

ABSTRACT

The Mühimme Registration Books are an important resource that can be used during the researches related to the History of Ottoman. Such a valuable resource consists of many different subjects in connection with the social, armed forces and administrative problems in the history. The judicial provisions to be applied during the time of Ottoman Empire are involved in such book; i.e. brigandage, tyrannizing the public by the local administrative bodies in order to collect the monies under the name of taxation by force, unsolved disagreements arising under personal problems, the ownership and possession rights i.e. " vakıf, has, zeamet and tımar" in the old Turkish language, the payment collection of the taxes, the matters related to the unjustly treated local directors and governmental bodies and finally the relations between the central management and the local administration.

This study is particularly composed of the information given in The Mühimme Registration Books, as a major resource, due to very valuable and important details of the old Ottoman Empire. In scope of our study, totally 37 books, which were taking part in the group of Mühimme Defteri used in the end of XVI Century and in the XVII Century, kept in the Ottoman Archive of Prime Ministry, with the title of The Judicial Books Catalogue i.e. "Divan-ı Hümayun" Books Catalogue nr.989. The book nr.74 includes the time of H.1004-L1005/M.1595-1596 and the book nr includes H.1110-1113/M.1698-1701. Since the abstract parts are not current present, particularly the statements beginning with some specific sentences addressing to some local administration i.e. " Aydın Sancakbeyine", "Aydın sancağı muhassılına", "Aydın sancağı muhassılına", "Aydın sancağındaki vaki kadılara", "mütesellimlere, kethüdayirlerine, ayan-ı vilayetve sair iş erlerine hokum ki ", "Sığıla ve Menteşe sancağı kadılarına, mütesellimlerine", " "Tire, Birgi, Kuşadası kadılarına, naiblerine, mollalarına hokum ki" were taken into consideration. Additionally the other statements which were addressed to other local authorities in different districts were also included in our study since those were also including the remarks ; "One copy is to be sent to Aydın Muhassılına, one copy to Aydın kadısına etc.."

The dates which were written in Muslim Calendar below the provisions were converted into Gregorian Calendar and those dates were written in parenthesis under the

explained text. The unclear and unreadable words in the text were indicated as _....._ and the spaces were left as ().

In conclusion, we hope our study, which was carried out to describe and research the old time of Aydın City in the XVII th Century in scope of major resource of Mühimme Registration Books, would be beneficial from the point of view of that period.

Key Words: Ottoman, brigandage, mühimme registration book, Divân-ı Hümayûn.