

B. Kırklareli

B1. Kırklareli Central District

B1.1 Attraction Sources

B1.1.1. Natural Sources

* Geographical Position

Kırklareli's position that is close to both Bulgarian border and Istanbul provides the city a privilege in terms of geographical position. Having a long coastal area along Black Sea, the province has been home of a considerable forest asset in its northern part. Currently the foreign tourists mostly consist of Bulgarian tourists when their profile is taken into consideration. As the accommodation facilities and other services are inadequate in Kırklareli Central District, the tourists visit it with a day-tour. Bulgarian tourists use the city center for shopping purposes.

* Dokuzhöyük Village

Dokuzhöyük Village belongs to the central district and it can be reached without getting further away from the center when it comes to village life. There are eight Tumuli (mounds) which are thought to be from Bronze Age each with medium size in the entrance of village. However, the neighbourhood of these mounds have not been landscaped yet, their interior parts are not visible and no tourist information is available. People raise cattle and make fruit horticulture. Dairy products are sold both in the village and in bazaars in the neighbourhood under the trademark of Dokuzhöyük through a cooperative. In addition, people produce peppers and tarhana in the village.

* Kuzulu Village

Belonging to the central district, Kuzulu Village is another place that can be visited without getting further away from the city center (with 18 km distance) when it comes to its houses and village life there. Villagers raise a large number of small cattle (goat,



sheep). The houses and stables in the village are unique, but the young population is low. Most of the inhabitants are old people. Villagers here are very hospitable.

* Dereköy

Dereköy that belongs to the Central District (25 km) is a green and natural place. It is surrounded by pines, oaks and beeches. Strandzha Natural Training Center is located under the trees in the outskirts of the village. This place has a kitchen and accommodation. It is possible to have materials and cooks from outside whenever needed. There is a fish restaurant along the stream in the outskirts of the village. There are cherries, beans and natural mushrooms peculiar to the village. People cook haricot beans in a crock which could be interesting for visitors.

* Strandzha Valley

This vast valley that is close to Kırklareli City center is very rich in biological diversity. A study for diversity was carried out in the region in previous years and unique flower species and butterflies were discovered accordingly. There is a waterfall near the valley. There also castles and old cemeteries around the valley. It is possible to go trekking here, but some places need recreation areas and toilets though.

B1.1.2. Cultural Sources

* Yayla Neighbourhood

It is located in Kırklareli city center. Multi-cultural people (Greeks, Bulgarians, Jews) used to live here during the Ottoman Empire. Currently there are many partly demolished houses, schools and religious buildings. Although the town is disorganized, it is possible to see the houses and structure on foot. In addition, the park in the middle creates a central meeting point as a green area. The house called “House of the Priest” was repaired by a private property owner and its restoration constitutes a great example. Thracian Development Agency has bought a building for Kırklareli and the restorations on it are still in progress. When this neighbourhood is made use of in terms of tourism, the cultural tourism in Kırklareli City Center will brighten up. The visitors coming currently do not constitute a source for the region and visit and leave it in a short time.

* Hızırbey Külliye



This Külliye, the Ottoman Bazaar and Turkish Bath are located very close to each other in Kırklareli city center. The structures are very unique and were built in 1383. The Ottoman Bazaar is very small, there are only nine shops in it. Currently, it serves mostly for local people. However, these buildings can draw the attentions of native and foreign tourists if they are promoted together. They are in a short distance from Kırklareli Bazaar, thus it is possible to visit it together with other areas in the city.

* Kırklareli Museum

The historical museum building was constructed in 1894 and was opened in 1994 after restoration. It has a Nature Exhibition Center in its entrance floor, Archaeology and Ethnography Sections in the upper floors. A lot of historical artifacts (4397 recoded artifacts) have been found in the region and we think that more artifacts will be revealed with the ongoing excavations. The museum's capacity to have artifacts is limited. Kırklareli and its neighbourhood is very rich in terms of flora and fauna as well. If they are exhibited somewhere in detail and in an educational way, that will attract native and foreign tourists.

* Kırklareli Train Station

Kırklareli Train Station building was constructed during the Ottoman period and used for Edirne-Istanbul, Kırklareli-Alpulu trains of eastern railway. The last train arrived in 1991. The neighbourhood around the station was structured and it is now surrounded by a park, jogging roads, cafes and a funfair. Local people use this place as a social area. Exhibitions are held in the building from time to time. The station was transferred to the University for being used as a social facility. Currently it is not open to public. The restoration will have fruitful outcomes in terms of tourism when the station is used for exhibitions and a passenger train will be made available even if that is symbolic.

* Aşağı Pınar Excavation Field (Aşağıpınar Mound)

The transportation from Kırklareli City Center to Aşağıpınar Mound and the excavation field which is still active is carried out in a very short distance. The first settlement here comes from the Neolithic and Bronze Age. The excavations here were launched in 1993 and are still in progress (3000 m²). There are three Thracian houses and one animation



(Outdoor Village Museum, Hayloft Museums). The animations are very educational in term of understanding the lifestyle during Neolithic period (6200-7200 B.C.) and that is not something experienced in Turkey much. The descriptions within Thrace houses are in Turkish. It will be very useful for tourism if they are translated into other languages and the square is open like an animated museum all the time. Furthermore, it will provide more benefits and income for tourism if we build another museum where we can exhibit findings obtain in further excavations and plan souvenir and recreation points inside.

*** Kanlıgeçit Mound**

Kanlıgeçit Mound is located in a short distance (500 m) from Aşağıpınar Excavation Field. The archaeological excavations were launched simultaneously. It appears that people started to settle down in this region after they left Aşağıpınar (3600 B.C.). The settlement actually started in Bronze Age. People built their (100) houses from branches and wooden during that time. The excavations are still continuing and have revealed some ceramics. The field is associated with Troy. It is the only Anatolian style settlement in Thrace. If we put signboards for visitors and include the field within the brochures, it will be possible to visit Aşağıpınar and Kanlıgeçit together. There is a railway located in a very short distance from the field, which is worth making use of.

*** Seyfioğlu Bastion**

There is a military field used during the Balkan Wars which is located in a very short distance (3 km) from Kırklareli City Center. The soldiers used to hide, live and watch around here. The interior parts of bastion are pretty wide (45 rooms). People made ditches around the bastion and the structure is made from sandstone. However, the bastion is currently under an untended condition. It is especially interesting for native/foreign visitors and student groups. It will attract more visitors if this place is restored and opened in a way that can reflect its history and we carry out some lighting works and build signboards. Furthermore, some tourist groups that visit Çanakkale might be attracted to this place. The field has been allocated to Kırklareli University as of 2012 for restoration.



* Castle (Yoğuntaş, Eski Polos)

There is a Thrace Castle that is 21 km away from the center and can be reached easily from the road coming from Kırklareli. The castle was built by Thracians and used during and after the Hellenistic Period (330 BC). It is really unique in terms of history. During the Thracian Period, castles were used for protection, which made them essential. There are some other similar castles in the region (Kayalı Region). Someone can see a 360-degree Kırklareli Scenery when looking from the castles. The road that goes up is full of stones and dust and there is no parking area, which can actually be dealt with. Besides, the castle is in a demolished condition. There are no signboards and there is no field where the visitors can meet their needs and buy some water. Therefore, we can build a touristic recreation area without ruining the nature of castle. It can be made use of with the other castles. We can develop stories with respect to the history of the castle, the distances and which period they belong to.

* Kapaklı Village

The village is in a 25-km distance from city center. Villagers here make their living from animal husbandry. There is a Thracian tomb with a cover on the top in the village. It is not an attraction center itself alone. There are valuable mushrooms around it.

* Art of Kırklareli: Ceramics

It is a cultural heritage that is peculiar to Kırklareli. The number of its craftsmen has become scarcely few. The only remaining craftsman, Hüseyin Çokan, continues making ceramics in his own place. He should maintain making his art by teaching it to curious student groups and curious people who visit him. Relevant products should be made available in the city center as well.

B.1.1. 2. Cultural Sources

* Kaynarca Rock Monastery (Pınarhisar)

There is a monastery which was carved into rock in Kaynarca Town of Pınarhisar, dating back to Byzantine Period. There are candle lighting parts, seats and abscissa. Its walls are ornamented with mortar.



* Pınarhisar Ramparts and Çayırdere Village Castle

The castle is a Byzantine castle that is visible from different parts of the city and has survived until today. It is necessary for touristic usage to revive and restore this castle of which traces can be seen within the city.

* Lüleburgaz Sokullu (Tayil) Mehmet Paşa Külliye

Said to have been built in 1569, the külliye is an important Ottoman artwork found in the region. There are mosque, school, Turkish bath and a sadirvan within the structure of it. It is among the essential works Mimar Sinan before the magnificent artwork in Selimiye that would gain him maestro title. It is necessary to carry out landscape works around it.

* We Have A Message For The Galaxy (Caricature)

The biggest caricature of the world that was drawn by famous cartoonist Yaşar Erdil in 2011 and completed in 2012 is in Pınarhisar and it will be turned into a park under the sponsorship of a private firm. The caricature was included in the Guinness Book of Records. It will increase the popularity of the region and number of tourists visiting the country to introduce this caricature for tourism.

B.1.1. 2. Cultural Sources

* Karagöz, Art and Kakava Festival

The fest is celebrated in different parts of the city for a long time just like Hıdırellez. The festival has been since 1994 as Karagöz, Art and Kakava Festival with the organization of municipality for a period of one week. The celebrations are made around the station. People light fire, artists coming from Istanbul give concerts and a cortege passes during these celebrations. These celebrations are valuable for native people and visitors coming from neighbouring villages. However, the difference for visitors between these celebrations and Hıdırellez might be the Karagöz and Hacivat shadow game shows to take place in these events. If this is featured and planned together with accommodation it might be interesting for visiting families coming from other places.



B1.3. Services, Infrastructure and Transportation

* Accommodation

Tourists visiting Kırklareli for its short distance to Istanbul and Bulgaria generally prefer one-day trips there. As the need for cultural trips and historical visits in the city center increase, accommodation needs will increase accordingly as well. Therefore, there are problems such as the lack of different hotel categories, low quality service, cleaning and hygiene problems. Buildings in historical areas such as those in Yayla Neighbourhood might be turned into hotels, but these hotels should be managed by considering the tourists and their expectations.

* Food and Drink Enterprises

In Kırklareli city center there is a bazaar and Kasap Sokak, popular areas among local people. The tourists visiting the city should also be directed to this area. There are restaurants that serve meatballs and meat. It is also possible to make grill by buying fish from the fishermen available at bazaar. The foods are delicious, but not suitable for visitors coming from outside in terms of service and capacity. Among other problems we can include excluding local food and lack of restaurants that might address people with high income.

* Food-Drink Producer and Sales Points

The city and its neighbourhood are rich in terms of products to be served (meat and dairy products, hardaliye, beet molasses, noodle, beans and halvah)ç However, such products are not known by visitors and not sold because of deficiencies in service and introduction.

* Information

Tourism information activities that are still provided should be improved in terms of both working hours and services. It is necessary to appoint personnel who can speak English, French, German as well as Bulgarian and Greek and diversify the materials.

* Transportation

It is very easy to provide road transport to city thanks to the highway. However, developing the railway transportation might have a positive influence on city tourism.



* The Street To The Station and Its Neighbourhood

Kirklareli city center is pretty small and social activities to be done are relatively limited. However, the street to the station which is a pedestrian way and its neighbourhood might be accepted to be the area where the inhabitant go for a walk and get social. There are cafes, tea gardens, hiking trails, gymnastic apparatus provided by the Municipality and amusement park here in this area. The service quality of the enterprises within the field differs between each other.

B1. 3. Goals and Strategies

Goals	Strategies
Goal 1. Increasing the number of native and foreign visitors coming to Kirklareli	<p>S1. Meeting and supporting the needs of tourists visiting Kirklareli individually</p> <p>S2. Creating and introducing tour packages related to Balkan countries including the border neighbour in particular</p> <p>S3. Adding overnight Kirklareli cultural tours to trip programs of foreign tourists visiting Istanbul for cultural tourism</p> <p>S4. Encouraging travel agencies operating in Istanbul to sell Kirklareli tours to native/foreign tourists</p> <p>S5. Conducting studies related to attracting inhabitants from other cities in Trakya Region</p> <p>S6. Carrying out information and introduction activities targeting educational institutions</p>
Goal 2. Extending the overnight stay periods of visitors in Kirklareli	<p>S1. Encouraging to open hotels in different categories and improving service quality of the existing hotels</p> <p>S2. Encouraging the travel agencies operating in Istanbul to sell tours with accommodation in Kirklareli</p> <p>S3. Marketing in Kirklareli together with neighbour tourism destinations around.</p>



<p>Goal 3. Positioning and branding Kırklareli as a cultural destination</p>	<p>S1. Founding a working unit affiliated with Trakya Tourism Service Platform for introducing Kırklareli</p> <p>S2. Preparing a comprehensive history and culture inventory of Kırklareli (including the castles and villages of City Center)</p> <p>S3. Initiating branding studies for Kırklareli, preparing printed and electronic materials and introduction plan</p> <p>S4. Preparing routes to historical places and food-drink spots in the city, putting legged tourism boards on such routes, adding these routes to the travelling books</p> <p>S5. Making tourism development plan of Yayla Neighbourhood as a product of cultural tourism and putting such plan into practice, leading entrepreneurs in this issue and introducing the neighbourhood as a multicultural example after completing the plan</p> <p>S6. Adding introductions in foreign languages to Aşağıpınar and Kanlıgeçit Excavation fields, opening it as an outdoor museum for tourists with a price and establishing a museum near it</p> <p>S7. Creating a map containing the historical stories of castles in the region, sharing it with travel agencies, sharing the brochures at tourism office and placing the big maps in different parts of the city. Restoration of some castles and landscaping their neighbourhood and roads reaching them(Yoğuntaş Example)</p> <p>S8. Restoration of Seyfioğlu Bastion, organizing and introducing its interior part for touristic purposes</p> <p>S9. Giving incentives for ceramics that is on the verge of vanishing to be transferred to new generations, opening a related course</p>
<p>Goal 4. Enhancing tourism service quality in Kırklareli</p>	<p>S1. Initiating studies for improving the quality in accommodation sector (certification, training, incentive, etc.)</p> <p>S2. Encouraging opening restaurants that will serve for first class people and native/foreign tourists</p> <p>S3. Training local people about entrepreneurship, tourism service and cultural heritage awareness</p> <p>S4. Compiling recipes of regional food in Kırklareli and providing trainings related to serve these foods commercially</p>



<p>Goal 5. Enriching and diversifying the tourism experience of visitors in Kırklareli</p>	<p>S1. Organizing the restaurants in city center, station and its neighbourhood and at bazaar in a way that they can serve for native and foreign people</p> <p>S2. Making plans for developing farming tourism in Dokuzhöyük, Kuzulu Village and similar villages and giving related incentives accordingly</p> <p>S3. Establishing souvenir and regional handcraft shops that address tourists in Hızırbey Bazaar and giving incentives</p> <p>S4. Preparing maps for trip roads in Strandzha Valley for nature sports (cycling, trekking) and providing recreation venues for sportsmen. Also giving information about the inventory released before (Wooden boards)</p> <p>S5. Introducing the Strandzha Nature Training Center in Dereköy to travel agencies and making it available to tourists visiting there for ecotourism and nature tourism (including school groups)</p> <p>S6. Making some parts of Karagöz, Art and Kakava Festival attractive for tourists coming from outside the region and introducing them</p> <p>S7. Organizing social events and shows with music and food for tourists who would like to stay overnight in Kırklareli</p> <p>S8. Introducing the products and centers of food / drink enterprises and giving incentives regarding packaging.</p>
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B2.1. Attraction Sources

B2.1.1. Natural Sources

* İğneada Coastal Area

İğneada coasts are one of the most important dune areas in Turkey with its 33 km dune.*

*Longoz Forests

İğneada Longoz Forests are deep spots having the largest surface area among those in Europe. These forests are home to a great number of fish and bird species. There are more than 500 plant species as well. Eleven of them are on the verge of extinction. Three of them are endemic. It is a protected area, but it is a big problem when visitors coming here for recreation purposes leave their garbage. It will make it easier for visitors



to visit the forests without damaging the forests if we draw tracks without ruining the natural balance of forest, determine recreation points, spots where they can eat the food they take with themselves and eating-drinking points. Besides, it will make the visitors' trips more meaningful to include information boards related to the plant, fish and bird species.

* Strandzha and Water Sources

Strandzha is rich in flora and fauna. It has been announced as Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO with its wild animals and plant species, red speckled trouts in the streams. It attracts ecotourists, trekkers and sportsmen with its fresh air and biodiversity. However, the wastes near residential areas contaminate it and ruin the natural landscape.

* Dupnisa Cave

Dupnisa is a unique cave system with its sixteen different species, a population of approximately sixty thousand and its dry and wet cave sections. There is a stone arch in the entrance. The temperature in the wet cave is 10 degrees, while it is around 17 degrees in the dry cave during summer and winter. It is the only cave that is open to tourism in Thrace. During the breeding period of bats, a big part of it is closed to visits. Although the place is a bit ruined, it is possible to reach the cave through a beautiful road within the forest. There are picnic areas available within the forest. It attracts native and foreign tourists. It has a potential worth considering in terms of tourism if we combine cave, forest and nature trekking with the ecotourism activities that can be made in the neighbouring villages.

* Limanköy Coastline

It has the characteristics of a natural harbour and rich in fish species. It has a high potential of coastal tourism and ecotourism. Limanköy is very suitable for many types of tourism such as sea, forest, fishing, photography and mushroom collection and has the potential to make the developing tourism action a product.

İğneada Lighthouse



The lighthouse which is located in Limanköy was built by French in 1866, so it is called as French Lighthouse among people. This lighthouse managed by the same family is closed due to automation.

* Liman Baba Türbe¹

Liman Baba Türbe which is located in İğneada harbour area is a saint tomb place with a story among sailors. Liman Baba is said to be one of the 7 siblings of Telli Baba, one of the most important saint tombs.

* Demirköy Fatih Iron Foundry

It is thought the artillery used by Fatih Sultan Mehmet when he conquered Istanbul was founded in this foundry where an iron center had been established because of rich sources in the region. Some of the architectural remainings in it are still in good condition. The restoration works launched in 2001 have not been completed yet.

* Castles and Watchtowers

There are some castles and watchtowers around Demirköy such as Hamdibey Village Tepebaşı Castle, Gökyaka Village Kılıçtepe Castle, Sislioba Kaletepe Castle, Sivrililer Castle. These castles can be utilized with the other castles in Kırklareli City Center as mentioned. We can carry out mapping works and put signboards, build areas where visitors can meet their toiler needs, determine areas where they can buy water, thus preparing this area as a tourism product for visitors who are interested in trekking and history. We can develop stories with respect to the history of the castle, the distances and which period they belong to.

*Hamdibey Billage

There are Greek houses in Hamdi Bey which used to be a Greek village before the commutation. The Greek writing still remain on walls of some of these houses. The Bosniac people who settled in the village after the commutation can benefit from this village suitable for culture tours and photograph trips in terms of their own culture and food.

¹ Translator's Note - "Türbe" is the Turkish word for tombs for typical mausoleum of Ottoman royalty and notables.



* Villages (Beğendik Village, Sislioba Village, Armutveren)

Villages such as Beğendik, Sislioba and Hamdi Bey have a potential worth making use of in terms of ecotourism. Ecotourism might be enhanced in these villages by combining elements like the lifestyles of different cultures, regional products. There are original thatches with Thracian style and stables (barracks) in Beğendik Village. It creates an attraction elements for it to be the closest settlement to west most of Turkey. There is a Genoese Castle remaining in Sislioba Village. Forest products and honey production in Sislioba stand out as unique products in this village surrounded by the forests.

* Regional Cuisine and Food

There are special products such as hardaliye, omelette made from a newly born cow's milk and kortunaç as well as regional foods cooked with halvah, dairy and meat products. This unique cuisine provides an important merit for ecotourism and agricultural tourism. However, the number and quality of the markets, shops and enterprises presenting these regional products is insufficient.

B2.1.3. Events

* Dupnisa Nature Fest

It was first celebrated in 2009 and we think that it will be useful to maintain it.

* Demirköy Strawberry Festival

The festival which is organized by Demirköy Municipality is celebrated every year.

B2.2. Services, Infrastructure and Transportation

* Accommodation Facilities

A Private Administration Camp (with a capacity of 750 people) along with a 5 star hotel, motels, lodgings and lodging houses are available in İğneada. There are lodging houses in Beğendik and Limanköy. There is also a village guesthouse called Guest House and a boutique lodging in Limanköy. The number of accommodation facilities in Demirköy district center is not enough.



* Food & Drink Facilities

There are fish restaurants in İğneada. There is one restaurant presenting regional meat food both in Hamdibey exit between İğneada-Demirköy and in Yenice. It is necessary to increase the number of restaurants that present regional tastes with village concept along with such venues.

B2.3. Goals and Strategies

Goals	Strategies
Goal 1. Developing alternative tourism fields such as ecotourism, agricultural tourism, sports tourism apart from coastal tourism in İğneada within the area comprising İğneada-Demirköy route, spreading tourism activities over four seasons.	<p>S1. Supporting local people for developing the alternative tourism types, communicating with managers who successfully carry out coastal tourism, nature tourism, ecotourism and agricultural tourism diversification process in destination examples.</p> <p>S2. Conducting training and inventory works for ecotourism, agricultural tourism and sports tourism</p> <p>S3. Training nature guides who can give information to tourist groups</p>
Goal 2. Increasing the capacity of accommodation and food-drink facilities	<p>S1. Spreading house lodging in İğneada-Demirköy route and organizing lodging training with local nongovernmental organizations</p> <p>S2. Supporting small food-drink facilities that present regional products and food, providing educational support in this issue</p> <p>S3. Completing maintenance and reparations works and restoration investments of Private Administration Camp so that it can serve for tourism again</p> <p>S4. Repairing and maintaining the natural camp that belongs to the Private Camp in Dereköy to make it available for service</p>
Goal 3. Protecting the natural environment that is one of the primary tourism attraction sources and preventing unplanned structuring and contamination	<p>S1. Restoring the fisherman shelter in İğneada and structuring ruining the landscape with its appearance, conducting environmental improvements</p> <p>S2. Taking protection and controlling precautions according to the capacity of coastal area</p>



	<p>S3. Informing local people and the visiting guests about being sensitive to environmental issues</p> <p>S4. Providing garbage collection service within the region</p>
<p>Goal 4. Branding unique regional products and main tourism attraction sources, making introductions and promotions in national and international tourism market</p>	<p>S1. Forming a group that can work on branding and marketing in İğneada-Demirköy Tourism Service Platform</p> <p>S2. Increasing the income and fame of local people by enhancing ecotourism and agricultural tourism</p> <p>S3. Building permanent contacts with institutions expertise in marketing and branding and preparing and marketing the promotion of İğneada-Demirköy route.</p>
<p>Goal 6. Improving the Nongovernmental Organizations conduction studies related to tourism and natural life</p>	<p>S1. Increasing the capacity of nongovernmental organizations in project writing and managing activities</p>

* Transportation

The road between İğneada and Demirköy is crooked but has a scenery. Here asphalt renewal works are carried out. There is no harbour available for providing sea transportation in İğneada.

* Canalization Infrastructure

Cesspool system is still used and there is no purification plant available.

B3. Kırklareli

Vize - Kıyıköy

B3.1. Attraction Sources

B3.1.1. Natural Sources

* Geographic Position

Having a short distance from Bulgarian border and Istanbul provides a privilege for Vize and Kıyıköy. Participants of Kırklareli Workshop have stated that this property is a positive aspect for the development of tourism. Currently the foreign tourist profile in Vize



consists mostly of Bulgarian tourists who come there by tour. After the landscape works carried out in center, it has been observed that more tourist bus routes to Vize have been added. Only one-day tour visitors come to Vize since the accommodation facilities for tourists are insufficient. Kıyıköy has a more different type of tourist profile with its coast and fish restaurants.

*** Vize Kıyıköy Forestland**

The region is very rich in forestlands. The lime trees in Vize create a very beautiful scenery, but the city is effected by air pollution during winter. The region is rich in green vegetables as well. Kasatura Natural Protection Area is a very unique area with a size of 329 hectares where one can see many tree types including black pine in particular (Hungarian Oak, Durmast Oak, etc.) and many creature species (roedeer, boar). It will accelerate the tourism develop in the region if the infrastructure deficiencies are dealt with by determining trip routes in this area. During the abovementioned Kırklareli Workshop the diversity and beauty of natural assets of the city have been covered. The participants have agreed that the region is suitable for developing alternative tourism types.

*** Vize and Pınarhisar Quarries**

There are many quarries in the region. These quarries has a negative impact on tourism in this region because of its bombing sound, dust, visual pollution and traffic problem caused by lorries. This issue has been covered as problem during the tourism workshop made in Kırklareli as well. Especially making the load and passenger transportation through only one line has a pretty negative effect in terms of the development this sector in the region.

*** Kıyıköy Coast**

There are three natural soil beaches in Kıyıköy along Black Sea. The scenery of the beaches are panoramic and unique when seen from hills of Kıyıköy. However, the tent



areas that are very close to the coast cause a visual pollution. Toilet and clothing cabins have been built in municipal beaches. However, the number of entrepreneurs who can provide food/drink service around the beach is not enough. Besides, coast guard is available only during weekends. The beaches should not be considered only in terms of swimming as the season is short and Black Sea is wavy. The season should be extended by considering sports such as sailing and kite surfing as well.

* Kıyıköy-Kazan and Pabuçdere

It has been taken under protected as 1st Degree Site Area beginning from the place where the two streams flow into the sea from Kıyıköy coast. Therefore, structuring and summer houses are not much at all. There is a large field where people close to the coast have a picnic, but the municipality is faced with the obligation to collect the garbage they leave here. The point where the streams open to the sea is also rich in green, creating unique recreation and trekking areas. There is also a pedalo and a boat manager available on Pabuçdere. It is possible to reach the reel field through the stream. However, we should make a long term plan for these areas and improve them in a way that help tourists make use of them without damaging the environment.

* Kıyıköy Harbour

There are fisherman boats in this harbour. Kıyıköy is located in the seaway between Bulgaria and Istanbul. If a small scaled marina is built in here, it might attract tourists who have a higher potential to spend money for marina tourism.

* Kıyıköy Lighthouse

There is a lighthouse in Kıyıköy just like in the other seaports. No information about its history has been found. There is a restaurant here popular among the tourists.



* Kıyıköy Flora and Fauna

Kıyıköy and Kasatura Bays are abundant in plant and animal species around them. Kıyıköy territories are suitable for organic agriculture and cultivating aromatherapy plants as agricultural disinfection is not common here. The region has potential to attract native/foreign tourists when it is introduced to special interest tourists.

* Vize Cehennem Waterfalls

Cehennem Waterfalls located in Kızılağaç village of the district are on Kerevitdere stream in the region. The waterfall is a great nature wonder for nature lovers and visitors who come for trekking and ecotourism.

B3.1.2. Cultural Sources

* Vize Little Hagia Sophia Church (Gazi Süleyman Paşa Mosque)

This church is located in Mimar Sinan Neighbourhood and was designed as basilica during the 6th century. It has a complex architectural style with the change in its roof made afterwards. The church was used as a mosque during the Ottoman period and some ornaments were added inside of it. Still used as a mosque, the building was subject to a renovation in 2007 which was not suitable for its essence. If the landscape is improved in the region and the church becomes a museum, it will be open all the time and enhance the touristic development in the region.

* Vize Büyük Camii Street Vicinity and Its Renovation (The Road to Little Hagia Sophia)

A major part of Mimar Sinan Neighbourhood is a 2nd hand archaeological site area. Within the scope of the project carried out (supported by Trakya Development Agency) it was renovated in a way that is suitable for its historical nature and by using natural and local materials (stones brought from places near Vize). A big part of the works is still in progress. There is Hagia Sophia Church, Şerbetdar Hasan Bey Mosque and Vize Castle in the neighbourhood. Also wooden huts where people can sell souvenirs were built on the two edges of the street. The studies of Municipality have been awarded by Association of Historical Towns with project prize in 2010. The streets attract cultural



tourists. It has been evaluated to be an important aspect for tourism development to have an easy access to the historical artifacts in the district. However, Vize also needs sign boards in different languages just like the other places. If traditional foods are served in some houses without damaging the cultural and historical tissue of the region, that will help the tourists stay longer here. The density that can be caused by the increasing number of tourist groups and traffic problem it might cause should be considered when the organizations are carried out.

* Vize Castle

The castle which is located in Mimar Sinan Neighbourhood sees the city from the top. The reparation epigraph from the Roman period in this castle is thought to have been built in that period. The castle was built by Byzantine afterwards during 6th century. Within the scope of the project the area roads surrounding the castle were turned into walking paths. However, the castle of which story is long and attractive needs a sign boards with descriptions in different languages.

* Vize Amphitheatre (Çömlektepe Excavation Field)

It is the only amphitheatre of Thrace. The excavations were launched, but only the amphitheatre could be revealed. When the surrounding houses are evacuated and the studies continue, this area will be Vize the star of Thrace in terms of archaeology field. The Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman ceramics, glass, metal findings and sculpture stage relieves in the area are exhibited in Kırklareli Museum. The amphitheatre is currently idle. Therefore, it is necessary to take immediate actions to protect and gain it to tourism.

* Kıyıköy (Salmidesos) Aya Nikola Monastery

It is a monastery example from 6th BC that is carved into a rock. It is a very popular place among the visitors due to its short distance from the town. There is a guard assigned by the municipality in front of its gate. The monastery which is in a wracked condition should be cleaned and illuminated. It is very hard to see it and walk inside with the lamb given by the guard. It is necessary to make a research to find whether there are other creations around it.



* Kıyıköy Castle and Its Ramparts

The castle and its ramparts were built during the 6th century and repaired by the Byzantine afterwards. It could survive until today as cut stones had been used to build it. The ramparts will make you feel that you have arrived in a historical place as soon as you enter into Kıyıköy. The castle was repaired in 1991. It is necessary to repair the ramparts, provide related information and make promotions.

* Kıyıköy Old Houses

Kıyıköy is an old fishing town. There are a total of 18 Greek houses that are registered in the center. The municipality has initiated the necessary attempts to repair eight of them. With the reparation of these houses there will be a beautiful area in Kıyıköy Center to see. Therefore, the tourists visiting the region will contribute more to the city by visiting not only the coast, but also this place.

B3.1.3. Events

* Vize Citta-Slow

Vize was accepted to be a member of Citta Slow (Silent City) in Italy as of June 2012. This membership makes the district different in the region as it creates the opportunity to become part of an international organization, contains studies aiming to enhance the life quality of people. Within the scope of this membership, works are carried out in the fields of environmental planning, urban wastes, domestic wastes, canalization, renewable energy, sign board works, electromagnetic pollution and noise pollution. Tourists will visit Vize even just because it is an example of Citta-Slow city. This property of Vize has been emphasized in Kırklareli Workshop. However, the quarries around the city restrict this property of the district. It is necessary to plan different social activities and train local people to understand Citta-Slow lifestyle and meet the expectations of tourists.

* Vize Ancient Village Revival Project

A project to be carried out in Karaköcek Hill of Vize has been prepared with the support of Trakya Development Agency. Within the context of this project there is an area where there are Thracian houses, restaurants, art workshop and local products shop. Vize will



be an area where the visitors can stay longer and experience Vize culture after the project is completed. The project in this field will fill a huge gap.

* Vize History and Culture Festival

This festival has been organized by the municipality for 7 years during summer months. There are concerts, exhibitions, cooking contests, fashion parades, presentations about astronomy and presentations covering the cultural merits of Vize during the festival. This festival is culturally richer than the other local festivals. Therefore, it not only enhances the life quality of local people, but also attracts people who migrated from Vize and other tourists. The biggest problem about the event is the insufficiency of accommodation capacity.

B3.2. Services, Infrastructure and Transportation

* Vize Tourist Information Center

There is no tourist information office in Vize which has actually taken critical steps towards becoming the cultural tourism center of region. It is necessary to make tourist guides available by considering the tourist profile visiting and to visit the area, provide relevant handbooks and brochures.

* Accommodation - Vize

There are accommodation problems in Kırklareli in general. The capacity and number of accommodation in Vize is very limited. The tourists visiting this city leave without staying and making no financial contribution. The participants of Kırklareli Workshop have pointed out this issue as a block against touristic development. It is necessary to encourage building small but qualified hotels that are suitable for city's atmosphere.

* Accommodation-Kıyıköy

There are lodging houses and small motels in Kıyıköy. However, their service quality is no competent. It is necessary to renew them altogether and provide quality standards by showing good examples. Furthermore, there is a hotel in Kıyıköy that can be a good example with its service quality. It is essential to support this enterprise and other similar enterprises for encouraging correct entrepreneurship.



* Food-Drink Enterprises-Vize

It is necessary to consider the traditional foods of Vize as a member of Citta-Slow. However, there is no such restaurant where it is possible to taste such foods. It will contribute to the Citta-Slow identity of the city if Slow-Food restaurants are opened.

* Food-Drink Enterprises - Kıyıköy

The restaurants in Kıyıköy generally present a fish menu. It is possible to taste many types of fish including turbot particularly. Some restaurants stand out with their scenery. However, there are deficiencies in terms of the perspective against the tourist, service quality and pricing policy. It is necessary to train the entrepreneurs in the region to make Kıyıköy a tourism destination.

* Training in Vize

The construction of the Vocational School has been launched. The school which is affiliated with Kırklareli University has capacity of 3000 students and contains a Tourism School as well within its structure. This development will improve the region socially and economically.

* Food-Drink Manufacturers and Sale Points

Vize and its neighbourhood is rich in terms of the products it can present (cheese, lime, buffalo yoghurt, green vegetables, dry food). However, most of these products are not known and cannot be sold in the outside of city because of deficiencies in packaging, presentation and promotion.

* Souvenirs

Vize is at the beginning stage for souvenirs. The municipality initiated works in this issue. However, Kıyıköy is more developed in this issue and presents products for tourists who visit it especially in summer.

* Transportation

There is a highway between İstanbul and Çerkezköy. However, it creates problems when the one-lined road has to be used after leaving the highway as it is also the route used by lorries.

* Kıyıköy Municipality Services



The winter population of Kıyıköy is 2200, while it can be more than 2000 during summer. The municipality provides coast and infrastructure services for the increasing population during summer with its limited service budget. A sandblasting machine was provided with the support of Trakya Development Agency. Such supports should be maintained.

B3.3. Goals and Strategies

Goals	Strategies
Goal 1. Increasing the number of native and foreign tourists visiting Vize and Kıyıköy	<p>S1. Meeting and supporting the needs of tourists visiting Vize individually</p> <p>S2. Encouraging travel agencies operating in Istanbul to sell Vize culture tours to native/foreign tourists</p> <p>S3. Encouraging travel agencies operating in Istanbul to sell Kıyıköy nature and/or ecotours</p> <p>S4. Drawing marine tourism from Black Sea to the town with a border crossing between Bulgaria and Turkey</p>
Goal 2. Providing accommodation for visitors in Vize	<p>S1 Encouraging opening small but qualified hotels in Vize</p> <p>S2 Encouraging travel agencies operating in Istanbul to sell Vize tours with accommodation</p> <p>S3 Organizing social activities for tourists to stay in Vize to make use of their late night time (For instance, concerts, theatres)</p>
Amaç 3. Positioning and branding Vize a cultural destination	<p>S1. Introducing Vize as a member of Citta-Slow and Association of Historical Towns</p> <p>S2. Preparing a short and long term tourism development plan for Vize and initiating branding works for Vize, preparing printed and electronic material and promotion plan</p> <p>S3. Launching ancient field excavations in Vize and planning them in accordance with tourism</p> <p>S5. Restoring Aya Nikola Monastery in Kıyıkö and gaining it to tourism with environmental planning studies.</p> <p>S6. Drawing the attentions to cultural elements in Vize and Kıyıköy through visual and written information sign boards.</p> <p>S7. Establishing Tourist Information centers in Vize and Kıyıköy</p>



<p>Goal 4. Enhancing tourism service quality in Vize and Kiyıköy</p>	<p>S1. Initiating quality development studies in Kiyıköy accommodation sector (certification, training, incentives, etc.)</p> <p>S2. Encouraging opening restaurants where traditional food is presented in Vize</p> <p>S3. Initiating studies related to enhancing service quality of fish restaurants in Kiyıköy.</p> <p>S4. Increasing the capacity of municipalities for environmental cleaning and waste disposal (such as coastal cleaning, garbage collecting and waste controlling)</p>
<p>Goal 5. Enriching and diversifying the tourism experiences of visitors in Vize and Kiyıköy</p>	<p>S1. Determining trekking roads in the forestlands of Vize and Kiyıköy, encouraging tent tourism in certain part within nature, making use of the region in terms of ecotourism</p> <p>S2. Improving sea sports in Kiyıköy (kite-surfing and sailing)</p> <p>S3. Launching aromatherapy studies in Kiyıköy, presenting cultivation and commercial use of plants as a tourism production</p>
<p>Goal 6. Participation of local shareholders in tourism development and practice</p>	<p>S1. Creating awareness of tourism for local people in Vize and Kiyıköy</p> <p>S2. Cooperation of two municipalities in planning, developing and practicing with Tourism Service Platform</p>

Action 62: Exhibiting the Ottoman Aqua Architecture Found in Kırklareli

It is necessary to grant the original functions to some architectural examples such as Alman Fountain, Gerdanlı Fountain, Kadı Ali Fountain, Kayyumoğlu Fountain, Hapishane Fountain which are located in Kırklareli and known to reflect the Ottoman Period in a great way. In addition, restoration works should be launched in where required and it is necessary to accelerate such activities in order to gain such works to tourism.

Priority: Medium

Application Period: Medium Period



Programme co-funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION



Managing Authority: Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism, Special Provincial Administration

Institutions to Cooperate With: Kırklareli Governorship, Trakya Development Agency, Trakya Tourism Service Platform, Kırklareli University, Edirne Regional Directorate of Protection of Cultural Assets.

Annex 5: Developing Sustainable Tourism in Kırklareli 29 May 2012

Summary of Workshop Report

The workshop titled Developing Sustainable Tourism in Kırklareli was organized in 288 Restaurant in 29 May 2012 with the host of Trakya Development Agency (TRAKYAKA). The studies carried out all day continued with a wide participation. The summary results of workshop are as the following.

Results and Evaluation

Positive Aspects For the Development of Tourism: Natural beauties of Kırklareli have been agreed by all workshop desks and deemed to be the most positive property by them. Among them include its Deep Spot Forests, caves, flora, wild animals and shore. Apart from that the city has historical and cultural assets coming from different periods and some of them have not been even revealed. Kırklareli has been considered to be very suitable for tourism in terms of its position as a border city and its short distance to Istanbul.

Negative Aspects the Development of Tourism: According to the participants the historical and natural beauties of Kırklareli have not been known in the country in general, thus it is necessary to introduce them with a priority. They also emphasize that the insufficiency of social activities in the city, deficiencies in accommodation and service sector, the necessity for a planned touristic development. Another issue that was seen to be a great restriction against tourism by all the desks has been the industry, quarries and



nuclear central projects developed with the decision of centralized administration without the consent of people.

Activities Required For Developing Tourism: When combining the positive and negative aspects for touristic development in Kırklareli, the participants have stated that it is necessary to carry out the touristic development in a planned way; determine and develop alternative touristic routes suitable for Kırklareli, introduce the region and protect historical places.

Projects: The participants came up with 33 projects at the end of the day. Promotion and planned development are the issues that the participants think to be the most necessary for development in Kırklareli Workshop. Therefore, the introduction of Hardaliye has been the first project that is most voted as a result of the collective voting (Atatürk's 82-Year Will: Hardaliye). Other projects that are thought to be important are establishing Aşağıpınar Village Museum for tourist attraction and Purifying the City From Wastes. Environmental planning and historical protection, deemed to be indispensable for touristic development, have been evaluated to be valid for this city as well.

33 projects were created for Kırklareli at the end of the day. All of the projects are as the following:

Projects Recommended For Kırklareli

Project 1. Reviving Yayla Neighbourhood and Commutation Tourism

Project 2. Let's Learn About Our Villages with Children

Project 3. Developing House Lodging with Training

Project 4. Creating Demirköy Brand for Nature Sports

Project 5. Kırklareli In TV Series

Project 6. Reviving Traditional Handcraft

Project 7. Village Konaks²

² Translator's Note - Konak is the Turkish word for a villa like houses in Turkey and on the territories of the former Ottoman Empire; especially, one used as an official residence



- Project 8. Uploading An Introduction Movie On Social Media
- Project 9. Creating Hunting Grounds
- Project 10. Gaining Sokullu Külliye To Tourism
- Project 11. Let's Pedal
- Project 12. Villages Are Blossoming With Agricultural and Cultural Tourism
- Project 13. Kırklareli Wine Path
- Project 14. Determining Kırklareli Tourism Routes
- Project 15. Kırklareli For Everyone (Kırklareli Stories and Introduction Texts in Foreign Languages)
- Project 16. The Hidden Heritage of Silent City Vize
- Project 17. The Secret Potantiel of Thrace Kırklareli Center
- Project 18. Ecotopia Has Missed Evciler Village Pond
- Project 19. Forming 40lareli Tourism Development Platform
- Project 20. www.40lareli.com
- Project 21. Contemporary Education Contemporary Tourism (Making People Aware)
- Project 22. 3K Village To Village Kırklareli(Village Houses)
- Project 23. Discover Kırklareli (Introduction of Kırklareli)
- Project 24. I Will Not Leave My Garbage In Kırklareli
- Project 25. Demirköy Is Introducing Its Honey
- Project 26. Turning Village Schools Into Lodging Houses
- Project 27. Detecting the Damages to Strandzha Forests and Taking Necessary Precautions
- Project 28. Developing Alternative Tourism
- Project 29. Neighbour Tourism
- Project 30. Aşağıpınar Trakya Village Museum
- Project 31. Project For Reviving North Kırklareli Villages Within the Trace of Thracians
- Project 32. Lozengrad Traditional Product Square
- Project 33. 82-Year Will of Atatürk: Hardaliye

***These datas of research were benefit from Thrace Development Agency.**



c. Landforms

(Coastal Areas, Caves, Valleys)

KIRKLARELİ

In Kırklareli there are caves, karstic formations, coasts and valleys that are valuable in terms of tourism. Dupnisa Cave is the best known among them. Formed as a result of limestone melting by water in karstic region, it is located near Sarpdere Village in Demirköy District. In this cave there are stalagmites and stalactites that were formed as a result of limestone melting. The cave is 3200 meters long. Dupnisa, part of which has been opened to visit after a restoration by Kırklareli Directorate of Museum and Culture, can be reached both through the asphalt road that is separated from the highway on the left of Velika Bridge leading to Demiköy and through roads that were subject to maintenance.

While the cave which has water is lightened, it is used by bats as shelter. Formed by collapsing, the cave is a first degree natural protected area and is protected by officials. The cave is visited by approximately 40 thousand people each year.

In Kırklareli and its neighbourhood there are tens of other karstic caves and coves which were formed similarly with Dupnisa Cave and are waiting for being discovered. According to "Strandzha Biosphere Project" the following can be included among them: Bağlar Cave (Sergen - Vize), Bezirgan Cave (Sivriler Village - Demirköy), Bostanlıktarla Cave (Kışlacık Village - Vize), Çatalyol Subatari Cave (Avcılar - Demirköy), Dupnisa Cave System (Sarpdere village - Demirköy), Kale-1 Cave (Çukurpınar Village - Kırklareli), Kale-2 Cave (Çukurpınar Village - Kırklareli), Kale-3 Cave (Çukurpınar Village - Kırklareli), Kıyıköy Cave (Sergen - Vize), Kızılağaç Cave (Kızılağaç - Vize), Kızlar Cave (Sarpdere - Demirköy), Kovantaşı Cave (Kışlacık Village - Vize), Kozarka Cave (Çukurpınar - Kırklareli), Kurudere (Ağıl) Cave (Hamidiye - Vize), Kurudere (Domuzdere) Cave (Balkaya - Vize), Mermer Cave (Sivriler Village - Demirköy), Ocak Cave (Sergen - Vize), Pestilin Cave (Evrenli - Vize), Tirfez Cave (Sergen - Vize), Uzuntarla Cave (Sergen - Vize), Yenesu Cave (Balkaya - Vize), Yeşillik Cave (Armağan - Vize).



Yenesu Cave is situated in Balkaya Vilaga of Vize and is 1620 meters long. It is the third biggest cave of Thrace. The interior part of Yenesu is full of all kinds of pretty beautiful dripstones (stalactites, stalagmites, column wall dripstones, dripstone pools and spaghetti shapes). These shapes which come down onto the dripstone pool or lakes in the shape of drips or which rise from the floor gain a magical atmosphere to the cave.

Kırklareli becomes a prominent province with its coasts and beaches that are quiet suitable for a type of tourism based on sea and beach concept. The 56-km long part of Black Sea is located in the territories of Demirköy and Vize districts of Kırklareli. Beğendik Village that is part of İğneada town of Demirköy District is the last residential area that is located in the west of Black Sea in Turkey. Rezova of Bulgaria is located just in the opposite of it.

Panayır İskelesi Beaches are located within the territories of Kışlacık Village, which has 47 km distance from Vize. Panayır İskelesi is worth utilizing and improving in terms of tourism with its properties like a length of 200 meters, a width of 20 meters, its clear sea, soft soil and marvellous natural scenery surrounded by forests.

İğneada town of Demirköy and Kıyıköy town of Vize have drawn a remarkable number of visitors to the neighbourhood when it comes to sea tourism. There are many alternatives from concept hotels, lodging houses, public utilities to camping areas in these towns.

It is possible to find many untouched areas where one can swim throughout this coastline. The primary ones among them are as the following: Beğendik Village Coast, İğneada Coasts, Panayır İskelesi Bay, Poliçe Bay, Kıyıköy (Midye) Coast, etc. In these coastal areas are available for finding social fields, accommodation and refreshment facilities where the tourists can meet their needs. However, as it can be predicted, it is obvious that the quality of such areas should be enhanced and they need to have new facilities and places in order to draw the attention of new tourists to the region.



d. Wetlands (Rivers, Lakes, Thermal Sources)

KIRKLARELİ

There are many streams, natural lakes, ponds, artificial lakes (dam) and wetlands of all sizes in the province of Kırklareli and its neighbourhood, but the existence of wetlands that can be used for tourism purposes is limited. There is no thermal source available in the region. In this chapter, only the formations that are valuable in terms of tourism and that can draw the attention of tourists are covered. However, it is considered to be suitable to mention some essential rivers and lakes, although it is not possible for them to bear any touristic value.

Ergene River: One of the first rivers that springs in mind when it comes to Thrace, Ergene River rises from Strandzha. It is joined by many streams that rise from these mountains. It becomes larger with joining Hayrabolu Stream that is located between Alpullu-Pehlivanköy. It is joined by Maritsa in the territories of Edirne. It damages agricultural fields and residential areas dramatically by overflowing during years abundant of rain with the melting of snow. The amount of water in it decreases during summer. Recently, Ergene has been relatively contaminated by the chemical wastes of industrial enterprises in Çerkezköy, Çorlu and Lüleburgaz.

Mert Lake: This lake is located in Demirköy, 1 km south of İğneada. Also known as Koca Göl, this lake is a lagoon lake that was formed as the sea filled Deringeçit Stream. It is separated from Black Sea with a soil wall that is located in the east of it. However, it is joined by streams time to time as water masses rise. Its northern part is surrounded by İğneada residential area and Istranca Mountains in the west and south. Forestlands in this region remain under water masses especially during spring and autumn when there is an abundance of rain. For this reason, the region is also known as Mert Longozu³ (Koca Longoz). Part of which is covered by reeds, the lake is contributed by a deep passage stream that is located in the northwest of it and drains its surplus water mass

³ Translator's Note - Longoz: Deep Spot



into Black Sea. The lake has valuable touristic properties as a result of being part of deep spots.

There are various wetlands that are withing Longoz Forests and part of natural life in the region. These are Erikli, Pedina (Grove), Hamam and Saka Lakes.

Cehennem⁴ Waterfalls: “Don’t feel offended when someone says ‘go to hell!...” says a nature traveller. This is because there is a unique beauty in Kızılağaç Village of Vize District of Kırklareli, another gift by the nature that makes one say “it could not be more beautiful”. Cehennem Waterfalls are a nature wonder that is located in Kerevit Dere in the region and was formed by water masses as they carved rocks gradually throughout years. These waterfalls present a unique opportunity for trekking fans. One can see many other large and small waterfalls in the territories of Kerevit Dere which is a popular place for nature fans, but Cehennem Waterfalls, a beauty that is hidden behind the rocks, is the biggest among them.

Çifte Kaynaklar (Sergen): Çifte Kaynaklar which is located near Sergen Town of Vize, is a place where one can see small sequences of waterfalls forming ponds by flowing from a series of elevations with the lush green forest tissue of Istranca Forests. Recently, it has become one of the most popular tracks preferred especially by photograph and nature trackers.

KIRKLARELİ

The province has ponds visited by the tourists that go for a picnic and are interested in handline fishing. The examples include Bıyıkali, Ulaş, İnanlı, Karacahalil, Yeniçiftlik Ponds. Attractive resort and picnic areas can be built around these ponds by carrying out landscape design works.

⁴ Translator’s Note - Cehennem: Hell



e. Climate

KIRKLARELİ

KIRKLAR ELİ	Janu ary	Febru ary	Mar ch	Ap ril	Ma y	Ju ne	Jul y	Aug ust	Septem ber	Octo ber	Novem ber	Decem ber
Average Temperature (°C)	3.1	4.0	6.9	12.1	17.2	21.6	23.8	23.3	19.1	13.8	8.7	4.8
Highest Average Temperature (°C)	6.7	8.2	11.8	17.6	23.1	27.9	30.4	30.2	25.8	19.4	13.1	8.2
Lowest Average Temperature (°C)	0.2	0.7	2.9	7.2	11.5	15.4	17.7	17.5	13.8	9.7	5.4	2.1
Average Sunshine Duration (hours)	2.9	3.9	5.3	6.8	8.8	9.4	10.4	10.3	8.0	5.4	3.8	2.2
Average Number of Rainy Days	10.6	8.9	9.5	10.5	9.9	8.6	5.0	4.4	4.9	7.5	9.1	11.2
Highest Temperature (°C)	18.3	21.0	25.7	29.4	34.6	39.8	42.5	40.4	37.0	37.4	25.6	21.6
Lowest Temperature (°C)	-15.8	-15.0	-11.8	-3.0	1.4	5.8	8.8	10.2	3.0	-3.4	-7.2	-11.1



Average Values Obtained Within Long Years (1975 - 2010)

The climate differs in regions in Kırklareli. “Black Sea Climate” is observed in parts that face north of Strandzha. Therefore, the weather is cool during summer, while it is cold during winter. The temperature difference between summer and winter is low. The average of yearly rainy here is 800-900 mm. “Continental Climate” is observed in interior parts that are far from sea. Here the weather is hot during summer, while winter is cold and snowy time to time. The temperature difference between summer and winter is high. The highest temperature average in the region is 30,2 °C as of August, while the lowest temperature is experiences in February with 0,2 °C. The highest temperature in Kırklareli has been determined as 42,5 °C in July (27.07.2000), while the lowest has been determined as -15,8 °C in January (14.01.1972).

Yearly average amount of rainfall is pretty low in coastal areas, although the region is rainy during all season. Yearly average temperature in Kırklareli is 13 °C and yearly average rainfall is approximately 600-700 mm. This average increases up to 614.5 mm in Lüleburgaz, 630.1 mm in Pınarhisar, 818.0 mm in Demirköy. Since Istrance Mountains keep and block the clouds and humid wind coming from Black Sea, yearly average amount of rainfall in the North West part of these elevations can reach up to 1000-2000 mm. Yearly average amount of rainfall in the province is 36.7 mm. The plants in Kırklareli province can absorb some humidity at least from dews and rimes since the province is suitable for evaporation. Therefore, the region is pretty rich in flora.

The region falls within the 3rd climate zone when the sunshine rates are taken into consideration. In other words, it is the 2nd least sun-soaked region. That constitutes a disadvantage for coast and sea tourism, but this can be reversed with various activities that can be carried out with tourism works. The natural beauty and untouched ecosystem of the region are full of things that can provide all kinds of eco and agro tourism facilities.



f. Cultural Merits

1) Physical Cultural Properties (Archaeological Areas, Historical Areas, Religious Artifacts, Historical Artifacts, Modern Artifacts, Museums)

KIRKLARELI

Museums

Kirklareli Museum

The museum building was constructed as a municipal service building in 1894. The building was allocated for Ministry of Culture for becoming a museum. Maintenance-reparation works were launched here in 1983 and completed in 1993. Works to design the historical building as a museum were launched in December 1990. The museum was opened for visit in 14 January 1994.

Constructed as two-storey building on a basement, the building has arched windows in its four fronts and there is a bay that fits on four columns in the entrance. Archaeology and Ethnography sections welcome the visitors in the upper floor, while the Nature Exhibition Hall welcomes them in the entrance floor.

The main goal of Kirklareli Museum is to be a center for a delayed historical research in Kirklareli and its neighbourhood, to help and pioneer various scientific institutions. The museum has 4397 recorded artifacts 610 of which are ethnographic, 1487 of which are archaeological, 2285 of which are coins, 15 of which are stamp and stamp prints. These artifacts chronologically vary in all time periods beginning from Prehistoric eras to Republic period.

Also the cultural and natural property records that have been carried to their places as part of the main task of Directorate of Museum are remarkable in amount. Within this scope, there are 372 registered structure properties and archaeological sites in the province consisting of 106 archaeological, 3 urban, 4 historical, 13 natural archaeological sites and 246 single structures.

Archaeology Section: This section consists of artifacts that were acquired in Kirklareli and its neighbourhood. The exhibition begins with diverse sea-land creatures and tree



fossils, then chronologically follows an historical route from Neolithic Period to the end of Ancient Rome Period. The display windows mainly include artifacts acquired as a result of the excavations carried out in Kırklareli Aşağıpınar, Kanlıgeçit and Tilkiburnu residential units, Vize Ancient Theatre, Demirköy Fatih Demir Foundry, Pınarhisar İslambey, Alpullu Höyüktepe, Dolhan and Yündolan C tumuli. Here there is also a coin display window from classical eras that continue until the Ottoman Period and that follow a chronological order. Due to the increase in the number of artifacts and the insufficiency of buildings, the artifacts in display windows are changed especially before every Museums Week. Various 72 coins and 246 archaeological findings are still exhibited in this section.

Ethnography Section: This section consists of two parts and is located in the upper floor. The first part deals with the village life that depicts the first half of 19th - 20th centuries. The second part has display windows where there are ethnographic materials such as clothes, accessories, etc. from different periods near the “Kırklareli City Room” that reflects the same periods again.

Nature Hall: It is located in the basement in the museum entrance. In this section 102 various creature examples from 76 species are embalmed and exhibited in their natural environment with sound effects. Some of these animal species are extinct or on the verge of extinction. The visitors of this most popular part of museum are mostly secondary school students and some students and academicians from biology, natural sciences, etc. departments of universities.

Mounds

Surface research studies have been carried out in Tilkiburnu, Helvacı Şaban and Koyunbaba mounds apart from the excavation works that still continue in Aşağıpınar and Kanlıgeçit residential areas in Kırklareli. In addition to flat lodging residential areas, some different caves have residential traces from prehistoric eras. One of the most essential among them is the Bedre Cave near Kayalı Village of Kırklareli main district.

The First City of Thrace Kanlıgeçit (3200-2050 BC)



Kanlıgeçit Territory is located in 300 metres south of Kırklareli City. The Babaeski-Kırklareli railway has split and passes through the residential area. Dating back to the First Bronze Age 3rd Millennium BC, Kanlıgeçit is the oldest known urban settlement area in the Balkans and the only Anatolian Colony settlement of the First Bronze Age in Thrace. The settlement consists of an interior castle surrounded by ramparts and residential areas that cover a wide space. The excavation works that began in 1994 in Kazlıçeşme were completed in 2009 and the interior part of the castle was restored in the same year and designed as an outdoor museum.

The settlement that had begun in 3200 BC in Kanlıgeçit had continued to exist until 2400 BC in Thrace and in other parts of the Balkans as a large village with wooden architecture. During these dates it can be observed that the settlement was reformed and influenced by the Anatolian cultures for the first time.

People turned the settlement into a mound by filling the area where there were ancient structures; therefore, people had an elevation where the defence ramparts surrounding the interior castle could fit. A large number of Anatolian-imported ceramics, clay statuettes and tamed horse bones were found during this stage of the settlement. Kanlıgeçit is not only the place that has provided the highest number of findings in Turkey from the period when the horses were tamed, it is also the oldest example of a caravan road known between Kültepe-Kaniş-Kanum and formed during the First Bronze Age. There had been no settlement in the region for one thousand years after Kanlıgeçit had been destroyed in 2050 BC.

“The First Footprints On The Way To Europe: Aşağı Pınar Village”

“The First Footprints Towards To Europe: Aşağı Pınar Village”

Being the oldest farming village settlement in Thrace, Aşağı Pınar has presented revolutionary-like findings for researchers who follow the traces of civilization. Some very significant clues related to the spread of civilization from Anatolia to Europe have been acquired here. The permanent farming settlement that had begun in 10.000 BC in Anatolia reached Thrace in 6400 BC and started to spread across Europe. The



settlement gained in Aşağı Pınar has the first traces of European Civilization. Confirming that the architecture was mainly wooden, the archaeologists have stated that the remains are thus not abundant and protected. Therefore, a different type of exhibition order in the shape of modelling has been created in order to reflect this settlement that is pretty important for understanding the European civilization history to society.

The region is designed as an outdoor museum, the findings obtained from excavations are exhibited within buildings that have been modelled in accordance with their origin. In these exhibition units people have tried to reflect the period with building models, 6th layer Neolithic house that experienced fire, dummies, architectural elements and models of other elements.

There is a large number of historical settlement areas within the district territories of Babaeski, Demirköy, Kofçaz and Pınarhisar.

There are two very significant mounts in Vize city center. There are findings that show that one of them, Çömlektepe, was used for a period beginning from the Bronze Age until the end of Ancient Rome Period. The excavation works here revealed a theatre from Ancient Rome Period as well as many other valuable artifacts. Historical remains from Ancient Rome Period draw attention in the ancient settlement area that is known as Vize Mount which is also the place where Vize Castle is located in. In addition, researchers claim that Karakoçaktepe, which is situated in approximately 3 km north of Vize, was once also a prehistoric settlement area.

Tumuli

Tumulus can be simple defined as small masonry hills in which there is a tomb and which is formed by people. 92 tumuli have been registered and put under protection so far within the territories of Kırklareli province. However, surface researches carried out during different periods have shown that this number can be higher than 200 with the inclusion of small-sized Tumuli. The excavation works have proven that the construction of Kırklareli Tumuli continued for a long period of time beginning from the end of Bronze Age (14th-13rd century BC) until the beginning of 3rd Century BC. There is a large



number of tumuli within the district territories of Babaeski, Demirköy, Kofçaz and Pınarhisar.

The most abundant region in terms of the number of tumuli in Eastern Thrace is Vize and its neighbourhood. The evaluations have shown that there are more than 40 tumuli in Vize and its villages.

Center

Eriklice Tumulus, Bedre Tumulus, Çifte Tumuli (2), Kermedenler Yolu Tumulus, Üsküp Tumulus, Dokuzhöyük Tumuli (8)

Babaeski

Höyüktepe Tumulus, Yukarı Tumulus, Aşağı Tumulus, Demirkapı Tumulus, Çeşme Tumulus.

Demirköy

Beş Tumuli, Sivriiler Tumuli,

Kofçaz

Devletliağaç Tumulus

Lüleburgaz

Kepirtepe Tumulus, Ahmetbey Tumulus, Umurca Tumuli (4), Eskibağlar Tumulus, Nişantaşı Tumulus, Ayvalı Tek Tumulus, Sakızköy Büyük Tumulus, Sakızköy Küçük Tumulus

Pehlivanköy

İkiztepe Tumuli (2)

Pınarhisar

Haydarbaba Tumulus, Bağlar Tumulus, Pınaryolu Tumuli (3), İslambeyli Tumulus

Vize

Kıyıköy Vezirtepe Tumulus, Antepe Tumulus, Kadıköy Tumulus, Kanaltepeler Tumulus, Katırcı Tumulus, Kocatepe Tumulus, Çakıllı Tumulus, Okçular Tumulus, Akıncılar Tumulus, Çavuşköy Tumulus, Kocatepe Tumulus, Kaynarca Tumulus, Yarıktepe Tumulus, Üçtepe Tumulus I, Üçtepe Tumulus II, Üçtepe Tumulus III, A Tumulus, B Tumulus, Bağlartepesi Tumulus, Alibaba Tumulus, Yusuf Çavuş Tumulus, Buzağidere



Tumulus, Vize Tumulus, Müsellim Tumulus, Develitepe Tumulus, A Tumulus, Kovantepe Tumulus, Adsız Tumulus, Pomak Hasan Tumulus, Hasbuğalı Tumulus, Tumulus within the Brigade, Tepe Çayırı Tumulus, Varlıktepe Tumulus, Ömertepesi Tumulus, Çiftliktepe Tumulus, Reco Tepe Tumulus, Kıyıköy Tumulus I, Kıyıköy Tumulus I, Kıyıköy Tumulus.

Menhirs

Menhirs are megalithic (large stone), erected monumental tombstones. The main usage period of menhirs which are abundant in Kırklareli and its neighbourhood is the Early Iron Age. Examples of dickites that are approximately 3 meters high can be seen in Kırklareli Central District, Erikler, Değirmencik, Ahmetçe villages and Lüleburgaz District.

Dolmens

The dolmens which are accepted as the early stage of tumuli that are abundant in Thrace range generally on the north and north western mountain slopes of Kırklareli and plain feet near these slopes. Also called covered or covered rock, the dolmens are türbes⁵ made from big platy monolithic stones as simple rooms. The researches made so far have shown that the dolmens reach somewhere around Demirköy District of Kırklareli as a line beginning from Lalapaşa District of Edirne as the center. Dolmens are thought to be used during the Early Iron Age (1300-800 BC). Some of these monumental structures can be found partly undamaged in the neighbourhood of Kofçaz, Dereköy, Kadıköy, Kula, Geçitağzı, Kapaklı and Düzorman. It is predicted that there can be also dolmens in Demirköy District. There is a large number of dolmen within the territories of Kofçaz district as well.

Religious Buildings

Central District

Kadı Mosque: It is located in the opposite of Ahmet Mithat Elementary School in the center of Kırklareli. The mosque which was constructed by Emin Ali Çelebi in 1577 (985 for Muslim Calendar) is still in use and designed as square. It is called Kadı Mosque

⁵ Translator's Note - "Türbe" is the Turkish word for tombs for typical mausoleum of Ottoman royalty and notables.



because of the court that was next to it before. It is also called Emin Ali Çelebi Mosque. The flat surface of its front is coated with sandstone. The jambs and mihrab of its lower windows are made of sandstone with a great craftsmanship. The coating foiled rosettes similar to an arch top with sandstones on relieving arches are the only decoration property of the mosque. The ceiling and dome are wooden, covered with Ottoman style tile and have four ridges. Its minaret is adjacent to the mosque and polygonal chump. It was restored by the Regional Directorate of Foundations in 2007.

Beyazıt Mosque: It is located in Hatice Hatun Neighbourhood in Kırklareli city center. The first construction date of it is in the 16th century. The second construction was carried out by Güllabi Ahmet Paşa between the years 1593-1594 (1002 in Muslim Calendar). It is still open for prayers and designed as square. The exterior fronts of walls are sandstone and alternative brick compressive with a hacking order. Its interior decoration and roof is wooden with four ridges and its upper part is covered with tile. The minaret is covered with sandstone beginning from its base.

Karakaş Mosque: Located in Yeni Hükümet neighbourhood, the mosque was built by Karakaş Hacı Mehmet Bey in 1628 (1110 in Muslim Calendar). The mosque is still open to visits. It is a rubble stone wooden roofed structure which is designed square. The minaret of old mosque is cut even sandstone with single balcony and its cap is leaded. The new building is concrete and its minaret was demolished from the chump and rebuilt. Afterwards, a narthex was added. The upper part of its roof is covered with Marseilles tile.

Hızırbey Mosque (Büyük Mosque): It is located in downtown Kırklareli. It was built by Köse Mihalzade Hızır Bey in 1383 (785 in Muslim Calendar). It is a structure designed as square. The exterior parts of its walls, dome ring and minaret are covered with sandstone. The narthex and backyard wall are added later. Its minaret is cut stone and has one balcony, the chump is square and the cap is leaded. The mosque which is also known as Büyük Mosque is open to visit.



Kapan Mosque: It is located next to the new Municipality Building. It was built by Karaca İbrahim Bey in 1640 (1050 in Muslim Calendar). The mosque of which the other name is Karaca İbrahim Bey Mosque is still open to prayers. The building was actually designed as square, but the Mufti Office Building was added later. The exterior part of the walls are made of freestone and coated with sandstone the gaps between stone ranges are supported with hacking. Its roof has four ridges and covered with Marseille tile on a wooden. Its minaret is cut stone cord with one balcony and the cap has cut stone.

Üsküpdere Mosque: It is located in Üsküpdere Villaga of Central District. The mosque that was built in 1904 is designed as rectangle. There are women gathering place and narthex. The ceiling is wooden and there are windows with lancet arch, the minaret has one balcony.

Namazgah: This place that is located in the north of the city had been used as a cemetery and namazgah⁶. It still functions as a pine grove and park. It was a place with a capacity that was available for prayers and could have a crowded congregation during salat al eid. Now it is used as a recreation area and has a saint tomb with unknown identity.

Church: It is located in Koyunbaba Village of Inece Town in Central District and has remained partly undamaged. It is covered with flat cut freestone and its cornerstones are dressed as framed. Its roof part is collapsed.

Babaeski

Cedid Ali Paşa Mosque. It is located in the beginning part of the bridge on asphalt. It was built by Mimar Sinan with the instruction of Cedid Ali Paşa in 1555 (962 in Muslim Calendar). It is still used as a mosque and was subject to a radical reparation in 1832. It has a four-line Turkish construction epigraph and a ten-line supervisor epigraph. It was built on a square design by using cut sandstone and its upper part is covered with large dome coated with leaden. There are two narthexes that are linked with each other and one of which has a wooden roof. Although its minaret with one balcony was demolished

⁶ Translator's Note - Namazgah: an outdoor prayer place.



by Bulgarians during Balkan War (1912), it was rebuilt again. The mosque is a small sample of Selimiye Mosque in Edirne.

Fatih (Eski) Mosque: It is located behind a historical fountain on an asphalt. It was built in 1467 (871 in Muslim Calendar) and is still used for praying purposes. Consisting of rubble stone and four walls only, this mosque has a wooden narthex of which top is covered with tile. Its minaret was demolished and then rebuilt again, part of it above the balcony being wooden. There is a two-line construction epigraphy printed on a stone on the interior door.

Lüleburgaz

Sokullu Mosque: It is still open to prayers. Muezzin gathering place, mihrab, minbar and sadirvan are made of marble. Its roof is wooden and eaves are layered. Its minaret that has single balcony was rebuilt.

Kadı Ali Mosque: It is located in Lüleburgaz Eski Camii Sokak and is designed as a square structure with one minaret. It is still open to prayers.

Pınarhisar

Hundi Hatun Mosque (Cami-i Kebir): It is located in Cami-i Kebir Neighbourhood. It is a structure that belongs to the 15th century. It is undamaged and open to prayers. It used to have a square design, but later it gained a rectangular appearance as the congregation area was closed. The walls are all made of cut stone. The fact that there are large blocks in its surrounding walls supports the idea that it used to be a dome. Mihrab, minbar and ambo are wooden.

Sadıkağa Mosque: It is located in Pınarhisar-Istanbul road. The building that belongs to the 14th

century is open to prayers. It is a half-wooden structure that was built on a square design.

Erenler Mosque: It is located in Erenler Village of Pınarhisar.



Kaynarca Church Remaining: There is a damaged church remaining in Kaynarca Town of Pınarhisar.

Kaynarca Kaya Monastery: The monastery is located in Kaynarca Town and belongs to the Byzantine Period. It has two entrances carved into rock. It is still used as storage. There are abscissas, seats and candle lighting parts. Its walls are ornamented with mortar.

Vize

Little Hagiasophia (Gazi Süleyman Paşa Mosque) Church: It is located between the interior and exterior ramparts in Kale Neighbourhood. It was built in the 6th Century during Justinian Period and restored as a mosque during the second half of 14th century. Currently, it is not used. It is designed as almost square shaped rectangle. It has three abscissas and its dome is placed on a six cornered tanbur. The building is divided into three sections with legs having 1.30, 1.40 cm diameters and with columns next to (between) them. The top of these marble columns are in Corinth style. The mosaics that are not currently available like the columns have similarities with those in Hagia Sophia and St. Irene in terms of shape. The main building could be reached through the Byzantine style door with three-marble jamb from narthex. The building which once had had broken writings and female statues inside was built with stones and bricks. The dome is transversal and the cradle is vaulted. Mihrab is concrete added later. The building does not have any pulpits. There is entirely a church-like atmosphere in the building. The building has been subject to many changes. It was restored by the Regional Directorate of Foundations in 2007. We can draw the attentions to this church both with its architecture and its merits holy for Christians in order to introduce the region for tourism. Furthermore, there are many narrative and legends about this church. It would be a great advantage in terms of tourism if we could include such narratives and legends in introduction activities in order to raise the interest for the region.

Hasan Bey Mosque: It is located in the opposite of District Gendarme Building in Kale Neighbourhood. Someone called Gelibolulu Hasan Bey turned it into a mosque at the end of the 14th century while it had been in use as a synagogue. Also, it reminds of a



türbe in terms of its shape as it does not have any minarets. It is designed as square and the thick wall is coated with big even cut stone, its dome is placed into an eight cornered tanbur. It was restored by Regional Directorate of Foundations in 2007.

Sadri Bey Mosque: It is a building from 16th century in Kale Neighbourhood. Only three walls and vault of it survived. The fountain next to it also dates back to the same century. It is made from even cut sandstone. The sadirvan at the backyard is decorated with Byzantine flanged stones. There is also Turkish bath from 16th century next to the mosque. Its clothing room and an intimacy in the damaged basin has remained.

Kıyıköy Mosque: It is located in the entrance of Kıyıköy town. The building dates back to the Late Ottoman Period and was turned into a mosque from a church. And it is still active.

Vize Cave Monasteries: These are works from Byzantine Period located in Vize Asmakaya. They were formed by stone masters who shaped it by making use of natural some ranged caves. Also, rock tombs that have similar properties with them stand out in the same territory. Some part of the monastery is used as sheep fold.

Aya Nikola Monastery: It is located in the south slope on the road to Pabuçdere in Kıyıköy Town

and 700 meters away from the town center. It is one of the best examples of rock monasteries from Byzantine Period (6-9th Century). There is a church in the basement, while there is an Hagia in the lower part of it. There are sections special for monks in the upper parts. Also, there are cabins formed through carving the rocks. The Hagia can be reached through downstairs in the north. There is a second entrance in the east of the church. In 19th century the frontside of rock galleries were completed by Rums with a wooden entrance. However, this section was destroyed afterwards.

Asmakayalar Cave Monastery: These building groups that date back to 9th Century in Byzantine Period were created through human intervention in restoring the natural caves within the karstic structure of the region in. The cave monastery chapel that is located in



Vize Asmakayalar consists of a tomb chapel, monk cabins and church with single nave. Unfortunately, it was dramatically damaged by people.

Fountains

Center

Kayalık Fountain: It is located in Karacaibrahim Neighbourhood. It was built in the second half of 19th century. It still active and abundant in water. Its well is behind it and made of big cut sandstones designed as squares. It is a lancet arched square fountain with a basin and single front.

Büyük Cami Fountain: It is located in Büyük Mosque, seeing Cumhuriyet Square. It was built towards the end of 19th century and is called Alman Fountain most of the time. It has a Neo-Classical style with marble coating and has a flat lancet arch. The fountain used to have four fronts when it was located in the middle of downtown, but now it has three fronts. Its mirrors are self-arched and top of them is panelled and fringed.

Gerdanlı Fountain: It is located in Acem Geçici Sokak of Tırnova Street. This building dating back to 11th century was built on a square design with its hopper and made entirely of sandstone. It is a high square fountain with two surfaces of which facade and right fronts are flat lancet arched, while the other surfaces are flat.

Kocahıdır Fountain: It is located in former Istanbul road. The building which dates back to the second half of the 19th century is designed as square and behind its hopper. It is flat lancet arched and fringed. Its wall structure is vague as all parts of it are tucked up with cement mortar.

Kayyumoğlu Fountain: It is located in former Istanbul road and was built in 1768 (1182 in Muslim Calendar). There are first construction and reparation epigraphs. It is a single-surfaced fountain with a round arch and designed as square with its hopper. It is a square fountain top of which is covered with gable roof and made entirely of sandstone.



Kapan Fountain: It is located near the New Municipality Building in front of Kapan Mosque. This fountain that was built in 1771 (1185 in Muslim Calendar) has a construction epigraph written in Ottoman Turkish in six couplets. The fountain used to be have a square design, but then it lost its unique properties as it was repaired with marble, cement and mosaics.

Boyacı Fountain: It is located in Namazgah Street and was built in 1771 (1185 in Muslim Calendar). The other name of this active fountain is Kolancı. It was built on a square design with its hopper. It is a stone square fountain, but it has lost its original properties because of being tucked up with cement later.

Karaumbey Fountain: It is located in Karaumur Street and was built in 1844 (1260 in Muslim Calendar). It used to have four fronts, but now two fronts of it are visible now, Gerdanlı stream flows from its back front. It is designed as square with its hopper. The building structure is made of sandstone and it is square fountain with round arch.

Söğütlü Fountain: It is located in Söğütçük neighbourhood and was built in the second half of 1th century. It used to be a burrowed fountain and was a few layers lower than the ground level. It is designed as square and tucked up with cement. A lot of water constantly flows from the two large holes on its two surfaces.

Kadı Fountain: It is located in the opposite of Kadı Mosque and was built in 1568-69 (976 in Muslim Calendar). It is designed as square and all of its parts are coated with sandstone. It is single-surfaced square fountain with classical flat lancet arch. Its small vaulted dome is not visible as top of was lifted with the additions made after fringe removal.

Paşa Fountain: It is located in Kurupaşa Çeşme Sokak. The construction date of this fountain is unknown. It was built with its hopper. It is a single-surfaced fountain with a flat lancet arch. It has lost its uniqueness as they attempted to repair it with cement.

Hapishane Fountain: Built in the second half of 19th century, the fountain is located in the outer corner of the old prison. It was built on a square design with its hopper and made of sandstone. It is a single-surfaced square fountain with round arch.



Mirror parts were made on the stone inside the vaults instead of mirror stone. The old prison that is next to the fountain was built later.

Babaeski

Dördüzlü (Dört Yüzlü) Fountain: It is on an asphalt, in the opposite of the Turkish bath.

This

building belongs to the 17th century. The epigraph of the fountain flowing water was graved during the Bulgarian invasion. It is a four fronted square fountain made of sandstone and with a dome. Its only one front is active and in the style of typical fountains of Edirne.

Belediye⁷ Fountain: It is a four fronted square fountain based on a square ground and in the shape of prism with a 3.5 m height, having a dome like top made of sandstone.

Lüleburgaz

Çarşı Orta Fountain: It is located in Cedit Müslim Bey Neighbourhood, on Turgut Bey Street. It was built in 1667 (1078 in Muslim Calendar) and is also known as the 4th Mehmet (Avcı) Fountain. It is still undamaged and active. There is a five-line first construction epigraph on its front mirror with calligraphy. It is a square fountain that has four corners and fronts each of which in the shape of square. Top of it is covered with a dome and the walls are made of cut sandstone.

Zafer Fountain: Although Zafer Fountain which was built after Balkan War as a memory of independence from the Bulgarian Invasion was deliberately demolished before, it was restored again in accordance with its original condition. It looks like a cornered column made of cut sandstone.

⁷ Translator's Note - Belediye: Municipality



Pınarhisar

Çukur Fountain: It is located in Beylik Neighbourhood on Istanbul Road. It was built in the 16th century. This fountain that can be reached with 9 stairs has vault, single front and a basin.

Balıklı Fountain: It is a fountain located in Beylik Mahallesi on Istanbul Road, made in 16th century. It has large basins for watering animals next to it and is in classical style.

Vize

Cemilzade Mahmut Ağa Fountain: It is located in Kale Neighbourhood, on Hamam Street and belongs to the 16th century. Top of it is a bit domed. It is a square fountain with square design and two rabbits and basin. It was repaired in 1838 and made of flat cut sandstone.

Ferhat Bey Fountain: It is located in Mimar Sinan Neighbourhood and was built by Ferhat Bey first in 16th century. The epigraph of this fountain is at Kırklareli Museum. It has been taken in the scope of restoration projects by General Directorate of Foundations and these restoration works will be launched after the approval of High Council of Monuments.

Sultan Fountain: It is located in Bulaca Neighbourhood, on Asmakaya road. It was built in 1770 (1184 in Muslim Calendar). It has a six-line Ottoman epigraph on its front. It is made of marble with a lancet arch and three basins. Its water always flows.

Turkish Baths

Center

Hızırbey Bath (Çifte Bath): It is located in Cumhuriyet Square in the center of Kırklareli. It was built in 1383 (785 in Muslim Calendar).



Babaeski

Babaeski Fatih Bath: It is located near the government building on asphalt. The building which is

still active is classical monotype and has masonry windows. Top of it is covered with roof and its exterior part is tucked up with cement. The structure type is uncertain. The basins are made of pavement marble and original.

Lüleburgaz

Sokullu Bath: It is still managed by private persons and in the style of double baths, a type of the classical Turkish bath. Top of it is domed and there are 11 active stores around it.

Vize

Vize Bath: It is located in Vize Kale Neighbourhood on Hamam Street. Having the traces of Late Ottoman and Early Republic period, the bath was in use until recently. The female section of bath is used as fodder storage, while the male section is undamaged. In the same region there is also another bath remaining that is demolished, ruined and damaged.

Liman Bath: It is located in Kıyıköy Town and is a structure from the Early Ottoman Period. It is out of function in demolished condition under the southern ramparts.

Bridges

Center

İnce Bridge: It is located in the entrance of Inece Town of Central District. It had been built before 1891 for military purposes as wooden. Its length is about 150 meters and was rebuilt with its current form again in 1940.



Babaeski

Babaeski Bridge: It was built in 1633 (1043 in Muslim Calendar) during the period of Murat 4. Ot is a masonry bridge coated with flat cut stone. There are big holes among the arches of this bridge having 6 arches for protection against stream overflow. Its watching cabins are dressed with stones just like lace. The watching cabin in the north was rebuilt in accordance with its origin.

Alpullu (Sinanlı) Bridge: It was built in 16th century during Sokullu Period. It is the most majestic monumental bridge of Mimar Sinan. It has lancet arch. Koca Sinan used the 76 cm voussoirs that constitute the large arch as single stone. An arch stone with such width cannot be found in any other bridge. The height of these stones reach up to 2,5 meters. Cornice profile is similar and the parapet stones are assembled with the exterior surfaces.

Lüleburgaz

Sokullu Mehmet Paşa Bridge: It is located in the entrance of Lüleburgaz, on Istanbul-Edirne road. It was built in 1569 (977 in Muslim Calendar). Voussoir are small and piers in the source part are steady. One part that consists of a pyramid pictured on the half of a flat twelve cornered plan on in the lower course protects the first standing form located in Lüleburgaz. The other part is built in the shape of cone instead of pyramid by incompetent craftsmen later.

Küçük Bridge: It is located in somewhere around Atatürk Elementary School. It was built in 1569 (977 in Muslim Calendar) by Mimar Sinan with the instruction of Sokullu Mehmet Paşa. It is a steady bridge with one arch and in the classical style. Its width is four meters.



Ancient Theatre

Vize

Vize Ancient Theatre: This theatre is located in the Southern side of Çömlektepe. It has the property of being the only known theatre from the Ancient Rome Period. The seating steps of this structure which dates back to the 2nd century AC and the passages between them, the stage building and orchestra sections have survived until today. The invaluable sculpture artworks found here are exhibited in Kırklareli Museum. It was revealed as a result of the theatre excavations continued in Vize for three years in 1995, 1996 and 1997 with the participation of Trakya University Archaeology and Art History Department under the presidency of Kırklareli Directorate of Museums. The theatre has a capacity of a total 4 thousand people and its walking steps are made entirely of marble.

During the excavations made in 1995 a big female statue was found. 4 stage relieves were found in the excavations made in 1996.

It is necessary to make the existing marble seating sections of theatre visible, remove the filling on the stage, repair the cracked marble blocks and launch the restoration works. When one or two private properties that limit the excavation area are publicised in order to carry out such works and when we solve some problems such as the road, etc. the abovementioned place can become a ceremony venue and part of Kırklareli tourism.

Külliye⁸

Lüleburgaz

Lüleburgaz Tavil Mehmet Paşa (Sokullu) Menzil Külliye: The father of this külliye was Tavil Mehmet Paşa as written on the gate on the prayers dome that provided passage caravansary and the sultan of that period was Sultan Selim (Selim the 2) Han. It can be learnt from the caravansary epigraph that the building was constructed in 1569. Those

⁸ Translator's Note - A külliye is a complex of buildings adjacent to a mosque



written in the second epigraph that is on the gate that provides passage from prayers dome to mosque-madrasa also confirm such information.

The booklets related to Sokullu Külliye and its architectural and stylistic properties show us that Mimar Sinan and Hassa Ocağı architects collaborated in the construction of this külliye. It is among the essential works Mimar Sinan before the magnificent artwork in Selimiye that gained him the maestro title.

Lüleburgaz Sokullu Külliye can be considered to have two major axes. The first one is “Arasta Axis” that lies towards east-west. This axis separates the religious and madrasa building groups in the north from those that belong to caravansary. Caravansary road coming from the east lies across Taşköprü direction that is upon Lüleburgaz stream, passing though the arasta road where there are bazaars on both sides. The prayer dome located in the middle of Arasta connects the building groups on the north and south. This prayer dome still stands not collapsed even today among the most dominant parts of the külliye.

The second axis of külliye is mihrab (kiblah) axis that begins from the primary school in the south and lies towards south-north within the prayer dome with the mosque mihrab and sadirvan used commonly by mosque and madrasa. The other integral structures such as the Turkish bath, arasta, toilets, primary school, water canals, pavements show that the lifestyle and neighbourhood was developed, trade and social life were kept alive.

The multiple material usage in its construction and details in its decorations are examples representing the magnificence of this külliye. Stone is the main material. Sandstone and marble materials are accompanied by bricks, bronze, plaster, iron, lead, wood and stained glass materials. Each material is not only functional but also stands out well aesthetically.

The ornaments are more within the mosque. The sadirvan in the backyard used commonly by mosque and madrasa has a very special place with its Barok-style skirted roof -thought to be added during Mahmut 2 period-, hand-drown artworks and Sultan Mahmut’s tughra⁹.

⁹ Translator’s Note - Tughra is signature of a Sultan.



Türbe, Saint Tombs, Monuments and Cemeteries

Center

Eski Mezarlık (Old Cemetery): It is located in İkizdere-Aşağıpınar road. Most of the tombs here have been carried to the new cemetery area. Only the part that is in the northwest where the old tombs are located have been registered and taken into protection.

Saint Tombs: There are various saint tombs such as Mahya Baba, Balaban Baba, Sancaktar Baba (which is currently a park area), Hamza Baba (located near a mosque), Baba Pınarı, Karahıdır, Kocahıdır, Helva Baba, Arapşah Baba (located in Karacaibrahim Neighbourhood), Gül Baba (located in the west of Paşa Mosque), Namazgah Baba, Ali bin Hızır (which has an epigraph with the writing “El merhum el mağruf, Es-Said, Eş-Şehid, Ali bin Hızır, Tarih Fi Şehr-i Muharrem, year 987”).

Niğdeli Ethem Onbaşı Monument: It is located in front of Taş Tabya. It was built in 1969 in the memory of Ethem Onbaşı who acted like a hero during Balkan War.

Karahıdır Monument: It was built by Mutasarrıf İbrahim Süreyya in 1914 in the memory of Karahıdı who helped Turks to win the war by decapitating the king of enemies during Varna War.

Kofçaz

Gül Baba Saint Tomb: It is located on a hill near the Ahmetler Köyü cemetery. Each year people sacrifice an animal for God as part of a tradition and many people attend this sacrifice ceremony.

Topçu Baba Saint Tomb: It is located in Topçular Village Cemetery. Just like in Gül Baba traditional sacrifice ceremony, Topçu Baba Sacrifice ceremony is also a practiced each year with the attendance of a lot of people.

Additionally, there are other structures such as Kanlıkaya Babası in Topçular Village, Bayırı Babası and Ahmet Baba Türbe, Delikkaya visiting area in Kocatarla Villaga, Kalfa



Baba Saint Tomb, Höyük Baba Saint Tomb in Malkoçlar Village, Kızıl Deli Saint Tomb in Ahmetler Village, Kara Baba Saint Tomb, Yağmurlu Baba Saint Tomb and Kuru Baba Saint Tomb.

Lüleburgaz

Zindan Baba Türbe: It is located near the government building. Found undamaged, Zindan Baba Türbe has similarities with Bursa type türbes, but its actual type is unknown. It is made of brick and sandstone. There used to be a wooden clock tower on the building, but it was demolished afterwards. The tomb inside of it was damaged by Bulgarian and Greek soldiers. The building which has three storeys can be reached from a small gate that is located in the north western front of it. There is cylindrical trimmer on the top of tower that rises like rectangular prism. There is one single mass with square floor in each story. The cradle vaulted türbe of which sizes are 3.70x3.90 is located in the basement.

Pınarhisar

Binbir Oklu Ahmet Bey Türbe: It is located in the entrance of Erenler Village. It was built in the second half of 14th century. It is a structure with eight corners having lancet arches on every front of it and seven windows each in the size of a gate. The walls are thick and coated with flat cut sandstone. Its dome is placed onto an eight cornered tanbur. Originally, it is coated with lead, but still tucked up with cement. The building inside of it dates back to the 14th century and has architectural characteristic of 16th century.



Examples of Civil Architecture

Center

Arasta (Covered Bazaar): It was built next to the Hızırbey Turkish Bath in Kırklareli city center. It was constructed in 1383 (785 in Muslim Calendar) for commercial purposes.

Vakıf Dükkanları: These are located near Hızırbey Turkish Bath on the Karaumur Street in Kırklareli City Center. They are estimated to date back to the 17-18 century.

Winery: It is located in Namazgah Street. The structure's walls are undamaged, yet the roof is destroyed. Although no exact information about its original function is available, it can be said that it looks like a workplace rather than a religious structure when it comes to its design.

Eski Kırklareli Evleri (Old Residential Buildings): The architectural examples located in various part of the city are mostly from 19th and 20th centuries. Some of them were built by Greek labours in Neo-Classical style and are still used as house or administrative building.

Historical Yayla Neighbourhood: This neighbourhood is a settlement area where the old Turkish, Greek and Jewish houses are located in together. Since it has been announced to be protected area, nobody can intervene in these houses. Inhabitants and tourism professionals state that it is forbidden to pound even one single nail on these houses that are announced to be protected; therefore, they are obviously abandoned to their own fates. They point out that they expect someone to take an action for gaining this historical tissue to tourism. However, it should be noted that restoration studies have been launched in many of these houses recently with via various institutions and people and there is an hopeful progression, although it takes place gradually.



Examples of Public Architecture in Districts and Villages

The region was invaded by the Greek between the years 1920-22 after the Ottoman-Russian War in 1877-78 and Balkan War in 1912-13. At the end of the war Turkish people coming from territories that had lost in such wars were taken to the villages within the New Turkish Republic's territory where there were Bulgarian and Greek inhabitants, while Bulgarian and Greek people returned to the villages where Turkish people moved from. Apart from this mutual commutation¹⁰ carried out between 1924 and 1928, many immigrants coming from Bulgaria were taken to Kırklareli villages during the mass immigration in 1950, 1968 and 1989. Among these immigrants included many builders who brought their art together with them and compared it to a number of buildings they encountered. In Kırklareli villages there are also village architecture examples built by Bulgarian and Greek people before the immigrations and there are called "Gavur Evi" (Giaour House). Just like in the other parts of country, the folkloric village architecture in Kırklareli has been also shaped according to the climate, socioeconomic structure, traditions of region, construction material and lifestyle in the region.

There are a total of 196 settlements in Kırklareli Central District, 7 of which in the outskirts, 181 of which are villages, 15 of which are towns and the distance between them is around 5 to 10 km. Stream strands are chosen as the settlements in villages and the villages have an ordered appearance. There is a warehouse around the house to save the crops a villager cultivates in accordance with the works carried out by villagers. Also there is a shed and hayloft to feed the animal raised by the villager. The entrance doors face towards the south and the northern walls are generally isolated from the outside since winter is harsh. The houses are built on a high stone ground with one storey in forestry areas where winter is severe, while the houses in other areas are built on ground not higher than the ground level, but again with one storey. Houses which the local community calls "Gavur Evi" in villages where Greek and Bulgarian people had

¹⁰ Translator's Note - Population Exchange.



lived before the Republic Period were built with two storeys. The houses generally have 3 or 4 rooms.

Examples of Military Architecture

Seyfiođlu Bastions: Seyfiođlu Bastion, which is located 3 km away from Kırklareli city center in the north east of the city, were built in 1877 during the Balkan Wars for defence purposes. Made of cut sandstone, these bastions are have rectangular and U design in separated sections. Top of the bastions are covered with high soil fillings in order to block artillery shooting. The interior parts of the bastion have windows with round arch and rectangular jambs. Fronts of bastion face towards the north and are surrounded by ditches.

Castles

Center

Yođuntaş (Polos) Castle: It is located in Yođuntaş Village of Kırklareli. The castle which is in a pretty wracked condition is estimated to have been built in 4th Century before the Hellenistic Period, during the Philip II Period in other words.

Koyva Castle: It is located near Kuzulu Village of the Central District and predicted to have been built in 3-4 century BC. It is wracked and ruined. There is a very little ground remaining and the galleries are so few. There is high possibility that this structure might actually be a watchtower rather than a castle. There are cave monasteries 500 meters south of the remaining dating back to almost same periods.

Apart from those mentioned above, the number of castle and tower remaining they were destroyed or partly protected is relatively high. Some of them are as the following: Eriklice Castle, Demircihalil Castle (2), Karakoç Keçi Castle, Erikler Has Castle, Düzorman Köyü Castle, Koruköy Castle, Dereköy Kale Kaynakları Castle, Yündolan



Castle (2), Üsküp Asarcık Castle, Çukurpınar (Sazara) Castle, Armağan Castle, Armutveren Castle, Beypınar Kalebayırı Castle.

Demirköy

Surface research studies that are low in number have shown that there are some castle and watchtowers around Demirköy. Some of them are as the following: Hamdibey Köyü Tepebaşı Castle, Gökyaka Köyü Kılıçtepe Castle, Sislioba Kaletepe Castle ve Sivrilir Castle.

Kofçaz

There is a large number of castle remainings that are highly damaged around Kofçaz. The most important ones among them are: Kocayazı Kalebayırı Castle, Ahmetler Castle, Aşağı Kanara Castle, Yukarı Kanara Castle.

Lüleburgaz

Lüleburgaz Castle Ramparts: These ramparts are located in the entrance of the city on Edirne-Lüleburgaz road. It is mostly ruined and wracked, but its 3 meter high part has survived until today with its two separate blocks that are more than 50 meters. These remainings which were built on Roman grounds and which date back to Earlier Byzantine period have brick braided wall system.

Pınarhisar

Pınar Hisar Castle: This castle belongs to the Byzantine period and its remainings in some parts of the district have survived. It is possible to reach three bastion grounds and many wall traces within the town. Round bastions are supported by hacking with one meter gap between each other. Sometimes cut stone can be seen as well. They are generally coated with frozen bronze stones. There are castle remainings also in some



other villages of Pınarhisar District. Among them are included: Çayırdere Village Çayırköy Castle, Evciler Village Manastır Tepe and Mahya Tepe Castles, Yeniceköy Castle ve Erenler Hisarcık Tepe Castles.

Vize

Vize Castle: The castle surrounds north and west of the city in Kale Neighbourhood. It is predicted that the building was first constructed in 72-76 BC. Then it was revived by Justinian again during the Byzantine Period (in 527-565). It was built by putting big stones one the top of each other and linked with each other through a concrete mortar. These old ramparts were made of yellow-like soft stone blocks. There is a filled construction behind the coated stones. The size of big masses in the ground is between 50X80 and 100x150 cm. In addition, there are blue-like stones that were cut flatly on northern ramparts. It is understood that this building was rebuilt during the Late Byzantine Period (Paleology Era). The castle consists of two sections as interior and exterior castle. The construction of dominant bastion was launched at the end of the 12th century during the Common Era and completed in Paleology Era. This bastion is located with the upper bastion near the south western stream. The western and southern parts of the old Vize ramparts still stand. There are several more bastions on the western ramparts and one more bastion in front of them to protect the water channels. The southern ramparts were built with big stone blocks that could be protected up to a height that is 3-4 meters. The ramparts are not visible in some parts, while they partly visible behind buildings in some areas. There is a pentagon bastion in the south, while there are two tetragon bastions in the north and their height reaches up to six meters. The building types are similar to each other and the length of gate is four meters.

Kıyıköy Castle: It is a castle surrounding Kıyıköy Town and dating back to Byzantine Period (6th century) and was built during the Justinian Period. The mortar on it shows that the castle was subject to reparation in the 9th and 10th centuries. It is built on a slope that lies between Kazandere in the south and Pabuçdere in the north along the sea. The



western front of castle goes down towards a flat area. The eastern part has been destroyed, only the bottom part left. Remaining parts show that the ramparts are covered with flat stones, the interior parts are filled with bronze. The wall thickness in this part is 2.20 meters, while the height is protect as around 2.50 meters. The height of the ramparts next to the second gate reaches up to 5 meters. Currently the second bastion does not exist. The ramparts here are up to 6 meters. There is a secret gate in the south of southern ramparts and it can be reached from the castle through 180-step stairs. The palace gate has been protected until today. It is coated with cut block stone on brick. There is a 13 meter-wide defence ditch beginning from the third bastion, ending in the sixth. Vize gate is bonded with balks made of stone and brick. It was restored by the Ministry of Culture Istanbul Directorate of Relief in 1991. There are some other remainings of castles and towers in some other villages of Vize. Those detected so far are the four towers remaining in Akpınar Village, the castle remaining in Hamidiye Village, Kızılağaç Çingene Castle and those near Pazarlı.

Other Physical Cultural Assets

Babaeski

Alpullu Sugar Factory Complex: This complex is located in Alpullu Town of Babaeski, near the Alpullu Train Station. In 26.11.1926 all the social plants have been taken into protection as the urban site when this factory started to produce products.

Demirköy

Demirköy Fatih Artillery Foundry: Demirköy Fatih Artillery Foundry is located in the south east of the district with a distance of 3800 meters from it. The complex is known to comprise 10000 square meters indoor area and accepted as the most modern enterprise of its time. An iron foundry center was established here considering the rich iron deposits in the region during Fatih Period and before that. Fatih is known to have used the



cannonballs founded here when he conquered Istanbul. The name of the district is also based on that. There was a constant production activity between the midst of 15th century and the end of 1th century in this foundry where iron was founded with a cutting edge technology in that time. This foundry was also called Demirköy Tophane-i Amiriyeh Enterprises.

Here there are two foundries as small and big. The distance between the two is 230 meters and there are two fusion furnaces at the small one. It is understood that the Foundry was a comprehensive enterprise before and was radically relieved by Mahmut II Period (1808-1839 AC).

The restoration of this foundry was launched in 2001 and is still in progress.

İğneada Liman Tower (French Tower): It is located somewhere around Demirköy İğneada Limanköy. İğneada Tower was built by French people in 1866 and has been meeting ships approaching there for years. It has been managed by the same family for 3 generations and is a precious cultural asset that should be gained to tourism without losign its originality.

Lüleburgaz

Shops With Arches: Some part of this magnificent work was demolished and gone. Currently, some part of these shops consisting of 36 galleries are used as storage. The arches are made of cut stones and their interior part is vaulted with brick. There is a big leaded dome between the mosque and caravansary gates.

Waterways and Channels: These are located somewhere around Büyükkarıştıran Town. They were built by Mimar Sinan with the instruction of Sokullu Mehmet Paşa upon the order by Selim II in 1569 (977 in Muslim Calendar). The towers (water gauges) still stand partly. The first way ends in the bridge passing through the old cemetery, mosque and caravansary before arriving in the old mosque. Coming from the top, the other joins the first one. A normal person can pass through these ways comfortably. Although one part of them is demolished, people can still make use of the other part as city channel.



Vize

Imaret: It is an Ottoman structure probably from the 16th century. Some of its walls are relatively dilapidated and on the verge of demolishing. It is designed as square and coated with flat free sandstone. Still in a wracked condition, the building is covered with a dome.

Caravansary-Inn-Covered Bazaar: This is located in İçkale Kale Neighbourhood of Vize. The building dates back to the 14th century and its domes are in a damaged and ruined condition. The walls are bounded with the combination of brick and rubble stone. Its interior part consists of three sections, the arches are partly undamaged.

2) Abstract Cultural Assets (Folkloric Dances and Other Performance Arts/Traditions, Local /Ethnic Musics, Fests and Festivals¹¹

KIRKLARELİ

Proverbs

808 proverbs mentioned in Kırklareli have been compiled. Some of these proverbs are definitely known and mentioned all over the country. The following can be given as some examples of these regional proverbs said within the context in Kırklareli:

Leave a footprint in the vineyard, have a cheek to eat there.

If a donkey is hurt, it can overhaul a horse.

Harvest requires wind, wedding requires handcraft.

Threshing cattle will not be muzzled.

Who falls down is guided by many.

¹¹ Translator's Note - The translations of some of proverbs and idioms here are their English equivalents, which might not reflect the original Turkish words in terms of the content only instead of form. However, some others that do not have any equivalents are literally translated.



Idioms

As it is known, idioms are words or phrases that have a different meaning than their original context. Some of the idioms comprised in Kırklareli are as the following:

A pill to cure an earthquake

We are on a wet ground.

Exerting oneself.¹²

Having one's heart in one's mouth

Riddles

Riddles are one of the products of folkloric literature cheering up everyone during family sessions at long winter night and leading someone to reflect on. Some of the riddles mentioned by people in Kırklareli are as the following:

Blackie child on a tree. (Answer: olive);

There is a lot of it in the opposite, None of it when I approach it. (Answer: fog)

Beyond it's dark, beside it's dark, who stand on it is dark. (answer: door)

Mani¹³

In Kırklareli manis used to be sung by girls and boys at home during nights, cherry parties at long winter nights before 1960-70s when people did not have television and modern transportation vehicles in service yet. They were sung after dinners when someone asked her/his neighbours for help in husking corns, extracting sun flower seeds, breaking and washing sheep ked. The host would provide the dinner for visitors and people had fun by saying manis during harvest. During Hıdırellez people leave a crock at the bottom of rosewood at night in this region (especially in Erikler Village of the Central District). Then the girls and women drop some ornaments like buttons, rings and earrings that belong to them into this crock. And the crock is filled with water. People make a wish when while throwing an ornament into the crock. This crock which is also called the wish crock. In the end people close its top and open it in Hıdırellez morning.

¹² Translator's Note - "Saçını süpürge etmek" is the source idiom. Word for word translation of it is "Turning one's hair into a broom".

¹³ Translator's Note - Mani is type of a Turkish poem.



Then a child is asked to draw each of these ornaments that belong to girls and women and thrown by them at night. One of the girls or women who knows a mani reads it in return for an ornament taken from the crock. This mani is read for the person that owns the ornament taken from the crock. Then people make jokes about that person by having fun and making various comments. Also the manis are sung with musical instruments such as tambourine and tabor played by girls during the weddings. Some of these manis commonly sung in Kirklareli are as the following:

Take the pen

Write what you have

The trouble of breaking up

Is that what God gave us?

Shall I buy a dress for you?

Shall I do up a tie on that?

Shall I make you cry?

By loving someone else in the other village

Kirklareli İnece

Don't add sand into lime

Don't think that I forgot you

Every night in my dreams I see you.

Lullabies

Ninnis are folk songs that moms sing to make their children sleep. An example of lullabies sung in Kirklareli and its neighbourhood:

Hush little baby hush

Little one with hennaed hands and feet

I've made a swing on grapevine for you

I've given a doll to my baby

But my baby doesn't sleep

That little naughty child

Now



I've found a donkey now.
Its owner has arrived here
Oh, the bird
Where is this waterbird?
Has a nest among bushes
Pappa brings us food
Hush my little baby hush
Calves broke into the garden
Send them, gardener
Don't let them eat our garden
Oh God, Give some sleep for my baby

Folk Songs

There are many folk songs from this region. Some of them deal with love, pain, homesickness and nostalgia, while some others are about the lost territories during the Ottoman and Russian War in 1877-78. Some of the folk songs came to our land with Balkan immigrants, while the others are made up and cherished by the native people.

A few of them are as the following:

1- Don't Cry Bride Girl

It was sung by Hasan Öztürk and compiled by him from the girls from Poyralı Village of Pınarhisar District in Kırklareli.

Please don't cry bride girl
Don't drop your ornaments
Don't cry bride girl
She is a bride now
They are hennaing her
Oh, her poor mom
Her mother-in-law, silver
Don't cry bride girl



Don't drop your ornaments
Jumped and gone now
Her spoon on the table
Bride car is famous
The bride is veiled inside
Please don't cry bride girl
Don't drop your ornaments.

2- Oh Thessaloniki

It was compiled by Muzaffer Sarısözen in 16 July 1947 from Butcher Tahsin in Vize.

3- Vineyards of Akça Village

It was compiled by Muzaffer Sarısözen in 9 August 1947 from Arife Timur.

4- Rosemary in the Gardens

This song is recorded in the THM song list of Turkish Radio Television Institution. It was compiled by Aşık Ali Tamburacı and composed by Nida Tüfekçi. The lyrics are as the following:

Rosemary in the gardens
Anberiye is full of bottles
You're mine, come over.
Oh my oh, balaban player
I have a pain on his left
Hey, Macedonian
Looks victorious with the roses
Lettuce in the gardens
Water constantly flows
Embrace tightly in the thin belly
Oh my oh balaban player
I have a pain on my left
Hey, Macedonian
Looks victorious with the roses



Hash in the gardens
Raki made me drunk
Hazel eyes look tipsy
Oh my oh, balaban player
I have a pain on his left
Hey, Macedonian
Looks victorious with the roses

5- Song For Mother-In-Law

It was compiled by Zekeriya Kurtulmuş in April 2000 at Çeşmeköy from Sezai Çetin of Çeşmeköy and Abdi Özütaş of Çayırılı Village (passed away in December 2001). The sound and music record is available.

Who can fight mother-in-law?
Who can fight mother-in-law?
Mrs. Bride, fighting mother-in-law
Can she brag about it in the neighbourhood?
Mrs. Bride, fighting mother-in-law
Can she brag about it in the town?
Mother-in-law is offended
Mother-in-law is offended
Why do you feel offended, hey, mother-in-law?
Your son embraced me
Why do you feel offended, hey, mother-in-law?
Your son embraced me
Coward chicken is running away
Opening its wings
Mrs. Bride, fighting mother-in-law
Is running away from the town
She is leaving the town



Traditions, Customs and Beliefs

Some of the traditions, customs and beliefs are as the following:

- If a pregnant woman eats something sour, her baby is believed to be a boy. If she eats something sweet, then the baby is believed to be a girl.
- Someone leaves a bunch of salt upon the pregnant woman's head without getting noticed. If she touches that with her hand, the baby is believed to be a girl. If her nose touches that, then the baby is believed to be a girl.
- If a pregnant woman's abdomen is jagged, the baby is believed to be a boy, if it is flat, then the baby is believed to be a girl.
- By 1970s baby's name was determined by elder people in the house and again an elder individual (male) would say a prayer to baby and the name giving activity was completed when such person whispered the name for three times.
- The child's hands are hennaed (if child is a girl) 6 months after her birth. A celebration called 'moon cake' or 'step cake' is made when she makes her first step. During this celebration people cook a tray of loukoumades or cookies some of which have coins inside. They tie a ribbon on child's feet, then they stand in a room and small children of the neighbourhood gather there. They are asked to run towards the child. The child who wins is given some money or a gift. They cut the ribbon on feet of child who stands for the first time. Then loukoumades and cookies are distributed to those who gather there. Those who have the loukoumades or cookies with coin buy a gift for the child (Babaeski District Karahalil Town).
- Circumcision feasts are made during summer months when the child do not go to school since the age of circumcision is generally 5 to 12. The child to be circumcised is called "Circumcision Child". The circumcision costume is bought at least one week before the feast, the boy's bed is decorated with a colourful muslin and lights.

The feasts differ according to cities and villages in terms of time and practices. This is because of the cultural differences between immigrant groups that came from the Balkan States in 1935-1938, 1950, 1960, 1974 and 1989 with the commutation during the Ottoman-Russia War in 1877-78, Balkan War in 1912-1913 and in 1924s. People who



had settled in different parts of Kırklareli with these immigrations conveyed many customs together them. Newly immigrants have created common culture with the people who came before them when they experienced their culture and had good relations. However, this common culture is observed as different practices in different regions of Kırklareli. Therefore, the feast customs might differ from place to place.

- The rush for the wedding starts at least one week before the event and, generally, the bride's trousseau are taken on Thursday if the wedding is on Saturday-Sunday. In the meantime aunts sit on the chest and they ask for a gift from the groom's party by saying 'The chest does not move'. The trousseau is taken to groom's house and henna night is celebrated in the evening on Friday. The groom's party brings some henna to bride's house that night if they reside in somewhere close. One of the aunts put some henna in bride's hand and leave. Then one of the aunts whose parents are alive hennas hands and feet of bride. The bride's face is covered with a coloured crimp. People sing folk songs with a tambourine. These folk songs are the story of leaving home, homesickness or leaving for another village. The bride is impressed by them and cries.

The folk song about making the bride cry is as the following:

Put the henna of bride
Don't make poor mom cry
Don't you cry bride
Don't you make us give up

Bride jumped over the brink
Her spoon on the tableGone my worthy one
They be happy
Her veil is tinselled
Bride is revealed inside
Please don't you cry bride
Don't make us give up



Oak is cut on the mountain
Where is her quilt
Don't make us give up
Pistachio tree is cut on the mountain
Where is her pillow
Where is her quilt
Don't make us give up

Hıdırellez Festivals

Hıdırellez is accepted to be the end of winter and the beginning of summer in Kırklareli. It is accepted to be two times especially in villages according to public calendar. People light a fire and jump over it at night linking 5 May to 6 May. By doing this they believe that all the negative and bad things incurred within the year will be gone. People burn straws during this night, thus they believe that they are purified from cooties, fleas and sins. People used to launch preparations for Hıdırellez one week before the event in the previous years. They would clean their houses and prepare the food for Hıdırellez picnic beforehand.

These celebrations and events were initiated during a sunny weekend (generally beginning from the second week) in Şeytandere in 1990 under the name of "Karagöz, Art and Kakava Festivals". They were organized in Vilayet Square between 2000 -2006 as Şeytandere event area was filled with construction wastes in 2000. Then they went on under the Station as for 2007 finally. "Karagöz Cultur, Art and Kakava Festivals" have now turned into a fest.

People make celebrations under the name of "Kırklar" 40 days before Hıdırellez in Yeniköy which is 20 km away from Babaeski District. People swing and paint eggs. With the phrase "Kırklar, manda gölde mırklar"¹⁴ it is emphasized that the animals should be

¹⁴ Translator's Note - "Mırklar" has a rhyme with "Kırklar", that's why it is not possible to translate the phrase in the same form. However, literally, it can be translated as the following: "Kırklar (fourties), buffalos purr in the lake."



on the grass for the first time. People light a fire at night and jump over it in Hıdırellez. In Hıdırellez morning people wake up early and hang a willow branch on their houses. Hanging a willow branch on a house or tying it into any body part is believed to bring health.

Beliefs Related To Animals

- If the crows fly in the air by screaming, it is believed that it will rain.
- If there are too many ants at an house, it is believed that there will be abundance in such house.
- If a hen crows in the mid-afternoon, it is believed that some guests will make a visit. (Karahalil)
- If there are too many ants on the ground, it is believed that it will rain. (İnece)
- Howling of a dog is not interpreted positively.
- Seeing a horse in a dream is believed to bring death (Çengelli)

Beliefs Related To Plants

- If fruit trees blossom for the second time after they drop their flowers, it is believed that the winter will be very harsh.
- It is not good to sit under a walnut and an elm when it rains.

Some Folk Medicine Examples

In Kırklareli, as in everywhere, there are some treatment methods there have been developed by people within the time for some illnesses experienced by our people who live in villages where medicine cannot reach or distant from the city and village. Such treatment methods and drugs used are called “folk remedy”. These drugs consist of various plants and incultation methods applied with prayers.

For instance:

- People eat uncooked pumpkin seeds for 7 to 10 days in order to get rid of tapeworms.



- People cut potatoes in very small slices and braid them on the forehead and temples with a muslin against headache.
- People carve into a horseradish against bronchitis. Then they add honey into it and keep that at night. The next day the person with bronchitis eats this honey prepared at night.
- People cook egg white without oil when someone's eye becomes bloodstained. This eye is tied with a muslin.
- People boil marjoram water and add white sweetmeat into it against stomach-ache. The yellow part of a daisy is also boiled and drunk against stomach-ache.
- People keep leek in fire and take its water against earache, dropping it a bit into ear.
- People cast lead against evil eye. It is possible to find old people who pray and cast lead against evil eye almost in all villages, districts and city center of Kirklareli.
- If the finger blisters, people tie a needle on it. If it blisters as a result of a prick, then people tie a geranium leaf. If they cannot find geranium, they tie Turkish delight and keep it there for one night.
- People rub their back with the gas of an oil lamp that is turned on against backache.
- People inhale some bitter melon water against geranium. The bitter watermelon is abundant in the region.

Children Games

The properties of children games and toys are in accordance with the environment people live in. There are differences between the games and toys played in rural parts, city and town centers. The child makes an impression of what he/she sees around and enriches the games with what he/she observes.

It is determined that there are 73 children games in Kirklareli region. The following can be included as examples: "Open The Door Chief Merchant, Jacks Game, Steel", "Rolling a Hoop, Mudslinging With A Stick, Camel Game, Piggy, Family Game, Skipping Rope, Drawing Rope, Stopping, Eagle-Crow Game, Sliding, Blind Man's Bluff, Drop



Handkerchief, Marbles (ball, taw), Piggy In The Middle, Butterball, Spinning Peg Top (Hairpin), Duck Duck Goose, Dodgeball”.

Folk Dances

Having a similar existence with human history, folk dances experience changes within time and new figures can be added to them by people. Kırklareli regional folk dance consists of the combination of those conveyed by immigrants and those they performed by people they encountered. Kırklareli regional folk dances are performed during feasts, wedding ceremonies, soldier wedding, special days and any celebrations.

Kırklareli regional folk dances are generally performed with two drums and two clarions. The first clarion is playing the main melody, while the second makes the rhythm. The dances generally begin slowly and are finished in a short time. There are dances performed by tying hands and mutually. Kırklareli confrontation is a dance performed by couples mutually. People also perform another dance called Hora which is common in our region and performed hand in hand, arm in arm, shoulder to shoulder together. Another group dance in our region is the ruffian dance. It is performed by men accompanied by drums and clarion. It begins slowly, but ends very fast. It is the team leader that leads the dances when performing hora and ruffian dance.

We can include the following as common folk dances performed in Kırklareli region during 2000s: Alay Beyi, Ali Paşa, Arzu İli Kamber, Boymisa, Dere Boyu, Drama Confrontation. For instance, Drama Confrontation takes its name from the Drama city in Western Thrace and its lyrics are as the following:

Fountains of the upper neighbourhood

Flow and slip away

These songs for you my Esmâ

Sung in casinos

Fountains of the upper neighbourhood

Revolving the windmills



Your impressions my Esma

Make me die, my oh my

Traditional Topçu Baba Ceremonies

Traditional Topçu Baba Sacrifice Ceremonies are organized in a coppice forest where the Topçu Baba Türbe is located which is in Topçular Village of Kofçaz District of Kırklareli Province. This place is 45 km away from Kırklareli Central District and has a population of 150 people. It is believed that Topçu Baba whose real name is thought to be Şeyh Mahmut lived between the end of 14th century and the beginning of 15th century. People from various places of Anatolia and Thrace come and attend traditional Topçu Baba Sacrifice Ceremonies organized every year in the venue where abovementioned türbe is located in. Topçular Village of which population is 150 people host almost 5000 people during the events.

This ceremony used to be celebrated on Mondays, but they were started to be celebrated on the second Saturday of June since 1997. This is because people could not attend it as they worked in governmental offices, which constituted a problem then.

Traditional Gül Baba Ceremonies

Gül Baba Kofçaz district is located in Ahmetler Village. Thousands of people coming from other neighbour provinces and all over Anatolia visit Kofçaz every year for Gül Baba ceremonies. During the ceremonies people sacrifice animals, cook some food and the locals host guests visiting there in order to provide them a beautiful day.

The abovementioned Topçu Baba and GülBaba ceremonies are known as ceremonies during which out Alevi-Bektashi citizens gather. These ceremonies can be utilized as one-day tourism activity in the region and might be an opportunity to use the touristic potential of region and introduce it better. They can be developed more, becoming planned festivals that thousands of people attend and last longer.



Bocuk Night

One of the customs that should be emphasized here particularly and on the verge of being forgot is bocuk night. Performed by using fear elements during winter months, this ritual has properties that comprise each of three provinces and peculiar to the Balkans. It is pretty appropriate for usage with tourism purposes. It will have a characteristic of drawing tourists' attention when it is revived and cherished.

The cycle of seasons has been an element that cherishes the habits of societies, their fears related to nature, their anxieties or hopes. Most of the time they have built a culture on it and conveyed that to next generations through various rituals and celebrations. Spring celebrations such as Hidirellez, Nawruz and ninth of March and other celebrations festivals within the seasonal cycle such as rain prayer, abundance and fruitfulness days, harvest, vine harvest have been conveyed until today along with the cultural elements they emerged or conveyed to.

Bushing out in the Balkans and conveyed to Thrace, "Bocuk Night" also emerges as such a tradition related to seasonal cycle sinking into oblivion.

This tradition has some similarities with Kukerler Fear Festival which is celebrated in Bulgaria with a great enthusiasm almost on the same dates, which makes it obvious that it is a product of the common culture in the region. We can see people disguised as animals, scary costumes, animal bells added to the costumes to scare people, bells and beads in Kukerler Festival as fear elements. This aspect of it has similarities with the fear elements of Bocuk Night.

Pumpkins are cooked in every house during Bocuk night. According to belief, bocuk woman does not visit and harm the house where people cook pumpkin. People also cook crepe definitely along with the pumpkin. Family members, neighbours and relatives attend Bocuk Night. People eat everything available such as pumpkin, crepe, corn, pear, quince, cotton candy, snow halvah, sunflower seeds, chickpea, pastry, flour halvah, etc. Bocuk Night entertainments are made like traditional gatherings. People tell tales, ask riddles and sing manis and folk songs. People perform folk dances with tambourine. Girls disguise and perform theatrical plays.



There are some ritual like beliefs and customs during Bocuk night. They differ from region to region. For instance, Boncuk night is still celebrated in Çamlıca town of Keşan district of Edirne with a full energy.

Mahya Tepe Canoeing Festival

“Mahya Tepe Canoeing Festival” has been enlivened in Evciler Village pond of Pınarsihar hosting the best scenery of Mahya Tepe, top of Strandzha, in 7-8 May 2011, which we accept as the first action by Strandzha Ecotourism Association that aims to bring cultural and natural gains of region together with ecotourism opportunities.

In this festival organized by Pınarhisar District Governorship Pınarhisar Municipality, Pınarhisar Vocational School and Tekirdağ Branch of Zirve Mountain and Nature Sports Club, there is a superb program consisting of canoeing fest with camping, trekking in the routes of Strandzha, film screening, interviews (about the flora and fauna, historical and cultural merits of region), camp fire, contests and offers.

The goal of this festival has been described in the official press release as the following: “7-8 May Canoeing Festival is an activity organized based on the idea that it can create an essential dynamism in tourism and development of our region, having a pretty important dimension in your country’s economy. Our canoeing festival will provide the opportunity to introduce and share our other activities and projects regarding ecotourism that we try to carry out in the region. We would like to share the efforts of three tourism departments of our vocational school (Tourism Hotel Management, Tourism Travelling Services and Catering Services) in organizing conferences, panels about ecotourism and giving trainings, courses and briefings related to ecotourism types and methods to local people; efforts of our Strandzha Ecotourism Association in building Trekking Roads within the forest areas of our region, establishing a tourism promotion and sales office, finding target in nature by using map-compass sports field.

We know that the natural potential of rich geography of our region is a great chance in terms of ecotourism. Ecotourism aims at using traditional architecture and natural sources generally in small groups in small plants managed by families. Within the natural



beauties the guests carry out activities such as cycling, mountain climbing, riding a horse, swimming, fishing and trekking. Accordingly, all tourism types performed in nature are comprised by ecotourism. During nature tours people should strictly comply with the principle of “sustainability of natural environment” which is one of the two essential criteria of ecotourism.

Among the objectives of our Canoeing Festival is to maintain this activity for years and convey it to an international dimension.

During our canoeing festival in Evciler village the dormitory consisting of bunks with two beds where we accommodate day 18 male-18 female participants in our camping house will be open to service for our participants who do not have camping material. In our festivals 16 still water canoes, lifejackets, rows and 1 zodiak boat-outboard motor and a portable scaffold purchased from the canoe project will be available. The foods and beverages prepared by the students of Pınarhisar Vocational School Catering Services Program will be available in the booths during the fests. Local weaves will be exhibited in Poyralı Village’s booth, and bicycle and trekking tours will be organized under the guidance of Selçuk Aslan and İbrahim ERGİN. Hedonutopia music band and other bands from universities will be on stage at the camping area at Saturday night.

We wish to be together with all nature fans in our first meeting at Pınarhisar/Evciler village located on the feet of Mahya Tepe.”

Other Festivals and Fests

The other festivals and fests that are not mentioned before and peculiar to the Province mentioned in Kırklareli University Tourism Faculty can be listed as the following:

Outdoor Public Concert Horse Races and Greased Wrestling:

Location: Babaeski-SinanlıTown

Celebration Date: The second weekend of June

Period: 1 day



Sinanlı Village is the oldest Turkish and Muslim village within the neighbourhood. Every year greasing wrestling and horse racing activities are carried out here and concerts are given additionally.

Babaeski Agriculture Festival:

Location: Babaeski Center

Celebration Date: The first week of August

Period: 1 day

The festival that was agreed to be celebrated under the name of “Melon Festival” has been celebrated for 36 years steadily as a result of the studies conducted under the leadership of the municipality the with enterprises of then Mayor Gündüz Onat in 1971 accompanied by the participations of craftsmen representatives.

Bolca Nina Oblation Visits:

Location: Babaeski-Mutlu Village

Celebration Date: 6th of May

Period: Until November

Bolca Nine Türbe in Mutlu village of Babaeski district of Kırklareli hosts about 30 thousand people during the first week of Hıdırellez fests, which provides an important input for the tourism in region.

Strawberry Festival:

Location: Demirköy

Celebration Date: The First week of July

Period: 1 week

Strawberry Festival is organized traditionally every year in Demirköy district of Kırklareli. The products that have been raised are offered to guests and the festival is coloured with various activities.



Karaağaç Spring Festivals:

Location: Karaağaç

Celebration Date: The third week of May

Period: 1 week

The festivals corresponding to Hıdırellez Days are celebrated every year with a great support and commitment of local people and institutions.

Karagöz Culture, Art and Kakava Festival:

Location: Central District

Celebration Date: The second week of May

Period: 7 days

Kakava has always been known as a festival that belongs to Roman culture. Its name is said to be derived from “kahkaha” and “neşe”¹⁵. It has been celebrated for three years on the first Sunday coming after May 7. It is common in the Central District of Kırklareli and in Lüleburgaz and Demirköy districts. Kakava is a folk feast that has been celebrated since 16th century. Including Karagöz in “Kakava Festivals” celebrated since 1990 took place when researcher-author Nafiz Karaçam applied to Kırklareli Municipality in 1982. These festivals have continued until today to be adopted as Karaçam claimed that Karagöz had lived in Kışlacık Village of Vize. They have been celebrated since 1990 with a great enthusiasm.

Karahalil Greased Wrestling:

Location: Karahalil

Celebration Date: 06 May

Period: 1 day

The greased wrestling games are held in Karahalil Village every year on the 6th of May with a great enthusiasm.

¹⁵ Translator’s Note - kahkaha: laugh, neşe: cheer



Vize History and Culture Festival:

Location: Vize

Celebration Date: 29, 30, 31 July and 1 August

Period: 4 days

Vize, in a 1,5 distance from Istanbul and a treasure that has not been discovered yet, is a golden city in Thrace with its history, culture and nature. The city that had different names throughout the history is also called Bizye, Bizya, Bida, Biza, Vissa, Vizilli and Vize finally. The first Vize name Bize was named after and dedicated to Byzas, one of the Thracian kings. Having such a rich and wide historical tissue, Vize hosts the History and Culture Festival that lasts 4 days since 2005.

Sujuk Festival:

Location: Lüleurgaz-Hamitabat

Celebration Date: 28-30 May

Period: 2 days

Celebrated in Lüleburgaz District of Kırklareli since 2007, this festival has a major role in accelerating sujuk production and doing this to introduce the district.

Culture, Music and Spring Festival:

Location: Lüleburgaz-Evrensekiz Town

Celebration Date: The first weekend of June

Period: 2 days

Evrensekiz town is located in Ergene part of Marmara Region. It is part of Lüleburgaz district of Kırklareli in terms of administration. In the town people organize festivals comprising the culture-music-spring trio.

Culture and Music Festival:

Location: Babaeski - Alpullu Town

Celebration Date: The third week of June



Period: 3 days

The Culture and Music Festival, which is celebrated regularly in Alpullu since 2004, help to provide the participation of thousands of people. The objective of the festival is to draw attentions to cultural merits of Alpullu Town, contribute to the craftsmen and trade life in town, provide social peace and interaction between local people.

Furry and Winged Animals Festival:

Location: Kırklareli-Lüleburgaz

Celebration Date: 29-30 May

Period: 2 days

This festival which is celebrated at the of May every year lasts two days and gathers animal lovers. The main purpose of the festival is to draw attention to pigeon breeding and informing people about the properties of this hobby.

Mehmet Başaran Culture and Art Events.

Location: Lüleburgaz

Celebration Date: 8-15 April

Period: 1 week

Mehmet Başaran, born in 1926 in Ceylanköy of Lüleburgaz, is a poem, a man of letters and intellectual person who had great impact in district's history. In order to maintain his cultural knowledge's perpetuity people make celebrations 8-15 April every year. Thousands of art lovers show interest to this event.

Pehlivanköy Autumn Animal and Ware Fair

Location: Pehlivanköy District

Celebration Date: The third weekend of September

Period: 5 days

This fair that has been celebrated in Pehlivanköy since 1911 still continues drawing attentions of visitors coming from neighbouring districts, although it is not spectacular as



it used to be. People purchase and sell animals and make various shows and entertainment activities during this fair.

Traditional Costumes

People in the villages, especially women who are 50 and above wear shalwar and shirts with coloured printing shirt apart from sheets and clothes named ferace. They use bootees-socks for made of sheep ked, kerchiefs made of scarves or white fabric. Men wear jackets and pants which they buy as convenience product. They wear a hat called kask. Those who are old wear serge(aba) during winters in order to get warm.

There are differences between the clothing of young and old people. Old women wear ferace, while middle-aged women wear sheet and young ones wear pretty modern clothes. Girls do not braid their hair. Although it is regarded to be strange by old people, it is approved well currently. Young men also wear pretty modern clothes and do not use hat.

Traditional Cuisine

Agricultural products, cattle and small cattle and sea products constitute the source of the region's cuisine. The agricultural products planted and that becomes part of traditional cuisine are as the following: wheat, sunflower seed, sugar beet, seed pumpkin, potatoes, corn, dry bean, barley, grape, melon, watermelon, tomatoes, pepper and fruits such as peach, plum, walnut, apricot, apple, quince, mulberry and strawberry are cultivated in the region. People breed cows, sheep, goats, buffalo and some fowls like chicken, duck, turkey and sometimes goose when it comes to animal husbandry. Fishery is a major part of living source of people who live in İğneada, Kıyıköy, Beğendik, Limanköy of Demirköy having a coast along Black Sea and Vize in Kırklareli. People hunt fish in these areas and send them to the other parts of Kırklareli. The fish hunted here are turbot, red mullet, gold fish, haddie, anchovy, bluefin, bonito, small bluefish, loufer, large bluefish and catfish. Also the fish that live in the current streams of the city and become part of traditional cuisine are as the following: mirror carp and crucian carp that



live in ponds, and black carp, roach, bream, silverfish and whitefish in streams. People acquire meat from butchering; and milk, yoghurt, cheese from animals; meat and eggs from fowls, and cook various foods with these acquired products according to the talent of people and cuisine culture.

Some of the various foods cooked in the region and called with traditional names are as the following:

Soups: Değirmendere made from tripe, umaç soup made from dough, hoşmel made from the boiled water of cow meat, papara, fatty soups and tarhana which is prepared specially and made of tarhana which has many ingredients.

Vegetable food: Borani made of patience dock with yoghurt, toğba made of patience cooked with flour, manca made of eggplants and pepper, kapuska made of pickled cabbage.

Meat foods: These are foods such as yahni cooked very commonly especially during weddings, papaz yahni made with various vegetables (the garlic is added as a whole without slicing), boiled meet, meat stew, stewed lamb which is also called Hıdırellez lamb, fried liver served with onions.

Foods cooked with fowls: kalle food cooked with pickled cabbage and rice, chicken slurry made with flour, chicken and turkey covered with rice.

Seafood: Turbot, red mullet, gold fish, anchovy, bluefin and bonito are fried and eaten before the end of September before greasing. Small bluefish, loufer and large bluefish of which names change according to their sizes are grilled as they are greasy dish and bonito gets greasy as of September. Both freshwater fish and fish caught in Black Sea are all cooked on fire. Lakerda of baby bonito and bonito fish that are caught in Black



Sea and gray mullet pilaki are among delicious seafoods of our region. Anchovy is either or poached.

Foods made from hunt animals: There are hunt animals in the province located in a road full of such animals as rabbit, quail, turtledove, duck and partridge and hunters hunt some of them.

ACCOMMODATION

KIRKLARELİ

The following shows tables prepared based on the data obtain by Ministry of Tourism and Turkish Statistic Institution to analyze bed capacities within Kirklareli and its districts. The tables show data from 2010 latest.

Accommodation Statistics

The Number of Accommodation Facilities, Rooms and Beds with Tourism Enterprise Certificate, :

Accommodation Facility with Tourism Certificate

	With Tourism Investment			With Tourism Enterprise Certificate		
	Facility	Room	Bed	Facility	Room	Bed
Kirklareli	2	198	400	1	89	178
Turkey	877	114771	252984	2647	299621	629465



The Number of Accommodation Facilities with Tourism Enterprise Certificate, Rooms and Beds According To Years:

	Accommodation Facility With Tourism Certificate					
	With Tourism Investment Certificate			With Tourism Enterprise Certificate		
	Facility	Room	Bed	Facility	Room	Bed
2010	2	198	400	1	89	178
2009	2	198	400	3	161	328
2008	2	173	358	4	221	448
2007	2	101	210	5	263	532
2006	1	101	210	5	263	532
2005	1	101	210	5	263	532
2004	1	141	290	5	263	536
2003	2	61	122	5	262	536
2002	2	61	122	4	220	452
2001	2	61	126	5	280	562
2000	2	61	126	3	131	268
1999	2	61	126	2	136	278
1998	3	94	193	1	96	192
1997	5	229	473	2	54	112
1996	4	208	431	3	198	388

The Number of Accommodation Facilities, Rooms and Beds with Municipality Certificate:

	Total			Hotel			Motel		
	Facility	Room	Bed	Facility	Room	Bed	Facility	Room	Bed
Kırklareli	33	642	1411	18	480	1008	1	15	35
Turkey	7033	173632	395671	4534	132642	292808	308	6297	15045



	Lodging House			Camping		
	Facility	Room	Bed	Facility	Room	Bed
Kirklareli	14	147	368	-	-	-
Turkey	2081	28063	67980	54	2425	6839

The List of Hotels in Kirklareli and Its Districts and Their Properties:

Hotel Name	Address	Class	Capacity
Yaman Hotel	Lüleburgaz	3 Star Hotel	184 Beds
İğneada Resort Hotel	İğneada-Demirköy	4 Star Hotel	252 Beds
Grand Şampiyon Hersekli Hotel	Merkez	2 Star Hotel	120 Beds
Best Otel Bilgiç	Merkez	2 Star Hotel	62 Beds
Akkuş Kaya Hotel	Merkez	2 Star Hotel	82 Beds
Ezgi Hotel	Lüleburgaz	4 Star Hotel	210 Beds
Arcadia Bağları-Bağ Ve Doğa Hotel	Lüleburgaz	Boutique Hotel	120 Beds
Ninni Hotel	Babaeski	1 st Class Hotel	67 Beds
Balkan Hotel	Babaeski	3 rd Class Hotel	31 Beds
Arisa Hotel	Babaeski	2 nd Class Hotel	86 Beds
Bahar Hotel	Babaeski	2 nd Class Hotel	52 Beds
Nur Hostel	İğneada	Lodging House	35 Beds
Deniz Hostel	İğneada	Lodging House	8 Beds
Karaca Hostel	İğneada	Lodging House	29 Beds
Gül Hostel	İğneada	Lodging House	36 Beds



Şentürk-1 Hotel	Lüleburgaz	3 rd Class Hotel	60 Beds
Şentürk-2 Hotel	Lüleburgaz	3 rd Class Hotel	58 Beds
Park Hotel	Lüleburgaz	3 rd Class Hotel	70 Beds
Sürücü Hotel	Lüleburgaz	3 rd Class Hotel	80 Beds
Taşkın Hotel	Merkez	2 nd Class Hotel	80 Beds
Karakaya Hotel	Merkez	2 nd Class Hotel	37 Beds
Akkul Hotel	Merkez	2 nd Class Hotel	52 Beds
Önder Hotel	Pınarhisar	1 st Class Hotel	44 Beds
Trak Hotel	Vize	1 st Class Hotel	65 Beds
Yaprak Hotel	Kıyıköy	3 rd Class Hotel	12 Beds
Midye Hostel	Kıyıköy	3 rd Class Hotel	22 Beds
Genç Hotel	Kıyıköy	3 rd Class Hotel	40 Beds
Akkuş Hotel	İğneada	Apart	75 Beds
Türkoğlu Hotel	Büyükkarıştıran	2 nd Class Hotel	84 Beds
Engin Petrol	Evrensekiz	Motel	25 Beds
Çağlar Hotel	Lüleburgaz	4 th Class Hotel	36 Beds
Tutkum Hotel	Kıyıköy	3 rd Class Hotel	20 Beds
Endorfina Hotel	Kıyıköy	3 rd Class Hotel	40 Beds
Gündüz Motel	İğneada		46 Beds
Demirköy Motel	Demirköy	1 st Sınıf Motel	15 Beds
Arda Hotel	Lüleburgaz	1 st Class Hotel	54 Beds



INFRASTRUCTURE

1) Transportation

KIRKLARELİ

Road

When it comes to the transportation infrastructure of Kırklareli, we can observe that people absolutely prefer roads for transportation, which is a general problem in our country as well. The length of roads within the province is 646 kilometers. E 5 and Edirne-Kınalı Highway constitute the main arterial roads D-100 connecting Istanbul and Edirne and TEM Highway connecting Turkey to Europe are the most important highways in Kırklareli.

The Distance Between Kırklareli and Some Provinces and Districts:

Center	Distance
Tekirdağ	118
İstanbul	210
Edirne	62
Çanakkale	234
Babaeski	35
Demirköy	72
Kofçaz	27
Lüleburgaz	58
Pehlivanköy	58
Vize	35

Railway

Railway transportation is the second most important transportation system of Thrace. The railway coming from Büyükkarıştıran Türkgeldi to the territories of province provides transportation to Edirne through Alpullu-Pehlivanköy and connection to Europe. A railway



separated from Alpullu is connected to Kırklareli province center. Babaeski and Lüleburgaz districts also make use of the railway with a service line that is about six kilometers. The length of railway parts within the territories of province is 110 kilometers. A total of 115 employees are working at stations in Kırklareli. Railways in Kırklareli are used mostly for military and commercial transportation. It is not preferred for passenger transportation although it is safer and cheaper than road transportation. Forest products, wheat and beet are primary elements in Kırklareli railway transportation. Şark Railways (Rumeli Line) was built during Sultan Abdülaziz Period (1869-1877). The railway part in Kırklareli-Alpullu and İstanbul-Edirne were opened for business in 1888. There is no city railway system and river-lake transportation within the city.

***These datas of research were benefit from Thrace Development Agency.**

