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APOLONIA (PULUNIA) - TANRI YIKDIGI: HEADING TOWARDS THE CHRONOLOGY OF THE OTTOMAN CONQUEST ON THE BALKANS (1354-1371)

(Summary)

The author aims to review and research every recently available source and research information concerning this topic, and aims to precise maximally the conclusions on the reviewed issue. He notes the fact that more than a century ago the authoritative researcher of Balkan history K. Irequk states that the chronology of the Ottoman conquests on the Balkans is absolutely chaotic. He also stresses that since then a serious improvement is introduced in the studies. However, concerning the Ottoman chronicles, Irequk’s statement is still a live question. Despite the fact that the works of the Ottoman chroniclers, as well as some anonymous texts, are popularized, this materials are not used to the best advantage, namely due to the chronological chaos. The current article reveals the actual richness and the value of the mentioned sources, the chronology is defined, using topographic and toponymic arguments. Of great importance for the precise clarification of the problem are the appendixes in the end of the research: “Settlement’s Names Occurring in the Ottoman Historical Data about the Campaign of Murad 1st on the Balkans in the 1360s” and “Chronological Definitions on the Events on the Balkans, which Happened in the Period 1361—1371, and Were Mentioned in the Ottoman Chronicles”.