; Yavuz, 2014; Taşdöner, 2016). As a result of the Parthian Tridates' flight, the Romans enthroned Tigranes, the last king of Cappadocia (Akşit, 1976). However, Tigranes' mistake of attacking the Parthians was an act that brought his end. Following this situation, the Parthians were included in Armenia. Rome, on the other hand, followed the policy of sending Paetus, the governor of Cappadocia, to the region (Tekin, 2007). However, the method used did not yield results and Paetus's struggle with the Parthians ended in failure. As a result of the situations encountered, Rome decided to make an agreement with the Parthians. According to the agreement, Tridates came to Rome and wore the Armenian crown from the hands of Nero (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982).

Vespasian: Due to the policy he implemented, he connected the lands of Lesser Armenia to the province of Cappadocia. In addition, he enabled the establishment of the Lykia-Pamphylia province. Vespasian was also aware of the policies implemented against Rome. In this regard, he learned about the alliance of the King of Commagene with the Parthians against Rome, and as a result, he occupied Commagene and annexed it to the province of Syria. The provinces were also merged (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Akşit, 1976).

Traianus: After Vespasianus, Traianus took over the administration. Vespasian also reverted the practice of unifying the provinces of Galatia and Cappadocia and separated the provinces. In 110 AD, Trajan appointed Pliny the Younger as legatus Augusti in order to prevent the turmoil caused by the Bithynia-Pontos province (Tekin, 2007). The letters that Pliny the Younger sent to Emperor Trajan provide enlightenment about the geography and period in which he was there. Trajan organized an expedition in 114-115 AD, which included Eastern, Southeastern Anatolia and Upper Mesopotamia. The emperor, who took the Armenians and Parthians under his rule, founded the states of Armenia and Mesopotamia here. Trajan appointed Hadrian as governor of Syria and then turned to Rome. However, he fell ill and died in the city of Selinus in Cilicia (AD 117). The name of the city where he died was also changed and its name was changed from Selinus to Traianopolis (Tekin, 2007, Özsait, 1982).

Hadrian: Hadrian is the adopted son of Trajan. In order to have an idea about the empire, he made various trips and also came to Asia Minor (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Bahar, 2019). The ruler, who first came to Antioch during the eastern campaign and regulated the relations with the Parthians, then turned his direction to the north (Bahar, 2019). In this context, Hadrian visited Trapezous (Trabzon) and had a breakwater built there. In addition, it provided economic support to some cities. During this period, some arrangements were made and cities such as Hadrianopolis and Hadrianothrai were named to honor Hadrian. Hadrian then came to Anatolia again in the spring of 129 AD. He reached Ephesus from Rome by ship and from there he went to Pamphylia along the Anatolian coast. Then, from there, he headed north towards Phrygia and visited Cilicia, Kappadokia and Commagene (Tekin, 2007).

Antoninus Pius: He ascends to the throne upon the death of Hadrian (Freeman, 2003). It is stated that the emperor never came to Anatolia. However, two earthquakes occurred in Anatolia, one in the Kocaeli Peninsula and the south of Marmara, and the other in Southwest Anatolia. It is known that Antoninus Pius, who could not remain unresponsive in the face of these natural disasters, sent aid for support (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982).

Marcus Aurelius: After the death of Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius took over the administration. However, this administration was not dominated by a single person. Because Aurelius wanted his brother Lucius Verus to be co-emperor (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982). During his rule, Parthian King I.D. Vologases had engaged in a fight with the Roman governor of Cappadocia and defeated the governor's army. Taking action as a result of this defeat, Marcus Aurelius sent his brother Lucius Verus to the East. As a result of this step, the Romans' dominance in the region, which had been in danger for a moment, was regained.

At some point, some unfounded news emerged that Marcus Aurelius had died (Tekin, 2007). Thinking of turning this situation into an opportunity for himself, the governor of Syria, Avidius Cassius, declared himself emperor. However, his action resulted in his own death (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982).

Commodus: Commodus is the son of Marcus Aurelius and took over the administration after his death. (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Freeman, 2003). There was no notable movement in Anatolia during this period. However, the chaos that did not occur during Commodus' lifetime resulted in his death (Tekin, 2007). This turmoil was seen both in Rome and Anatolia, and the death of Commodus brought Pertinax to the throne. However, his rule did not last long and ended with his murder after 86 days (Faulkner, 2015). After the murder of Pertinax, the method used by the praetor guards to elect an emperor was to elect the emperor to the highest bidder. Thereupon, the rich senator Julianus bought the empire by giving 25,000 sesterces to each of them (Tekin, 2007). This situation created discomfort in the Roman people and they requested help from Pescennius Niger, the governor of Syria (Tekin, 2007). However, at this stage, Clodius Albinus, Governor of Britannia, and Septimius Severus, Governor of Upper Pannonia, also intervened in the situation and were declared emperors by their soldiers (Bahar, 2019; Tekin, 2007). After this crossing, Severus first encountered Niger in Bithynia. As a result of this encounter, Niger was defeated and fled; However, his escape did not yield any results and he was caught and killed. Later, Severus turned to Albinus and eliminated him, becoming the sole Roman emperor (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Lloyn, 2000; Ergin, 2019; Tekin, 2011; Faulkner, 2015).

Severus: Severus won the fight with Niger. After this success, he punished the cities that sided with Niger, not himself. Among these cities, Antiokeia and Byzantion were the cities that suffered the most damage. Within the scope of the punishment, Antiokeia was connected to Laodikeia (Latakia) and Byzantion was connected to Perinthos (Marmara Ereğlisi) and each was considered a village. In the following periods, Byzantion was repaired and developed during the rule of Caracalla, the son of Severus (Tekin, 2007). Septimius Severus later returned to Rome. Here he killed Clodius Albinus, who posed a threat to him, along with his wife and children. Severus came to the East a few years later and fought against the Parthians. The emperor, who then returned to Rome, died in 211 AD (Tekin, 2007; Kaya, 2006b).

Caracalla: After the death of Severus, his sons Caracalla and Geta ascended to the Roman throne. However, Caracalla had his brother Geta killed after a period of 10 months (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Bahar, 2019; Freeman, 2003). Caracalla, known for his cruelty, organized a successful operation against the Germans. Then, in 214 AD, he turned towards the east. The purpose of pursuing such a policy is that he wants to carry out a conquest against the Parthians. Caracalla identified himself with Alexander the Great. Taking him as an example, the emperor strives to be like him (Tekin, 2007). In this regard, he had Alexander statues built in Rome and other cities, and moreover, he ordered paintings with Alexander's face on one side and his own face on the other (Tekin, 2007; Bahar, 2019). As soon as Caracalla crossed the Dardanelles to Anatolia, he imitated Alexander and visited Ilium (ancient Troy). He preferred to stay in Nikomedeia (Izmit) in the winter of 214-215 AD. Afterwards, he came to Antioch in May 215. He then proceeded towards Egypt and came to Aleksandreia (Alexandria). He set out for Antioch to make preparations for the operation he planned to carry out against the Parthians the following year and to prepare the army for war. There was a power struggle between Vologases V and Artabanos V in Parthia. This situation caused a civil war within the country. Accordingly, Caracalla made an offer to Artabanos and asked him to marry his daughter and become a friend of Rome. However, when his offer was not accepted, he left the country in disarray. The emperor, who retired to Edessa (Urfa) to spend the winter, started some efforts to organize a new campaign against Parthia. However, on his way from Edessa to Karrhai (Harran), he was killed by Martialis, one of the guard officers (April 8, 217). During the time of Caracalla, some regulations were made on the monetary system. So much so that a new currency called antoninianus was introduced (Tekin, 2007). Additionally, an edict called *Constitutio Antoniniana* was issued in 212 AD. In line with this edict, all free men and women within the borders of the empire had the right to become Roman citizens. The aim of this edict is to increase the number of individuals obliged within the scope of public service and to increase the empire's revenues by collecting extra taxes from citizens (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Bahar, 2019). Eliminating the difference between Romans and non-Romans further

strengthened the understanding of the empire based on a single nation, rather than an imperial mentality consisting of communities living in provinces governed by Rome. In the tomb inscriptions of the Caracalla period, Roman names such as Aurelius and Aurelia were frequently encountered, as a reflection of the edict. This is an important criterion in terms of dating. The end of Caracalla's life without appointing an heir caused turmoil in Rome. However, this situation ended when the soldiers declared Macrinus emperor (Tekin, 2007).

Parthians, Goths and Roman Emperors

Severus Alexander: The Parthians were weakened as a result of their struggle with the Romans. During the reign of Severus Alexander, they encountered an Achaemenid (Persian) king of Persian origin. The king, whom we say was of Persian descent, was Ardashir (Artaxerxes) and was subject to the Parthians (Tekin, 2011; Tekin, 2007). He later declared his freedom and defeated the Parthian king. As a result of this struggle, he waged and won, he founded the Sassanid State. In order to expand its borders, Ardashir turned to the Roman domination areas and entered the Roman province of Mesopotamia in 230 AD and occupied Nisibis and Karrhai. Following this situation, Severus left Rome in the spring of 231 AD and came to Antioch, where he defeated the Sassanids and brought Mesopotamia back under Roman rule. Severus Alexander was killed when Maximinus (235-238 AD), of Thracian origin, who performed significantly in the Eastern campaign, was declared emperor by the soldiers (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982). Maximinus later granted the rank of caesar to his son Maximus. But his rule, which lasted for a few years, did not contain much success. His death was at the hands of his own soldiers (Tekin, 2007).

After the death of Maximus, he was succeeded by Alexander III. Gordianus (AD 238-244) passed away. In this process, the Sassanids, under the rule of their king Shapur I, started to invade Mesopotamia and Syria. Thereupon III. Gordian immediately intervened in this region and defeated the Sassanids. However, this action aimed at success resulted in the emperor being killed by his soldiers around Kirkesion (Busaira) (in Mesopotamia) (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982). Following this situation, Philippus Arabs (244-249 AD) was declared emperor. During the reign of Philippus Arabs, an agreement was reached with the Parthians. During this time, in the mid-3rd century AD, the Goths began to pose a serious threat to Rome (Tekin, 2007). Decius (249-251 AD), who was later declared emperor by the legions in the Danube, won the war with Philippus and killed him. However, Decius' end of life occurred during his fight against the Goths. Thereupon, the Roman army declared Trebonianus Gallus (251-253 AD) emperor. But the process of domination was not very bright for him and Rome. In this process, the Goths could not be controlled and plundered Ephesos. Similarly, Sassanid attacks could not be controlled. In addition, the plague epidemic, which spread and caused many people to lose their lives, was another situation that left its mark on the period. Thinking that they could get out of this difficult period by changing emperors, the soldiers first declared Aemilianus, and after a while, Valerianus (253-260 AD) as emperor. Valerian spent most of his time trying to cope with these forces that the empire encountered (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982). First of all, he turned towards the East. The reason for following such a policy was that Syria and Mesopotamia were invaded by the Sassanid King Shapur I. Although it gained success against the Sassanids from time to time, the situation was generally a defeat for Rome. The spread of the plague within the army destroyed the army both in strength and morale. This situation was further reinforced when Edessa (Urfa) fell into the hands of Shapur. The emperor, on the verge of war, went to meet with Shapur (Tekin, 2007). However, Shapur did not display a moderate attitude in this meeting and captured Valerian and his officers. However, the situation did not end there; he displayed a dishonorable attitude towards the emperor and treated him as if he were a slave. So much so that he used the emperor as a stepping stone and stepped on his back while riding his horse (Tekin, 2007; Eutropius). The torture was not limited to this; when the emperor died, he had his skin flayed and hung in the temple. Following his father's death, Gallienus remained alone on the Roman throne. In addition to the external dangers and chaos that existed during this period, there were also internal problems. So much so that Gallienus often struggled with the situation where many people were declared emperor on various occasions (Tekin, 2007).

The Goths began a major attack in early AD 268. The turmoil outside the empire and the struggles for the throne within the country led to the end of Gallienus. So much so that the Emperor was killed by the commander of the Dalmatian cavalry in September 268 AD. The Goth danger for the country came only after World War II. It was destroyed during the time of Claudius (AD 268-270) (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982). Queen Zenobia of Palmyra, who wanted to benefit from Rome's struggle with the Goths, came to Ankara. The following year, he invaded Egypt, which was Rome's wheat warehouse. (Tekin, 2007). Claudius died due to a plague epidemic in the same year, before he had the opportunity to combat this situation faced by Rome (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982).

After Claudius' death, Quintillus took his place, but his rule was short-lived. Because he realized that he would lose the throne due to his support of Aurelianus, and this pushed him to commit suicide (Tekin, 2007). One of the outstanding achievements of Aurelianus (AD 270-275) was the end of Palmyra's dominance in the East. Following Rome's success, the defeated queen of Palmyra escaped but was caught (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982). There are various opinions regarding the fate of Zenobia. According to some views, she died on the way to Rome. A different view is that he was held captive in Tibur (Tivoli) near Rome until the end of his life. After the success against the Palmyrans, there were turmoil and power struggles in Rome. This situation brought about the end of Aurelianus and caused him to be killed by his own men (Tekin, 2007). After Aurelianus, Tbcitus (AD 275-276) came to the throne. However, Tbcitus was killed in Tyana (Kemerhisar) in Cappadocia after a six-month administration period. Afterwards, Florianus (276 AD) declared his empire (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982). Florianus, who became emperor, took action against Probus, who was declared emperor in Egypt at that time. But things did not go as he wanted and he was killed by his own soldiers on the road. Among the major events that took place in Anatolia during the Probus period is the danger posed in Pamphylia and Lykia by the bandits led by Lydios the Isaurian. The emperor, who celebrated his victory against the Germans by organizing a procession in Rome at the end of 281 AD, was planning to organize an expedition against the Sassanids in the spring of 282 AD (Tekin, 2007). However, in the meantime, Carus declared himself emperor. Thereupon, he was killed by his own soldiers who supported the new emperor. However, this period of dominance did not last long for Carus. In fact, his fate was the same for his son (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Tekin, 2008). So much so that Numerianus was soon killed by his Praetor Praefectus Aper (Tekin, 2007; Tekin, 2008; Eutropius). Later, Diocletian was deemed suitable for the Roman throne. The difficulties encountered in the administration of Rome necessitated a new structure. For this reason, in order to facilitate the administration of the empire during the time of Diocletian, he created a quadruple administration consisting of two augustus and two caesars (Tekin, 2007; Özsait, 1982; Bahar, 2019).

In the first quarter of the 4th century AD, a struggle occurred between Maximinus Daia, Caesar of the East, and Licinius of Rome. Maximinus began to attack the lands that were under Licinius' dominion. After this, Licinius and Maximinus faced each other in the spring of 313 AD. He won the fight despite commanding a smaller army compared to Licinius Maximinus' army. From now on, Anatolia, as well as Thrace, was under the rule of Licinius. Licinius then came face to face with Constantine I (AD 307-337). But the same success was not achieved and Licinius was defeated. As a result, the sole ruler of the Roman Empire became Constantine, who was honored with the nickname "The Great" (Tekin, 2007; Kurt, 2010b).

The turmoil experienced both inside and outside the empire made it necessary to move the state administration from Rome to Byzantium. Thereupon, in 324 AD, Constantine the Great designated the new capital as Byzantium and named it Constantinopolis (Bahar, 2019; Tekin, 2007). In this process, Christianity had already spread throughout the Mediterranean world by the time of Constantine. In the 1st century AD, St. Paul's attempt to come to Anatolia and spread Christianity, starting from the south of Anatolia to the Aegean coast, was completed successfully. Thus, Constantine the Great accepted Christianity. Constantine granted tolerance (freedom of religion/conscience) to Christians and Pagans within the empire with an edictum (Edict of Milan) published in 313 AD. This practice meant the release of Christianity. It is accepted that the emperor was baptized and became a Christian shortly before his death (Tekin, 2007).

Conclusion

During the period when Rome expanded its area of expansion and headed outside Italy, Carthage was the powerful power that posed a threat to Rome. There were three major wars between Rome and Carthage, starting from the mid-3rd century BC and continuing until the mid-2nd century. This war gave victory to Rome and defeat to Carthage. With this success, Rome took over the Western Mediterranean geography and expanded its dominance geography with this policy it implemented. Following the mentioned expansion area, Rome directed its route towards the East. The power that poses a threat to Rome in the East is the Seleucid Kingdom. The Seleucid Kingdom chose Syria as its center. However, the area of dominance was not only this geography. In addition to this area, he also owned important lands in Anatolia. The ruler of the kingdom was III., who had the nickname "The Great". It is Antiochus. The fight between the Seleucids and the Romans took place in Magnesia (Manisa), near Mount Sipylus. As a result of this struggle, Antiochus was defeated by the Romans. As a result of this defeat, Antiochus fled to the East and the first stages of Rome's expansion took place in this way. In later periods, the spread in Anatolia gradually expanded. During this period, major changes and processes took place in administration. Some of the emperors who took over the administration were able to gain control for a short period of days. During the period of Rome's expansion, it was seen that its soldiers played a very important role in the administration. So much so that some emperors, while continuing their own administration, encountered soldiers declaring other people as emperors during the same period. While the process continued with this and many similar struggles, Rome increased its orientation towards Anatolia.

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