

KİTAP TANITMA

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During the last decades a new trend in historical research is apparent. This new trend has three dimensions: a) The increasing preference for quantitative methods and methods of rigorous thinking; b) the growing interest in multidisciplinary problematique; c) the extension of the research field, to embrace aspects of every day life and actual issues. Development of cities is for instance, one of the en vogue etxensive historical research domains. In the light of these observations the underlying study is very much worth reviewing.

The building of Ankara as the capital of Turkey is a multifaced endeavor realized at the cost of great efforts and financial investment. It is meant to be a symbol of the republic and is taken up at the state level.

The decades between 1929 and 1939 is a period in the republican era which is a period filled with striking events. The building of Ankara is only one of these important events. However it is impossible to evaluate this pehnemenon independently, since it is intercaletly connected with the political system, national economic policies and social developments of that period. This study aims to explain the various aspects of interest in this brief period revealing further depth and comprehensiveness, which in return enables the researcher to discover unexplored dimensioins. Therefore the present reserach does not only study the development of Ankara's urban environment during 1929-1939, but all the aspects of how the capital is brought to life, as well as how the Turkish urban society has emerged.

The book contains an introduction and five chapters. The first chapter, among introductory information, includes a comperative analysis of four planned national capitals: Camberra- Australia; Ankara-Turkey; Brasilia-Brazil; and İslamabad-Pakistan.

The second chapter provides background information looking into the acquisition of the first master plan for Ankara. The third chap-

ter discussed the planning mechanism with its technical administrative, legal, financial, political aspects next to the implementation phenomenon and the influences exercised by the various interest groups. The fourth chapter introduces an evaluative systematique defining the evaluation criteria and constructing a model of assessment. Chapter five concludes the findings with their far reaching effects.

By adopting a historicist approach to a subject matter, which is at the intersection point of three disciplines, that is Political Sciences, Urban Planning and Public Administration, it becomes very crucial that the internal logic of the study is well knit.

After having formulated the interdisciplinary problematique, respective archive material has been extensively analysed. The existing literature, some what related to the research topic, is based on very limited first hand information; subsequently relies heavily on cross references.

The newly discovered, previously unknown data, used in the research is so rich that even a narrative history approach would have been very informative. Still in order to avoid probable weaknesses, Dr. Tankut inserted a well defined structure into the content, calling upon techniques of quantification. These are statistical interpretations and an evaluation model to test and assess the findings.

The major contribution of the study, the Building of Ankara 1921-1939, is primarily to reveal the anatomy of the acting forces of political, economic and social nature and their financial, administrative and technical impacts. Secondly, to derive explanations for the problems of implementation as they relate to the intercate political conjecture, insufficient laws and regulations, technical shortcomings, financial burdens and administrative conflicts.

As a result the building of the capital city exposes the dramatic transformation of an Ottoman provincial town into a modern city; the graduation of its residents into citizens, and the development of the Turkish beurocracy from traditional into progressive modern.

It would be most advisable to undertake new research with the same approach and methodology for the following years covering the 1940s, a temporal sequence full of different but equally striking events. Furthermore it would be most desirable to see the book *The Building of Ankara* translated into English so that many other scholars can benefit from it since it remains a sample of its kind.

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