

KRAKOW CLOTH HALL AND SOME CONSIDERATIONS ON THE BEDESTEN FUNCTION*

KRAKOW KUMAŞ (TEKSTİL) BORSASI VE BEDESTENİN İŞLEVİ ÜZERİNE DÜŞÜNCELER

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Abstract

Cloth-bazaar (bedesten/bezzazistan), which identifies international trade in Ottoman cities especially in the 15th and 16th centuries, were situated in the centers of many important cities particularly in Bursa, Edirne, and Istanbul. These buildings, being the center of cloth-seller (bezzaz), acted like a stock market. Interior of these cloth-bazaars, whose architectural plan were standardized, have an especially engrossing rectangular plan. The middle area of these buildings are divided by double-sided arches vaulting on the single row of piers into bay surmounted by a dome and also a row of shops surrounding these areas. Exterior of them also was surrounded with iwans from all quarters. Cloth Hall, situated in the center of Krakow, is a significant trade building which can be associated with “bedesten.” At present, this building has been still organising the center of the city and reiterating the main architectural plan of the classical bedesten. Cloth Hall in Krakow indicated the Ottoman-Poland relations particularly in 15th and 16th centuries when the international trade mostly focused on silk, spicy and leather. Moreover, name, function and architectural plan of “Cloth Hall” is also indicated that both Ottoman Bedestens and Krakow’s Cloth Hall are similar to each other. In this context, the aim of this article is to analyze the voyage of “bedesten functions” from Ottoman Empire to Poland through this Building.

Keywords: Krakow, cloth hall, bedesten, main market/bazaar.

* This article is a means to survive the precious memory of beloved friend Fikret Topallı, who translated it into English. May he rest in peace. This article depends on the work that has presented in ICTA-15th International Congress of Turkish Art Napel, 16th-18th September 2015.

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Özet

Osmanlı döneminde kentlerdeki uluslararası ticaretin varlığını tanımlayan bedestenler (bezzazistan/cloth-bazar), özellikle 15-16 yüzyıllarda, Bursa, Edirne ve İstanbul başta olmak üzere birçok önemli kentin ticaret merkezlerinde yer almışlardır. Kıymetli kumaş ticareti yapanların (bezzaz/cloth-seller) merkezlerini/loncalarını oluşturan bu yapılar bir anlamda kentin borsası olarak görev yapmışlardır. Standart bir mimari şema ortaya koyan bedestenlerin iç mekânı, genellikle uzunlamasına dikdörtgen planlı olup, tek sıra paye üzerine çift yönlü kemer atılımıyla kubbe örtülü birimlere ayrılmış orta bölüm ve çevresine sıralanmış dükkânlar dizisi şeklindedir. Dış mekân ise dört yönden eyvan dizisi ile çevrelenmiştir. Krakow'un merkezinde yer alan ve günümüze "Cloth Hall" olarak tanımlana gelen yapı ise isminden de anlaşılacağı üzere "bedesten" ile ilişkilendirebileceğimiz dönemin önemli bir ticaret yapısıdır. Bugün dahi kent meydanının merkezini oluşturan bu yapı, mimari anlamda da klasik bedesten plan şemasını ana hatlarıyla tekrarlar. Özellikle 15-16. yüzyıllarda uluslararası ipek, baharat ve deri ticaretinin yapıldığı bu kent için "Cloth Hall" özelindeki isim-işlev-mimari benzerliği bir anlamda Polonya-Osmanlı ilişkisini gözler önüne serer. Bu bağlamda amacımız, bu yapı aracılığıyla "bedesten işlevinin" Osmanlı'dan Polonya'ya taşınma serüvenini çözümlemeye çalışmaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Krakow, cloth hall, bedesten, çarşı/pazar.

At the beginning these places/cities which were occasionally used as gathering centers, turned out to be the administrative, religious, political and economical centers in time. From the medieval era onwards, especially the economical recovery caused by the trade activities conceive the trade center concept in the most important cities¹. These centers defined as “Market square”, “main market”, “bazaar” and “çarşı/souk” and similar other statements mostly showed similar characteristics partly due to the nature of the trading activities there. First classical monumental example of Ottomans bedesten is seen in Bursa. This building/Yıldırım Bedesten (pre 1396) constitute commercial center which referred as “sûk-ı sultânî” or “grand bazaar” of the city along with Ulu Cami² (1399)³. Interior of these bedestens, whose architectural plan were standardised, had especially engrossing rectangular plan and the middle area of these buildings are divided by double-sided arches vaulting on the single row of piers into bay surmounted by a dom and also a row of shops surrounding these area. Exterior of them also were surrounded with iwans from all quarters. In this context, Krakow Cloth Hall and Bursa Bedesten can be corelated in terms of determining the commercial centres of the cities they are in. These two similar buildings in terms of plans appears as the common denominator of the functional compliance of the concepts such as trade, trade center and the architecture. However, it should not be disregarded that the mutual trade exchange -together with the other factors- may cause some interaction between these two structures.

“Sukiennice”, or with today’s definition “Cloth Hall” and the square where it takes place -Rynek Główny/ Main Market Square”- which are placed in such an early era as the thirteenth century by⁴ (Fig. 1)⁵. In this era the King Boleslaw the Bashful (1243–1279) had redesigned the city square and the streets taking German rules as reference⁶. Besides, King Boleslaw encouraged

the Germans to settle in the towns in which the Polish population is higher; these Germans who were granted special privileges became predominant in the social, political and commercial life of the cities and became arbiters in the international and regional trade activities⁷.



Figure 1 - Krakow cloth hall and main market square / *Krakow cloth hall ve ticari kent merkezi*

In Europe, the big commercial centers which were joined with the walls of the old city centers and the new centers which were intersected with each other by side streets have been associated with Germans. The examples of these cities setups are Poznan, Wroclaw, Hildesheim and Magdeburg and most probably due to this reason, together with Main Market Square, the Cloth Hall has been thought to be constructed by the German tradesmen⁸ (Fig. 1-4)⁹. However, in these German cities mentioned above, there is no trade center setup formed in a trade structure similar to the Cloth Hall¹⁰. As to the independent studies conducted related to the Cloth Hall, the structure is placed to the thirteenth century expressions in general, without any relationship to German models¹¹.

At this period the construction had wooden counters in two lines at both sides with stall partitions and at the outside of the counters it is believed that there were merchants lodging locations¹², (Fig. 5). It is emphasised that later other different trade structures have been added

¹ Historian Pirenne in his research called “Medieval Cities”, approached to the trade improvements by formation of the cities and especially the effects of the trade activities in the formation of the city municipalities (Pirenne 1994).

² Ergenç 2010: 33; Eyice 1992a: 507.

³ For detailed information regarding the term “Sûk-ı sultani”, see Ergenç 2010.

⁴ Kadluczka 2013: 105; Crosby 2002: 66; Jenkins 2008: 84.

⁵ When the city of Krakow is in concern, the date pointed out as the thirteen century is rather important. It is very well known that in 1240 the city had been ruined considerably the the Moguls who had entered the city passing from Kiev to the North and proceeding Poland (Runciman 1992: 215).

⁶ “Boleslaw the Bashful, wishing to develop Cracow which he cannot do under Polish law, appoints a vojta to supervise the change to German law, he alters the arrangement of the buildings and moves some that have been erected here and there without plan or order; but first he delineates the city square and then ‘the corresponding streets’” (Długosz 1997: 201).

⁷ Carter 1994: 64; Lukowski 2001: 12-13; Crosby 2002: 62.

⁸ Pounds 1994: Fig. 6.5-6.7; Crosby 2002: 62.

⁹ At the 13. Century a commercial union in the name of/Hanseatic League was formed to mutually protect the rights of the German Groups living at the northern cities of Germany or living at the other nearby countries and Krakow also joined this group. (Carter 1994: 98-102; Berg 2011: 120).

¹⁰ In these most important European trading squares, together with the most important church of the town, the municipality buildings and bell towers start to be available. For detailed information please refer to Pirenne 1994.

¹¹ Kadluczka 2013: 105; Crosby 2002: 66; Jenkins 2008: 84.

¹² Kadluczka 2013: 105; Carter 1994: 66.



Figure 2 - Commercial centers in some German cities (Poznan)
/ Bazı Alman şehirlerindeki ticaret merkezleri (Poznan)



Figure 3 - Commercial centers in some German cities (Wroclaw)
/ Bazı Alman şehirlerindeki ticaret merkezleri (Wroclaw)

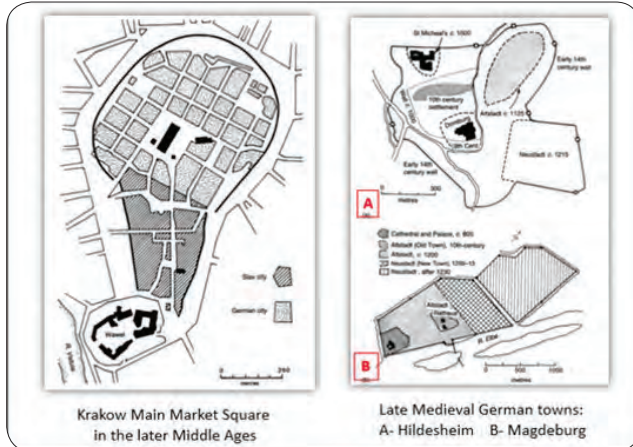


Figure 4 - The big commercial centers which were joined with the walls (Pounds 1994) / Surla çevrili büyük ticaret merkezleri

to these arrangements which were initially composed of cloth and bread counters¹³. With this mentioned setup of the wooden counters it is understood that other trade items were sold together with the cloth items.

¹³ Starzynski 2013: 58-59.

At the Krakow Main Market Square during the excavations in 1975-76, the stone structured foundations in rectangular shape at the middle, surrounded by shops/units in both sides were found out¹⁴. Therefore, today also two structures “Sukiennice/Cloth Hall” and “stone foundations” which are parallel to each other attracts attention (Fig. 6). The stone foundations are placed with the earliest trade structures in the city to the same period as the wooden counters, i.e. to the thirteenth century¹⁵. It is possible that those early period structures have been considerably ruined after the 1307 fire incidence as mentioned in Długosz chronicles¹⁶. These foundations with a contiguous setting of shops resemble commercial buildings referred to as “arasta”. Arastas can be taken as a setting of one or two sets of adjacent and contiguous shops on two sides of a street. In some instances they constitute only an adjacent part of the buildings they belong and even in some other instances they are added into the architectural body of the building¹⁷.



Figure 5 - Cloth Hall and merchants stalls (13th), (Carter 1994: 66) / Cloth Hall ve tüccar tezgahları (13.yy)

There are different suggestions as to the date placement of the Cloth Hall to the periods after than the thirteenth century. The first one of these is to place them together with the massive basilican building called “pinnithacae”

¹⁴ Karczmarczyk 2011: 319.

¹⁵ Kadluczka 2013: 105.

¹⁶ Długosz 1997: 251.

¹⁷ Cezar 1983: 126-156; Eyice 1992b: 303.



Figure 6 - Krakow Main Market Square after the excavations in 1975-76 (Karczmarczyk 2011: 319) / 1975-76 Yılındaki kazı sonrasında Krakow kent ticaret merkezi

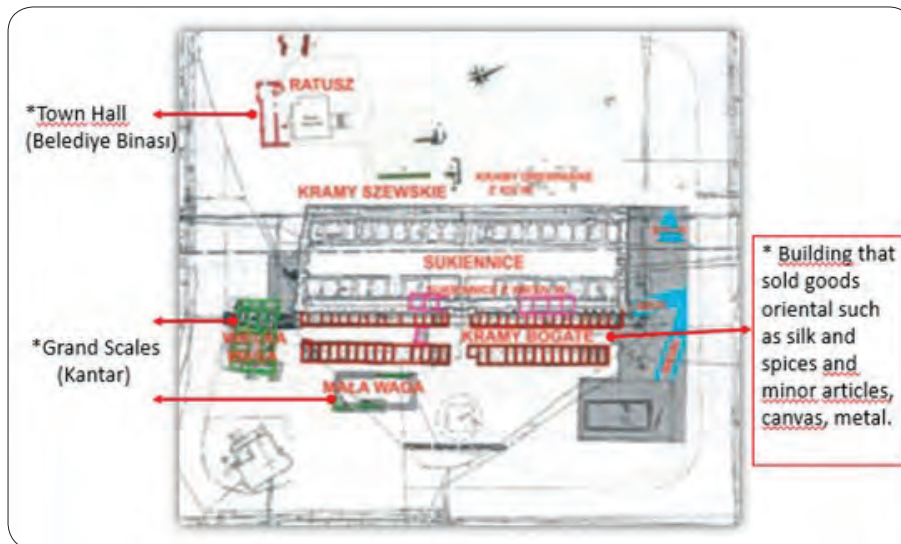


Figure 7 - Medieval trade center buildings in Krakow Main Market Square (Mater, 2008: 85) / Krakow kent ticaret merkezindeki ortaçağ ticaret yapıları

constructed at the 14th century instead of the wooden structures at the earlier period¹⁸. In this period it is talked about the construction of a building where there were the trading of articles with big scales, together with minor articles, canvas, metal, silk and spices and such eastern originated articles¹⁹, (Fig. 7)²⁰.

Some other researchers date the structures to the second half of the fourteenth century without giving some explanation of their reasoning²¹. Another assumption

without any reasoning is the explanation that the Cloth Hall had been constructed by the Polish King of the era Kazimierz The Great (1333-1370)²². Even though not indicated in the publications, the basis of these dates lies in the narratives of Jan Długosz's chronicles as King Kazimierz's great desire to make his country very popular and prosperous and due to this reason he has constructed a lot of stone and brick walled churches, castles, palaces and other different city centers/towns instead of wooden or adobe bricked buildings²³. However this narrative only explains his efforts for having different

centers constructed except for the "Main Market Square" in Krakow only²⁴⁻²⁵. Another researcher has again without justification places, Cloth Hall to the era of Wladyslaw Jagiello (1386-1434)²⁶. The building mentioned herewith had burned out in a fire incidence that took place in 1955. However a gravure documenting the previous position of

¹⁸ Kadluczka 2013: 105; Starzyński 2013: 58-59.

¹⁹ Starzyński 2013: 58-59.

²⁰ Thus, together with this structure other structural ruins such as grand scales which have to be present in a trade region were revealed at that time. In Krakow it was found out that metal trading, especially copper trading was very important; it has been stated that this was revealed during the excavations done at around the Main Square, inside the grand scales region mentioned herein (Garbacz-Klempka 2009: 283, 288).

²¹ Myslinski 2004: 305; Bedford 2008: 181.

²² Murrey 1837: 345.

²³ Długosz 1997: 322.

²⁴ Carter 1994: 66-67

²⁵ The south Casimiria (now Kazimierz) in 1335 and Florencja (now Kleparz) in 1366 was established. The former site incorporated the small villages of Stradom and Rybaki; five years later (1340) Bawol was added (Carter 1994: 67). In the 14th century there has been a serious Jewish population flow from France and Germany to Poland and the King Kazimiers placed these Jewish fugitives to the newly constructed region within the city which is later called as the "Kazimierz" region (Carter 1994: 66-67; Rudziński 2007: 80). Due to this reason is the jewish region is still called as "Kazimierz" today and is known as the "Symbolism of the German Sovereignty" Crosby, 2002: 63.

²⁶ Carter 1994: 68.



Figure 8 - Krakow Sukiennice/Cloth Hall (1555) (<http://zwiedzajkrakow.pl/tag/handel-w-krakowie/>) / *Krakow Sukiennice/Cloth Hall (1555)*

the building before the fire gives us some clues as to the construction date of the Cloth Hall (Fig. 8).

Cloth Hall which belonged to the period before 1555 having a “crenelated parapet” styled facade reflects a commonly used application in Krakow, differs from the other known examples in Europe due to its plain appearance, massive walls, schematic plan and molar shape in terms of its architectural features.

In Europe, especially after the tenth century instead of the bazaars which were set up from time to time at certain intervals, the permanent portuses/trade centers for buying and selling have been established²⁷. These centers, turned out to be huge construction centers in England and some other Flemish cities such as Ghentan, Ypres where cloth trading has been of great importance²⁸⁻²⁹. In addition to this especially some northern and southern towns of France, and many other towns in Italy and Reine Germany were engaged in weaving industry³⁰. However, what is more interesting is that, even though cloth trading and production have been very popular and important in Europe then, Cloth Hall structures dating back to

thirteenth century were restricted to the Flemish region only. The most important one of these buildings are in Ypres, Belgium³¹. This building which in principle served as a cloth market and storage area attracts attention with its huge size and its tower (Fig. 9). With its gothic features, Ypres Cloth Hall, differs from our building in terms of its monumental look, bell towers included into its structure and the other towers. Together with this building the other Cloth Halls reconstructed at the nineteenth century in the cities of Bruges (1304) and Ghent (1425-1441) point out that there has been a construction tradition related with cloth trading starting from the thirteenth century onwards in the region (Fig. 10-11). Though in Anatolia the presence of the international trading and bedestens have been known from the Seljuk's ruling periods³²⁻³³.

³¹ Pirenne 1994: 175

³² Turan 1990: 96-126; Cahen 2000: 119-143; Turan 2005: 359-364; Cezar 1985: 14.

³³ In fact it is definitely known at that period that there existed a market known as the “Yabanlu Pazarı”/Savagery Market where international tradesmen meet and exchange different goods and articles. On top of that the name “Yabanlu” refers to the market for foreign-estates, and this is rather meaningful for our subject matter (Sümer 1985: 14-16). It is known that the western tradesmen used to reach to this market travelling from Cyprus, whereas the northern tradesmen followed the routes such as Crimean shores, through Suğdak-Sinop harbour connections (Cezar 1985: 23). Together with these, information is also available related to the presence of the Bedestens from the data obtained from the foundations of Anatolia-Seljuk era (Temir 1989: 106, 115; Durukan 1997: 25-44). However, there isn't any original bedesten architecture reaching to our times from those periods. The only example reaching to our times is that of the Beyşehir Bedesten dating back to 1296 and this building has been renovated in 1551. However it is thought that the renovation has been done adhering to the original architectural plan (Çaycı 2008: 62-65). A covered yard with six units and the domes in two rows, and several iwans covering

²⁷ Pirenne 1994: 112-113

²⁸ Pirenne 1994: 119, 121

²⁹ At the end of the 10. Century production of domestic wool has been insufficient therefore wool was imported from England, this improvement resulted in most flemish countries to get engaged with weaving and cities such as Ghent, Bruges Ypres, Lille, Douai ve Arras have been greatly prosperous (Pirenne 1937: 36-37). From the beginning of the 13.th century¹³. After the Italian merchants desire to exchange the clothings with eastern materials such as silk and spices, western clothings begin to enter the eastern Mediterranean ports (Pirenne 1937: 37).

³⁰ Pirenne 1994: 119; Carter 1994: 143



Figure 9 - Ypres Cloth Hall (13th) / *Ypres Cloth Hall (13.yy)*

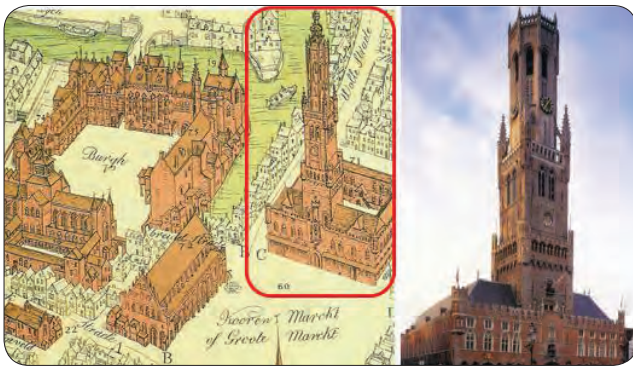


Figure 10 - Bruges Cloth Hall (19th) (first const. 1304) / *Bruges Cloth Hall (19. yy) (ilk inşası 1304)*



Figure 11 - Ghent Cloth Hall (19th) (first const. 1425-1441) / *Ghent Cloth Hall (19. yy) (ilk inşası 1425-1441)*

However it is difficult to state for now from a functional point of view that these buildings have met the function of a “bedesten” in the sense that we understand.

the surroundings of the yard reflect the earliest bedesten setup with this architectural plan but because of its rectangular shape almost close to that of a square it is different than the shape of the bedesten in Krakow.

The bedestens which formed the centers/guilds of the precious cloth-sellers at the Ottoman era in a sense, served as the exchange markets of the cities. These establishments, as mentioned above, took place in the market centers called “sûk” where the tradesmen lodging inns, various shops, manufacturing shops, weighbridge and big scales are present, together with the most important mosque of the city as well³⁴⁻³⁵. In the same manner Cloth Hall also constitutes Krakow’s centre by including city’s most important church, townhall and grand scales buildings. This setup reveals some similarities between Krakow trade center and the Cloth Hall which have differences compared to those of the other European countries, and common points with the market system in Bursa and the bedesten (Fig. 12-13).



Figure 12 - Bursa Trade Center and the Bedesten / *Bursa ticaret merkezi ve bedesten*

When considered in this aspect, the association of the root of the word “Sukiennice” with sûk/market/bazaar and “sukno” in Polish cloth / fabric sense cannot be regarded as a coincidence³⁶. On top of this, it points out that there have been some interaction between Krakow and the East starting from the thirteenth century onwards³⁷. Thus, with the influence of the increased trade activities between the east and the west, especially with Italy and Mediterranean trading, some words with eastern origin such as “bazaar” have entered to the European languages, this further supports the relationship mentioned³⁸⁻³⁹.

³⁴ Eyice 1992: 303; İnalçık 1997: 119-121.

³⁵ For further information regarding Kapan hans’ scales functions, see Sevim 2010: 81- 90.

³⁶ Berg 2011: 117.

³⁷ Especially an important trading web supplying spices and silk items of eastern origin over Baltic Sea, Russia and İstanbul attracts attention (Carter 1994: 118-123, 150-151, 267). For further detailed information about trading in this period please refer to Pirenne 1934 and Pounds, N.J.G. 1994.

³⁸ Pirenne 1937: 143.

³⁹ Some of the keywords to follow for inquiries in English are

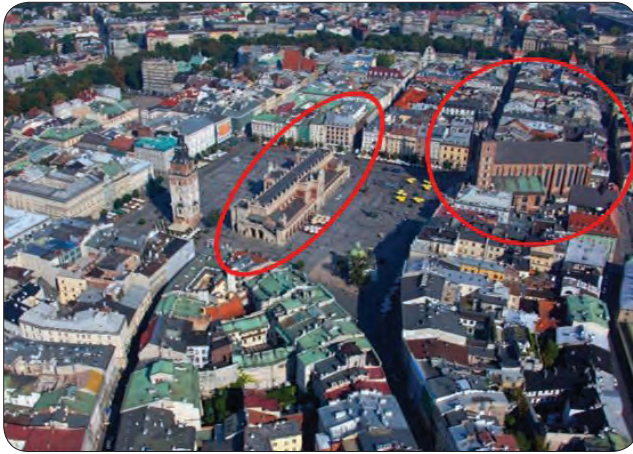


Figure 13 - Krakow Trade Center and the Cloth Hall / *Krakow ticaret merkezi ve Cloth Hall*

Especially after the fourteenth century the Ottomans's intensive trade relationships to the West together with Aydınoğlu, Mentеше, Saruhanlı beylics attract attention⁴⁰. At the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, in other words, on the ruling periods of Jagiellon dynasty -at the golden era of Poland- Cloth Hall became the most important trade center of⁴¹. At this period the Anatolia has been engaged with intensive trade network with the western tradesmen and the Ottoman's capital city Bursa was the most important trade center⁴². Together with these, again in this period, it is also known that an important banking and exchange system which would affect the trading and relationships between the countries, has been established with the influence of the Italian bankers⁴³⁻⁴⁴. In addition

divan, artichoke, spinach, tarragon, orange, alcove, arsenal, jar, magazine, syrup, taffetas, tare, tariff and for French inquiries are douane, darse, gabelle, gourdrion, jupe, quintal and recif (Pirenne 1937: 143).

⁴⁰ Turan 1990: 19-190; Fleet 1999: 11.

⁴¹ Kadluczka 2013: 105.

⁴² Especially, from the early beginnings of the Ottoman state to the capture of Constantinople in 1453, Turchia was an area of intense commerce, one facet of which was the trading activity of the western merchants, among whom the Genoese and Venetians held a dominant position. The exchange of goods consisted broadly of the export of raw materials from Turchia and the import into the area of luxury items, although Turchia did produce and export quality products of its own, such as worked cloth. At the same time, Turchia acted as a transit market for eastern luxuries such as silks and spices (Fleet 1999: 22; Rosamund 2002: 48). After the Black Death (1346-1353), the much-reduced population turned increasingly to luxuries, one of the manifestations of which was the wearing of silk garments. Presumably this upsurge in the wearing of silk increased the demand for the raw material and thus boosted the silk markets of Turchia, predominantly that of Bursa, the Turkish centre of the trade (Fleet 1999: 98).

⁴³ Pirenne 1994: 170-171; Fleet 1999: 18-19.

⁴⁴ This system operated extensively in northern Italy, also functioning in commercial centres in southern Italy, France, Spain, England, the Netherlands and southern Germany. By the fifteenth century it was also possible to use bills of exchange in

to this European trade integrity in which Krakow and Bursa were taking parts, it is important to the specifics of our subject that Krakow is a significant textile and trade center at the sixteenth century-even though it did not have a serious cloth manufacturing activity⁴⁵. At this period where mutual trading was of great importance, the two capital cities -Bursa and Krakow- come into prominence. Cloth was the leading commercial merchandise between the two countries⁴⁶. It is known that especially the orientalist/eastern clothes were brought to Sukiennice from the Ottoman Empire⁴⁷⁻⁴⁸. In addition to these trade relationships mentioned above, it is especially meaningful that the first official/political contacts between these two countries also took place at the beginning of the fifteen century as Ottoman-Polish ambassadors visiting each other⁴⁹⁻⁵⁰.

Prague, Krakow and Buda (Fleet 1999: 18-19).

⁴⁵ At this point it needs to be especially emphasized that Krakow was able to restore its position in the international textile markets due to rerouting the European trade routes from the Mediterranean shores to the coastal regions in Atlantic and was able to obtain considerable income especially in the 16th century (Carter 1994: 269).

⁴⁶ At the Ottoman Empire different kinds of clothing called "kemha" and "çatma" were manufactured at the end of the 14th Century in Bursa intensively which was known as the trade center of weaving industry. (Contadini 2015: 64). At the end of the 16th century the most important buyer of the Bursa clothes was Poland who was influenced by the aristocratic fashion of the neighbourhood countries. In 1560's the tradesmen who were loyal to the Polish King were granted exemption from Turkish taxes when they were shopping for the palace. Apart from this, the high demand to the weaving by Polish palace were met by the supplies furnished by the ambassadors returning to their countries (Faroghi 2004: 116).

⁴⁷ Carter 1994: 269-270.

⁴⁸ The clothes manufactured in Bursa and exported to Poland were used mainly as the clothing's of the aristocrats, clothing's for religious ceremonies; whereas the carpets and other weaving materials were mostly accepted as prestigious decorative items at the palace and churches beyond their functions (Biedrońska-Słota 2014: 86-95). As a matter of fact, at an exhibition held in Krakow in 1992, an Ottoman Silk Clothing from the 16th century (which was reused as the cassock of a priest) and another clothing which is placed as an example of the 17th century took place among the items of the church's treasures (Faroghi 2015: 265).

⁴⁹ Długosz 1997: 418-419; Kołodziejczyk 2014: 17; Topaktaş 2014: 15.

⁵⁰ On the periods to come, the ambassadors travelling back and forth from Poland continued at several intervals. The first of these visits was the visit of two chevaliers named Scarbek of Góra and Gregory as the ambassadors of the Polish King Wladyslaw in 1414 who wanted to prevent Ottoman attack to Hungary to appear before the Sultan/I. Mehmed (Długosz 1997: 418-419). Following that, it is known that in 1439 Sultan II. Murad sends his representative to King Wladyslaw with the wishes of a friendship and alliance between countries.(Długosz 1997: 477). In 1440 King Wladyslaw sends out his ambassadors to request the lifting of the siege in Alba Nandor by II. Murad. II. Murad answers his request by sending his ambassa-

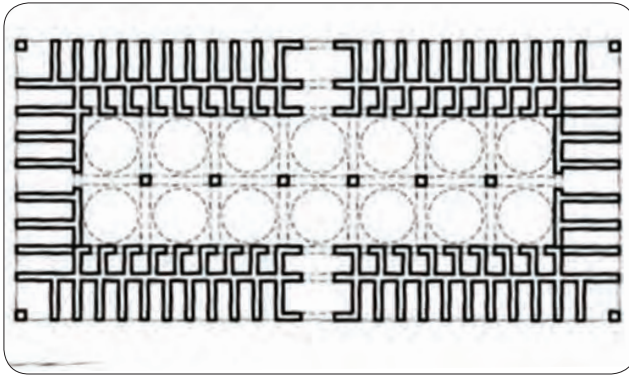


Figure 14 - Plan of Bursa Yıldırım Bedestens (Cezar 1985: 222)
/ *Bursa Yıldırım Bedesteni, plan*



Figure 15 - Interior place of Yıldırım Bedesten / *Yıldırım Bedesteni, iç mekan*

As a matter of fact the first bedesten architecturally standing still in Bursa resembling the Hall is also dating back to 1396⁵¹. Constructed by Sultan I. Bayezid (1389-1402) in the capital city of Bursa has a longitudinal rectangular shaped plan at the basic level similar to that of the Cloth Hall. The main setup of this structure is composed of two rows of domes covering the yard, which is lined up with small shops at the two longer sides and iwans surrounding the structure at the outside (Fig. 14-16)⁵². In this case, the rectangular shaped yard of the Cloth Hall -when the cover system is kept separate-inside, there are two rows of small shops at both sides, and outside, porticos lying on two sides in its plan, lead us to believe that there was a probable interaction between



Figure 16 - Side entry of Yıldırım Bedesten (from outside) / *Yıldırım Bedesteni, yan girişi*

them in terms of commercial and political relationships (Fig. 17-19)⁵³. It is also meaningful to state that both buildings with similar plans to be crowned with same names coming from similar roots to answer the same functions as the nature of their trade relationships and with common term denominators as their focus points. With this relationship and similarities, it is suggested that the second construction of the Cloth Hall was done at the beginning of the fifteenth century by Wladyslaw Jagiello (1386-1434) (Fig. 17-19).

dors (Długosz 1997: 482-483). It is understood that in 1442 II. Murad had sent his ambassador for his desire for a lasting peace (Długosz 1997: 488). The next visit by the Polish ambassadors is in 1475, in other words it falls in the era of Sultan II. Mehmed (Długosz 1997: 589-590). For the visits following this, please refer to. Kołodziejczyk 2014: 17; Majda 2014: 78-85.

⁵¹ As it is referred as to Old bedesten for Bursa Emir Han in 1396, then the building in question must have been built before that date (Ergenç 2010: 33).

⁵² The second bedesten which has the same architectural plan was constructed in Edirne, 1414 by Sultan II. Mehmed (1413-1421).

⁵³ Infact this scheme as longitudinal shop series reminds us not only the plan of a “bedesten” but also that of an “arasta” as well. However, since the constructions of “arasta”s began at the second half of the 15th century, and since they were either adjacent to a building structure or were within the premises of a social complex make them considerably different than Krakow Cloth Hall (Cezar 1983: 10, 129-158). On the other hand, the functional relationship between Cloth Hall and Bedesten support this differentiation.

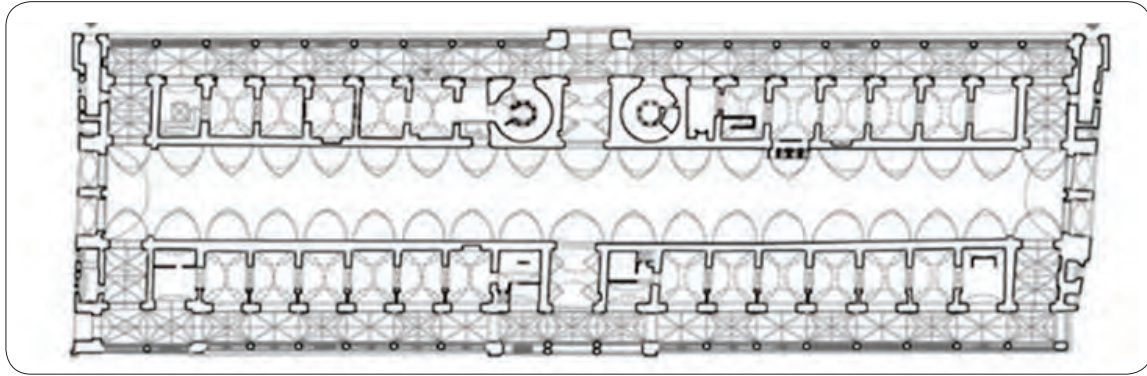


Figure 17 - Plan of Krakow Cloth Hall (Karczmarczyk 2011: 320) / *Krakow Cloth Hall, plan*



Figure 18 - Interior place of Cloth Hall / *Cloth Hall, iç mekan*

Jagiello's building was ruined during the fire at 1555 and it is probable that a new Cloth Hall was constructed by an Italian architect, Giovanni Maria Mosca Padovano instead⁵⁴. The scheme plan was repeated again but the main differences in the new building were the monumental roof parapet and masks added to the front facades⁵⁵. However, the real differences and style additions were constituted during the renovations at the 19th century. The first renovation which affected

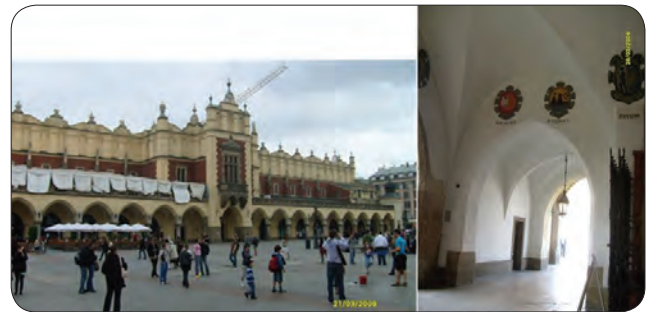


Figure 19 - Side entry of Cloth Hall (from outside and inside) / *Cloth Hall, yan girişi (içten ve dıştan)*

the whole building's structure was done in 1822 (Fig. 20). When the changes done with this renovation were not accepted as appropriate, an art commission was formed and agreed upon making some alterations and these changes were done during 1875-1879 by Tomasz Prylinski⁵⁶⁻⁵⁷. The most important change done by the artist is the portico (colonnade) arrangements he made at the longer frontiers of the building. However, it also points out that there are shops on the outskirts of the building in 1555 (Fig. 8, 20). Despite all these additions the new building still continues to reflect its bedesten setup in terms of its function, schematic plan, and interior design (Fig. 21).

During the period when Poland's annexation by Austria was in concern, "Sukiennice" tried to carry on the Polish culture but the building was transformed to a "National Museum" and to an "Art Gallery/Gallery of Polish". The efforts to protect the originality of the building was explained by an important historian of the period as; "the earliest remains and the style features of the period carry much more value than the pleasant appearance of the building". This expression explains that there were efforts to give priority to protect the originality of the building during the process of

⁵⁴ Kadluczka 2013: 105; Lukowski / Zawadzki 2001: 59; Bedford 2008: 181.

⁵⁵ The masks placed in roof railings were the works of art of Italian Artist Santi Gucci.

⁵⁶ Myslinski 2004: 305; Kadluczka 2013: 105.

⁵⁷ At this date "Sukiennice" was designed as an art gallery by architect Tomasz Pryliski from Krakow (Kadluczka 2013: 105).



Figure 20 - Krakow Sukiennice/Cloth Hall (1860). (<http://www.dawnotemuwkrakowie.pl/miniatury/78-rynek-glowny-widoczne-sukiennice-w-starej-wersji/>) / *Krakow Sukiennice / Cloth Hall (1860)*



Figure 21 - Krakow Sukiennice / Cloth Hall today / *günümüzde Krakow Sukiennice / Cloth Hall*

functional changes^{58,59}. On the contrary the building went through a revival as to its real function in 1960. The most important project during the renovation of the “Main Market Square” in Krakow’s is named as “The New Sukiennice” project. At this project the building was regarded as national heritage by the European Community and was defined as “Cloth Hall” by referring to its unique function⁶⁰.

As a result; the Polish name of the Cloth Hall, “Sukiennice” and the association of its root with the word “sûk”, point out the connections of Krakow with the east from the very early periods on. This center and the building inside, which served as a trade center with trading and lodging functions in the real sense, improved in functional and stylistic manners in time. With the influence of the German tradesmen, it was attained with a grate planned route system and

became a typical European city center with its square/ Main Market Square, the church and municipality buildings. However, Krakow Main Market Square is differentiated than the other European city centers, by its Ottoman period Bursa city setup, with a trading center resembling a bedesten in the middle. Krakow’s being an important trade center starting from the fifteenth century onwards, and their intensive trade relationships with Anatolia attract attention to the functional and architectural similarities between the Cloth Hall and Bedesten. This similarity leads us to date back the second construction of the Cloth Hall to the fifteenth century. It can be thought that the building which served as a market previously, with the influence of cloth trading, later served as the bedesten function. However, this proposal which was derived by preliminary studies, can be turned out to absolute results after more detailed research studies of the Polish resources.

⁵⁸ Kadluczka 2013: 106.

⁵⁹ However, looking at the current structure of the building it can be stated that, “Today, mainly as a result of these symbolic improvements, the character of Rynek Główny is neither medieval nor early nineteenth-century, but instead reflects the idealised image of a ‘heroic’ townscape defined in the key period of Polish nationalism as it entered a new phase in the 1870s” (Crosby 2002: 67).

⁶⁰ Kadluczka 2013: 106.

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