

## IMMIGRATIONS FROM THE BALKANS TO TURKEY AND IMMIGRANT SETTLEMENTS IN WESTERN ANATOLIA

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### **Introduction**

It is well known that many countries fought for supremacy over the Balkans throughout the history, because of which at least some groups in the region were displaced. Turkey got heavily affected by these population movements. Especially, following the end of Ottoman sovereignty in the Balkan, struggles for sovereignty and related problems have showed up and continued up until the present time. Meanwhile, thousands of people were displaced from their homelands.

Like the Balkans population in Western Anatolia have always been on the move due to population movements and political struggles between the East and the West that have taken place for centuries. Such population movements led to very sorrowful consequences for the Turkish and Muslims particularly from 1787 to the present time. People emigrated from the Balkans and immigrated to Anatolia in great numbers as a result of the Russo-Turkish Wars between 1787 and 1792, which was followed by immigrations after the Russo-Turkish War in 1877-1878, the Balkan War in 1912-1914, the World War I in 1914-1918. Immigrations to Turkey went on owing to population exchanges as required by the Lausanne Treaty in 1923, the unsurpressable unrests in the Balkans in the following years, and the Bosnian War between 1990 and 1995. A good many immigrant settlements have mushroomed across the country as a consequence of these immigrations to Turkey, which have continued from time to time over some 200 years. Physical and human geography played an important part in the distribution of immigrant settlements. A considerable amount of immigrants have settled in Western Anatolia, which is today densely populated with immigrants.

A large number of immigrants settled in Western Anatolia following the turbulent times in the Balkans towards the end of Ottoman Empire. Immigrations went on when borders were re-established during the Republican Era. This population movement have not stopped until quite recently and been influential in restructuring the urban and rural settlements. New villages emerged on the state-owned lands. Most of the immigrants from the Balkans preferred to settle in the places similar to their previous homelands. As can be seen in the populating policies, some of the

large ranges in Western Anatolia were expropriated and given to the immigrants, while many others were bought by the immigrants themselves and became the part of some villages.

### **Emigrations from the Balkans**

As expressed above, though having continued till today, there are some certain periods when immigration movements were more frequent and larger in number. Following are the records of immigrant settlements in and immigration movements to Turkey, in particular Western Anatolia.

### **Immigrations till the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-1878**

Russo-Ottoman War of 1787-1792 caused people to immigrate en masse to Turkey (İpek, 1994). 200.000 Turks and Muslims sought asylum in Turkey between 1806 and 1812 (Eren, 1966). Over 140.000 Turks emigrated from Crimea and its vicinity in 1854-1860. This figure increased to 230.000 in 1860 to 1862 (Gözaydın, 1948).

### **Immigrations after the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-1878**

It is hard to give the exact figures of regurees who had to leave their lands after the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-1878. According to European and Ottoman records, estimated number is between 1.250.000 and 1.253.500 (McCarthy, 1998). This immigration wave, also called “Immigration of 93” (1293 in Julian Calender) is the first mass population movement from the Balkans to Anatolia.

### **Immigrations after the Balkan War**

Migration had already begun before the Balkan Wars due to the unrest in the Balkans. Movements accelerated when the Balkan Wars broke out and Ottoman Empire got defeated at the end, which turned the Balkan Wars into a catastrophe. It is estimated that 440.000 Turks migrated to Anatolia through Macedonia and Thrace during the Balkan Wars. When immigrants from other districts of the Balkans are reckoned, it is concluded that about one million Rumelian Turks were forced to abandon their lands (Şimşir, 1985).

As in the previous case, there are no precise figures of people who migrated to Anatolia during and after the Balkan Wars. Biyiklioglu (1995) states that 200.000 people migrated from Western Thrace during the Bulgarian occupation between 1913 and 1919, and 240.000 Turks fled from Macedonia owing to Serbian-Bulgarian-Greek occupation, and took refuge in Ottoman Empire, especially in Eastern Thrace and Western Anatolia.

According to Geray (1962), number of the immigrants to Turkey in 1923-1960 accounts for 1.204.205, of which 407 788 (33.9%) (including 384.000 exchanged) came from Greece, 374 478 (31.1%) from Bulgaria, 269 101 (22.4%) from Yugoslavia-Macedonia and 121 351 (10%) from Romania. 21.3% of the Balkan-born immigrants settled in the Aegean Region. Number of the people, all free

immigrants, who came from Yugoslavia-Macedonia between 1952 and 1967 amounts to 175.392. In 1970 to 1975, nearly 20.000 people emigrated from Bulgaria and immigrated to Turkey. 310.000 immigrants from Bulgaria were allowed to enter Turkey in 1989, 20.000 from Bosnia in 1992 to 1997 and lastly 17.746 from Kosovo in 1999.

### **Some Cities and Villages where the Balkan Immigrants Settled**

On one side, Ottoman Empire tried hard to stop population flows and made them go back and fight for their rights; on the other side, it helped the refugees and let them settle within its borders against all the odds. Places where they would permanently reside were determined by populating commission following the careful analyses carried out in all the provinces.

Ottoman Empire permanently stationed Refugee Settling Officers (İskân-ı Muhacirin Memuru), settled the immigrants in villages and towns, and founded villages which were totally inhabited by the immigrants and where soil was very fertile. These villages were named Mahmudiye, Hamidiye, Reşadiye, Aziziye to honor the Sultans, or Refahiye (derived from “refah”, which means “welfare”) and Kemaliye (derived from “Kemal”, which means “maturity, perfection”) hoping that they would live in peace and welfare. Meanwhile, it is also possible to observe that immigrants named the settlements as “Filibe (Plovdiv) Neighbourhood and Üsküp (Skopje) Neighbourhood after their previous hometowns. Settled places were also named as “Tavıdemir and Korudeğirmeni” (Halaçoğlu, 1995). Such names as Tırnova and Plevne were given to some villages and neighbourhoods after their previous settlements in the Balkans (Süleymanoğlu Yenisoy, 2005).

Following criteria were used to determine where new villages were supposed to be established:

1. The village must be established where the air is clean.
2. There must not be swamps in the near vicinity.
3. There must be streams in the near vicinity.
4. The village must be established where the winds are light and regular.
5. The village must be established on lowlands where the air is humid.
6. The village must be established close to interprovincial roads, stations and quays  
(Ökçün, 1983).

Because new villages for the immigrants were planned to be established close to roads, stations and quays, uninhabited places along Anatolia railways were made available for settlement. For instance, Mahmudiye village with 23 houses near Karağaçalı Village in Manisa District of Aydın Province was established close to the railway, forest, stream and Manisa-Akhisar macadam road. Some immigrant villages were established on the unused slopes to let immigrants conduct agricultural activities in the plains at the foot of the mountain (İpek, 1996).

Its proximity and sociocultural similarity to their previous homelands made Western Anatolia a preferable place for most of the immigrants. As is known, immigration is not only a change of place, but also a population movement which socially, economically, culturally and politically affects and even changes the societal structure. Immigrants face a new geographical and sociocultural environment as a result of the immigration.

It is clear to see that heed was paid choosing the prospective spot thought to be culturally and socially similar to where the immigrants in Western Anatolia originally came from. Different groups easily intermingled and socialized, while cultural differences in customs and food were regarded as enriching properties. Effects of the Balkan culture and traditions can be seen on the life style and outfits of the local people.

This population flow went on till quite recently and became very influential in the structure of the urban and rural settlements. Some of the cities and villages were given below.

Russo-Turkish War of 1877-1878 caused dramatic changes in the demographic structure of Çanakkale. Immigrants from the Balkans and the Caucasus were settled in Çanakkale, where new villages were established. These villages are Osmaniye, Mahmudiye, Hamidiye, Küçük-Yeniköy in Ezine, Şevketiye, İslahiye, Cihadiye, Şerefiye, İhvaniye, Fevziye, Lütfiye, Osmaniye, Maksudiye, Teşvikiye, Sinekçi, Fethiye, Sarı Cihanlar, İhsaniye, Göktepe, Mecidiye and Hikmetiye in Biga (İpek, 1994; Tuğlacı, 1985). Tatars from Dobruca were settled in 32 houses in the city center, which gave birth to a Tatarian neighbourhood.

Table 1: Immigrant settlers in Çanakkale in 1877-1878

Year	Homeland	New Settlement	Family Number	Population
1877	Kırım	Bayramiç	5	25
1877	Kırım	Biga	1	1
1877	Romanya	Biga	3	15
1877	Kafkasya	Biga/ Şevketiye	85	594
1877	Kafkasya	Biga/ İslahiye	45	306
1877	Kafkasya	Biga/ Cihadiye	70	560
1877	Kafkasya	Biga/ Şerefiye	38	300
1877	Kafkasya	Biga/ İhvaniye	220	1019
1877	Kırım	Biga	6	26
1878	Bulgaristan	Biga/ Fevziye	125	750
1878	Bulgaristan	Biga/ Lütfiye	125	726
1878	Balkanlar	Biga/ Teşvikiye	71	329
1878	Balkanlar	Biga/ İhsaniye	114	387

1878	Balkanlar	Biga/ Göktepe	100	411
1878	Balkanlar	Biga/ Hikmetiye	79	371
1878	Bulgaristan	Gelibolu/ Süleymaniye	1	3
1878	Bulgaristan	Gelibolu/ Evreşe	75	500
1878	Bulgaristan	Gelibolu/ Kalealtı	14	56
1878	Bulgaristan	Gelibolu/ Sadili	50	195
1878	Bulgaristan	Ezine/ Mahmudiye	70	280
1878	Bulgaristan	Ezine/ Hamidiye	37	175
1878	Bulgaristan	Ezine/ Yeniköy	15	81
<b>Total</b>			<b>1349</b>	<b>7110</b>

Source: Based on Atabay, 2005

Most of the permanent settlements of immigrant from Rumelia, Crete and other Aegean islands were founded in Western Anatolia. After the 1877-1878 War, İzmir became one of the temporary settlement spots of huge immigration waves and new villages were established for these immigrants in Manisa, Aydın and İzmir. İzmir turned into a center where immigrants gathered. Just from Istanbul, 58.481 immigrants were sent to Aydın Province between 1877 and 1891. It can be said that over 70.000 immigrants came to this province in the same period. New villages were founded and totally inhabited by immigrants. These are as follows;

**District (Sancak) of İzmir;** Ödemiş sub-district - İhsaniye village(70 houses), Tire sub-district, Fethiye village (96 houses); Bayındır sub-district- Harizbaşı (39 houses), Arık (119 Kızılcaboğaz (41 houses); Bergama sub-district- Hamidiye (76 houses), Hamidiye (47 houses), Osmaniye (45 houses), Sultaniye (16 houses), Selimiye quarter, Halidiye quarter( 100 houses); İzmir sub-district- Memduhiye(12 houses), Fethiye quarter, Kuşadası, Davut (103 houses), Turfal(44 houses); Çal sub-district- Hamidiye village (45 nüfus); Nif sub-district- Halilbeyli (76 houses); Tire sub-district, İhsaniye (48 houses), Fevziye (80 houses), Hamidiye quarter; Salihli sub-district- İhsaniye (30 houses), Teşvikiye (35 houses), Orhaniye (35 houses); Alaşehir sub-district- Hamidiye quarter, **District(Sancak) of Aydın;** Denizli sub-district- Aziziye(16 houses), Hamidiye ( 120 houses), Sultaniye (120 houses); Aydın sub-district- Şevketiye (82 houses), Hamidiye (45 houses), Kadıköy, Fenar; İneabat sub-district- Şadi (93 houses), Beykör (78 houses), Kal'a (64 houses), Argavlı (53 houses), Bozdoğan sub-district- Derecik (73 houses), Osmaniye (67 houses), Hamidiye (96 houses); Nazilli sub-district- Fethiye (79 houses), Bereketli (34 houses); Sultanhisar sub-district- Karahayıt village (18 houses); İnce sub-district (18 houses), Söke Arap quarter (34 houses), Buldan Hamidiye village (28 houses), Çine Hamidiye quarter (66 houses); Palamut sub-district, Osmaniye village, Kavak-Dere village, **District (Sancak) of Saruhan;** Kasaba, Hamidiye village (50 houses), Ceylan İskelesi, Hamidiye village (45 houses), Soma, Ilıca village (38 houses), **District (Sancak) of Manisa;** Lütfiye village (43 houses, 155 people), Yenişehir (300 houses). As is seen, figures are between 12 and 300 houses (İpek, 1994).

Immigration of Bosnians which began in 1878 also continued in the Republican Era. Bosnian immigrants first came to unoccupied Ottoman territories in the Balkans and they were settled in Edirne, the vicinity of Istanbul and other regions. The wave began again in 1881 and continued till 1883 (Demirel, 2008). The flow eased down from 1893 to 1899, but later it increased again and reached its apogee in 1900.

Immigrants to Ottoman lands were estimated to be 150.000 to 300.000 (Babuna, 2001). Bosnians (Bosnak) were settled in a new place in the sub-district of Burunâbâd (Bornova) in the District of İzmir of Aydın Province. This new villages were given Bosnian names, and an imam (a religious official) and a mukhtar (village headman) were assigned to the village by an imperial decree in 26 November 1883.

Bosnian immigrants were settled around Hilalli Çeşme in the Alaşehir Village of Aydın Province. They were settled in an uninhabited place and newly founded village were named Hamidiye. Immigration flow from Bosnia went on as a result of the exchanges during the Republican era, and Bosnian Muslims considered Turkey as a salvation and thus temporarily or permanently immigrated to Turkey in the 1990s (Demirel, 2008).

Table 2: Villages and Towns Where the Bosnian Immigrants Live in Western Anatolia

Province	District	Village	Province	District	Village
Aydın	İncirlioiva	Beyköy	İzmir	Çesme	Sifne
Aydın	Söke	Güllübağç e	İzmir	Ödemiş	Karakova
Balıkesir	Ayvalık	Küçükköy	İzmir	Ödemiş	Mescitli
Balıkesir	Ayvalık	Sarımsaklı	İzmir	Ödemiş	Ovakent
Balıkesir	Erdek	Balıklı	İzmir	Torbalı	Dağkızılca
Balıkesir	Erdek	Harmanlı	İzmir	Torbalı	Doğancılar
Balıkesir	Erdek	Ocaklar	İzmir	Torbalı	Tahtalı
Balıkesir	Sındırgı	Isıklar	İzmir	Urla	Nohutalan
Balıkesir	Susurluk	Alibey	İzmir	Urla	Zeytinalan
Çanakkale	Biga	Kalafat	Kütahya	Merkez	Akköprü
Çanakkale	Biga	Kanlıksık	Kütahya	Merkez	Çayca
Çanakkale	Gökçeada	Tepeköy	Kütahya	Merkez	Parmakören
Çanakkale	Lapseki	Çataltepe	Kütahya	Tavsanlı	Beke
Çanakkale	Lapseki	Nusretiye	Manisa	Merkez	Karaağaçlı
İzmir	Aliağa	Çakmaklı	Manisa	Merkez	Sancaklıbozköy

İzmir	Bornova	Çiçekli	Manisa	Merkez	Sancaklıçesmebası
İzmir	Bornova	Doğanlar	Manisa	Merkez	Sancaklığdecik
İzmir	Bornova	Gökdere	Manisa	Merkez	Sancaklıkayadibi
İzmir	Bornova	Naldöken	Manisa	Merkez	Sancaklıuzunçınar
İzmir	Buca	Karaağaç	Manisa	Merkez	Selimsahlar
İzmir	Buca	Kaynaklar	Manisa	Akhisar	Beyoba
İzmir	Buca	Kırıklar	Manisa	Akhisar	Sazoba
İzmir	Gaziemir	Seydiköy	Manisa	Saruhanlı	Burhaniye
İzmir	Kemalpaşa	Halilbeyli	Manisa	Saruhanlı	İshakçelebi
İzmir	Çesme	Alaçatı	Manisa	Saruhanlı	Kumkuyucak
İzmir	Çesme	Dalyanköy	Manisa	Saruhanlı	Lütfiye
İzmir	Çesme	Ilıcalar	Manisa	Saruhanlı	Nuriye
İzmir	Çesme	Paşalimanı	Manisa	Saruhanlı	Tiyenli

Source: [http://www.bosna-sancak.net/haber/index.php?option=com\\_content&task](http://www.bosna-sancak.net/haber/index.php?option=com_content&task)

After the Russo-Ottoman War of 1877-1878, refugees from Rumelia were settled in either newly established or already available villages.

An important part of the immigrations (for security reasons) prior to the Balkan War were from the Crete Island. Around 20.000 immigrants came to İzmir in 1913 (Ağanoğlu, 2001). Before the World War I, it is known that 240.000 Turks fled from Western Thrace and Macedonia in Greece and took refuge in Ottoman Empire, especially in Eastern Thrace and Western Anatolia (Arslan, 2008).

People of Macedonia and Kosovo ran away to avoid the atrocity of gangs and came to İzmir. Their arrival in İzmir, accordingly, caused settlement problems. It is estimated that number of the refugees was 6000 who arrived in İzmir in 10 January 1913. This figure rose to 10.000 in 11 March 1913. İzmir was the area where immigrants were brought together and from which they were sent to inner parts of the region like Aydın, Manisa and Menteşe. In addition, some were settled in the ranges in İzmir. Because a range in Seferhisar, property of Midhat Paşa's wife, was a suitable place for the immigrants, the government wanted to expropriate it. The government also wanted to buy Mekteb-i Sanayi (School of Industry) range. Some part of the immigrants were transferred to villages and towns by the Commission in İzmir (Arslan, 2008).

Emigrations from Rumelia also went on after 1915. The table of immigration from 1912 to 1920 is given below, which is created based on the statistical data obtained from the Turkish Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Table 3: Muslim Refugees Who Emigrated from the Balkans from 1912 to 1920 and Places Where They were Settled (Data on Western Anatolia and Turkey)

Provinces and Independent Districts	Immigrants Coming Between 1912-1915	Immigrants Coming Between 1912-1920
Aydın (Including İzmir, Manisa )	104.879	145.868
Hüdavendigar (Including Bursa, Bilecik, Kütahya)	14.993	20.853
Karesi (Balıkesir)	10.689	14.687
Biga (Including Çanakkale)	2.903	4.033
Menteşe (Muğla)	615	855
Karahisar (Afyon)	201	280
Other	163457	227346
<b>Total (Turkey)</b>	<b>297.737</b>	<b>413.922</b>

Source: Based on Oğuzoğlu, 2002,

As seen in the Table 3, some 300.000 refugees immigrated to Turkey from the Balkan Wars to 1915, and the number of the ones who settled in Western Anatolia was very high. When the table is analyzed, it can be seen that immigrants densely populated Western Anatolia, particularly Aydın and İzmir, and settlers in the region account for 45% of total population. It is also clear that people continued to pour in Turkey after 1915 as well.

The first population flow from Turkey to Greece took place in 1914. Some of the refugees who were once ousted out from Macedonia and kept in temporary refugee camps for months were settled in the deserted houses of the fugitives. Muslims of 150 houses were located that way in Dikili, Foça and Çeşme (Yılmaz, 2001). According to a document dated 1925 and another document presented to the Assembly by Recep Bey, Deputy of Internal Affairs and Acting Deputy of Population Exchange, 38.925 of 358.465 refugees were settled in Karesi (Balıkesir and its vicinity) and 62.524 in İzmir (İpek, 2000). Exchanged population in Izmir and Balıkesir and its environs accounts for one third of the total exchanged.

According to the settlement plan divided before the exchange, it was planned that 4.000 tobacco farmers, 20.000 vine growers and 40.000 olive growers (64.000 in total) from Zeytuni, Drama, Kavala and Selanik were settled in Manisa, İzmir, Menteşe, Denizli and the vicinity (Ağanoğlu, 2001).



First immigrants who sailed to Çeşme from Yugoslavia-Macedonia due to the Balkan War of 1912 were located in Alaçatı. According to the Convention of Exchange signed by Turkey and Greece in Lausanne on 30 January 1923, Muslims in Greece (except for the ones in Western Thrace) and Orthodox Greeks in Turkey (except for Orthodox Greeks in İstanbul) were exchanged. Albanian and Bosnian immigrants who came to Turkey during the Balkan War and settled in Alaçatı. Moreover, immigrants from Selanik (Karafeyalı), Kavala (Kınalı and Karacaova), Crete and İstanköy were also located in Alaçatı.

As Bayram Akça (2008) expressed in his work, it is Fethiye (a town in Muğla) that received immigrants in great numbers from the Balkans and the Aegean Islands in 1924-1929, when 459 people in 151 families who emigrated from Greece, Aegean Islands, Bulgaria, Romania and Yugoslavia were settled in Muğla Central District, 1001 people in 265 families in Milas District, 1265 people in 298 families in Bodrum District. Most of these immigrants were farmers and a small number dealt with a profession other than farming. As required by the Convention, these immigrants were given such properties as houses, shops, and fields and olive groves and vineyards in the villages. *Place from where 2725 people (714 families) emigrated are as follows*; Selanik, Drama, Kavala, Zih, Langaza, Vodina, Nevrekop, Midilli Island, Sakız Island, İstanköy Island, Kırcaali, Dobruca, Silistre, Üsküp, Koçana, Varna, Pravada, Rodos Adası, Tikveş, Bosna, Manastır, Grebene, Pristine, Yanya, Aydonat, Koniçe, Girit Island, İskodra, Razlak, Sira, Kıratova, Kırçova, İstip, Köprülü, Cuma-i Bâla, Gümölcine, Niş, Girit-Kandiye. *Places where the immigrants were settled are as follows*; Muğla-Central town, Cumhuriyet quarter, Rum quarter, Ahiköy, Akgedik village, Bencik village, Cazkılar village, Necikler village, Bozüyük village, Eskihsar village, Muğla-Central Firuzpaşa quarter, Gazipaşa quarter, Çarsı quarter, Selimiye sub-district, Varvil village, Tuzabad village, Güllük sub-district, Karakaya village, Korucuk village, Yusufcuk, Tuzla Island, Köyarası, Yakaköy, Bakçeyaka, Dağarası, Derince, Gölyeri, Akgedik, Hisarlık, Kuyucak, Atik quarter, Kumbahçe quarter, Cedit quarter, Karabağ village, Karakaya village, Peksimet village, Dirmil, Kovacık Boğazı, Akçaalan village, Yahşi village, Müşki village, Gümüşlük, İslamhaneler quarter, Göl Köy.

While most of the free immigrants who came from Bulgaria in 1989 settled with their own means in the locations where their relatives and neighbours previously arrived in, some were placed in 21.438 houses in 14 provinces and 23 towns by the government within 5 years by a method based on debitting and monetary contributions of the immigrant families (<http://www.gocsempozyumu.org/index.htm>). A good example of these houses which were constructed in the suburbs is Görece Immigrant Houses of 2040 in the Görece Town of İzmir which could accomodate around 10.000 people.

Locations where immigrants were settled in Western Anatolia are discussed under the title of large centres, and moreover some villages and neighbourhoods are also included. There are a lot more immigrant settlements other than the abovementioned villages and neighbourhoods.

After immigrations to Turkey and some major settlement areas in Western Anatolia are discussed, some information on Yeniköy (New Village), an immigrant settlement in this region, is provided in the following part.

### **Yeniköy**

Yeniköy is a municipality in Koçarlı town, Aydın. Although its official name is Yeniköy (New Village), local people call it “Arnavut Yeniköy (Albanian Yeniköy)” to avoid confusion as there are other villages named “Yeniköy”. It is located on the banks of the Büyük Menderes (Great Meander) River on the edge of the Meander's plain. As is known, The Great Meander is one of the important rivers and its plain is among the valuable plains in Turkey. It is surrounded by mountains in the east, west and south. The village is located at the foot of the mountain and like a semi-circle in shape, stretching from the mountain foots in the south into the plain. The fertile Meander Plain is found in the north. It is surrounded by Kocatepe in the south, Kilise Hill in the east, Vakıf Mountain and Dede Hill in the west.



*Figure 1: Satellite view of the Yeniköy (www.google.com)*

The land where Yeniköy is located has a very favourable climate conditions for human settlement. Mediterranean climate prevails in the region; therefore, its climate is characterized by hot and dry summers, and mild and wet winters. The favourable weather conditions, fertile soil and abundant water supplies allow a great variety of agricultural activities. The Great Meander overflows its banks in the presence of heavy precipitation, which sometimes causes damages to the fields in the plain. Reclamation works along the River and Çine Dam will probably eliminate

overflows and allow safer agricultural activities. Yeniköy is accessible through İncirliova and Germencik on Aydın-İzmir highway and also through Söke.

As expressed above, a huge migration wave from the Balkans to Turkey started during and after the World War I, and continued till recently though in varying quantities. The ratio of the Yugoslavian immigrants coming to Turkey is quite remarkable.

Demographic structure of Yeniköy, a small village inhabited by Greeks before the declaration of the republic, changed after the Turkish War of Independence and Greeks left the village. Albanian immigrants from Kosovo Podyeva, who arrived in the region during the Independence War, were settled in the village. 16 houses of immigrants were settled in Yeniköy in 1923. Moreover, Yoruks, Turkish nomads from the Mazın Mountain (in Çine) and Akdağ (Afyon) dealing with animal husbandry, also gathered in the village.

12 thousand decares of the village used to be owned by a Greek, named Fotiyatis, was expropriated relying on the Convention of Exchange signed by Turkey and Greece, and sold to the immigrants by 15-year long term borrowing. The area was covered by olive trees then, and 25 trees were allocated to each family. Also yoruks from Çine were settled in the houses left vacant by the Greeks (From the interviews in Yeniköy). There are still some Greek houses in the eastern neighbourhood of Yeniköy.

Fettah Günay, elected Mukhtar in 1969, made great effort to enable Yeniköy to become a town and managed to do so in 1969. The first mayor was Fettah Günay<sup>1</sup>. There is only one primary school in the town, which is a two-storey building. Also, there is a village clinic, where a doctor and two midwives are employed. Fettah Günay Target Range, the biggest target range of olympic size in Aydın, was built in Yeniköy.

Table 4: Population in Yeniköy by Year

Year	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	2000	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Total</b>	2363	3079	3132	2771	3573	4470	5174	1754	1836	1754	1475	1420

While Yeniköy's population was 2363 in 1965, it had risen to 5174 by 2000; however, population decreased from then onward, which was caused by the change of the method used to create demographic statistical data. The population was 1420 in 2011. Two third of the population is comprised of immigrants from Kosovo and one third of Yoruks. Albanians and Yoruks live separately in different

<sup>1</sup> Fetth Günay was a national sportsman in marksmanship and successfully represented Turkey in this branch.

neighbourhoods. The town is partitioned into three neighbourhoods; Cumhuriyet (Republic), Büyük Menderes (The Great Meander) and Hürriyet (Freedom). Cumhuriyet and Büyük Menderes are inhabited by Albanians and Hürriyet by Yoruks. Albanians speak both in Albanian language and Turkish in their daily lives, but prefer Albanian for interpersonal communication.

### **Economic Structure From Past to Present**

A great majority of the immigrants in Anatolia are farmers. Therefore, heed was paid to settle them places where they could deal with farming. They kept practicing animal husbandry and farming, which used to be a part of their daily practices on their homelands. The area was covered by olive trees when they arrived. Each house was given 25 olive trees, but because they were not good at growing olives, they first practiced sharefarming and later sold their olive groves and purchased fields in the plain.

The case is similar in other immigrant settlements. Because Balkan immigrants in Alaçatı were not accustomed to viticulture and olive growing, vines in Alaçatı were rooted up and tobacco seedlings were planted instead by Thessalonian immigrants, while Kosovan and Bosnian immigrants opted for practicing animal husbandry.

Immigrants faced many problems, including ones concerning farming. Most immigrants could not apply the agricultural methods that they were used to on their homelands because plants in the new settlements were totally new and different, the soil was not favourable enough and they did not have agricultural equipments and machineries. Efforts were made to get the immigrants engaged in agricultural activities. All in all, they played an important part in Turkish economy and agricultural developments.

Agriculture has always been the primary source of income in Yeniköy. Cotton stands out as the most grown plant. 400-500 kg of produce are harvested from a single decare. Moreover, watermelon, maize, and wheat growing have a central importance in agricultural practices. Workers are brought from mountain villages for hoe, irrigation and gathering. A kind of land tenure system called “ıcar” is highly widespread. Almost every family has such agricultural equipments and machineries as a tractor, tractor trailer and plough. Landowners without these equipments and machineries may lease those of others.

Besides crop growing, they also deal with animal husbandry but not widespread. They generally raise cattle and thus both meet their need for milk, yoghurt, cheese and sell the milk they produce to dairy farmers in Koçarlı, Bağarası, İncirliova, Selçuk, Söke, Kuşadası and Ödemiş.

As can be seen in other small settlements in Turkey, there are small-sized shops and coffeehouses in addition to gas stations, cotton trading shops, shoe repairers, tailors, barbers, plumbers, kiosks, and electricians.

An open market is set up before and behind the town hall on Wednesday by some 15-20 sellers. Moreover, peddlers come in their trucks to the town to sell their goods, as well.

## Discussion

People emigrated from the Balkans and immigrated to Anatolia because of the Russo-Turkish Wars of 1787-1792, which was followed by other population movements made mandatory by the Russo-Turkish Wars of 1877-1878, the Balkan War (1912-1914), the First World War (1914-1918). This flow to Turkey continued due to population exchanges required by Lausanne Treaty in 1923 and owing to the unrest in the Balkans.

Settling the immigrants down was not an easy task because of persisting wartime conditions. These population movements did not stop till quite recently and the people were settled in Western Anatolia, which made the region a place densely populated by immigrants. They were influential in restructuring both urban and rural settlements. New villages were built on state-owned lands; Arnavut Yeniköy (Albanian Yeniköy) of Koçarlı in Aydın is only one of them.

Immigrants made various contributions to every walk of life in Anatolia. Prosperous families generally settled in cities and played an active part in industry and commerce, while rural settlers dealt with agriculture and brought along new agricultural practices to the region. It is obvious that they made a considerable contribution to Anatolian social and cultural life by bringing new customs, traditions and nutritional habits with themselves, which formed a united life style with shared values.

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