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Book Review

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Sanjak of Plovdiv (Filibe) According to Annuals of Edirne Province (1870-1877)

by Haluk Kayıcı

Edirne, 2016

279 pages

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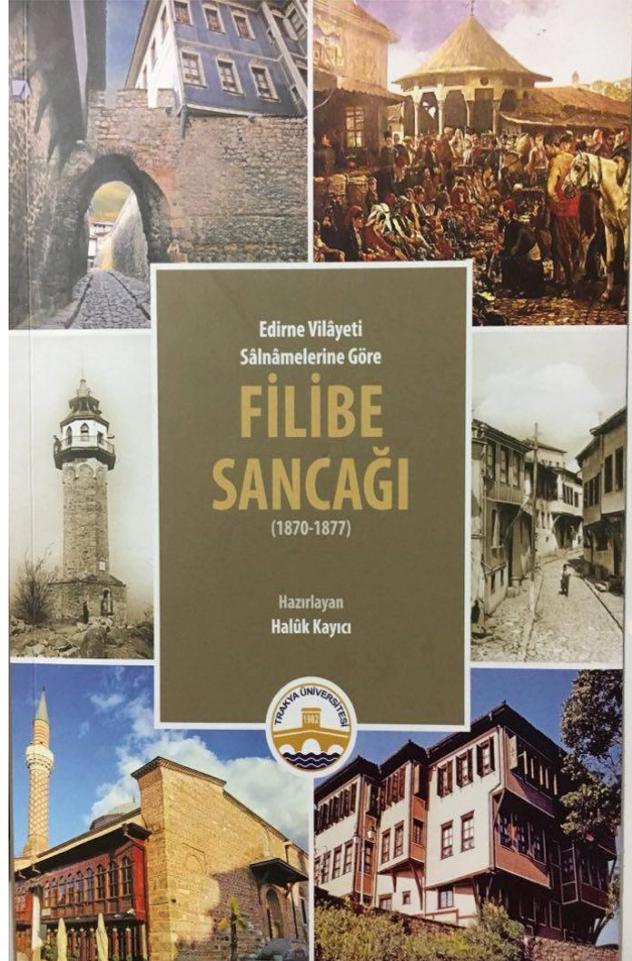
In accordance with scientific criteria, annuals play an important role in exploring the economic and socio-cultural structure; religious institutions; intellectual life and training programs, law, justice, communication and transportation systems; works of architecture, literature, music and fine arts in relation with other cultures and civilizations other than archive documents, chronicles, particular histories, memoirs, journals of the period.

Annuals were important because of the period they were prepared and were accepted as "written historical records". They consist of information about the events that happened for a year as well as the information about the city, flag, state, provincial, district, county, villages of a geographical or administrative region. Annuals are such works that have extremely rich, descriptive and informative information. Accurate information about topographic, demographic, commercial, social, political, legal and cultural history is given in these.

Edirne Province annuals According to Sanjak of Plovdiv (1870-1877) is Haluk Kayıcı's work. Within this study, together with the Sanjak of Plovdiv which was once known as Filibe, who hosted many civilizations and cultures, various religions and languages and today known as the city of Plovdiv (Bulgaria) that is out of our borders, and the administrative organs connected to the Filibe Sanjak during 1870-1877 period and social and economical structures have been put forward.

Plovdiv and the surrounding areas were annexed to Eastern Rumelian Province after the Ottoman-Russian War in 1877-1878 and was taken control by The Bulgarian Principedom after 1885. In Kayıcı's work, all 8 annuals including Filibe Sanjak in Annuals of Edirne Province were examined thoroughly and were translated from Ottoman script.

The main source of the study of Sanjak of Plovdiv (Filibe) According to the Annuals of Edirne Province (1870-1877) is composed of the annuals and on the preface part of the study, general information was provided about these annuals.



The historical developments of the city of Plovdiv and the writings provided by the travelers of that time wandering the city, were provided within the section under the heading of "Filibe". After this section, the transcriptions belonging to the sections of the Sanjak of Filibe in Annuals of Edirne Province take place, which was published for 8 times within 1870-1877 period. Besides, the photographs of Plovdiv enriched the work in terms of visual aspect.

As a result, the study of Sanjak of Plovdiv (Filibe) According to the Annuals of Edirne Province (1870-1877) by Haluk Kayıcı which was published by Trakya University is an important work giving information about demographic, trade, social and administrative structure of Sanjak of Filibe towards the end of the 19th century. This study which was prepared according to the annuals that can be regarded as valuable historical resources enlightened us about both the administrative structure of Ottoman Empire in its last periods and Plovdiv of that time. Haluk Kayıcı touched upon every single detail about the subjects he examined and thus prepared his study within the light of these documents and knowledge he gained.