

THE EMPLOYMENT OF POLISH REFUGEES DURING THE REIGN OF ABDULHAMID II*

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ABSTRACT

In the second half of the 18th century, Poland was shared three times in gradually by its neighbours Russia, Prussia and Austria. After sharing, thousands of Polish people migrated to different places or were been banished. In this process the Ottoman Empire was the country which embraced Polish exiles and refugees heavily. During the 19th century many Polish people settled in the Ottoman lands, mainly in the cities of Rumelia and Balkans and continued their lives here as the Ottoman subjects.

The Ottoman Empire employed these refugees who converted to the Islam sometimes, mainly in the military and administrative areas due to events in the Balkans. It was possible to see the Polish refugees as a soldier, a doctor, an engineer or a craft with changed names and religion in different regions of the Ottoman Empire. In this study, it has been examined that how Polish refugees were employed and then how they were involved in social life of the Ottoman Empire in the period of Abdulhamid II.

Keywords: Polish Refugees, Abdulhamid II, Employment

* Makalenin Geliş Tarihi: 10.01. 2016 Kabul Tarihi: 09.01.2017

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II. ABDÜLHAMİD DÖNEMİNDE LEHLİ MÜLTECİLERİN İSTİHDAMI

ÖZ

Lehistan, 18. yüzyılın ikinci yarısında komşuları Rusya, Prusya ve Avusturya tarafından aşamalı olarak üç defa paylaşılmıştır. Paylaşım sonrası binlerce Lehli farklı yerlere ya göç etmiş ya da sürgün edilmiştir. Bu süreçte Osmanlı Devleti, Leh sürgünlerine ve mültecilerine yoğun olarak kucak açan ülke olmuştur. Pek çok Lehli 19. yüzyıl boyunca, Osmanlı topraklarına yerleşmiş ve buralarda Osmanlı tebaası olarak yaşamlarını devam ettirmişlerdir.

Osmanlı Devleti, kimi zaman din değiştirip Müslüman olan bu mültecileri himaye edip koruyarak bazen orduda bazen de devletin yüksek kademelerinde istihdam etmiştir. Polonyalı mültecileri din ve isimlerini değiştirmiş halleriyle asker, doktor, mühendis veya bir zanaat erbabı olarak görmek mümkündür. Bu çalışmada II. Abdülhamid döneminde Lehli mültecilerin ne şekilde istihdam edildikleri ve daha sonra Osmanlı'nın sosyal hayatına nasıl dahil edildikleri incelenmiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Lehli Mülteci, II. Abdülhamid, İstihdam

INTRODUCTION

Poland was shared in stages between 1772-1795 years by Russia, Prussia and Austria and was disappeared completely from the map of Europe. This situation of Poland ceased its existence as a political entity after partition, was never accepted by the Ottoman Empire and was treated as if there was an independent Poland in all official ceremonies. In line with this statement a rumor emphasized that idea in Poland history, was told by. Sultan always got assigned a free place in which hosted the foreign diplomats and said "Lehistan ambassador is on his way, but he is late due to difficulties on the way." With this attitude, Sultan emphasized the sympathy of Ottoman Empire for Poland (Reychman, 1964, s. 18).

After the last partition some Polishes who were discontented with the reign of the occupying states, migrated to other countries as in previous periods. The Ottoman Empire received the migrations with open arms and granted to the migrants the settlement right in the Ottoman lands (Kanat, 2011, s. 85). And the Polishes remained in their country, launched a major uprising in 1830 against the Russian government established in Poland. But when the uprising was suppressed bloodily by the Russians, a large wave of migration began again. A large part of those who migrated mainly in France spread to several European cities. Some of those who failed in the uprising took refuge in the Ottoman Empire and continued to struggle here against the occupying states.

In Europe between 1815 and 1830 years, the political, social, economic and cultural developments, strengthening further in 1848, created a new environment and the Revolutions of 1848 that deeply affected the whole continent broke out (Uçarol, 2006, s.122). Austria which was not able to cope with the uprising broke out in Hungary under the influence of revolutions, requested help from Russia thereupon Russia which was also discomfort with the actions of revolution began in Memleketeyn (Wallachia and Moldovia), suppressed the uprising bloodily by sending an army to the Hungary. After the suppression of the uprising, Hungarian and Polish revolutionaries who helped them began to take refuge in the Ottoman Empire. The seeking back of those who took refuge by Russia and Austria, destroyed the relationship between the Ottoman Empire and these two states, and this led to the emergence of the "Problem of Refugees" which was a new political problem (Uçarol, 2006, s. 191).

First favour of the Ottoman Empire on the issue of refugees started with opening its doors to the refugees (Güngörmüş, 1999, s. 132). Later, an opportunity was given to refugees to settle in this land and gain status of subject by the conversion of some and incorporate the social structure of the Ottoman Empire in certain circles. This warm approach of the Ottoman Empire to refugees, its defense of freedom and human rights of refugees had a wide repercussions in countries like England, France and America, and these countries sympathized with the Ottoman Empire because of this attitude (Nazır, 2002, s. 823).

Refugees settled in were been employed according to their professions and fields of expertise and fulfilled their service here. They were employed in such professions like soldiers, doctors, pharmacists, engineers, mechanics, surveyors, professors, chemists and also such crafts like coachman, millers, barbers, tailors, barista, the master builder, carpenter, firemen (Gümüş, 2007, s.52). Refugees who were employed mainly in the military field with various ranks, made very important achievements. Besides that they were occasionally seen as idea men.

One of the refugees Jozef Bem (Murat Pasha) who was hero of both Poland and Hungary, came to Aleppo after the Revolutions of 1848 and played an active role for the establishment of refinery and gunpowder factory here. Michał Czaykowski changing his name as Mehmed Sadik, migrated to the Ottoman Empire promoted to the rank of pasha and served as commander of the Sultan's Cossack Troops. Again Władysław Kościelski, as Sefer Pasha, served as the mihmandar (the official host) in the Ottoman palace. Antoni Ilinski as İskender Pasha, Zygmunt Freund as Mahmut Hamdi Pasha, Seweryn Belinski as Nihad Pasha promoted to the rank of pasha thanks to the their efficient works. Feliks Breanski (Sahin Pasha) and Ludwik Bystr-

zonowski (Arslan Pasha) served in the army in the Crimean War in 1853. Also a name among the refugees who made important contributions in the sense of intellectual and structural, was Konstanty Borzecki as Mustafa Celaleddin Pasha (Latka, 1987, s. 13). The book (Les Turcs Ancient et Modernes) written by Celaleddin Pasha, contributed to the Ottoman-Turkish intellectual transformation, took part among the first major sources about Turkish nationalism.

The Ottoman Empire claimed the refugees and watched over them with a great determination despite the all threats coming from (Baykal, 1985, s. 255). Those who were placed and employed, continued to live here as Ottoman subjects for generations. The refugees came to Ottoman Empire after the Revolutions of 1830 and 1848, represent the first generation. In that study, it has been examined that where the second generation of Polish refugees were employed and how they were articulated to the Ottoman society compared to the pioneers during the reign of Abdulhamid II.

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The Ottoman Empire didn't track a method of plucking the people who were dominated, from their settlements and forcing them to migrate to the other countries as it was in western countries. On the contrary, it was a country that the Muslim-nonMuslim people who hadn't endure to the pressure in other countries, migrated to.

The migration is not only a simple affair consisting of migration of an individual or community from one place to the another place and settling there. Migration is a various and difficult affair which has social, political, financial, administrative, legal, economic cultural and many other aspects for a nation or state. Nevertheless, the Ottoman Empire welcomed even the Jews fleeing from persecution in Spain in 15th century and gained a considerable experience about that affair. As a result of the changing borders and policies by the 19th century, mass migrations started and reached a large size especially after the revolutions. To carry out these migrations more coordinated way, the Ottoman Empire established a migration commission in 1860 and made policies for their settlement (Erkan, 1996, ss. 89-90).

While there was only one commission till the Ottoman-Russian War between 1877-1878 years, more than one commission was created after 1877 (Erkan, 1996: 98). The Sultan of this period Abdulhamid II was interested in migrants very closely like his predecessors and claimed, preserved them through these commissions. Because the Sultan thought that the Muslim-nonMuslim

migrants would increase the population of Anatolia and Rumelia declining in the wars. Thus masses of migrants including refugees coming from Poland converted and settled in the Ottoman Empire, again led to an increase of the density of population in Anatolia (Orat and others, 2011, s. 21).

It would not be wrong to connect the close attention of the Ottoman Empire on the migrants to the population growth as well as the labor force in the social and bureaucratic life and military needs of army. Because, especially among the Polish refugees there were commanders coming to important tasks and making great success in the army, diplomats, doctors, executives and people belonging to different occupational groups.

One of them was Seweryn Belinski who got Nihad name after converting to Islam. Nihad Pasha received a high-quality and good education like other soldiers who took refuge in the Ottoman Empire and came to important positions due to his domination in English, French, German, Polish and Latin language. Nihad Pasha whose first task had been officer, worked in the Ministry of Public Works and Haydarpasha Railway Directorate and then served in border correction in Batumi and Anatolia as representative of the state.

As known, after the Ottoman-Russian War (1877-1878) treaties of Ayestafanos and Berlin were signed, in accordance with these treaties it was decided to establish a commissioner in Bulgaria (Uçarol, 2006, ss. 352-353). Thereupon, the Ottoman Empire started to needed works to send there a commissioner with his attendants. For it was needed to be sensitive about the issue of commissioner, the Sultan Abdulhamid II was directly interested in. This task was first given to Pertev Efendi, then Nihad Pasha located in Batumi was brought to Istanbul to be appointed for this task. The cause of his appointment which Abdulhamid personally dealt with, was his qualities that he had. Because he had domination over more than one foreign language and was also a quite experienced name for the jobs of government. Therefore, for a period of about six years he was the first person who stayed longest at this task (Gümüş, 2007, ss. 64-68).

Also another name from the refugees who were in the important tasks, was Wladyslaw Czajkowski named as Muzaffer after converting to Islam. Muzaffer Pasha was the son of Mehmet Sadık Pasha who had been the commander of the Cossack Troops and one of the second generation Polish refugees. From the rank of lieutenant to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, he was in different military duties of the Empire. He served in the Military Academy respectively as the teacher of cavalry, the military teacher and the teacher of geography and was promoted to the rank of miralay. Muzaffer Pasha, who served as the director of Stables of Palace and the Minister of Palace, was the chairman of commission for composition of the Hamidian

Troops (Gümüş, 2007, ss. 71-73). Later, he was appointed as the governor of Lebanon between the years 1901-1907 (Drodz, 2013).

Another one of the second generation Polish refugees Alfred Belinski was the son of Nihad Pasha. Alfred Rustem Bey began to his first duty as the clerk of the French in 1882, while his father served as the Commissioner of Bulgaria. After being appointed as the charge d'affaires to the United States in 1886, he served respectively in Athens, Belgrade, London and Bucharest embassy (Gümüş, 2007, s. 83). Again one of the refugees Langi Bey (Marian Langiewicz) was appointed as the representative responsible for arms purchases of the Ottoman Empire starting from 1877, made the purchase of weapons in Essen from the Krupp Company for the army. Monastryski-Sas who was resigned from the army in the rank of colonel, was employed as the government commissioner for the constructions of the railroad in Damascus and Beirut (Drodz, 2013).

The area in which employment of the Polish refugees was seen most, of course was the military area. Because many of the refugees had a military background and made significant gains in the army due to their ability. These achievements, in conjunction with military, provided them employment in security and safety. In the period of Abdulhamid II, it was seen that many refugees came from their country and after conversion, they were employed as policeman in police stations (BOA, BEO. 681/51003; BOA, BEO. 1136/85140; BOA, BEO. 1195/89585; BOA, DH. MKT. 594/51).

To be a policeman, these refugees had to convert and be able to read and write Ottoman Turkish. A refugee named Osman Nuri who had come and converted with his family from Podolsk in Poland, wanted to be a policeman like his brother fled before, but couldn't be employed due to not speak Turkish. Writing a petition about financial troubles what he had with his family, he requested to be employed as an officer in the gendarmerie troops. Although there was no free position in the troops, the Empire led this refugee to be employed as a guest in order to ensure the livelihood (BOA, DH. MKT. 594/51). In addition, the transitions between similar occupations were seen. A refugee who was employed as policeman after his conversion, wrote to the center a petition stated in his request for passing to gendarmerie (BOA, BEO. 1195/89585). In this period in addition to the policing profession, it was seen that many Polish refugees were employed in the army of detection which was created by Abdulhamid II to get the country into the circle of control (İrtem, 2003, s. 160).

As mentioned before, another important area in which refugees were employed, was the health. Some of those who took refuge in the Ottoman Empire, were doctor, physician and chemist. They were employed in various military

and civilian hospitals in the Empire like other refugees had been employed. Bonkowski Pasha who was one of the second generation Polish refugees, took lessons from the famous teachers in Europe where was sent together with Turkish students, educated himself in the chemical and pharmaceutical fields, had many successes. Being back from Europe, he was appointed as assistant of chemistry teacher in the Medical School (Günergün, 1992, s. 231). Bonkowski, besides teaching at the Medical School, made great contributions to the institutionalization of the pharmacy profession and various infectious diseases including cholera and versatile works like drug analysis (Gümüş, 2007, ss. 114-115). By Minister of Finance, Agop Pasha in 1886 he was tasked with carrying out the production of rose essences, made studies for accustomation of rose plants to the Anatolian climate in particular by the order of Abdulhamid II (Günergün, 1992: 237). Besides, Bonkowski was appointed as the head of chemists again by Sultan Abdulhamid and was ordered to make drugs for the family of Sultan (İrtem, 2003, s. 178).

Also August Roter who had migrated from Poland to Istanbul with his family in 1885, was promoted as the doctor of the palace. Roter who studied on various plants and made a drug with them, announced his name to many places with a drug named "Microsite" which he received its patent from Paris in 1909 (Toros, 1983, s. 28).

Another doctor who took refuge in the Ottoman Empire was Władysław Jabłonowski. Without changing his name and religion, he served as a doctor in different places in the Ottoman army and played an important role in the destruction of the epidemic of the cholera emerged in 1880. Again being employed as a doctor, J. Karlinski fought against epidemic of the cholera and promoted to the private doctor of the Sultan (Drodz, 2013). In the period of Abdulhamid II, except the doctor refugees who promoted and got the prominent positions due to their skills and knowledges, there were some who served among the people. So, they were got retired and were paid salaries by the Empire after they worked for many years (BOA. BEO. 156/11642).

There were also Polish refugees who were employed as father and son in the service of the Ottoman Empire. Mira Bey whose father served as Sehbender (Consul) in the Russian Embassy when he was alive, was employed as translator and clerk in the Municipality (BOA. Y. PRK. EŞA. 35/70). Again the son of Mustafa Celaleddin Pasha, who showed superior efficacy with his knowledge and abilities in the service of the Ottoman, Mirliva (Brigadier General) Enver Bey was sent to Cuba, Austria and China as a military expert by Abdulhamid II to solve the controversial problems of interstate (Toros, 1983, s. 27). Also an another example which father and son served in the Ottoman Empire, was Anton Zaporski. Zaporski, whose father had served in the Cossacks Troops, wanted to be employed in the military. There-

upon a broad investigation was made about him and no objection was found for him to be a soldier (BOA. Y. MTV. 48/54).

Except the refugees who were employed at different positions of the government, there were some who tended to various occupations in the social life. It is possible to show the Jews migrated from Poland, as an example for that situation. The some of Polish Jews dealt with the butchery profession and a few had come together and opened a slaughterhouse (BOA. DH. MKT. 1660/40). Besides, they wanted permission to construct a temple and a school for their growing population (BOA. BEO. 756/56657).

The refugees occasionally had troubles for coming in a different culture. Being foreigner to the society which they came in and not speaking the native language caused serious problems at the first time. It is possible to show the four families of the Polish refugees, who had troubles and wanted to go to Konya near their citizens for not knowing the language of community they came, as an example for that (BOA. A.MKT. MHM. 524/25). This situation created serious problems in the course of employment and delayed employment of a refugee (BOA. DH. MKT. 523/32). During this period, the Ottoman Empire tried to get settled and employed the refugees with the commissions which he set up to minimize this kind of troubles.

CONCLUSION

The Ottoman Empire opened his doors to each Polish refugees who were removed and exiled from their country by the suppressing of revolutions in the first half of 19th century, and protected them despite the all threats. In order to take a more comfortable life, the refugees who came with their families, were tried to be articulated with the Ottoman society by settling and were employed in military and or civilian life according to their skills.

While a number of refugees migrated to other countries, the others continued to stay in the Ottoman territories. The remaining refugees went in the service of the Ottoman by converting or not. As this situation continued for the next years, also it didn't change during the reign of Abdulhamid II. The refugees were employed as soldiers, policeman, diplomats, managers, engineers, doctors, pharmacists, chemist or craftsmen according to their skills. In fact, some of them were taken to special services of the sultan by own of Abdulhamid II and they demonstrated significant efficacy. The Ottoman Empire experienced significant changes in the sense of political, social, economic and cultural with these refugees in the both military and bureaucratic life. With the pluses they had, they played an important role in modernizing the existing structure of the Ottoman Empire as qualitatively and quantitatively.

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Uzun Öz

Lehistan Rusya, Prusya ve Avusturya tarafından 1772 ve 1795 yılları arasında aşamalı olarak paylaşılmış ve Avrupa haritasından tamamen silinmiştir. Paylaşım sonrası siyasi bir oluşum olarak varlığını yitiren Lehistan'ın bu durumu, Osmanlı Devleti tarafından hiç bir zaman kabul edilmemiş; bütün resmi merasimlerde bağımsız bir Lehistan varmış gibi davranılmıştır. Bu doğrultuda Lehistan tarihinde bu düşüncüyü vurgulayan bir rivayet söylenegelmiştir. Padişah, yabancı diplomatları kabul ettiği yerde her zaman bir yeri boş bıraktırmış ve bu yer için “Lehistan elçisi yoldadır, ancak yollardaki müşkülât yüzünden gecikmiştir.” demiş ve bu tutumuyla Osmanlı Devleti'nin Lehistan'a duyduğu sempatiyi vurgulamıştır (Reychman, 1964, s. 18).

Son paylaşım sonrasında, işgalci devletlerin yönetiminden hoşnut olmayan Lehliler, daha önceki dönemlerde olduğu gibi başka yerlere göç etmişlerdir. Osmanlı Devleti, bu göçlere en çok kucak açan ülke olmuş ve göç edenlere Osmanlı topraklarında iskân hakkı vermiştir (Kanat, 2011, s. 85). Kendi ülkelerinde kalan Lehliler ise Lehistan'da kurulan Rus yönetimine karşı 1830 yılında büyük bir ayaklanma başlatmışlardır. Ancak ayaklanma, Ruslar tarafından son derece kanlı bir şekilde bastırılınca büyük bir göç dalgası daha başlamıştır. Göç edenlerin büyük bir kısmı Fransa başta olmak üzere çeşitli Avrupa kentlerine yayılmışlardır. Ayaklanmada başarısızlığa uğrayanların bazıları da Osmanlı Devleti'ne sığınmış ve mücadelelerine burada devam etmişlerdir. Avrupa'da 1815 ve 1830 yılları arasında görülen siyasi, sosyal, ekonomik ve kültürel gelişmeler, daha da güçlenerek 1848'lerde yeni bir ortam yaratmış ve bütün kıtayı derinden etkileyecek olan 1848 İhtilalleri patlak vermiştir (Uçarol, 2006, s. 122). İhtilallerin etkisiyle Macaristan'da çıkan ayaklanmayla baş

edemeyen Avusturya, Rusya'dan yardım istemiş bunun üzerine Memleketeyn'de (Eflak ve Boğdan) başlayan ihtilal hareketlerinden de rahatsızlık duyan Rusya, Macaristan'a ordu göndererek buradaki ihtilali kanlı bir şekilde bastırmıştır. İhtilal bastırıldıktan sonra Macarlar ve onlara yardım eden Lehli ihtilalciler Osmanlı Devleti'ne sığınmaya başlamışlardır. Bu sığınanların Rusya ve Avusturya tarafından geri istenmesi, Osmanlı Devleti ile bu iki devletin arasını açmış ve yeni bir siyasi sorun olan Mülteciler Meselesi'nin gündeme gelmesine neden olmuştur (Uçarol, 2006, s. 191). Mülteciler meselesinde Osmanlı Devleti'nin yaptığı ilk iyilik, bu mültecilere kapılarını açmasıyla başlar (Güngörmüş, 1999: 132). Daha sonra bu topraklarda iskânlarına ve kimisinin ihtida ederek teba statüsü kazanmasına ve belirli zümreler içinde Osmanlı'nın sosyal yapısına eklenmesine olanak sağlanmıştır. Osmanlı Devleti'nin mültecilere bu sıcak yaklaşımı, hürriyet ve insan haklarını savunması İngiltere, Fransa ve Amerika gibi ülkelerde geniş yankı uyandırmış ve bu ülkeler, bu tutumundan dolayı Osmanlı Devleti'ne sempatiyle bakmışlardır (Nazır, 2002, s. 823).

Gelen mülteciler meslekleri ve uzmanlık alanlarına göre (merkezde ve diğer eyaletlerde) istihdam edilmiş ve buralarda hizmetlerini yerine getirmişlerdir. Asker, doktor, eczacı, mühendis, makinist, haritacı, müderris, kimyacı gibi önemli mesleklerin yanı sıra arabacı, değirmenci, berber, terzi, kahveci, at uşağı, inşaat ustası, marangoz, itfaiyeci gibi zanaatlar da mültecilerin istihdam edildikleri iş alanları arasında yer almıştır (Gümüş, 2007, s. 52). Ağırlıklı olarak askeri alanda istihdam edilen mülteciler, çeşitli rütbelerle çok önemli başarılarla imza atmışlardır. Bunu yanında zaman zaman birer fikir adamı olarak da ön plana çıktıkları görülmektedir.

Bunlardan hem Lehistan hem de Macar kahramanı olan Jozef Bem (Murat Paşa), 1848 İhtilalleri'nden sonra Halep'e gelerek burada rafineri ve barut fabrikasının kurulmasında etkin bir rol oynamıştır. Adını Mehmed Sadık olarak değiştiren Michał Czaykowski, Osmanlı topraklarına gelerek paşalık rütbesine kadar yükselmiş, Sultanın Kazak Alayı komutanı olarak görev yapmıştır. Yine Wladyslaw Kościelski, yani Sefer Paşa, Osmanlı sarayında mihmandar olarak görev yapmıştır. İskender Paşa ismiyle Antoni İlinski, Mahmut Hamdi Paşa ismiyle Zygmunt Freund, Nihad Paşa ismiyle Seweryn Belinski verimli çalışmaları sayesinde paşalık rütbesine yükselmişlerdir. Feliks Breanski (Şahin Paşa) ve Ludwik Bystrzonowski (Arslan Paşa) 1853'teki Kırım Savaşı'nda orduda görev almışlardır. Gelen mülteciler arasında fikri ve yapısal anlamda önmeli katkıları olan bir isim de Konstanty Borzecki, yani Mustafa Celaleddin Paşa'dır (Latka, 1987, s. 13). Paşa'nın yazdığı eser (*Les Turcs Ancient et Modernes*) Osmanlı-Türk düşünsel dönüşüme katkı sağlamış, Türk milliyetçiliğinin ilk önemli kaynakları arasında yer almıştır.

Osmanlı Devleti, gelen bütün tehditlere rağmen büyük bir kararlılıkla bu mültecilere sahip çıkmış onları koruyup kollamıştır (Baykal, 1985, s. 255). Yerleştirilen ve istihdam edilenler nesiller boyunca Osmanlı tebası olarak burada yaşamaya devam etmişlerdir. 1830 ve 1848 İhtilalleri'nden sonra gelenler bunların ilk kuşağını temsil etmektedir. Çalışmamızda bunların ardılı olan ikinci kuşak Lehli mültecilerin, II. Abdülhamid'in saltanatı boyunca nerelerde istihdam edildikleri ve öncüleriyile kıyasla topluma nasıl eklenmiş oldukleri incelenecektir. Osmanlı Devleti, 19. yüzyılın ilk yarısında çıkan ihtilallerin bastırılmasıyla ülkelerinden çıkarılan ve sürgün edilen Lehli mültecilerin her birine tüm kapılarını açmış ve gelen tehditlere rağmen onları koruyup kollamıştır.

Aileleriyle gelen mültecilerin ülke içinde daha sağlıklı yaşam sürebilmeleri için iskan edilerek, Osmanlı toplumuyla eklenendirilmeye çalışılmış ve niteliklerine göre askeri ya da sivil hayatta istihdam edilmişlerdir. Mültecilerin bir kısmı başka yerlere göç etmiş bir kısmı da Osmanlı topraklarında kalmaya devam etmiştir. Kalan mülteciler, din değiştirerek ya da değiştirmeyerek Osmanlı hizmetine girmişlerdir. Bu durum, sonraki yıllar boyunca devam ettiği gibi, II. Abdülhamid'in saltanatı boyunca da değişmemiştir. Gelen mülteciler vasıflarına göre; asker, polis, diplomat, yönetici, mühendis, doktor, eczacı, kimyacı veya bir meslek erbabı olarak istihdam edilmişlerdir. Hatta kimisi bizzat Abdülhamid tarafından istihdam edilerek padişahın özel hizmetine alınmış, önemli yararlılıklar göstermişlerdir.

Osmanlı Devleti, bu mültecilerle hem askeri hem bürokratik hayatta; siyasi, sosyal, ekonomik ve kültürel anlamda önemli değişimler yaşamıştır. Sahip oldukları artırlarla, Osmanlı Devleti'nin var olan yapısını niceliksel ve niteliksel olarak modernize etmekte küçük de olsa önemli bir rol oynamışlardır.