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**TITLE: ISLAND OF MYTILENE IN THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

### **ABSTRACT**

Even though Ottoman Empire was a maritime state due to its natural borders, researchers have kept away from it till recent times. So our knowledge of Ottoman navigation system, the Islands and being an islander in Ottoman territory is so limited. However, in order to understand a system exactly and properly, each pieces of it must be determined and comprehended. If the system we are talking about is a multi-linguistic, multi-religious and multi-cultural Ottoman Empire, details now become more considerable.

In this study, i deal with one of the thousands of islands that Ottomans had is Island of Lesbos on account of its estimable strategic position. I limit it to 18<sup>th</sup> century. The main reason is that 18<sup>th</sup> Century is an age which has been given the least attention. If this era were a building that needs restoring, i want to contribute to it and more or less to enlighten Island of Lisbos that really needs it.

Did the administration system of the Island look like the one that Ottomans applied in the main lands? Was living in Lesbos different from living in the main lands of the Empire? If it is, what were those differences? Why was the Island of Lesbos an important ship-constructing center in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century? Why was the Great Greek Uprising, which became widespread in lots of islands, ineffective in Lesbos? All these matters form the main problematics of this study.

As the main source, the study in which Ottoman archives documents and itinerant reports are used cocnsists of three main parts: In the first part, administration and military system are examined. As for the second one, economy of the Island is studied; and in the last part, some information about population, settling and social life is given.

### **KEY WORDS:**

Mytilene, Galley, Minister, Olive Oil, Castle