TACEDDINOĞULLARI: A POST-SELJUKIAN ERA BORDER
COUNTRY IN NORTHEAST ANATOLIA

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ÖZ

Anahtar Sözcükler: Taceddinoğullan Beyliği, Karadeniz, Bafra, Ordu, Niksar, Anadolu, Oğuzlar, Çepniler

SELÇUKLU SONRASI KUZEYDOĞU ANADOLU’DA BİR UÇ BEYLİĞİ:
TACEDDINOĞULLARI

ABSTRACT
Taceddinoğulları Emirate was founded by Çepnis, a branch of the Üç-Ok Oghuz, who fled into Anatolia in the 13th century before the Mongol invasion. It occupied an area between Bafra and Ordu on the black sea coast and included Niksar on its southern side. According to accounts, the founder of the emirate, Tazeddin, was a Çepni who had been charged by the Seljuks of Rum with the duty of guarding the frontier in Canik against the Christians. The center of the emirate was Niksar.

Keywords: Taceddinoğullan Emirate, Black Sea, Bafra, Ordu, Niksar, Anadolu, Oğuzlar, Çepniler

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Following the victory of Seljukian Sultan Alp Arslan over the Byzantium on August 26, 1071 in Eastern Anatolian region, Malazgirt, the Turcomens started to move forward towards Black Sea region by 1074, where they established Danismend state. The state which was pioneered by Gümüş-tekîn Ahmed Gazi and his companions, Çavuldu Çaka, Kara Doğan, Tur Hasan, İltekîn Gazi and Kara-tekîn was close to the borders consisting Toka, Komana, Turhal, Çorum and Niksar, which were apprehended afterwards including the Southern Anatolian Canik region.\(^1\) In the next ten years, around 1079, 1080, by successful annexations, Turks reached to the boundaries of Trabzon Greek Empire; even so, by 1084, Kara-tekîn, have set up a small county at Sinob.\(^2\) Also, the Danismendians who have taken over Canik region in 1086, moved towards to Amisus (known as “Christian” Samsun)\(^3\), yet could not annex it, but set up a second city, “Muslim” Samsun, at a place very close to the Christion one.\(^4\)

From the end of the 11th century to the first quarter of the 12th, the region from Canik to Sakarya have been under control by either Danismendians or Turkish Seljuks. When the Seljukian Sultan II. Kılıç Arslan (1152-1192), annexed Sivas, Niksar, Tokat, Komana and the rest of the Danismendian territory in the summer of 1175, a political unity goal was achieved and, this led Danismendian Stateman Zümnün, to be taken under shelter of Byzantium State.\(^5\)

Following the annexation of Istanbul by the Latins during the Fourth Crusade in 1204, the Byzantium state continued to exist in two separate states, in İznik and in Trabzon; in which, the ruler of the second one in Trabzon, the Komnenos dynasty, started to attack Sinob. Defeating the Byzantian Emperor, Kir Alexis, I. Gıyaseddin Keyhüsrev (1192-1196, 1205-1211) made him levy a charge to the Seljukian State (1206).\(^6\) However, following this, receiving a letter on November 3, 1214, heralding the annexation of Sinob by Kir Alexis, the Sultan izzoettin Keykavus (1211-1220), managed to attack over the

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1 Kazım Dilçimen, *Canik Beyleri*, Samsun 1940, 58.
3 “Christian Samsun”, of Genovienes, were called as Kara Samsun and Hamamduzu, and some of KALINTI exists today. For further info. Mevlud Oğuz, “Taseddin Oğulları,” *A.Ü. Dil-Tarih Coğrafya Fakültesi Dergisi*, VII (1948), 470.
4 Kazım Dilçimen, 15.
Byzantine Emperor with the help of the Turkmenians living by the borders. The Turkmenians captured Kir Alexis and brought him to the Sultan. The Sultan walked over Sinob with Alexis and the city fell down in a short time with a deal which led Alexis and some of his company, set out to Trabzon. Beginning from this time up until the Mongolian invasion, Trabzon Komnenos Emperors were subject to the Seljukian State.7

Finding a chance by the new Sultan I. Alaeddin Keykubad’s (1220-1237) invasion over Erzincan, and Celaleddin Harizmshah’s expedition over East Anatolia, the Trabzon Greeks, attacked Samsun and Sinob in 1228 and plundered the Seljukian coast towns towards Ünye. Heralding this, Keykubad returned back from his campaign over Erzurum and sent his fleet to Trabzon after saving the cities from the Greeks. Meanwhile, the land army commanded by Melik Gıyasedding Keyhusrev and Atabeg Mübärizeddin Er-tokuş, were moving towards Maçka, from Gümüşhane and Ziyağlı. To resist the Seljuks, Trabzon Greek Emperor Andronikos (1222-1235) declared state of war from Georgia to Ünye. Due to the inconvenient climate conditions, the Seljukian army was obliged to withdraw.8 Following this, recognizing Harizmshah in stead of I. Keykubad, Trabzon Greek Emperor, Andronikos made war at Yassı-Çimen and this paved him to be subject to Seljukian rule by 1230.9

In spite of the Seljukian defeat in Kösedag War in 1243 by the Mongolians and the death of the Sultan II. Keyhüşrev in 1246, Anatolia was under control of Münüddin Pervane Süleyman beginning from 1261. Yet, used cleverly by the Mongolians, he was sentenced to death by Abaka Han in 1277 and a new era started in Anatolia with the elimination of Seljuks and the rule of Ilhanlı federal governors.10 This temporary rule of the Mongolians between 1277 and 1308 led a falling down in Anatolia both in political, economic and social ways, which was deepened by Mongolian governor Timurtas Noyan’s (1316-1327) uprising to the Mongolian state.11

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The Chepnia * Rule in Mid-Black Sea, in Post-Seljukian Era

In this disorder in Anatolia, migrating to Anatolia in big numbers, a Turkmenian branch, the Chepnians, were placed to Mid-Black Sea region and Trabzon Greek State borders, following the Sinob occupation by Muinüddin Pervane Suleyman, in 1266. The Chepnians, under the command of Taybuğa, were successful in repelling the Trabzon Greek attack over Sinob in 1276, that has been under control of III. Gıyaseddin Keyhüsrev (1264-1283) and Taybuğa was rewarded by III. Keyhüsrev, whom has also suppress Cimri uprising among Chepnians.12

Located in mid-Black region, the Chepnians, tried to annex and Turkify the region in two directions. One of them was reaching to the shore, from the Black Sea Mountains and high plateaus, or Harşit river, the other was coming from Sinob and Samsun line that followed the sea shore. The second one was more successful in Turkifying the region. In the second half of the 13th century, during the Mongol invasion over Turkish Seljukians, the coast defense against Trabzon Greek State, was realized by Chepnians, whom we know from Hacı Bektaş-ı Velı Vilayetnamesi (a reputable clergy of Anatolian Seljukian era) that lived even before the Baba İshak uprising. This strong Oğuz branch, was able to Turkify the mountainous region, starting from the east of Samsun, continuing to Giresun.13 Fighting against Trabzon Komnenosians, the Christian community in that area, Can or Çan, were to disappear from the scene with the Chepnia attacks.14 Faruk Sümer, claims that the name, Tzapnides, which was reffered in Michel Paneretes’ book, was read as the people living in Lazik region, was nothing else but Chepnians.15 Also, Osman Turan states that the Trabzon Greek historian Michel Paneretes’ book, Chronique de Trebizonde, it was mentioned that in the 14th century, the Chepniens (Tzapnides) reached till Tirebolu coming from Gümüşhane and he states that because, the European historians J. Philip Fallmerayer and Le Beau did not understand the Tzapnides, they thought it to be Tzan, the Christian

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* Orij. Çepniler.
15 Sümer, Oğuzlar, 328.
community, Can or Çan branch. The region, they lived was named as Canit or Canik, and the mountains lying in the south was called Canik Mountains. Due to this branch, the Seljuks referred the region, even from Samsun to Batum in the Black Sea, as Canit or Mülk-i Canit, whereas the Komnenosian governors were referred as Melik-i Canit, Caniti or Trabzuni.17

Successfully Turkifying the Eastern Black Sea, from the second half of the 13th century, the Chepnians, moved towards Giresun in 1302 and set up small branches there.18 Belonging to the one of them of the 24 Öğuz branches, the Chepnians were admitted to be coming from Gök Han’s, who was of the left arm of the branch, fourth son Chepni. According to Reşituddin, the Chepni was regarded as “ready to fight when he sees the oil”, whereas according to Yezicioğlu, it was regarded as “ready to fight when he sees the oil in blood and destroys.”19 Turcolog Nemeth, states the Chepni name was related with the Chap and Cheper words, which were in Kırkisgan language and the Chepni branch was meant “border protector.”20

After 1320, when the Mongolian influence decreased, the Turcomens invaded Trabzon Greek State’s territories and got the mountainous regions. During the II. Manuel reign in 1332, the Turcomen ruler Bayram attacked Trabzon and moved close to the outer regions, but returned back understanding the difficulty.22 In the mid 14th century, around today’s Ordu region, it was seen that a Turkish ruler named Bayramoğlu Hacı Emir İbrahim (Hadshymris) dominated the region. Likewise his father, Bayram Beğ, Hacı Emir İbrahim, was constantly fighting against Trabzon Greek State. As a matter of fact, in 1358, he achieved to enter Maçka, a sub-region in Trabzon, and returned back to his territory after a rich plunder.23

As mentioned earlier, the Mongolian domination was weakened in Anatolia starting from 1320. At the end, following the demolishing of

16 Turan, Selçuklular Zamanında Türkiye, 513.
18 A. Astarabadi, Bezm u Rezam, 433; Turan, Resmi Vesikalar, 167.
20 Mentioned by Gıyda Nemeth, H. Namık Orkun, Öğuzlara Dair, Ankara 1935, 35.
21 Father of founder of Hacı Emiroğulları Settlement. Bayramlı, bordered in Ordu, is known as the oldest settlement in the region, and it is thought to get its name from Hacı Emir İbrahim’s father Bayram Bey. For further info. Sümer, Öğuzlar, 327.
22 M.C. Şehabeddin Tekindag, “Trabzon,” İA.
Mongolian rule in 1337, the Turcomen started to move independently and in the words of Ahmed Tevhid “There started to exist as many beys, in every corner in the land and they were not getting close to any status, but “Sultan” and trying to set up their own ruling.”24 We see that some of these attorneys, whom were influenced by the Turkish Seljukian or Mongolian rules, were successful to survive and to set up their own states, in order to continue their political control.25

Establishment of Taceddinoğulları Settlement*

It is seen that, before the main founder of the settlement of Taceddinogullar, who came to be Taceddin Bey, the Niksar area is under control of Emir Doğancık. This area has been assessed by Anatolian general governor Çobanoğlu Timurtaş Noyan to the İlhanlı State.26 Emir Doğancık’s territories lay to the west of Trabzon Empire and to the southeast of territories of Kastamonu governor I. Süleyman (1309?-1340).27

El-Ömeri’s thinking of Emir Doğancık as a substitute of Süleyman Bey (Kastamonu governor), shows his being alive around 1309 and having a large amount of territories. Referring Hüseyin Hüsameddin, a well known historian and writer of History of Amasya (Amasya Tarihi), according to a tomb epigraph, Doğancık is also known as Doğanşah and relying on a historian document of 1257, he takes his genealogy up to Ebu Bekr el-Kemahi, who has no relation with the Seljukians. Also, the grandson of el-Kemahi, Nureddin Alp Arslan’s being sheik and his son, who was called el-Rifaizade Alaeddin Saveci, could reveal that Nureddin Alp Arslan could be a Rifai sheik.28

As a clergy in Niksar, Hüseyin Hüsameddin mentions that he identified two tombs on the way to Danişmend Gazi tomb, and was able to read some epigraph. The date on the epigraph was of 747 (1347) or 749 (1349) and belonged to the grand governor and commander Siraceddin Doğanşah Alp.

The Ottoman Turkish, the word elif-cim, was to be either te-elif-cim or

* Orj. Taceddinoğulları Beyliği
27 El-Ömeri, 33; Yaşar Yücel, 88.
sim-ra-elif-cim, was on the epigraph and was the same as Doğanşah or Doğancık. Also, from Hüsameddin, we see that Doğanşah’s death was either 747 or 749.

Kazım Dilcimen mentions in his article that, “If we are to believe Hüseyin Hüsameddin’s genealogy, then, it could be derived that Doğancık had no relation with Taceddin.” Since the mentioned epigraph did not survive up to today, we do not have the chance to confirm it, but we can set in order some information about Doğancık, who is defined as father of Taceddin, like this:

Sultan Taceddin Altunbaş, who was released in governing by Doğancık (Doğanşah), has struggled with Taşan Bey and Gazi Çelebi and has of strong influence while the Ilhanian state was collapsing at Anatolia.

Doğanşah, has taken side with Emir Timurtaşoğlu Sheikh Hasan and this shows that he was against Eretna Bey. After a while, taking extra forces from Sheikh Hasan, Doğancık moved from Niksar and annexed Eretna Bey’s territory, Amasya and in here, he made Gazi Çelebi, who has fought against him, move back to Simre. Eretna Bey, did not interfere to the attacks, because of the possibility of an uprise of his governors. On the face of this, Eretna Bey, was taken under patronage of Egyptian governor, Melik Nasır, who had expanded his territories up to Malatya and Divriği and achieved to leave Sheikh Hasan stable. Following death of Egyptian governor, Eretna Bey started his independence again and sent Samsun governor Habıbzade Zeyneddin Tuli Bey, to Doğanşah. Arriving to Amasya, Tuli Bey made Doğanşah get away to Niksar (1341). After 5-6 years of this incident, as mentioned earlier,

30 Dilcimen, 31.
31 The son of Anatolian Seljukian Sultan II. Gıyaseddin Mesud (d.1330) and the last Seljukian sultan. For further info. Dilcimen, 46.
32 The founder of Taşanoğulları settlement of Havza, Merzifon and the last emir of Taceddin Altuncaş. For further info. Dilcimen, 55.
33 Son of Mühezebütüddin Mesud Bey (d.1300) of Pervane family. He has become Sinop emir after his father’s death and had achievements in waging sea-wars against Trabzon Greek Empire and Genovians. He has accepted to be subjected to Candarolu Süleyman Bey since he had no successor nad died in 1322. Gazi Çelebi, was thought to be the son of Anatolian Seljukian Sultan II. Gıyaseddin, but was not confirmed. For further info. İsmail Hakki Uzuşçuş, *Anadolu Beylükleri ve Akköyünlu*, Karakoşuyu Devletleri, Ankara 1969, 148.
34 Oğuz, 472.
Doğanşah died in 747 or 749 (1347 or 1349) at Niksar. It is mentioned that following his death, his son Taceddin has taken up the power in 1347.

Up until here, the mentioned Doğanşah may be questioned, since we do not have any confirmation besides Hüseyin Hüsameddin’s book. Most of the books revealing that era make us think that Taceddin Bey was the main founder of the settlement and could be of Seljukian genealogy. More over, it is said that Hacı Emirli Settlement, which occupied an important place in Turkifying Ordu and Giresun region, was established by the Chepnians, and not only this settlement, but Taceddinogullari, Bafra Emirleri and Kabadoğullari, settlements in the east and south of Samsun may have been founded by Chepnians. In another book, it is mentioned that, during “Teavif-i Mülük”, Taceddin and Bayramoğlu Hacı Emir İbrahim Bey have achieved to settle around Samsun and Trabzon, and the founder of these settlements, were of Chepnians, who were settled down by the Anatolian Seljukians in order to ensure security of the borders against Christians in Canik Region.

As referred above, the Chepnians, continued to move forward to Trabzon Komnenos Empire territories and the empire has found the only way to be safe in forming family bonds with Chepnians. In order to protect his territories, III. Alexios (1349-1390) gave his sister and his daughter to the Chepnians. While Theodora was to marry Ordu governor Hacı Emir İbrahim, his daughter Evodokia was to marry Taceddin Bey, who was known as governor of Dschinatines or Tatziatin (Niksar and Kelkit). III. Alexios has left Giresun as a dowry and came to Oeneo to see Taceddin Bey. After invading Evodokia, Taceddin Bey returned to Limnia (today, Terme and

42 Yaşar Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 89.
44 Today known as Üneye.
Çarşamba region) in November 21, 1381. III. Alexios’ visiting Taceddin Bey himself, shows his importance and gratitude, and more over, Trabzon Greek Empire found the best way to stop Turkish invasion by fortifying Trabzon Castle.

**Political and Military Operations of Taceddin Bey**

Taceddin Bey, who dominated over Niksar and around, was called “Canikian” or “Caniti,” regarding the reference of the region, since the borders have almost enlarged up to Amasya, Samsun, Orud, Giresun and Trabzon. At first, it is seen that, Taceddin Bey was subject to Amasya Emir, Hacı Şadgeldi, who has declared autonomy to the Eretnaian State in 1361. Meanwhile, although the Eretnaian State was governed by Alaeddin Ali Bey, it could not be ignored that Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed was getting more dominant. Kadi Burhaneddin was in thought of eliminating Alaeddin Ali Bey, and Amasya Emir hacı Şadgeldi, who was an enclosure to capture the state, Tokat Emir, Sheikh Necib, as well as Niksar Domain Taceddin Bey, who was obliged to be levied to Eretnaian State. In order to accomplish this, first, persuading Alaeddin Ali Bey in 1379 spring, Kadi Burhaneddin has gone on a campaign over Niksar by blocking Taceddin Bey, but the expedition was in no good and Kadi Burhaneddin had rescued arduously, the armament and tablhane from plunder. Also, following the plunder of Niksar, the most reliant troops in the army, attached to the Samagar tribe, did not get a share from the pillage due to Alaeddin Ali Bey; and from this time on, they became hostile to the state.

This campaign enlightens us for another point of view: Following this incident, Taceddin Bey, who was obliged to be levied to Eretnaian State,
started to act independently. He was successful in forcing back the second Eretnaian attack with the help of one of Kadi Burhaneddin’s enemies, Hacı Şâdgdeldi, and Alaeddin Bey, who could not survive from black death, and died on the way.\(^{51}\)

Starting to rule the state, Kadi Burhaneddin’s second plan was to get rid of Hacı Şâdgdeldi and started to get ready for an attack. While Kadi was close to Tokat in an expedition, Hacı Şâdgdeldi was on the way with his allies from Amasya. Setting the headquarters in between Tokat and Danismendiyâye village, Kadi fought off Hacı Şâdgdeldi and defeated him, whereas, Amasya Emir, was killed and the troops including Taceeddin Bey’s arms, was obliged to pull back (1381 Fall).\(^{52}\)

In 1382, Taceeddin Bey’s neighbors were; Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed (1382-1398), who had established a state of his own, after seizing Eretnaian territories in Sivas and Kayseri region; I. Murad (1362-1389) of the Ottoman State, Celalededd Beyazid (1362-1385) of Kastamonu, Mutahharten (1379-1403) of Erzincan, Seyyidi Hüsam\(^{53}\) of Tokat, Amasya Emir’s son Emir Ahmed and Hacı Emir İbrahim of Ordu and Giresun. After Kadi Burhaneddin’s acquiring the Eretnaian state in 1382, and getting aware of the danger, the rest of the Emirs and governors of Anatolia, were engaged in an alliance. First, Taceeddin Bey and Seyyidi Hüsam merged and attacked Akşehir,\(^{54}\) and plundered the region.\(^{55}\) Then, heralding the unrests in Sivas, Seyyidi Hüsam used the advantage and pulling aside Tokat’s wealthy families to his side, he allied with Emir Ahmed and Mongolian bey Nêbi. Also, he encouraged Emir Ahmed, son of Hacı Şâdgdeldi, in order to include Taceeddin and Mutahharten to the alliance.\(^{56}\) Preventing this antagonist action, Kadi Burhaneddin, at first seized Tokat and captured Seyyidi Hüsam, yet when he promised to be excluded from the alliance, he pardoned him and sent him to Pilgrimage. This time, he moved towards Kayseri.\(^{57}\) While Kadi was in Kayseri, he found out

\(^{51}\) Bezm u Resm, 180; Dilcimen, 32.

\(^{52}\) Bezm u Resm, 249; Ali Kemali, Erzincan Tarihi, İstanbul 1932, 72; Dilcimen, 32; İ. H. Uzunçaşılı, “Sivas ve Kayseri Hükûmdarî Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed,” Belleten, XXXII/126, 199; Uzunçaşılı, Anadolu Beyikleri..., 163; Yücel, 57.


\(^{55}\) Öğuz, “Taceeddinoğulları,” 475; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 81.

\(^{56}\) Bezm u Resm, 263-264; Yücel,64.

\(^{57}\) Bezm u Resm, 306; Yücel, 81.
that Siracheddin (he belonged to the reputable family of Kılıç Arslan), who was assigned to annex Koyulhisar,58 achieved to uphold the region and to arrest one of close relatives of Taceddin Bey. Pleased with this, Kadi Burhaneddin assigned him to rule the castle. After some time, Taceddin’s another close relative Mehmed Feyz, came to Kadi and asked release of the prisoner.59 Meanwhile, the Mongolian ruler of Karahisar castle close to Amasya border, Nebi passed away and his brother maintained that he wanted to leave the castle to Kadi. Adding more to his territories with this Mongolian castle, now, Kadi started to rule over a large region of Niksar and Amasya, and was getting to be an endanger.60

These developments have broken Taceddin Bey’s alliance with Amasya Emir Ahmed, provoked by Seyyidi Hüsam. Taceddin Bey, being aware of the increasing power of Kadi Burhaneddin, who has also pulled the neighboring beys and tribes to his side, wanted to suggest an alliance to Kadi. When he was not responded, he became an ally with Emir Ahmed to attack Kadi.

Meanwhile, Kadi continued his moves and aimed to seize Turhal Castle and the whole town and for this, he built a castle facing Turhal. Learning this plan, Taceddin Bey sent a local notable Sheikh Nusret to Kadi and wanted him to be a mediator between them. He wanted Kadi to end the campaign over Amasya, which was ruled by Emir Ahmed and to demolish the castle newly built in Turhal. Taceddin Bey hoped to be a trustworthy to Emir Ahmed.61 But Kadi Burhaneddin rejected him and answered him “Sword would be my response.”

So, up until they got ready for the expedition, Kadi hold Taceddin’s mediator and started to move towards Taceddin Bey’s territories with 5000 armed forces. Heraldng the news, Taceddin Bey wanted help from Emir Ahmed and two allies responded the enemy with 7000 forces. The battle ended with Kadi Burhaneddin’s victory while the rest were dispersed and two commanders had had a narrow escape.

Some time later, this time, Taceddin Bey tried his chance by sending Sheikh Nusret’s son to Kadi. Kadi told him that he could sign an agreement only if Taceddin would not cooperate with Emir Ahmed, one more time.62

58 Located in between Şebin Karahisar and Niksar. For further info. Tihri, Kitab-i Diyarbakriyya, 42.
59 Bezm u Rezm, 314; Dilecimen, 33; Yücel, 83.
60 Bezm u Rezm, 314-318.
61 Taceddin Bey hoped to prevent the common enemy with his ally Emir Ahmed, Ladik Emir Kubadolu Ali Bey. For further info. Dilecimen, Canik Beyleri, 48.
62 Bezm u Rezm, 318; Dilecimen, Canik Beyleri, 34; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 84.
Following this, Taceeddin Bey, himself came to Kadi Burhaneddin and showed him his respect and obedience. Then, with an excuse to bring his sons to his presence, he ran away to Sunisa. Meanwhile, sheltering in the Tural Castle, Emir Ahmed did not know Taceeddin Bey’s unilateral action with Kadi and his running away to Sunisa; on the contrary, he hoped Taceeddin Bey would come back. At that time, Kadi Burhaneddin has returned back to Tokat, after leaving his forces to plunder Emir Ahmed’s assets. (1386 winter). Here, Kadi found out that Taceeddin Bey and Emir Ahmed were about to take precautionary acts by meeting at Sunisa. Kadi was obliged to make a move with his enemies’ plans, so with the help of the local notables in Tokat, he entered Taceeddin Bey’s territory and besieged Niksar, which was protected by Taceeddin Bey’s son, Alp Arslan. As a result of the battle of two forces, in spite of his strength and fighting skills, Alp Arslan could not prevent leaving Niksar plundered by enemy. Following this achievement of Kadi, Taceeddin Bey and Emir Ahmed offered peace agreement and Kadi Burhaneddin, admitting this request, returned to Tokat.

Taceeddin Bey understood he could not enlarge his territory on the face of Kadi Burhaneddin, so he determined his next step as the neighborhood territory, Haci Emiroğlu Settlement. Also, the second reason for choosing this region, was the disorders in the statehood. The founder of the settlement Hacı Emir İbrahim was surviving from a fatal illness, and was planning to bring his son Suleiman Bey, as a successor even if he survived. The notables of the settlement admitted this and took an oath to stay loyal to him. However, surviving from the illness, Hacı Emir İbrahim did not keep his promise and led an unrest, since Suleyman Bey did not want to leave his newly post. With the help of the local notables, Hacı Emir started to struggle with his son.

This was the situation that led Taceeddin Bey move towards the region. Ready for the seizure, Taceeddin Bey made his moves over Ordu and Ünye, but did not get concrete results in both two tries, other than plunder, and he started arrangements for an offensive war. Hereupon, Suleyman Bey of Hacemiroğulları requested help from Kadi Burhaneddin for the domestic uprisings. Kadi accepted the offer, sent his forces and warned Taceeddin Bey, about not to

64 Taceeddin Bey’s son Alp Arslan is described as “strong and brave like a lion, virtuous literature and Arabic lover” in Bezmi u Rezm (pg. 432).
65 Bezmi Rezm, 320-324; Diclemen, 34; Yücel, 85.
66 Bezmi Rezm, 333; Diclemen, Canik Boyleri, 26.
intervene in the state business of Süleyman Bey and his father by a mediator Sheikh Yar Ali. Ali started his journey to Sivas after getting the promise from Taceddin, but on his way to Sivas, he learned that Taceddin Bey and Süleyman Bey waged war, and Taceddin Bey died, while the 500 soldiers were kept as prisoners. 67 (1387)

After Taceddin Bey’s death, Kadi Burhaneddin sent Emir Said to Niksar, and on his way to preparations for annex, the notables of Niksar delivered the city keys to Kadi. While Kadi was in Niksar, Süleyman Bey declared his adherence to his brother. Gaining Niksar without waging a war, Kadi Burhaneddin acquired Taceddin Bey’s İskefser Castle 68 and allowed Süleyman Bey to hold the power. 69 Kadi Burhaneddin has not abstained from entering the territory of the neighboring state, while he had declared Taceddin Bey had broken the law.

Following Taceddin Bey’s death in 1387, his wife, the daughter of III. Alexius Eudokia, whom he married in 1381, returned to his father to Trabzon. While she was there, Byzantine ruler V. Yohannes Paleologos (1379-1390) sent a message that his son II. Manuel Paleologos (1391-1425) would desire to marry her; yet he, himself, would marry her in the following period. 70

**Political and Military Operations in the Post-Taceddin Bey Era of His Sons**

Following their father’s death, Mahmud Çelebi and Süleyman Bey requested Kadi Burhaneddin to levy a charge and to send a troop to their territory up to the condition of getting freed. Kadi, accepting the offer, declared that from now on, the territory of Taceddin Bey was subject to Mahmud Çelebi, also, warned Hacı Emiroğlu Süleyman about not to make an expedition over *Taceddinogulları* Settlement. 71

From 1387 on, with the condition of attached to Kadi Burhaneddin, *Taceddinogulları* Settlement was ruled by the eldest son Mahmud Çelebi.

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67 Bezm u Rezm, 334 vd.; Diclemen, 27; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 90; Mercili, “Taceddinogulları Beyliği,” TDEK, 863; Mercili, Müslüman Türk Devletleri Tarihi, 319.
68 Today in the border of Tokat’s Reşadiye country. Diclemen, 35.
69 Bezm u Rezm, 337; Diclemen, Canik Beyleri, 27-35; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 91.
70 J.P. Fallmenayer, Trabzon Rum İmparatorluğu Tarihi, 195; Diclemen, 34; Oğuz, “Taceddinogulları,” 480.
71 Bezm u Rezm, 337; Diclemen, 35; Oğuz, 447; Yücel, 91; Mercili, “Taceddinogulları Beyliği,” 863; Mercili, Müslüman Türk Devletleri Tarihi, 319.
However, Kastamonu Emir II. Süleyman Bey (1385-1392), was aware of the peril of enlargement of Kadi Burhaneddin’s territories, so he allied with Amasya Emir Ahmed, Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi, Taşanoğulları and Bafra Emirs. Yet, when he was caught by Kadi, he tried to save himself by saying that his aim was to hand over Emir Ahmed to him.\(^{72}\)

Meanwhile, in April 1392, the Ottoman Sultan I. Bayezit (Yıldırım) (1389-1403) was preparing to seize Candaroğulları territory, in Bursa. On this, Kastamonu emir II. Süleyman, offered to be an ally to Kadi and promised not to cooperate with Kadi’s enemies. Kadi accepted his offer after getting this promise, but not sure of his obedience, sent one of his close relatives Mehmet (Feyş) Çelebi-who had been vezir to Amasya Emir Ahmed- to confirm his will. However, Mehmet Çelebi did not fulfill his will and allied with the enemies, Taceddinoğlu Mahmut Çelebi and Candaroğlu II. Süleyman. Moreover, he asked the same to Emir Ahmed, Taşanoğlu and Bafra Emir.\(^{73}\)

Again, Kadi Burhaneddin was confronted by strong enemies. However, the Ottoman annexation over Candaroğlu territories prevented this alliance to fulfill their goal; and II. Süleyman was again, asking Kadi Burhaneddin help.\(^{74}\)

In spite of these, Kadi Burhaneddin thought Ottoman danger to be a common problem, and started arrangements for war. But, while he was on his way to set headquarters in Tavra (Tavere), Yıldırım Bayezid acted faster and waged war with II. Süleyman, whom was killed; and this meant, from this time on, Candaroğulları territory was Ottoman territory (1392).\(^{75}\) With this victory, for the Ottomans, difficulties were eliminated to get to the Northern Anatolia, and this paved the way the capture of Kastamonu, Küre, Osmançık and Samsun. So, getting afraid of this enlargement, Amasya Emir Ahmed allied with the Ottomans in stead of Kadi, along with Taşanoğulları. Following their adherence, Taceddinopulu Mahmut Çelebi would do the same, by sending his brother Kılıç Arslan to Yıldırım Bayezid.\(^{76}\)

All these developments opened the way for a war between Yıldırım and

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\(^{72}\) Bezmi u Rezm, 396-397; Diclemen, Canik Beyleri, 35; Yaşar Yücel, “Kastamonu’nun İlk Fethine Kadar Candaroğulları-Osmanlı Münasebetleri,” 81.

\(^{73}\) Bezmi u Rezm, 396-397; Diclemen, Canik Beyleri, 35; Yaşar Yücel, “Kastamonu’nun İlk Fethine Kadar Candaroğulları-Osmanlı Münasebetleri,” 81.

\(^{74}\) Bezmi u Rezm, 400-401; Diclemen, Canik Beyleri, 481; Yücel, Çobanoğulları-Candaroğulları..., 82-83.

\(^{75}\) Bezmi u Rezm, 402 vd.; Diclemen, 36; Turan, Tarihi Takvimler..., 18; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 113; Yücel, Çobanoğulları-Candaroğulları..., 83.

\(^{76}\) Bezmi u Rezm, 403 vd.; Diclemen, 37; Oğuz, 482; Turan, Tarihi Takvimler..., 18; M. Halil Yımanç, “Bayezid I,” IA.; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 113.
Kadi and two armies waged war at Kırkdilim in Çorumlu region, which ended with the Ottoman defeat (1392). After this defeat, Yıldırım went back to Bursa and turned his face towards Balkan region.

After the withdraw of the Ottomans, Taceddinoğlu Mahmud and his brothers were obliged to turn to Kadi Burhaneddin. Meanwhile, in the beginning of 1393, the leading figure of the Mongolians, Timur was on the way to Anatolia and while Kadi was on this danger, he was once more betrayed by Emir Ahmed, who plundered Tokat’s Zile region. Facing this unpredicted dangers, Kadi decided to give an end and planned an immediate expedition. In a short time, Amasya was taken and Emir Ahmed’s notable beys, even his sister were, taken as prisoners, whereas Emir Ahmed had been able to shelter into the castle. On the other hand, Kadi, either thought of the fierce winter conditions or the Ottoman endanger in the west, left Amasya and returned to Tokat; while following this, Emir Ahmed left his territories to the Ottomans. Meanwhile, Mahmud Çelebi sheltered some of Kadi’s run away forces and getting angry to this, Kadi decided to make an expedition over Mahmud Çelebi, whom has started to cooperate with the Ottomans. In the spring of 1383, he acquired Fenariyye and started to build a castle. Succeeding this, three brothers, Mahmud Çelebi, Alp Arslan and Kılıç Arslan wanted Yıldırım Bayezid’s help, while Kadi, influenced by the Tatarian and Mongolian Emirs, was prepared to seize the most crucial region of the Middle Anatolia, Amasya, for the second time.

Hesitating to wage war with a stronger army of Kadi, Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi sent a delegation to Yıldırım Bayezid, told him that Kadi’s forces were about to get defeated and wanted his arrival as soon as possible. When, Yıldırım gathered his forces and came to Merzifon, Kadi first sheltered into Turhal castle, then went to Tokat and returned to Sivas after a little while. By this, again, Amasya and the rest of the region became the Ottoman territory, and in spite of holding an important region of Ankara, Yıldırım did not think about enlarging his territory with Tokat and Sivas, and went back to Bursa.

In the winter of 1393-1394, Timur was on the way to uphold an

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77 A village between Osmançık and Çorum, which takes its name from a mountain. Further info. Dilcimen, 37.
78 Bezm u Rezm, 405; Uzunçarşılı, “Sivas ve Kayseri Hükümdarları Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed,” 211; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 115-118.
79 No info. was found about this region.
80 Bezm u Rezm, 415-420; Dilcimen, Canik Beyleri, 38; Öğuz, “Taceddinoğulları,” 482; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 115-118.
influence over Taceddinoğulları, Taşanoğulları and Bafra emirs, and was about to seize Erzincan. It could be derived that, despite the common Ottoman danger, Timur saw Kadi Burhaneddin as one of his hardest enemies. When Timur was entering into the Anatolia, Tacaddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi’s forces consisted of 6000 soldiers.81

Timur did not lose much time in Anatolia and after occupying Erzincan to see how strong the enemy forces, he returned to his territory. Kadi Burhaneddin, meanwhile, learned Yıldırım Bayezid was struggling with his enemies in Rumelia, and he started maneuvering. First, he tried to ensure balance of power by taking Taceddinoğulları to his side. For this, he sent Mehmed Çelebi, a misguided decision, but Çelebi, who was a relative of Taceddin Bey, provoked Taceddinoğulları against Kadi. At this time, Alp Arslan from Taceddinoğulları, rebelled against his brother Mahmud Çelebi and this paved the way for the breaking up of the territory into two. While Alp Arslan seized Niksar and Yenişehir82 castle; Mahmud Çelebi, merged with his the other brothers, Kılıç Arslan and Süleyman and attempted an attack. Although previously, we have seen that three brothers moved together on the face of Ottomans, we could not see any trace about Alp Arslan’s obedience to Ottoman State.

Heraldıng about alliance of his brothers, he called out for Kadi Burhaneddin’s help. Finding this convenient opportunity, by an excuse of sending aid, Kadi entered to the Niksar region. Up on this, Alp Arslan told Kadi that his brother Mahmud withdrew from the region and was on his way to declare his dependency to Kadi, so there was no need for his forward move. Kadi accommodated close to Niksar and waited for Alp Arslan, but moved forward when he did not yet arrive. Alp Arslan came to his presence a little while later and declared his obedience to Kadi and told about his elder brother Mahmud Çelebi’s hostility. Completing the task, Kadi Burhaneddin returned to his territory and for the next task, moved to Canik region. There, he started to build a castle. Facing this reputable enemy, Turcomen beys and emirs decided to cooperate against this common enemy. The alliance, as formerly, was consisted of Emir Seviç, Taceddinoğlu Mamud Çelebi and Haci Emiroğlu Süleyman Bey. However, this did not last long and each ally become

81 Bezmi’l-Resm, 448-449; Yücel, 121-122.
82 No info. was found about the location of the castle.
responsible from his own region. In 1397, Hacı Emiroğlu Süleyman moved with 12,000 forces towards Trabzon Greek Empire, seized the entire Giresun and opened the region to Turk settlements. Breaking up with his allies, Hacı Emiroğlu Süleyman Bey sent his brother to Kadi Burhaneddin and declared his obedience, by offering one of his relatives to marry Kadi. So, Emir Süleyman was again dependent on Kadi, although Eretna Bey’s nephew and the ruler of Develi Castle (Karахisar), Feridun, was opt to provoke him against Kadi.

After a while, Kadi acquired Maden Castle from Ottomans, then he came to Niksar to punish Tackedinoğlu Mahmud Celebi, whom had allied against him, with Emir Sevinc and Emir Süleyman. Here, he rewarded Alp Arslan with precious gifts. But, this time, the ruler of Develi, Feridun pulled him to his side and attempted to poison Kadi. Kadi has heralded the plan beforehand from his sister’s son and ruler of Kayseri Sheikh Mueyyed. Moreover, in stead of removing from the scene, Feridun sent two falcons as gifts to both Alp Arslan and Kadi, but with one difference: the best kind to Alp Arslan, the worst one to Kadi, meaning the value of the ruler was worth of it. Kadi, in the end, caught both Feridun and Alp Arslan and imprisoned the first to Niksar Castle and thought to free Alp Arslan up on to the condition of getting Yenisehir Castle. So, he went to the castle and wanted castle community to hand it over to him and when they did not accept, he killed Alp Arslan himself (1394). In the following period, happy to eliminate one of his enemies, Kadi Burhaneddin always told this incident to menace his enemies.

Tackedinoğlu Alp Arslan had two sons called Hüsameddin Hasan and Hüsameddin Mehmed Yuvuz. They have abandoned their territories after his father was killed for the north and continued to rule over Çarşamba, Termel and Samsun.

83 I.H. Uzunçarşılı, Kitabeleri, 27; Bezm u Rezm, 432 vd; Dîlcîmen, Canik Beyleri, 38-39; Oğuz, “Tackedinoğullari,” 483; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 136; Merçil, Tackedinoğulları Beyliği, 863; Merçil, Müslüman Türk Devletleri Tarihi, 320.
84 J.P. Palermayer, Trabzon Rum İmparatorluğu Tarihi, 209; Bezm u Rezm, 529; Sümer, Oğuzlar..., 328.
85 Known as Yeşilhisar today, lies in Kayseri. Besim Darkot, “Karahisar,” İA.
86 Bezm u Rezm, 444; Dîlcîmen, Canik Beyleri, 40; Oğuz, “Tackedinoğulları,” 484, Uzunçarşılı, “Sivas ve Kayseri Hükûmdarı Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed,” 212; Uzunçarşılı, Anadolu Beylükleri, 153; Yücel, Kadi Burhaneddin Ahmed ve Devleti, 137; Merçil, “Tackedinoğulları Beyliği,” 86; Merçil, Müslüman Türk Devletleri Tarihi, 320.
87 Bezm u Rezm, 465; Dîlcîmen, 40; Oğuz, 484.
88 Uzunçarşılı, Kitabeler I, 27; Dîlcîmen, 40; Oğuz, 484; Uzunçarşılı, Anadolu Beylükleri, 154; Merçil, “Tackedinoğulları Beyliği,” 863; Merçil, Müslüman Türk Devletleri Tarihi, 320.
Kadı Burhaneddin built a castle close to Yenişehir Castle and located an army. Heralding this, Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi attacked Kadı, but failed, and continued his attacks as guerrilla movements. At this time, Kadı returned to Niksar and get rid of his other enemy, Feridun in 1394 spring. But beginning from 1398, he was disrupted by the Ottoman Sultan, Yıldırım Bayezid, whom has acquired the Muslim Samsun and gave it to Bulgarian prince Alexandr Şişman, that has converted to Islam. 89 Supporting this, Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi and Hacı Emiroğlu Süleyman as well as Taşağoğulları, recognized Ottomans. When after a short while in 1398, Kadı Burhaneddin Ahmed was killed by Akkoyunlu ruler Karayülük Osman in Karabel, 90 the territories were left to the Ottomans 91 and it was the same year that Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi declared his obedience and the Ottoman territories were one more time, enlarged. (1398) 92

The resources we used of Dilçimen and Oğuz, do not refer Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi’s subordination to the Ottomans, whereas Uzunçarşılı mentions in the first volume of his Osmanlı Tarihi that Taceddinoğulları Mahmud and Alp Arslan, as well as rulers of Ordu, Giresun and Bafrá have become domain of Ottoman State, when Canik and Muslim Samsun were captured in 1398 by Yıldırım.

However, as mentioned above, Taceddinoğlu Alp Arslan had been killed by Kadı Burhaneddin in 1394 in front of Yenişehir castle, so it is debatable. The territories of two brothers around Niksar, were left to Kadı Burhaneddin in 1394, and Mahmud Çelebi has abandoned the territories, while Termе and Çarşamba were dominated by neither Alp Arslan’s sons Hüsameddin Hasan nor Mehmed Yavuz Bey.

As referred earlier, we are not informed about Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi’s situation after his being under the rule of the Ottomans, although his name was not referred in the sources, it is possible that Mahmud Çelebi fought against the Mongolians of Timur in 1402, Ankara War, with the Ottomans. Following the defeat of the Ottomans, he must have sided with one of Çelebi Mehmet’s sons, 13 year-old son, Şehzade Mustafa, whom has run away to Karamanoğlu after his brother II. Murad (1404-1451) got to the throne.

91 Dilcimen, Canik Boyleri, 41; M.H. Yınanç, “I. Bayezid,” II; Oğuz, 484; Yücel, 138.
92 Uzunçarşılı, Anadolu Beylikleri, 153; Merçil, “Taceddinoğulları Beyliği,” 863; Merçil, Müslüman Türk Devletleri Tarihi, 320.
Karamanoğlu, using the advantage of the power struggle, provoked Şehzade Mustafa against II. Murad and with the help of neighboring settlement Germiyan, ensured an army. Şehzade Mustafa, in the end, has insurred against his brother and in this uprising, Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi is seen on the side of Şehzade.93

When Şehzade Mustafa came to Bursa, the local notables Hoşkadam and Ahî Yakub presented precious carpets as gifts, and stated that although Mustafa had right to rule over, they had declared their obedience to II. Murad, so they could not hand over Bursa to him. Facing this, Mustafa moved to İznik and when arrived to Iznik Castle, his brother II. Murad moved immediately from Edirne and told the ruler of the Castle Ali Bey to hand over castle to Mustafa. Also, he sent news to Mustafa’s vezir Şarabdar Ilyas to keep him busy, until he comes, compensated by a promise of Anatolian rule. Obeying Murad’s order, Ilyas tried to keep him busy with number of entertainments, which failed Mustafa, but not Mahmud Çelebi. Understanding something would about to occur, Mahmud tried to persuade Mustafa to go back to Karaman, but could not achieve. At this time, Murad’s forces made an immediate descent to the castle, and caught Mustafa, whom was tried to be escaped by Mahmud Çelebi. Taceddinoğlu Mahmud Çelebi fought bravely in the struggle with Mihaloğlu Mehmed, whereas Şarabdar Ilyas caught Mustafa and gave him in to Murad. At the end, Mustafa was hung in front of Iznik Castle and Taceddinoğlu Mahmud was killed by relatives of Mihaloğlu Mehmed in 1423.94

The End of Taceddinoğulları Settlement

It was maintained that Muslim Samsun was seized by the Ottomans in 1398, but following the Ankara war defeat of Ottomans, it was recaptured by the ruler Kubadoğlu Cüneyd. Meanwhile, Timur handed over the territories abandoned by the emirs and beys in Anatolia, whom have started to enlarge their influence using the advantage of fall of Ottoman state in Anatolia. Alp

93 Uzunçarşı, Anadolu Beylikleri…, 153; Merçil, “Taceddinoğullan Beyliği,” 863; Merçil, Müslüman Türk Devletleri Tarihi, 320.
Arslan Bey’s Hüsameddin Hasan was one of them that started to rule over in some regions in Anatolia after 1402.

Some Ottoman historians referred Alp Arslan’s son Hasan Bey as Hûseyin Bey, by mistake.⁹⁵ However, Uzunçarşılı mentions that regarding the vakifs (endowment) in Çarşamba and the mosque taking his name dating 827 (1423-1424), proves that Hasan Bey was the son. In these writings belonging to the vakif mosque, it is written:

“Noble, peace-keeper, man of justice, source of generosity, successor of a powerful state Hasan Bey, Alp Arslan’s son, and grand-son of Emir Taceddin Bey.”

Again transcribed by Uzunçarşılı in Yavuz Evliya vakif, dating 827 (1423-1424):

“Successor of powerful state and holly religion Muhammed Yavuz Bey, son of Emir Alp Arslan and grand-son of Emir Taceddin Bey.”

Following 1402, Alp Arslan’s son Hasan Bey allied with neighboring Candaroğlu İsfendiyar Bey (1392-1439) and moved together to get Samsun from Kubadoğlu Cüneyd. While Hasan Bey was able to capture Çarşamba, İsfendiyar Bey called out his son in order to capture Bafra and Muslim Samsun. Yet, Ottoman Sultan Çelebi Mehmet moved faster and sending Biçeroğlu Hamza Bey, was able to capture Christian and Muslim Samsun, respectively in 1418. Successor of Tacettinoğulları Hasan Bey and his brother Mehmet Yavuz Bey continued to rule over their territories up until II. Murat era.⁹⁶

While II. Murad was şehzade in Amasya, he appointed his vezir Yörguç Pasha to rule over Sivas, Tokat, Amasya and Çorum. His first struggle was against Kızıl-Koca Turcomen tribe, since they disrupted the peace by uprisings and raids to the villages. Herading their presence with 400 forces in Niksar, Yörguç Pasha sent a letter as if the Sultan was saying: “My will is to get Canik from Alp Arslan’s son Hasan and hand it over to the Ottomans. Meet with my vezir Yörguç Pasha and wage war against Hasan, at the end you are allowed...

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to get Artukova. 97 Willing to take part in the plan, Kızıl-Koca tribe first declared to obey the orders, but then planned to kill Yörüğün Paşa. Pasha learning about the assassination plan, sent his son Hızır Bey to Merzifon and wanted him to say that his father would not be able to take part in the attack because of his illness and Hasan would be responsible. The tribe was welcomed and accommodated by Hızır Bey nicely in Amasya, but Yörüğün Paşa took his revenge sadly, when kept them into a cave and suffocated them to menace the rest of the tribes that were busy with raiding. 98

Yörüğün Paşa was in thought of getting Canik region and handing it over to the Ottomans. In order to fulfill his goal, he invited Hasan Bey to a wedding dinner in 831 (1427-1428), but not trusting his sincerity, Hasan Bey sent a message saying: “If your aim is to gain some territories of mine, the consent belongs to the Ottoman Sultan. If he desires, I would be able to find peace under Ottoman rule.” Getting the message, Yörüğün Paşa started to make arrangements for an expedition to Canik, but again Hasan Bey sent a message: “I have had no opposition to the Ottoman rule, if it is your will to get my territories, I shall be happy to hand them over and show my deep respect to the Sultan.” After this message, Hasan Bey came to visit Yörüğün Paşa along with his family and delivered the symbolic key of his territories. But, Yörüğün Paşa sent him to Bursa to be imprisoned and kept his family in Amasya. Hasan Bey, running away from the castle he was hold in Bursa, for two years, wandered around and understanding he could not gain his territory, went directly to Sultan II. Murad asking his consent. II. Murad appointed him to a village in Rumelia and sent his family from Amasya. (1427). By this way, Alp Arslan’s son Hasan Bey’s territories were included in the Ottoman borders. 99

In his book Amasya Tarihi of 1927, Hüseyin Hüsameddin was the first historian to refer the Rumelian village that Hasan was appointed as Gümülcine, but not supported this with any reference (vol.31,p.202). Following the same path, in his book Osmanlı Tarihi, Uzunçarşılı mentioned the same, whereas the editors of Neşri’s Kitab-ı Cihan-Nüma, F. Reşit Unat and M. A. Köymen refers the same, even though it is not mentioned in the

97 Today called Artova, in Tokat.
98 Hammer, 185; Uzunçarşılı, Kitabeler I., 25-26; Diclemen, 43; Neşri Tarihi, 592-598; Aşkpaşaoğlu Tarihi, 118-120; Tacii-Tevarih, 158-160; Gökbulgın, 85-86; Mıneccinbaşi Tarihi, vol.1, 210-211.
99 Hammer, 186; Uzunçarşılı, Kitabeler.I,27; Diclemen, 43-44; Oğuz, 486; Neşri Tarihi, 600-602; Uzunçarşılı, Osmanlı Tarihi, vol.1,405-406; Aşkpaşaoğlu Tarihi, 121; Tacii’Tevarih, 161-164; Merçil, “Taceddinoğulları Beyliği,” vol.1, 213; Merçil, Müslüman Türk Devletleri Tarihi,320.
original. Dilcimen and Öğuz do not refer Gümülcine, whereas in his *Osmanlı Mîesseseleri Teşkilâtı ve Medeniyeti Tarihine Genel Bakış*, T. Gökbilgin mentions it is possible to be Çirmen. Since we do not encounter any specific year and location, we are not very well informed about where Hasan was assigned.

On the other hand, in Dilcimen’s *Canik Beyleri*, without showing a reference, it is mentioned that Alp Arslan’s other son Hüsameddin Mehmed Yavuz has died before Hasan Bey (pg.42). Bearing in mind this, it should not be ignored that after the conquest of İstanbul, Trabzon Greek Emperor IV. Kalo Ioannes’ territories have been seized by Safevi *Sheikh cúneyd* in 1454 and Taceddinoğlu Mehmed Bey was referred to be included in his company. It could be guessed that *Sheikh cúneyd* aimed to establish a state in Trabzon and having this in mind, he visited Canik and Niksar and met Taceddinoğlu Mehmed Bey. Allying with Mehmed, Sheikh cúneyd planned to attack Kali Ioannes. At first, Kali Ioannes arrived to Aya Fokas Manastır with his forces, whereas cúneyd set up his headquarters in Meliares and closed the Kapanion strait. Ioannes ordered both his land and sea forces to surround the land and at the end of a hardly fought war, with the help of the heavy weather condition, Emperor’s forces were defeated and were captured as prisoners.

Proceeding this, *Sheikh cúneyd* reached up until to Trabzon castle, set up his headquarters in today’s İmaret Mosque region, plundered the west of Trabzon for three days, yet did not success to hold the whole city (1454) and returned back to Kelkit. Another reason for his giving up was the appointment of Hızır Bey of Sivas by Fatih Sultan Mehmet in order to keep Kalo Ioannes safe.

Taceddinoğlu Mehmet Bey, whom has accompanied Sheikh cúneyd in the expeditions, should be Alp Arslan’s son Mehmed Yavuz Bey. Up to then, no sources are found regarding the fate of Mehmed Bey and Taceddinoğulları.

100 M.C. Şehabeddin Tekindağ, “Trabzon,” İA.
101 Today referred as Açıkkale. The remnants could be seen M. Bişikyan, 40.
102 It must be one of the districts of Vakfikebir region, in the west of Trabzon.
103 It should be the narrow gate in between Vakfikebir and Açıkkabaat.
104 The district takes its name from Yavuz Sultan Selim’s mother Gübhabar Hatun today.