Residents and Society of the Düzce Region in the First Half of the 19th Century

EGAWA Hikari* & İlhan ŞAHİN†

1. Introduction
The Düzce region came under Ottoman administration in the early 14th century. The most important settlement place of the region during this period was called Üskübü. In the first quarter of the 16th century, after Anatolia and the Middle East were integrated into the Ottoman domain, this region gained significant importance. First of all, a weekly bazaar (market) called the Düzce Bazaar was established in the region. Subsequently it is possible to determine that nomadic people, called Yörük, who were grazing their animals in the yaylas (summer pasturages), came down from their summer pastures in the mountains to barter or sell their animals, livestock products, and dairy goods.

The name Düzce should be given to the entire region because of its geographical structure. As far as can be understood from some historical sources, the Düzce region was a marshy area at that time. The most important reason for its significance must be the fact that the main and secondary roads from the capital of the empire, from Istanbul to Anatolia, passed through the Düzce region, and divided into two main roads in Düzce plain. One of them passed the foot of Bolu Mountain on the northern side, and the other on the north-eastern side. Most probably, before climbing up to Bolu Mountain, the connection point of these two roads was around the center of the present Kaynaşlı district. In other words, Kaynaşlı was an important point at the intersection of two main roads at that time.

Furthermore, the Düzce region began to develop within the transportation system of the Ottoman Empire based on Menzil system. In this regard, Düzce started to be known as a menzil in the first quarter of the 16th century, but there was not yet a settlement at that time. Due to concentration of travellers in the Kaynaşlı region at the foot of the mountain, there was a need for some religious and social institutions. In this context, a mosque and a khan (inn) were established by Shemsi Pasha (Şemsi Paşa)1 to provide these services. The mosque, which was built of wood, is still standing today as Tarihî Cuma Camii (the Historical Friday Mosque). However, the khan does not exist anymore, although it is still possible to find some traces of stonewalls related to the khan.2

* Professor, School of Arts and Letters, Meiji University.
† Professor, Member of CIEPO Executive Committee.

1 We do not have any more information related to Şemsi Paşa. However, Şemsi Paşa, who was known as Şemsi Ahmed Paşa, came to Bolu province (sancak) in the reign of the Sultan Suleyman Magnificent, and the sancak was given to him at that time as zemmet. He established a mosque called İmaret Camii, a madrasa and imarethane as well as waqfs there (Bolu Livâsi-Sâlnâmesi: Mâli 1337–1338 Miladi 1921–1922, Bolu, 417; ed. Hamdi Birgören, Bolu Vilayet Salnamesi, Rumi 1341, Miladi 1925, 2008, Bolu, 286).

2 For more information related to the emergence and development of Düzce, see Hikari Egawa – İlhan..
2. Research Trends and Objects

As far as it is known, Tevfik Güran and Mübahat Kütükoğlu started the first studies on the Temettüat Defter (Income Registers) and further research ensued based on studies by these researchers. Although most of them are related to the residents of towns, some are connected to the inhabitants of a village or nomadic people. It is mentioned that Temettüat Defters were written down in the 1840s, so we could get much more information about the numbers and values of the movable property and real estate of the residents for this specific period. We can also use and compare these numerical values in the Temettüat Defters with other sources. At the same time, we can study them both from the viewpoint of social-economic history and the viewpoint of population and family history. That is why we have clarified both the economic conditions and the personal data of the Yağcı Bedir nomadic group, such as the heights, appearances and family names of householders and so on. In addition to these defters, the Nüfus Defters (Population Registers) are very valuable for the population and family histories. In this context, first of all we would like to clarify the features of Nüfus Defters and Temettüat Defters related to Düzce and Üskübü. Then we would like to give more information comparing Nüfus Defters with Temettüat Defters related to the administrative units, their features, population, social standing and kinship as well as family relation, rather than related to economic activity and animal husbandry.

3. The Features of Nüfus Defters and Temettüat Defters

According to the Nüfus Defters and Temettüat Defters in the Ottoman archives, namely the census registers of the 19th century, it is worth noting that there were two administrative regions in the Düzce region. One of them was called the Düzce district which was also known by the name of Konrapa in the 1830s and the other as the Üskübü district which belonged to Bolu province. The Ottoman system from the earliest periods accepted the kazas (district) as an important unit. A district under a kadi or judge’s rule was a unit balancing all

Şahin, “From Bazaar to Town: The Emergence of Düzce”, Kyoto Bulletin of Islamic Area Studies, 3/1 (July 2009), pp. 293–309.


5 For an important comparative study related to the Temettüat Defters of the four areas, see Kayoko Hayashi & Mahir Aydın (eds.), The Ottoman State and Societies in Change, London & New York & Bahrain, 2004.


7 For recent studies of the population and family history of the Middle East, see B. Domani (ed.), Family History in the Middle East: Household, Property, and Gender, Albany, 2003. In Japan, The Eurasian Project on Population and Family History has been developed during 1995–2000, whose leader is Prof. Dr. Toru Hayami.

8 Başbakanlık Osmanlı Arşivi (BA), Nüfus Defteri, no. 00675, p. 780.
production and consumption issues. It is understood that the Nüfus Defters\(^9\) of the 1830s and the Temettüat Defters\(^1\) of the 1840s related to Üsküb and Düzce were based on these two district divisions.

Nüfus Defters in the 1830s were generally held in order to delineate the male population of the Ottoman Empire especially for military purposes. The system applied for recording these surveys was as follows: First the names of the quarters and villages or nomadic groups with a male population were registered. It was followed by their personal names. Generally the names of the village authorities (muhtar), imam or other notables were mentioned first. They were followed by other male members of the unit. This example of the first register from Üsküb district, Tekye quarter belonging to a married household shows the way the register and identification was denoted: Kazâ-i mezbûr a’yân İbrahim Ağa bin Elhâc Mehmend, sinn 35, kumrul byırlık.\(^12\) First the title and occupation of the person is written. The title and occupation of İbrahim Ağa is āyan (notable). Generally the family name of the related person is also mentioned here. This is followed by his personal name. Here the name of the person is İbrahim Ağa. Then the father’s name of the related person is written as bin X. Here the father’s name of İbrahim Ağa is Elhâc Mehmend. Then the age of the related person is mentioned by the term sinn. Sinn 35, Elhâc Mehmend means that the person is 35 years old. Finally the person is defined by appearance, such as kara sakallı (black bearded), kırca sakallı (greyish bearded).

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\(^9\) Mehmet Genç has pointed out that the subsistence of the inhabitants had priority over distribution to other districts (see Mehmet Genç, Osmanlı İmparatorluğu’nda Devlet ve Ekonomi, İstanbul, 2000, p. 61).

\(^10\) The Population Registers of Üsküb and Düzce are registered in BA, Nüfus Defteri, no. 00675, 00690, 00691, 00703 and 00720. Each of these registers is organized to include divan, village and quarters etc., which are segments of these districts. In this research, mainly the registers numbered 00675, 00690 and 00691 have been used.

\(^11\) Temettüat Defters related to Üsküb and Düzce are held separately for each quarter, divan, village etc. For the Temettüat Defters on Üsküb, see BA, Temettüat Defteri, no 04952 (on Milan divan including the villages of Ağaç Oymak and Orça Oymak), 04953 (on Fedani divan), 04954 (on Tekke quarter), 04955 (on Aviyan village), 04956 (on Terzialiler quarter), 04957 (on Girmi divan), 04959 (on Yukarı Karaköy divan), 04960 (on Çilimli divan), 04961 (on Arabacilar divan including Ahmedciler village), 04962 (on Ağaç Karaköy divan), 04963 (onached Cuma Oymak in the Milan divan including Ağakla Oymağı village), 04964 (on Vâşf divan including Kadıoğlu village) and 04965 (on Sari Kasımlar divan). The Temettüat Defters on Düzce are registered in BA, Temettüat Defteri, no 03460 (on Efteni Imamlar divanı or Imamlar divanı), 03461 (on Çalıar divanı including Çalıar village belonged to Metekler), 03462 (on Eyerciler divanı including Akçalar and Merhem villages), 03463 (on Şeyh Bezenli tribes), 03464 (on Akpınar divanı), 03465 (on Karapınar divanı), 03466 (on Ağaç Milan Keydani divanı), 03467 (on Bataklı divanı), 03468 (on Dारयेरı divanı), 03469 (on Efteni Bey divanı), 03470 (on Bakras divanı including Yoñalar and Akçaşehir villages). Apart from these registers related to the Düzce district there is another Temettüat Defteri, which is like an appendix including missing data (see BA, Temettüat Defteri, no 16070). This register covers divan, villages or nomadic groups in Beyciler, Beyköy, Çalıar, Metekler, Bataklı, Efteni, Karapınar, Gündolamış, Bakras, Akçaşehir, Akpınar and Eyerciler, which are part of the Düzce district. Temettüat Defters of the units Beyciler, Beyköy, Metekler and Gündolamış mentioned here have not yet been found. This shows that Temettüat Defters are organized according to quarters and villages, and classified Temettüat Defters either do not cover all the information of the related cities and districts or their information has not been transferred for different reasons. Thus utmost attention is required in working with the registers.

\(^12\) BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, pp. 697-699; BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00690, 82b-84b.
kara bıyıklı (black moustached). Here İbrahim Ağa is described as kumrak bıyıklı (brown moustached). This description shows that individuality slowly started to gain prominence in this period.

After the person’s identification is recorded in the Nüfus Defters it is generally followed by the male members of his family, such as his sons from elder to younger, brothers, sons of brothers and brothers-in-law. Thus in our example İbrahim Ağa is followed by his brother Mahmud Efendi with the description of karındaşı Mahmud Efendi ibn Elhac Mehmed, sín 32, sari sakalli. Mahmud Efendi is followed by other brothers Ömer Ağa (31 years old), Mehmed Ağa (25 years old) and Hasan Ağa (22 years old) who are registered. Here the most important feature is that for householders in the registers of especially the XVth and XVIth centuries the Persian term birader (brother) is being used, while in the XIXth century it was replaced by the Turkish term karındaşı (brother). Here the term karındaşı is definitely being used for sons from the same mother and father, and instead of the term kaynbirader (brother-in-law) only kayın (in-law) is being used. Then as in the example of Mahmud Efendi’nin oğlu Mehmed, sín 2 the son of Mahmud Efendi, and his son Ahmed (1 year old), the son of Ömer Ağa, Hasan (2 years old) and the son of Mehmed Ağa, Halil (2 years old) are registered. Here the Turkish word oğul (son) is being used replacing the Arabic word veled of the XVth and XVIth century Cadastral Survey Registers (Tahrir Defters).

In the Temettüat Defters organized after the declaration of Tanzimat (Reorganization) Reforms, the values of all properties of householders, including mobile and immobile, and the amount of their taxes were registered in order to determine the taxable sources, their values and the taxes to be levied. Also in these registers, similar to Nüfus Defters, first the householder’s family name, then his personal name and his father’s name are written. These are followed by the household number in the quarter or village where he is residing, such as Üskübü or Düzce, then the number for the male householder, and their registers starting with their names one by one. In this context the main member of the household carries the first number, and he is followed by his brother or son with number 2 and 3 consecutively. Then the registers of the household’s property, house, garden, field, animals etc. and their values are mentioned. Finally the tax value is denoted by the title temettüi.

4. The Quarters and Administrative Structure of the Düzce and Üskübü Districts

Unfortunately, there is no record or registration related to the center of Düzce town in the 1830s or 1840s. However, there was a notable of the district known as Hacı İbrahimoğlu Esseyyid Halil bin Zeynelabidin in Eyerciler Divanı in the 1830s. For this reason, it is

13 On the other hand the term karindaşı is used in other Turkic languages with slightly different meanings. For example in the Kyrgyz society karindaşı is used by a brother for his younger sister.

14 BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, pp. 828-833.
thought that this place might be the administrative center of the district. On the other hand, in the 1830s and 1840s, Üsküb was the center of Üsküb district. It is seen that in the 1830s Üsküb had 4 quarters (mahalles) as physical and social structures, which were called Tekye (Tekke), Terzialiler, Orta and Keşiş.15 Fundamentally division into quarters was a typical feature of the Ottoman cities or towns. The name Tekye probably implies that there was a tekke (dervish lodge) in the quarter. Terzialiler might be referring to a person called Ali, who was a tailor by occupation. Orta mahalle might have been a quarter in the center of the town. Keşiş might be related to a church or a monastery in the quarter. These names for quarters are consistent with the general process of giving names to settlements in the Ottoman Empire. As far as can be seen in the 1840s Üsküb had only two quarters, Tekke and Terzialiler, in the registers.16 The names of two other quarters Orta and Keşiş found in the registers of the 1830s are not seen in the registers of the 1840s. This suggests that those two quarters had ceased to exist or had been merged with other quarters. It should be mentioned, however, that the registers of these two quarters might have been excluded from the archives for some reasons or they may even have not been found yet.

In the 1830s settlements in the rural areas of Düzce and Üsküb districts were mainly known as divan. On the other hand, a few settlements were recorded as villages (karye) or quarters (mahalle) which belonged to a divan. Divans reflected the features of administrative and financial structures before the Ottoman period. Early Ottoman sources demonstrate that there was a very close relationship between divan and bölük. The fact that the structure of bölük is nearly the same as divan and that both of their administrators are called divanbaşi should be sufficient evidence that the terms bölük and divan were used synonymously.17 This situation indicates that the nomads had a crucial role in the establishment of the units. Divans founded in Düzce and Üsküb districts should be understood accordingly. One of the main features of divans is that a divan could consist of one or many villages. If a divan consisted of several villages or quarters, one of them would become the center of the divan. It is understood that this center had a central position among the other units. Each unit established as a divan was known by a certain name which was generally the name of the central village.

15 BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, pp. 697–707; BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 82b-90a; BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00720.
16 BA, Temettüat Defteri, no 04954 and 04956.
17 For more information related to this subject bk. Bahaeddin Yediyıldız, Ordubazası Sosyal Tarihi (1455–1613), Ankara 1985, pp. 43–44.
The names of divan (1830s) | The names of divan (1840s)
---|---
Arabacılar | Arabacılar
Avlyyan | -
- | Aşağı Karaköyü
Çilimi | Çilimi
Fedani | Fedani
Girni | Girni
Milan (Aşağı Oymak) | Milan
Sarı Kasımlar | Sarı Kasımlar
Vakıf | Vakıf
Yukarı Karaköyü | Yukarı Karaköyü

**Figure 1**

Divans of Üskübü district

(based on the Nüfus Defters by numbers 00675, 00690, 00691 and Temettüat Defters)

In this way, there were 8 divans in Üskübü district in the 1830s (see Figure 1). These were called Vakıf, Girni, Fedani, Çilimi (Çilimli), Milan (Aşağı Oymak), Avlyyan, Yukarı Karaköyü and Sarı Kasımlar.²⁵ Vakıf divanı, except the center of divan called Vakıf divani, which had a village called Kadoğlu. In the same way, the villages of Arabacı and Ahmedciler belonged to Çilimi (Çilimli). Apart from that Milan consisted of three villages called Orta Oymak, Çayırlı Cuma and Aşşaklar. Besides, there was a village called Aşağı Karaköyü in Yukarı Karaköyü divan. As far as it can be seen in the registers of the 1840s of Üskübü district, there were 10 divans (see Figure 1): Milan, Fedani, Girni, Yukarı Karaköyü, Çilimli, Arabacılar, Avlyyan, Aşağı Karaköyü, Çayırlı Cuma Oymak, Vakıf and Sarı Kasımlar. Among these divans Arabacılar was a village connected to Çilimli divanı in the 1830s, and then it became a divan in its own right. Thus Ahmedciler village, which was connected to Çilimli divanı in the 1830s, was administratively connected to Arabacılar divanı. Additionally

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²² It includes the villages of Aşşaklar and Ahmedciler.
²³ It includes the villages of Sarı Kasımlar.
²⁴ It includes Kadoğlu village.
²⁵ BA, Nüfus Defters, no 00675, pp. 707–779; no. 00690, pp. 90a–96b; no 00691, pp. 1a–44b. In the register numbered 00690 the information about Üskübü district is missing. The register numbered 00691 must be the appendix of the register 00690 with the missing information. Additionally, the fact that the records about Üskübü and Düzce in register 00675 correspond to those of registers 00690 and 00691 indicate that there was more than one copy of the population registers of the region.
Avlıyan, which was a divan in the 1830s, was registered as a village in the 1840s, though it might have been a separate divan. Conversely, Aşağı Karaköyü village connected to Yukarı Karaköyü divan in the 1830s was registered as a divan in the 1840s.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The names of divan (1830s)</th>
<th>The names of divan (1840s)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akpınar</td>
<td>Akpınar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aşağı Oymak</td>
<td>Aşağı Milan Keydanisi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bakras</td>
<td>Bakras²⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bataklı</td>
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<td>Bey</td>
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<td>Beyciler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Çalur</td>
<td>Çalur²⁷</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daryeri (Darçek Alanı)²⁸</td>
<td>Daryeri</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Efteni Bey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Efteni²⁹</td>
<td>Efteni İmamlar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eyerciler</td>
<td>Eyerciler²⁰</td>
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<td>Karapınar</td>
<td>Karapınar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kırk (Milan)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yukarı Milan (Şahinciler)</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2
Divans of Düzce district
(based on the Nüfus Defters by numbers 00675, 00690, 00691 and Temettuat Defters)

As for Düzce district, in the 1830s it had 13 divans (see Figure 2), which were called Yukarı Milan (Şahinciler), Kırk (Milan), Aşağı Oymak, Beyciler, Akpınar, Karapınar, Bakras, Bey, Çalur, Eyerciler, Bataklı, Daryeri (Darçek Alanı) and Efteni. Among these divans, Daryeri had eight villages called Sarıçıköek, Sarıgöl, Çırákörü, Celse/Çeke (?), Cımşir, Kaynaşlı, Mengencik and Muncurlu. Besides, Efteni consisted of two quarters called Bey (Yukarı Kıyı) and Aşağı Kıyı.³¹ As far as it can be seen in the registers in the 1840s, there were 10 divans in Düzce district: Akpınar, Aşağı Milan Keydanisi, Bakras, Bataklı, Çalur, Daryeri, Efteni Bey, Efteni İmamlar, Eyerciler, Karapınar and there was a tribe called Şeyh Bezenli. There were also villages connected to different divans or directly to the district of Düzce: Yahyalar, Akçaşehir, Akçalar and Merhem. Divans of Bey, Beyciler, Efteni, Kırk (Milan) and Yukarı Milan (Şahinciler) seen in the 1830s registers are not seen in divans of the 1840s. Most

²⁶ It includes the villages of Yahyalar and Akçaşehir.
²⁷ It includes Çalur village belonged to Metekler.
²⁸ It includes the villages of Sarıçıköek, Sarıgöl, Çırákörü, Cele (Çeke?), Cımşir, Kaynaşlı, Mengencik and Muncurlu.
²⁹ It includes quarters of Bey known by the name of Yukarı Kıyı and Aşağı Kıyı.
³⁰ It includes the villages of Akçalar and Merhem.
³¹ BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, pp. 780–861; Nüfus Defteri, no 00691, pp. 44b–98b.
probably this indicates that these registers might have been excluded from the archives due to damaged documents or they may not have been found yet. In the 1830s Bey (Yukarı Köyi) connected to Efteni is mentioned in the registers of the 1840s as Efteni Bey. Divan mentioned in the 1840s as Efteni İmamlar must be Aşağı Köyi village connected to Efteni divan. This indicates that although the name Efteni divan is not seen in the 1840s, the villages connected to divan in the 1830s had become separate divans later on. These facts show that there had been some administrative modifications in Düzce and Üskübü districts in the 1840s following the Tanzimat Reforms.

One of the most important features related to these divans is that most of the divans consist of only a settlement place. This is actually a village settlement. The following examples from Üskübü district must be understood as clear examples of this: it must be a clear indicator that Sari Kasımlar divanı is known as Dîvân-ı karye-i Sari Kasımlar, 32 Çilimi (Çilimli) divanı as Dîvân-ı karye-i Çilimi and Milan divanı as Dîvân-ı karye-i Milan nâm-ı diğer Aşağı Oymak; 33 this is also evidenced in Düzce district, such as Beyciler divanı as Dîvân-ı karye-i Beyciler, Akpmar divanı as Dîvân-ı karye-i Akpmar, Bakras divanı as Dîvân-ı karye-i Bakras; Bey divanı as Dîvân-ı karye-i Bey, Çalur divanı as Dîvân-ı karye-i Çalur and Bataklı divanı as Dîvân-ı karye-i Bataklı. 34 Thus, the center of the divan, consisting of a couple of villages, is actually a village in itself.

Another feature of these divans is that some of them were established at the foot of the mountains. Additionally, as far as can be understood from some divan names, such as Milan (Aşağı Oymak), Yukarı Milan (Şahinciler) and Kırık (Milan), some must have been situated along the Milan River that gives life to the plain of Düzce. These cases indicate how water sources have been very important for the settlement of human beings. Another important feature related to the divans is that nomadic people played a crucial role in the formation of divans, and villages that belonged to some divans. The term Bölük was used for nomadic groups, and the fact that böyük and divan are used with the same meaning in the Ottoman Empire is significant for understanding the important role of nomadic groups in the establishment of divans. In addition, the use of the word oymak in some divan names is another clear indicator about the role of nomads in the establishment of divans. As far as it can be understood from historical sources, the term oymak was widely used by the nomads of Central Asia. It is understood that the term ‘Aymak’ in Kyrgyz and ‘ayimay’ [aimâg] in Mongolian is one of the terms transmitted from Central Asia to Anatolia. 35 While the term oymak describes nomadic groups in the early periods, later it started to be used to denote a

32 BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, pp. 770–779; BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00691, pp. 38a–44b.
33 BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00691, pp. 6a–10a, 15b–18b.
34 BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00691, pp. 56a–60a, 61b–78a, 82b–85a.
35 For the etymological meaning of the word in different languages see E. V. Sevortyan, Etimologiçeskiy Slovar Tjurkskih Yazykov, I, Moskva 1974, s. 433–434.
geographical and administrative region where nomadic groups lived. In this context, in the
1830s Milan (Aşağı Oymak) divanı and Orta Oymak village belonging to Milan divanı in the
district of Üskübü were established by Yörük groups. Also in the 1830, Aşağı Oymak divanı in
the district of Düzce reflects the same feature.

5. Population of the Üskübü and Düzce Districts
In the 1830s the male population of the center of Üskübü was 377. 117 of them were from
Tekye quarter, 100 from Terzialiler quarter, 101 from Orta Mahalle quarter and 59 from
Keşişler quarter. This shows that the biggest population was in Tekye quarter, and the lowest
was in Keşişler quarter. Considering the fact that human population is based on male and
female populations in the center of Üskübü there were both men and women. Consequently
the total population of the center of Üskübü including women, was probably approximately
750. This population indicates that Üskübü was slightly bigger than a village and slightly
smaller than a town.

In the 1830s there were 2806 Muslim men in the Üskübü district including the center.36 As
mentioned above, the male population in the center of Üskübü was 377, and the male
population on the periphery was 2439. This shows that approximately 87% of the male
population lived on the periphery and 13% in the center of Üskübü. Considering that there
was a female population of about the same number in the district, the total population of
Üskübü district must be around 5600. The total Muslim male population of Düzce district was
2779.37 If this number is doubled to include the female population, the population would be
approximately 5500. This indicates that the population of Üskübü and Düzce districts in the
1830s was balanced in terms of demographics.

In the 1840s, in the district of Üskübü, there were 1114 Muslim households (hane)
including Orta and Keşiş quarters, of which 47 were Gypsy (Kıbıti) households. Most
historians consider that one household would approximately consist of 5 members.
That means that at that time, the estimated total population of the Üskübü district was
approximately 5500 or 5600. On the other hand, as far as it can be understood from the
Temettüat Defterleri for the district of Düzce, there were 915 households, of which 48 were
from a group of Şeyh Bezenli tribes and 35 were Gypsy households. We do not know exactly
when and why the Şeyh Bezenli nomadic group immigrated to Düzce region. They probably
immigrated before the Tanzimat period from the eastern side of Bolu region to Düzce region
for economic and social reasons. According to this number, the total population of Düzce was

36 BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, pp. 697–707; BA, Nüfus Defteri, no. 82b–90a.
37 This number has been calculated by counting the units in the registers, but the male population in the
registers is written as 2892 (BA, Nüfus Defteri, 00675, p. 779).
38 This number has been calculated by counting the units in the registers, but the male population in the
registers is written as 2799 (BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, p. 851).
around 4500. It is seen from these numbers that within 10 years, from the 1830s to 1840s, the population of Üskübî district remained almost the same. Conversely, the population of Düzce district decreased. The reason for this could be, as was expressed above, that some Temettüat Defters related to divans and villages of Düzce district have not been found yet.

6. Kinship and Social Structure

In the 1830s and 1840s the most striking administrative feature in the districts of Üskübî and Düzce was that in general each quarter, divan and village had an administrator known as muhtar. This demonstrates that the determinant administrative function of the imam in quarters and villages connected to towns and cities was now being taken by people known as muhtar. Apart from this, in general each quarter, divan and village had a religious leader or imam. It is also seen in the registers that in addition to the muhtar and imam there were also two âyans in the districts of Üskübî and Düzce in the 1830s and 1840s. One of them, who was among the residents of the Tekye quarter of Üskübî center, was named İbrahim Ağâ bin Elhac Mehmed. Another among the residents of the Eyerciler village of Düzce district, was named as Hacı İbrahimoğlu Esseyyid Halil bin Zeynelâbidin. The reference in the registers to the fact that they were the âyans of Üskübî and Düzce districts must be an indication of their prestige and economic power in the region.

Generally, in the districts of Üskübî and Düzce the members of the same family, such as father, brother, son, were residing in the same quarter, divan and village. This signifies that related families are in a close social and economic relationship. Consequently, related families from the same father and mother show characteristics of extended or nuclear families. Thus Âyan İbrahim Ağâ, who was a resident of Tekye quarter, had four brothers and four nephews. This shows that İbrahim Ağâ had at least nine close, male relatives. If this number is doubled by adding female members the family must have had at least 18 members. So, İbrahim Ağâ’s family shows the characteristics of an extended family. Naturally the uncles, aunts and matrilineal relatives of İbrahim Ağâ are not included in this number. If their number had been known, the number of İbrahim Ağâ’s relatives would be above estimations. This proves that the power of the âyans in their territory was not only related to their economic power but also to the size of their extended families.

On the other hand it is possible to find some terms used in the registers related to family structure in Ottoman society, such as oğul, uğey oğul, karndaş, uğey karndaş, yeğen, karndaş oğlu, uğey baba, babalık, uğey peder, torun, damad. Because of the reflection of the name of father to the registers as a householder or taxpayer, it is seen that in general these terms are patrilineal. After writing the name of the father, his son is expressed as oğlu. The

39 BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, p. 697.
40 BA, Nüfus Defteri, no 00675, p. 823.
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term üvey oğul is also used for the brother-in-law. Üvey oğul (step son) is generally used for a son adopted from another family. This family member is generally the brother of the father or one from the family’s close relatives. Üvey oğul is also in rare cases used for the son of a wife from her previous marriage. The term applied in the same family for the brother of the father is karindaş. Additionally üğey karindaş possesses characteristics of someone, who somehow had entered the family and is accepted as the father’s or family’s very close relative. Yeğen or karindaş oğlu in the family is generally used for the sons of the father’s brother. They can also be his sister’s sons. Üğey baba, üğey peder or babalık mostly indicates the father of orphan sons in a family. As it is reflected in the registers, after the son has lost his father at an early age, most probably he / üğey baba got married with a fatherless boy’s mother and he was accepted as a member of the family. Here, however, it is understood that the person responsible for this son is not the üğey baba, üğey peder or babalık who is also a member of the family, but his mother. Although there is no clear indication in the registers, Torun (grandchild) was probably used for the son of the father’s son’. Those registered as damad (son-in-law) in the family must be the persons, who were accepted as family members living in the house of their wife’s mother and father. Those damads are known as iç güveyi. The fact that those registered as damad in the family have older father-in-law implies that they entered the family as a fresh source of power. It, however, should also be taken into consideration that some rich families did not like their children to go away to remote places. In this context, in Kyrgyz society the term küçük köyöö is applied instead of iç güveyi. In Kyrgyz this term is used for the son-in-law entering the bride’s household as a person bringing power to the family. It is also seen that the social status of such son-in-law is not well respected among the society.

As far as it can be seen from the Nüfus Defters and Temettuat Defters concerning the districts of Üskübü and Düzce, the main economic activities in the region were based on agriculture. Therefore, most of the people not only in the center of Üskübü but also in the settlements called divans and villages, were registered especially by the definition of çiftçi, erbabı ziraat, rencber taifesı (farmer). Another important economic activity was animal husbandry. However, in the center of Üskübü, some different occupations and job definitions, such as bargirci (carrier), attar (perfumes seller), terzi (tailor), duhancı or duhan kıycısı (tobacco grower or seller), debbāş (tanner), kalaycı (tinsmith), boyacı (dyer), kahveci (keeper of a coffee-house), berber (hairdresser) and eskici (old clothesman) have been found. On the other hand, at the foot of the mountain in Darıyeri region which today includes part of Kaynaşlı, there was a khan (inn) and mosque. These institutions had been established to provide some services to locals or passing travellers. In this context, as a reflection of this situation among the people of Daryeri in the 1840s, there was 1 khanı (innkeeper), 1 arabacı (driver), around 15 bargircı (carrier by horse) and 19 hizmetkâr (servant). This indicates that Darıyeri divanı connected to Düzce district on the main road has played a crucial role related to transportation.
not only in the present time but also in the past. In this context, the main feature of Darıyeri divanı in the 1830s was that it had eight villages including Kaynaşılı. It seems that almost all of these villages had been used by nomadic groups as winter quarters. In other words, nomadic groups or Yörüks grazed their animals in their summer pastures and passed the winter in Darıyeri region at the foot of the mountains.

7. Conclusion

The outcomes of this study can be summarized as follows. First of all, in the years of the 1830s and 1840s, there is no record or registration related to the center of Düzce town, but there was a notable of the district known as Hacı İbrahim Hoşlu Esseyyid Halil bin Zeynelabidin in Eyerciler Divanı in the 1830s. For this reason, it is thought that this place might be the administrative center of the district. Üskübü was a center of Üskübü district and in the 1830s the center of Üskübü had 4 quarters (mahalles).

In the 1830s the total population of Üskübü district must have been around 5600 and the population of Düzce approximately 5500. These figures indicate that the population of Üskübü and Düzce districts in the 1830s was balanced.

In the 1840s the population of Üskübü district was approximately 5500 or 5600. On the other hand, as far as it can be understood from the Temettüat Defterleri the total population of Düzce was around 4500. It is seen from these numbers that over a 10 year period from 1830s to 1840s, the population of the Üskübü district remained almost the same. On the contrary, the population of the Düzce district decreased. The reason for this might be due to the lack of some Temettüat Defterleri related to divans and villages of the Düzce district.

At any rate, we could see the strong effect of the nomadic society on the formation of the terms used to describe social and administrative units like divan or oymak in Üskübü and Düzce districts. This indicates that summer pasturing on the highlands of the Bolu Mountains and the pastoral village lifestyle (yaylalar ve yaylacılık) must have still been widespread. In addition, it is very striking that this historical lifestyle resembles the contemporary lifestyle of Düzce people, who settled to new neighbourhoods after the Düzce earthquake. Today a considerable number of Düzce’s population live in the new town which was built on solid rock in order to protect them from earthquakes and the fault line; yet they go down to the old city center for work, shopping and everyday life activities. This mobility resembles the nomadic migration between summer pastures and winter quarters. This actual example shows that there are many lessons to be learnt from history, as well as from the experiences of the nomadic people.

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