



Leiden University Turkish Studies



Overview of Digital Sources

**For the Study of the Ottoman Empire
and Republic of Turkey**

by

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Introduction

Increasingly, primary sources from the period before the emergence of digital media are being digitized. These “digital surrogates” have facilitated the work of (historical) researchers; instead of having to visit several archives, libraries and other places, the (primary) sources appear in front of them on their screen while they are sitting in their study at home or the university.

The physical places a (historical) researcher could visit to consult the sources (s)he was looking for were (and are) limited in number. The internet, however, is much vaster and, in many cases, more difficult to navigate. Searching for the wanted information in, for example, thousands of historical newspaper pages is often like looking for a needle in a haystack. Using Boolean Searches can facilitate such a search. In this [video tutorial](#), a librarian from the University of Regina in Canada explains very clearly how to use them.

This overview aims at assisting in locating relevant sources for those doing research on, in particular, the (late) Ottoman Empire and the early Republic of Turkey. Some sources of a later date are also added. It is meant to be used not only by experienced researchers, but also, and even more so, by young and new researchers or even prospective researchers and students. As such it serves to support and supplement the courses elsewhere on this site.

The overview is an ongoing project. Although it will be updated regularly, one should realize that it is impossible to make it exhaustive, if only due to the rapid developments in the digitalization of potential source materials. Having said that, remarks, comments and suggestions for additions are always welcome and can be sent to [Nicole van Os](#).

Contributors

Alp Yenen

Hans Theunissen

Daniel Ohanian

Dimitris Kamouzis

Reference works / Research Tools

Bibliographies

[AMIR \(Access to Mideast and Islamic Sources\)](#)

A website (in the form of blogs) meant to serve as a tool to assemble and distribute information on open access material related to the Middle East.

[Bibliography of the Hebrew Book](#)

National bibliography of Jewish literature printed in Hebrew characters including books, pamphlets, and magazines printed in Hebrew, Jiddish, Ladino, Judeo-Arabic, and other Jewish Languages.

[A Chronology of Nineteenth-Century Periodicals in Arabic \(1800-1900\)](#)

A Chronology of Nineteenth-Century Periodicals in Arabic (1800-1900) (a research tool)

Language(s): English.

Can, Cemil Cahit & Ender Bilar, [Edirne Bibliyografyası](#), Edirne: Trakya Üniversitesi Rektörlüğü, 2009.

PDF with bibliography with primary and secondary sources on Edirne.

Language(s): Turkish.

[HAZINE](#)

“A guide to researching the Middle East and beyond” aiming at creating a “storehouse of information for scholars researching the Middle East and the Islamic world at large.”

[Islamic Manuscripts, website dedicated to the world of the Islamic manuscript](#) (moderator: [Prof. Dr. Jan Just Witkam](#))

Includes an extensive list of downloadable catalogues of manuscripts and related materials from all over the world.

Language(s): English.

[Islamic Painted Page](#)

Database of references for Persian paintings, Ottoman paintings, Arab paintings and Mughal paintings, including printed reproductions, commentaries and weblinks for thousands of Islamic paintings, including illuminated "carpet" pages, decorated Quran pages, and book bindings from over 230 collections all over the world.

Language(s): English (transcription).

Güçlü, Eda, [*İstanbul Bibliografyası 2000-2013*](#), Istanbul: IFEA, 2013

Also available as PDF: [İstanbul Bibliyografyası](#)

[Kadın Eserleri Kütüphanesi ve Bilgi Merkezi Vakfı: bibliyografyalar](#)

The bibliographies published by the Kadın Eserleri Kütüphanesi ve Bilgi Merkezi Vakfı among which the [İstanbuldaki kütüphanelerindeki eski harflı Türkçe Kadın Dergileri Bibliografyası](#). Downloadable PDF.

Language(s): Turkish (transcription).

[Kaynakça.info](#)

A website developed at Hacettepe University which aims at constituting a bibliography of articles written in any language on Turkey and its history. Contains scholarly articles, but also some full copies of periodicals (like several issues of *Hayat Mecmuası* from 1926-1929).

Language(s): Turkish.

[Milli Kütüphane, Ankara, Türkiye Makaleler Bibliografyası](#)

Bibliographic search engine of articles published in Turkey; 5,000 periodicals; appr 1 million articles from 1923 onwards.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Online Arabic Newspapers and Journals from the Middle East](#)

Also includes links to some major Turkish newspapers

Language(s): English, Arabic.

[Özege ve diğer kataloglar – Eski harfli Türkçe basma kitaplar](#)

Site of Talat Öncü (in blog form) listing books printed in Ottoman, their numbers in the catalogue of Seyfettin Özege and where to find them. Search function available.

Language(s): Turkish.

[The Online Bibliography of Ottoman-Turkish Literature](#)

Contains references to theses, books, articles, papers and on-going projects that relate to research into Ottoman literature, language and culture. Not clear if it is still updated.

Language(s): English.

[Osmanlı Edebiyatı Bibliografyası Veritabanı](#)

Turkish version of the website above.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Ottoman History Podcast books and bibliographies section](#)

Bibliographies of Ottoman history books grouped by year of appearance.

Language(s): English.

[Pre-1928 Ottoman Turkish Literary Periodicals](#)

A bibliography (in PDF) of Ottoman Turkish literary periodicals compiled by Michael Erdman for [Hazine](#).

Language(s): English.

Turkey in the First World War

Bibliography providing a list of works in English, Turkish and German consulted by the author of the website which aims at adding a “Turkish vantage point” to the story of the First World War.

Language(s): English.

Zotero: First World War Studies Bibliography

Includes an item on the Ottoman Empire and the Middle East with > 500 titles.

Language(s): English.

Biographic references

[American Board Memorial Book and Personnel Card File](#)

List of names and bibliographical information on members of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) in Turkey, the Balkans and the Middle East.

Language(s): English.

[Historians of the Ottoman Empire \(University of Chicago\)](#)

Bio-bibliographical references on appr 1,000 historians of Ottoman history, with downloadable PDF per historian

Language(s): English.

[Kalem Güzeli](#)

Site giving extensive information on calligraphy and calligraphers from the past through the present.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Lusadaran, Armenian Photography Collection](#)

Website on Armenian photographers from the past and the present. Includes many photographers from the Middle East and the Ottoman Empire.

Language(s): English.

[Türkiyeli Kadın Yazarlar Veri Tabanı](#)

Database with biographic information on female authors from the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Who is who in Turkish Art and Culture](#)

An online database of Turkish artists, artisans and academicians in Turkey and around the world initiated by the Turkish Cultural Foundation.

Language(s): English and Turkish.

Women's Museum Istanbul

Online museum including the biographies of prominent women who lived in the city which is now known as Istanbul.

Language(s): English and Turkish.

Calenders

Takvimler

To convert dates.

Some other sites for date conversion:

http://www.aly-abbara.com/utilitaires/calendrier/calendrier_hijir.html

<http://mela.us/hegira.html>

<http://www.i-takvim.com/anasayfa.php>

Dictionaries and grammars

[Arabic Almanac](#)

Lexicon with 22 dictionaries. Upon entering root characters (in Arabic or Latin characters), the relevant pages of the dictionaries are shown.

Language(s): Arabic, English.

[Arabic Ontology](#)

A searchable lexicon of Arabic that can be used both as a dictionary and as a thesaurus. Based on 150 multilingual, digitalized dictionaries.

Language(s): Arabic, English.

[Lexiqamus](#)

Online Ottoman dictionary. One needs to subscribe to it to be able to use it. Leiden University students and faculty have unlimited access via Leiden University Library/Databases/Lexiqamus.

[Library of the German Oriental Society \(Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft\)](#)

3,050 volumes of titles belonging to the Middle East and North Africa Special Area Collection of the University and State Library Saxony-Anhalt in Halle, includes several dictionaries and grammars.

Language(s): Several.

[Lugat-ı Remzi](#)

Digitalized version of the 2 vol. dictionary by Hüseyin Remzi (Istanbul, 1305).

[Nayiri](#)

Website with Armenian dictionaries. Includes also (Ottoman) Turkish – Armenian and vice versa dictionaries.

[Nişanyan Etymological Dictionary](#)

Etymological Dictionary of Contemporary Turkish aiming to document the history and sources of all Turkish words in contemporary use. Appr 32,000 words in more than 15,000 entries. Regular updates.

Language(s): Turkish.

Pakalın, Mehmet Zeki, *Osmanlı Tarih Deyimleri ve Terimleri Sözlüğü* [3 vols], Istanbul: Milli Eğitim Basımevi, 1983. [Cilt I](#), [Cilt II](#), [Cilt III](#).

Downloadable PDFs.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Steingass, Francis Joseph. A Comprehensive Persian-English dictionary, including the Arabic words and phrases to be met with in Persian literature. London: Routledge & K. Paul, 1892.](#)

Persian-English dictionary searchable by using either Persian or Latin characters.

Language(s): Persian, English.

[Türk Dil Kurumu Sözlükleri](#)

With several online (Turkish and Turkic) dictionaries.

Language(s): Turkish, Turkic.

Encyclopedias

[1914-1918-online](#)

The “International Encyclopedia of the First World War” is an English-language virtual reference work on the First World War including articles on the Ottoman Empire.

Language(s): English.

[Bamberger Islam-Enzyklopädie](#)

Eine Initiative von Prof. Dr. Patrick Franke zur nachhaltigen Verbesserung der Informationen der deutschsprachigen Wikipedia zum Themenbereich Islam.

Language(s): German.

[Antikçağ'dan XXI. Yüzyıla Büyük İstanbul Tarihi](#)

10 Volume Encyclopedic project covering the history of Istanbul by ISAM in cooperation with the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality. Includes a bibliography on Istanbul (which is still being worked on).

[Türkiye Diyanet Vakfı, İslam Araştırmaları Merkezi, İslam Ansiklopedisi](#)

İslam Ansiklopedisi published by the Diyanet Vakfı. The sources used to write the entries can be viewed in PDF at [İSAM Dokümantasyon Veri Tabanı](#).

Language(s): Turkish.

Newspapers and Periodicals

Newspapers

Historical Newspapers (Ottoman Empire and Turkish Republic)

(Ottoman) Turkish newspapers: collections

Afyon Kocatepe Üniversitesi: Nadir Eserler

Includes some (official) periodicals and (local) newspapers, such as [İkaz](#) (1923).

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish, French.

Ankara Üniversitesi (Ottoman) Turkish Newspapers

Various newspapers in (Ottoman) Turkish

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Atatürk Library collection of serial publications

Numerous digitalized Ottoman newspapers. Downloadable as PDF after (free) registration.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Gaste Arşivi

A range of various historical newspapers (and periodicals) in Ottoman Turkish and Turkish, including some regional ones.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Hakkı Tarık Us Kütüphanesi

Digital archive of hundreds of Ottoman and Turkish newspapers and periodicals, from the Hakkı Tarık Us Collection (now at the Beyazıt State Library in Istanbul). Best accessed through Internet Explorer. Djvu programme needed to be able to read the downloadable newspapers.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[İstanbul Üniversitesi, Kütüphane ve Dokümantasyon Daire Başkanlığı](#)

> 30 newspapers, mainly from the 1930s and 1940s. Downloadable PDFs. Includes also newspapers in French such as [Beyoglou](#), Armenian such as [Aravelk](#) (1936) and [Jamanak](#) (1936-1937) and German such as [Türkische Post](#) (1940-1941, 1944).

Language(s): Turkish, French, Armenian, German.

[İzmir Kent Arşivi ve Müzesi](#)

> 50 newspapers and periodicals, local, national and international. Access after registration. Downloadable after payment.

[Milli Kütüphane \(Turkish National Library\)](#)

Numerous digitalized Ottoman newspapers and periodicals. Downloadable as PDF after registration. Free download of 1,000 PDF's (pages) per year.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Osmanlıca gazeteler: Ottoman local newspapers](#)

Site with local newspapers from various provinces in Anatolia. Partly transcribed. Searchable.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Salt Research](#)

A selection of individual issues or clippings from newspapers and periodicals from the 19th and 20th centuries

Language(s): various.

(Ottoman) Turkish newspapers: individual newspapers

An-Nahda

Newspaper published in the Krim by Ismail Gasprinski in 1908. Downloadable PDFs.

Language(s): Kırım Tatarca.

Cumhuriyet

Digital archive of the newspaper from the 1930s onwards. Against payment.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Milliyet

Digital archive of the newspaper from 1950 until 2008. After (free) registration.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Resmi Gazete (Resmi Ceride)

Official newspaper in which laws are published. Searchable archive which goes back to 7 February 1921.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Terciman gazetesi (Kırım)

Newspaper published in the Krim by Ismail Gasprinski and his son between 1883 and 1918. Downloadable PDFs.

Language(s): Kırım Tatarca.

Arabic newspapers from the Ottoman Period

Alarshif (ارشيف المجلات الادبية والثقافية العربية)

Historical newspapers from the Middle East and North Africa, some of which dating back to the end of the 19th century, but mainly from second half of the 20th century.

Language(s): Arabic

Arabic Newspaper Archive of Ottoman and Mandatory Palestine

> 100 titles covering the period 1908-1948.

Language(s): Arabic.

East View Global Press Review: Middle Eastern and North African Newspapers

Newspapers in English, French and Arabic. Of relevance here is, in particular, Al-Iqbal, from Beirut with 279 issues covering 1902 - 1909. Other newspapers from Iraq and Lebanon are from the post-Ottoman period. Searchable and downloadable as PDF after registration.

Language(s): English, French and Arabic.

Middle Eastern and North African Newspapers

> 80 publications from the MENA region, covering the period from 1870 onwards. Downloadable PDFs.

Language(s): Arabic.

English Newspapers from the Ottoman period

The Egyptian Gazette

English language newspaper appearing in Alexandria. Years January 1905 – February 1908 and some other issues. Downloadable page by page as jpg.

Language(s): English.

[Official gazette O.E.T.A. \(Occupied Enemy Territorial Administrations\) \(South\)](#)

Official gazette of the government of Palestine, 1919-1923

Language(s): English.

Ottoman Armenian Newspapers

Grahavak.blogspot.com

A blog giving a list with Armenian newspapers and periodicals and direct links to their digital(ized) formats.

Language(s): Armenian

Francophone newspapers in the Ottoman Empire

[Salt Research](#)

More than 100 digitized newspapers and magazines published in French in the Ottoman Empire and Turkey from the second half of the 19th century to the 1930s.

Language(s): French.

[Francophone press in Egypt](#)

Francophone periodicals and newspapers appearing in Egypt from 1798 onwards.

Language(s): French.

[National library France: Francophone newspapers from the Ottoman Empire](#)

Francophone newspapers from the Ottoman Empire

Language(s): French.

(Ottoman) Greek newspapers

Απογευματινή

Istanbul Greek newspaper. 1925-1940 in PDF.

Language(s): Greek.

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, digital collections

Manuscripts, books, newspapers, magazines, postcards, maps, photographs, works of art, and more

Language(s): Greek.

Digital Archives of Crete

Contains several newspapers from the (still) Ottoman period.

Language(s): Greek.

Library of the Greek Parliament

Hundreds of digitalized newspapers and periodicals in Greek, including from e.g. Constantinople, Smyrna and Thessalonica.

Language(s): Greek, some in French.

National Library of Greece

So far a limited number of digitalized newspapers including Makedonia which appeared in Thessalonica.

Language(s): Greek.

Sakoulidis Library

Library of the Greek Consulate-General in Istanbul; Over 100 digitized periodicals and newspapers in Greek. Still being digitalized.

Language(s): Greek.

Ottoman Jewish newspapers

Historical Jewish Press

Includes newspapers in Ladino; French, etc from the Ottoman Empire, such as L'Aurore, La Epoca and El Tiempo.

Language(s): Ladino, French, English, Hebrew.

Kurdish Newspapers

Kurdish Institute in Paris

Has so far digitized several journals and periodicals in Kurdish and other languages.

Language(s): Kurdish, French, English.

Newspapers from other countries

National Libraries

Many national libraries have digitalized their historical newspaper collections. Such historical newspapers may contain interesting information regarding the late Ottoman Empire and the (early) Turkish Republic. In most cases the newspapers are searchable. Sometimes they can only be browsed.

The digital collections at the National libraries of [Australia](#), [Austria](#), [France](#), [The Netherlands](#), [Switzerland / Suisse](#) and [New Zealand](#) are freely accessible.

For the UK and the USA such freely accessible digitalized collections do not exist. So, is e.g. [The British Newspaper Archive](#) which contains hundreds of historical newspapers (appr. 29 million pages) from the 1700s onwards from Britain and Ireland only accessible after subscription against payment. Articles from the archives of the [New York Times](#) are sometimes freely downloadable, sometimes only available for subscribers; the archives of the [Christian Science Monitor](#), which was, in general, well-informed on Turkey and the Middle East (read: the late Ottoman Empire) are not available at the moment.

[Europeana Newspapers](#) offers access to European newspapers from 20 countries dating from the early 17th century until the end of the 20th century. Newspapers are not searchable.

German newspapers

German newspapers are not centrally digitized, but projects have been ongoing in the separate states.

DIFMOE - Digitale Forum Mittel- und Osteuropa

Historical press from multiethnic cultural landscape of Eastern Europe. Searchable.

Language(s): German and other.

digiPress - Das Zeitungportal der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek

Portal with historical newspapers at the Bavarian State Library. Searchable.

Language(s): German.

German, local newspapers during WWI

Portal with local newspapers from Germany published during the First World War. Searches with "Türk*" generate quite some hits.

Language(s): German.

[Feldzeitungen erster Weltkrieg](#)

Newspapers from the front during the First World War.

Language(s): German.

[ZEFYS Zeitungsinformationssystem](#)

Portal with digitized, German historical newspapers from Germany and abroad. Partly as picture, partly searchable.

Language(s): German.

[Zeitungportal NRW](#)

Historical newspapers from North Rhine Westphalia. Can only be browsed.

Language(s): German.

Periodicals

Libraries and websites holding collections of periodicals

[Hakkı Tarık Us Kütüphanesi](#)

Digital archive of hundreds of Ottoman and Turkish newspapers and periodicals, from the Hakkı Tarık Us Collection (now at the Beyazıt State Library in Istanbul). Best accessed through Internet Explorer. Djvu programme needed to be able to read the downloadable newspapers.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Arşiva Kurd](#)

Site with Kurdish publications. Several newspapers and periodicals also from diaspora. Includes e.g. women's periodicals such as *Jujin* and *Roza* which appeared in Istanbul in 1990s.

Language(s): Predominantly Kurdish.

[İslamcı Dergiler Projesi \(İDP\)](#)

Digital archive of "islamcı" periodicals from Ottoman period onwards. More than 600 periodicals digitized.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Kadın Eserleri Kütüphanesi ve Bilgi Merkezi Vakfı](#)

The Women's Library has started to digitize parts of its collection of [Ottoman women's periodicals](#) (sometimes in fotocopy), see e.g. the Ottoman women's periodical [Hanımlar Alemi](#).

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish

[Milli Kütüphane \(Turkish National Library\)](#)

Numerous digitalized Ottoman newspapers and periodicals. Downloadable as PDF after registration. Free download of 1,000 PDF's (pages) per year.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Milli Savunma Üniversitesi Kütüphanesi](#)

Digital library including several periodicals published by military academies.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Osmanische/Türkische Periodika, Universität Bonn](#)

20 historical periodicals in (Ottoman) Turkish and 20 in Arabic digitized (and continuously adding).

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish and Arabic

[Osmanlıca Makaleler Veri Tabanı \(Article Database\)](#) at ISAM

Database with > 27,500 articles on history, literature and Islam, downloadable as PDF.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[SolYayın.com Kurdi](#)

A site within ISSUU.com which carries many Kurdish periodicals such as Sterka Rüzgar, Serxwebûn, Kawa, Demokratik Modernite, Özgür Halk and Xebat. The publisher does not allow for them to be downloaded.

Language(s): Kurdish, Turkish.

[TÜSTAV, Türkiye Sosyal Tarih Araştırma Vakfı](#)

Digital archive of leftist, socialist periodicals from the Ottoman as well as the republican period.

Includes also both the original version and the transcription of [İştirak](#).

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Sites of individual periodicals

[Alem-i Nisvan](#)

Women's periodical published by Şefika Gasprinski (Gasperali) in Bahçesaray (Kırım) 1904-1910.

Language(s): Kırım Tatarca.

Feminist Yaklaşımlar Arşivi

Digital archive of the mentioned women's periodical which appeared between 2006-2013.

Language(s): Turkish.

Harb Mecmuası

The Ottoman Turkish periodical in facsimile with transcriptions. The Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin digitized the full run of the German propaganda periodical, **Welt im Bild (1914-1918)**, which appeared in ten languages including Ottoman Turkish and also includes many Ottoman related pictures.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish and various languages (*Welt im Bild*).

Milli Folklor

Digitalized backcopies of the periodical.

Language(s): Turkish.

Pazartesi, Feminist ve Kaktüs Arşivi

Digital archive of the mentioned women's periodicals which appeared in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s.

Language(s): Turkish.

Petrol-İş Kadın

Digital archive of the mentioned women's periodical which appeared in paper between 2003-2015 and continued in digital form afterwards.

Language(s): Turkish.

Sıratı Müstakim ve Sebilurreşad (Vols 1-17)

Open access transcription of the periodical which appeared from 1908 until 1925.

Language(s): Turkish.

Missionary periodicals/yearbooks

Missionary Herald

Periodical of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Includes regular information on the posts and their activities in the Ottoman Empire.

Language(s): English.

Annales de la Congregation de la Mission

Periodical of the Lazarist (Vincent DePaul) congregation. Includes regular information on activities in the Ottoman Empire, e.g. on the French schools run by them. (Annales de la congrégation de la Mission et de la compagnie des filles de la Charité, 1833-1963)

Language(s): French

Salnameler

[Ottoman Salnâme Database](#) at ISAM.

Database including > 670 Ottoman imperial and provincial yearbooks (*salnâmes* and *nevsâls*) downloadable as PDF.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Archives

Institutional Archives

[Annales de la congrégation de la Mission et de la compagnie des filles de la Charité, 1833-1963](#)

Includes information on the activities of the Lazarists and Dames/Soeurs/Filles de la Charité in the Ottoman Empire and Turkey. Relevant for those interested in missionary history.

Language(s): English, French.

[Anthemousa](#)

Digital archive of 38 out of 42 of the Greek Communities of Constantinople. > 1,000,000 pages of the documents found at these parochial and communal archives. Here is [an overview article](#) on what kind of sources you can find here by Effi Kanner and Kostas Gavroğlu.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Greek.

[Boğaziçi Arşivi](#)

Site of project aiming at the digitalization of several personal collections donated to or purchased by Bosphorus University. Includes also collections related to the history of Bosphorus University and, e.g. on Robert College and the American College for Girls.

Language(s): English, Turkish.

[Council of Overseas American Research Centers; Digital Library of International Research](#)

Digitalized collections of amongst others American Research Institute in Turkey, incl e.g. Personnel cards of members of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) in Turkey, the Balkans and the Middle East.

Language(s): English.

[T.C. Cumhurbaşkanlığı Devlet Arşivleri Başkanlığı](#)

Digitalized books published by the Turkish Prime Ministerial / Presidential Archives.

Language(s): Turkish, English.

[Digital Archives of Crete](#)

Includes several newspapers, personal archives etc of the Ottoman period.

Languages: Ottoman, Greek, English.

[Digital Archives of Macedonia](#)

Includes the central cadastral archives (1871-1908) and tax registers (1872-1907) of the Ottoman period.

Languages: Ottoman, Greek, English.

[Digital Archives of Kavala](#)

Includes the central cadastral archives (1885-1912) and documents on the Greek Orthodox communities of Kavala of the Ottoman period.

Languages: Ottoman Turkish, Greek, English.

[The Digital Library of the Middle East](#)

Digital Library which offers access to several collections of Middle East and North Africa related sources from a wide range of cultural heritage institutions. Includes maps, photographs, books, manuscripts, but also files from the British Archives.

Language(s): English, Arabic.

[firstworldwar.com; a multimedia history of world war one](#)

A collection of primary documents that document the course of the First World War via source - often official government - material.

Language(s): English.

Foreign Office: Confidential Print Turkey, 1841-1957

Series of more than 300 volumes with diplomatic correspondence.

Language(s): English.

Hellenic Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Service of Diplomatic and Historical Archives.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Greek.

Istanbul Şehir University Institutional Repository

A digital service that collects, preserves, and distributes digital material including the personal archives of several persons, including e.g. (due to the closure of Şehir University, this website is no longer working, the documents can for the moment, 7-4-2021, be found under [this link](#))

Archives of the researcher Taha Toros (1910-2012)

> 20,000 items pertaining to persons, places, buildings and institutions of Istanbul and Turkey. Contains the personal papers of many prominent late Ottoman and Turkish personalities.

Language(s): Mostly (Ottoman) Turkish

Zeynep Orhon Targaç Photograph Archive

Appr. 200 photographs of mostly Istanbul.

Izmir Marriages, Brides and Grooms, 1820-1933

Searchable database with > 11,000 names of brides and grooms from the Jewish community of Izmir who married between 1820-1933.

Language(s): English.

Jesuit Archives & Research Center

Archives of the Jesuits with periodicals like *Woodstock Letters* including letters from Jesuits in the field.

Language(s): English, Latin

[Millî Savunma Bakanlığı, Arşiv ve Askeri Tarih Daire Başkanlığı](#)

Website of the Department of Archives and Military History of the Ministry of Defense. Includes online publications with archival documents.

Language(s): Turkish.

[The National Archives \(UK\)](#)

National Archives of the UK including an increasing number of documents available online such as the FO 882 documents which are dealing with the Middle East during WWI and the period directly following it.

Language(s): English.

[Notarial Archives from Ottoman period Chios](#)

Several notarial archives with notarial deeds etc. in PFD from Ottoman Period.

Language(s): Greek.

[Notarial Archives from Ottoman period Rethymno \(Crete\)](#)

Several notarial archives with notarial deeds etc. in PFD from Ottoman Period.

Language(s): Greek.

[Opening Jerusalem Archives](#)

Project to document the "Holy City" 1840-1940. Site includes many archival documents from Ottoman times from several archives, private and public, from all over the world.

Language(s): English, Ottoman, Hebrew, etc.

[Qatar Digital Library](#)

Archive covering modern history and culture of the Gulf and wider region including e.g. British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers.

Language(s): Arabic, English.

[Saltresearch \(Archives of the Ottoman Bank\)](#)

These archives contain private and professional papers of various families, in majority from Istanbul.

Language(s): English, Turkish, and more.

[Sephardic Studies Digital Library Collection](#)

> 1,500 original Ladino books and thousands of documents composed in Ladino as well as other relevant languages from the 16th until mid-20th century.

Language(s): Ottoman (Turkish), Ladino, Hebrew, French.

[Venetian State Archives \(Archivio di Stato di Venezia\)](#)

Online collection of important Ottoman documents pertaining to the relations between the two states.

Private Archives, including ego documents, such as diaries, letters, memoirs (see also [Photographs / Images](#)).

[2mi3museum](#)

Online museum of a mixed Armenian, Italian, Greek family which has been living in Turkey since the 1800s. Including the (short) stories of the families, family photographs and photographs of some artefacts.

Language(s): English.

[Atatürk Library collection of \(personal\) archives](#)

Includes the archives of e.g. Nurullah Ataç, Hüseyin Safiye Elbi, the diaries of Şair Nigâr, Osman Engin.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish and various other languages.

[Boğaziçi Arşivi](#)

Site of project aiming at the digitalization of several personal collections donated to or purchased by Bosphorus University. Includes also collections related to the history of Bosphorus University and, e.g. on Robert College and the American College for Girls.

Language(s): English, Turkish.

[Bozcalı, Sabiha Rüştü](#)

Personal archives of the female painter. Including photoalbums, (a part of) her drawings and paintings, diaries and notebooks, etc.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Gertrude Bell Archive](#)

Archives of Gertrude Bell including diaries, letters, photographs, etc.

Language(s): English.

[Houshamadyan; A Project to Reconstruct Ottoman Armenian Town and Village Life](#)

Includes (family)archives from Armenians originally from the Ottoman Empire.

Language(s): English, Armenian, Turkish.

[Istanbul Şehir University Institutional Repository](#)

A digital service that collects, preserves, and distributes digital material including the personal archives of several persons, including e.g.

[Archives of the researcher Taha Toros \(1910-2012\).](#)

> 20,000 items pertaining to persons, places, buildings and institutions of Istanbul and Turkey.

Contains the personal papers of many prominent late Ottoman and Turkish personalities.

(due to the closure of Şehir University, this website is no longer working, 23-12-2020)

[Krikor Guerguerian Archive](#)

Archive of materials collected by Krikor Guerguerian, including thousands of original Ottoman documents and Guerguerian's extensive, unpublished writings on the atrocities of 1915.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Lady Layard's Journal](#)

Diaries of Lady Layard, wife of the Ambassador to Constantinople of Great-Brittain. Relevant period: 20 April 1877 – 2 June 1880

Language(s): English.

[Levantine Heritage Foundation](#)

Site of this association which promotes the research, preservation and education on the topic of the so-called Levantine communities in the Ottoman Empire from the 17th through the 20th century. Contains family histories, photographs, documents, ephemera.

Language(s): mostly English.

Memoria. Fontes minores ad Historiam Imperii Ottomanici pertinentes

Series by the Orient Institute in Istanbul to edit and publish hitherto unpublished personal accounts of non-Ottomans in the Ottoman Empire.

Parties, Politics, Diplomacy and Law(s), including court records

[Afyon Kocatepe Üniversitesi: Nadir Eserler](#)

> 1,000 works digitalized. Mostly printed, but some manuscripts. Some (local) newspapers. Official and diplomatic works in Ottoman Turkish and French, e.g. a series of books with the death statistics for Istanbul (1899 – 1903) or works on the population exchange between Greece and Turkey and its consequences.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish, French.

[Armenocide](#)

Site providing the full texts, in the original language or in translation, of documents written by German, British and Danish diplomats and others to their Embassies or Ministry of Foreign Affairs on issues related to the atrocities committed against the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire. Most documents are from the period 1909 – 1921. Includes e.g. the 1919 Divan-ı Harb-i Örfi Zabıtları.

Language(s): German, English, Turkish.

[The Avalon Project: Documents in Law, History and Diplomacy \(Yale Law School\)](#)

Project with digitalized diplomatic documents includes several documents on the Ottoman Empire and Turkey. Use search term Turkey or Ottoman.

Language(s): English

[**Biliotti, A. et Ahmed Sedad, *Législation Ottoman depuis le Rétablissement de la Constitution, 24 Djemazi-ul-ahir 1326 – 10 Juillet 1324 / 1908: Recueil des Lois, Décrets, Règlements, Conventions, Actes Internationaux, etc., etc...*, de l'Empire Ottoman \[Tome premier: Du 24 djemazi-ul-ahir 1326 – 10 Juillet 1324 / 1908 au 1er Zilcadé 1327 – 1er Novembre 1325/1909. Paris: Jouve et Cie, 1912.**](#)

French translation of laws issued between 10 July 1908 and 1 November 1909.

[Bülent Ecevit'in Köşe Yazıları](#)

Collection of columns written by Bülent Ecevit grouped under the topics "sanat", "siyaset" ve "gezi".

Language(s): Turkish

[DİSK](#)

Publications by and on the Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions of Turkey.

Language(s): Turkish

[Kadı Sicilleri](#)

40 volumes of court records from Istanbul, transcribed and searchable.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Kadı Sicilleri of \(today's\) Bulgaria](#)

Court records from the four kazas of Dobrich, Ruse, Shumen and Silistra from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Kadı Sicilleri of Diyarbekir ([Diyarbekir Şer'iyeye Sicilleri \(Amid Mahkemesi\)](#))

Transcription of the volumes 3709 (1732) and 3712 (1732-1796).

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Kadı Sicilleri of Jerusalem](#)

Archives of the Ottoman religious courts at Jerusalem dating from 1835-1919 in pdfs of the originals.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Kadı Sicilleri of Rethymno \(Crete\)](#) (1874-1898)

Archives of the Ottoman religious courts at Rethymno in pdfs of the originals.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Kadı Sicilleri of Veroia / Karaferya](#) (1602 – 1882)

Archives of the Ottoman religious courts at Veroia / Karaferya in pdfs of the originals.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Meclis tutanakları](#)

Parliamentary and Senate Minutes of the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish Republic. Searchable for words. Transcribed.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Ottoman Diplomats: Letters from the Imperial Legation in Brussels \(1849-1914\)](#)

Site providing access to a selection of diplomatic documents from the Imperial Legation in Brussels (1849–1914) including telegrams and periodic diplomatic reports by Ottoman diplomatic agents (dispatches, *dépêches*) in Brussels and replies and instructions by their superiors in Istanbul, some letters by Ottoman consuls in Belgium and by Ottoman ambassadors or ministers in other European capitals.

Language(s): Mostly French.

[Resmi Gazete](#) (Resmi Ceride)

Official newspaper in which laws are published. Searchable archive which goes back to 7 February 1921.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[SETA \(Foundation for Political, Economic and Social Research\)](#)

Non-profit research institute affiliated with the ruling AKP “dedicated to innovative studies on national, regional, and international issues.” PDFs of many reports and policy papers.

Language(s): Turkish and English.

[TESAV \(Toplumsal Ekonomik Siyasal Araştırmalar Vakfı\)](#)

Site giving information on elections, political parties and MPs.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Türkiye Büyük Millet Meclisi: Kanunlar ve kararlar erişim ekranı](#)

Searchable site of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey listing all laws (*kanun*) and decrees (*karar*) issued Parliament and Senate since the beginning of the Turkish Republican Period.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Türkiye Büyük Millet Meclisi: Tutanak sorguları](#)

In several manners searchable database at the site of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey with the reports / texts of the meetings of the parliaments, senates, committees, etc.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Türkiye Büyük Millet Meclisi Kütüphanesi Açık Erişim Koleksiyonu](#)

Open access collection of the Library of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. Many documents, books, brochures, pamphlets, etc. pertaining to e.g. historical and present political parties. Downloadable as PDFs. Includes e.g.

[Düster \[Tertib 1\]](#)

[Düster \(Tertib-i Sani\) \[Tertib 2\]](#)

Visual materials (including photographs on art, architecture and material culture, films, and maps)

Photographs / Images

3D Mekanlar

3D (360°) photographs of buildings and places in Turkey, the Balkans and other places.

Language(s): English, Turkish and Arabic.

Library of Congress: Abdul Hamid II Collection

Appr. 1,820 photographs from the albums of Abdülhamid II.

Language(s): English.

Akkasah, the Center for Photography at New York University Abu Dhabi

Large collection of photographs, postcards incl. many family photographs without further identification.

Language(s): English.

Album de la guerre Balkanique: Turquie, Bulgarie, Serbie, Grèce et Monténégro

Dersaadet: Kutübhaneye-yi İslam ve Askeri – İbrahim Hilmi, 1328.

Language(s): Ottoman Turkish, French.

L'album souvenir d'un marin français en Turquie

Set of appr 150 photographs from the end of 19th - early 20th century

Language(s): French.

[The American University in Cairo](#)

Several collections of digitized photographs from various periods. Also over 800 [postcards from late 19th and early 20th century.

Language(s): English.

[Arab Image Foundation](#)

More than 600,000 photographs from the Middle East, North Africa and the Arab diaspora collected and preserved by the Arab Image Foundation, a non-profit organization established in Beirut in 1997.

Language(s): English, Arabic.

[Arachne](#)

The central object database of the [German Archaeological Institute \(DAI\)](#) and the [Cologne Digital Archaeology Laboratory \(CoDArchLab\)](#) at the Archaeological Institute of the University of Cologne. A search with "Türkei" generates > 120,000 results. Includes a collection of > 2,200 photographs made by [Max von Oppenheim \(1860-1941\)](#), a German lawyer, diplomat, ancient historian, and archaeologist.

[The Khalili Research Centre for the Art and Material Culture of the Middle East: Archie Walls Archive](#)

The Archive contains over 24,000 records, with the majority of them being individual image files, as well as around 200 PDF files including photographs, sketches, paintings, architectural drawings, and scans of letters and other correspondence concerning a wide range of subjects including analysis of historic buildings in Israel and Palestine, Bahrain, and Zanzibar.

Language(s): English.

[ArchNet Digital Library](#)

Site with visual materials on Islamic art and architecture. Under their "collections" tab, you will find digitalized versions of several periodicals related to Islamic art and architecture, such as [Muqarnas](#), [Mimar](#) and more. Also photograph collections related to Islamic art and architecture, personal archives of architects, etc.

Language(s): English.

[Atatürk Library Collection of Albums](#)

704 albums with > 65,000 visual sources.

Language(s): various.

[Atatürk Library Collection of Postcards](#)

> 12,500 postcards.

Language(s): various.

[Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München](#)

Search term "Türkei" generates more than 660 photographs starting from 1890s.

Language(s): German.

[Bibliothèque Nubar, La Collection Photographique de la](#)

> 10,000 photographs from the period from 1890 until 1940: arranged according to places and persons.

[Das Bild des Orients](#)

Image archive and research platform for the Islamic, Ancient and Christian Orient with a special interest in architecture. > 25,000 digitized images including many on Turkey.

Language(s): German, English.

[The Blatchford Collection of Photographs at the American University of Beirut \(AUB\)](#)

Appr. 800 photographs of France, Italy, Ottoman Empire including Arab provinces and Egypt. Ca. 1900.

Language(s): English.

[Le Caire photographié par Facchinelli](#)

Site with early photographs of Cairo made by Beniamino Facchinelli (1839-1895).

[Camera Ottomana: Photography and Modernity in the Ottoman Empire 1840-1914](#)

A selection of photographs of the exhibition at ANAMED in 2015. Unique albums in possession of Ömer Koç.

Language(s): English.

[Caner Cangül Fotoğrafları](#)

Site with recent photographs (since 2006) from all over Turkey. The photographer aims to upload up to 10,000 photographs from his personal archive.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Constantinople – David Talbot-Rice](#)

> 775 images taken by David Talbot-Rice in Istanbul between c. 1927 and 1957, mainly of excavations of Byzantine sites.

Language(s): English.

[Cornell University Digital Collections: J. R. Sitlington Sterrett collection of archaeological photographs](#)

341 photographs from the mid-1880s of archaeological sites in Anatolia.

Language(s): English.

[Dick Osseman photogalleries](#)

> 77,000 photographs from all over Turkey. Organized alphabetically per region.

Language(s): English, Turkish.

[The Digital Library of the Middle East](#)

Digital Library which offers access to several collections of Middle East and North Africa related sources from a wide range of cultural heritage institutions. Includes maps, photographs, books, manuscripts, etc.

Language(s): English, Arabic.

[Diyarbakır hafızası](#)

Site with maps, photographs, documents and other (visual) materials related to Diyarbakır.

Language(s): English, Kurdish, Turkish.

[Eckstein Albums at Cambridge Digital Libraries](#)

11 Albums with photographs of (rural) Turkey mostly in the 1930s taken by the Medical doctor Albert Eckstein.

Language(s): English.

[Eski İstanbul Fotoğrafları Arşivi](#)

> 6,500 photographs of old İstanbul. Provides original sources of the photographs.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Eski Türkiye Fotoğrafları Arşivi](#)

> 4,000 old photographs of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey. Provides original sources of the photographs.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Facebook](#)

Contains several groups where photographs are posted. These sites are in most cases searchable. See e.g.:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/217122701763933/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/eskiistanbulfotoqraflari/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/tarihistanbul/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/gulayribar/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/oldisteskiistanbul/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/352140331471346/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/I.Dunya.Savasi.Iclal.Tunca.Orses.Arsivi/>

<https://www.facebook.com/hayallemecom/>

The Fouad Debbas Collection

> 3,200 Photographs mostly from Maison Bonfils in Beirout, partly in albums (1867 – 1910s).

Language(s): English.

G. Eric and Edith Matson Photograph Collection

> 22,000 photographs of Palestine of present day Israel and the West Bank from 1898 to 1946.

Language(s): English.

Fonds Louis Robert of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres at the Institut de France in Paris

This concerns a photograph identification project in an effort to identify the places and objects on the > 5,000 photographs of archeological objects and landscapes taken in Anatolia by Louis Robert.

Gallica, Bibliotheque National de France

A search with the search term "Turquie" generates > 1,250 online images and photographs dated from 16th century onwards.

German National Archives

A search with the term "Türkei" generates > 1,000 hits of which 330 from the pre-republican period.

Language(s): German, English.

Gertrude Bell Archive

Archives of Gertrude Bell including diaries, letters, photographs (mostly, but not only, of archeological sites), etc.

Language(s): English.

Hayalleme

Site with old photographs of (mainly) Istanbul. Connected to Facebook page [hallemecom](#).

Language(s): Turkish.

Houshamadyan; A Project to Reconstruct Ottoman Armenian Town and Village Life

Includes (family)archives from Armenians originally from the Ottoman Empire.

Language(s): English, Armenian, Turkish.

Imperial War Museums

Collection covering conflicts from the First World War to the present day involving Britain, its former Empire and the Commonwealth. A search with the term "Turkey" generates close to 4,000 hits of several kinds of objects.

Language(s): English.

IRCICA Research Center for Islamic History, Art and Culture: Farabi Digital Library

Appr. 18,000 images and photographs.

Language(s): Turkish, English.

Islamic Art Network

Site documenting more than 400 historical monuments of Cairo through photographs. Aims at eventually also documenting monuments in other parts of the islamic world.

Language(s): Arabic, English.

[Islamic Painted Page](#)

Database of references for Persian paintings, Ottoman paintings, Arab paintings and Mughal paintings, including printed reproductions, commentaries and weblinks for thousands of Islamic paintings, including illuminated "carpet" pages, decorated Quran pages, and book bindings from over 230 collections all over the world.

Language(s): English (transcription).

[Istanbul University Photograph Collection](#)

Includes the Albums of Abdülhamid II, photographs of Abdullah Frères, of Basile Kargopoulo, and more: > 15,000 photographs in total.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Jacob Wahrman Collection](#)

63 albums of Palestine as captured by the greatest photographers from the advent of photography.

Language(s): Hebrew, English.

[Koç University Suna Kiraç Library's Digital Collections Portal](#)

Portal in English and Turkish containing thousands of images from different collections, such as e.g.:

[Ankara Photographs, Postcards and Engravings](#)

> 3,500 photographs, postcards and engravings from Ankara dating from 1800 to 1980s.

[Sivil Mimari Bellek Ankara 1930-1980 Yapı Envanteri](#)

> 235 photographs of buildings, maquettes, etc from Ankara (1930-1980).

[Josephine Powell Slide Collection](#)

Appr. 19,000 photographs of examples of material culture from Anatolia ranging from archeological artifacts to tapestries, to clothing, etc taken by the photographer and ethnographic collector [Josephine Powell \(1919-2007\)](#).

[Ankara Taşınmaz Kültür Varlıkları - Ankara Immovable Cultural Property](#)

> 630 photographs of buildings and other structures in Ankara.

[Ulla Johansen Anatolian Ethnology Collection](#)

Appr. 1,650 photographs from the anthropologist [Ulla Johansen \(1927 -\)](#).

[Kurdish-Photolibrary.org: Kurdish History in Images](#)

“Picture library dedicated to Kurdistan and the Kurdish people”: appr. 4500 historical and contemporary photographs with new photographs continually being added.

[Lenkin Collection](#)

> 4,300 photographs of the Near and Middle East, Holy Land.

Language(s): Hebrew.

[Levantine Heritage Foundation](#)

Site of this association which promotes the research, preservation and education on the topic of the so-called Levantine communities in the Ottoman Empire from the 17th through the 20th century. Contains family histories, photographs, documents, ephemera.

Language(s): mostly English.

[Luminous-Lint, Photohistory Visualizer \(Islamic Architecture\)](#)

Website for people interested in the history of photography with 85,411 photographs from 3,273 different collections around the world. One needs to subscribe.

Language(s): English.

[Lusadaran, Armenian Photography Collection](#)

Website on Armenian photographers from the past and the present. Includes many photographers from the Middle East and the Ottoman Empire.

Language(s): English.

[The Machiel Kiel Photographic Archive](#)

Digitalization of photographs made by [Machiel Kiel \(1938 - \)](#) of Ottoman buildings in the Balkans and Turkey.

Language(s): English.

[Modern Heritage Observatory](#)

A network of > 30 institutions and individuals from the Middle East and North Africa working together for the preservation of the region's modern cultural heritage and focusing on photography, music, architecture and film.

Language(s): English.

[Nationaal Archief Nederland \(Dutch national archives\)](#)

Search term “Turkije” generates > 750 photographs.

Language(s): Dutch.

[Near East Relief](#)

“The Near East Relief Digital Museum commemorates America’s historic response to the Armenian, Assyrian, and Anatolian Greek Genocide.” On the website one can find > 1,000 images from the Near East Foundation collection related to the activities of the NER in the aftermath of the First World War. Also family archives have been uploaded. NER [Facebookpage](#).

Language(s): English.

[New York Public Library, Digital Collections](#)

Search term “Turkey” generates > 1,500 hits (but includes a few of the bird); “Istanbul” generates > 580 hits. Many pictures of costume albums.

Language(s): English.

[Ovenk](#)

Photo site launched in 2013 to allow people to search for Armenian relatives, Armenian ancestors, places of origin. Most pictures come from the Armenian Memory Institute (AMI) collection and digitalization project.

Language(s): English.

[Pierre de Gigord collection of photographs of the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey](#)

> 3,750 (out of > 12.000) photographs from the Pierre de Gigord collection of photographs of the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey, 1850-1958, bulk 1853-1930.

Language(s): English.

[Sakıp Sabancı Müzesi Digital Koleksiyonları ve Arşivleri](#)

An online collection of more than 500 paintings, gravures, etc mostly of Istanbul and/or by Turkish and Ottoman artists. Also, within the Emirgan Archives, [> 200 photographs and post cards of Emirgan](#) and its surroundings.

[Saltresearch](#)

“SALT Research comprises a specialized library and an archive of physical and digital sources and documents on visual practices, the built environment, social life and economic history. [Collections](#) at SALT Research focus on the period from the late 19th century to the present day with an emphasis on Turkey -primarily Istanbul- and the geographies of the Southeast Mediterranean and Southeast Europe. The collections include visual and textual sources and documents on the art history of Turkey post 1950, the development of architecture and design in Turkey since the beginning of the 20th century, and the transformations in society and the region from the last century of the Ottoman Empire to the Turkish Republic up until the 1990s.”

Language(s): English, Turkish.

[Sebah & Joaillier Photos](#)

> 1,400 photographs from the famous Istanbul photographers from the end of the 19th and early 20th century.

Language(s): English, French, Turkish.

[Siba \(Sarajevo, Istanbul, Belgrade, Ankara\); A Visual Approach to Explore Everyday Life in Turkish and Yugoslav Cities, 1920s and 1930s](#)

Appr. 100 photographs of mainly Istanbul.

[Travelers in the Middle East Archive](#)

Digital archive that focuses on Western interactions with the Middle East, particularly travels to Egypt and Cyprus during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Language(s): English and other.

[Travelogues](#)

Website of the Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation presenting the near totality of graphic material from travel editions from the 15th through 19th century, accompanied by thorough documentation.

Language(s): various.

[Turkish Cultural Foundation](#)

Approximately 10,000 slides from the archives of Prof. Nurhan Atasoy taken during her travels since 1955.

Language(s): English and Turkish.

[Turkish Postcards](#)

Site containing > 2,000 (historical) postcards from the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.

Language(s): English and Turkish.

[University of Michigan Library: Turkish Life in Pictures](#)

230 photographs; mostly from 2000s.

Language(s): English.

[University of St. Andrews, Photographic Collection](#)

Search term "Turkey" generates > 2,200 hits of partly old photographs and drawings; "Middle East" > 600.

Language(s): English.

[Virtual Ani](#)

Site with texts and photographs mostly on Ani, but also on other Armenian sites in Turkey.

Language(s): English.

[The Watercolour World](#)

Interactive, still growing database of pre-1900 documentary watercolour paintings and drawings.
Interactive map available to facilitate searches.

Language(s): English.

[World Digital Library](#)

Appr. 20,000 items (manuscripts, books, photographs, maps) about 193 countries. Including Middle East and North Africa.

Language(s): English.

Stock photo's

Getty Images

Stockphoto's and images: Turkey and Ottoman Empire.

Language(s): English.

Alamy

Stockphoto's and images: Turkey and Ottoman Empire.

Language(s): English.

Maps

Digitalized “classical” maps

[David Rumsey Map Collection](#)

> 1,250 maps of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey (1525 - 1993).

Language(s): English.

[The Digital Library of the Middle East](#)

Digital Library which offers access to several collections of Middle East and North Africa related sources from a wide range of cultural heritage institutions. Includes maps, photographs, books, manuscripts, etc.

Language(s): English, Arabic.

[Eran Laor Cartographic Collection](#)

Collection including 1500 ancient maps of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, alongside ancient maps of other parts of the world. Also, surveyor maps of Eretz Israel beginning in the mid-19th century, as well as modern maps of Israel, cities in Israel, and neighboring countries prior to the establishment of Israel.

Language(s): English, etc.

[Gallica, Bibliotheque National de France](#)

A search with the search term “Turquie” generates > 530 online maps dated from 16th century onwards.

Language(s): French.

[Harvard Library, Islamic Heritage Project \(maps\)](#)

66 maps of the Ottoman Empire and beyond.

Language(s): English.

[Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes](#)

Site of the Istanbul based IFEA with > 400 digitized maps from their collection. Do not open in high resolution.

Language(s): Turkish, French, English.

[Koç University Suna Kiraç Library Digital Collections, Ankara map and plan archive](#)

> 185 maps and plans of Ankara.

Language(s): English, Turkish.

[Maviboncuk](#)

Old insurance maps of Istanbul made by Jacques Pervititch, Suad Nirven and others.

Language(s): English, Turkish.

[Saltresearch \(Archives of the Ottoman Bank\)](#)

Maps and blueprints dating from 19th and 20th century including the detailed [insurance maps by Charles \(Chase\) Edward Goad and Jacques Pervititch](#) from the first half of the 20th century. Most of them freely accessible.

Language(s): English, Turkish.

[Tika Turkey project, National Library of Roumania](#)

> 200 digitalized items including many maps, but also photographs of places and persons.

Language(s): English, Roumanian.

[Turkish and Ottoman Maps and Prints](#)

Site including maps dating from 1561 until 1912 and prints (e.g. woodprints or gravures from old books).

[University of Texas at Austin: UT Libraries Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection](#)

Language(s): English.

[The New York Public Library Digital Collections](#)

Maps from Richard Kiepert (1908) when using the terms "Turkey" and "Maps".

[Interactive maps](#)

[Histosm](#)

Interactive map with cultural sites. By clicking on sites detailmaps appear.

Language(s): English and other.

[Istanbul Urban Database](#)

An interactive, sustainable web mapping application for research and the public.

Language(s): English, Turkish.

[Old Maps Online](#)

Interactive site where upon entering a place name all relevant old maps or links to those maps appear in the margin.

Language(s): English.

[Fair Heritage Map](#)

Interactive map made in MapHub showing the diverse ethnic groups in provinces, cities and towns. Based on censuses of different years.

Language(s): English.

[Turkey Cultural Heritage Map](#)

Interactive map from the Hrant Dink foundation showing the Christian and Jewish cultural spaces within the borders of today's Turkey.

Language(s): Turkish, English.

[Türkiye Kültür Varlıkları Harita Konumları](#)

Website showing historical sites of various kinds on interactive maps. Links to Google maps routes. No further information on the sites.

Language(s): Turkish.

Films

[European Film Gateway \(EFG\)](#)

Language(s): English and many other languages.

[British Pathé Historical films](#)

Search term: Turkey

Language(s): English.

[Öteki Sinema](#)

Website with information on Turkish “B movies.” Includes posters from these movies.

[TRTArşiv](#)

Archives of the Turkish Radio and Television Company.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Youtube](#)

On Youtube one can find some historical footage dating from the late Ottoman Empire and the early Turkish Republic. Search e.g. with the term “Ottoman Film Archives.”

Inscriptions

[Database for Ottoman Inscriptions](#)

Searchable digital database comprising information about, as well as transliterations and pictures of, all the Turkish, Arabic and Persian architectural inscriptions created in the Ottoman lands during Ottoman times.

Language(s): English.

[The Monumental Inscriptions of Historic Cairo](#)

Website of project which aimed at photographing, transcribing and translating the unpublished inscriptions in pre-1800 monuments in Cairo.

Language(s): English, Arabic.

[Thesaurus d'Épigraphie Islamique](#)

Approximately 49.000 epigraphical files of inscriptions are available (4.500 toponyms) as well as 14.000 photographs. Registration required.

Language(s): English, French.

Calligraphy

[Kalem Güzeli](#)

Site giving extensive information on calligraphy and calligraphers from the past through the present.

Language(s): Turkish.

Material Culture

Artstor

Site combining the photographs from a wide range of museums, artists, etc. A search with “Turkey” generates > 7,000 hits with a wide variety of objects: from pre-Ottoman coins, to manuscript folio’s in various languages, to carpets, (to the incidental bird) etc.

Rare books and manuscripts

Bibliographical works / databases related to books and manuscripts

[Access to Mideast and Islamic Resources \(AMIR\)](#)

An evolving list of open access digitized Islamic manuscript collections.

[Fihrist, \(British\) Union Catalogue of Manuscripts from the Islamicate World](#)

A centralized database of manuscripts from the Islamicate World in the UK.

[Islamic Manuscripts, website dedicated to the world of the Islamic manuscript \(moderator: Prof. Dr. Jan Just Witkam\)](#)

Includes an extensive list of downloadable catalogues of manuscripts and related materials from all over the world.

Language(s): English and other.

Schmidt, Jan, *Catalogue of Turkish manuscripts in the library of Leiden University and other collections in the Netherlands*, Leiden 2000-2012:

[Volume 1](#) (via Leiden University Library); [Volume 2](#) (via Leiden University Library);

[Volume 3](#) (via Leiden University Library); [Volume 4](#) (downloadable @ OAPEN)

[To-Kat: Ulusal Toplu Katalog](#)

Collective database of the collections available at several (University) libraries in Turkey.

[Türkiye Kütüphaneler Veritabanı](#) at ISAM

Database of > 700,000 manuscripts, documents and books (in (Ottoman) Turkish, Arabic, etc) available at > 100 libraries in Turkey.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish, Arabic, etc.

[University of Michigan Library research guide on Islamic Manuscript Studies](#)

A good starting point for anybody interested in the study of Islamic Manuscripts. Includes references and links to collections all over the world.

Rare books and manuscripts

[Abdul-Hamid II Collection of Books and Serials Gifted to the Library of Congress](#)

309 books and serials gifted by Abdulhamid II to the “national library of the United States of America” in 1884 plus 26 existent Abdul-Hamid II books which also have been digitized.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Afyon Kocatepe Üniversitesi: Nadir Eserler](#)

> 1,000 works digitalized. Mostly printed, but some manuscripts. Some (local) newspapers. Legal and diplomatic works in French.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish, French.

[Ankara Üniversitesi İlahiyat Fakültesi Kütüphanesi Yazma Eserleri](#)

> 2,250 manuscripts downloadable as PDF.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish, Arabic, Persian.

[Arabic Collections Online \(ACO\)](#)

A digital library of Arabic language content established with support of the NYU Abu Dhabi, providing access to more than 11,000 volumes from the collections of several research libraries.

Language(s): Arabic.

[Armenian National Library: Armenian Book \(Haygirk\)](#)

Access to Ottoman-Armenian books.

Language(s): Armenian.

[Armenian Rare Books](#)

Armenian books from period 1512 until 1800.

[Bayerische Staatsbibliothek](#)

Collection of manuscripts from all over the world. Searchable by, e.g. name of the author, or place of production in an [interactive map](#).

[The Digital Library of the Middle East](#)

Digital Library which offers access to several collections of Middle East and North Africa related sources from a wide range of cultural heritage institutions. Includes maps, photographs, books, manuscripts, etc.

Language(s): English, Arabic.

[Hathitrust, digital library](#)

Includes several Ottoman works and works on the Ottoman Empire. Not all works are freely accessible.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish, English.

[Hill Museum and Manuscript Library \(Saint John's University, Collegeville, MN\)](#)

Website with links to (digitalized) collections of manuscripts all over the world, including the Islamicized world. Also, manuscripts from (private) collections in Jerusalem including some in (Ottoman) Turkish and manuscripts on / related to Christianity in the Middle East in e.g. Garshuni. One needs to register before being able to view the manuscripts.

[İstanbul Araştırmaları Enstitüsü Suna ve İnan Kırâç Vakfı Elyazması Koleksiyonu](#)

“626 volumes and 1311 works” on various aspects of Ottoman Intellectual, social, and culture life. Some of them unique copies. All freely accessible online.

Language(s): Ottoman Turkish.

[The Internet Archive](#)

A digital library of Internet sites and other cultural artifacts in digital form. Includes e.g. many travel accounts to the Ottoman Empire of which those published prior to 1923 are available for download. The manuscript collections of some of the Ottoman libraries in Istanbul are also available through this portal.

Language(s): Several languages.

[Duke University Libraries, Ottoman-Turkish Literature](#)

Digitized books in Ottoman Turkish from DU within archive.org.

Language(s): Ottoman.

[Fazıl Ahmed Paşa Koleksiyonu](#)

1,021 manuscripts from the Fazıl Ahmed Paşa collection within archive.org.

Language(s): Ottoman Turkish, Arabic, Persian.

[Mehmet Asım Bey koleksiyonu](#)

741 manuscripts from the Mehmet Asım Bey collection from the [Köprülü Yazma Eser Kütüphanesi](#) within archive.org.

Language(s): Ottoman Turkish, Arabic, Persian.

[Ohio State University Library](#)

> 125 books in Ottoman Turkish.

[University of Toronto – Robarts Library](#)

Appr. 1,300 books and manuscripts in Ottoman Turkish.

Language(s): Ottoman Turkish.

[The Melikian Collection](#)

Website of the private collector, James Melikian. Includes photographs of early Armenian books (mostly bibles) and artefacts.

[Koç University Manuscripts Collection](#)

481 manuscripts and rare books digitized.

Language(s): Ottoman, Arabic, Persian.

[Leipzig University Library Islamic Manuscripts](#)

Includes > 700 items in Ottoman Turkish.

Language(s): Ottoman, Arabic, Persian.

Library of the German Oriental Society (Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft)

3,050 volumes of titles belonging to the Middle East and North Africa Special Area Collection of the University and State Library Saxony-Anhalt in Halle, includes several dictionaries and grammars.

Language(s): Several.

Manuscripts of the Muslim World

Site with 500 manuscripts and 827 paintings from the Islamicate world. Project partners are Columbia University, the Free Library of Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania, Bryn Mawr College and Haverford College.

Osmanlıca Kelâm

Site with several versions of bible texts in Ottoman Turkish and their transliteration.

Languages: (Ottoman) Turkish, English.

Princeton Digital Library of Islamic Manuscripts

Project to digitalize the Islamic manuscripts collection at Princeton University. > 1,500 manuscripts digitalized, mostly in Arabic but > 35 in Ottoman Turkish.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish, Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Malay.

Refaiya library

The private library of the Damascene Rifa'i family. Includes close to 500 volumes partly composite.

Language(s): Ottoman, Arabic, Persian.

Research Library for Turkish Studies: The Jacob M. Landau Collection

The collection comprises 3.000 volumes of original source materials and secondary literature on the history of the late Ottoman Empire and modern Turkey.

Language(s): Ottoman (Turkish), etc.

[Risaleler Veritabanı \(Dbase of Treatises\)](#) at ISAM

Searchable database with >3,400 treatises on history, literature and Islam in PDF.

Language(s): Ottoman (Turkish).

[Sakıp Sabancı Müzesi Digital Koleksiyonları ve Arşivleri](#)

An online collection of more than 450 manuscripts plus some artefacts related to writing and illuminating of manuscripts.

[Sephardic Studies Digital Library Collection](#)

> 1,500 original Ladino books and thousands of documents composed in Ladino as well as other relevant languages from the 16th until mid-20th century.

Language(s): Ottoman (Turkish), Ladino, Hebrew, French.

[Travelers in the Middle East Archive](#)

Digital archive that focuses on Western interactions with the Middle East, particularly travels to Egypt and Cyprus during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Language(s): English and other.

[Türkiye Bilimler Akademisi](#)

Some of their publications in the series [Türk-Islam Bilim Kültür Mirası](#) are available as PDF (as are some of the publication in the series [Bilim ve Düşün](#)).

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

[Türkiye Büyük Millet Meclisi Kütüphanesi Açık Erişim Koleksiyonu](#)

Open access collection of the Library of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. Many documents, books, brochures, pamphlets, etc. pertaining to e.g. historical and present political parties. Downloadable as PDFs.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish and other languages.

Türk Dil Kurumu El Yazması ve Nadir Eserler Veri Tabanı Kitaplığı

Online access to Ottoman manuscripts preserved in Turkey's manuscript libraries.

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Türkiye Yazma Eserler Kurumu

Catalogue of > 200,000 manuscripts of which > 80,000 available in digital form after having subscribed to the site.

See also <http://www.ekitap.yek.gov.tr/>

Language(s): (Ottoman) Turkish.

Secondary literature etc.

Bibliographies (on secondary sources)

Essential Readings

Bibliographies on several topics related to the Middle East at site of Al-Jadaliyya.

Language(s): English.

Ottoman History Podcast books and bibliographies section

Bibliographies of Ottoman history books grouped by year of appearance.

Language(s): English.

Varuzhan Geghamyan's blog on Turkey and beyond (What's up in Turkish and Ottoman Studies: new books in 2018)

List of English language books published during 2018 in the field of Turkish and Ottoman Studies.

Language(s): English.

Open access secondary literature

[Academia.edu](#)

Site where many scholars share their work. One needs to subscribe (for free) to have access.

Language(s): various.

[AMIR \(Access to Mideast and Islamic Sources\): Alphabetical list of Open access journals in Middle Eastern Studies](#)

A list comprising > 570 titles of online journals in several languages.

[JournalPark \(Dergipark\)](#)

Online hosting services for peer-reviewed academic journals published in Turkey from TÜBİTAK ULAKBİM.

Language(s): Turkish, English.

[OAPEN](#)

Online library and publication platform containing freely accessible academic books, mainly in the area of humanities and social sciences.

Language(s): English, German.

[Open edition books](#)

A (France based) platform of scholarly books from the areas of humanities and social sciences. More than half of these are open access. Search term “Turquie” results > 450 scholarly books in French on the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.

Language(s): French.

[Kaynakça.info](#)

A website developed at Hacettepe University which aims at constituting a bibliography of articles written in any language on Turkey and its history. Contains scholarly articles, but also some full copies of periodicals (like several issues of *Hayat Mecmuası* from 1926-1929).

Language(s): Turkish.

[Mülkiyeliler Birliđi](#)

Books published by Mülkiyeliler Birliđi. 53 books downloadable as PFD. Also, its periodical.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Nomos eLibrary](#)

Website giving access to outstanding academic publications by leading Germany based publishers. A search with the term "Ottoman" generates > 65 open access [results](#), a search with the term "[Türk*](#)" >350.

[ResearchGate](#)

Site where many scholars share their work. One needs to subscribe (for free) to have access.

Language(s): various.

[Sürelî Yayınlar Veri Tabanı of the Türk Dil Kurumu](#)

Database with the articles from the periodicals published by the TDK in PDF. Searchable.

Language(s): Turkish.

[Türkiye Akademik Arşivi](#)

Database of articles written in academic periodicals in Turkey. Many of them are downloadable via [JournalPark \(Dergipark\)](#).

Türkiye Tarih Kurumu

Includes the periodicals *Belleten* and *Belgeler*.

Language(s): Turkish.

T.C. Cumhurbaşkanlığı İletişim Başkanlığı

University of California Press E-Books Collection, 1982-2004

36 books on the Middle East, the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.

Theses and Dissertations

DART-Europe E-theses Portal

Database of open access theses from 617 Universities in 28 European countries (EU/EER). Search “Turkey” generates > 700 results. Search “Middle East” idem.

Language(s): various.

Dissertation Reviews: Ottoman & Turkish Studies

Gives brief reviews of dissertations written on the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.

Language(s): English

Medarat Kurd Dissertations

Database of theses that are related to Kurds and Kurdistan in multiple languages.

Language(s): English and other.

Open Access Theses and Dissertations

Close to 5 million open access graduate theses and dissertations published around the world.

To-Kat: Ulusal Toplu Katalog

Collective database of the collections available at several (University) libraries in Turkey.

Ulusal Tez Merkezi

Database of theses (BA, MA and PhD) written in Turkey.

Research Institutes / Think Tanks

[Açık Toplum Vakfı \(Open Society Foundation\)](#)

Foundation which supports the changes in the context of the relation between the EU and Turkey, women's rights, education and the diminishing of the differences between the geographical regions in Turkey, as well as the strengthening of civil society. As from 26 November 2018 the foundation has discontinued its activities. Publications are still available at the web.

[Friedrich Ebert Stiftung](#)

German political foundation associated with the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) promoting democracy and political education. Does research on several topics in several countries including Turkey. Several reports on Turkey are available on their website.

[Heinrich Böll Stiftung](#)

German think tank associated with the Green Party in German. Does research on several topics in several countries including Turkey. Several reports on Turkey are available on their website.

[KEİG \(Kadın Emeği ve İstihdam Girişimi\)](#)

Platform including 32 separate women's organizations from 16 different provinces, all working on different aspects of the issue of gender equality – such as labour, male violence against women, and the political participation of women. Several reports in PDF on the topics listed above dating from 2007 onwards.

[SETAV \(Siyaset, Ekonomi ve Toplum Araştırmaları Vakfı\)](#)

Think tank (“non-profit research institute dedicated to innovative studies on national, regional, and international issues”) affiliated with the ruling AK Parti. Many policy reports in PDF.

[TESEV \(Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation\)](#)

Foundation which does scholarly research to provide evidence-based policy recommendations. Its reports on a wide variety of topics are available online.

[Women Living Under Muslim Laws](#)

This network provides information, support and a collective space for women whose lives are shaped, conditioned or governed by laws and customs said to derive from Islam. The site offers news, research reports, etc. in PDF.

[Zan, Siyasal İktisadi Arařtırmalar Vakfı](#)

Digitalized versions of [Toplum ve Kuram](#), a prominent journal on Kurdish Studies.

Language(s): Turkish and Kurdish.

Various

Oral history / stories

[Iwitness](#)

Site of USC Shoah Foundation with testimonies (unedited video interviews) in which survivors and witnesses of the Armenian genocide share their life stories.

[Uysal – Walker Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative](#)

Site with Turkish and Turkic oral narratives, folk stories, epics and songs collected from Turkey and the Turkic world. Many of them both as sound recordings and as transcripts. Includes also PDFs of (older) printed versions of these narratives, folk stories, epics and songs.

Language(s): Turkish, English.

Podcasts and recorded lectures

[EUME podcasts](#)

> 85 Lectures and discussions given at Europe in the Middle East – The Middle East in Europe (EUME), a research programme at Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin, Germany.

Language(s): English.

[Keyman Modern Turkish Studies Program Podcast](#)

A platform for scholars of contemporary Turkey to talk about their academic work and its social and political implications.

[Ottoman History Podcast](#)

The largest digital resource for academic discussion concerning the Ottoman Empire and the modern Middle East.

Language(s): mostly English.

[Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association](#)

Youtube channel of the said association where one can find the lecture organized by it.

Language(s): English

[Tarih Vakfı Konuşmaları](#)

Lectures organized by the Tarih Vakfı, including the more recent series of Vangelis Kechriotis Perşembe Konuşmaları. Also available on [Spotify](#).

Language(s): mostly Turkish.

[Turkey Book Talk](#)

Site of journalist William Armstrong where he discusses books on Turkey and the region around it with their authors. New podcast every two weeks.

Music

[Omarşiv](#)

Multimedia archive of Ottoman period music from Istanbul University.

Language(s): Turkish

[Recording Pioneers](#)

Website on the early record industry and on engineers who, working for early gramophone companies, recorded sounds in the late Ottoman Empire and Greece.

Language(s): English, Turkish, Greek.

[Ünlü, Cemal, *Git zaman, gel zaman: Fonograf – Gramofon – Taş plak \(Istanbul: Pan Yayıncılık, 2016\)*, appendix](#)

Searchable list of early recordings. Online appendix to the abovementioned book.

Language(s): Turkish.

Miscellaneous

[Armenian Immigration Project](#)

A website aiming at sharing “abstracts of primary source material for the study of Armenian Immigration to North America through 1930.” Includes, for example, [a database of advertisements](#) of Armenians trying to trace the whereabouts of family members lost during the genocide but also many other primary documents.

[The Black Sea Research Project Web](#)

Website of the project “History of the Black Sea, 18th-20th century.” Includes e.g. the publications, databases, statistics, and bibliography which were the result of the interdisciplinary and inter-university project “The Black Sea and its port-cities, 1774-1914. Development, convergence and linkages with the global economy”.

Language(s): English.

[History and historical geography of Turkey and the late Ottoman Empire & Ottoman-Armenian-Kurdish relations before the First World War](#)

Website of the historian and independent researcher Jelle Verheij.

Language(s): English.

[Istanbul’u seyret](#)

Website with camera’s at several places in Istanbul. Realtime.

[A World Beyond: Jewish Cemeteries in Turkey \(1583 – 1990\)](#)

Database with information on >61,000 Jewish tombstones from the Ottoman Empire and Turkey.

Language(s): English, Hebrew.