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## RESEARCH ON THE TAHRIR DEFTERLERI ON ROUMANIA

Cristina FENEŞAN

The purpose of the present paper is a survey of the work that has been done by Ottomanists concerning Tahrir Defterleri of those territories of present-day Roumania, which were conquered by the Ottomans during the 15th and 16th centuries. In spite of their undeniable importance <sup>1</sup> for studies on the agricultural production and taxation, the administration, toponymy and topography of the conquered territories, only few Roumanian scholars have so far

<sup>1</sup> see Ö.L.Barkan, "Osmanlı İmparatorluğunda büyük nüfus ve arazi tahrirleri, *Istanbul Üniversitesi İktisat Fakültesi Mecmuası* II, 1940-41, p.20-59, 214-247; L. Fekete, Türk vergi tahrirleri, translated by S. Karatay, *Belleten*, XI, 1947, p.299-328; Gy. Káldy-Nagy, The Administration of Sanjaq Registration in Hungary, *Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungarica*, XXI, 2, 1968, p.181-223; idem, Der Quellenwert der Tahrir Defterleri für die osmanische Wirtschaftsgeschichte in *Osmanistische Studien zur Wirtschafts und Sozialgeschichte, In memoriam Vanco Boskov*, ed.H.G. Majer, Wiesbaden, 1986, p.76-83; B.A. Cvetkova, Les Tahrir Defterleri comme source pour l'histoire de la Bulgarie et des pays balkaniques, *Revue des Études Sud-Est Européennes*, (Hereafter: RESEE) XVI, 1, 1978, p.91-104; eadem, Early Ottoman Tahrir Defters as a Source for Studies on the History of Bulgaria and the Balkans, *Archivum Ottomanicum*, VIII 1983, p.133-213; H. Lowry, The Ottoman Tahrir Defterleri as a Source for Social and Economic History: Pitfalls and Limitation in *Studies in Deftology. Ottoman Society in the fifteenth and sixteenth Centuries*, The Isis Press, Istanbul, 1992.

become interested in studying and publishing them <sup>2</sup>.

My survey will concentrate on three main points:

1. The Tahrir Defterleri of the mentioned region in Turkish and Roumanian archives.

2. Publications of Tahrir Defterleri concerning former Ottoman possessions in present-day Roumania.

3. Studies based on these Tahrir Defterleri and their kanunnames comprising the livas of Nikopol, Vidin, Silistre, Bender-Akkerman and the vilayet of Tîmîşvar.

The first Ottoman conquests in Wallachia (the fortresses of Giurgiu/Yerköki<sup>3</sup> Turnu/Holovnik, Kule<sup>4</sup> as well as in Dobrudja (the fortresses of Yenısala, Isakçi) ocured from the end of the 15th to the beginning of the 16th century, when the Danube was the borderline between the Ottoman state and Wallachia. Under these circumstances it was natural that the Dobrudja was the first

2 Cr. Feneşan, Instaurarea dominației otomane în tinutul Lipovei în lumina codului de legi (kanunname) din 1554, *Studii și comunicări de istorie*, Caransebeș, III, 1979, p.319-340; eadem, Recensements fiscaux de l'eyalet de Timișoara dans la seconde moitié du XVIe siècle (d'après les Mühimme Defterleri) *RESEE*, XXXI, 1993, 1-2, p.161-169; eadem, Rumänische Einschlüge in der osmanischen Gesetzgebung für das Temeswarer Eyalet (16. Jh.) in *XI. Türk Tarih Kongresi, Ankara, September 1990*, Ankara 1993 (under print); V. Veliman, Documente turco-osmane privind vilaietul (eialetul) Timișoara, *Revista Arhivelor*, 4, 1985, p. 418-422; A. Ghiatâ, Toponimie și geografie istorică în Dobrogea medievală și modernă, *Analele Academiei Române. Memoriile Secțiunii istorice*, seria a IV-a, V, București, 1980, p.42-61; eadem, Structures socio-économiques en Dobroudja (XVIe siècle), *Analele Universității București istorie* XXXVI, 1987, p. 39-47; eadem, Brăila și tinutul înconjurător într-un registru de recensământ inedit de la sfârșitul secolului al XVI-lea, *Caietul Seminarului special de Științe Auxiliare*, București, IV, 1993, p. 126-143.

3 See N. Constantinescu, Cetatea Giurgiu. Originile și trecutul ei. Separate from *Analele Academiei Române* seria a II-a XXXVIII, Mem. Sect. Ist., nr. 13, 1916, 38 p.; M. Maxim, Documente turcești privind kazaua Giurgiului (raiaua) în secolul XVI, in *Ilfov-File de istorie*, București, 1978, p. 187-194.

4 See Gr. Florescu, Cetatea Turnu (Turnu-Măgurele) in *Revista de Istorică Română*, XV, 1945, p. 432-464.

province to<sup>5</sup> be annexed for good in 1484 after the conquest of Kili and Akkerman. After the fall of Belgrade (1521) and the battle of Mohács (1526) the territorial losses of Wallachia increased in number. The Ottoman army occupied the fortresses Severin/Szörény (1524)<sup>6</sup>, Orşova (1522, 1542 ?)<sup>7</sup> and Brăila (Ibrail, Berail (1538)<sup>8</sup> as well as the south-easter part of Moldavia, the so-called Budjak with the fortress of Tighina (1538). After 1538 Yerkökü and Berail were established as kazas, to which in 1542 50 villages were added from the other side of the border against the law but without force of arms.

It is well known that the tahrir sometimes moved the frontier forwards across the borders of Wallachia, Moldavia and Transylvania. Thus the fiscal condominium was created in the border region between Transylvania and the vilayet of Tîmişvar<sup>9</sup>. As an example I mention the tahrirs made in 1560 and 1567<sup>10</sup> on the basis of the first tahrir executed by Çandarlızade Halil Beg in 1553/1554, just after the establishment of the vilayet of Tîmişvar<sup>11</sup>. The campaign of Szigetvár in 1566 provided an opportunity for expanding the borders of the vilayet of Tîmişvar.

5 See A. Ghiatã, Condițiile instaurãrii dominației otomane în Dobrogea, in *Studii istorice sud-est europene*, I, ed. E. Stãnescu, București, 1974, p. 123-124.

6 See M. Maxim, Teritorii românești sub administrație otomanã în secolul al XVI-lea, *Revista de Istorie*, 36, 8, 1983, p. 808.

7 See M. Berindei, M. Kalus-Martin, G. Veinstein, Actes de Murad III sur la région de Vidin et remarques sur les qânun ottomans in *Südoest-Forschungen*, XXXV, 1976, p. 11-68; M. Maxim, op.cit., p. 808.

8 See I.R. Mircea, Tara Româneascã și închinarea raialei Brăila, in *Balkanica* IV, 1941, p. 475; N. Beldiceanu, Kilia et Cetatea Albã à travers les documents ottomans, *Revue des Études Islamiques*, (Here after: *RED*), XXXVI/2, p. 224.

9 See Cr. Feneșan, L'origine du condominium fiscal osmano-transylvain *RESEE*, 1-2, 1990, p. 89-100; eadem, Das Fiskalkondominium im Temeswarer Eyalet während des 16. Jhdts in *V. Milletlerarası Türkiye Sosyal ve İktisat Tarihi Kongresi, İstanbul, August 1989*, Ankara, p.459-467.

10 See Cr. Feneșan, Recensements fiscaux de l'eyalet de Tîmișoara *RESEE*, XXXI, 1-2, 1993, p. 165-166.

11 See Cr. Feneșan, Un aspect méconnu de la fondation de l'eyalet de Tîmișoara: l'instauration des autorités ottomanes à Tîmișoara en 1552, *RESEE*, 1-2, 1989, p. 73-79.

The conquest of the border-fortresses of Gyula, Şiria (Világos), Ineu (Jenő), Dezna and Bel during the same campaign resulted in the foundation of the liva of Gyula<sup>12</sup>.

### *1. The Tahrir Defterleri in Turkish and Roumanian Archives*

As far as we know from the published guide to the Başbakanlık Arşivi and several studies written by Professors N. Beldiceanu, I. Beldiceanu-Steinherr, G. Veinstein and M. Berindei, by M. Maxim, the archives of Istanbul and Ankara do preserve an important number of Tahrir Defterleri concerning our area. Among 1080 volumes of Tahrir Defterleri<sup>13</sup> registered in the Başbakanlık Arşivi, 48 registers, dating from the 16th century concern the territory of modern Roumania. There are 9 defters for Babadag<sup>14</sup>, 2 for Çanad/Cenad<sup>15</sup>, 1 for Hârşova<sup>16</sup>, 5 for Lipova/Lipve<sup>17</sup>, 19 for Silistre<sup>18</sup>, 4 for Tımışvar / Timișoara<sup>19</sup>, 5 for Vidin<sup>20</sup> and 3 for Yanova/Ineu<sup>21</sup>.

12 See Gy. Káldy-Nagy, *A Gyulai szándzsák 1567 és 1579. évi összeírása* Békéscsaba, 1982, p.6-10.

13 Başbakanlık *Osmanlı Arşivi Rehberi*, Ankara, 1993, p. 189.

14 Ibidem, p. 193: nr. 245 (940-953 As), nr. 313 (966 T), nr. 386 (Kanuni E.K), nr. 623 (944 ML), nr. 690 (1008 Adliye), nr. 746 (1035 As), nr. 1028 (Ts MI), 1049 (Ts MI), nr. 1073 (Ts III Murad?).

15 Ibidem, p. 196: nr. 365 (974 T. Sînîname K), nr. 580 (987 Ferman ve hududname K).

16 Ibidem, p. 201: nr. 215 (949 T).

17 Ibidem, p. 208: nr. 356 (973), nr. 457 (974 II. Selim M.L.K), nr. 578 (987 M.L.K), nr. 679 (III. Murad T), nr. lolo (TS T).

18 Ibidem, p. 215: nr. 65 (924 T), nr. 215 (949 T), nr. 224 (950 As), nr. 354 (973 As), nr. 370 (Kanuni M.L.E.K.), nr. 416 (Kanuni ML As), nr. 483 (977 M.L.K.), nr. 542 (II. Selim E), nr. 625 (994 As), nr. 626 (995 As ML), nr. 664 (III Murat T), nr. 666 (III Murat), nr. 688 (106 ML), nr. 701 (III. Mehmed M.L.K.), nr. 771 (1052 Dahiliye), nr. 775 (1052 Dahiliye), nr. 847 (1105 T), nr. 925 (1156 S), nr. 992 (Ts. As.).

19 Ibidem, p. 218: nr. 290 (9620 ML), nr. 298 (963 T), nr. 364 (974 M.L.K) nr. 365 (974 T Sî-nîname K).

20 Ibidem, p. 219: nr. 160 (937 T), nr. 514 (979 ML), nr. 625 (994 As), nr. 880 (1128 M.L.K), nr. 578 (987 M.L.K), nr. 679 (Murad III T).

21 Ibidem, p. 220 nr. 133 (932 M.L.K), nr. 578 (987 M.L.K), nr. 679 (Murad II T).

In addition to its own fund of Tahrir Defterleri, the guide of the Başbakanlık Arşivi mentions the number of defters preserved for instance in the Tapu Kadastro Arşivi: 203 Mufassal, 162 Icmal, 51 Vakf etc.<sup>22</sup>. Studies published by Professors Beldiceanu, Veinstein, Berindei and Maxim identify some of these Tahrir Defterleri. They pertain to the kaza of Yerkökü/Giurgiu (nr. 559, 42, 58, 223, 266)<sup>23</sup>, to Orşova (Mufassal nr. 57/369)<sup>24</sup> and to the liva of Silistre (Mufassal nr. 83)<sup>25</sup>.

In Roumanian archives no original Tahrir Defters can be found. They just own microfilms of six defters preserved in the Başbakanlık Arşivi, the Topkapı Sarayı Müzesi Arşivi and the Millet Kütüphanesi in Istanbul. These microfilms were acquired by the State Archives of Bucharest as a result of a research carried out between 1977-1980 by a team made up of Valeriu Veliman and Tahsin Gemil. Among them are the following Mufassals: nr. 364 compiled in 1566/67<sup>26</sup> and nr. 579 from 1579/80<sup>27</sup> both for the liva of Tımışvar, another without number dealing with Rumeli and Kefe<sup>28</sup>.

As registers including non-muslim areas beyond the Ottoman border are sometime unique sources for their past, let us also mention the microfilm of the *Defter-i cizye-i gebran-i vilayet-i Ibrail* dated 1586/87<sup>29</sup>, which is preserved in the Cizye Muhasebesi Kalemi.

22 Ibidem, p. 228.

23 M. Maxim, *Documente turceşti privind kazaua Giurgiuului*, p. 188, footnote 6.

24 M. Berindei, M. Kalus - Martin, G. Veinstein, *Actes de Murad III*, p. 54-55.

25 M. Berindei, G. Veinstein, *Réglements fiscaux et fiscalité de la province de Bender-Aqkerman 1570, Cahiers du monde russe et soviétique*, XXII, 2-3, 1981, p. 251-328.

26 State Archives of Bucharest, Collection of Turkish Microfilmes (Hereafter: CTM), bobbin nr. 93, images 302-315.

27 State Archives of Bucharest, CTM, bobbin nr. 93, images 316-330.

28 State Archives of Bucharest, CTM, bobbin nr. 42, images 1-47.

29 State Archives of Bucharest, CTM, bobbin nr. 81, images 886-909.

## 2. *Publications of Tahrir Defterleri*

Roumanian scholars took serious steps towards studying and publishing documents, especially those dealing with the political and economical history of Wallachia, Moldavia and Transylvania. They also studied some tahrirs, for instance Mufassal nr. 83 of the Tapu Kadastro Genel Müdürlüğü in Ankara, but they did not publish any register concerning present-day Roumania.

On the other hand, they published a number of provincial lawcodes (kanunnames) contained in Tahrir Defters. This fact, however, does not mean that there is a complete lack of published tahrirs for the former Ottoman parts of present-day Roumania.

On the contrary, among the first registers discovered in European archives and published partly by E. Kammerer and A. Velics there is one cizye defteri pertaining to the districts of Arad and Cenad of modern Roumania, compiled between the 23rd of October 1557 and the 12th of October 1558<sup>30</sup>. 50 years later, Professor L. Fekete succeeded in convincing Turkish scholars and a number of scholars studying in Turkey about the importance and need of a systematic research on the Tahrir defters. This was strong effect of Fekete's first domesday-book (*Mufassal Defter*) publication on the Iiva of Ostorgon (Esztergom)<sup>31</sup>. On the proposition of Mehmet Fuad Köprülü, a committee was formed to select defters of their interest for publication. In the frame of the work of this committee<sup>32</sup>, Professor T. Halasi - Kun selected among

30 A. Velice - E. Kammerer, *Magyarországi török kincstári defterek*, II, Budapest, 1890, doc. nr. CL, p. 194-202.

31 L. Fekete, *Az Esztergomi szándzsák 1570 évi adóösszeírása*, Budapest, 1943.

32 See T. Halasi - Kun, Some notes on Ottoman Mufassal Defter Studies, *Journal of Turkish Studies*, 10, 1986, p. 163-166.



other defters and published in excerpts the Mufassal nr. 579 on the liva of Tımişvar<sup>33</sup>.

So defters pertaining both livas of Tımişvar and Gyula were made available by Professor T. Halasi-Kun and Gy. Káldy-Nagy. All are preserved in the Başbakanlık Arşivi.

Professor Halasi-Kun's studies mainly use the tahrirs as a source for toponymical, topographical and ethnical research. It is very important for Roumanian history, that Professor Halasi-Kun, on the basis of Mufassal nr. 579 dating from 1579, proved the survival of the *jus valachicum*<sup>34</sup> and also the survival of administrative units called *districtus volahales* in pre-Ottoman Hungary. The nahiyes of Ferdiya, Monoştor and Sugya of the liva of Tımişvar<sup>35</sup> turned out to be almost identical with the former *districtus volahales* of Tverd, Monostor and Sugya, in the upper-Bega area. This is of considerable importance as it proves, that the *districtus volahales* lived on de facto as entities even after 1536, when the privileges of the Wallachian were brought to an end in territories under direct Ottoman rule<sup>36</sup>. The correspondence established between the *districtus volahales* and the above

33 See T. Halasi - Kun, Serbians and Roumanians in Ottoman Southeastern Hungary: Detta, in *The Mutual Effects of the Islamic and Judeo-Christian Worlds: The East European Pattern*, ed. A. Ascher, T. Halasi - Kun, Brooklyn College Press, 1979, p. 113-127; idem, Ottoman Toponymic Data and Medieval Boundaries in Southeastern Hungary, in *From Hunyadi to Rákóczi: War and Society in Early Modern Hungary*, Brooklyn College, New York, 1982, p. 243-250; idem, Ottoman Data and the History of the Krasovans, *Archivum Eurasiae Medii Aevi* 3, 1983, p. 157-169; idem, Haram County and the Ottoman Modava Nahiyesi, *Archivum Ottomanicum*, IX, 1984, p. 27-61; idem, Krassó County, and the Ottoman Nahiyes: Boğça, Kıraşova - Bitilnik, and Şemlit, I: Boğça Nahiyesi, *Archivum Ottomanicum*, X, 1985 (1987) p. 71-121; idem, Keve County and the Ottoman Paçova Nahiyesi, in *Between the Danube and the Caucasus. Oriental Sources on the History of the Peoples of Central and South-Eastern Europe*, Budapest, 1987, p. 105-150.

34 See T. Halasi - Kun, The Roumanians of Districtus Volahalis Tverd, *Archivum Ottomanicum*, VI, 1980, p. 115-122; idem, Serbians and Roumanians..., p. 113-115.

35 T. Halasi - Kun, The Roumanians of Districti Volahales Monostor and Sugya, *Archivum Ottomanicum*, VIII, 1983, p. 251-279.

36 H. Inalcik, Adaletnameler, *Türk Tarih Belgeleri Dergisi*, 2, 1967, p. 63-67.

mentioned nahiyes and also between pre-Ottoman counties (Krassó, Keve and Haram) of the Banat of Timișoara and the nahiyes of Bogça, Kiraşova-Bitilnik, Şemlit, Paņçova, Modova validated the theory of Ottoman adhaerence to already existing territorial divisions in conquered provinces<sup>37</sup>.

Professor Káldy-Nagy's publication of two consecutive Mufassals<sup>38</sup> from 1566/67 and from 1579/80 of the liva of Gyula comprises among others the nahiyes of Arad, Zarand, Bihar, today mostly Roumanian. As an immediate post-conquest register for a non-muslim area, the Mufassal nr. 365 from 1566/67 preserves a great deal of data referring to pre-conquest administrative and fiscal practices and traditions, toponymy etc.<sup>39</sup>. This valuable information completes and improves our knowledge of the situation before 1566 in the territories fully incorporated in the liva of Gyula. This new information can be used to examine again the assertions made by Fr. Szakály in his book about Hungarian fiscality in the territories occupied by the Ottomans<sup>40</sup>.

In my opinion, Mufassal nr. 365 should be compared with a preconquest register, an *urbarium* compiled about 1560 for the domain of Gyula and published by Fr. Maksay several years ago<sup>41</sup>. It is equally important to compare the date offered by both tahrirs of Gyula with the data of the tithe-registers (*dezsma-jegyzétek*) of 1569-1580, 1583-1594 of the county of Bihar<sup>42</sup>. Unfortunately, such opportunities are exceptional.

37 T. Halasi - Kun, Ottoman Toponymic Date..., p. 243: "kırallar zamanında olduğu gibi..."; idem, Harem County and the Ottoman Modava Nahiyesi, p. 27-29.

38 Gy. Káldy - Nagy, *A Gyulai szándzsák 1567 és 1579 évi összeírása*.

39 Ibidem, p. 14-39, 272-275, etc.

40 Fr. Szakály, *Magyar adóztatás a török hódoltságban*, Budapest, 1981, p. 74-80, 88-92.

41 Fr. Maksáy, *Urbariumok XVI-XVII század*, Budapest, 1959, p. 787-794.

42 N.I. Kiss, *16 századi dézsmajegyzétek (Borsod, Heves, Bereg, Biharés Közep - Szolnok megyék)*, Budapest, 1960, p. 398-415, 640-696.

### *3. Roumanian studies based on Tahrir Defterleri and Kanunnames.*

As a matter of fact, there is only one study based on a Tahrir Defter in Roumanian historiography, Mufassal nr. 83 of the Tapu Kadastro Genel Müdürlüğü in Ankara, covering the liva of Silistre, compiled about 1598 (1006 H.). The study published by A. Ghiatã concentrates on the main categories of data (economic, social, demographic) for seven villages of the kaza of Berail (Brãila)<sup>43</sup>. All other studies in this field written by Roumanian scholars living in Roumania are based mainly on published provincial kanunnames contained in Mufassal Defterleri.

This situation is explained by the following reasons:

1. There is a complete lack of original tahrir and cizye defters in Roumanian archives and libraries.

2. Roumanian researchers therefore depend fully on research in Turkish archives.

Until December 1989 individual scholars from Roumania could hardly travel abroad and undertake research in the archives of Istanbul and Ankara. This was the privilege of official research-teams sent by the State Archives of Bucharest.

3. Dirigibility of Roumanian official research-teams sent to Turkish archives.

These teams were sent to search for sources and documents dealing with the relationships both of the Roumanian Principalities with the Ottoman state and of Roumania with Turkey. Their ordered interests were mainly: the juridical status of the Roumanian Principalities, their territorial losses, their economic, diplomatic,

43 A. Ghiatã, *Brãila și tinutul înconjurător într-un registru de recensãmânt inedit de la sfârșitul secolului al XVI-lea*, p. 126-138.

military obligations, their trade with the Ottoman state, the presence of Wlachs (Eflâk) / Roumanians in the Ottoman state, the relationships between Roumania and Turkey.

#### **4. Problems in the teaching of Ottoman studies in Roumania.**

Unfortunately siyakat is still not taught in Roumanian universities and very few Roumanian scholars have been able to learn siyakat abroad. Hence there is a tendency not to study complete Tahrir Defterleri, but to content oneself with studying kanunnames.

#### **5. The possibilities offered by Professor Ömer Lütfi Barkan's publication of provincial kanunnames<sup>44</sup>.**

With his publication Professor Barkan opened a new field of investigation for Ottoman as well as pre-Ottoman social and economic history and law. This was a field of research well accepted by marxist scholars and the marxist theory of Roumanian history. Unfortunately, Professor Barkan's publication of provincial kanunnames was brought to Roumania only at the end of the sixties. Here I have also to stress the different ways in which Roumanian scholars living in Roumania and those living in exile did carry on Barkan's efforts in discovering and publishing kanunnames preserved in libraries and Tahrir Defters. I do not think it would be exaggerated to stress the favorable consequences resulting from the freedom of research that exiled Roumanian scholars could always enjoy.

The studies based on tahrir and kanunnames published by

44 Ö.L. Barkan, *XV. ve XVI. asırlarda Osmanlı İmparatorluğunda zirai ekonominin hukuki ve mali esasları* I. Cilt. *Kanunlar*, İstanbul, 1943, p. 267-271: Kanunname-i vilayet-i Niğbolu; p. 272-277: Kanunname-i liva-i Silistre; p. 318-319: Çanad ve Gyula livaları.

Nicoară Beldiceanu and Irène Beldiceanu-Steinherr<sup>45</sup> are the best example in this respect. The point is not only the free choice of the topic, but also their specific approach to the tahrir, which characterizes the *école* they have founded. Several of their studies dealt with the ancient Roumanian territories of Kili and Akkerman, being under a taboo for a long time by the marxist historiography of Roumania.

Fortunately Professors Nicoară and Irène Beldiceanu promoted their students Gilles Veinstein and Mihnea Berindei (of Roumanian origin) to continue this topic. They published kanunnames on the taxation and the tax-revenues of the province of Bender-Akkerman, which are preserved in several Mufassal Defterler set down about 1597/98<sup>46</sup>.

The studies about some Danube ports of present-day Roumania published by Nicoară Beldiceanu and Irène Beldiceanu<sup>47</sup> and their students had have even more influence upon scholars of Roumania than Barkan's edition of kanunnames. Their availability in Roumania, because they were published in *Südost-Forschungen* and *Revue des Études Islamiques* and their method of investigation account for such an influence.

M.M. Alexandrescu-Dersca-Bulgaru, under the influence of the Beldiceanu-studies, focused on the economic life in the towns of the Dobrudja<sup>48</sup> using the kanunnames published by Hadiye

45 I. Beldiceanu - Steinherr, N. Beldiceanu, Acte du règne de Selim I concernant quelques échelles danubiennes de Valachie, de Bulgarie et de Dobroudja, *Südost - Forschungen*, XXIII, p. 96-108; N. Beldiceanu, Kilia et Cetatea Albă à travers les documents ottomans, *REI*, XXVI/2, 1968, p. 215-262; idem, La Moldavie ottomane à la fin du XVe siècle et au début du XVIe siècle, *REI*, XXXVI/2, 1969, p. 242-246.

46 M. Berindei, G. Veinstein, Réglements fiscaux et fiscalité de la province de Bender-Aqkerman, p. 253.

47 See footnote nr. 45.

48 M.M. Alexandrescu - Dersca - Bulgaru, Aspecte ale vietii economice din oraşele şi târgurile Dobrogei sub stăpânirea otomană (sec. XV-XVII) *Studii. Revistă de istorie*, 26, 1, 1973, p. 33-49.

Tunçer<sup>49</sup>. Anca Ghiatã based her investigation of social-economic structures and toponymy of Dobrudja in the 16th century upon some kanunnames compiled for the liva of Silistre<sup>50</sup>.

The above-mentioned publications of kanunnames concern the liva of Silistre. V. Veliman published one kanunname of the liva of Tîmişvar<sup>51</sup> and myself one for the liva of Lipova, both issued in 1554<sup>52</sup>. My studies dealing with tax, administration, pre-Ottoman and Ottoman law in the vilayet of Tîmişvar<sup>53</sup> were again mainly based on such provincial kanunnames.

The new edition of kanunnames published by A.Akgündüz<sup>54</sup> will allow Roumanian scholars to throw new light on the history of some of the Roumanian provinces occupied by the Ottoman state in the 15th-16th centuries. The Tahrir Defters themselves of course are of more importance for knowing the population of the settled and unsettled villages, the towns, the economic situation and social interaction of ethnic groups.

Unfortunately, the knowledge of this extremely important source is still in its infancy in Roumania.

49 H. Tunçer, *Osmanlı İmparatorluğunda toprak hukuku, arazi kanunları*, Ankara, 1962, p. 133 - 143, 192-217.

50 A. Ghiatã, *Structures socio-économiques en Dobroudja (XVIe siècle)*, p. 39-47.

51 V. Veliman, *Documente turco-osmane privind vilaietul (eialetul) Tîşoara*, p. 418-422.

52 Cr. Feneşan, *Instaurarea dominației otomane în tinutul Lipovei*, p. 319-340.

53 Cr. Feneşan, *Das Fiskalkondominium im Temeswarer Eyalet*, p. 459-67; eadem, *Reflectarea unor realități românești din Banat în secolul al XVI-lea, în Cercetări de istorie și civilizație sud-est europeană*, IV, Bucharest, 1988, p. 106-111; eadem, *Recensements fiscaux de l'eyalet de Tîmişoara d'après les Mühimme Defterleri*, p. 161-169.

54 A. Akgündüz, *Osmanlı Kanunnameleri ve hukuki tahlilleri*, I-V, Istanbul, 1990-1993.