

OTTOMAN DOCUMENTS
FROM THE HOLDINGS OF "PROF. ALEXANDER FOL" HISTORICAL MUSEUM,
MALKO TARNOVO TOWN



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Explanatory Note

The documents presented in the annotated collection of Ottoman documents are part of the holdings of "Prof. Alexander Fol" Historical Museum, Malko Tarnovo. They contain extremely diverse information about the past of Bulgarians from Strandzha region and are more than indicative of their lifestyle, marital and property status at that time.

The popularization of these unpublished documents will allow all those interested in the subject to get acquainted with the history and culture of Bulgarians from the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century.

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INTRODUCTION

If we have to point out clearly which sources represent the largest share of the documentation devoted to the Bulgarian history prior to the Liberation in 1878, we can say without hesitation that these are the Ottoman sources. These documents are extremely useful not only due to their quantity but also in qualitative terms. They represent a huge amount of information, which complete preservation, conservation, disclosure, publication, popularization and understanding has yet to come for the Bulgarian historians, local history experts, linguists, archivists, museum workers, etc. Suffice it to remind that the Bulgarian lands have been under the Sultan's rule for about five centuries, and during that time Ottoman clerks and bureaucrats have written hundreds of thousands and even millions of pages of data on the life, the style of living, the economy, the political ambitions, the revolutionary and rebellious events of the Bulgarian population. Therefore, these documents, similar to the Greek and Latin ones, which have been published by a large number of Bulgarian medievalists, are also of great scientific interest. It is no coincidence that one of the most prestigious series of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, dedicated to the publication of documents about Bulgarian history, gives them wide publicity.¹

Here we will also make a certain contribution in this direction, as far as we will present to the Bulgarian historical science, in an annotated version, the Ottoman documents, preserved in the holdings of "Prof. Alexander Fol" Historical Museum, Malko Tarnovo.² In total, we introduce 64 documents (60 original and 4 photocopies) written in Ottoman-Turkish language, which have the potential to prove to be important for the study of the micro-history of Malko Tarnovo and its region, without being the first, and we hope

¹ We will mention, only as an example of the publication of Ottoman documentation, the multi-volume edition of BAS "Turkish sources of Bulgarian history". Also the last volume of the series already released by the Archives State Agency, see: **Turkish** sources for the Bulgarian history. Archives speak, book 13, S., 2001. Otherwise, we have a huge volume of such documents published, but they will not be detailed here as far as they are indirect subject of this inventory.

² For the museum, see <https://tripsjournal.com/zabelezhitelnost/istoricheski-muzey-prof-aleksandar-fol-malko-tarnovo> (10.06.2018).

not the last researchers, dedicated to this not an easy task.³ In this case it is particularly useful that documents, preserved in a museum and not in an archive institution are made public. It is known that due to some gaps in the Bulgarian legislation there are a lot of discrepancies in the work with documents preserved in the archives, museums, libraries, community centres and other cultural institutions. Thus, if the Bulgarian scientists have some more general idea of the amount of the preserved documents devoted to the Ottoman period and the Bulgarian Revival, preserved in the Bulgarian libraries (for example the St St Cyril and Methodius National Library) and in the state archives system (referring to the Archives State Agency), the same cannot be said for the rich documentary collections of the museums. They are generally “more isolated” from the interest of historians and are known to a narrower circle of museum specialists or researchers interested in a specific region and period and therefore have studied the archives of the respective museum.⁴ Therefore, the present inventory, without being pioneering, as far as there are earlier similar publications, will present the Ottoman documentary heritage preserved in the collection of a local historical museum. Let’s hope this is only the beginning and in the future such inventories, and why not publications of whole documents preserved in museums, will become a more frequent practice of the Bulgarian scientists.

We will point out that the third largest Ottoman archive in the world after the archives in Istanbul and Cairo is preserved in Bulgaria. This is the Oriental collection at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library⁵, which is also the largest archival collection of such documents for Bulgaria. The inventories and the complete translations of documents preserved in this archive are well known and repeatedly quoted in Bulgarian historical sci-

³ **Raychevska**, Ts. Ottoman documents for the Strandzha region. – In: *Journal of the State Archives*, No. 55, 1988, p. 283–293. This publication will be mentioned in particular later, as far as, without being completely certain, some of the documents annotated here are also described therein but with many errors and are written under other signature numbers that do not correspond to the reality at the moment (i.e. they cannot be used by science). These “discrepancies” may have another explanation that we will point out.

⁴ For the specifics of the museum network and the work with historical documents in this network see: **Boneva**, V. Public information: again about the status and condition of archive documents in Bulgarian museums. – In: *Archival Review*, No. 2, 2013, pp. 23–34.

⁵ See: **Koleva-Zvancharova**, M. The third largest and most important Ottoman archive in the world: Problems and tasks. – In: *Archival Review*, No. 2, 2016, pp. 86–89; also the more detailed studies: **Ivanova**, St. The history and the modern state of the collection of sicils in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. – In: *Journal of the State Archives*, no. 74, pp. 3–32; and especially: **Ivanova**, St. Compilation, Formation and Revealing the Collections of the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library (to a Guide to the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library). – In: *Journal of the State Archives*, 2002, no. 79, pp. 3–49.

ence.⁶ Also, review articles have been published on the documents relating to individual towns and regions, such as Belogradchik⁷, Gabrovo⁸, Elhovo⁹, Karnobat¹⁰, Lovech¹¹, Pleven¹², Svilengrad¹³ and others.¹⁴

As the second largest repository (within Bulgaria) in which Ottoman documents are preserved, could be indicated the Central State Archive and, in general, the state archives system. The documentary wealth of these institutions, that are under the administration of the Archives State Agency, from the point of view of the Ottoman sources preserved in them, is presented to the science as both generalized data¹⁵ and as separate holdings¹⁶

⁶ For example, **Inventory** of Ottoman Documents for Crafts and Trade (XVI – XIX c.). Ed. by St. Andreev, comp. by A. Velkov, P. Gruevski, Sv. Ivanova, M. Mihailova-Mravkarova, N. Robev, Em. Silyanova. S., 1993; **Radushev**, E., Sv. **Ivanova**, R. **Kovachev**. Inventory of Ottoman Turkish Documents about Waqf, Preserved in the Oriental Department at the St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. Part 1 – Registers. Sofia, 2003; Turkish sources for the Bulgarian history (TIBI), t. 2. S., 1960, and many others. For a summary, see: **Stoyanov**, V. Research and Publishing of Ottoman-Turkish Documentary Sources on the History of Bulgaria. – In: **Bulgaria** in XV – XVIII centuries. Historiographical research. T. I. C., 1987, pp. 276–308; **Grozdanova**, E. Bulgarian Ottoman studies at the border of two centuries – continuity and renewal. – In: *ИПp*, 2005, vol. 2–3, pp. 98–157; for some difficulties in working with Ottoman documents, see **Ali**, Sv. Problems related to thereveal of defter from the fund of St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. – In: *Библиотека*, Year XXIII (LXII), vol. 6, 2016, pp. 131–149.

⁷ **Silyanova**, E. Ottoman-Turkish documents from the 19th century about Belogradchik kaza and Belogradchik in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. – In: *ИНБКМ*, vol. 22 (28), 1996, pp. 587–594.

⁸ **Kalitsin**, M. Ottoman-Turkish documents for Gabrovo and Gabrovo region in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. – In: *Бекое*, book 1, 1975, pp. 111–112.

⁹ **Grozdanova**, E. Documents about Elhovo and Elhovo region in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. – In: *Бекое*, book 6, 1977, pp. 73–78.

¹⁰ **Grozdanova**, E. Documents about Karnobat and Karnobat region in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library – In: *Бекое*, book 3, 1975, pp. 58–67.

¹¹ **Kalitsin**, M. Ottoman-Turkish documents about Lovech and Lovech region in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. – In: *Бекое*, book 6, 1975, pp. 63–70.

¹² **Kalitsin**, M. Ottoman-Turkish documents about Pleven and Pleven region in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. – In: *Бекое*, book 4, 1973, pp. 55–59.

¹³ **Dobрева**, M. Svilengrad and its hinterland according to Ottoman documents, preserved in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. – In: **Svilengrad** and the region from antiquity to modern times. Collection of Reports from the First Municipal Scientific Conference, 3.X.2011, Svilengrad. Municipal Historical Museum – Svilengrad. [2012], pp. 50–85.

¹⁴ **Grozdanova**, E., St. **Andreev**. Ottoman-Turkish documents for the southern Bulgarian Black Sea coast and its adjacent area (in the Pomorie Fund at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library). – In: *Бекое*, book 6, 1980, pp. 80–89.

¹⁵ A very good generalization is made by the archivist Yordan Zhelev, who calculates the total number of documents preserved in the system of state archives to more than 100 000. See: **Zhelev**, J. The Ottoman documents in the Bulgarian state archives. Condition and prospects. – In: *Journal of State Archives*, no. 93, 2007, pp. 337–353.

¹⁶ See: **Ivanova**, Z., Hr. **Atanasov**. Ottoman-Turkish documents in the fund of the Bulgarian Exarchate (F. 246 K), Inv.. 11. *Journal of State Archives*, 2018, in the press. Several thousands of

and, for example, totally or partially, for separate territorial archives – such as Plovdiv¹⁷, Smolyan¹⁸, Dobrich¹⁹ and others.²⁰

So, outside these two larger repositories of Ottoman documents (St Cyril and Methodius National Library and Archives State Agency), we should try to present also other similar collections. Therefore, in this respect so far there is a lot of work done. Thus, local collections, which were not preserved in the state archiving system, were also the subject of interest to Bulgarian scientists. Only by way of example we will mention the publications of the Ottomanists Diamandi Ihchiev for the Rila Monastery²¹, Elena Grozdanova, who promotes documents from the Archival Collection of the “Local history study” in town Belovo²² and others.²³

The current inventory can be attributed to this group of publications: of Ottoman documents preserved in local museum collections and, as we have already mentioned, its subject is the archival materials from the holdings of the Historical Museum of Malko Tarnovo.

Ottoman-language documents are included in this inventory. It can also be used in a shorter version on the Archives State Agency's website, through the State Archives Information System (SAIS).

¹⁷ In the middle of the 1990s, a catalog of the Ottoman-Turkish documents preserved in the Plovdiv State Archives was published, see **Ottoman-Turkish** Documents in the State Archives – Plovdiv (1720 – 1921). Catalog of documents. Comp. by Al. Marinov. Plovdiv, 1995.

¹⁸ Part of the documents preserved in this state archive are published in the catalog: **Ottoman-Turkish** Documents, in the Regional State Archives Directorate – Smolyan. Part 1 (1694–1918). Translated and compiled by Tsv. Staykova. S., 1980.

¹⁹ Two kadi registers preserved in Dobrich State Archives have been translated and published by the famous specialist of Ottoman studies Strashimir Dimitrov, see: **Ottoman** sources for the history of Dobrudja and Northeastern Bulgaria. Compiled, translated and edited by Str. Dimitrov. C., 1981; other similar registers from Dobrich have been digitized and are fully accessible on the Archives State Agency website, see Archives State Agency website, link to “Especially valuable and unique documents”: <http://www.archives.government.bg/> (10.06.2018).

²⁰ The Orientalist Stoyanka Kenderova published, for example, documents from the Shumen State Archive, see: **Kenderova**, St. Three documents in Ottoman Turkish for the church “St. Georgi” in Tryavna. – In: *Journal of State Archives*, no. 88, 2005, pp. 308–319.

²¹ **Ihchiev**, D. The Turkish documents of Rila Monastery. S., 1910; See also **Zhelev**, Y. Ottoman-Turkish documents about Rila Monastery, searched and translated by Boris Nedkov. – In: *Journal of State Archives*, no. 107, 2014 [2016], 172–286.

²² We will state that we are not currently aware of where the archive in question is located and whether it has been handed over to the state archives to be preserved. **Grozdanova**, E. Ottoman documents from the archive collection of the town of Belovo for the history of the Rhodope population. – In: *Rhodope Collection*, 5, 1983, pp. 269–286; **Grozdanova**, E. New Ottoman Documents on the History of Belovo Region in the 17th – 19th c. – In: *Journal of State Archives*, no. 49, 1985, pp. 205–218, and others.

²³ **Raychevska**, Tsv. Ottoman documents for the Strandzha region ..., pp. 283–293.

MALKO TARNOVO AND ITS REGION IN OTTOMAN DOCUMENTS AT MACRO- AND MICRO-LEVEL

Before we make a short presentation of the sources themselves and enclose their annotations, we will give some historical consideration to the town of Malko Tarnovo (written in Ottoman as *Tirnova* or *Tirnovacık*) and its hinterland. Here we will not make a comprehensive historiographical overview of the publications dedicated to the history of this region during the Bulgarian Revival and then to the beginning of the Balkan wars. Similar stories have been written and published.²⁴ We will try to present the town at a macrolevel, through the Ottoman statistical yearbooks (the so-called *salnames*), something that has not been done so far.

Such an approach will emphasize the nature of the source study of the publication – we will not go purposefully into the history of the town and its region. It will also allow us to describe the most generalized types of sources for the history of the late Ottoman Empire, the Edirne vilayet (to which pertains the town) and Malko Tarnovo itself.²⁵ It will give us the opportunity to present the town and its surroundings at a macro level, and then to see it through the documents annotated in the inventory, already at a microlevel.

The presentation made here of Malko Tarnovo is based on 19 volume of *salnames*.²⁶ They are used via the electronic library of the Marmara University

²⁴ In Bulgarian language see: **Popayanov**, G. Malko Tarnovo and its outskirts: Antropo-geographic and historical studies. Bourgas: Malko Tarnovosociety Strandzha region, 1939; **Grozdanova**, E., St. **Andreev**. Ottoman-Turkish documents on the Southern Bulgarian Black Sea coast and its adjacent area ...; **Raychevski**, St. Contribution to the Ethnical and Demographic Characteristics of Strandzha (from the end of the 15th century to 1878) – In: *ИМЮИВ*, vol. XI, 1988, pp. 73–86; From the more recent Turkish historiography, we cannot miss Hümmet Kanal's articles, dedicated directly to the Lozengrad Sanjak, according to the data from the Ottoman *salname* of the late 19th century. They have a lot of information about the region of Tarnovo: **Kanal**, H. *Salnâmelere Göre 19. Yüzyıl Sonlarında Kırkkilise (Kırklareli) Sancağı*. – In: *Tarih Okulu Dergisi (TOD)*, Haziran 2016, Yıl 9, Sayı XXVI, 145–171; also: **Kanal**, H. II. Abdülhamid Döneminde Kırkkilise (Kırklareli) Sancağında Eğitim ve Öğretim. – In: *OTAM*, 41 / Bahar 2017, 107–144.

²⁵ For this type of sources regarding Kırk Kilise (i.e. Lozengrad), see **Stoyanova**, D., Hr. **Atanasov**. Information about the Bulgarians in Lozengrad, between 1870 and 1900 (review of the Ottoman Statistical Yearbooks). – In: **Contemporary** Strategies and Innovation in Knowledge Management. Sofia: Za Bukvite – O Pismeneh. 2017, pp. 55–63

²⁶ *Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*, sene 1287: defa 1; *Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*: sene 1288, defa 2; *Salname [-i Vilayet-i Edirne]* 1290: defa 4; *Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*: sene 1291, defa 5; *Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*: sene 1292, defa 6; *Edirne Salname [Mali]* sene 1293, [Hicri] sene 1294, defa 8; *Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*, defa 9: sene 1300; *Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*: 1301 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 10; 1302 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, *salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*: defa 11; *Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*: 1304 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 13; *Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne*:

where they are available for free to the researchers after registration.²⁷

We will only note that at this point in time, the following types of salnames are known to the science: state (*devlet*) and district (*vilayet*) statistical yearbooks, books of individual ministries, etc. The ones used here fall into the category of the Ottoman district (*vilayet*) salnames. The period that the yearbooks in question chronologically cover is from 1287 to 1316 according to the hijra, as recorded in the documents themselves²⁸, or from 1870/1871 to 1898/1899, which generally coincides in time with the annotated below Ottoman sources held in the Historical Museum of the town. All salnames are written in Ottoman Turkish language – using the Arabic script, and are probably published by the printing house of the Edirne vilayet. Later similar yearbooks published during the Turkish Republic are printed in the Latin alphabet.²⁹

So what do these sources tell us? Already the first volume of 1287 (1870/1871) presents the town of Malko Tarnovo as part of Vize³⁰ kaza (*kaza*, i.e. district), belonging to Tekfurdag³¹ sanjak (*sancak*, i.e. district), subordinated to Edirne vilayet (*vilayet*, i.e. province). In the year in question, the town housed only two Ottoman officials – the director (*müdür*, the city governor) Abdullah aga and the clerk (*kâtip*) Şevki efendi.³²

From the salname for the year 1290 (1873/1874) we understand that Tarnovo is the centre of a nahiya (*nahiye*, i.e. community), that again belongs to Vize kaza and Tekfurdag³³ sanjak. In the same document, a list of the populated places belonging to Vize is published, including also the larger towns (*belâd*), the smaller towns (*kasabat*) and the villages (*kura*). It becomes clear from this document that the inhabitants of Turnovadjik (*Tirnovacık*, i.e. Malko Tarnovo; as mentioned, in the documents the town

1305 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 14; Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1307 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 16; Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1308 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsus defa 17; Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 18, 1309 senesine mahsusdur; Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 19, 1310 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsus; Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1310, yirminci defa; Edirne Vilayeti Salnamesi: 1311, yirmi birinci defa olarak; Edirne Vilayeti Salnamesi: 1312, yirmi ikinci defa olarak; and: 1316 Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: yirmi altıncı defa olarak.

²⁷ See the following Internet address (9.06.2018): Marmara Üniversitesi Kütüphane ve Dokümantasyon Daire Başkanlığı (<http://katalog.marmara.edu.tr/yordambt/yordam.php?>).

²⁸ Sometimes the Ottoman financial year, together with the one according to hijra, was also noted.

²⁹ **Sertoğlu**, M. Resimli Osmanlı Tarihi Ansiklopedisi, İstanbul, 1958, 280–282.

³⁰ Today's town Viza (*Vize*), Republic of Turkey.

³¹ Today's town Tekirdag (*Tekirdağ*), Republic of Turkey.

³² Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne, sene 1287: defa 1, s. 104; Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: sene 1288, defa 2, s. 106; later a clerk becomes some Petro efendi, see Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: sene 1291, defa, s. 94

³³ Salname [-i Vilayet-i Edirne] 1290: defa 4, s. 150.

is written also in this way, but more often only *Tırnova*, i.e. Tarnovo) pay 108 916 grosh as a tax on the small farm animals (*resm-i ağnam*), tithes (*bedel-i aşar*) in the amount of 96 500 grosh, a military tax (*bedel-i askeri*) amounting to 36 675 grosh and probably another annual tax (*vergü-i senevi*) amounting to 75 961 grosh.³⁴

After the Russo-Turkish War of 1877/1878 and the creation of the Autonomous Principality of Bulgaria and of Eastern Rumelia, the Sultan's vassal, a new administrative arrangement of the lands remaining under the direct authority of Istanbul is made. And then Tarnovo becomes the centre of a kaza, which belongs to Kırk Kilise (i.e. Lozengrad)³⁵ sanjak. This becomes clear from the salname for the year 1300 (1882/1883), and from this document we understand also that the town has been appointed, similarly to the other kaza in the sanjak, a town administration (*belediye dairesi*) with a chairman (*reis*) Todoraki efendi and members respectively: Stoicho efendi, Mord (?) efendi, Dimitri efendi, Yanko efendi and Yovko efendi, and one clerk – Osman efendi. Besides, some Ali Nesib bey was appointed as the governor of the kazas (*kaymakam*), and for the naib, i.e. deputy judge (*naib*) – Hussein Hyusni efendi.³⁶

During the next year, the administration of the kaza is completed as far as some new structural units inherent for all kaza for the period have been entered, such as: commerce service (*ticaret odası*), agricultural service (*ziraat odası*), service in charge of the tithe (*aşar dairesi*), etc. There is already a Bulgarian council established (*bulgar meclisi*), which includes: chairman Yanko efendi and five members: Todoraki ağa, Yovko ağa, Hadji Vasil ağa, Elko ağa and Ananosti (?) ağa.³⁷

Similar data about the kaza are also found in the salname for the year 1302 (1884/1885).³⁸ There is also more general information about the population of the town and the department. Based on this, we understand that there were 3566 houses (*hane*) in total in the kaza, and the population was 12 004 people. A breakdown was also given by gender and residence (local and foreign). Or, as follows: 6196 native men and 5646 native women, 96 foreign men (*yabancı*) and 66 foreign women.³⁹

³⁴ Salname [-i Vilayet-i Edirne] 1290: defa 4, 288–289; it may be a mistake, because compared to the payments made by other settlements in the Vize kaza, the sums are more than impressive.

³⁵ Today's town Kırklareli (*Kırklareli*), Republic of Turkey.

³⁶ Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne, defa 9: sene 1300, 123–124.

³⁷ Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1301 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 10, 125–127.

³⁸ 1302 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 11, 127–129.

³⁹ 1302 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 11, s. 255.

In 1307 (1889/1890) we have again new information about the administrative division of the kaza. In the salname for this year it is written down that Tarnovo kaza belongs to Kırk Kilise sanjak, but four nahiya (*nahiye*, i.e. communities) are already attached to it. Let us present them as they are in the source⁴⁰: Gramatik⁴¹ nahiya (*Gramatic nahiyesi*) – with Petraki efendi as a director (*müdür*, i.e. governor) and members [of the council]: Stoyan efendi, Koloyan efendi, Georgi efendi, Ivancho efendi, Hristo ağa, Dimitri ağa and Raicho ağa⁴²; Denizoba⁴³ nahiya (*Denizoba nahiyesi*) with Süleyman ağa for director, muavin (*muavin*, i.e. assistant) Süleyman efendi and members [of the council]: Ali ağa, Mehmed ağa, Dimo ağa, Ahmed ağa, Ali ağa and Raicho ağa; Dere-i djedid⁴⁴ nahiya (*Dere-i Cedid nahiyesi*) with director Manol, muavin Nicole efendi and members [of the council]: Dimitri ağa, Stoicho ağa, Kiriazi ağa, Tanash ağa, Stamat ağa and Slave ağa; and Chaknahor⁴⁵ nahiya (*Çıknahor nahiyesi*): director Petko efendi, muavin Georgi efendi and members [of the council]: Kostanti ağa, Georgi ağa, Petko ağa, Todoraki ağa, Pavle ağa and Pancho ağa.⁴⁶

In the yearbook for the year 1309 (1891/1892), a more descriptive addition is included for the entire Edirne vilayet and we understand that Tarnovo district is kaza of first class, that the town itself (*kasaba*) has 5 neighbourhoods and 3032 houses (*hane*), and 4 nahiya with 29 villages in total belong to it. In the town are located one government building, one mosque, one barrak (*kışla*), one hospital and one telegraph station. There are 6 Islamic and 11 Christian schools in the kaza in total. In addition, the number of the Ottoman army in the town, the annual taxes paid, and so on are also indicated. In the document is also listed what is produced in agriculture and other, more general information.⁴⁷

Somewhat more detailed are the data in the salname for the next year

⁴⁰ Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1307 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 16, 139–142; see also: Salname-i Vilayeti Edirne: 1308 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsus defa 17, 139–142.

⁴¹ Today's Gramatikovo village, Malko Tarnovo. The village is indicated as a centre of nahiya also in the guidebook: **Sezen**, T. Osmanlı Yer Adları (Alfabetik Sırayla). T.C. Başbakanlık Devlet Arşivleri Genel Müdürlüğü, Yayın Nu: 21. Ankara, 2006, s. 205.

⁴² Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1307 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 16, s.141.

⁴³ Not established. [The village] is indicated as a centre of nahiya also in the guidebook: **Sezen**, T. Osmanlı Yer Adları (Alfabetik Sırayla)..., s. 143.

⁴⁴ Probably the village Dere Kyoy (*Dereköy*), R. of Turkey. The village is a centre of nahiya: **Sezen**, T. Osmanlı Yer Adları (Alfabetik Sırayla)..., s. 145.

⁴⁵ Not established. The village is indicated as a centre of nahiya also in the guidebook: **Sezen**, T. Osmanlı Yer Adları (Alfabetik Sırayla)..., s. 127.

⁴⁶ Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1307 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 16, s. 142.

⁴⁷ Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 18, 1309 senesine mahsusdur, 251–253.

(1310 (1892/1893)).⁴⁸ We understand that in the kaza there are 242 283 dönüm⁴⁹ of arable land, 3726 houses, 289 shops, 19 inns, 12 brick-makers and keremithanet, 1190 barns and granaries, 504 stables, 8 mosques, 29 churches (*kilise*), one government building, one barrack, a hospital, a public bath, and so on.⁵⁰ In addition, the number of the population is also indicated, generally, not by ethnicity, for the entire kaza and it amounts to 6553 men and 6062 women⁵¹, or 12 615 people⁵² in total.

The next four salname, available to us, give us also the ethnic characteristics of the population in the kaza.⁵³ Thus, from the statistical yearbook for the year 1311 (1893/1894), we understand that the Turks or, more generally, those professing Islam (*islâm*) are as follows: 945 men and 908 women (native) and more 87 men and 68 women from other places (*yabancı*), or in total 2008 people. Bulgarians (*bulgar*) are 5998 men and 5876 women (entered as local (*yerlü*) only), or 11 874 people in total, and again only local Catholics (*katolik*), probably Bulgarians-Uniates, but we are not entirely sure – 66 men and 75 women. The total population of the kaza, if we calculate it, will amount to 14 024 people.⁵⁴

How to summarize the information provided here? First of all, it should be noted that after 1878, started the reorganization of the administrative arrangement of the territories that remained within the Empire. Thus, Malko Tarnovo gradually emerges as a kaza, typical of the Ottoman province, with a very common administration – kaymakam and naib, and all the administrative services, departments and so on. Four smaller administrative units – nahiya – adhere to the kaza itself. In spite of the printing errors in the salnames we can be quite categorical: the Ottoman year-

⁴⁸ Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 19, 1310 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsus, 508–513.

⁴⁹ One old dönüm is equal to 919,30 sq. m and one new dönüm is equal to 2500 sq. m. See **Vekov**, M. The Metric System in Bulgaria. Metric Reforms and Metrological Activity in XVIII – XX Century. – In: **Digital Archives and Documentary Library**: <http://electronic-library.org/books/Book%200057.html>

⁵⁰ Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1307 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 19, p. 512.

⁵¹ Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1307 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 19, p. 513.

⁵² The total value has been calculated by me (H. A.).

⁵³ I summarize the data from the four salnames because they are essentially the same. Perhaps the information was reprinted with the errors year after year.

⁵⁴ This is valid for these two salnames: Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1310, yirminci defa, 185–187; and Edirne Vilayeti Salnamesi: 1311, yirmibirinci defa olarak, 161–162. Here a typesetting error was made and the sum of the women was mistaken. In the following two salnames: Edirne Vilayeti Salnamesi: 1312, yirmiikinci defa olarak, 162–164; and 1316 Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: yirmi altıncı defa olarak, 168–170, we have essentially the same information but a printing error was made again and 278 women were added, in the first case as Jewesses (*yahudi*), and in the second as Protestant women (*protestant*). Therefore, we need to take the exact figures quite critically and not trust them completely.

books clearly show that the region was inhabited mainly by Bulgarians. Thus, in view of the data in the salname of 1311 (1893/1894) from the total population amounting to 14,024 people, about 85% (or 11,875 people) are recorded as Bulgarians, on the condition that most likely the real percentage is larger.

Extremely interesting are also the data on the names of the members of the various administrative councils and services, which most probably also are local Bulgarians. Their knowledge would be an invaluable source for anyone interested in the micro-history of Malko Tarnovo and its surroundings and especially for residents of the town who are interested in their roots and ancestors.

DOCUMENTS FROM THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM COLLECTION, MALKO TARNOVO

Having mentioned the micro-history of the town and the region, we should also make a more concise presentation of the Ottoman documentation preserved in the local historical museum collection. The archive materials are arranged by numbers as recorded in the "Inventory Book. Basic Collection. New and Modern History Department". Those, which are numbered from 79 to 109, are donated to the museum by Dimitar Tsiporov through Ilia Petkov on 2 February 1985. Those with numbers from 170 to 193 (including the document with number 1113)⁵⁵ are included in Penka Karastoyanova Collection and are registered on 1 September 1986. The following ones, with numbers 223 and 224, are registered in the "Archive –the 70th Anniversary of the Preobrazhenie Uprising" (July 6, 1983). And the photocopies of documents numbered 1023–1031 are submitted by Ivan Bubalov and are registered on 2 October 1985.⁵⁶

Some of the documents are probably annotated in the above-mentioned publication of Tsveta Raychevska.⁵⁷ Why are we annotating them here again? First of all, we will note that the article of Raychevska offers 76 documents, presented with the numbers of the archive units (a.u.) they should make. She worked with the documents probably in the mid-1980s, as the article was published in 1988, and we cannot be sure what the document description method was in

⁵⁵ Here we have two documents under number 191. We accept that the one was entered in the inventory under number 191–0001, as described in the book.

⁵⁶ Although the acceptance of photocopies for preservation cannot be considered a "good practice", it is still a common occurrence in the archives. See **Methodological Code**, Volume II, S., 2013: http://www.archives.government.bg/methodological_code/modul_2.html; in this case, the informal part of the photocopy is transmitted (in the absence of the original documents).

⁵⁷ **Raychevska**, Tsv. Ottoman documents for the Strandzha region ..., pp. 283–293.

that period, but the sources are now being registered and used pursuant to their inventory numbers. There is no evidence either in the museum's inventory book or in the folders themselves (numbers or other characters) that they have been formed into archive units. According to the oral report of the museum experts, some of the documents (or all) worked by Raychevska were handed over to the State Archive of Burgas, but how and when it was done, we are not sure. The documents we were able to detect from Raychevska's publication and the annotations here show serious discrepancies and mistakes. For example, the document described here under number 83 is probably the same one described by Raychevska, but she makes a mistake dating it back to 17 October 1904 (it is obviously from 20 February 1907, or 7 February 1322, as in the original).⁵⁸ Similarly, document number 85 was dated 2 May 1899⁵⁹ by Raychevska. We find factual mistakes not only in dating, and if we assume that this is the same document, for example, a Tapu Title Deed, which is annotated here under number 224 (dated 6 October 1884) and as a.u. 630, sheet 3 by Raychevska.⁶⁰ We can indicate many similar discrepancies, and if we can be sure that we and Tsveta Raychevska have annotated the same documents, then her annotations abound with too many mistakes and inaccuracies. We can also offer another explanation, for example, that we eventually have annotated different documents issued at approximately the same time for the same people.⁶¹ The large discrepancy in the readings here, the translations of Raychevska and the various starting data, make every attempt for comparison by documents at this stage purposeless.⁶²

Let us concentrate on the archive materials presented here. We mentioned above that there are 64 sources. The earliest document is from 13 Muharrem 1286 (25 April 1869), and the latest from 28 August 1328 (10 September 1912). Two documents have no dates, and some are dated approximately. All are manuscripts or stationery documents, also handwritten while part of the more general phrases of the document are printed.⁶³ They are written in

⁵⁸ See annotation of inv. number 83 here and cf. **Raychevska**, Tsv. Pos. works, p. 290, a.u.922.

⁵⁹ A document with the same content is categorically from 2 October 1890, see number 85 here and cf. with **Raychevska**, Tsv. Pos. works, p. 285, a.u. 924.

⁶⁰ The author dated the document from 1 October 1883, and if the sources are identical, she makes quite a number of factual errors – the sizes of the property, etc. **Raychevska**, Tsv. Pos. works, p. 285, a.u. 630, sheet 3.

⁶¹ In the opinion of the museum experts, the annotated documents here are all Ottoman sources preserved in the museum according to the inventory book. Raychevska annotates more documents, but at least some of them are certainly not in the museum's collection.

⁶² I would like to express my special thanks to the director of the museum Ivelina Ivanova and especially to Marieta Filcheva – Public Relations expert. They were infinitely polite and responded to all my questions and pretensions about the digitization of the documents.

⁶³ I will note that I did not have the opportunity to work with the original documents, but I used their digital copies. This is not a particular problem, given that we will present here their

the traditional Arabic fonts – mostly rika, talik and divani⁶⁴. It can be said that most of them are well preserved, but some need restoration.

In the annotation of the documents, I have tried to extract the maximum amount of information, making it also available to non-Ottoman “language specialists”.⁶⁵ Wherever possible, the Ottoman terms have been translated to the utmost abbreviated form, without falling into descriptive explanations. In the original, the documents are dated either according to the Islamic lunar year – i.e. the hijra or according to the Ottoman financial year. These years are indicated in the annotation, and at the end the year pursuant to the Gregorian calendar⁶⁶ is added.

The annotation of each document begins with a nominal – a basic archival rule, which applies both to the description of old documents and to the drawing up of inventories of modern documentation. For the transliteration and the translation of the types of Ottoman documents, the classic works of the Bulgarian specialists of Ottoman studies are used. For the earlier documents, this is the work of Boris Nedkov⁶⁷ (for the type of hüçet, tereke and others) and for the documents from the end of XIX and the beginning of XX century – the study of Asparuh Velkov.⁶⁸ There are cases in which the Ottoman nominal of the document cannot be established, and then the annotation starts with a Bulgarian one (for example, in the case of a damaged illegible document that cannot be classified with certainty, etc.). In any case, as a nominal of the annotated documents, a dozen types can be distinguished: Ağnam yoklama teskeresi (a document for owned sheep and goats); vergilere mahsus teskeresi (a document for paid taxes); devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (a passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state); makbuz ilmühaber (a receipt of paid taxes and fees);

informal part and we will not present the type of paper, the size of the document, and so on. Documents earlier as years have been handed over to the museum as photocopies, and are somewhat faded and difficult to read. This is noted in the annotation.

⁶⁴ For these types of fonts see: **Nedkov**, B. Ottoman Diplomacy and Paleography, Vol. I, S., 1966, pp. 99–105.

⁶⁵ Generally, there is no single method for working with Ottoman documents. I take the opportunity to point out that the development of such one is essential. On this occasion see: **Ivanov**, M. Classification and methodological features in the processing of the Ottoman documents, preserved in the Archives State Agency. – In: **University** professional archival education and archive-information sector – realities and challenges. University readings on archivistics. Volume IV, p. 2016, pp. 141–149.

⁶⁶ The following site was used to calculate the days, months and years: <http://www.ttk.gov.tr/genel/tarih-cevirme-kilavuzu/> (25.08.2017).

⁶⁷ **Nedkov**, B. Ottoman Diplomacy and Paleography, Vol. I, 1966.

⁶⁸ **Velkov**, A. Types of Ottoman-Turkish Documents. Contribution to Ottoman Diplomacy. S., 1986. This edition was used as a model for the interpretation of Ottoman terms. Therefore, in the text is preferred the writing as “teskere” instead of “tezkire” and so on.

muvakkat ilmühaber (a temporary property title document); sened (a document for real property); sened-i hakani (a tapu title deed); tereke defter (a succession inventory); temettüat vergilere mahsus teskeresi (a document for paid taxes on income from occupations); tuz teskeresi (a salt transport document) and hücet (a Sharia court ruling). A military book can be added to them, whose initial pages are not preserved, a receipt for a loan taken from the “Common benefit” fund of Burgas and others.

We will try to present briefly some of these documents. Most of them have been used repeatedly by the Bulgarian researchers; others are more unfamiliar and almost not used in researches.

Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state)

This is one of the types of sources on which the historical science is going to dedicate more attention.⁶⁹ A wonderful source of micro-history, especially family one. Recently, the Bulgarian specialists in Ottoman studies have published more and more similar documents. Specifically, the “identity cards” of the Ottoman subjects are the subject of a study by the Ottomanist Milena Zvancharova, who presents in details several similar documents preserved in the Oriental Collections Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. She describes and analyzes them according to the Ottoman diplomacy.⁷⁰

Documents of the type muvakkat ilmühaber (a temporary document for property ownership), sened (a real property document) and sened-i hakani (a tapu title deed)

We combine them here as far as different types of property or possession documents are concerned. They are one of the most mass single documents preserved in the archives either at central level (for example Archives State Agency⁷¹ and St St Cyril and Methodius National Library) or

⁶⁹ We can refer to the similar “micro-sources” also the so-called road permissions, see: **Koleva-Zvancharova**, M. Passengers and road permits in the Ottoman Empire: the 19th-century murur tezkire. – In: *Journal of State Archives*, no. 109, 2017, pp. 3–15; see also **Ivanova**, Z., Hr. **Atanasov**. Ottoman documents in the fund of the Bulgarian Exarchate (F. 246 K), Inv. 11. – In: *Journal of State Archives*, 2018, in the press.

⁷⁰ **Koleva-Zvancharova**, M. Pieces of family history in the mirror of the Ottoman documents (Teskiré-i Otmaniye as a documentary source). – In: *Library*, 2015, year XXII, vol. 6, pp. 247–253.

⁷¹ See for example: Central State Archives, Ф. 822K “Turkish tapiya and other old-Turkish documents (collection)”. The fund is processed by the archivist Mihail Ivanov, and its inventory

in regional museums and private collections. Probably a pioneer for Bulgaria in the publication of such documents is Diamandi Ihchiev.⁷² On the whole, the most comprehensive and completed study on this topic is that of Anton Minkov. In his study the author characterizes and groups according to different criteria the documents for ownership or possession, mainly from the collections of St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. Also, the historiography, which worked with this type of sources⁷³, is presented in details.

Tereke defter (succession inventory)

Although we annotate only one representative of this type of sources in this inventory, we should bear in mind that these are one of the most used types of Ottoman documents on a global scale. Usually, they are included as transcripts in the kadi records (*sicil*)⁷⁴ and very rarely we find them as separate documents. In general, the succession inventories written by the Ottoman clerks as *tereke defter* (*tereke defteri*) or *muhallefat defter* (*muhallefat defteri*) are lists containing the properties, the financial liabilities and receivables, as well as the belongings of the deceased people. Such *defter* are drawn up to establish the total value of the movable and immovable property of the deceased, then deduct the debts to other peoples and the court fees in order to determine the exact shares of the heirs.⁷⁵ A detailed analysis of this type of sources makes Olga Todorova⁷⁶, many of them are published.⁷⁷ A dozen pages would not be enough just

is available in electronic version via SAIS.

⁷² Quoted already: **Ihchiev**, D. The Turkish documents of Rila Monastery ..., where dozens of similar documents were published.

⁷³ **Minkov**, An. Ottoman Tapu Title Deeds in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries: Origin, Typology and Diplomats. – In: *Islamic Law and Society*, Vol. 7, No. 1, 2000, pp. 65–101.

⁷⁴ For a detailed analysis of the *sicils* and the types of documents contained therein, see: Inventory of the Ottoman *sicil* R1 from Ruse from the middle of the 17th century, preserved in the Oriental Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library. Comp. by St. Ivanova, ed. by M. Kalitsin and St. Andreev, in print, pp. 66 -155; Also: **Dimitrov**, Str. Ottoman sources for the history of Dobrudja and Northeastern Bulgaria. S., 1981; **Gradeva**, R. Kadi Court in the Bulgarian Lands, XV – XVIII Century. – In: The **Bulgarian** Society, XV-XVIII Century. Ed. by M. Radeva. Sofia, 1999, pp. 162–204; **Gradeva**, R. On the Legal Competences of the Kadi Court in the 17th Century. – In: *ИПп*, 1993, vol. 2, pp. 98–120; and many others.

⁷⁵ See: **Sabev**, O. The first Ottoman journey in the world of the printed book (1726–1746). A new look. S., 2004, p. 66.

⁷⁶ **Todorova**, O. Women in Sofia in the 70^s of the 17th century (according to data from a register with succession records). – In: *ИПп*, 52, v. 3, 1996, pp. 5–6.

⁷⁷ See for example: **TIBI**. Vol. 6. Succession records and purchase and sales protocols from the kadi registers of Sofia, XVII – XIX c. Comp. by N. Todorov, M. Kalitzin, C., 1977.

to list the plethora of works by Bulgarian and foreign researchers that are somehow based on them.⁷⁸

Hüçet (Sharia court ruling)

This is another type of document that is very much used by Bulgarian science. Again, Ihchiev is probably the first of the Bulgarian specialists in Ottoman studies to publish such sources.⁷⁹ Boris Nedkov makes a synthesized analysis of the main phrases used in them, presenting their structure in general.⁸⁰ Without any pretensions of exhaustiveness, we will only add that a large number of hüçets have been published by Strashimir Dimitrov.⁸¹ Many such documents, mostly transcripts in kadi books, were also used in publications by Svetlana Ivanova⁸² and Rositsa Gradeva.⁸³

The loan note from the “common benefit” funds and other receipts and documents for tax payments and services

The documentation of credit institutions such as the “common benefit” funds is also an extremely interesting source of micro-history. The funds themselves and their archive materials are already presented to the

⁷⁸ See **Todorov**, N. The Balkan town in XV – XIX Century. Socio-economic and demographic developments. S., 1972; **Sabev**, Or. Private Book Collections in Ottoman Sofia, 1671–1833 (Preliminary notes). – In: *Etudes balkaniques*, 2003, № 1, pp. 34–82; **Gradeva**, R. Towards a portrait of “the rich” in Ottoman provincial society: Sofia in the 1670 s. – In: **Provincial Elite in the Ottoman Empire**. Ed. by A. Anastasopoulos, Nalcyon Rays in Crete V. A Symposium Held in Rethymno, 10–12 January 2003, Rethymno: Crete University Press, 2004, pp. 149–199; **Barkan**, Ö. L. Edirne Askeri Kassamina Ait Tereke defterleri (1545–1659). – In: **Belgeler**. Türk Tarih Belgeleri Dergisi, Vol. III, Nos. 5–6, 1966, pp. 1–479; **Establet**, C., J. P. **Pascual**. Damascene probate inventories of the 17th and 18th centuries: some preliminary approaches and results. – In: *IJMES*, Vol. 24, 1992, pp. 373–393; **Refeq**, A. K. Registers of Succession (Mukhallafat) and their Importance for Socio-Economic History: Two Samples From Damascus and Aleppo, 1277/1861. – In: **Osmanlı** Öncesi ve Osmanlı Araştırmaları Uluslararası Komitesi. VII. Sempozyunu Bildirilesi, Ankara, 1994, pp. 479–491; and many others.

⁷⁹ He publishes in total 76 hüçet, see **Ihchiev**, D. Pos.works, pp. 321–415.

⁸⁰ **Nedkov**, B. Ottoman Diplomacy and Paleography. Vol. 1, 1966, p. 159; for exemplary documents of this type and their translation see **Nedkov**, B. Ottoman Diplomacy and Paleography. Documents and Dictionary, Vol. II, C, 1972, pp. 122–123, 130–131, 140–141, 143–144.

⁸¹ **Ottoman** sources for the history of Dobrudja and Northeastern Bulgaria. Comp., transl. and ed. by P. Dimitrov. S., 1981.

⁸² **Ivanova**, St. Marriage and Divorce in the Bulgarian Lands, XV – XIX c. – In: *ИНБКМ*, Vol. 22, 1996, pp. 159–195; **Ivanova**, St. Muslim women and Christian women before the kadi court in Rumelia in the 18th century: marital problems. – In: *ИПр*, 1992, vol. 10, pp. 76–87.

⁸³ **Gradeva**, R. Kadi Court in the Bulgarian Lands, XV – XVIII Century ..., pp. 162–204; **Gradeva**, R. On the Legal Competences of the Kadi Court in the 17th Century ..., pp. 98–120.

Bulgarian historical science and here we will not repeat the main formulations⁸⁴. We will only note that their archival inheritance looks impressive because documents of a similar type, of the same credit institution, but from other towns, are preserved also in the Oriental Collections Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library.⁸⁵

Other documents, which have the nature of receipts and notes for paid taxes, such as makbuz ilmühaber (receipts for paid taxes and fees), are presented in the survey research of Asparuh Velkov.⁸⁶ But some are almost unknown. Thus, if we have a known document similar to ağnam yoklama teskeresi (a document for owned sheep and goats)⁸⁷, so far, the documents of the type: temettüat vergilere mahsus teskeresi (document of paid taxes on income from occupations) and tuz teskeresi (salt transportation document) are almost unknown to the scientists, at least in this their form.⁸⁸

WHAT CAN THE DOCUMENT DATA BE USED FOR?

The archive materials presented are valuable in themselves. It should be borne in mind that in the largest repository of Ottoman documentation in Bulgaria – the Oriental Collections Department at St St Cyril and Methodius National Library, there is no specific collection containing sources for Malko Tarnovo⁸⁹ only. This further strengthens the importance of the documents

⁸⁴ For the “common benefit” funds in the Danube vilayet, see: **Atanasov**, Hr. Development of agricultural lending in the Danube Vilayet: The “common benefit” funds in the 60^s and 70^s of the 19th century (based on unpublished information sources). S., 2017; for such kind of credit institutions see: **Manolova-Nikolova**, N. The Orphan funds in the Ottoman Empire – The fund of Tran 1872–1875 – In: **Proceedings** of the Centre for Economic and Historical Studies. Vol. II. The diversity of Bulgarian economic and historical development. Varna, 2017, pp. 375–387.

⁸⁵ St St Cyril and Methodius National Library Oriental collections, receipts from the “common benefit” funds in Omurtag (1875–1877) – F.182, a.u. 1038, 1042, 1043; Debt receipts to the “common benefit” fund in Mangalia (1874–1878) – F. 24, a.u. 82–103; receipts for amounts received from the “common benefit” fund in Dobrich (1866–1877) – F.22, a.u. 753–828; and other.

⁸⁶ **Velkov**, A. Types of Ottoman Documents ..., p. 32.

⁸⁷ See, Ağnam Teskeresi, in: **Velkov**, A. Pos. works, p. 38.

⁸⁸ To the science are also known the so-called temettüat registers, which describe in detail the properties and income of the Ottoman subjects, see: **Georgieva**, G. Temettüat defteri as a source for the history of Shumen. – In: **From** here starts Bulgaria, materials from the Second National Conference on History, Archeology and Cultural Tourism “Travelling to Bulgaria” – Shumen, 14–16.05.2010 Shumen, 2011, pp. 531–542. In this case, we are speaking of receipts for paid tax on economic activity.

⁸⁹ In the review of the funds preserved in Bulgaria, which was published in Ankara in 1994, an error is made; it is written that there is a Tarnovo fund (probably Malko Tarnovo, since the funds having numbers 179 and 179A are presented for Veliko Tarnovo, which is accurate) and it is under numbers 186 and 186A. See *Bulgaristan'daki Osmanlı Evrakı*. T.C. Başbakanlık Devlet Arşivleri Genel Müdürlüğü. Osmanlı Arşivi Daire Başkanlığı. Yayın Nu: 17, Ankara, 1994,

presented here in an annotated form. But what can we use them for?

Without claiming exhaustiveness and comprehensive analysis, we will point out that, in the first place, they are a clear testimony to the regime of ownership on the arable land and the real estate. Apparently the buildings are fully owned by the inhabitants of the town of Tarnovo or the villages around it. Contrary to this, it seems that part of the arable land in the area was owned by one or another Waqf (*Vakf*, Ottoman Foundation).⁹⁰

Earlier documents, such as the tereke defter (succession inventory) and the hüçet (a Sharia court ruling), are a valuable source of the extent to which succession law in the Ottoman Empire was valid also regarding the vassal Christian population.

The numerous receipts and notes for paid fees and taxes can reveal to us, at a micro level, the taxation procedure itself, and to present us with the payment of taxes from the point of view of the individual – the subject.

These documents, as well as all the others, can be used to write the small story, which, however, is extremely valuable and detailed.⁹¹ For example, “Vulcho, the son of Yorgi”, a grocer, who is one of the main “heroes” in the documents, is presented as the owner of at least two shops in Malko Tarnovo and of properties and lands in the village of Mokreshevo. The property documents also reveal the names of a number of localities around Tarnovo and nearby villages, of neighbourhoods – an information that would be more than useful for any historian and local history expert.

The “identity cards” (*devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi*) of Ottoman subjects of Bulgarian nationality are also a very valuable source for family and kinship history. We have the address registration of several people – men and women from the town and the surrounding villages, with names of parents, distinctive signs. Some of the readers can see their ancestors therein.

In this sense, the documents are not insignificant. On the contrary, their information potential is more than great and any reader or professional researcher of the past of Malko Tarnovo and its surroundings would

p. 43. Such a fund really exists, but the documents in it refer to Dryanovo.

⁹⁰ For the ownership on the land in the Ottoman Empire see: **Mutafchieva**, V. Agrarian Relations in the Ottoman Empire in XV – XVI Century – In: **Ottoman** Socio-Economic History (studies). S., 1993, pp. 144–145; and the literature cited therein, also: **Barkan**, Ö. L. Mülk Topraklar in Sultanların Temlik Hakkı. Türkiye’de Toprak Meselesi Toplu Eserler I, İstanbul, 1980, 231–247; **Galabov**, G. About the basic principles of land ownership in the Ottoman Empire and especially in Bulgaria under Turkish domination. – In: *ТСУИФФ*, 1946–1947, vol. 43, pp. 1–92.

⁹¹ For micro-research see: **Stoyanova**, D., Pl. **Theodosiev**. The Bulgarian cultural and historical heritage in Yayla neighbourhood – past and present. – In: **Modern** dimensions of the European educational and scientific space. Bulgarian-Hungarian Cultural Communications. Sofia: Za Bukvite – O Pismeneh. 2016, pp. 391–394.

find data according to their interests and their research. We hope this to be only the beginning of such publications of inventories of Ottoman documentation preserved in local museums, libraries, community centres and archives. Only this way this documentary wealth can be involved in scientific use and will reveal its undeniable qualities of a first-class source for the history of the Bulgarian lands.

Before proceeding with the annotated presentation of the documents, we will make it clear that there are several populated places in them, some of which are presently within the boundaries of the Republic of Bulgaria and others within the boundaries of the Republic of Turkey. Various reference books⁹² have been used to locate them. The annotated documents are presented with their inventory numbers. We decided not to pass them chronologically, but to preserve their sequence according to the order they were entered in the museum inventory.

In addition, following the annotations, the facsimiles of the documents and a list of references are also published.

⁹² **Andreev**, St. Glossary of settlement names and names of administrative-territorial units in the Bulgarian lands in XV – XIX century. Archive Guides. Second revised and edited edition. S., 2013; **Traykov**, V. The settlements in Thrace and Macedonia under Greek rule. Old and new names. S., 1946; **Michev**, N., P. **Koledarov**. Glossary of Settlements and Settlement Names in Bulgaria 1878–1987, S., 1989; **Michev**, N. Glossary of names and status of settlements in Bulgaria 1878–2004, S., 2005; **Acaroğlu**, M. Bulgaristan'da Türkçe Yer Adları Kılavuzu. Ankara, 2006; also: **Sezen**, T. Osmanlı Yer Adları (Alphabetic Sırayla). T. C. Başbakanlık Devlet Arşivleri Genel Müdürlüğü, Yayın Nu: 21. Ankara, 2006.

ANNOTATIONS OF THE OTTOMAN DOCUMENTS

**Preserved in the Holdings of
“Prof. Alexander Fol” Historical Museum,
Malko Tarnovo Town**

**(Facsimile Presentation,
Transliterated Text, Explanatory Notes)**

1. Inv. number 79.

Vergilere mahsus teskeresi (document for paid taxes) with a statement that Azur (?) Dimitrov, a resident of the vil- lage Kladara¹, Malko Tarnovo kaza², Kirk Kilise³ liva⁴, Edirne Vilayet⁵, had paid his taxes in the amount of 20 (?) grosh. 19 Au- gust 1328, 1 Septem- ber 1912. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish lan- guage. 1 sheet.



- ¹ Today's village Slivarovo, Malko Tarnovo
- ² Kaza – county
- ³ Karklareli (Kırklareli), Republic of Turkey
- ⁴ Liva, equal to sanjak (sancak) – district
- ⁵ Vilayet – province



3. Inv. No. 81. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state) of Milenka, the daughter of Petri and Zlata, a Christian, living in house number 42 in the village Konak¹, Tarnovo [kaza], Edirne Vilayet. 5 kanun-i evvel 1325, 18 December 1909. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

¹ Today's village Biala voda, Malko Tarnovo



5. Inv. number 83. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state) of Mara, the daughter of Dimitri and Elena, a Christian, living in house number 7 in the village Kladara, Tarnovo [kaza], Edirne Vilayet. 7 February 1322, 20 February 1907. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



6. Inv. No. 84. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state) of Zheka (?), the daughter of Dimitri and Zlata, a Christian, living in house number 42 in the village Konak, Turnovo [kaza], Edirne Vilayet. 8 February 1326, 21 February 1911. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1sheet.



7. Inv. No. 85. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state) of Zlata, daughter of Yorgi, living in house number 4/25 in the village Konak, Tarnovo [kaza]. 20 September, 1306, 2 October 1890. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



8. Inv. number 86. Mahsus makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), issued by the financial services by residence, for a tax paid in the amount of 4 grosh by Inmud (?) Zhelkov from the village Kladara, Turnovo kaza. 9 September 1325, 22 September 1909. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



9. Inv. number 87. Ağnam yoklama teskeresi (document for owned sheep and goats), which states that Petko Mitrev from the village Kladara, Tarnovokaza, Kirk Kilise sanjak¹, owns in total 172 heads of cattle (sheep and goats). March 23, 1326, 5 April 1910. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

¹ Sanjak (sancak) – district



10. Inv. number 88. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), issued by the financial office of the Edirne Vilayet, for a tax paid in the amount of 21 grosh by Petko Mitrev, a resident of the village Chuknahor, Tarnovo kaza. 28 August 1328, 10 September 1912. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



11. Inv. No. 89. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees) issued by the financial office of the Edirne Vilayet for a tax paid in the amount of 9 grosh and 35 para from Dimitri Zhelov, a resident of the village Kladara, Tarnovo kaza. 13 February 1326, 26 February 1911. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



12. Inv. number 90. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), issued by the financial office of the Edirne Vilayet, for a tax paid in the amount of 10 grosh and 15 para from Dimitri Raykov, a resident of the village Konak, Tarnovo kaza. 8 teşrin-i evvel 1326, 21 October 1910. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



13. Inv. number 91. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees) issued by the financial office of the Edirne Vilayet for a tax paid in the amount of 91 grosh and 5 para from Dimitri Raykov, a resident of the village Konak, Tarnovo kaza. 8 teşrin-i evvel 1326, 21 October 1910. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



16. Inv. number 94. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), issued by the financial office of the Edirne Vilayet, for a tax paid in the amount of 40 (?) grosh and 35 para from Rayko Georgiev, a resident of the village Konak, Tarnovo kaza. July 11, 1326, 24 July 1910. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



17. Inv. number 95. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees) issued by the financial office of the Edirne Vilayet for a tax paid in the amount of 47 grosh and 10 para from Dimitri Raykov, a resident of the village Konak, Tarnovo kaza. 25 teşrin-i sani 1327, 8 December 1911. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



21. Inv. number 99. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), issued by the financial office of the Edirne Vilayet, for a tax paid in the amount of 76 grosh and 5 para from Rayko Georgiev, a resident of the village Konak, Tarnovo kaza. 25 teşrin-i sani 1327, 8 December 1911. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



22. Inv. number 100. Part of a military book of a person from the village Chuknahor, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise sanjak. Are indicated: the occupation of the person – choban (i.e. shepherd), distinguishing marks (black hair, multi-coloured eyes), etc. There are entries of different accounts in Bulgarian. No date. Original. Manuscript. Printed. Ottoman-Turkish language. 32 sheets.



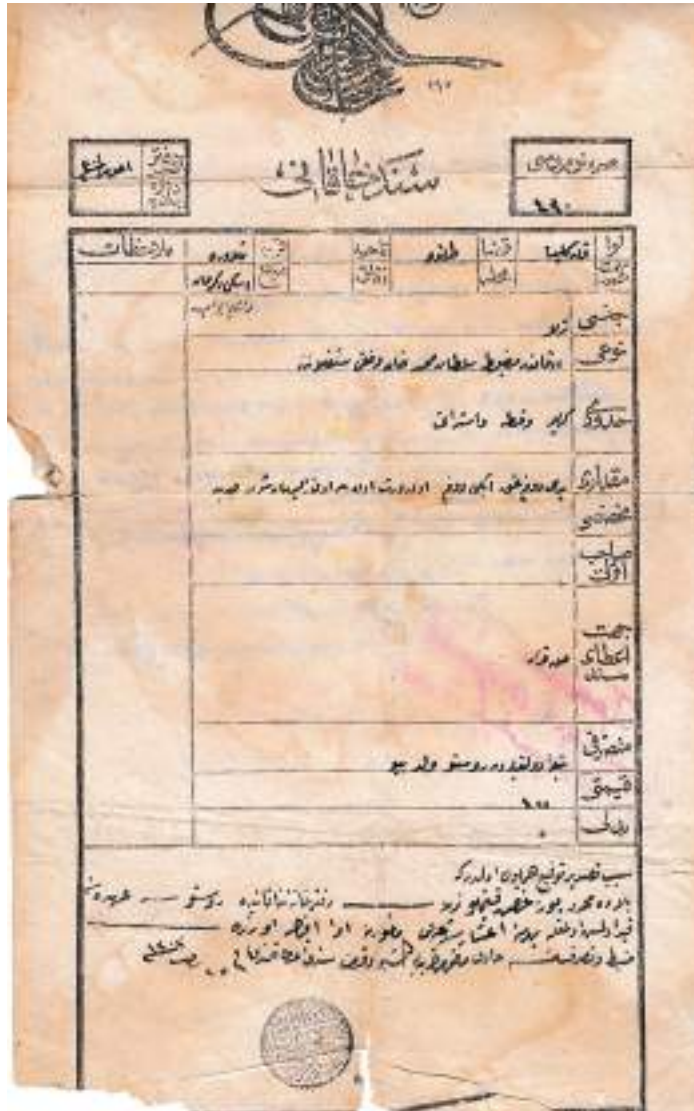
23. Inv. number 101. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state) of the Ottoman subject Gru-do, son of Dimitri, living in house number 12 and 13 in the village Kladara, Tarnovo kaza. 9 September 1300, 21 September 1884. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

24. Inv. number

102. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a field. The property is located in the locality Eski deirmen (The Old Water-mill), village Kladara, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. It belongs to sultan Mehmed Khan's waqf. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 7 old dönüm, or 2 new dönüm¹, 4 evlek², 35 archin³. Current owner: Rusto, son of Peyo. Value: 100 [grosh].

25 receb 1303, 29 April 1886. On the back of the document there is an annotation in Bulgarian about its content. Original. Form.

Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



¹ One old dönüm is equal to 919,30 square meters and a new dönüm is 2500 square meters. See **Vekov**, M. The Metric System in Bulgaria. Metric Reforms and Metrological Activity XVIII – XX Century. – In: **Digital Archives and Documentary Library**: <http://electronic-library.org/books/Book%2000057.html>

² Evlek – a division of the dönüm (1/4 of the old dönüm and 1/10 of the new dönüm). **Vekov**, M. Pos. works.: <http://electronic-library.org/books/Book%2000057.htm>

³ Perhaps this is a square cubit (zira, endeze) that is equal to 0.4225 square meters. **Vekov**, M. Pos. works: <http://electronic-library.org/books/Book%2000057.html>



25. Inv. number 103. Temettuat vergillere mahsus teskeseri (document for paid taxes on income from occupations) with a statement that Dimitri Kirov, a resident of the village Kladara, Malko Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva, Edirne Vilayet, had paid his taxes, which, at an annual income from the occupation (kümürcilik, i.e. carpentry) in the amount of 500 grosh, is worth 25 grosh. 1 March 1307, 13 March 1891. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



26. Inv. number 104. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), issued by the financial services by residence, for paid tax “Bedel askerî” (tax for discharge from military service) in the amount of 117 grosh and 25 para by Dimitri, a resident of the village Kladara. 1322 [I accept it is according to the financial year], 1906/1907. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

اضافه ویزگی
کلا داری

صاحب ملک امی	سیراقه کلا	مقدار زمین	بیکه	قیمت	ویزگی
		۱۵	۹	۷۰	۱۷
و زمان					
معد عظام	نیکه	نور	نارین	بیکه	ویزگی
شماره ۱۳۰۳			شماره ۱۳۰۲		
معد عظام	نیکه	نور	نارین	بیکه	ویزگی
۱۳۰۳ - ۱۳۰۲ ۱۳۰۳ - ۱۳۰۲ ۱۳۰۳ - ۱۳۰۲					
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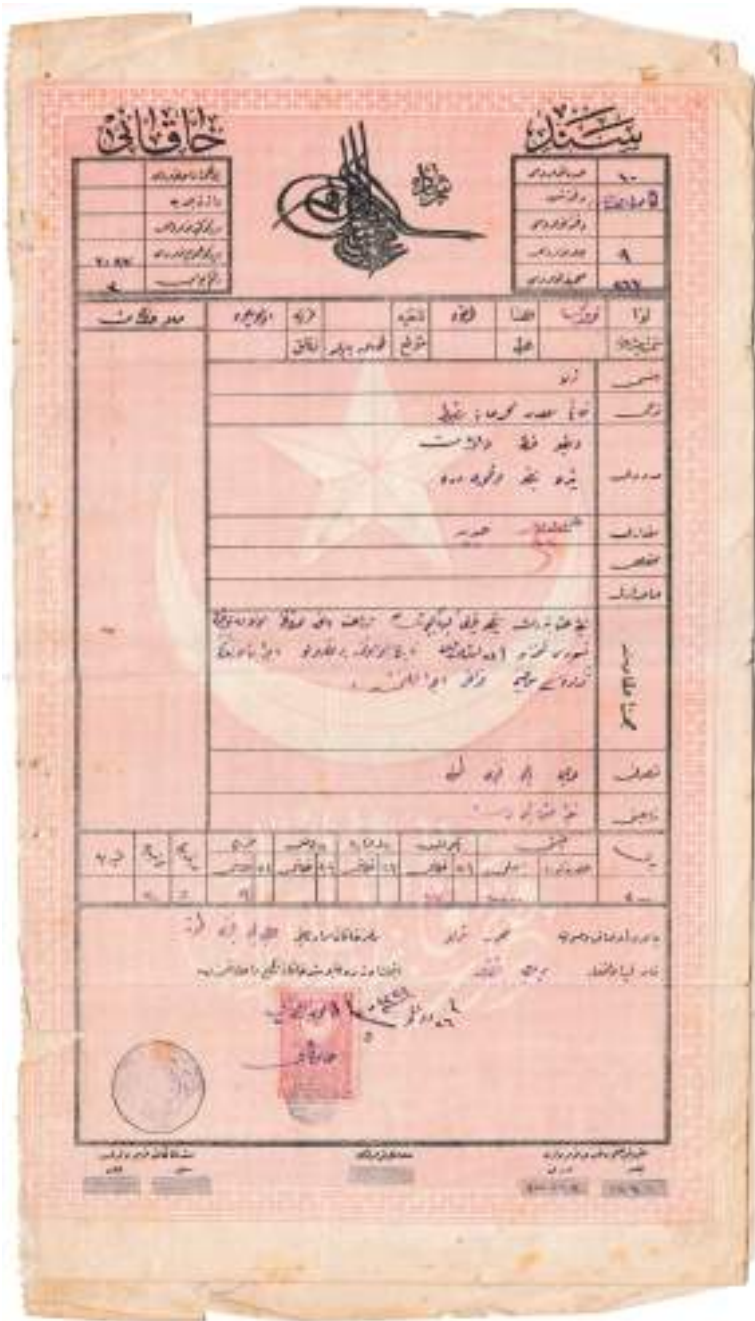
27. Inv. number 105. A document for taxes paid on the income from occupation and property with a statement that Dimitri, son of Kiro, a resident of the village Kladara, had paid his taxes. Around 1304 [I acceptit is according to the financial year], 1888/1889. The document was damaged. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



31. Inv. number 109.
 Tuz teskeseri (salt transport document) that some Dimitri will drive a certain amount of salt to Malko Tarnovo from Tekfurdag¹. 4 muharrem 1311, 5 July 1309, 18 July 1893. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

¹ Today's town Tekirdag (Tekirdağ), Republic of Turkey.

32. Inv. number 170. Senedi hakani (tapu title-deed) for possession of a property: a field. The property is located in Todor Bair locality, Ustoilovo¹ village, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 29 old dönüm, or 10 new dönüm. Current owner: Tona, daughter of Hadji Dimo. Value: 1000 [grosh]. Price: 300 [grosh]. 26 zilhice 1329, 5 kanun-i evvel 1327, 11 December 1911. Note on the back of the document in Bulgarian about its essence. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



¹ Today's village Stoilovo, Malko Tarnovo.



33. Inv. number 171. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for possession of a property: a quarter of a building with two shops, with three rooms on the upper floor and a yard. The property is located in Orta Mahal, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 400 old zira¹, or 229 new arshin. Previous owner: Anton, son of Konstanti and his wife Sultana. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Price: 1900 [grosh]. 11 rabi-ül evvel 1320, June 4, 1318, June 18, 1902. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

¹ Zira – it is called also arshin (about 75 cm), in the Bulgarian lands this measure is known also as laket. **Vekov**, M. Pos. works: [http://electronic-library.org/books/Book %200057.html](http://electronic-library.org/books/Book%200057.html)



34. Inv. No. 172. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for possession of a property: a quarter of a house with two shops on the lower floor and three rooms on the upper. The property is located in “Orta Mahala”, Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 400 old zira, or 229 arshin and 82 new greh. Previous owner: Dimo, tar maker, the son of Nikola. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Price: 2000 [grosh]. 29 şevval 1317, 2 March 1900. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



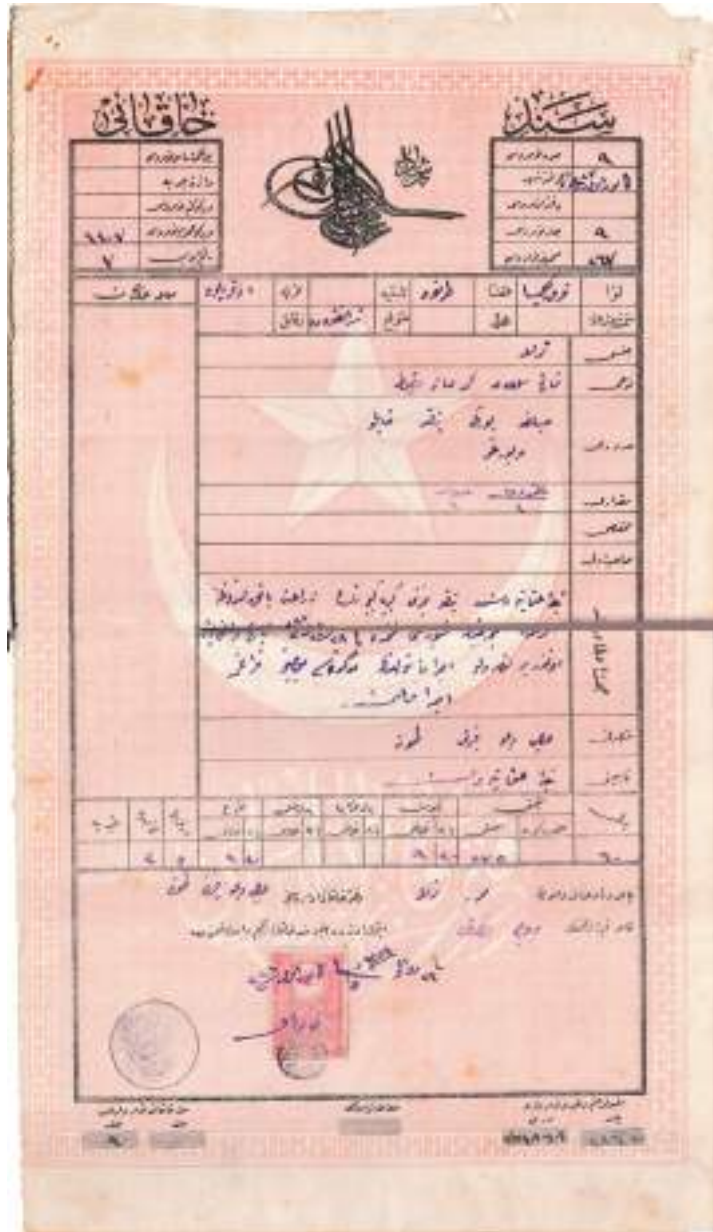
35. Inv. number 173. Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document). Type of property: a plot. The property is located on "Hadji" Street, numbers 84, 85 and 86, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 200 old zira. Current owner: the Ottoman subject the grocer Vulcho, son of Yorgi Chorbadji. Value: 500 [grosch]. Price: 600 [grosch]. 30 teşrin-i sani 1318, 13 December 1902. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



36. Inv. number 174. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for the possession of a property: a field. The property is located in: Marincho Bair locality, Ustoilovo village, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 8 old dönüm, or 6 new dönüm and 2 evlek. Current owner: Tona, daughter of Hadji Dimo. Value: 125 [grosh]. Price: 20 [grosh]. 26 zilhice 1329, 5 kanun-i evvel 1326, 18 December 1911. A note (on the back) in Bulgarian with listed real estates. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



37. Inv. number 175. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for possession of a property: a house with a shop. The property is located in: Pop Nikola neighbourhood, Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 476 old zira, or 273 new arshin. Current owner: Vulcho, son of Yorgi. 2 muharrem 1327, 24 January 1909. A note on the back of the document in Bulgarian about its essence. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



38. Inv. number 176. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for possession of a property: a field. The property is located in: Sherankovo locality, Ustoilovo village, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 4 (?) old dönüm, or 1 new dönüm. Current owner: Tona, daughter of Hadji Dimo. Value: 275 [grosh]. Price: 60 [grosh]. 26 zilhice 1329, 5 kanun-i evvel 1327, 18 December 1911. A note on the back of the document in Bulgarian on its essence. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



39. Inv. number 177. Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document). Type of property: a field. The property is located in: Ashaga Lafide locality, Pop Nikola neighbourhood, Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. It belongs to the waqf of Fatih Sultan Mehmed Khan hazretleri. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 6 old dönüm. Former owner: the Ottoman subject Dimitri, son of Nikola. Current Owner: the Ottoman subject Atanas, son of Yorgaki. Value: 300 [grosh]. Price: 300 [grosh]. April 1316, April/May 1900. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



40. Inv. number 178. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a field. The property is located in: Alchak Tarla locality, Orta Mahala, Tarnovo kaza, Kırk KİLise liva. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 8 old dönüm, or 2 new dönüm, 23 evlek, 54 arshin. Former owner: the Ottoman subject Yorgi, son of Stoyan. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Price: 100 [grosh]. 29 şevval 1317, 2 March 1900. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



41. Inv. number 179. Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document). Property type: a samanlak (barn). The property is located in building number 14, the village Mokreshevo¹, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. It belongs to Gazi Mihal's waqf. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 100 old zira. Former owner: the Ottoman subject Rena, daughter of Yorgo. Current owner: the Ottoman subject, Vulcho of Tarnovo, the son of Yorge. Value: 250 [grosh]. Price: 250 [grosh]. September 1316, September/October 1900. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1

sheet.

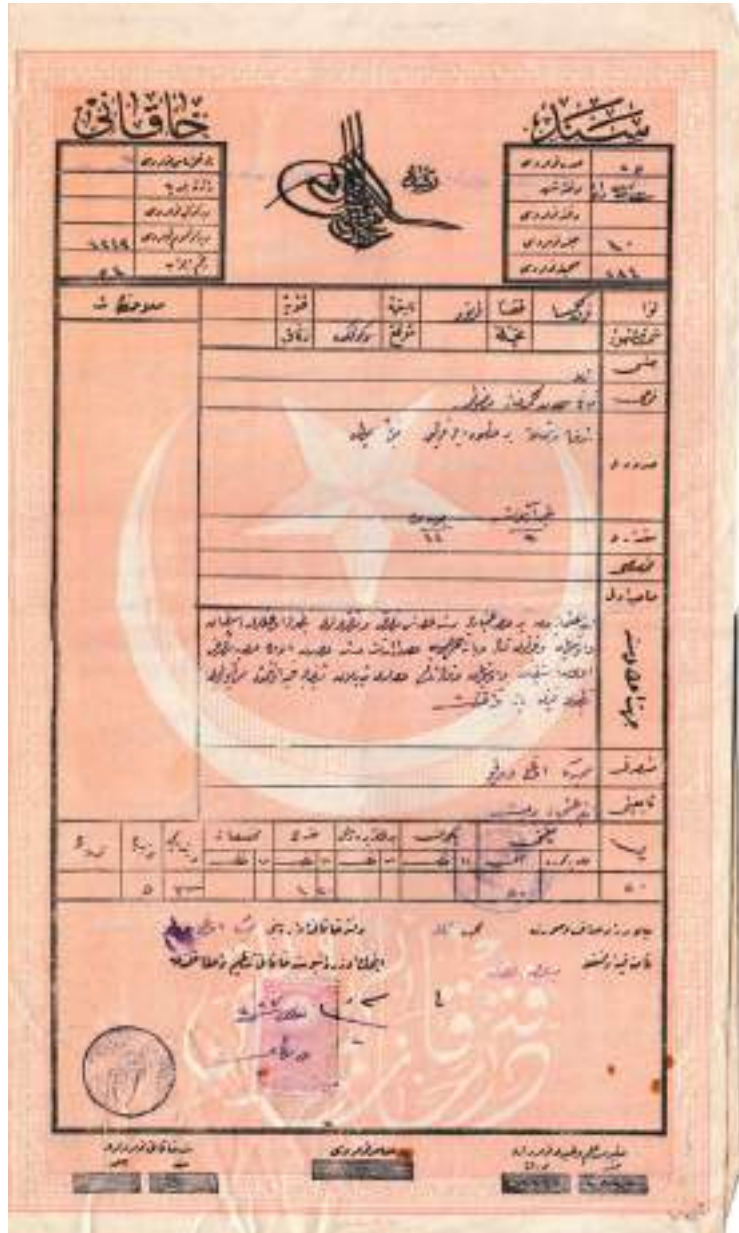
¹ Today's village Shyukryupasha (Şükürpaşa), Republic of Turkey.



43. Inv. No. 181.
 Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a house with one door. The property is located in: Orta Mahala, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Renko Petkoshev (?). Value: 1000 [grosh]. 5 şevval 1301, July 29, 1884. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

44. Inv. number 182. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a house with two rooms on the upper floor, and a stable on the lower. The property is located in: building number 9, village Mokre-shevo, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. It falls to Gazi Mihal's waqf. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 200 old zira. Former owner: the Ottoman subject Rena, daughter of Yorgo. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho, resident of Tarnovo, son of Yorgi. Value: 3500 [grosh]. Price: 2000 [grosh]. September 1316, September/October 1900. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.





46. Inv. number 184. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a field. The property is located in: Syugyutluk locality, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 2 old arshin, or 18 new evlek. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Value: 50 [grosch]. Price: 50 [grosch]. February 2, 1327, 15 February 1912. A note on the back of the document in Bulgarian about its essence. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



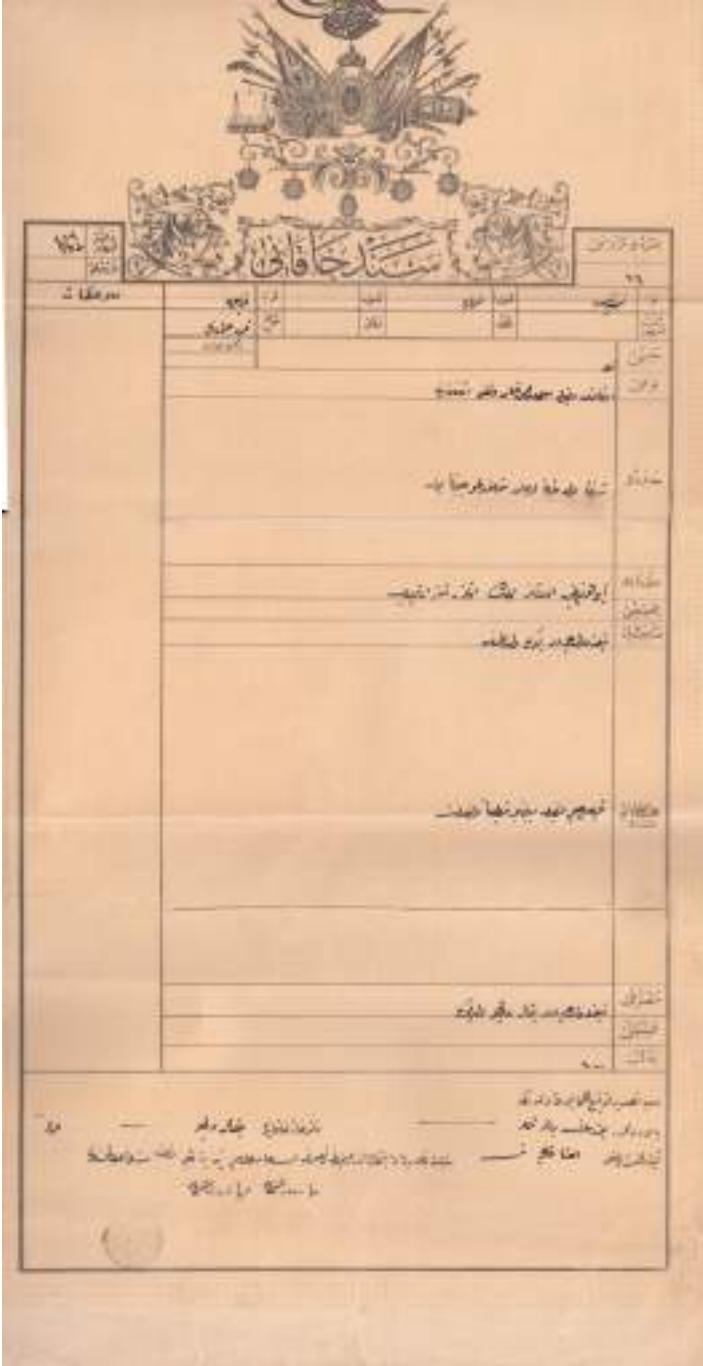
47. Inv. number 185. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a place for a house. The property is located in: Orta Mahala, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 50 zira, or 28 new arshin and 63 greh. Previous owner: Tomo, son of Vulco. Present owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho son of Yorgi. Price: 250 [grosch]. July 1313, July/August 1897. Note on the back of the document in Bulgarian about its essence. Signed by the "expert" St. Dimov. M. Tarnovo. October 20, 1921. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

48. Inv. number

186. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a field. The property is located in the vicinity of the village (kariye djevaranda), the village Kabile (?),¹ Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. Waqf property. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 4 old dönüm, or 1 new dönüm, 11 evlek and 77 arshin. Previous owner: Yoki (?), son of Atanas. Present owner: the Ottoman subject, the grocer Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Price: 200 [grosh]. 5 shaban 1315, 16 kanun-i evvel 1313, December 30, 1897. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



¹ Not established



49. Inv. number 187. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for possession of property: a field. The property is located in the vicinity of the village (kariye djevaranda), the village Kabile (?), Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. Waqf property. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 2 old dönüm, or 18 evlek and 38 new arshin. Previous owner: Yoki (?), son of Atanas. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho, a grocer, son of Yorgi. Price: 100 [grosh]. 5 shaban 1315, 16 kanun-i evvel 1313, December 30, 1897. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



50. Inv. number 188. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a part of a house with a lower floor having one room, a stable and a yard, of eight parts, two parts. The property is located in: Orta Mahala, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 25 old zira, or 14 new arshin. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Esme, bin Hussein (?). Value: 400 [grosh]. 21 ramazan 1316, 21 kanun-i sani, 1314, 2 February 1899. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



51. Inv. number 189. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a house building. The property is located in: village of Mokreshevo, Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 200 old zira, or 114 arshin, 91 greh, 28 new parmak¹. Former owner: the Ottoman subject Rena, daughter of Yorgo. Present owner: the Ottoman subject, the grocer Vulcho, son of Yorgo. Price: 2000 [grosh]. 9 zilkaade 1318, 28 February 1901. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

¹ Parmak, in English means „finger“. By a law of 1869, the measure was classified as a division of arshin (1/24 of it) with dimension of 3.2 cm. See **Vekov**, M. Pos. works: <http://electronic-library.org/books/Book%200057.html>



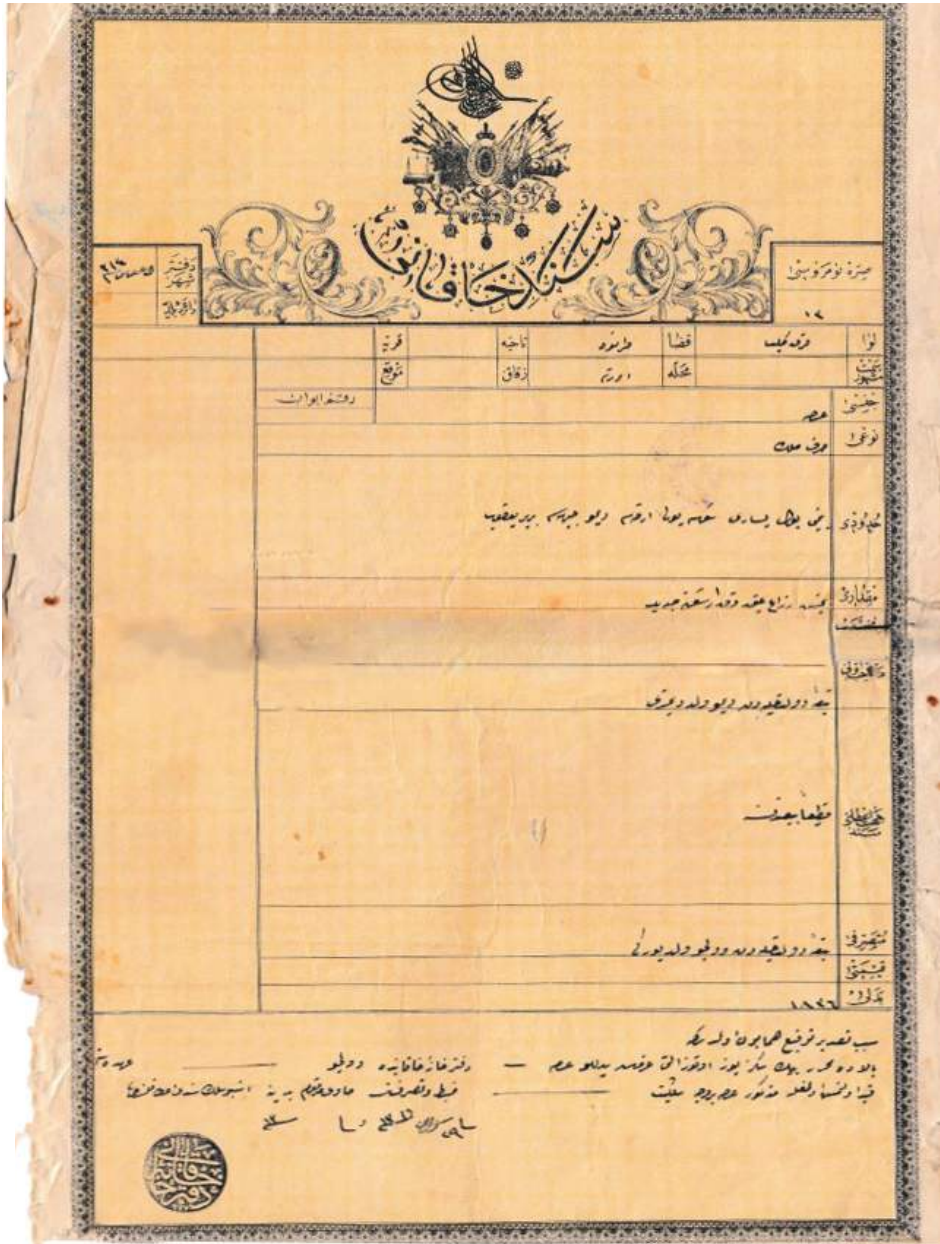
52. Inv. number 190. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for the possession of a property: a barn building. The property is located in: village of Mokreshevo, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 1 old zira, or 51 arshin, 45 greh, 64 new parmak. Former owner: the Ottoman subject Rena, daughter of Yorgo. Present owner: the Ottoman subject, the grocer Vulcho, son of Yorgo. Price: 250 [grosh]. 9 zilkaade 1318, 28 February 1901. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



53. Inv. number 191. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for the possession of a property: a place for a shop with a fulling-mill. The property is located in: Orta Mahala, Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. Vakaf property. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 2 old dönüm, or 18 evlek and 38 new arshin. Previous owner: Yovko, son of Yorgo. Present owner: the Ottoman subject, the grocer Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Price: 1325 [gosh]. 13 muharrem 1314, 14 June 1896. A note on the back of the document in Bulgarian about its essence. Signed by the "expert" Dimov. Town of M. Tarnovo. 20 October 1921. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

54. Inv. number 191-0001. Sened-i hakani (tapu tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a house with one door, with a stable on the lower floor, with a large living room (divanhane) and one room on the upper floor. The property is located in: vil-lage Mokreshovo, within the village, number 31, Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 300 old arshin, or 172 new arshin, 36 greh, 92 parmak. Previous owner: Konstanti, son of Stefan. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Value: 6750 [grosh]. Price: 600 [grosh]. 13 Ramazan 1314, 2 February 1312, 15 February 1897. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.





55. Inv. number 192. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for property ownership: a plot of land (*arza*, i.e. an undeveloped place). The property is located in: Orta Mahala, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Full ownership. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 70 old zira, or 40 new arshin. Current owner: the Ottoman subject Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Price: 1836 [grosch]. 29 şevval 1316, 12 March 1899. A note on the back of the document in Bulgarian about its essence. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

56. Inv. number 193. Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed) for possession of a property: a field. The property is located in: the village Kabile (?), Tarnovo kaza, Kırk Kilise liva. Waqf property. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 6 old dönüm, or 2 dönüm and 35 new arshin (?). Present owner: the Ottoman subject, the grocer Vulcho, son of Yorgo. Price: 200 [grosh]. 5 shaban 1315, 16 kanun-i evvel 1313, 30 December 1897. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.





58. Inv. number 223. Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document) for the management of a waqfproperty – a field with the size of 4 dönüm, located on the territory of the village Gramatik¹, Burgas kaza, Sliven liva. As an owner, a man named Ralcho, the son of Michal, was recorded. Price: 279 [grosh]. [1290/1299 I accept that this is according to the financial year, 1874/1884]. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

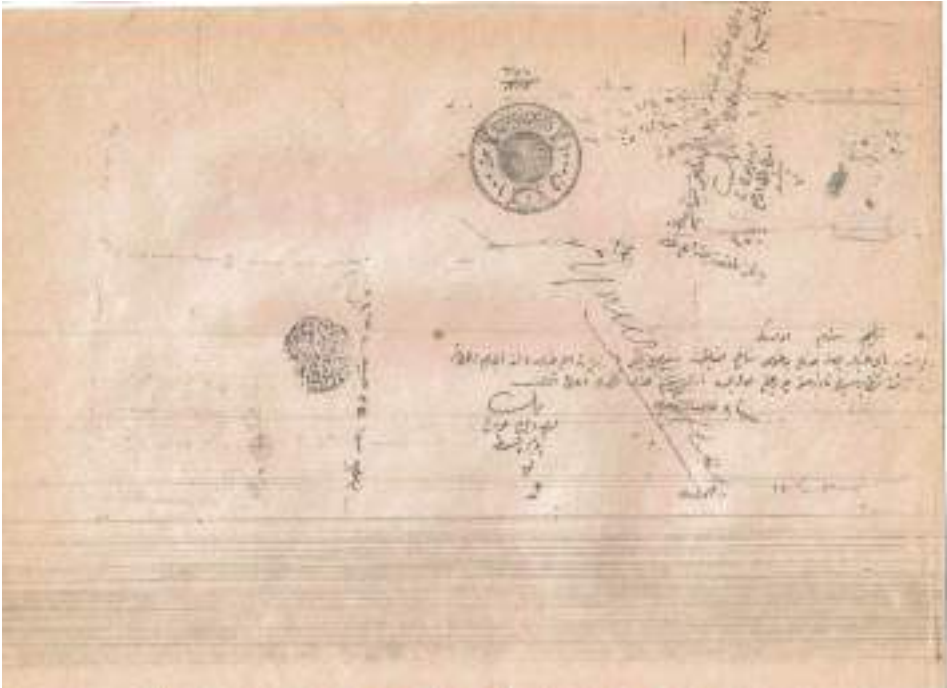
¹ Today's village Gramatikovo, Malko Tarnovo.



60. Inv. Number 1023. Tereke defter (succession inventory) of the resident of village Kodjabuk¹, belonging to the villages of Burgas kaza, Islimie sanjak², Edirne Vilayet – Velko, son of Atanas. The property of the deceased is described – a house in the village for 100 grosh, 10 lambs – 480 grosh, etc. The property is divided between his wife Kaluna, daughter of Yovan, and his underage son Petri. He leaves to his wife 227 grosh and 31 para in total, and to his son – 2291 grosh and 48 para. 13 muharrem 1285, 25 April 1869. The document was annotated from a significantly faded scan and at places is unreadable. A photocopy. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

¹ Today's village Goliamo Bukovo, Burgas.

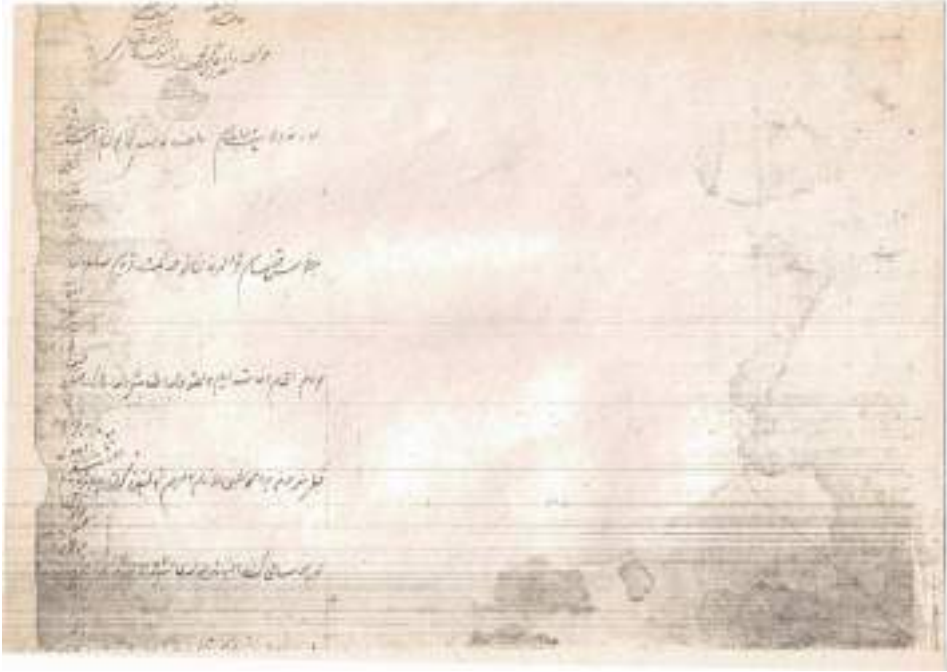
² Today's town Sliven, Republic of Bulgaria.



61. Inv. number 1024 (1028). Certificate for the amount taken from the “common benefit” fund of Burgas – 950 gosh. It certifies that the amount will be returned with the accrued interest. Unreadable signature. Date of the document: 3 kanun-i evvel 1291, 15 December 1875. The document is annotated from a significantly faded scan and is extremely unreadable. A photocopy having inv. number 1028 with the same content was also filed. A photocopy. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.



63. Inv. number 1030. Sened (real property document). It is guaranteed, that Koste, son of Yano, is the owner of a house with the size of 28 arshin. The house is located within the borders of the village Kodjabuk, belonging to the villages of Burgas kaza, Islimiye sanjak. 1292, probably 1876/1877. [The exact date has faded strongly, I assume that it is the financial year 1292, but it may be a year according to hijra, in that case, 1875/1876]. A photocopy. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

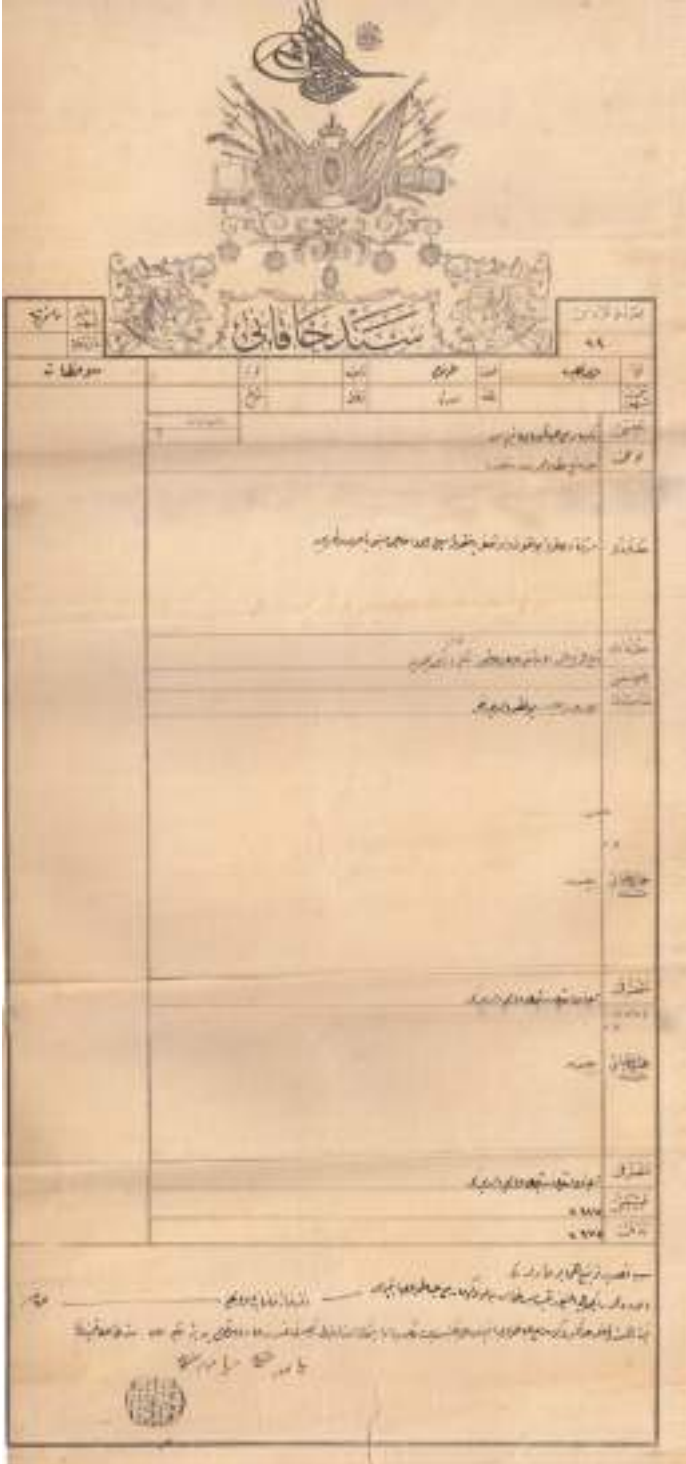


62. Inv. 1025 and 1027 (two parts of a photocopy of a single document) and inv. No. 1026. Hüçet (Sharia court ruling). In connection with the death of the inhabitant of the village Kodjabuk, belonging to the villages of Burgas kaza, Islimie sanjak, Edirne Vilayet – Velko, son of Atanas. He left as heirs his wife Kaluna, daughter of Yovan, and his underage son Petri.

Probably the succession share of his underage son Petri was regulated here. He received 25 grosh from it every month. 1286 [I assume the year is according to hijra], 1869/1870.



The document is annotated from a scanned faded photocopy and is extremely unreadable. Inv. number 1026. A note that for the filing, probably of the hüçet, an amount of 78 grosh and 10 para was received. It can be assumed that it was written on the back of the original document, and it may also be relevant to some of the other documents. Photocopy. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 3 sheets.



64. Inv. number 1113. Sened-i hakani (tapu title deed) for possession of a property: a water mill with fulling mill. The property is located in: Orta Mahala, Tarnovo kaza, Kirk Kilise liva. Waqf's property. Its boundaries are marked. Dimensions: 2 old dönüm, or 18 evlek and 38 new arshin. Previous owner: Yonko, son of] Yorgo. Present owner: the Ottoman subject, the grocer Vulcho, son of Yorgi. Value: 2675 [grosh]. Price: 2675 [grosh]. 15 muharrem 1314, 14 June 1312, 26 June 1896. A note on the back of the document in Bulgarian about its essence. Signed by the "expert" Dimov. Town of Tarnovo. October 20, 1921. Original. Form. Manuscript. Ottoman-Turkish language. 1 sheet.

ANNEX WITH THE ANNOTATED DOCUMENTS

1. Inv. number 79. Vergilere mahsus teskeresi (document for paid taxes), 1 September 1912.

2. Inv. number 80. Vergilere mahsus teskeresi (document for paid taxes), January 3, 1911.

3. Inv. No. 81. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state), 18 December 1909

4. Inv. number 82. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state), 20 December 1908

5. Inv. number 83. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state), 20 February 1907.

6. Inv. number 84. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (a passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state) 21 February 1911.

7. Inv. No. 85. Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state), 2 October 1890

8. Inv. number 86. Mahsus makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 22 September 1909

9. Inv. number 87. Ağnam yoklama teskeresi (document for owned sheep and goats), 5 April 1910.

10. Inv. number 88. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 10 September 1912.

11. Inv. No. 89. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 26 February 1911.

12. Inv. number 90. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 21 October 1910.

13. Inv. number 91. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 21 October 1910.

14. Inv. number 92. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 24 July 1910.

15. Inv. number 93. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 8 December 1911.

16. Inv. number 94. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 24 July 1910.

17. Inv. number 95. Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and

fees), 8 December 1911.

18. **Inv. number 96.** Vergilere mahsus teskeresi (document for paid taxes), 24 July 1910.

19. **Inv. number 97.** Temettüat vergi teskeresi (documents of income taxes paid), 1911/1912

20. **Inv. number 98.** Vergilere mahsus teskeresi (document for paid taxes), 8 December 1911.

21. **Inv. number 99.** Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 8 December 1911.

22. **Inv. number 100.** Part of a military book. No date.

23. **Inv. number 101.** Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state), 21 September 1884.

24. **Inv. number 102.** Sened-i hakani (tapu itle-deed), 29 April 1886.

25. **Inv. number 103.** Temettüat vergillere mahsus teskeseri (document for paid taxes on income from occupations), 13 March 1891.

26. **Inv. number 104.** Makbuz ilmühaber (receipt for paid taxes and fees), 1906/1907.

27. **Inv. number 105.** A document for taxes paid on the income from the occupation and on the property 1888/1889.

28. **Inv. number 106.** Document for paid taxes on income from occupations and real estates No date.

29. **Inv. No. 107.** Temettüat vergillere mahsus teskeseri (document for paid taxes on income from occupations), 13 March 1894.

30. **Inv. number 108.** Vergilere mahsu teskeresi (document for paid taxes), 1912/1913.

31. **Inv. number 109.** Tuz teskeseri (salt transport document), 18 July 1893.

32. **Inv. number 170.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 11 December 1911.

33. **Inv. number 171.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 18 June 1902.

34. **Inv. No. 172.** Sened-i hakani tapu (title-deed), 2 March 1900.

35. **Inv. number 173.** Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document). 13 December 1902.

36. **Inv. number 174.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 18 December 1911.

37. **Inv. number 175.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 24 January 1909.

38. **Inv. number 176.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 18 December 1911.

39. **Inv. number 177.** Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title

document). April/May 1900.

40. **Inv. number 178.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 2 March 1900.

41. **Inv. number 179.** Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document). September/October 1900.

42. **Inv. number 180.** Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document), 12 January 1900.

43. **Inv. No. 181.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 29 July 1884.

44. **Inv. number 182.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), September/October 1900.

45. **Inv. number 183.** Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document), March/April 1899.

46. **Inv. number 184.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 15 February 1912.

47. **Inv. number 185.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 20 October 1921.

48. **Inv. number 186.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 30 December 1897.

49. **Inv. number 187.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 30 December 1897.

50. **Inv. number 188.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 2 February 1899.

51. **Inv. number 189.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 28 February 1901.

52. **Inv. number 190.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 28 February 1901.

53. **Inv. number 191.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 20 October 1921

54. **Inv. number 191-0001.** Sened-i hakani (title-deed), 15 February 1897.

55. **Inv. number 192.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 12 March 1899.

56. **Inv. number 193.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 26 June 1896.

57. **Inv. number 222.** Devlet-i aliye-i osmaniye teskeresi (passport of the subjects of the Ottoman state), 23 August 1905.

58. **Inv. number 223.** Muvakkat ilmühaber (temporary property title document), [1874/1884].

59. **Inv. number 224.** Sened-i hakani (tapu title-deed), 6 October 1884.

60. **Inv. Number 1023.** Tereke defter (succession inventory), 25 April 1869.

61. **Inv. number 1024 (1028)**. Certificate for the amount taken from the “common benefit” funds, 15 December 1875.

62. **Inv. 1025 and 1027**. Hücet (Sharia court ruling), 1869/1870.

63. **Inv. number 1030**. Sened (real property document), 1876/1877]

64. **Inv. number 1113**. Sened-I hakani (tapu title deed), 20 October 1921.

REFERENCE LIST OF OTTOMAN SALNAMES

1. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne, sene 1287: defa 1.
2. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: sene 1288, defa 2.
3. Salname [-i Vilayet-i Edirne] 1290: defa 4.
4. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: sene 1291, defa 5.
5. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: sene 1292, defa 6.
6. Edirne Salname [Mali] sene 1293, [Hicri] sene 1294, defa 8.
7. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne, defa 9: sene 1300.
8. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1301 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 10.
9. 1302 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 11.
10. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1304 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 13.
11. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1305 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 14.
12. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1307 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsusdur, defa 16.
13. Salname-i Vilayeti Edirne: 1308 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsus defa 17.
14. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 18, 1309 senesine mahsusdur.
15. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: defa 19, 1310 sene-i Hicriyesine mahsus.
16. Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: 1310, yirminci defa.
17. Edirne Vilayeti Salnamesi: 1311, yirmi birinci defa olarak.
18. Edirne Vilayeti Salnamesi: 1312, yirmi ikinci defa olarak.
19. 1316 Salname-i Vilayet-i Edirne: yirmi altıncı defa olarak.

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