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**TITLE:** THE CHANGING WOMEN IDENTITY IN TURKISH MODERNITY  
**PROCESS:** A SOCIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT ABOUT VISIBILITY IN PUBLIC  
SPHERE OF CONSERVATIVE WOMEN

### **ABSTRACT**

Ottoman Empire, under the influence of intellectual, political, economic, social and technological developments generated in Western, at the 19. century, got involved in a modernization period that is inevitable for non-western societies thereby undergoing structural transformation in many field with announcement of imperial edict of Gülhane; so phenomenon which mean the Turkish modernization was revealed. This period continued with the republic period following the empire period. The women were got involved in this process by this changes and transformations that occurred in many fields of social life; the women, who previously limited with mother and wife roles, started demanding to acquire different a status in social life thereby questioning self-status with modernization. Query of woman identity in the process of modernization in Ottoman period; as for rights that recognized to women in Republic period resulted in a transformation of woman identity too. Thus woman and her identity have emerged as "representation" of turkish modernization; presented to the originality of Turkish modernization. A woman profile that will be representation/demonstration of modernization was drew by Ruler elite toward efforts of modernization in The Republic period. While women of The Republic elite exhibited a aspect in this profile, the great majority of woman couldn't be included into modernization process, thereby keeping out this profile. However, the woman groups that couldn't get involved in modernization process by 1980; in specific the conservative women that be a subject of our studying have wanted to get involved in modern system, thereby starting claim a right about expressing self-identity; the conservative women that be a subject of our studying get one's foot in the door to a new comment of modernity. On the basis of this comment, the conservative women have started to get visibility in public sphere; became vigorously at the point of both speech and organization.

**KEYWORDS:** Modernization, Woman, Identity, Public Sphere, Conservatism