**Conscription and Labor in the Ottoman Imperial Arsenal in the 19th Century (Tentative Title)**

This paper will focus on the conscripts who were employed in the Ottoman Imperial Naval Arsenal (Tersane-i Amire) as part of labor-industrial battalions in the nineteenth century. The Imperial Arsenal, located on the Golden Horn in Istanbul, underwent an ambitious process of industrialization and mechanization especially throughout the mid-nineteenth century, when many factories and workshops were established and the existing ones were mechanized. This process was accompanied by efforts to restructure and reorganize the state structure and state-society relations, symbolized by the Tanzimat Edict of 1839. One of the most significant reforms in this regard was the introduction of regular conscription for the Ottoman army and the navy. The conscription system was gradually introduced in the Ottoman Empire beginning with the 1830s, and was fully implemented in 1846. This paper will mainly analyze how the Ottoman government attempted to introduce naval conscripts (especially non-Muslim soldiers) as an alternative to the civilian labor force in the Arsenal. Although the government failed to entirely militarize the labor force due to various reasons, thousands of conscripts worked in these factories and workshops throughout the century, side by side with their civilian counterparts. A main goal of this paper is to understand the historical formation of this duality between civilian and military labor in the Arsenal within the context of transformation processes that marked the nineteenth century. In addition to this, the paper will also present details about conscripts` wages, places of origin, ethno-religious profiles, and labor processes in the Arsenal, based on archival documents located in the state archives in Istanbul. This paper is part of an ongoing dissertation research on the labor history of the Imperial Arsenal in the nineteenth century.