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OTTOMAN ENTREPRENEURIAL NETWORKS AND DOING JOINT BUSINESS IN THE BALKANS: MERCHANTS, COMMERCE AND BUSINESS NETWORKS IN THE 19TH CENTURY

OSMANLI GİRİŞİMCİ AĞLARI VE BALKANLARDA ORTAK İŞ YAPMAK: 19. YÜZYILDA TÜCCARLAR, TİCARET VE İŞ AĞLARI

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ABSTRACT

Entrepreneurial network analysis is one of the issues that directly related to the 'Business History' in the field of Ottoman economic history. In a very ethnic and multicultural empire, such as the Ottoman Empire, business and commercial networks established by non-Muslims with powerful long-term relationships are seen as a serious and under-researched work. It is known that informal institutions play a role in the development of trade and business operations with formal institutions, as the institutional economic approach claims. Although we know that the formal institutions were undergoing significant development for the 19th century, we can argue that besides these formal institutions, merchants or traders' trust each other and cultural affinity were also influential in commerce and business operations. In Balkans, especially from the Tanzimat Era to the end of the 19th century, trade in the Balkan geography of non-Muslim traders, who have operated a lot of business both in commercial and financial terms in Istanbul, is remarkable. The merchants who had credit in the presence of Ottoman Statesman, have done business in commerce and finance in the centers such as Istanbul and the other Anatolian cities. At the same time, they played a prominent role in the trade with Balkan states, which had just gained independence from the Ottomans, which was also the land of the Ottoman Empire.

The purpose of this paper is to understand the Ottoman Entrepreneurial Networks and Merchants' place in the Ottoman domestic and foreign commerce by gathering up primary sources in Ottoman Archive-Istanbul (Cumhurbaşkanlığı Osmanlı Arşivi), and also English, German and Turkish publications belonging to the specific aforementioned period. Via the goods, subjected to commerce, structure of 19th century Ottoman business networks will be informed, as well as non-Muslim merchants' activities in the Ottoman Empire. It will be possible to make preliminary assessments in terms of the business history for the Ottoman world when it is tried to research the relations between the traders, connections with their agents in Balkans and the commercial values they have created in these network.

Key Words: Entrepreneurial Networks, Business History, Balkans, Commerce, Business Networks

ÖZ

Girişimci ağ analizi, Osmanlı iktisat tarihi alanındaki "İşletme Tarihi" ile doğrudan ilgili konulardan biridir. Osmanlı İmparatorluğu gibi çok etnisiteli ve çok kültürlü bir imparatorlukta, Müslüman olmayanlar tarafından uzun vadeli olarak güçlü ilişkiler şeklinde kurulan iş ve ticaret ağları ciddi ve fakat yeterince araştırılmamış bir çalışma konusu olarak görülmektedir. Kurumsal iktisat yaklaşımının öngördüğü üzere informel kurumların, formel kurumlarla birlikte ticari faaliyetler ve iş organizasyonlarının gelişiminde rol oynadığı bilinmektedir. Formel kurumların 19. yüzyılda önemli bir gelişme gösterdiğini biliyor olmamıza rağmen, bahsi geçen bu kurumların yanı sıra tüccarların birbirlerine olan güvenlerinin ve kültürel yakınlıklarının da ticaret ve ticari faaliyetlerde etkili olduğunu savunabiliriz. Balkanlarda, özellikle de Tanzimat Dönemi'nden 19. yüzyılın sonuna kadar, İstanbul'da hem ticari hem de finansal açıdan çok fazla ticari faaliyet yapan

gayrimüslim tüccarların Balkan coğrafyasında ticaret ile iştigal etmeleri dikkat çekicidir. Osmanlı Devleti nezdinde itibar sahibi olan bu tüccarlar, İstanbul ile farklı Anadolu şehirleri gibi merkezlerde ticaret ve finans alanında faaliyet gösterdiler. Aynı zamanda, Osmanlı İmparatorluğu ülkesi olan Osmanlılardan henüz bağımsızlık kazanmış olan Balkan devletleriyle yürütülen ticarete de önemli bir rol oynadılar.

Bu çalışmanın amacı, Osmanlı Arşivi-İstanbul'da (Cumhurbaşkanlığı Osmanlı Arşivi) bulunan birincil kaynaklar ile İngilizce, Almanca ve Türkçe ikincil kaynakların da yardımıyla Osmanlı girişimci ağları ile tüccarların Osmanlı iç ve dış ticaretindeki konumunu anlamaktır. Aynı zamanda ticarete konu olan mallar ile 19. yüzyıl Osmanlı iş ağlarının yapısı ve Osmanlı İmparatorluğu'ndaki gayrimüslim tüccarların ticari faaliyetleri hakkında bilgi verilecektir. Tüccarlar arasındaki ilişkilerin durumu, bu tüccarların Balkanlar'daki acenteleriyle olan bağlantıları ve bu network içerisinde yarattıkları toplam ticari değeri araştırmakla birlikte Osmanlı dünyasının işletme tarihi açısından ön değerlendirmeler yapmak mümkün olacak.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Osmanlı Girişimci Ağları, İşletme Tarihi, Balkanlar, Ticaret, İş Ağları

1. INTRODUCTION

Business history which had arose as a separate sub-branch of business or economics in Western Europe and North America is received with increasing interest in the recent period. Business history studies enables not only in Western Europe and North America but also other countries and cultures all across the world to make various researches. There were scarcely any business history studies for the period of the Ottoman Empire which had been made felt its presence and supervised Levant trade for long years in the Levant Seas with its hinterland. The Balkan as a region was one of the main hinterland areas of the Levant Seas. It has a wide entrepreneurial network with Eurasian sea trade operations in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

In this sense, it can be said that entrepreneurial network analysis is one of the issues that directly related to the 'Business History' in the field of the Ottoman economic history. In a very ethnic and multicultural empire, such as the Ottoman Empire, business and commercial networks established by non-Muslims with powerful long-term relationships are seen as a serious and under-researched work. It is known that informal institutions play a role in the development of trade and business operations with formal institutions, as the institutional economic approach claims. Although we know that the formal institutions were undergoing significant development for the 19th century, we can argue that besides these formal institutions, *merchants or traders' trust each other* and *cultural affinity* were also influential in commerce and business operations. In Balkans, especially from the Tanzimat Era to the end of the 19th century, trade in the Balkan geography of non-Muslim traders, who have operated a lot of business both in commercial and financial terms in the Ottoman capital, Istanbul, is remarkable. The merchants who had credit in the presence of Ottoman Statesman, have done business in commerce and finance in the centers such as Istanbul and the other Anatolian cities. At the same time, they played a prominent role in the trade with Balkan states, which had just gained independence from the Ottomans, the Balkan regions which was also the inland of the Ottoman Empire.

2. AIM, SOURCES AND SCOPE

2.1. Aim and Sources

The purpose of this paper is to understand the Ottoman entrepreneurial networks and merchants' place in the Ottoman domestic and foreign commerce by gathering up primary sources in Ottoman Archive-Istanbul (Cumhurbaşkanlığı Osmanlı Arşivi), The National Archives in Kew-London and also English, German and Turkish publications belonging to the specific aforementioned period. Via the goods, subjected to commerce, structure of 19th century Ottoman business networks will be informed, as well as non-Muslim merchants' activities in the Ottoman Empire. It will be possible to make preliminary assessments in terms of the business history for the Ottoman world when it is tried to research the relations between the traders, connections with their agents or partners in Balkans and the commercial values they have created in these network.

In this paper, we used primary sources from the Ottoman Archives and secondary source written in German which is very are book. According to the Ottoman archival documents which are called 'Maliyeden Mudevver Defterleri, there were many non-Muslim Ottoman merchants who operated in the Balkan region in the middle of the nineteenth century. These merchants who were originally played roles in the Ottoman financial sector at that time operated business in terms of commercial operations. Moreover, it is used by us that a book aforementioned which was written in German gives names of some merchants and some other details about those merchants for the first decades of the nineteenth century.

Accordingly, these merchants wanted to establish an institution on exchange of commerce in Istanbul in 1838. The book in German which is named 'Mercantil Memoiren' indicated which merchants operating business in the Ottoman lands at that time. With these merchants' name and related information, we could reach their operations from the archival records aforesaid. In this sense, it can be argued that the territorial expansion of the Ottoman Empire enabled the long-distance trade to be vibrant especially in the coastal business activities for both the Ottoman Empire and European merchants. According to the Ottomans' official economic mind, exporting was regarded less favorably than the importing (Genç, 2003: 45-48). In this sense, it can be argued that the foreign merchant wanted to do business under the authority of the Ottoman ports. Also, the Ottomans used long-distance trade as a regulator for the stability of the domestic markets (Pamuk, 2004: 235-236). Due to this developments, especially after the mid of nineteenth century, financial institutions begun to develop with business activities of foreign and the Ottoman merchants in the capital of Ottomans in accordance with roles of these merchants.

2.2. Scope: Merchants and Networks

In 19th century, regional growth in the Ottoman Empire has brought vitality to long-distance trade, particularly in the context of coastal trade, for both Ottoman and European merchants. According to Genç; in the basic economic mind of the Ottomans, exports were less preferable than imports (Genç, 2003: 45-48). In this sense, it is known that foreign traders are willing to trade on leave of absence within the framework of the capitulations (ahdnames) they have received at the Ottoman ports. Istanbul was the most preferred of these ports for the entire Ottoman period (Goffman, 2012: 167-169). At the same time, the Ottomans used long-distance trade as a regulating factor in the stability of domestic markets (Pamuk, 2004: 235-236). Thanks to these developments, especially after the mid-nineteenth century, economic institutions developed in connection with the role of foreign merchants in the Ottoman capital with links to the other Ottoman cities, accompanied by their trade activities. At the same time, this commercial activity increased the intensive activities of foreign traders and accelerated the development of financial markets, in particular.

Nevertheless, contrary to the economic history literature, for the Ottoman State, the years commencing with the Tanzimat Fermanı (Imperial Edict of Reorganization- Gülhane) mark a period when commercial development and activity increased. In the Tanzimat reform decades, developments in road – port and railway construction led up the growing of commercial activities. In the Ottoman economic system, we know that business investment and money-changing transactions were dominated by very small group of entrepreneurs (Çizakça, Kenanoğlu, 2008: 196). As Merchants play a crucial role in this activity.

The bill broking activities, which were performed in the Galata district during the pre-Ottoman period, were carried on by non-Muslim people after the Ottoman sovereignty (Lybyer, 1915: 582). Accordingly, bill brokers and bankers assumed such operations like changing the Ottoman and foreign currencies, storing and safekeeping the countable sources as bank deposits and opening credits under certain conditions (Yüzgün, 1985: 155). They are also known to have given credit to the Ottoman government, financed the tax farmers/money landers within the frame of tax farming, and even performed the task of tax farming and bill of exchange dealers (Al, 2011: 4-5).

3. OTTOMAN ENTREPRENEURIAL NETWORKS AND DOING JOINT BUSINESS IN THE BALKANS

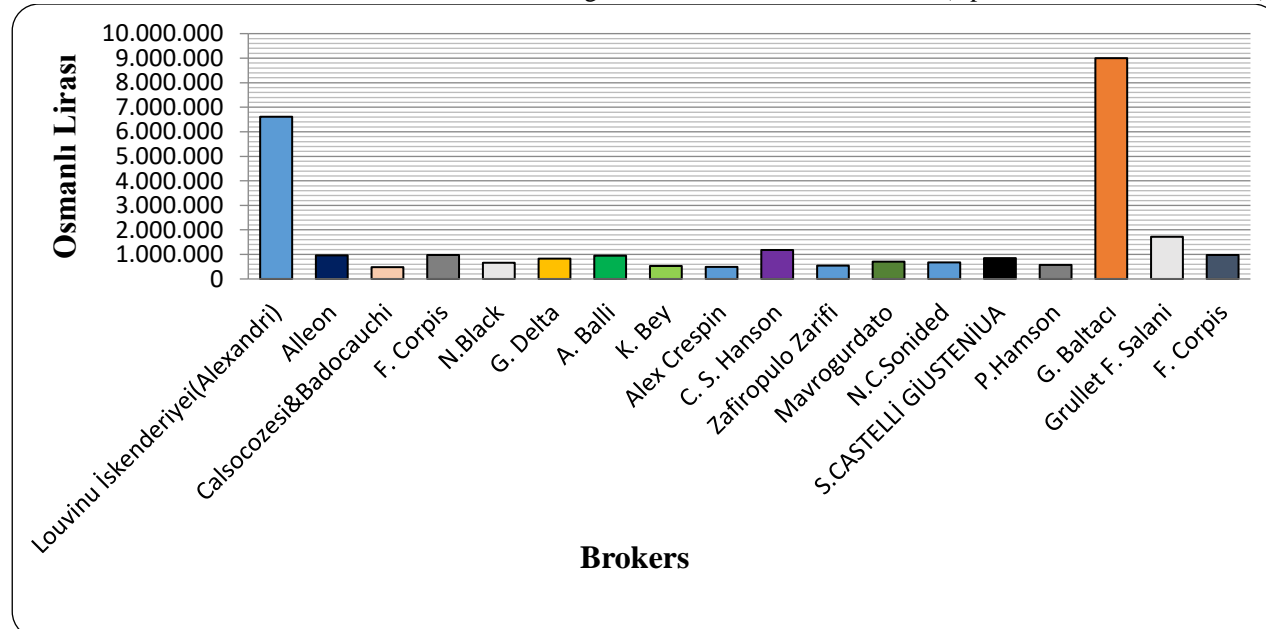
With the Tanzimat Edict, the Ottoman economy of the Ottoman Empire became a major market in which European capital and products circulated freely. As a matter of fact, the foreign trade volume of Anatolia increased 15 times in the 19th century. On one hand, while positive developments were experienced in Ottoman domestic trade, on the other hand a short-term crisis environment was experienced in the financial sector at the beginning of Tanzimat Era. With the declaration of the Tanzimat Edict in 1839, the abolition of tax farming made end of the brilliant periods of the sarrafs. In 1842, with the return to the system of tax farming, the great Armenian sarrafs in Istanbul started to cooperate and established the Rumeli and Anatolian companies. Finally, in 1860, sarraf privileges were abolished. As a result of these developments, the role of sarrafs in Ottoman financial market services decreased and the importance of Galata bankers, merchants and newly established modern banking institutions started to increase with extension its scope in both commercial and financial operations in particular (Al ve Akar, 2015: 272).

In this period, when the effects of the economic changes originating from the West were felt, some Ottoman social groups gradually began to dissolve their traditional relations with the central government and stepped into the market economy. The regions where the change was most clearly observed were the

Balkans, Istanbul and Western Anatolia (Pamuk, 2011: 208). Apart from these, in the 1850s, an important development for the foreign trade and the business operations as well as the domestic trade and financial networks was the construction of railways in the Ottoman region. Accordingly, railways were constructed by foreign capital owners through concessions with some exceptions. Thus, foreign capital entered the Ottoman Empire also increased after the 1850s. This development affected the business networks which were seen between foreign capital and the merchants or bankers resident in the Ottoman capital at that time. The establishment of the connection of the inner regions with the sea, especially in Western Anatolia along with the railways, has had a positive impact on trade and financial business operations by facilitating the transportation of people and goods between the Anatolian Railways on the Izmir-Ankara-Konya line and the Oriental Railways on the Istanbul-Edirne-Sofia line for the Balkan region in particular.

According to this information aforementioned above, we can show these merchants or bankers and their networks in the Balkan regions. The Dersaadet Bank's detailed Bill of Exchange Minute books indicates that between 10 and 20 merchants of Istanbul had business networks in the Balkan regions. The networks contained mostly financial operations. Also, the book shows those merchants' business and financial activities in the Balkan too. We can reach the policy transaction volume that these merchants acted as a bill broker in 1849-50-51 and before. Accordingly, it can be seen from the tables that the merchants were most influenced merchants in the Ottoman Empire.

Chart 1. Amount of these merchants in bill brokering and their names: From London (April 1851 - 1852 December)



Notes: Indicators have shown on the Bart Chart in Turkish Lira Currency. (1 Pound = 0, 75 Lira)

Source: BOA, MAD. d, nr. 12494.; nr. 12496.; nr. 12499.; nr. 12497.; nr. 12498.

From this chart, we have the names of merchants and the information of merchants names enables us to evaluate which merchants operated business in the Balkan region in accordance with the book named 'Mercantil Memoiren' in the middle of the nineteenth century. The book gives some notes on Balkan trade operations of those merchants. That's why, we can see the business networks of the Ottoman merchants for that period. Accordingly, these merchants operated mostly financial business in terms of brokering. It contained bill brokering and some commercial materials which are shown below, in the tables 1 and 2.

These traders continued to do business operations with the products aforementioned in Table 1, in various Ottoman cities in the Balkan region. These cities are shown in Table 1 and Table 2. Accordingly, these traders were engaged in commercial activities in the territory of Macedonia, Albania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Greece, Kosovo, Romania and Bosnia; as they had close commercial and financial relations and business partnerships with the Istanbul, the Ottoman capital. Until the beginning of the 18th century, woven products, which had been traded in a wide area from the Balkans to the Ottoman East Lands, lost its place in Aleppo and Egypt in this century. This has arisen due to increased Indian influence and competition with French and Dutch traders (Yıldırım, 2006: 39).

Table 1. Commercial Materials in the Balkan Region

City	Type of Commodity	Type of Commodity
Macedonia	Wool Maretials for shopkeepers Saffron	Cotton Yarn
Salonica (Thessaloniki)	Raw Silks	Agricultural products
Bosnia	Agricultural products	Maretials for shopkeepers
Kosovo	Agricultural products	Maretials for shopkeepers
Romania – Varna and Wallachia (Eflak)	Cotton and Wolfsbane	Mohair and Yarn
Romania – Braila	Butter and Barilla Soda	Timber and Beizen

Notes: Data have been collected from the National Archives for the 19th century.

Source: TNA: CUST 3/4-82, 1800-1870 and CUST 17/1-21, 1800-1870; Eduard Dellenbusch, *Mercantil-Memoiren aus der Türkei*, Düsseldorf: Schreiner, 1841, pp. 62-64 and 68-109.

Especially, in this century, British merchants considered Salonica as an important centre developing around Smyrna. Under this context, for instance, we know that British merchants did not consider Salonica and Smyrna to be separate. It can be asserted that British ships most certainly either stopped by at Salonica through Smyrna or that the relevant merchandise was swapped between the two cities (Vlami, 2009: 5). Starting from the 18th century, the strong commercial links between the Western Anatolian and Balkan cities was also carefully monitored by merchants and bankers who dominated the financial relations in the Ottoman capital in the 19th century.

Table 2. Financial-Business Networks of the Ottoman Anatolia and Balkan Region

Balkan Region and Centres	Ottoman Anatolia Centres	Balkan Region and Centres
Macedonia	Istanbul	Albania
Salonica	Istanbul, Smyrna and Bursa	Bulgaria
Bosnia	Istanbul and Ankara	Serbia
Kosovo	Smyrna (İzmir)	Romania
Romania – Varna	Istanbul	Romania – Wallachia (Eflak)
Romania – Braila	Istanbul and Smyrna	Bulgaria – Sofia

Notes: City information has been collected from the book called “*Mercantil-Memoiren aus der Türkei*”.

Source: Eduard Dellenbusch, *Mercantil-Memoiren aus der Türkei*, Düsseldorf: Schreiner, 1841, pp. 68-109.

In the light of this information aforementioned above, another remarkable point is the increase in the presence of merchants engaged in commercial and financial operations between the cities of Istanbul and Western Anatolia and the Balkan cities especially from the end of the first half of the 19th century. Particularly in Book which is called “*Mercantil de Turkei*” in German, it is known that about 150 merchants and bankers had direct business networks with Balkan cities for this period. Based on this information, when we look at the fields of activity of these merchants and bankers and in which cities they had established commercial networks from the Ottoman archive sources; it is possible to say that there was very serious business mobility after the 1830s in particular.

We have tried to show in Table 3 with detailed information about the merchants and bankers who have commercial links and networks with the Balkan countries and the Ottoman Balkan cities which we have obtained from these books and the Ottoman archives.

Table 3. The Merchant Lists with Financial-Business Networks in the Balkans

Surname	Name(s)	Period	Main Port and City	Commerce Centres in Balkan	Job - Duty
1839-1841					
Alleon	Jacques	1839-1841	Constantinople and Chios		Banker
Arlaud		1839-1841	Constantinople		Merchant
Asnavurian	Aznavar	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Asnavurian	Chevore	1839-1841	Smyrna		Banker
Asclipiadi		1839-1841	Smyrna		Banker
Aggicesmeli (Acı Çeşmeli)	Yenidunia	1839-1841	Smyrna	Manastır	Banker
Agelaste	Radocanacchi	1839-1841	Smyrna		Banker

Abbot	B. B.	1839-1841	Constantinople and Smyrna-Aydin	Salonica - Montenegro	Merchant
Baltazzi	Emanuele	1839-1841	Constantinople and Smyrna-Chios	Athens	Banker
Boeaf	Casimir	1839-1841	Smyrna		Merchant
Baudouy		1839-1841	Smyrna		Merchant
Berzolese	Antonio	1839-1841	Constantinople		Merchant
Bratis	Marion	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Bavestrelli	Vicenzo	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Batrino	Godef	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Braggiotti	P.	1839-1841	Constantinople, Bursa and Smyrna	Shkodra (İşkodra)	Banker
Balzac		1839-1841	Constantinople and Edirne	Salonica	Banker
Bailleul		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Baudury	L.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Churchill	W. N.	1839-1841	Constantinople and Kayseri	Macedonia	Banker
Crespin	Pere	1839-1841	Constantinople	Salonica	Merchant
Crespin	Hipp	1839-1841	Smyrna	Salonica	Banker and Merchant
Camondo	Isaac	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker and Merchant
Calsamiglia	G. B.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Caisserli		1839-1841	Constantinople	Romania	Banker
Castelli	Giustiniani	1839-1841	Constantinople	Crete	Banker
Conduri	D. N.	1839-1841	Smyrna		Banker
Cristich	Surinian	1839-1841	Constantinople	Serbia	Banker
Carabella	A.	1839-1841	Bandırma	Salonica and Komotini	Banker
Castacazalo	G. P.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Camagni	Angelo	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Camana	M.	1839-1841	Smyrna	Manastır	Banker
Capitanachi	Amiro	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Caldroni		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Comjougiam	Cranncs	1839-1841	Smyrna		Banker
Constantino	J.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Tsarevo (Bulgaria)	Banker
Corpi	J.	1839-1841	Constantinople and Smyrna-Chios	Rhodes	Banker and Merchant
Copsida	Eust	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Durand	Hipfinger	1839-1841	Constantinople	Bulgaria	Banker
De Costa Giv.		1839-1841	Smyrna		Banker
Damiano	N.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Craiova (Romania)	Banker
Di Giovanni Cost		1839-1841	Smyrna	Salonica	Banker
Drago	Gaetano	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Dendriano	P.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Crete	Banker
Dupuis	Gio.	1839-1841	Benghazi	Greece	Banker
Duvaz	B. Murat	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Decaldavene	Eduard	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Ede	Carlo	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Emanuele	Gio.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Flori	Steffano	1839-1841	Constantinople	Ohrid and Prizren	Banker
Fotiadi	D.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Athens	Banker
Francovich and Bragiotti		1839-1841	Constantinople	Hungary	Banker

Florio	Gio.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Fakri	Gio.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Fenerli	Alessandro	1839-1841	Constantinople	Salonica	Banker
Fottio	Teodoro	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Glavancy		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Green	G. A.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Athens	Banker
Guidici	Constantino	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Gibraltar	Sadik	1839-1841	Tunis	Greece	Merchant
Giovanni	Lambro	1839-1841	Constantinople	Wallachia (Eflak)	Banker
Glavany	Jacques	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Hayes	Lafontaine	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Hanson	Charles	1839-1841	Constantinople and Edirne	Salonica	Banker and Merchant
Hava	Elia	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker and Merchant
Hulka		1839-1841	Constantinople	Hungary	Banker
Hamson	Allepoglu	1839-1841	Smyrna and Constantinople		Banker and Merchant
Haggiar	J.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Hassarossian	Ant	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Hurmus	Apel	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Hamelin	A.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Wallachia (Eflak)	Banker
Hatem	Isaac	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Inglessi	Ant	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
İlliasco	C. C.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Kissisoglu	J.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Kissisoglu	Abramo	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Kilaiditi		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Kettember Brothers		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Kelleys	Webster	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Kevork	Abdullah Ovanes	1839-1841	Constantinople and Alexandretta	Salonica	Banker
Kirian	Eftimio	1839-1841	Constantinople	Bulgaria	Banker
Lemoine	J. J.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Lambici	L.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Mirassjade	Krikor	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Marinitsch	M. A.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Mavrogordato Brothers		1839-1841	Constantinople and Smyrna-Chios	Greece	Banker and Merchant
Mavrogordato	Petrocochino	1839-1841	Constantinople and Smyrna	Greece	Banker and Merchant
Mavrogordato	D. L.	1839-1841	Constantinople and Smyrna	Greece	Banker and Merchant
Mavrogordato	P. N.	1839-1841	Constantinople and Smyrna	Greece	Banker and Merchant
Menzalopulo	Gio.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Greece	Banker
Manuele	B.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Negroponte	B. J.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Ruse (Ruscuk)	Banker
Notara	Gregorio	1839-1841	Constantinople	Bucharest	Banker
Privilegio	Nicolo	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Paoli di Giovanni	Chiariani	1839-1841	Constantinople	Salonica	Banker
Pezzer	Antonio	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Parrini	Pietro	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Petrococchino	G.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Papaluca Brothers		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Proj	Emanuele	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker

Panos	Agob	1839-1841	Constantinople	Prishtina (Priština)	Banker
Palacci	Davide	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Ralli	Tomasso	1839-1841	Constantinople	Wallachia (Eflak)	Banker and Merchant
Ralli	Antonio	1839-1841	Constantinople and Smyrna-Chios	Wallachia (Eflak)	Banker and Merchant
Robert	Felix	1839-1841	Constantinople	Athens	Banker and Merchant
Radocanacchi	L.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker and Merchant
Radocanacchi	M.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker and Merchant
Radocanacchi	Stimati	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Reboul	A.J.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Rizzo	Tomaso	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Rizzo	Santo	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Salzani		1839-1841	Constantinople	Salonica	Banker
Sgutta	Zola	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Sevastopulo	Figlia (Daughter)	1839-1841	Constantinople	Greece	Banker
Sarrel	Rd.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Sterio	N.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Bucharest	Banker
Stajanoviti	A.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Stavrinacchi	S.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Simeriotti	G.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Secchiari	G.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Schneider		1839-1841	Constantinople	Vidin (Bulgaria)	Banker
Stefanovich		1839-1841	Constantinople	Greece	Banker
Scannavi Brothers		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Schilizzi	G.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Albania and Italy	Banker
Soffi	Zisso	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Tinguiroglu	Steffano	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Tinguiroglu	Ovanes	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Torosogiu	Boghos	1839-1841	Bursa	Komotini	Banker
Terliczoglu	Gio.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Tomasset		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Treves	Juda	1839-1841	Constantinople	Albania	Banker
Valiano	Ant.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Novorossiysk (Russia)	Banker
Vlastaracclii	G.	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Vuro	E. M.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Austria	Banker
Vuro	Gio M.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Austria	Banker
Vuro	Constantino	1839-1841	Constantinople	Austria	Banker
Whittall	C.	1839-1841	Smyrna and Chios	Salonica	Banker and Merchant
Wright	Adam	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Wood	Wilh	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker and Merchant
Yenidunia	L.	1839-1841	Constantinople	Shumen (Şumnu) and Tirnovo	Banker
Zaccarof	Costantino	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Zaccarof	Zaccaria	1839-1841	Constantinople	Bulgaristan	Banker
Zino	Francesco	1839-1841	Constantinople	Prizren	Banker
Zicchalioti Brothers		1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Zaccharia	Fottio	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker

Zucca	Chiriaco	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Zaffropulo	Demetrio	1839-1841	Constantinople		Banker
Zarifi Brothers		1839-1841	Constantinople and Chios	Salonica	Banker and Merchant

Notes: These merchants were given above in the table who operated business in the Balkna region of the Ottoman Empire. Their names and other related information have been collected from the book called “Mercantil-Memoiren aus der Türkei” and Presidency Ottoman Archives in Istanbul.

Source: Eduard Dellenbusch, *Mercantil-Memoiren aus der Türkei*, Düsseldorf: Schreiner, 1841, pp. 62-64; Presidency Ottoman Archives (Cumhurbaşkanlığı Osmanlı Arşivi), (BOA). A. MKT.UM. 430/69, 564/59; HR.MKT. 19/50, 38/67, 86/31; A.}MKT.DV. 64/19, 109/36, 151/2; A.}MKT.NZD. 390/70, 394/60, 406/86, 419/42; Y..PRK.TKM. 6/85.

4. CONCLUSION

In the light of all this information; It would not be an exaggerated claim to say that there has been serious activity since the end of the first half of the 19th century, which was shown as a period of stagnation or collapse for the Ottoman Empire. As a matter of fact, for the second half of the 19th century, there was a serious economic activity between Ottoman Western Anatolian cities and Balkan cities, both by merchants and bankers from Ottoman subjects and by bankers who were citizens of foreign countries.

The basis of these economic activities between the Ottoman Balkans or other Balkan states and Anatolia was commercial activities and lending transactions. At the heart of the commercial activities were Wool Maretils for shopkeepers, Saffron, Cotton Yarn, Raw Silks, Agricultural products, Wolfsbane, Mohair, Yarn, Butter, Barilla Soda, Timber and Beizen. These products were especially transported from cities such as Istanbul, Izmir and Bursa to Balkan cities. We also know that some bankers have made lending transactions outside of Istanbul, especially in the Balkan cities such as Salonica.

In last, there were also some merchants who operated business in Chios via Izmir in the late nineteenth century. For instance, the Galata bankers, particularly those from Chios, because of their family links with the major merchants operating from the port of Smyrna, followed the commerce of the city closely. In the compensation demand list following the 1860 Izmir fire, the top of the list is occupied by A. Baltazzi 15.000 krs, and 1.000 krs each for Mavrogordato, Tubini, Ralli, Corpi, the famous Comando, Zarifi and Mr. Black. Apart from Chios and the other islands in Aegean Sea, they were operating financial business in the Balkan regions in accordance with Otoman state’s rules and regulations at that time. In sum, the merchanst and bankers were mostly engaged to the financial activities in the Balkan regions from Istanbul. Some of them also traded some materials which were shown above. This shows us Istanbul merchants’ business networks in he Balkan regions in the middle of the nineteenth century. To sum up, it is worth mentioning that in the early part of the second half of the nineteenth century, a total of 150 traders that we could detect had a serious trading networks in the Balkan region which affected the financial penetration to the other centres beside Istanbul.

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