

# History of Maps and Important Map Collections in Turkey

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## Abstract

Considering the historical process, mankind has produced many information sources and used them in the most effective way when he needs. One of the most known and used of these resources is books. However, there are many information resources in different formats except books. These resources are called non-book materials. The one, which is regarded as the most strategic information resource among the non-book materials, is map. Maps are information resources which can give detailed and strategic information about any part of the world differ from the other information resources. They have been used as widely as books in almost every age of the history. Maps have been drawn and used after discoveries, excursions, and especially military expeditions. Many countries, governments or managers ordered special maps for their countries and/or other countries and paid serious budgets for them. The most important characteristics distinguishing maps from other information resources are that they have many types and they can be used for many purposes. Different applications were developed for organizing them because of the variety of the information they contain. These characteristics of maps put forward that drawing and reading map necessitate a special education. In the study, theoretical information about the process of maps' occurrence, basic information fields on them, their types, making catalogues and access will be given and the examples from the libraries, having rich map collections in Turkey, will be given.

## Introduction

Map is described as documents showing a structure on the world or another celestial body, which is made with abstract characteristics, with a particular scale on a flat surface in a graphical and photogrametric way. These strategic information sources have usually been preserved in palaces and military bases because of the value of the information they contain. The secrecy degree of these documents necessitated this kind of preservation.



**Figure-1** The oldest map of the world that exhibits in the Museum of Anatolian Civilisations in Ankara, Turkey

Maps are one of the oldest written information resources. Maps are usually seen as being used them in military operations and wars. For this reason, when the map is named, firstly wars come to the mind. However, maps are used in many fields except this field and they can be prepared differently according to these fields. This shows that it is necessary to control the maps, produce them according to particular rules and apply different rules in access and organization of them.

## Development and Use of Maps in the World and in Turkey

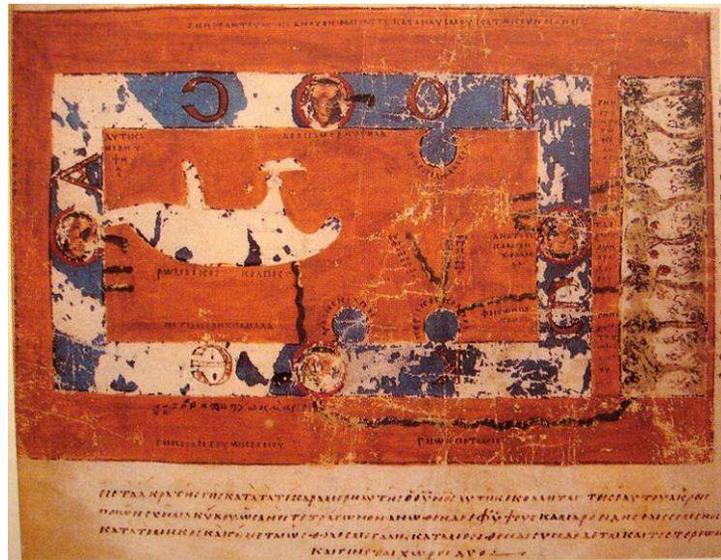
Cartography, which knows as mapping or surveying map, had not seen as a science and application field at first. They had been produced as related to mathematics, physics and geometry since the ancient times until the end of the Middle Ages. In this context, drawing map is contemporary

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with beginning of using these sciences. Considering the historical process, it is known that the first maps were drawn in the shape of plans and included narrower lands. These map drawings have been seen in Mesopotamia, where the civilization occurred, for the first time. However, the first remnant resembling a map (in fact a city plan) was found in the excavations of Çatalhöyük and this is dated 6200 B.C. This plan is in the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations in Ankara (Bagrow, 1964:2-3; Brock, 2001). Another important map is the first world map drawn on a clay tablet by the Babylonians (Bagrow, 1964:31; Bricker, 1968:11; Brown, 1949:33, 37).

Both of the two maps contain important information about the periods they were drawn. Especially the world map gives clues about religious, social and artistic activities of Babylonians and gives answers to the questions on those periods by associating them to the findings.

Nature philosophers of ancient times had important studies on map and cartography. Among them, there were philosophers who gave ideas on map and cartography - especially on mathematics and geometry - and even drew maps. These are respectively *Thales*, *Pythagoras*, *Aristoteles*, *Herodotos*, *Eratosthenes*, *Hipparchos*, *Strabon* and *Ptolemaios*. The maps drawn by Eratosthenes and Ptolemaios are important evidences for cosmography of the ancient times. Moreover, the world map in the work called *Christian Topography* by Greek priest and traveler *Cosmas Indicopleustes*, is also an important document.



**Figure-2** The world map was drawn by *Cosmas Indicopleustes* in VIth Century

Maps of the ancient times were drawn with limited opportunities and information in order to prove the hypothesis generally on world, universe and cosmography, and concretize the information on universe and world. Furthermore, it is seen that the journeys had important effect on forming these maps. However, considering all maps drawn in that period, whole of Africa, Oceania and a great part of Asia take place in them and generally Greece, Italy, Iberian Peninsula (Spain and Portugal), Anatolia, Egypt, Middle East, North Africa (Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria), Iran and the Caucasus are shown. This reflects the world of that period.



**Figure-3** World map was drawn by *El-İdrisi* in 1154 (Köprülülü Library-İstanbul)

Cartography in the Middle Ages began to develop at the beginnings of the IXth century with mostly for military purposes, and more detailed studies covering wider areas were carried out. The maps were drawn in the result of discoveries of new settlement places, vegetations, geographical characteristics, etc. after the military expeditions, wars, migrations and journeys. The reason of this development is the land / sea wars between the Arabic Empire and Western World, Africa and the scientific studies of Arab-Islamic scholars on

geography, mathematics, geometry, physics, cosmography and maritime. As known, the Arabs conquered the whole North Africa, Sicily and Andalusia (Spain) in the middle of the VIIIth century. Furthermore, the contributions of Arab-Islamic scholars between the VIIIth - XIth centuries are known

by the whole world. In this period, giving place to maps in books became widespread. The most important one of these maps is the world map in *Nüzhet'ül-Müştak fî İhtirak'il-Afak* by *El-İdrisi*<sup>1</sup> (1099/1100-1166), who corrected much information which had been known as wrong until that time in the mentioned work. A copy of this work is in *Köprülü Library* in Istanbul (Adıvar, 1970:129, Anameriç, 2006:198). On the contrary of the Arabs, the Christianity in Europe stayed away from this kind of developments and did not get out of the world described in the Gospel. For this reason, cartography in Western World could not develop until the end of the XVth century.

Another civilization progressing in cartography in the Middle Ages was the Chinese. The Chinese developed cartography with the purpose of government service and made it an important means of scientific experience (McClellan and Dorn, 2006:158).

The first examples of using and drawing map in Turks started to be seen in the XIth century. The most important example of them is the Turkish World map in the work called *Kitab-ı Divan-ı Lügat'it Türk*<sup>2</sup>, which is the first Turkish dictionary, written by *Kaşgarlı Mahmut* (1008-1075). In the XIVth century, the additions made to the works of Arab-Islamic geographers and Arabic studies became a matter of primary importance. There are a lot of world maps and regional maps among those studies. The important ones of them are *İbn Havkel's Suret'ül-Arz* (1 world map and 17 other maps)<sup>3</sup>, *El-Belhi's Süver'ül-Ekalim* (1 world map and 20 other maps)<sup>4</sup> and *Ibn'ül Verdi's Haridat'ül-Acaib* (World Maps)<sup>5</sup>. Cartography was developed in the middle of the XVth century, the rising period of the Ottoman Empire. The Ottomans, who showed developments in almost any field with the conquest of Istanbul in 1453, produced important works in different sciences. They produced world-famous works especially in geography and history. It could not be possible to think the cartography showed no development in the Ottoman Empire, which dominated the important land and sea trade roads in the Mediterranean, Egypt, Middle East, Caucasus, Crimea and Balkans, moreover, preparing of detailed maps and/or plans of the country or regions was necessary in order to capture the mentioned trade roads and apply the economic system in those regions. The reasons of success of the Ottoman Empire in land and sea wars in the XVth, XVIth and XVIIth centuries, were map reading and drawing skill besides the war techniques and tactics. This skill is seen in the world map drawn by Turkish Admiral *Piri Reis* (1465/1470-1554), who had an important fame even in the Western World. As known, only one piece of the world map, drawn by



**Figure-4** Map of Turkish world was drawn by *Kaşgarlı Mahmut* (Millet Library-İstanbul)

<sup>1</sup> Ebu Abdullah Muhammed ibn eş-Şerif El-İdrisi. İdrisi drew a world map in 3.5x1.5m. dimensions as containing the places of the important centers not only with their latitudes and longitudes and also with their distances to each other and their climatic zones, after a 15-year study thanks to the information he had obtained in Palermo-Sicily.

<sup>2</sup> This work, which is only one copy, was saved from disappearing among the books, which were moved from Public Library, damaged in the earthquake on August 17th 1999, to Beyazıt State Library. Ali Emiri Efendi (1857-1924), the founder of the Public Library, bought this work for 30 golds from a second-hand book seller.

<sup>3</sup> His real name is Muhammed bin Ali en-Nasibi al-Bağdadi. His birth and death dates are not exactly known. He drew maps of Arabia, Persian Gulf and surrounding, North Africa, Andalusia, Sicily, Egypt, Syria, the Mediterranean, el-Cezire and Iraq. The work is registered by number A3346 and A3347 in the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum.

<sup>4</sup> Ebu Zeyd Ahmed bin Şal'el Belhi (787-886). The work is registered number A3348 and A3349 in the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum.

<sup>5</sup> The work is registered by number A3020, A3021, A3022 and A3025 in the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum, with the number 2040 in Esat Efendi Library (İstanbul), with the number 435 in Hacı Beşir Ağa Library (İstanbul), with the number 1423 in Murat Molla Library (İstanbul), with the number 1075 in Köprülü Library (İstanbul). In abroad, it is registered by number AFT 151 in Bibliotheque Nationale de France.

*Piri Reis*, could be found. The other pieces have not found yet. The map was drawn by Piri Reis in 1513, but the only known piece of the map was found in Topkapı Palace in 1929.<sup>6</sup> There is another world map *Piri Reis* drew in 1528.



**Figure-5/6** Two world maps of Piri Reis. They were drawn in 1513 and 1528.

*Piri Reis* collected his notes and observations he obtained during his voyages in the work called *Kitab-ı Bahriye*. This book was one of the most important maritime books of the period, and it attracted great attention in Europe, too. There are a lot of maps in the book as well as the important maritime information. Many domestic and foreign studies were carried out on these maps.

In the XVIIth century; the most important cartography studies are *Cihannüma* and *Tuhfet'ül-kibar fî Esfar'ül Bihar* by famous geographer, bibliographer and historian *Katip Çelebi*, who is known as *Hacı Halife* or *Hacı Kalfa* in Europe.

In the Ottoman cartography, a Turkish dominance existed between the XVth and XVIIIth centuries. Nearly all book and maps were written and drawn by Turkish travelers, scientists, seamen and statesmen. However, since the beginnings of the XVIIIth century officer of foreign countries, some non-Muslim citizens of the Ottoman Empire and some members of important families, for example *Medici*, started to have maps drawn.

XVIIIth century is a transformation and innovation period of Turkish cartography. Because, in 1729 the government initiated to found the first Ottoman-Turkish printing house and *İbrahim Müteferrika* (1674-1745) printed his first works in that printing house. Besides the manuscripts, the books and maps started to be printed with printing techniques from this date. *Müteferrika* printed 17 works until his death. *Ibrahim*



**Figure-7** Waterway map of Süleymaniye Külliye (Complex) was drawn in second half of XVIIIth century. It exhibits at Museum of Turkish-Islamic Arts in İstanbul Inventory No. 3337

<sup>6</sup> The map is registered by number R1633 in the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum.

*Müteferrika* gave place 4<sup>7</sup> maps among the works printed in the first Turkish printing house and this can be regarded as an important development for Turkish cartography history. The first of these maps is the map of the Marmara Sea, whose original is a gravure scraped on boxwood. The map's date is 1719/20. There is an expression dedicated to *Ahmet III*, the sultan who reigned between (1703-1730), on the map: "My illustrious sir, if you order bigger ones will be made"<sup>8</sup>. The second map is 1724/25 dated Black Sea map. The map is in 65x95cm dimensions and it was presented to *Nevşehirli Damat İbrahim Pasha* (1718-1780), the grand vizier of the period (Goodrich, 1997: 30-31).<sup>9</sup> The third map is the map of Iran, printed in 1729/1730. The map was formed by uniting four sections and there are records carrying the signature of *Ibrahim Müteferrika* inside of the sections



**Figure-8** Basra-Baghdad map was drawn by Ragıp Ağa in 1848 and printed in *Mühendisane-i Berriye-i Hümayun*<sup>10</sup>  
(Ankara University Library of Faculty of Letters Manuscript Section)

(Ersoy, 1959:37).<sup>11</sup> These maps were printed when the first Turkish printing press was in trial period and they give information about the geographical, socio-economic and cultural situation of the period. Among the interesting maps drawn in the XVIIIth century, there are the maps of water ways of various districts of Istanbul. These maps are in the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum, Museum of Turk-Islam Works and in the General Directorate of Waqfs in Istanbul. In Figure-7, a water way map, which is exhibited in the Museum of Turk-Islam Works, is seen. Examining the libraries with important map collections, it is seen that a lot of maps have been drawn both in books and also separately. Another characteristic attracting attention in this period is more detailed maps of smaller areas were drawn.

Topkapı Palace, which had been the administration center of the Ottoman Empire until the beginnings of the XIXth century, was also the treasury and state archive of the Ottoman Empire. For this reason, the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum and Archive have a lot of maps belonging to the different periods of the Ottoman Empire. In the XVIIIth century, plans, which were drawn in different scales and details, were collected as well. Most of them are about wars, sieges and expeditions. The reason of increase in maps and plans in the XVIIIth century is that the Empire was frequently in war. The Ottoman cartographers drew maps and plans of borders of the country, other countries' military maneuvers and the sieges

in a detailed way. The most important examples of them are in the Library of Topkapı Palace

<sup>7</sup> Three of these four maps are in the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum. There is only printing cliche of the Marmara Map. Egypt Map, which is claimed to be printed, has not been found yet.

<sup>8</sup> Turkish form, "Benim devletli efendim, eğer fermanınız olursa daha büyükleri yapılır."

<sup>9</sup> The map is registered by number H1817 in the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum.

<sup>10</sup> Harita koruma kabı ile birlikte A.Ü.D.T.C.F. Kütüphanesi M.O. I 156'no'da kayıtlıdır. Bu haritanın çizilip basılması ile ilgili olarak T.C. Başbakanlık Devlet Arşivleri Genel Müdürlüğü Osmanlı Arşivi Daire Başkanlığı'nda 5 adet belge bulunmaktadır. Bkz: 20 Cemazi'ül-evvel 1264 (24 Mayıs 1848), 4-45, Sadaret Amedi Kalemî (A.}AMD), 25 Cemazi'ül-evvel 1264 (29 Mayıs 1848), 62-1786, İradeler-Mesail-i Mühimme (İ.MSM), 14 Receb 1264 (16 Haziran 1848), 62-1788, İradeler-Mesail-i Mühimme (İ.MSM), 22 Receb 1264 (24 Haziran 1848), 3-147, Cevdet Nafia (C.N.), 18 Zil'hicce 1264 (16 Ekim 1848), 7-73, Sadaret-MühimmeKalemî Evrakı (S.MKE) fonlarına kayıtlı belgeler.

<sup>11</sup> The facsimile of the map is registered by number H1817 in the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum.

Museum. The most interesting examples are plans of Prut War in 1711, one of the last successful wars of the Ottoman Empire in the XVIIIth century, the plan of Adakale Siege, and the maneuver plans in Poland, Moldova and Hungary of the Russian Army in 1768-1769 in the Ottoman-Russian War in 1768-1774. Memealik-i Osmaniye map, dated 1727, is also important.<sup>12</sup>

In the XIXth and XXth centuries, both developments in the techniques of cartography and also in the press techniques became diagnostic in map producing. In the libraries of Turkey, there are maps mostly belonging to this period. Moreover in these centuries, the foreign travelers and officials coming to Turkey gave places to maps in their works or drew maps in sections. These works and maps are especially belonging to the archeological regions in Anatolia, Egypt and Middle East. For example, French orientalist and Turcologist *Francis Vyvyan Jago Arundell* (1780-1846) gave places to maps in his two books published in 1828, 1834 and 1839.<sup>13</sup> Famous German orientalist *Heinrich Kiepert* (1818-1899) drew maps of the archaeological areas where he traveled and searched.<sup>14</sup> *Helmuth von Moltke* (1800-1891), who served in the Ottoman army in the periods of *Mahmut II* (1808-1839) and *Abdülmeçit* (1839-1861), carried out studies on map in Anatolia. Especially the map of Istanbul (*Karte von Konstantinopel*) printed in Berlin in 1842 is important. Another German officer *Baron von Vincke* drew the first map of Ankara in 1846 and its plan in 1854 and had it printed in Berlin.<sup>15</sup>



**Figure-9** Map of Prizren was printed in Vienna in 1902  
(Ankara University Library of Faculty of Letters, D34641)

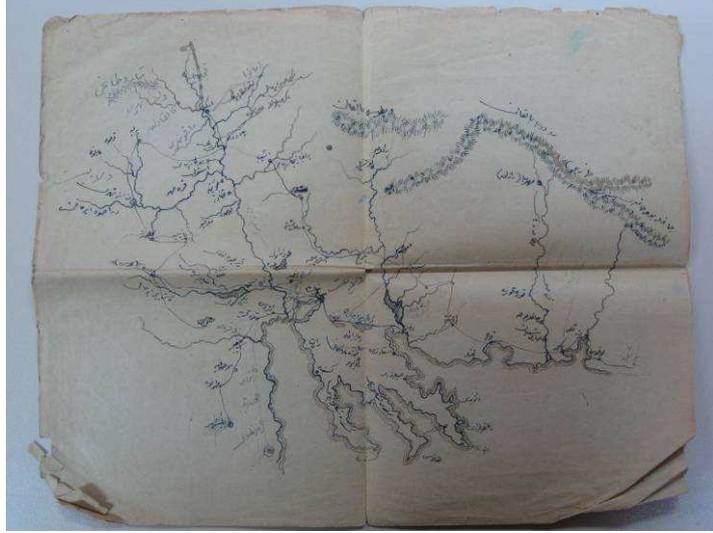
<sup>12</sup> These plans are registered by numbers E1551/1, E9439, E1551/2 and H447 in the archive of the Topkapı Palace Museum.

<sup>13</sup> *A Visit to the Seven Churches of Asia* was published in London in 1828 and in 1834. *Discoveries in Asia Minor* was published in London in 1839.

<sup>14</sup> *Karte von Kleinasien*, Berlin 1843-1845; *Karte von Kleinasien*, Berlin, 1844 (6 sections); *Karte von Kleinasien*, Berlin, 1854 (2 sections); *Memoir über die Konstruktion der katre von Kleinasien uns Armenien von v. Vincke, v. Moltke un Kiepert*, Berlin, 1854; *Spezialkarte von westlichen nach seinen eigenen Reisen und nach anderen grösstentails nach unwer öffentlichen Rauten-Aufnahmen*, 1890-1892, Berlin (15 sections).

<sup>15</sup> *Karte der Umgegend von Angor*, Berlin, 1846; *Plan der stadt Angor*, Berlin, 1854.

Orientalists, travelers and foreign officials usually drew the topographic and archaeological maps of Anatolia, where is called as Asia Minor (Kleinasien) in the West. These maps mostly include the years between 1830-1950. Polarities became clear and preparations for war began towards the XIXth century. As known, the Ottoman Empire started to become closer to Germany, Prussia and Austria since the 1850s and invited many foreign experts from those countries to the Empire. The number of these experts increased before and during the I<sup>st</sup> World War. However, some changes happened in the purposes of drawing and contents of the maps, mine and railroad maps (transportation) became dense during the war. In this period; maps in form of paper sections glued to the cloth for using longer time were especially drawn and duplicated by military institutions.



**Figure-10** Map of Selonica Province was drawn by handmade and it's date is unknown

(Ankara University Library of Faculty of Letters Manuscript Section No. İsmail Saib II 4782)

In the Library of Ankara University, Faculty of Letters, there are 12<sup>16</sup> interesting examples of this kind of maps. These maps were printed as sections and added to a cloth ground in 1898-1912. The company called *ARTARIA & CO.*<sup>17</sup>, which began to publishing with music notes of *Franz Joseph Haydn* (1732-1809) and *Ludwig van Beethoven* (1770-1827) in 1765 in Vienna, published these maps. Bringing the maps side by side, it is seen that *Niş-Edirne-Larissa-Corfu-Draç-İşkodra* line occurred. Considering the strategic centers, drawing and printing dates on these maps, the possibility of being prepared for a particular purpose occurred. As known, the Ottoman Empire experienced four big and destructive wars, political tumult and innumerable rebellions in the end of the XIXth and in the beginning of the XXth centuries. In the results of 1897 Ottoman-Greek, 1911 Tripoli, 1911-1912 the I<sup>st</sup> Balkan War and 1912-1913 the II<sup>nd</sup> Balkan Wars, Albania, Macedonia, Kosovo and Teselia (Greek) broke away from the Ottoman Empire.

The studies of German and Australian cartographers were dense in the last periods of the Ottoman Empire and in the first periods of Turkish Republic. Maps of regions and cities (city plans) started to be drawn as detailed in order to determine the new borders and apply the settlement policies. In the XXth century, the maps started to be drawn with a newer cartographic technique, photogrammetry. Moreover, a central institution was founded for drawing and duplication of the maps bigger than 1/5000 with the foundation of *Harita Umum Müdürlüğü* (General Command of Cartography) in 1925. This institution has still been on duty today.

<sup>16</sup> D34639-*Niș* (Niș), 1898, Vienna; D34637-*Durazço* (Draç), 1900, Vienna; D34634-*Larissa*, 1901, Vienna; D34641-*Prizren-Novipazar* (Prizren-Yenipazar), 1902, Vienna; D34633-*Vodena*, 1903, Vienna; D34640-*Adrianopol* (Edirne), 1903, Vienna; D34632-*Janina* (Yanya), 1904, Vienna; D34635-*Manastir-Skoplje* (Manastir-Üsküp), 1904, Vienna; D34631-*Rodosto* (Tekirdağ), 1907, Vienna; D34645-*Valona*(Avlonya), 1908, Vienna; D34638-*Plevlje-Zvornik*, 1912, Vienna; D34642-*Novipazar-Uzice* (Yenipazar-Uzice), 1912, Vienna.

<sup>17</sup> The famous company with music publishing and cartographic studies.

## The Map Collection and Its Characteristics of the National Library and General Command of Cartography

The National Library of Turkey (NLT) and the Library of General Command of Cartography are the libraries having the most important map collections of Turkey. There are nearly 5.000 maps in Turkish-Ottoman and in foreign languages in the NLT. Among them, there are examples drawn in different types and scales between the XVIIIth century and the XXth century. The oldest maps according to the records of the NLT are the maps called “*The North Part of Turkey in Europe-Slovenia*” drawn by *Herman Moll* (1654-1732) in 1726<sup>18</sup> and “*Nieuwe kaart van Europisch Turkyen*” drawn by the famous Netherlander cartographer *Isaak Tirion* (1705-1765) and printed in Amsterdam in 1732.

Nearly 5.000 maps in the NLT are preserved on wooden shelves, designed for maps, in a special room where they are not damaged because of various outer factors. This application is a system applied in many big libraries. Maps are preserved on these shelves without contacting to each other and by being numbered according to their coming (record) order. The place number is written on the



**Figure-11/12** Milli Kütüphane harita rafları ve harita odası

background of each map and the maps are placed in the way that this number can be seen. Maps usually tried to be placed according to their length. For this reason, different length notations such as AD, C, CD, D and DD tried to be given to the maps. For example, C notation is usually used for foreign originated maps.

Transparent nylon pieces are placed between maps in order to prevent them from contacting each other, moisturizing and sticking. Paper rolls and special boxes are used for preservation of maps. As seen in *Figure-12*, the place numbers and the seal of the NLT can easily be seen. Access to maps is made with the place number obtained from the search in the *Library Automation Program of the National Library*. This number begins with *Hrt.* abbreviation and lasts with inventory number and also expresses the type of material. There are important maps about the history of Turkey in The National Library. One of them, the one mentioned before, is the *Heinrich Kiepert's Map of Turkey* (Anatolia), the Balkans, the Caucasus and the Middle East, dated 1892.

In the NLT, there are mainly maps drawn by domestic and foreign soldiers, officers, researchers and experts in the XIXth century. The maps are in the *Non-book Department of the National Library of Turkey*. A great part of maps were collected by the means of collecting. In addition, the grants and donations of institutions-foundations and persons to the library also help the development of the collection of the NLT. The maps were not digitized. Access is provided by classical ways and readers can examine on special map desks and can take photos if necessary. Some relief models in the NLT are specially framed and exhibited on the walls of the Map Room (See *Figure-11*). The NLT attracts attention of readers by having one of the important collections of Turkey. The map collection is rich for the maps of cities and provinces in Rumelia and Anatolia in the domination of the Ottoman Empire.

<sup>18</sup> The printing date of the map was given as 1732 in some sources.

Another institution having important collections is General Command of Cartography (GCC). This institution was founded as the Directorate of General Cartography in 1925; his name was changed into GCC in 1983. It has continued drawing, printing, buying and controlling of the smaller maps than 1/5000 since 1925. GCC has also continued the map collecting process in which a copy of the maps drawn by different public institutions and foundations and persons, is preserved. The maps printed, drawn and sent to GCC by other institutions are preserved in the archive and museum of GCC. There are important relief models having historical value among these maps. They are exhibited in the *General Command of Cartography Museum*. Most of the relief models were made in the end of the XIXth century, and a great part of them consists of maps of Rumelia, Istanbul and Greece.

### Evaluation and Conclusion

Maps are information resources having different types, which are drawn for different purposes. They have an important and strategic characteristic due to the information they contain. Although the fields in which they are used in daily life are limited, they are important evidences in researchers and some law trials. Today, maps on meteorology, agriculture, mines, earth figures and climates are drawn with various techniques and methods. Considering the mentioned matters as a research area, maps are important as being information resources used in many sciences such as geology, geography, astronomy, agriculture, botanic, zoology, mining, geodesy, seismology and history. Maps are important means which are preferred as visual information resources in which a region is shown as being minimized and details of that region is given.



**Figure-13** The map named “*Carte Générale des Provinces Européennes et Asiatiques de L’Empire Ottoman*” was prepared by Heinrich Kiepert in 1892 (National Library of Turkey Hrt.1994 D 452)

For this reason, maps need to be preserved in suitable conditions in order to use them in researches and making evidential characteristics of them important and they need to be controlled bibliographically. In Turkey, this control is given to both NLT and also GCC. In Turkey, according to the 2<sup>nd</sup> item of *Deposit Law*, which came into force in 1934, map collections are in the obligatory materials. According to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> items of the *Law of General Command of Cartography*, which came into force in 1925, and changed in 1961, maps, which all ministries and public institutions and foundations need, are printed by GCC and at least one copy of the maps drawn by municipalities, city-county administrations, and each institutions and foundations should be sent to GCC. The control of these strategic information resources tried to be provided with these two legal regulations.

There are a few libraries and archives having important map collections except these two libraries in Turkey. In this study, necessary information about their general situations is given. The information centers need to be applied and examined for maps with historical values, are the Library of Topkapı Palace Museum, the Library of Istanbul University, the Library of Istanbul Archeological Museum and Süleymaniye Library. In some of these libraries, limited service is given since arrangements and innovation works have still been continued.

Classification and cataloguing are made in a different way than the other materials. The most important points, which need to be taken to consideration in classification, are the dimensions, types, the purpose of drawing and the information they contain. In addition, preservation of maps - especially the ones having historical value and high possibility to wear out and frequently used - in necessary conditions is important for this kind of material. For this reason, preservation of maps and providing access in digital spaces like other materials became a current issue. However, it is seen in the result of researches that there is not any project on this matter in libraries having valuable map collections and other information centers. Maps, in a more comprising expression cartographic materials have been described as “insufficient and bad arranged” even in the countries, which have progressed in librarianship, and archiving.<sup>19</sup> As known, maps are usually prepared by using leather, cloth and paper. Of course, the places and conditions in which they are preserved are different. In order to decrease the possibility of being damaged and worn out, they should be transformed into digital space by the means of digital cameras and developed scanners. It provides transfer of the maps, which are information resources and art-culture works, as well, to the next generations. However, this kind of preservation is not quite effective in the maps, which are regarded as drawing in books. Because these maps are catalogued as “book” since they are parts of the books or periodicals and the possibility of disappearing of them increase when they part from the books / periodicals. For this reason, these maps are catalogued with “*Hrt*” place number as map in NLT. In NLT, geographical classification was used in map classification in previous periods.<sup>20</sup>

Sistem Numarası System No. / Inventory No.	000641269
Materyal Türü Type of Material	Kitap (Book)
Yer Numarası Call Number	Hrt 1994 D 928/11
Eser Adi / Title	📍Ankara
Basım Place of Publication	Berlin: Dietrich Reimer Geographische Verlaghandlung, 1906
Descr.	1 hrt. : rnk. ; 45x57 cm
Dil / Language	GER

*Figure-14* A catalog card was prepared for a map in National Library of Turkey

Basic fields which should be placed in a map:

- Place (Place is also used as subject),
- Scale,
- History,
- Name of the work / Name of the Map,
- Drawer / Publisher / Printer,
- Edition,
- The Number of Sections,

<sup>19</sup> See Rebecca L. Lubas. “*The Evaluation of Bibliographic Control of Maps*”, *Cataloguing and Classification Quarterly* 35 (3-4), p. 437, 2003.

<sup>20</sup> In this classification technique, a division about the contents of map is divided and this division is expressed with letters. As the subject becomes private, letter and number combination is made. For example, **A** letter is used for universe map, **B** for general appearance and structure map of the world, **C** for Europe, **D** for Asia, **E** for Africa, **F** for North America, **G** for Middle America, **H** for South America, **I** for Australia, **J** for the Pacific Ocean, **K** for the Atlantic Ocean, **L** for the Indian Ocean, **M** for the Arctic and **N** for the Antarctic. For example to classify the map of Ankara a combination is used with Turkey’s continent number (**D**), then the number of Turkey (**D30**) and at last the number of Ankara (**D 30.12**). *The Map of Ankara=D 30.12. The Map of London=C 19.40*. Europe (**C**), England (**C 19**), London (**C 19.40**). Letters and numbers are widened as new cities or regions are added. See Mükerrrem Kunkut, *Harita ve Atlasların Tasnif ve Kataloglama Kaideleri*, 1968, Ankara, Milli Kütüphane.

- h. Measures,
- i. Order,
- j. Notes

These 10 fields are used in making bibliographic description and they also show the access points.

In cataloguing of maps, a different technique than other material types, is not applied according to AACR II and MARC. However, the point which should be taken into consideration in cataloguing of maps is choosing good access point from the information the map gives. In many maps - especially in the ones drawn in the beginnings of the XIXth - XXth centuries - there are not the name of the author and date. In other words, access point should be the theme of map (region, country, city, etc.) since the users are searching maps with their themes, not with their author or drawer. Therefore, this necessitates the correct classification of themes.

In conclusion, considering the above mentioned examples, it is seen that the usage fields of maps have increased throughout the history. Maps, which started to be frequently used in determining wars and borders, have become widespread towards more private fields than general field such as journeys, geographical discoveries and physical geography. Maps in various scales and dimensions were drawn in building, railroads, mail organization, espionage, mining, water sources and meteorological. For this reason, map has become a secret and strategic information resource on its own. These characteristics of maps necessitate being well classified, catalogued, preserved and accessed.

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