VISUALIZING HISTORY IN TATAVLA:
INSIGHTS FROM OTTOMAN CENSUS RECORDS (1838 - 1858)

This study analyzed a combined dataset on **Greek Orthodox communities** in **Tatavla**, a historic neighborhood in Istanbul, Türkiye. The dataset includes **8,989 Ottoman census records (defter 248 + defter 73)** from **1838-1858**. It provide information on **places of origin, professions**, **tax status**, **names**, **physical features**, and **illnesses**. The data contain some gaps. To address these gaps, a semi-automated and manual cleaning process was performed, including deleting **empty rows**, deleting **special characters**, and adjusting **data formats**. Only one value was retained in cases of double values in the records. After the cleaning process, **frequency** and **bivariate** analyses were performed and visualization are showed below.

This study is part of **İstanПόλις Collaborative's** **Ottoman Census Registers project** at **UC Berkeley**.

Places of Origin — 1

Top five places of origin

Kalkandelen (526), Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Asitane (3,558), Manastir (309), Ohri (1,162), Greece, Sakiz (196), Türkiye
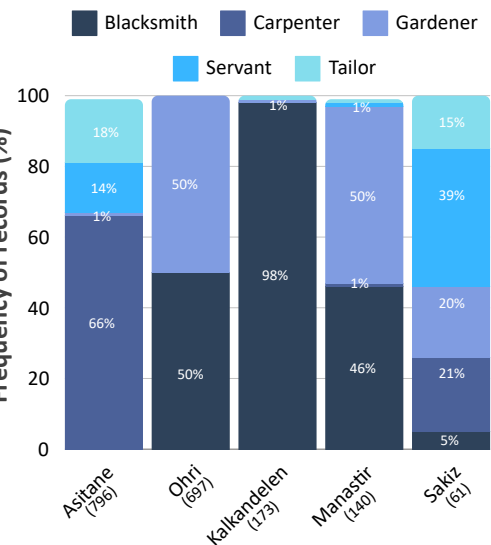
8,989 records in defters

341 different places of origin.

The most common **places of origin** are **Asitane** and **Ohri**.

Asitane is currently known as **Istanbul**. Kalkandelen (Tetovo), Manastir (Bitola), Sakiz (Chios).

Professions — 2

Top five professions by top five places of origin

Blacksmith, Carpenter, Gardener, Servant, Tailor

Asitane (758): Carpenter 66%, Blacksmith 1%, Gardener 14%, Tailor 18%
Ohri (697): Blacksmith 50%, Servant 50%
Kalkandelen (173): Blacksmith 98%, 1%
Manastir (140): Blacksmith 46%, Carpenter 1%, Servant 1%, Gardener 50%
Sakiz (61): Blacksmith 5%, Carpenter 21%, Gardener 20%, Servant 39%, Tailor 15%

Percentages were calculated using a subset including **top five profession** and **top five places of origin** (1,867 records).
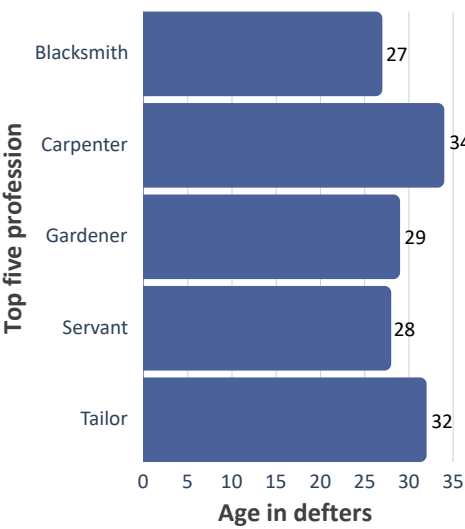
403 different professions.

98% of those from **Kalkandelen** were **blacksmiths**.

The average age of **blacksmiths** was **27** years old.

Average age of people by top five professions in defters

Blacksmith 27, Carpenter 34, Gardener 29, Servant 28, Tailor 32

Most people were **blacksmith** (Demirsi) and the **average age** for that profession was **27** years old.

Tax Status — 3

Tax Status by top five places of origin

Tax Status: Low, Middle, High

Asitane (1293): Low 12%, Middle 48%, High 40%
Ohri (607): Low 5%, Middle 85%, High 10%
Kalkandelen (356): Low 19%, Middle 78%, High 2%
Manastir (204): Low 8%, Middle 81%, High 10%
Sakiz (119): Low 11%, Middle 52%, High 37%

Percentages were calculated using a subset including **tax status** and **top five places of origin** (2,579 records).
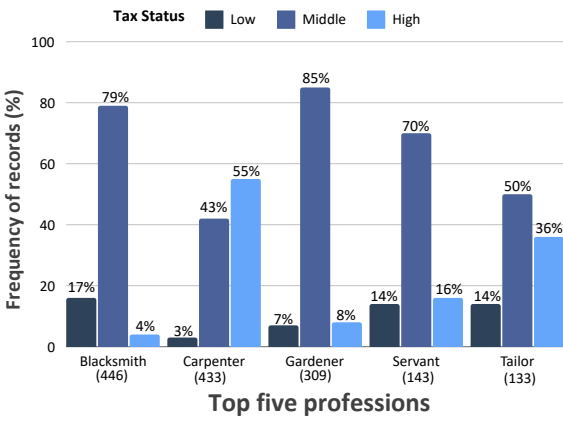
Tax status (cizye) means a fee imposed to non-Muslims for providing protection.

High tax status was more common in **Asitane** and **Sakiz**.

Most of the **carpeters** were **hight** tax status.

Tax status by top five professions

Tax Status: Low, Middle, High

Blacksmith (446): Low 17%, Middle 79%, High 4%
Carpenter (433): Low 3%, Middle 43%, High 55%
Gardener (309): Low 7%, Middle 85%, High 8%
Servant (143): Low 14%, Middle 70%, High 16%
Tailor (133): Low 14%, Middle 50%, High 36%

Percentages were calculated using a subset including **tax status** and **top five professions** (1,464 records).

Physical Features — 4

Mustache characteristic by top five places of origin

Kalkandelen (394 defters) (46% Brown mustache), Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Asitane (1531 defters) (32% Brown mustache), Manastir (225 defters) (36% Blond mustache), Ohri (923 defters) (43% Brown mustache), Greece, Sakiz (141 defters) (35% Gray mustache), Türkiye

Percentages were calculated using a subset including **top five physical features** and **top five places of origin** (3,214 records).
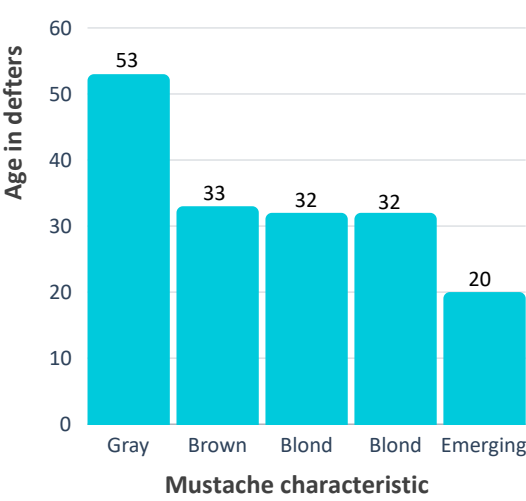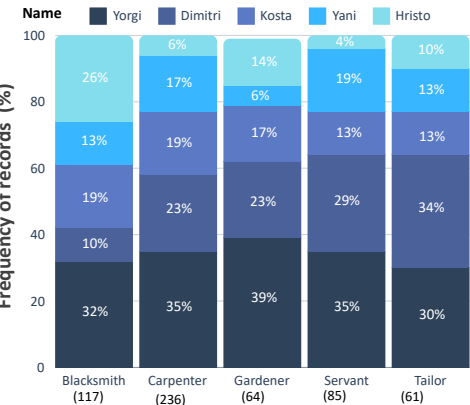
Blond mustache was common in **Manastir**.

The **average age** of people with **gray mustache** was **53** years old.

Average Age by top five physical features

Gray 53, Brown 33, Blond 32, Blond 32, Emerging 20

Names — 5

Most common names in defters

Name: Yorgi, Dimitri, Kosta, Yani, Hristo

Blacksmith (117): Yorgi 32%, Dimitri 10%, Kosta 19%, Yani 13%, Hristo 26%
Carpenter (236): Yorgi 35%, Dimitri 23%, Kosta 19%, Yani 17%, Hristo 6%
Gardener (64): Yorgi 39%, Dimitri 23%, Kosta 17%, Yani 6%, Hristo 14%
Servant (85): Yorgi 35%, Dimitri 29%, Kosta 13%, Yani 19%, Hristo 4%
Tailor (61): Yorgi 30%, Dimitri 34%, Kosta 13%, Yani 13%, Hristo 10%

Percentages were calculated using a subset including **top five names** and **top five professions** (563 records).
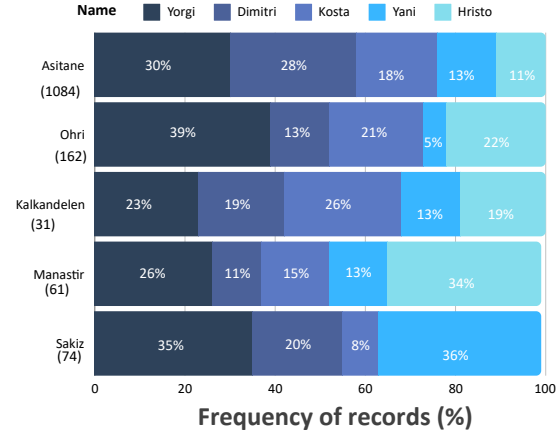
1,096 different names.

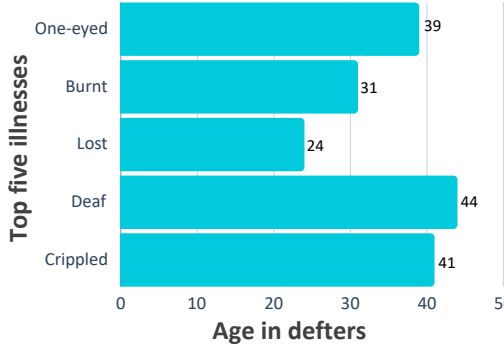**Yani** was more common among **carpenters** and **servants**.

Yorgi was more common in Ohri, while **Yani** was more common in **Sakiz**.

Common names by top five places of origin

Name: Yorgi, Dimitri, Kosta, Yani, Hristo

Asitane (1084): Yorgi 30%, Dimitri 28%, Kosta 18%, Yani 13%, Hristo 11%
Ohri (162): Yorgi 39%, Dimitri 13%, Kosta 21%, Yani 5%, Hristo 22%
Kalkandelen (31): Yorgi 23%, Dimitri 19%, Kosta 26%, Yani 13%, Hristo 19%
Manastir (61): Yorgi 26%, Dimitri 11%, Kosta 15%, Yani 13%, Hristo 34%
Sakiz (74): Yorgi 35%, Dimitri 20%, Kosta 8%, Yani 36%

Percentages were calculated using a subset including **top five names** and **top five places of origin** (1,412 records).

Others — 6

Average age by top five illnesses

One-eyed 39, Burnt 31, Lost 24, Deaf 44, Crippled 41

Out of **8,989** defters, only **209** contained illness information.

7 different illnesses in defters.

Lost (Zayi) may refer to **loss of a limb**.

579 newborns. **95%** of them from Asitane and **5%** did not have information.