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## **A CASE STUDY ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF VILLAGES: CONSIDERATIONS ON THE BOOK “THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF BUYUKDERE VILLAGE”**

KÖYLERİN SOSYO-EKONOMİK YAPISI ÜZERİNE BİR ARAŞTIRMA  
ÖRNEĞİ: ‘BÜYÜKDERE KÖYÜNÜN SOSYO-EKONOMİK YAPISI’ ESERİ  
ÜZERİNE DÜŞÜNCELER

In Memory of Precious Scientist Prof. Dr. Tayyar AYYILDIZ

Değerli bilim insanı Prof.Dr.Tayyar AYYILDIZ’ın anısına

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### **Abstract**

Studies in which settlements are assessed according to certain economic and social indicators are considered as socio-economic studies in general. Although these studies are carried on a level of city, district, town, village or neighborhood, socio-economic studies conducted for villages attract more attention on academic level. The facts that these types of data on villages that are different from urban settlements regarding economic and social structure can generally be obtained from field studies and that there is a widespread absence in these types of data related to villages have redirected socio-economic studies more towards villages. It is a fact that economic and social policies have been put in place for the development of villages that remained relatively underdeveloped compared to cities after the proclamation of the republic in Turkey. It must be noted that significant growth and transformation has occurred in villages as a result of these policies. Many academics have drawn their attention to the reasons as to why villages remained underdeveloped economically and socially despite this development, transformation, and all the efforts; and have focused these types of studies on villages. These types of academic studies related to the socio-economic structure of villages were conducted in university departments such as sociology, economics, politics, public administration and agricultural economics. “Socio-economic structure of Büyükdere Village” is one of these studies conducted by Prof. Dr. Tayyar Ayyıldız, who is a faculty member of Atatürk University, Faculty of Agriculture, and Department of Agricultural Economics. The purpose of this article is to analyze the contents of the study named “Socio-economic structure of Büyükdere Village” that was published in 1975 by Atatürk University, and generally assess the possible contribution of the said publication on similar studies that have been or will be conducted.

**Keywords:** Village, socio-economic structures, Büyükdere village

### **Özet**

Genel olarak, yerleşim birimlerinin bazı ekonomik ve sosyal göstergelere göre değerlendirildiği çalışmalar, sosyo-ekonomik çalışmalar olarak nitelendirilmektedir. Bu çalışmalar il, ilçe, kasaba, köy ya da mahalle düzeyinde yapılırsa da köy için yapılan sosyo-ekonomik çalışmalar, akademik düzeyde daha fazla ilgi görmektedir. Ekonomik ve sosyal yapısı kentsel yerleşim birimlerinden farklı olan köylere ait bu tür verilerin çoğunlukla saha çalışmalarından elde edilmesi ve köy merkezli bu tür verilerdeki noksanlığın yaygın olması, sosyo-ekonomik çalışmaları daha çok köylere yönelmiştir. Türkiye’de, Cumhuriyetin ilanından sonra kentlere göre nispeten daha geri kalmış olan ve köylerin kalkındırılması yönünde köylere yönelik ekonomik ve sosyal politikaların uygulandığı bir gerçektir. Bu politikalar sonucunda köylerde önemli ölçüde gelişim ve değişimin yaşandığını söylemek gerekir. Bu gelişim ve değişime rağmen köylerdeki ekonomik ve sosyal geri

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kalmışlık birçok akademisyenin dikkatini çekmiş ve bu tür çalışmaları köyler üzerinde yoğunlaştırmıştır. Köylerin sosyo-ekonomik yapısı ile ilgili yapılan bu tür akademik çalışmalar genellikle üniversitelerin Sosyoloji, İktisat, Siyaset, Kamu Yönetimi ve Tarım Ekonomisi gibi bölümlerinde yapılmaktadır. Bu çalışmalardan birisi de, Atatürk Üniversitesi Ziraat Fakültesi Tarım Ekonomisi Bölümü öğretim üyelerinden Prof.Dr.Tayyar Ayyıldız tarafından yapılan 'Büyükdere Köyünün Soyo-Ekonomik Yapısı' adlı çalışmadır. Bu makalede, Atatürk Üniversitesi tarafından 1975 yılında yayımlanan 'Büyükdere Köyü'nün Sosyo-Ekonomik Yapısı' adlı çalışmanın içeriğinin incelenmesi ve söz konusu yayının, yapılan ya da yapılacak benzer çalışmalara olası katkısının genel olarak değerlendirilmesi amaçlanmıştır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Köy, sosyo-ekonomik yapı, Büyükdere Köyü

## Introduction

As of late 1700s, the Industrial Revolution that started in Britain caused important changes in the lives of countries and societies. These changes are not only in the field of economics but also in social field and are extremely important (Moomaw and Shatter, 1996).

One of the most important effects of industrialization on the social structure has been observed in rural societies. The 'release' of the rural society and the migration to urban areas did not only stem from the population-poverty relation of the rural society but it was also influenced by the power of industrialization in cities to cover the labor force supply. Such a population movement in Turkey increased as of 1950s, and the migrations from rural areas to cities were mentioned frequently in the agenda of the country. Villages, that are the most important residential areas in rural areas, continue their living activities by sticking to traditional and cultural values and with agriculture-based economic activities that are specific to them (Güreşçi, 2010a).

With the proclamation of the republic, the new government, which overtook a disrupted rural structure in terms of socio-economic structure and in terms of trained human force, started development activities for the villages, which constituted the most important element of this structure. These development activities that were intended for villages in the whole country were applied in education, social structure and economic fields. The abolishment of the taxation based on the soil (i.e. the *tithe*), Protection Law for Wheat, and Educational Campaign were among the most important steps taken for the development of villages by the new republic. In following years, the infrastructure for villages, schooling, rural development plans were also the complements of these activities. The economic and social developments in the changing and constantly-evolving world influenced Turkey deeply, and rural society started to disintegrate through migrations.

Village is one of the symbols of resident life in human history involving agricultural production techniques that were developed after hunting and collecting. In general, villages depend mostly on agriculture in economic terms and on traditions in social terms, and are defined as the regions where development is needed at the highest level. It is considered that dealing with the developmental problems of each village, which are scattered and where millions of human beings live in a way that is independent from each other, or producing solution offers and applying them are issues that require extreme effort, time and patience (Demirci and Özçelik, 1990: 5-47; Gürtan, 1966: 3-77).

When the under-developed status of villages in terms of socio-economic structure and the problems related with development came to the forefront in the national agenda, this not only developed an academic viewpoint but also a political viewpoint, or more accurately, a political discourse. In this context, studies on villages became widespread and has been conducted starting from the early years of the republic until our present day especially as based on data obtained with field-studies. Such studies in our country are based on 1930s and have been mostly conducted in the form of systematic-monographic studies that reveal the socio-economic structure of villages.

One of these studies is the study "Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village" written by Prof. Dr. Tayyar Ayyıldız and was made into a book in 1974. In this study, it was aimed to examine and determine the purpose, scope, methodology and sources of this book in general terms to pose a model for similar studies in our present day.

## **1. Village Studies**

Conducting an academic structure on a specific topic is generally realized in a manner like looking for the answers of questions on that topic. If the answers of these questions are at a level that determines a problem or to contribute to its solution, then, it is possible to claim that that study has a scientific or an academic sense. Conducting studies on villages by using scientific methods and defining the problems of a specific village by obtaining relevant data are extremely important in this context. Such studies are especially important for countries like Turkey where rural population is intense in terms of determining the present status and the changes of the social structure. Conducting studies on villages is also important in that it will make relevant authorities understand the changes in the social and economic structure, which was dependent mostly on agriculture and rural life in early years of the republic when nearly 80% of the total population lived in villages (Bayrak and Kanca, 2013).

Village studies are generally conducted to determine the socio-economic structure of villages and define and find solutions for problems. Such studies being intended on socio-economic structure means that above all, a human-focused study is conducted. Achieving success in such studies that take humans as the focal point will develop depending on the face-to-face research that will be made in the area where the relevant people live. The material and the method that will be used in village studies may vary according to the purpose and scope of the study. However, since it will be village-centered study, generally the material to be used consists of the data that might be received from the population, i.e. the villagers, living in the study area. In collecting these data, face-to-face interviews, questionnaires, and observations are made use of. Just like it is the case in other studies, the accuracy, objectivity and reliability of the data obtained in the study are extremely important. For this purpose, in the relevant study, it is very important to use the most proper sampling methods and analyze the data with the most proper statistical methods (Güneş and Arıkan, 1988: 1-17).

A village may be defined in various ways such as economic, social or legal. With the broadest definition, a village is defined as the smallest residential area in administrative terms. In the 1<sup>st</sup> Item of the Village Law 442 with the date 1924, village is defined as follows; "The areas with a population less than two thousand are named as village, with a population between two thousand and twenty thousand are named as town, and with a population over twenty thousand are named as city. The centers even with population less than two thousand, the counties and districts that have municipal organizations are named as town, and are subject to the Municipality Law". As a matter of fact, this definition has been the most important determinant of the village-state relations, and this definition was taken as the administrative basis in providing public services. Based on this definition on village, the number of the villages was determined in our country, and economic and social planning were made according to the economic and social data obtained from these villages that were determined according to these numbers. It must be mentioned here that the number of the villages changing in years is not only depending on these, but also due to the changing of the status of villages because of the new definitions made about villages. A recent change was made in 2012 with the "Law on Establishing Metropolitan Municipalities and 27 counties in 4

*Great Cities*" with the number 6360, and villages were converted into neighborhoods (TBB, 2014).

As well as legal definitions on villages, there are also several other definitions with economic and social contents. The focal points of such definitions consist of defining rural residential areas. In other words, the residential areas that mostly depend on agriculture and whose social life is mostly depending on traditions are defined as villages. In addition, in the scope of this definition, general characteristics of villages are said to have the following characteristics under the sub-culture of *being a peasant* (Yurttaş et al., 1998: 24-25).

1. They are conservative;
2. Fatalist;
3. Familial;
4. Regional;
5. Have low expectation levels;
6. They are healthy and happy according to conditions;
7. They are good citizens.

It is also possible to claim that the characteristics that are summarized as village sub-culture may be defined again according to developing and changing conditions in time. Conducting a study on such an interesting structure and obtaining concrete results may be defined as studies that require time, patience and economic contribution.

Village studies are generally monographic studies in our country that define the socio-economic structures of villages, and have increased as of 1930s. Some of these studies are as follows: (Yurttaş et al., 1998: 24-25).

1. Mehmet Ali Şevki, Kurna Village, 1937.
2. Sadri Aran, Evedik Village, 1938.
3. Niyazi Berkes, Some Ankara Villages, 1942.
4. İbrahim Yasa, Hasanoğlan Village, 1954.
5. Ziyaettin F. Fındıkoğlu, A Chestnut Village, 1957.
6. Jeo Pierce, Life in a Turkish Village, 1965.
7. Paul Stirling, Turkish Village, 1965.
8. Orhan Türkdogan, Beşikdüzü and Dursunbey, 1966.
9. Cevat Geray, Bünyan, 1967.
10. İbrahim Yasa, 25 Years Later Hasanoğlan Village, 1969.
11. Tayyar Ayyıldız, Büyükdere Village, 1974.
12. Beşir Atalay, Büyükgeçit Village, 1979.

Many of the abovementioned studies were published as books and were the models for similar studies in later years. There are also many studies that were designed as postgraduate and doctorate theses dealing with the socio-economic structures of villages. Again, it is also possible to claim that there are tens of reviews and papers focused on villages in our country.

## 2. Considerations on the Book "The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village"

### 2.1. The Period when the Book Was Written

The period in which the socio-economic data were collected form a rural residential area and were made into a book with the name "The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village" covers the 29.03.1969 and 01.03. 1973 period. This time period in which the book was written may be defined as 1970s more or less. Providing some economic and social data on Turkey in this period may be beneficial for the study, because the relevant data in a socio-economic study may reflect the economy and social structure of a whole country in the same period. For example Fakir Baykurt published a literary book in 1969 with the name "Efkâr Tepesi" and dealt with the problems of villages and villagers in those times with the eye of a village teacher. The author observed the villages of Artvin, Şavşat County on a hill called *Efkâr Tepesi* and narrated the economic and social problems of these villages in a narrative language (Baykurt, 1960). In brief, the villages that were observed by the author also constituted the reflection of Turkey in 1960s. based on this point, based on this point, it is expected that the book with the name "The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village" also reflects the rural life in Turkey in 1970s. The following points will explain this;

Turkey in 1970s had economic problems in general and anarchy and terror reached almost every residential area, and there were long queues to cover basic needs, there was a bottleneck in foreign currency; however, despite these, Turkey struggled to recover from this conflicting atmosphere. The famous quotation of Demirel, "We are in need of seventy cents" has been recorded in our political history describing those times (Duman and İpekşen, 2013).

While the population of Turkey was 35 605 176 in 1970, it increased to 40 347 719 in 1975, and the population intensity increased to 52 from 46 in the same period. The number of the provinces was 67 in Turkey, the number of the county was 572, the number of the villages-districts was nearly 35 000. While the population living in villages was 21 914 075 in 1970, this number increased to 23 478 651 in 1975. In brief, in these periods, nearly 50% of the population of Turkey lived in villages or in rural residential areas. When the literacy rates were analyzed, it was observed that this rate was 53.61% in 1970s, and increased to 61.50% in 1975. The employment rates of the same period showed that nearly 88.70% of the employees were employed in agricultural sector (TUIK, 2009). To summarize, in the period when the book was written, the population of Turkey lived mostly in rural areas, the literacy rates were low, urbanization process started barely, and the country struggled with economic and social problems. In Turkey in those times, the population living in rural areas, i.e. in villages, was extremely more, the production and yield increase in agriculture were limited, and the country had an image consisting of poor village population. The general characteristics of the rural residential areas in this period may be given as follows:

1. The population intensity was high;
2. There was low income or income expectations in agriculture;
3. Traditional agricultural production methods;
4. Low literacy levels,
5. Low foreign capital and low input usage in agriculture;
6. A very limited organized agriculture,

7. Poor village organization consisting of traditional small family businesses.

Some findings on this period and on the study area where the book was prepared were compiled in Yearbook of the City of Erzurum as follows: In 1973, when Büyükdere Village, was a village connected to Pazaryolu, which was a district in those times but now a county. The population of the center of Erzurum/Ispir county, to which the village was attached in political terms, was 2 638; and with its villages, it was 54 741. In other words, nearly 95,18% of the population of the county lived in villages. This rate is around 45,00% today both in Pazaryolu and in Ispir counties. It was mentioned in the yearbook that Büyükdere Village was connected to Pazaryolu County of Erzurum/Ispir, and the total population was 289, the number of the houses was 61, and the distance to the county was 46 km. In this period, the village had a school, mosque, and a healthcare house, and there were no reading rooms, secondary schools, roads, drinking water network, electricity, official healthcare institution, dispensary, gendarmerie station, telephone and village room (The Yearbook of the City, 1973).

## 2.2. General Information about the Writer

It is extremely important that a writer that writes a book has to have adequate background to form that work. It is especially important that that book has a scientific quality and is accepted by science community. A scientific work is closely related with using scientific methods and obtaining data that are accepted by science world. Scientific works are generally defined as the ones that are open to discussions and are based on cause-effect relations obtained by academicians in academic media.

When the resume of Prof. Dr. Tayyar Ayyıldız, who wrote the book *"The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village"* is considered in general terms, the following findings are obtained:

1. He was born in 1940 in Büyükdere Village of Erzurum/Ispir County.
2. He went to Primary School in his village until 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, and completed his education in Rize.
3. He was a son of a villager and farmer family.
4. He completed his university education in Atatürk University, Agriculture Faculty, Agricultural Economy Department, or with its former name in "Agricultural Economy" department.
5. He completed his postgraduate and doctorate studies in the field of Agricultural Economy in the country and abroad (Germany).
6. He has tens of national and foreign scientific studies on Agricultural Policy, EU Common Agricultural Policy, the problems of agriculture and solution offers, being underdeveloped, rural society and relevant problems.
7. He managed many postgraduate and doctorate theses on similar topics.
8. He was the administrator in several departments of universities.
9. His reviews and discussions on similar topics were published in local and national media.

In the light of this information provided about the writer, it is understood that there are clear and concrete relations between the work named *"The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village"* and the background of the writer, because in such studies, the writer has to possess scientific experience on agricultural economy, society, policy, rural sociology and has to know the study area well.

### 2.3. Basic Information about the Book

The book was printed by Atatürk University in 1975 with publication number 378, and consists of 201 pages. The Contents of the book, together with the inner and outer cover pages, are as follows (Picture 1 (APPENDIX)).

1. Introduction
2. The purpose of the study, its scope, method and sources
3. General information on the study area
4. Basic labor force units, population and population movements
5. The family structure in the village
6. Social solidarity and social problems
7. Business activities
8. Business results
9. A general view on the economic structure of villager families
10. Result and Precautions
11. Abstract in Turkish and in German
12. Literature
13. Additional Tables
14. Questionnaire Forms
15. Maps

Mentioning and explaining the history of the village in question, its geographical position, population information, agricultural activities, agricultural problems, other problems of the village, and business operations are common in similar studies. In village studies, which are monographic studies, it is extremely important to define the problems of the village and villagers with all their socio-economic dimensions. The book written in 1979 by Dr. Beşir ATALAY with the name "A Sociological Study on Village Youth; A Study on Büyüğeçit Village" used a similar method and data to "The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village" and composed the book (Atalay, 1979: 1-7). In examples of such studies that are published in the form of articles, the socio-economic structure of villages was defined by using the data obtained in the field.

### 2.4. The Purpose and Scope of the Study

Defining the purpose in a scientific study is one of the most important steps that ensure an accurate progression of the study (Özdamar et al., 2013:4-11). In studies whose purposes are defined well, the scope, material and method are cleared in a great deal, and the study is conducted on this plain.

The purpose of the book with the name "The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village" is summarized in detail in the second part of the book. The purpose of the book was summarized briefly as the development of villages. It was emphasized that the first step in village studies was to set the goals as the first step. About the village development, it was emphasized that the basic aim of Development Plans, Ministry of Village Affairs, and the agricultural policies in AET were to ensure the development of villages, and it was mentioned that the study was intended for this general purpose. In the context of the development of Büyükdere Village, the other aims of the study was defined as obtaining data that might be beneficial for public officials, collecting data

on working life in village population, defining the current status in the village in activities in agriculture and in activities other than agriculture. The main purpose of the study was summarized in the book, and there are recommendations on the level of the development in society, defining the limiting factors, and on eliminating relevant problems.

In the light of the purpose of the study, the scope of the study consisted of the socio-economic structure of villages. It was pointed out in the study that this structure, the element that would pose the basis of structural changes in agriculture, stemmed from the characteristics of villages and villagers; and it was recommended that the relevant works had to be considered within this context. About the socio-economic structure of the villages, the following headlines were dealt with; the natural environment of villages, social structure of villages, population movements, village and villager problems, soil-human relations and precaution on development.

## **2.5. The Method and Material of the Book**

### **2.5.1. Method**

The book points out that, socio-economic studies may be conducted with various assumptions, and mentions that these assumptions should be dealt with as if they were believable as a result of some observations. In this context, the basic assumption of the book was defined as "in a mountain village where soil-human relations are imbalanced, due to the scarcity of arable land, members of rural families have to leave their villages temporarily or permanently to make a living". With this basic assumption, there are also several sub-assumptions in the book;

- a. There are migrations in villages,
- b. There is insufficient organization,
- c. Educational opportunities are inadequate,
- d. There is a infertile production in agriculture,
- e. The meadowlands are used in an irregular manner.

In addition, the existence of a wide-held belief claiming that the city-village interaction caused a fast socio-economic change in villages and villagers confirms the assumptions mentioned in the study (Güreşçi, 2010b).

Various methods may be applied in village studies. Geray (2012) stated that in such studies, the data on village and villagers are collected as the basic method, which was a common method; and this could be realized by using questions prepared to be used in interviews with villagers. It was mentioned in the book that open interview method, questionnaire, and sample case methods were made use of; and it as added that these methods were widely accepted. In the book, it was also mentioned that the relations between social structure and production were investigated, and therefore, the most proper methods for the study was using questionnaires, open interview, observation and *Cross-Sectional* study designs. A gradual study design was used in the study to apply these methods, and the data were obtained in this way. These stages were as follows, respectively;

1. Preliminary preparations: Before the latest shape was given to the questionnaires, a pretest was applied between 1969-1971 and in this context;
  - The subject matter of the study was planned,
  - Proper questions were prepared for the questionnaire and a literature review was made,



- Preliminary interview was made with the village headman,
- Pretest application was performed in the village,
- The viewpoints of some authorized people were obtained before giving the latest shape to the questionnaires,

## 2. The selection of the Village:

The purpose of the selection of Büyükdere Village for this study was several factors like being proper for the purpose, scope, and assumption of the study and being able to collect reliable data. Merter (1990) conducted a study and selected the village in Malatya with an approach that was similar to the book in this study.

In selecting the village for the book named "*The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village*" the following factors were influential;

- The existence of small agricultural businesses that work for a living,
- The advantage of being able to make continuous observations in a village in such studies,
- The lack of ethnical groups in the village,
- The fact that when "Eastern Anatolian Region" is mentioned, this immediately reminds a person of animal husbandry, and the selected village is a mountain village where animal husbandry is realized with its problems.

## 3. Questionnaires

Questionnaires are used widely in village studies as a study method, and it was also used in the book. Atalay (1979) conducted a similar study in Erzurum, Aşkale County, Büyükgeçit Village, applied questionnaires and obtained concrete results in the study. The questionnaires in the book "*The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village*" were generally used as questions on the village in general; questions on household, and questions on businesses in village.

- Population, labor force and education,
- Village family structure,
- Village problems,
- Agricultural production tools,
- The status of animal husbandry and vegetation,
- Business activities.

### 2.5.1.1. The Main Body of the Study and the Sample

Village studies are mostly based on questionnaires and field-work. In applying the questionnaires, the selection of the man body and the sampling within this body are defined in agreement with a proper statistical method. Güreşçi and Yurttaş (2008) applied questionnaires in Erzurum, Kırık Bucağı in a study with the subject matter of rural migration and its effects on agriculture, and used full counting method and layered sampling method in their studies. Similar statistical methods are used frequently in scientific studies conducted on Agricultural Economy (Güneş and Arıkan: 1988:7-12).

The unit of the study was defined as the house or family, and it was mentioned that these two terms had the same meaning in villages. The questionnaires were applied to the chief of the families because of the efficiency of the chief in families, and when the

chief of the family was absent, the questionnaires were applied to the second person in authority. A similar questionnaires application was used by Güreşçi and Yurttaş (2008) in their field-work in their study. The field-work was made between July 15 and September 15 to apply the questionnaires, and the author of the study stayed in the village during the questionnaires process. In addition to these questionnaires, open interviews were made in the village in August 1972 for 15 days. The questionnaires were made with all of the 95 houses in the village, in other words, the "Full Counting Method" was used in the book named "*The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village*" and the author of the study acted as the pollster.

### **3.5.1.2. The Application of the Questionnaires and Open-Ended Interviews**

The questionnaires were applied in the house or field of the chiefs of the families, and the village headman was informed and interviewed about the questionnaires to form a proper environment for the study and in order to prevent that the villagers would be concerned about the application. It is a reality that this and similar problems may appear in village studies in general and such preliminary preparations and interviews are helpful (Arslan, 2004). In addition to about the questionnaires, it was emphasized in the book that the open interviews in the book were made with the prominent people of the village (village headman, leader, etc.).

### **3.5.1.3. The Accuracy of the Data**

The accuracy of the data is extremely important in a scientific study. Of course, such accuracy depends on the application of the study in a serious manner. In studies that are conducted in the field of social sciences, the accuracy of the data may be determined by using various statistical methods (Karagöz and Ekici, 2010). The factors that influence the accuracy of the data were defined as the sampling, the background knowledge of the pollster about the study topic, mutual trust, errors during the documentation process, and the ambiguity in the questionnaire. In questionnaires, it has been claimed that applying the full counting method, conducting the questionnaire by the author of the study, and knowing the village well will increase the accuracy of the data. Assigning numbers to questionnaire papers, and recording at every step are other factors that increase the accuracy of the questionnaires.

### **3.5.2. Material**

In the book with the name "*The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village*" the data sources were used in an extremely comprehensive and varied manner. The materials of the book were collected under three main headings:

1. The data that were obtained with the questionnaires and open-ended questions,
2. National and foreign literature on the study topic,
3. Written and verbal information provided by official institutions in the city, county and districts (Title Deed Offices, Territorial Housing Offices, Population Registry Offices, Technical Agriculture Organization, etc.).

When the literature part of the book is considered, it is seen that a total of 95 sources, 31 of which were foreign and 64 of which were national sources were made use of. In addition to these, 4 laws and decisions and the records of 4 official institutions were examined to form the book. In preparing the book, questionnaire forms and literature review (including official institution records) and some maps and charts were used. These are;

1. The map showing the location of Erzurum within the borders of Turkey, and the location of Büyükdere Village within the borders of Erzurum (Picture 2 (APPENDIX)).
2. The borders and agricultural areas of Büyükdere Village (Picture3 (APPENDIX)).
3. Meadow plot plan within the borders of Büyükdere Village (Picture4 (APPENDIX))
4. Büyükdere Village Chart (Picture5 (APPENDIX)).

### **3.6. The Other Contents of the Book**

It was understood that the book did not only contain mere research data but also included additional data that might help researchers in their studies. Especially in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Part, with the title *Agricultural Economy and Village Sociology*, it was ensured that the scientific bases of the subject are formed and the scope is understood better. In this context, general information is provided under the titles such as *Research in Foreign Countries and Its Development*, and *the Summary of Some researchers Conducted in Turkey (Literature)*. In addition, in the 12<sup>th</sup> part of the book, the research results are summarized under the title of "Result and Precautions", and the precautions are mentioned as follows:

1. Precautions that Will Affect the Present Situation for Socio-economic Development
  - Increasing yields in agricultural sector
  - Organization of farmers
  - Organization of Companies
  - Developing the agriculture and handcraft in villages
  - Increasing the education level of the farmers and improving the publications,
  - Solution of healthcare and housing problems,
  - Eliminating the need for infrastructure,
2. Changes in the field of agricultural field

One of the most important parts formed out of the scope of the book is the summary part in Turkish and German at the end of the book. In this part, all the results obtained in the study were presented by considering the titles of the subjects in 27 items.

### **4. Result and Discussion**

When the book "*Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village*" is assessed in general terms, it is considered that it will contribute to the solution of social problems and scientific studies. Based on this point, it is necessary to analyze the book in general for its sensitivity in the face of social problems and possible contributions to the problems.

An academic study or an academican must sometimes go away from the study environment or stay away from books and follow the developments in the near and far environment about the subject matter together with scientific knowledge and academic skills, which is an optimistic development. Determining a social or technical problem and possible contributions f the solution of this problem are important

academic values. This value also means showing the respect of the academican to the world and country in which s/he lives and to the society with which s/he breathes the same air. The book is important not only because it shows the ways that might be followed for the development of villages but also it shows sensitivity in the face of a social problem. The book with the name "*The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village*" was prepared between 1969-1973, in other words, within a study period of nearly four years, and was published in 1975 by Atatürk University. As it is mentioned in the first part of the study, this period is described as a period in which Turkey dealt with the problems of villages, which are a part of economic and social problems and where rural population lived in an intense manner. The awareness of such a problem and the practice of this awareness in the example of Büyükdere Village, which is a mountain village of Pazaryolu County of the city of Erzurum shows the sensitivity on the problems of the country in those times.

It is extremely important that an academican having knowledge and experience on the book, which s/he is writing. The book named "*The Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village*" is a study that needs meticulous and devoted research on villages. For this study, the researcher has to use the agriculture, economy, social sciences and communication techniques well. The academic knowledge and education of the writer of the book, Prof. Dr. Tayyar Ayyıldız played an important role in the formation of the infrastructure of this study and in assessing the results of the applications.

The scientific work, and the application of scientific materials and methods in the formation of a work may make it valid and accepted in academic community. According to then-present conditions, the author of the book made a proper time planning, a good sampling and prepared a good questionnaire, which made it possible to investigate the subject matter of the study in a detailed manner. The questionnaire forms, maps, charts, and other information sources prepared by the author of the book were released after a thorough consultation with experts of the relevant fields. For the reliability of the information sources, the author of the book made the research himself, and in the end, formed a serious and comprehensive village research. The data were summarized at the end of the book and solution offers were made for the solution of these problems, which shows that the book has a public reflection.

When considered as a whole, the book "*Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village*" is considered as a beneficial work both for the authors of those times and for the researchers of our present day who will be interested in the topic at academic level.

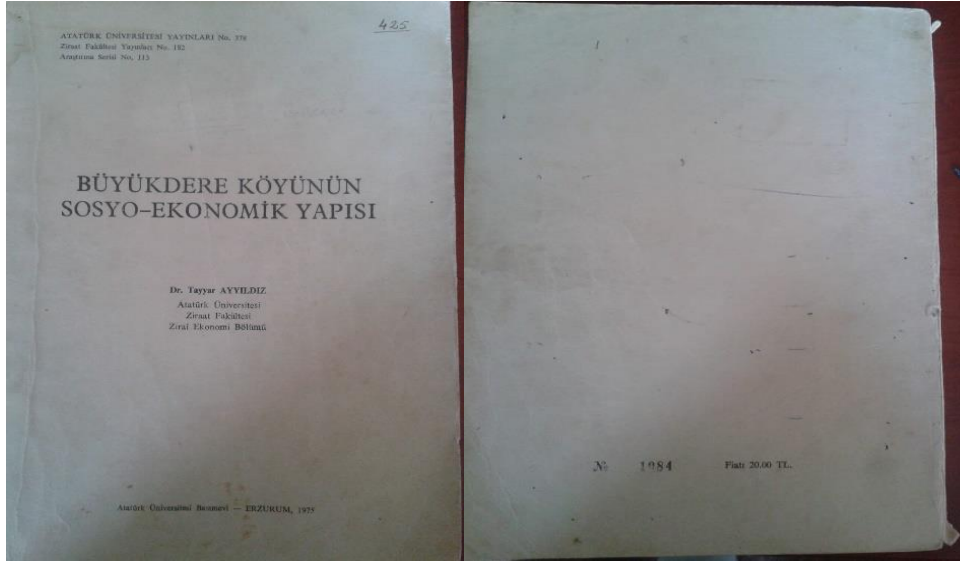
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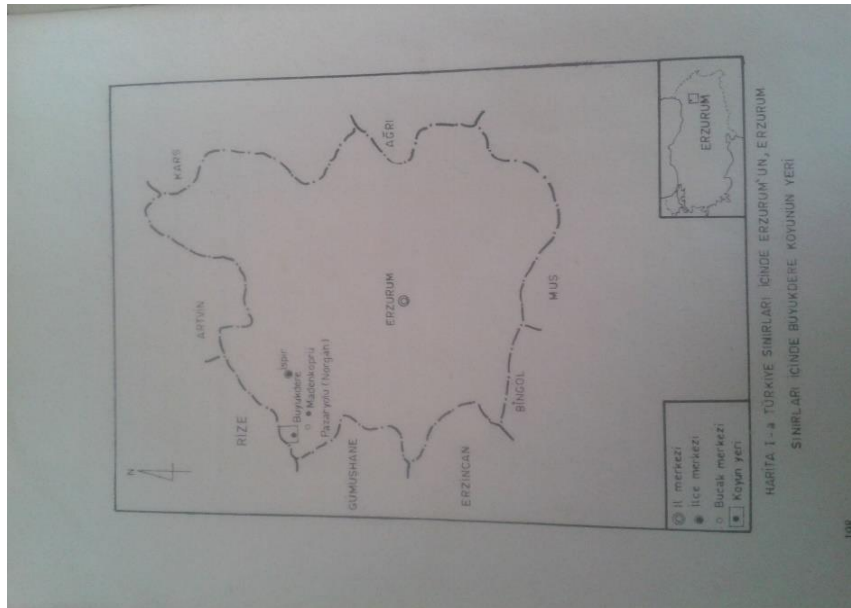
## Appendices

**Appendix 1.** The Front and Rear Cover of the Book “Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village”



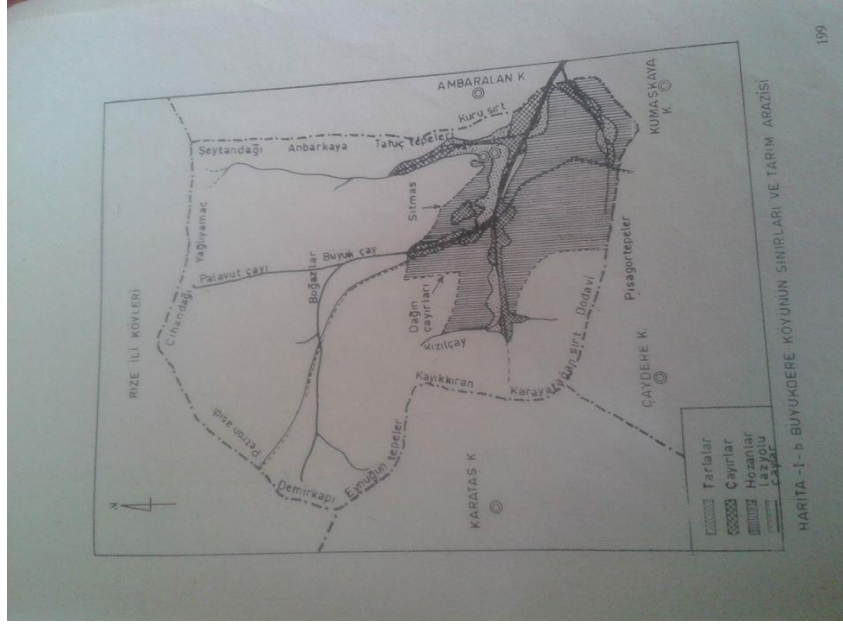
**Picture 1.** The Front and Rear Cover of the Book “Socio-Economic Structure of Büyükdere Village”

**Appendix 2.** Map Showing the Location of Erzurum within the Borders of Turkey, and the Location of Büyükdere within the Borders of Erzurum.



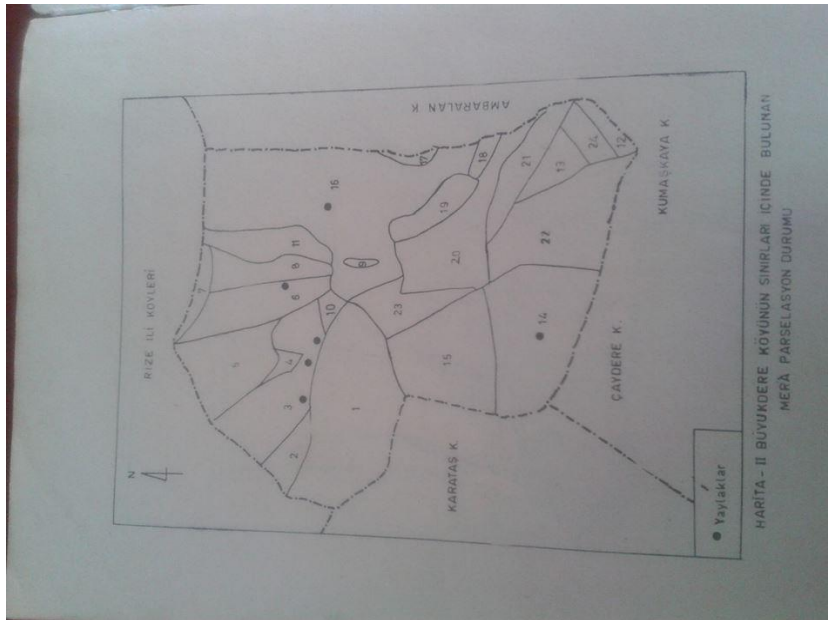
**Picture 2.** Map Showing the Location of Erzurum within the Borders of Turkey, and the Location of Büyükdere within the Borders of Erzurum.

**Appendix 3.**The Borders of Büyükdere Village and the agricultural Fields



**Picture 3.**Borders of Büyükdere Village and the Agricultural Fields

**Appendix 4.**The Meadow Plot Plan Status within the Borders of Büyükdere Village



**Picture 4.**The Meadow Plot Plan Status within the Borders of Büyükdere Village

**Appendix 5.**The Diagram of the Büyükdere Village



**Picture 5.**The Diagram of the Büyükdere Village