



## VITICULTURE ON THE ISLAND OF SAMOS AND DELICIOUS- DESIRED MUSKAT WINE\*

### SİSAM ADASI'NDA BAĞCILIK VE NEFİS-MAKBUL MUSKAT ŞARABI

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#### ABSTRACT

Samos is the fourth largest island in the southeast of the Aegean Sea, after Rhodes, Lesbos and Chios. Samos Island is at a strategic point in terms of its location and the Ottoman Empire made this island semi-autonomous in 1832. The island also drew attention with its small number of Muslims, and the people earned their living from agriculture. Grapes were one of the main livelihoods of the island along with olives. A large part of the grapes was devoted to wine production and was sold abroad, mainly in Italy and France. Diseases that occurred in the vineyards of the island caused unrest in the sale of the wine obtained from the grapes. Another problem in the export of wine was the change in the customs tariff, the increase in the tax rate in foreign customs due to the sale of wine with spirit. The Ottoman palace used and consumed the grapes produced by the island as a purchase of miri. Although incorporation efforts were attempted to sell the wine in the archive documents, they could not be implemented. While the certificates received through the consuls were kept valid in the acceptance of wines to Italy, France, Austria; it was stated that over time, there were problems at the customs and an analysis was requested. Since Samos wine was a highly demanded product with its delicious taste, it represented the Ottoman Empire at the Chicago Fair held in the USA in 1892. The main sources of our article are the documents in the Ottoman Archives of the Presidency of State Archives and the statistics of the period. Every detail reflected in the documents about viticulture and the diseases that plague the vineyards in Samos, as well as wine production and exportation of wine has been explained.

**Keywords:** Samos Island, Viticulture and Vine Diseases, Winemaking, Muskat Wine, Trade

#### ÖZ

Sisam, Ege Denizi'nin güneydoğusunda Rodos, Midilli ve Sakız'dan sonra dördüncü büyük adadır. Sisam Adası bulunduğu yer itibarıyla stratejik bir noktadadır ve Osmanlı Devleti bu adaya 1832'de yarı özerk bir duruma

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getirmiştir. Ada az sayıda Müslüman varlığıyla da dikkati çekmekte, halk tarımla geçimini temin etmektedir. Üzüm zeytinle beraber adanın temel geçim kaynaklarından biridir. Üzümün büyük bir kısmı şarap üretimine ayrılmakta ve yurt dışına başta İtalya ve Fransa olmak üzere satılmaktadır. Adada üzüm bağlarında meydana gelen hastalıklar üzümde elde edilen şarabın da dışarıya satılmasında huzursuzluklar yaşanmasına neden olmuştur. Yine şarabın dışarıya satımındaki diğer sıkıntı gümrük tarifesinin değişikliği, şarapların ispirtoyla beraber satışından dolayı dış ülkelerdeki gümrüklerde vergi oranının yükseltilmesidir. Osmanlı sarayı adanın ürettiği üzümü miri mübayaa olarak kullanmış ve tüketmiştir. Arşiv belgelerinde şarabın satılması için şirketleşme çalışmalarını teşebbüs edilmişse de hayata geçirilememiştir Şarapların İtalya, Fransa, Avusturya 'ya kabul edilmesinde konsololar vasıtasıyla alınan şahadetnameler geçerli tutulurken; zamanla gümrüklerde sıkıntı çıkarıldığını ve tahlil istendiği belirtilmiştir. Sisam'ın şarabı nefis tadıyla oldukça talep edilen bir ürün olması dolayısıyla 1892 yılında ABD' de yapılan Chicago Fuarı'nda da Osmanlı Devleti'ni temsil etmiştir. Makalemizin temel kaynakları Cumhurbaşkanlığı Devlet Arşivleri Başkanlığı Osmanlı Arşivi'nde bulunan evraklar, dönemin istatistikleridir. Sisam'da bağcılık ve bağlara musallat olan hastalıklar ile şarap üretimi ve şarapların dışa satışı hakkında evraklara yansıyan her detay anlatılmıştır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Sisam Adası, Bağcılık ve Bağ Hastalıkları, Şarapçılık, Muskat Şarabı, Ticaret

## INTRODUCTION

Samos is the fourth largest island in the southeast of the Aegean Sea, after Rhodes, Lesbos and Chios. It is located between the islands close to the Turkish coast and is 1.2 miles from the coast of Kuşadası. Samos or Sesame (Σάμος Samos in Greek) is an island in the Aegean Sea, opposite to Dilek Peninsula. It is one of the twelve Ionian colonies established in history. Its area is 476 km<sup>2</sup>, its length is 50 km in the east-west direction, and its width is at most 19 km in the north-south direction. Its highest point is Kerkis (Kerketeus) Hill (1434 m.), near the west side. The island's Vati Port is only 16 kilometers from Kusadasi Port, while it is 160 miles (approximately 296.5 km) from Piraeus Port. In addition, the surface area of the island is 168 km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>1</sup> In Turkish sources, Samu, Sesame is mentioned by Arab geographers as Sâmu, Sâmi, Sâmis / Şâmis.<sup>2</sup> During the excavations, historical artifacts belonging to the early Byzantine Empire (IV and VII centuries) were found, showing that Samos Island was directly related to Istanbul and the Anatolian coasts.<sup>3</sup>

The center of Samos was Vati and the island had a population of 48,500 and 45 villages. The island, which became a principality in 1832, has a population of 350 Muslims, 48,080 Greek Orthodox, 70 Catholics. The element of Islam on the island seemed to disappear as it was.<sup>4</sup> 13.500 people coming and going from Anatolia are not included in this population.<sup>5</sup>

The economy of Samos was based on agriculture (grain, grapes, olives, vegetables, fruits) as told by foreign travelers who visited the island in the XVII and XVIII centuries. Increasingly, unofficial commercial developments took place on the island's vineyards and olive groves. As a result, this process shifted the economy of the island to this trade and put this place into the commercial relations network that developed in the Aegean Sea, especially in the 18th century.<sup>6</sup> Merchant fleets began to transport red muscats, raisins, olives and timber to the ports of the Black Sea, Anatolia, Greece, the Central and Western Mediterranean, Cyprus and Alexandria. During this period, monasteries increased their real estate ownership. Apart from a few Turkish officials in Hora, the center of the island, there were no Muslims living on the island, and according to rumors, this was due to some privileges given to the Samians by Kılıç Ali Pasha in the form of prohibiting the permanent settlement of Muslims on the island.<sup>7</sup> Evliya

<sup>1</sup> J.H, Mordtmann, "The Island of Samos", MEB Encyclopedia of Islam, 1964, vol: 10, p. 712 – 714.

<sup>2</sup> Evangelia Balta, "Sisam", TDVİA, İstanbul, vol .37, 2009, p.272.

<sup>3</sup> Vital Cuinet, *La Turquie D'Aise Paris*, E. Leroux, Volume 1, 1892, p. 13.

<sup>4</sup> Cuinet, *La Turquie*, p.13.

<sup>5</sup> Şemsettin Sami, *Kâmûsü'l-A'lâm*, Mihran Matbaası, İstanbul Vol.6, ,1316, p.2759.

<sup>6</sup> Richard Pococke, *A Description Of The East, And Some Other Countries By*, London, vol 2,1743, p.25.

<sup>7</sup> Balta, Sisam ", TDVİA, İstanbul, vol .37, p.274.

Çelebi did not give much information about the island when he came to the island in the XVIII century. He noted that the island's Şıra port and Nargis port are sheltered from the winds.<sup>8</sup>

**Map :** 1916 map of Samos and Vati



**Reference:** Erkan-ı Harbiye-i Umumiye Printing House EHT (Scale 1/20000) (BOA, HRT.h.. 2333).

Tourneford gave detailed information about wine. The most beautiful and best fruits of the island were the vineyards<sup>9</sup>. We see that the Greeks also consumed wine in their deaths. In death, the vineyards were filled with people, everyone ate as much as they want, chose the anyplace they want, and the wine tasted well. Wines were stored in barrels; but the Greeks were not very clean and also they were not afraid to put water in it. Still , I drank a very well made Samos wine with our merchants from Izmir. Each keg held 158 pounds 4 ounces.<sup>10</sup> One and a half barrels of wine were sold at four francs a load, red wine was only four. The wine was dark, it would have been better not mixed with water. Greeks who bought wine from the island paid 40% tax, while the French, who fled at the whim of the customs officer, only paid half of it. The wine did not owe the Sultan, but each piece of vine fifty feet long owed him \$40. The Greeks paid 4 percent for the right to harvest this commodity, the French paid 1 percent. It was seen that most of the wine produced was exported to Chios, Izmir and Rhodes. We learn from the testimony of the traveler Tournefort that the Greeks paid 4% or 5% exit right to the customs officer in the taxation of wine, while the French paid half of it as tax.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Evliya Çelebi, (1935), *Evliya Çelebi Seyahatnamesi Anadolu, Suriye, Hicaz 1671-1672*, Devlet Matbaası, İstanbul ,1935, p 128.

<sup>9</sup> W. Wittman, *Travels in Turkey, Asia Minor, Syria and Across the Desert into Egypt during the years 1799, 1800 and 1801 in Company with the Turkish Army and the British Military Mission*, Philadelphia Published: United States-Pennsylvania- Philadelphia, 1804, p.438.

<sup>10</sup> 1 pound is 0.453 kg. 158 pounds is 71,668 Kg.

<sup>11</sup> Joseph Pitton de Tournefort, *Relation d'un voyage du Levant, fait par ordre du roy: contenant l'histoire ancienne & moderne de plusieurs isles de l'archipel de Constantinople, des côtes de la Mer Noire de l'Armenie de la Georgie, des frontieres de Perse & de l'Asie Mineure: enrichie de description & de figures d'un grand nombre de plantes rares de divers animaux, et de plusieurs observations touchant l'histoire naturelle*, France, 1717), p.140.

Sandys and Randolph emphasized that Samos Island's famous muscatel wine was produced all over the island and had a wonderful taste.<sup>12</sup> As we saw above, wines and raisins are the leading export goods of Samos trade. The wines of Samos were classified as sweet muscats, dry muscats (rombola), red wines and resinous wines. The total annual production of these different types of wines was between 45 and 50,000 hectoliters, of which 30,000 were sold in Italy, France, Austria, Romania, Egypt and the Ottoman Empire.<sup>13</sup> The best Muscat, ranging from 100 to 120 cents per hectolitre, was that of Vathy(Vati). The largest export of wine of any kind came from the Karlovassi region.<sup>14</sup>

The other person giving information about the agricultural structure of the island was Collas. Samos, self-governing under the obedience of Turkey, paying an annual tribute of 92,000 francs for it. It is 56 kilometers long and 20 wide. Its soil is mountainous but fertile. The mountains are covered with trees: pine, cypress and oak are the dominant species. He writes that the olive tree grows, mulberry, fig and especially the vine are the main crops here.<sup>15</sup>

The grape regions in the country were the western Anatolian coast of İzmir, the Gulf of Izmit, the Bosphorus, the west and east of Ankara, the middle of Anatolia, Kayseri, Amasya, Tokat, Trabzon, Diyarbakır and Syria, all of Palestine.<sup>16</sup> The Ottoman Empire, which had large lands, was growing a wide variety of products within these borders, one of which was grapes. A grape that is the same as the grape produced on Samos Island is Bornova Misket - Musg(k)at grape. It is an important aromatic white wine variety of Turkey. It is used in the production of dry, demisek and sweet wines. It is grown intensively in the Aegean region around İzmir. Bornova marble is more similar to the "Muscat Blanc de Frontignan" variety of France in terms of its characteristics.<sup>17</sup>

Grapes were eaten as a fruit when they were fresh, dried and turned into a winter fruit, and moreover, wine was obtained from its juice. Alcoholic beverages made from fruits were called wine. Ethyl alcohol fermentation was carried out spontaneously in wine, winemaking.<sup>18</sup> The vineyards cultivated in many places in the Ottoman Empire were used in different ways. Consumed fresh and dry, grapes became a popular fruit. However, vineyard cultivation in large lands was mostly done for the wine obtained from the grape must. There were many articles about alcohol in Ottoman state laws. In these articles, first of all, it was clearly stated that alcohol is prohibited. It was necessary for the Muslim community in the country to comply with the prohibitions on alcohol, which religion made haram and customs did not welcome.<sup>19</sup>

All hills and mountain slopes, most of the plains and valleys, were soils where vine cultivation was wonderfully successful. This crop was especially flourishing in the Khora

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<sup>12</sup> George Sandys, *Sandys Travailleurs Containing an History of The Original and Present State of The Turkish Empire: Their Lawes, Governement, Policy, Military Force, Courts of Justice and Commerce: The Mahometan Religion and Ceremonies. A Description of Constantinople, The Grand Signiors Seraglio and His Manner of Living. Also, of Greece with The Religion and Customes of The Grecians. A Description*, London,1652, p. 69; Bernard Randolph, *Aegean Archipelago: Archipelago*, Çev: Ümit Koçer, Pera Turizm ve Ticaret A.Ş. Publications, İstanbul, 1998, p.52.

<sup>13</sup> Hectoliter is a unit of volume measurement of one hundred liters (hl).

<sup>14</sup> Cuinet, *La Turquie*, p.502 and 508.

<sup>15</sup> M.B.C Collas, *La Turquie En 1864*, Paris,1864, p. 264.

<sup>16</sup> Franz Carl Endres, *Türkiye ve Türkler, Bir Alman Subayın Türkiye Notları*, Çev: Güray Beken, İş Bankası Yay, İstanbul. , 2006,p. 207.

<sup>17</sup> Zeliha Kaya, “Şarap Üretimi ve Kalite”, *Aydın Gastronomy*, 1 (2): 2017, p. 21.

<sup>18</sup> Ahmet Canbaş, “Bira Şarap ve Yüksek Alkollü içkilerin üretiminde Mikroorganizmalar” *Gıda*, Eylül- Ekim 1986, Yıl 11, Sayı:5, p.285.

<sup>19</sup> Filiz Yıldırım, “Mühimme Defterleri’ne Göre Osmanlı Devleti’nde Şarap” *Fırat Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi*, Ocak-2021, Cilt: 31, Sayı: 1, 2020, p.495.

(Megalo-Khora) region. The vineyard plots consisted of a total area of 30,500 hectares as follows<sup>20</sup>.

**Table 1:** *Grape Types and Amounts of Wine Production in Samos*<sup>21</sup>

Crop	Weight
Raisins (yellow, black, red sultani)	5.000.000
Muscat Wine	3500.000
Rumbala wine <sup>22</sup>	650.000
Resin Wine <sup>23</sup>	600.000
Red wine <sup>24</sup>	350.000
Alcohol	500.000
Total	10.600.000

**Reference:** Vital Cuinet, *La Turquie D'Aise Paris*, E. Leroux, Vol. 1, 1892, p.501-502.

As it is given in the tables, grapes were mostly produced as dry, and mostly muscat wine was made. Wine production was mostly in Khora and Vathy.

**Table 2:** *Grape Planting Areas and Hectares in Samos*

Location	Hectare
Vathy	9.000
Khora (Megalo-Khora)	11.000
Karlovassi	8000
Marathocambo	2500
Total	30.500

**Reference** Vital Cuinet, *La Turquie D'Aise Paris*, E. Leroux, Volume 1, 1892, p.503.

In his work published in 1898, Şemsettin Sami also gives the land use on the island. The people of the island, with their hard work, turned the skirts of the mountains on the island into vineyards by turning them into sets. 20 % of the total used land of the island is reserved for vineyards. (Table 3). The merchants of Samos transport the products of the island on their own 342 ships. Their weight is 7813 tons. The island's exports are 5 million francs and its imports are 4.5 million francs<sup>25</sup>.

<sup>20</sup> Cuinet, *La Turquie*, p.501-502.

<sup>21</sup> Cuinet, *La Turquie*, p.501-502.

<sup>22</sup> **Rumbala (Robola)** is a white Greek wine grape variety grown mainly on the Ionian island of Cephalonia. White variety grown in the Ionian Islands. The variety is vigorous, robust, fertile, productive and sensitive to drought. The wine is of high alcoholic-grade, moderate to good acidity and distinctive aroma. Christos Vasilikiotis (Coordinator), *New Agriculture for a New Generation: Recharging Greek Youth to Revitalize the Agriculture and Food Sector of the Greek Economy- Viticulture, Table & Wine Grapes Varieties*, Thessaloniki, Greece, 2015, p.64.

<sup>23</sup> **Resin Wine (Retsina)** emerged from an ancient winemaking tradition dating back to the 2nd century BC. Resinous white wines, which were drunk as aperitifs, were a type of wine known in "Retsina" but underrated in the wine world. Greek retsina is not certified. It is generally not associated with any geographic region. , Efthalia Dimara, and ,Dimitris Skuras, "Consumer evaluations of product certification, geographic association and traceability in Greece", *European Journal of Marketing* Vol. 37 No. 5/6, 2003, p. 695.

<sup>24</sup> **Red Wine** is a type of wine made from dark grape varieties. The actual color of beverages in the red wine category can vary from violet to brick red and brown, depending on the grape from which it is produced. The juice of dark (black) grapes is greenish-white; The red color comes from the antioxidant pigments found in the skin of the grape. Therefore, most of the red wine production process is based on obtaining the color and flavor elements from the grape skin. Kaya, *Şarap Üretimi ve Kalite*", p.26.

<sup>25</sup> Şemsettin Sami, *Kāmūsü'l-A'lâm*, p.2760.

**Table 3:** Usage Distribution of the Land on Samos Island

Land	Hectare (Dönüm)
Field	6676
Olive-tree	5219
Vineyard	2927
Vegetable Garden	393
Total	15.215

**Reference:** Şemsettin Sami, *Kāmûsü'l-A'lâm*, Mihran Matbaası, İstanbul, Vol.6, 1316, p. 2760.

Yellow and black grades of raisins were exported to France, Austria and the Netherlands. Red and sultana qualities in Austria, Egypt and the Ottoman Empire most Muscat wines were shipped to France as they were used by the spirits industry. The remaining Samos wine was exported to Germany, Italy and Turkey. Alcohol (Valcool) was almost entirely produced in Turkey.<sup>26</sup> Samos Island, as an emirate of the Ottoman Empire, was based on agriculture. Grapes and raisins were mostly used in wine production, and wines were produced mostly in Khora and Vathy as a highly sought-after product in the foreign market.

### 1. Agricultural Diseases

Misket - Musg(k)at grape is a thick-skinned, medium-sized, fragrant, juicy grape variety. Clay-sandy soils by the sea are its homeland. It is one of the aromatic grape varieties and the wines produced from these grapes are evaluated in a separate category. Sulfur is a common element in nature (constitutes 0.06% of the earth's surface). It occurs naturally between layers of gypsum or limestone, near ancient volcanoes, especially in Sicily, Louisiana and Japan, where the most important sulfur deposits are located. It is mostly seen combined with metals.<sup>27</sup> Iron, copper, lead and zinc sulphides are the most important ores of these metals. Calcium sulfate or, in other words, gypsum must be counted. Sulfur allows plants to absorb nutrients more easily from the root zone. It prevents the use of excess fertilizer by improving the soil structure. Sulfur to be used in order to lower the soil pH must be mixed with the soil. Sulfur application should be done at the beginning of autumn and spring. Due to the vineyard diseases on the island, we see that sulfur soil was requested from the İncirli Island of the Kos Island of Rhodes and the other islands around.

*Pronosporos / Mildew / Rust disease* is the transformation of spots that appear on the green parts of the vine such as leaves, flowers, fresh shoots and shoots and turn white and then yellow into holes.<sup>28</sup> Mildew, like phylloxera, spread from America to the world, and a mixture of sulfur and copper, called eye stone, or burgundy slurry was used for treatment.<sup>29</sup> In addition to these, the parasites and diseases that plagued the Ottoman viticulturists of California, which were named after the place of origin, were bushiness, cracking, blackness, black and white mold. The phylloxera disease that appeared in the grapevines was caused by grafting the American vine rod to the local vines, at the expense of the state, with the efforts of the Ottoman Public Debt Administration (*Düyun-u Umumiye*) Many of the vines using this process saved

<sup>26</sup> Cuinet, *La Turquie*, p.503.

<sup>27</sup> Merve Darıcı, Selin Yabacı Karaoğlan, Zeynep Dilan Çelik, Turgut Cabaroğlu, (2017), “Bornova Misketi Şaraplarının Duyusal Tanımlayıcılarının Belirlenmesi”, *Gıda* (2017) 42 (1), p.87.

<sup>28</sup> Özgem, “Bağ Mildiyözü”, *Zirai Mücadele Teknik Talimatları*, C. IV, Gıda Tarım ve Hayvancılık Bakanlığı Tarımsal Araştırmalar ve Politikalar Genel Müdürlüğü Bitki Sağlığı Araştırmaları Daire Başkanlığı, Ankara, 2008, p.265.

<sup>29</sup> Özkan Keskin, Üzümün Bağ Asmanın Kurdu: Osmanlı İmparatorluğu'nda Filoksera ile Mücadele Tarih İncelemeleri Dergisi, XXX / 2, 2015, p.479-505.

from complete extinction.<sup>30</sup> Since the Ottoman State connected the income of Samos Island to the Ottoman Public Debt Administration, this institution was the main addressee for the income of the island.<sup>31</sup>

We see that the grape sticks were sent to other places as well. In the document dated 6 January 1881 (4 Safer 1298), information was given about the products whose fruits were examined before by Bodur Süleyman Bey from Aydın Province in the order written to the Syrian Province. The famous Syrian finger, Hüdavendigâr's foxtail and Samos muscatel vines, which can be wrapped in an arbor and can be harvested due to its length and appearance when planted, were requested to be transported on the road without being damaged.<sup>32</sup>

First, the process of introducing sulfur soil began in 1858. We see from the documents that every sulphurous soil didn't cure vineyard diseases. In the document dated 18 October 1858 (10 Rabi-ul-Awwal 1275) from Limoniya Island, the Governor of Eyalet of the Archipelago (*Eyālet-i Cezāyir-i Bahır-i Sefîd in Ottoman Turkish*), was asked to bring 4000 scales of soil from the island in order to save the grapes of Samos Islanders from the disease.<sup>33</sup> Since it was known that the acquisition of this soil was prohibited by law, it was stated that the people were petitioners from the state. It was not specified which type of disease the vineyards were infected with. It was deemed appropriate to give enough soil to the island. It was also emphasized that this work should be repeated within a few years until the disease disappeared.<sup>34</sup>

After two years have passed since the first time the soil was sent, another portion of soil was requested from the same island again. In 1860, the demand for soil was repeated three times. With the document written to the Eyalet of Archipelago dated January 1, 1860 (7 Cemazielahir 1276), efforts were being made for the destruction of the disease that infected the vineyards on Samos Island for a few years, and the necessary amount of sulphurous soil found in Limoniya Island in Rhodes Island was requested for a few years. It was requested that 4000-5000 scales of soil be given by the Bey of Samos. It was ensured that this soil was piled up where necessary, and it was requested to be given again every year because it was good.<sup>35</sup> In the document that came one month later, we see that the soil rate was increased even more. For the destruction of the disease that infected the vineyards on Samos Island, 10 thousand scales were required from the sulfurous soil in Limoniya Island. Since it was not possible to carry out this process unless the will of the Governor of Rhodes, who would be informed from the government of Limonia Island, was not given, the work would take longer and longer. It was reported that since it was not possible to send the soil with ships immediately, this process would take a very long time, and the crop would deteriorate. Since it was known that the price of the island would be paid to be met from the treasure chest (*emval sandığı*), the produce of the people would perish, and this situation would worsen the financial situation of the people, a letter was written to the governor to send the scientific news (the document that has arrived) to be accepted from the island and sent quickly without visiting Rhodes.<sup>36</sup> In the document written by Sami Bey to Governor Eyalet of the Archipelago, dated 18 November 1860 (4 Cemaziel ago 1277), asked for a license to transport 10 thousand weighbridges annually until

<sup>30</sup> A. Du Velay, *Türkiye Maliye Tarihi*, Maliye Bakanlığı Tetkik, Ankara, 1978, p. 318.

<sup>31</sup> A. Du Velay, *Türkiye Maliye Tarihi*, p.441.

<sup>32</sup> BOA MB.İ. / 69 – 130. 4 Safer 1298 (6 January 1881).

<sup>33</sup> It is an island in Greece that is part of the Dodecanese. The island is located between the islands of Rhodes and Herke. The island has a surface area of 7.4 square kilometers and has a coastline of 21 kilometers.

<sup>34</sup> BOA, HR.MKT. / 261 – 33. 10 Rabi-ul-Awwal 1275 (18 October 1858).

<sup>35</sup> BOA, HR.MKT. 320 – 53. 7 Cemazielahir 1276 (1 January 1860).

<sup>36</sup> BOA, HR.MKT. / 326-58.29 Recep 1276 (21 February 1860).

the disease was over. As it was beneficial to the vineyards on the license should continue to be given by the Sublime Porte (Babiali) as last year. Sending soil to the island was accepted..<sup>37</sup>

If we give from the original text:

” *Cezayir-i Bahri Sefid Hakkında Emirnameyi Sami*

*Sisam Ceziresi'nde kain bağlara arısa olan hastalığın izale ve imhası maksadıyla geçen sene Babiali'den verilen ruhsat üzerine Limonya Adası'nda çıkan kükürtlü topraktan lüzümü miktarınca celp olunarak bağlar hakkında pek çok faidesi görülmüş olduğundan illeti mezkurenin indifası kadar senevi on bin kantar miktar toprağın nakline ruhsat itası bu kere dahi Sisam Beyi canibinden istida kılınmış olup işbu toprağın menni ihracı hakkında ittihaz kılınmış olan ahvalin daima merr-ül icra tutulması lazım gelür ise de cezire-yi merkume ahalisinin teba-yı hazreti şahanedan olması ve bu talep ve arzularının ihtiyacı hakikati üzerine mübteni bulunması cihetiyle bil'itfa makamı illeti mezkurun münakkat olmakta terk edilmek üzere bu sene dahi cezire-yi merkume için ol mikdar toprağın verilmesine muhalif olunmaması hususuna himmet buyurulması siyakında şukka ”*

*Uncinula necator* (Bağ Küllenmesi & Cenk) causes damage to the leaves, flowers, shoots and grains of the vine. It is seen that the leaves and grains that are infected with the disease lose their normal brightness, become as if they are sprinkled with ash, and the grains crack over time. This results in diseased rods and significant crop loss. The equivalent of *Uncinula necator* (Bağ Küllenmesi Cenk) in the Ottoman Empire was given name as "güllem illeti". In the document written to the Mutasarrıflık of Eyalet of the Archipelago, dated February 7, 1861 (26 Recep 1277), it was requested that the sulphurous soil on Incirli Island (Nisiros Island) be sent to Rhodes Island for the removal of *Uncinula necator*, which was harmful to the vineyards. Hristo, who wanted to do this, was asked to be given a license to extract this soil and ten thousand weighingbridges of soil's cost should be covered by same person..<sup>38</sup>

In the order addressed to the Mutasarrıflık of Eyalet of the Archipelago, it was requested that 10 thousand tons of sulfur be sent from the sulfur factory located on Limonia Island together with the information given by the Amirate of Samos Island with the document dated March 4, 1862 (3 Ramadan 1278)..<sup>39</sup> Three months later, with the memorandum written by the Chief of Staff of the Factory, Major Hüseyin Bey, it was stated that no sulfur soil would be given to any place in accordance with the document written from Imperial Foundry (*Tophane-i Amire*)..<sup>40</sup> In the document written in the Eyalet of the Archipelago t was requested that 10,000 weighing scales of sulfur soil be given to Samos last year from the sulfur soil extracted from the sulfur factory in Incirli Island. Since they had 200 scales last year, it was stated that 800 scales will be given this year. Since it was known that there were two soils in the factory on the island, it was reported that 30 thousand weighing scales could be given from the "rose" soil, which was sent before, since it was not known whether the soil known as "Ramo" would be good for the vineyards. It was requested that this land, which was sold abroad, be deducted from the Island Assembly Fund, called "*Dımarhiba*", by taking only the transportation fee. It was requested that the transaction for the state would not be taxed and that the export of the land to foreigners should be abandoned. It was stated that a transportation fee would be requested from the sulfur soil to be exported, and a tax fee of just over 10 dollars was charged for the factory from the sulfur sold to the treasury. 30 thousand scales were given annually from the soil sold abroad. Since it was not possible to impose a tax on sulfur during this period, it was accepted to give up 8000 scales of the surety bond to be taken from the deputy of Hristo

<sup>37</sup> BOA, HR.MKT/ 357-91-1. The scale (kantar) is equal to 56.449 kg in weight.

<sup>38</sup> BOA, A.} MKT.UM. / 453 – 77. 26 Recep 1277(7 February 1861).

<sup>39</sup> BOA HR.MKT. / 396 – 63. 3 Ramadan 1278(4 March 1862).

<sup>40</sup> BOA, A.} MKT.UM. / 571 – 99 .12 Dhu al-Hijjah 1278(10 June 1862).

Mencal, and to issue 2000 scales with a license. Since the order issued last year could not cover this year, it was reiterated that the answer will be given accordingly.<sup>41</sup>

Diseases in the vineyards continued. In the document dated April 26, 1863 (7 Dhu al-Qadah 1279), census was written from Imperial Foundry Military Commander (*müşir*) to his holiness Ahmet Ata Bey Efendi, the Mutasarrif of Eyalet of the Archipelago, to send soil from the Island of Limonia for vineyards in Samos.<sup>42</sup> At the beginning of August, the sulfur in Incirli Island in the Rhodes Sanjak was not strong enough for the "*güllem illeti*" that infested the vineyards, and it was stated by the *Kapkehduda* of Samos that there was a revival in the vineyards by pouring 5000 scales of sulfur annually. Although it was no longer necessary to sell soil to these vineyards, sulfur was requested for the vineyards of Patyoz and various foundations. The petition given by Mihal, the deputy of the islanders, to the Council Judgment Court (*Meclisi Ahkâmı Adliye*), was sent.<sup>43</sup> Sulfur soil was transferred on the census sent by Imperial Foundry.<sup>44</sup> Buying sulfur from Incirli Island, as the sale of sulfur to European countries harmed distribution with increasing imports; by building a factory here, it was requested to provide the necessary income, these be sent to the gunpowder factory (*Baruthane*) and distributed.<sup>45</sup> Since two types of sulfur were found on this island, the first of the sulfur named "*Lankari Valaki*" and "*Yezramutçe*" was licensed by Imperial Foundry; it was guaranteed that this sulfur would not be sold to merchants and various countries, and the situation was reported to the manager of the mine.<sup>46</sup>

Samos Island continued to supply soil from various islands in order to find a cure for vineyard diseases. With the document dated March 14, 1865 (16 Shawwal 1281), 1000 scales were requested, although there was not much benefit from the sulfurous soils coming from the island of Leros (Leryos) Island, Kineros. The Amirate of Samos took permission and requested that this soil be sent for sickness this year, although its export was prohibited.<sup>47</sup>

In the document dated March 11, 1866 (23 Shawwal 1282), upon the license given by the Sublime Porte to the Governorship of Eyalet of the Archipelago the sulfurous soil on the Incirli Island was useful this year and therefore it was not appropriate to give it as a base, so 10 thousand weighing scales of land were transferred to the Amirate of Samos to be given annually.<sup>48</sup> After one and a half months, it was stated that this land was piled aside, since the soil was seen to be of great use for the fight against the disease in Samos, and the transportation of this land by boats from Incirli Island.<sup>49</sup>

A lot of benefit was seen from the soil on Incirli Island, which was given permission by the Sublime Porte. In the document dated February 14, 1867 (9 Shawwal 1283), it was requested that the 10 thousand scales of soil requested this year be given as if it had been sold as a mineral, not as sulfur. Since it was known that the sale of land from Samos Island was forbidden, as it was given last year, a document was sent to Eyalet of the Archipelago by the mining officer to

<sup>41</sup> BOA, A.} MKT.UM. / 571-99-2.

<sup>42</sup> BOA, A.} MKT.MHM. / 261-86. 7 Dhu al-Qadah 1279 (26 April 1863).

<sup>43</sup> BOA, MVL / 414 – 31.19 Safer 1280 (5 August 1863).

<sup>44</sup> BOA, MVL / 414 – 31-2.

<sup>45</sup> BOA, MVL / 414 – 31-3.

<sup>46</sup> BOA, MVL / 414 – 31-4

<sup>47</sup> BOA HR.MKT. / 512 – 79. 16 Shawwal 1281 (14 March 1865).

Leros (Leryos) Island Leros, or İleriye, is an island, city and municipality located in the Southern Aegean region of Greece.

Kineros, Ardiçcık or Zenari, is an island in Greece that is part of the Dodecanese. The island is located in the east of the Aegean Sea, in the west of the islands of Kelemez and Leros, and administratively, it is within the borders of the Municipality of Leros, which is connected to the South Aegean region.

<sup>48</sup> BOA HR.MKT. / 540 – 28. 23 Shawwal 1282 (11 March 1866).

<sup>49</sup> BOA, HR.MKT. / 545-74-2.

issue 3000 weighbridges this year.<sup>50</sup> After exactly one year, sulfur soil was requested from the same island. It was written to the Eyalet of the Archipelago, reminding that the rules would continue, that 10 thousand weighing scales of sulfur soil should be given this year, as it was given from İncirli Island last year.<sup>51</sup>

In the document written to the Bey of Samos Island on March 13, 1869 (29 Zilkade 1285), it was stated that 2-3 seizures were scattered from the drug taken into the ligaments, but it was not enough to eliminate the disease. A letter was sent from the Amirate of Samos to the Eyalet of the Archipelago to send ten thousand weighbridges of sulfur from İncirli Island again.<sup>52</sup>

We see that the island did not need sulfur soil for a period of ten years in total. In the document dated March 5, 1879 (14 Ramadan 1279), it was stated that sulfur soil was brought to the island last year. Again, since it was known that the sulphurous soil brought from Limoniya Island for grapevines was very beneficial, it was requested to be sent due to the need of the people in order to eliminate the disease, which was a very strong disease, by adhering to the laws with the license given by the government.<sup>53</sup>

It was stated in the document dated 11 January 1890 (19 Cemaziel before 1307) that the sulfur factory, which was connected to Imperial Foundry on İncirli Island, was not operating for a while. Therefore, according to the affidavit received from the district governor, it was stated that soil was brought to Samos from the sulfur mine three or four years ago. The location of the idle factory was moved to Bodrum District at the beginning of this year. With the removal of civil servants from the factory, it was requested to examine how much sulfur was sent from the island. Since the factory was no longer functioning at full capacity, it was also brought up to be removed, and it was requested that the sulfur soil be sold after meeting the needs of the gunpowder factory. It was stated that with the decrease in production, permission would be obtained to sell the land for money. By informing those who wanted to buy the sulphurous soil on İncirli Island of Kos Island whether it would be given with money or not, it was decided to give the sulfur, which was given free of charge to the inhabitants of Samos Island, in return for a price. It was stated that there is a demand for this land from the surrounding islands. Someone from İncirli Island known as "Kolpa" asked to be given 500 scales of sulfur, and it was stated that it was not appropriate to give sulfur to such a person. A price was requested for the sale of 10 thousand scales requested for Samos Island, since the sulfur factory did not operate for a long time.<sup>54</sup>

A document was sent to the Ministry of Public Works and Trade (*Nafia ve Ticaret Nezareti*), with a document dated 24 August 1892 (30 Muharrem 1310) to notify what measures were taken against the phylloxera disease that emerged in the vineyards around the Midillinöz Village of Samos.<sup>55</sup> In the document that came three weeks later, it was stated that an attempt was made to burn the drug with chemicals in 40-50 decares of vineyard where the disease was strong. Detailed information was requested about the pharmaceuticals used with the method applied during the fight against the disease that infects the vineyards in the Midillinoz Village.<sup>56</sup> Again, it was stated that the report from Samos was sent upon the missive dated September 6, 1892 (August 25, 1308). At the beginning of November, the Ministry of Public Works and Trade, Midillinoz Village asked for a scientific report to be written to the agricultural inspector

<sup>50</sup> BOA, HR.MKT. / 569- 58 ve BOA, HR.MKT. / 569- 58-2. 9 Shawwal 1283 (14 February 1867).

<sup>51</sup> BOA, HR.MKT. / 603-43. 28 Shawwal 1284 (22 February 1868).

<sup>52</sup> BOA HR.MKT. / 647 – 29. 29 Zilkade 1285 (13 March 1869).

<sup>53</sup> BOA, HR. MKT. / 428- 79. 14 Ramadan 1279 (5 March 1879).

<sup>54</sup> BOA, ŞD. / 2341 – 49- 5. 19 Cemazielevvel 1307(11 January 1890).

<sup>55</sup> BOA DH.MKT. / 1991 – 54. 30 Muharrem 1310 (24 August 1892).

<sup>56</sup> BOA DH.MKT. / 2001- 85. 22 Safer 1310(15 September 1892).

from the region that the necessary examination was made in the vineyards, the determination and treatment of the degree of damage, the status of pharmaceuticals and chemicals.<sup>57</sup>

With the pouring of the sulfur soil into the vineyards, which started in 1858, very positive results were obtained from the treatment of the vineyards. In the ten-year period between 1869 and 1979 on the island, no action was taken to combat vineyard diseases. There was also a sulfur factory on Limonya Island, especially on İncirli Island, where sulfur soil was brought. We know that the factory on İncirli Island, which has started to become dysfunctional over time, produces soil containing sulfur of various qualities. Although the factory works as a subordinate of Imperial Foundry, we were able to follow through the documents that the place of the factory was wanted to be moved to Bodrum District.

## 2. Non-Shared and Unreconciled Income: Taxes and Sales

Wine has entered the religion and mythology of many civilizations in this geography where it was first produced. The civilization that gave special importance to wine was the Ancient Greek civilization. Spreading to the West with the Greek colonies, wine became one of the main drinks of the Roman Empire and played an important role in the Mediterranean maritime trade.<sup>58</sup> Beginning from the 5th century BC, the wine of the Aegean islands was exported to Sicily, Italy, Balkan countries, Southern Russia, Central Asia, Cyprus, Syria and Egypt. Major Hellenic Islands; those were, Thasos, Knidos, Rhodes, Chios, Kos, Lesbos and Samos wines were exported in closed and sealed amphorae.<sup>59</sup> We learn some information about Samos amphorae from some papyrus texts dated to 259 BC. Accordingly, their volume is 16 choe, that is, fifty-one liters. This capacity is equal to the largest Hellenic amphora capacity. In Attica, this capacity is thirty-two liters. The capacity of Samos amphorae in the Agora of Athens is 14 choe, or forty-five liters.<sup>60</sup> The wine tax is a tax of 15% of the value on the amount of wine obtained at each vineyard, independently of the real estate, land tax and tithe (land tax taken from Muslims) paid by the vineyard and the income of which belongs to the state. Wines exported from Turkey were exempted from the 15% tax rate, provided that they were not less than 200 *okkas*.<sup>61</sup> Wines imported into Turkey were not subject to 15% tax. These were subject to 8% customs duty on the value at the time of importation. It is also true that the trader suffered a great loss due to this duality.<sup>62</sup>

The state collected all kinds of taxes from the circulation of liquor. In the document sent to the Ministry of Finance (*Maliye Nezareti*) dated 26 July 1854 (1 Zilkade 1270), it was stated that the tax receipt given to Samos *Kapukethüda* of the tax of the liquor brought to Gate of Felicity (*Dersaadet*) by the captain named Istiradi veled-i Yani.<sup>63</sup>

**Table 4: 1889-1900 Alcoholic Beverage Tax Collection**<sup>64</sup>

Taxes	Value
Taxes on wine and raki	94.903
Bey'iyye (Sales License)	43.902
Taxes on Beer and Alcohol	130.654

<sup>57</sup> BOA DH.MKT. / 2016 – 101. 6 September 1892 (25 August, 1308).

<sup>58</sup> Ergün Laflı, “Antik Hellen ve Roma Dönemlerinde Anadolu’da Bağcılık ve Şarapçılık ““Üzümün Akdeniz’deki Yolculuğu “Konferans Bildirileri, İzmir Büyükşehir Belediyesi Akdeniz Akademisi, İzmir,1, 2017, p.34.

<sup>59</sup> Laflı, *Antik Hellen ve Roma Dönemlerinde Anadolu’da*, p.35.

<sup>60</sup> Laflı, *Antik Hellen ve Roma Dönemlerinde Anadolu’da*, p.35.

<sup>61</sup> Although the value of Okka (Kyye) varies from time to time and place, it is 1282,9 kg. Cengiz Kallek,” Okka” TDV İslâm Ansiklopedisi, İstanbul, Vol 33, 2007, p.338-339.

<sup>62</sup> A Du Velay, *Türkiye Maliye Tarihi*, p.317.

<sup>63</sup> BOA, HR.MKT,81,55. 1 Zilkade 1270 (26 July 1854).

<sup>64</sup> A Du Velay, *Türkiye Maliye Tarihi*, p.316.

Penalties	1346
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**Reference:** A. Du Velay, *Türkiye Maliye Tarihi*, Maliye Bakanlığı Tetkik, Ankara, 1978, p. 316.

As in almost every field, the state's domestic and foreign market control was in question in the wine trade. Wine could not be entered and exited from cities, towns or villages without an official permit. At certain times of the year, all kinds of commercial goods, including wine, were recorded in and out of places such as fairs, markets, etc., established in suitable areas. On the other hand, this drink, which was transferred to residential areas by using both land and waterway, was again subject to certain controls and records. Within this, the relevant part of the vineyard and garden tax is grape production and viticulture. More specifically, it was the tax on vineyards reserved for wine. This tax differed in each state and even in each sanjak. This situation depended on both the economic structure of the sanjaks and the amount of revenue obtained. In the vineyard, where the grapes were used to make wine, the tax was collected, the amount of which was determined. This amount was determined as 1/10 (tietre).<sup>65</sup> In 1879, spirits worth 160,000 kurus (500 barrels) were imported to the island. The import of the island was made through İzmir. Wine and raki are also sold to Russia.<sup>66</sup>

**Table 5:** *Countries from which Grapes and Alcohol were Exported from Samos after 1832*

Country	Product	Value
Germany -Dutch (Dutch and Belgium)- Austria	Wine	1.756.980
France –Dutch (Netherlands and Belgium) – England	White and black raisins	3160.000
Austria -England	Razaki <sup>67</sup> grape	36.000

**Reference:** Ali Fuat Örenç, *Yakın dönem tarihimizde Sisam Adası 1821-1923*, İstanbul Üniversitesi, (Unpublished Master's Thesis), 1995, p. 238.

Although our records show intensity in the documents made with France and Italy, Samos, which became an Amirate, sold mostly wine to Germany-Dutch, Austria, and grapes to France, England, Austria and the Netherlands after this date.

The tax on wine was also a problem for those that would be sold in the domestic market of the Ottoman Empire. In the document dated September 4, 1888 (27 Zilhijce 1305), it was stated that the tax collected from the wines brought from Samos to Istanbul is desired to be reduced. In the decision made and sent by the Council of State (*Şura-yı Devlet*) and Tanzimat Office (*Tanzimat Dairesi*) on this matter, it was complained that a cash tax of 1 currency was charged from each price of wine exported from Samos to other parts of the Ottoman Empire. For this reason, the examination of the records of the last five years was emphasized. It was stated that this tax will not be collected unless the official will be notified from the Samos Amirate Chest that it was requested to be decided according to the result obtained by conducting the examination. The decision was referred to the Ministry of Finance, where the decision would be made upon the notification of Ottoman Public Debt Administration officials of Chios, Ayvalık, Thessaloniki, and the decision was reported to the council of *Mahsus*.<sup>68</sup> It was stated that taking a coin from each of the wines is not against the Ottoman Public Debt Administration. In this case, if a financial surplus was found in the five-year total income accounts, this fee belonged to Ottoman Public Debt Administration; if it was less, amirate of Samos was asked to

<sup>65</sup> Cengiz Kallek, "Haraç" TDV İslâm Ansiklopedisi, İstanbul, vol.16, 1997, p. 71-88.

<sup>66</sup> Ali Fuat Örenç, *Yakın dönem tarihimizde Sisam Adası 1821-1923*, İstanbul Üniversitesi, (Unpublished Master's Thesis), 1995, p. 236-238.

<sup>67</sup> Razaki, although the releases in the tree are large, the branches of this tree in general are sparse. Its grains are light green with a yellowish color. It has almost no odor, but tastes like honey.

<sup>68</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 1 – 36. 27 Zilhijce 1305 (4 September 1888).

collect it. Since there was a surplus in the income, the refund of the money was given to the Ministry of Finance from the amirate of Samos.<sup>69</sup>

While the tax applied in the domestic market was excessive; it was emphasized that this product was intended for the foreign market. In the document dated 20 February 1906 (25 Dhu al-Hijjah 1323), it was stated that without examining the amount of spirit in the bottom of Samos' wines, 1 coin tax was taken from each of them. It was stated that the wines imported from Aydın and various provinces needed to be analyzed because there was spirit in their depths, or that there was wine with spirit, and it was stated that an excessive tax was collected from the wines to be sent to the Ottoman Empire by the Ottoman Public Debt Administration. It was stated that this is normal and that alcohol is always placed at the bottom of the wine and this can be up to 12%. In this application, which was made by the Ottoman Public Debt Administration, where the application was made with permission, it was requested not to act against the provisions with the change of the laws on Samos wines. It was also emphasized that the application negatively affects trade.<sup>70</sup> It was stated in the petition written the merchant Katzi İsklavo from Samos that from the wines sent to Lesbos were over-taxed by the Ottoman Public Debt Administration.<sup>71</sup> It was stated that the tax is 30 money less for Samos wine, which is beautiful and expensive compared to some wines. Again, it was emphasized that the 15% tax is on the wines that deal with competition and import foreign spirits to Samos and sell them everywhere as a product of this island. It was stated that a tax of 30 money per *kıyye* and 5% tax is charged on Samos wine, and since these wines are delicious and sought-after products, competition conditions are already too high and these customs will continue. As for the wines that would go to other parts of the country, 24 money per *kıyye* would be charged, and an analysis would be taken by the Imperial School of Medicine (*Mekteb-i Tıbbiye-i Şahane*), this rate was 15% in raki (arak); it was reported that there will be a tax of 24 money in watery and canned spirits, and the results of the analysis will be acted upon.<sup>72</sup> The tax rate was applied in the domestic market of Samos wines, which were generally sold to the foreign market, was found to be high, causing complaints from the traders. Since the trade of Samos Island was dependent on the Ottoman Empire, the income of the island became dependent on this institution with the establishment of the Ottoman Public Debt Administration.<sup>73</sup>

## 2.1. Sales to France

The issue that is reflected in the documents that cause the most trouble in the sale of wine to France was taxation. First of all, when exporting was done only with the certificates given by the ambassadors, then the scientific examination was requested, changing the customs tariff using the alcohol ratio in wine as an excuse created a great problem in trade.

In the document dated October 8, 1791 (9 Safer 1206) written from the Amirate of Samos to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (*Hariciye Nezareti*), it was decided to charge 37 francs for each hectoliter, effective as of October, from the two-franc tax applied at the French customs on sweet wines from Samos. Since it was against the law to increase the import tax of wines from the island, it was desirable to continue in accordance with the reciprocity applied to other states, like the wine tax applied to other Ottoman hometowns. It was also requested that Samos wines be exempted from the alcohol tax as before, and at least 3-4 months should be given in addition to the period until the implementation of this new taxation. The census, which was sent to Samos for the approval of the French State, was discussed in the Board of Directors, and its

<sup>69</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM... / 1 – 36-2.

<sup>70</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 3-133. 25 Dhu al-Hijjah 1323 (20 February 1906).

<sup>71</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 3 -133-4.

<sup>72</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 3 -133-5.

<sup>73</sup> A. Du Velay, *Türkiye Maliye Tarihi*, p.441.

French translation was sent with the documents.<sup>74</sup> In another document, it was requested to determine how much tax would be collected for those which were mixed with alcohol. In the document dated July 18, 1793 (4 Muharrem 1311), it was requested to try to get special permission for Samos wines during the trade agreement negotiated with France about how much the tax to be collected from the new tariff would be.<sup>75</sup> For the year 1890, wine imports from the Ottoman Empire to France reached 20 million liquors and 800 million liters.

*In the articles of the trade agreement between the two countries:*

- a. Examination of the liquor deep in Samos wines.
- b. First of all, the examination of spirit in wines to the degree indicated in the tariff, the allocation of one franc 56-centimeter spirit tax and the implementation of the articles in the trade agreement.
- c. Since the application of the old tariff to wines in France, the liquor in the bottom has two classes, first sweet and the other normal (ordinary). The degree of spirit in the depths was subjected to spirit tax only with special tax, according to the strength degree of ordinary wine spirits. In this new tariff, unlike wine, it was deemed appropriate to impose a 1%-franc tax of 20 cm for each hectoliter of spirit, and the same amount of tax only up to 70 cm and 10 degrees. Emphasis is placed on each use of spirits to more than ten degrees and subjecting them to customs according to what is appropriate for the internal customs tax.
- d. Taxes for alcohol imports are at the highest tariff limit in France and registered alcohol is subject to tax. Since alcohol imports in France were subject to heavy taxation; this tax was asked to be reduced.<sup>76</sup>

In the document dated September 15, 1892 (3 September 1308), Safrulis Konstantidi Nalos, a member of Samos, sent a telegram to the Tax Office, demanding that the heavy tax imposed on the goods to be taken from France be waived. In the telegram dated May 23, 1804 (May 11, 1218) sent from the Amirate of Samos to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it was reported that the import of Samos wines is prevented due to the newly implemented measure, while customs duty is being collected by considering them as useless. In the documents sent from the capital on 31 December 1899 (27 Shaban 1317), it was requested that this matter be resolved as soon as possible. It was stated that these wines, which are famous in France, were produced from raisins, and in the telegram sent from the merchant residing in France, that these wines made from fresh grapes were approved by the government, it was confirmed with the certificate given by the assembly of the Amirate of Samos that the wines were not made from raisins but from fresh grapes.<sup>77</sup>

On the first day of January 1889, a letter was sent from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Ministry of Finance due to the tax of two francs received in France. With the tax<sup>78</sup> collected in France from Samos Island wines, it was requested that the difficulties shown by the French customs against the entry of Samos wines into these two countries should be removed.<sup>79</sup> The Ottoman Minister of Foreign Affairs Said Paşa wrote to the Paris Ambassador Esad Paşa to collect the tax under more favorable terms from the French customs. In the document dated June 7, 1893, it was highlighted that on carpets and Samos wines, in the memorandum written from the Paris Embassy sent from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the wines of Samos were treated as ordinary wines from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which

<sup>74</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264-5. 9 Safer 1206 (8 October 1791).

<sup>75</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 1 – 45. 4 Muharrem 1311 (18 July 1793).

<sup>76</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 1 – 45-18.

<sup>77</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 -9-2. 3 September 1308 (15 September 1892).

<sup>78</sup> BOA, HR.TO. / 83 – 43.(30 December 1888).

<sup>79</sup> BOA, HR.İD.. 1264 – 6. (2 January 1889).

France was benefiting more from this work, and the tariff was determined in accordance with the climate. From 11 ° C, a tax of 1 franc per degree was required, from 50 cm, alcohol tax was applied to those who had alcohol. A spirit tax was requested to be applied to musts whose grade was estimated at 21 C, and it was reported that the embassy misunderstood the situation due to this attitude.<sup>80</sup> In the document dated 18 July 1893 (4 Muharrem 1311), it was requested to try to get special permission for Samos wines during the trade agreement negotiated with France due to the excess tax to be collected from Samos wines in accordance with the new tariff.<sup>81</sup>

The customs tariff was changed for the wines waiting for sale abroad. In the telegram sent by Samos Bey, dated May 22, 1901, Samos wines were regarded as useless and should be subject to light tax customs, but the letter was sent by the French Consul of Samos to the Amirate Samos on January 1, 1889. It was stated that the situation has been continuing until that day, and that 2000 hectoliters of wine sent are taxed as spirit wine. Even though it was approved by the notable council, it was informed that the importation will not be made to the Amirate of Samos council.<sup>82</sup>

The approval of the wines coming to the customs was obtained from the French consulate. In the telegram sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dated 13 June 1901, from the Samos Amirate Assembly Council, it was stated that Samos wines are produced from raisins, and that these wines, which were produced in mid-May due to the obstacle at the customs, were sent to the country after being approved by the French Deputy Consul. It was reported that it was normal for the wines to deteriorate due to waiting in the customs of France, so the islanders would lose 20 thousand liras from this work. It was stated that in large-scale imports, the necessary structure regarding the transportation conditions would need to be corrected.<sup>83</sup>

The French Government banned the entry of Samos wines into the country in a document dated 18 January 1902 (8 Shawwal 1319). It was requested that the products be evaluated in the domestic market, and the situation was requested to be reported to the Paris Embassy so that the Samos wines would be accepted in the Hezlikör manner as before. The situation was reported with a telegram sent from the Amirate of Samos.<sup>84</sup>

If we give from the original text:

” *Hariciye Nezareti Celilesi’ne*

*Sisam şaraplarının Fransa’ya idhal olunmaması için Fransa Hükümeti tarafından ağır resim tarh edildiğinden mezkur şarapların kema-fis sabık hezlikör olarak kabul edilmesi esbabının istikmali zimninde keyfiyetin Paris Sefareti Seniyyesine işarı Sisam Emareti’nden huzur-u ali-yi sedaretpenahiye bi’l takdim tevdi buyurulan telgrafname izbar olunmuştur Mahsülü dahiliyenin tevdiyi revacı lüzumununun iktizasının ifa ve inbası himem ali-yi daverilerine derkar buyurulmak babında*

*2 Kanuni Sani 1318 “*

In the document dated 11 March 1902 (1 Zilhijce 1319), it was reported by telegram that Samos wines were eligible to be exported to France (Vins De Liqueur), since tax was collected under the name of “*iane-yardım*” tax; The Ministry of Foreign Affairs was informed about the situation. The opinion of the regional administration was requested in the telegram.<sup>85</sup>

<sup>80</sup> BOA, HR.TO 85 – 89. (7 June 1893) Drinking and using as a liquor has been prohibited by Allah (C.C.) and intoxicated.

<sup>81</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 1 – 45. 4 Muharrem 1311 (18 July 1893).

<sup>82</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 -8-2. (22 May 1901).

<sup>83</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 -10-2. (13 June 1901).

<sup>84</sup> BOA DH.MKT, 2576 – 108.

<sup>85</sup> BOA DH.MKT. / 2598 – 21. 1 Zilhijce 1319 (11 March 1902).

In the memorandum dated December 15, 1911 (2 Kanuni Evvel 1327), it was stated that the Samos wines (Vins De Liqueur), which were sent to France for free import by the French government, were notified to the Paris Embassy and that 12 francs per hectoliter were taken. For a while, the French tax administration (mistel) charged a tax of 35-40 francs per hectolitre, and demanded that the wines be analyzed each time. It was stated that the import of Samos wines would be problematic if the wines sent to France as spirits and Greek products were treated according to the law on "Vins De Liqueur". With the applications made to the French Chamber of Commerce to the French government, it was emphasized that there were problems in the import of Samos wines and that these wines did not harm the trade of wines produced in France or Algeria, and it was requested to ensure the free sale of wines.<sup>86</sup> It was stated that the wine called Muscat was imported for twenty-three years, where it had a great reputation in Europe, where its taste was great. In the meantime, it was also emphasized that this is the only source of income of the island with regard to agriculture.<sup>87</sup> A tax of 2 francs per hectolitre became final; the French Consul in Izmir informed the French consul of Samos and then the Amirate of Samos about the situation. It was stated that the taxes will continue as before.

In the document dated April 10, 1912, it was stated that the Ottoman merchant, who exported wine from Samos to Marseille to Asim Bey Efendi from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, suffered from the loss in trade and the dispute over the wine trade provisions of Samos. It was stated that although the French Minister of Foreign Affairs took initiatives to resolve this unrest, the terms and provisions of the agreement were applied. A memorandum was sent from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Foreign Ministry of the Ottoman Empire, and it was stated that the tax applied to wine coming from foreign countries throughout the country is equally subject to this application. The Paris ambassador reported the situation on 30 June 1912.<sup>88</sup> In the document written to the grand vizier by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, dated May 25, 1912, it was stated that due to this situation applied in the cities of Marseille and Paris, where the liquor tax on the sale of Samos wines to France, there was a loss in the sale of wines, and documents were written for this situation from the principality of Samos.<sup>89</sup> In the document dated 25 August 1912 (12 August 1328), which was sent undersecretary on behalf of the grand vizier by principality of Samos to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; due to the increase in the customs tax, it was requested to abandon this practice and to provide convenience at the customs.<sup>90</sup> It was stated that the customs tax of 12 francs per hectolitre was increased by 6 francs and 80 cm. This hike was approved by the Deputy of the French Parliament. This indicated that the wine trade would deteriorate. Since it was known that France would make a new agreement with the Spanish and Greek states, it was requested to facilitate the trade with the Ottoman state. It was reiterated, in particular, the reduction of excess taxes and the convenience of customs.<sup>91</sup>

In the document written by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Said Halim Paşa to His Excellency Mahmut Şevket Paşa on March 1, 1913, it was reported to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France to facilitate the sale of wine to France with the reduction in customs. Customs duty 6 francs per hectolitre 80 cm was required to be taxed on all liquors.<sup>92</sup> In the document that came one day later, it was stated that the muscat wine sent to Marseille by the ferry named "Gali", which arrived in front of the Messiri Company on 27 October, was alcoholic, by the local tax officials. That this was not in accordance with the general decree of 1888 on March 5;

<sup>86</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 – 11. 2 Kanuni Evvel 1327 (15 December 1911).

<sup>87</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 – 11-2.

<sup>88</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 -12-4. (10 April 1912).

<sup>89</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264-13. (25 May 1912).

<sup>90</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264- 14. 12 Ağustos 1328 (25 August 1912).

<sup>91</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264- 14-2.

<sup>92</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264- 15. (1 March 1913). 23 Rebiülevvel 1331 (2 Marc 1913).

in order to do what was necessary, the wine merchant submitted a petition (petition), and the local tax administration was asked to remove the problem put into practice.<sup>93</sup> In the document written by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Paris embassy, the parliamentary assembly (people's assembly) was informed about the application of the customs duty as 6 francs 80 cm per hectoliter on all wines imported to France. This practice had harmed the Samos merchant.<sup>94</sup>

The trouble with France was due to the excess customs tax imposed by this state. Although it is seen that the embassies were trying to solve this problem, we see that this situation was usually solved by reducing the tax.

## 2.2. Sales to Italy

The history of the first sale of wine to Italy goes back to the beginning of the XVIII century. The sale of wine to Italy resulted from the tariff change in the customs. In the document dated 18 August 1792 (29 Zilhijce 1206), it was reported that Korcu Beynam from Nemçeli presented a petition to the Nemçe ambassador to be allowed to transfer the wine from Samos Island to Triyeste (Italy), where he would sell 3000 scales.<sup>95</sup> The tax crisis with Italy started when the document dated January 22, 1887, put forward that sugar, spirits<sup>96</sup> and some manufactured industrial wines were transferred and imported to Italy, and that Samos wines were also a part of the alcohol industry, like these products, and put them in the tax group to be heavily taxed. Although it was not allowed to be accepted by the Italian government, it was requested not to put the industrial wines in a similar category by including wine and carpet in this group. A letter was sent to repeal this law, with a lahiyah issued by the Samos Amirate's agricultural officer, that it would not be possible to sell wine in this way.<sup>97</sup> In the document that came a week later, it was repeated that Italy put a heavy tax on the alcohol industry (the liquor industry) by including Samos wines in some exported industrial wines such as wine and spirits. With the prohibition of the entry of such products by ships, Samos wine was compared with some wines, and it was stated that a tax was imposed accordingly. Samos Amirate sent a census to examine the situation regarding the tax application on Samos wines.<sup>98</sup>

If we give from the original text:

*“Hariciye Nezareti Celilesine*

*İtalya memleketine şeker ve ispirto ve eczayı sairenin mamul bir takım sanayi şarapları nakil ve idhal olunageldiği bahanesiyle Sisam şaraplarının dahi bu kabilden bulunduğu iddiasıyla müskirati sanayi namıyla vaz olunan ağır verginin alındıkça gemilerin icrasına ve İtalya'ya kabülüne mücade olunmamakda bulunmağın ve cezire şaraplarının halis ve sanayi şarapları ruhsatıyla mekayıs olunmadığı derkar iken bu suretle resim tahsisi men ve idhali tabi olduğu anlaşılaraq olbabda bazı izahatı mukteziyi havi cezirenin ziraat memuru tarafından tanzim olunan lahiyanın irsal kılınmağın bahisle tevliyet maksadının refi esbabı istihsali ifadesine dair Sisam Emarati'ne tevarid eden tahriratı mezkur lahiyası maan ve leffen süratle nezaretpenahiye irsal kılınmış sureti işara vaziyeti maslahata göre icabı halin icra ve inbasına himem*

*2 Cemazielevvel 1304 “.*

<sup>93</sup> BOA A.} MTZ.SM. / 7 – 239. 23 Rebiülevvel 1331 (2 Marc 1913).

<sup>94</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 7 – 239-10.

<sup>95</sup> BOA, HAT / 1400 – 56401. 29 Zilhijce 1206 (18 August 1792).

<sup>96</sup> **Spirit (ispirto)** is a chemical substance used in household cleaning works, to ignite the materials to be burned and as a fuel.

<sup>97</sup> BOA, HR.İD.. / 1264 -1-3.

<sup>98</sup> BOA, DH.MKT. 1395 – 47.

In the document dated March 31, 1887 (6 Recep 1304), the Italian government wrote a memorandum from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Roman embassy after it was stated that Samos Island wines would not be allowed to be imported into Italy unless the heavy tax on the drink was reduced, since the wines of Samos were fraudulent. It was stated that Samos wine was not fraudulent, it was produced with grapes from the island crop, and after the wine was approved by the Italian Consul, it was approved by the Trade Directorate, subject to ordinary wine customs.<sup>99</sup> Nine months later, it was stated that a tax of 4 francs per hectoliter was charged at the customs in Italy for the wines sent to Samos Island from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It was stated that as of the beginning of the new year, 20 francs per hectoliter would start to be taken from all countries, so the commercial structure would be in more trouble. Although it was not understood why this tax was increased to such an extent, it was requested to show convenience as a result of applications made from various places.<sup>100</sup>

In the document dated 26 May 1888, it was reported that the wines sold from Samos to Italy had been experiencing many problems at the Italian customs for a while. During the shipment of 2000 francs, it was reported that the goods were seized at the customs in the city of Lakorna, on the grounds that there was alcohol at the bottom, during the shipment made by a Samoan merchant. Due to this situation, it was stated that the merchant paid a tax of 1000 francs. In order to avoid this situation, the wine that another Samoan merchant sent for 10 thousand francs faced the same problem in Italy. The person was informed that he could not export the wine to Italy unless he paid a tax penalty of 140 francs, corresponding to 4 francs per hectolitre, at customs. In the statement made to the Italian Embassy, it was reported that the sale of wine to Italy would bring the trade to a standstill as it would reduce the wine trade of Samos.<sup>101</sup>

In the document written to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it was reported that there was a problem in wine production when raisins and various substances were mixed in the production of the wines due to the diseases that caused the Samos wines, making the status of the wines uncertain. The term "Spirito Delcificata" was used in customs for these wines, and heavy customs tariffs were applied. It was requested that the wines be subject to ordinary customs status in Italy by taking measures for the preservation of the wines. It was stated that the situation was contrary to the provisions of the law covering 1-11 July 1902 applied to other countries. The fact that these wines pure and it was proven with the certificates given in the customs. Adding a certain amount of spirit to wine was a normal situation that applied to all wines. The sulfur thrown into the vineyards on the island was taken from Italy and was exempt from tax. It was reported to the Roman Embassy that instead of subjecting wine to special taxation, taxation should be made according to the degree system, as in France, or implementations should be put in accordance with the degree of spirit.<sup>102</sup>

It was stated that the wines accepted in the Italian customs were abandoned for a while, upon the certificate of the Deputy Consul of Italy sent from the Amirate of Samos to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated January 2, 1904 (20 Kanunievvel 1309). It was stated that the wines would be examined by a scientific commission in Rome, therefore there were many casualties in the products to be sold. In the document given by this commission, it was reported that although no application was made to wines from other foreign countries, this situation was applied only to wines from Samos. It was requested that the Italian tax officers give up this injustice, which is discrimination and contrary to the provisions of the agreement.<sup>103</sup>

<sup>99</sup> BOA, DH.MKT. 1408 – 87. 6 Recep 1304 (31 March 1887).

<sup>100</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 – 2.(31 December 1887).

<sup>101</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 -3-2.(26 May 1888).

<sup>102</sup> BOA, A.MTZ, SM,6,205. 14 Şaban 1327(31 August 1909).

<sup>103</sup> BOA, H.R.İD.. / 1264 -7-4. 20 Kanunievvel 1309 (2 January 1904).

In the document dated August 7, 1909, it was stated that in case of an increase in the tax of wines, which were from the law number 11-15, regarding the new tax regulation to which the wines made from the muscat grapes of Samos Island are subject in Italy, the tax on all wines would be from the ordinary tariff. It was argued by the Sami Emirate that the pureness of Samos wines was sufficient according to the document given with the "*Mahreç Şehadetnameleri*". Since these wines were made of raisins with sugar at the bottom, they were asked to be held in a separate custom. It was stated that since spirits were found in certain proportions in fine and pure wines, Samos wines were subject to tax in accordance with the regulation. Although the wine producers stated that they do not mind their inspection, it was emphasized that if there is an analysis, the public will oppose it. Since conducting an analysis in this way required the permission of the parliament, it was stated that the issue was dangerous according to the regulation. Instead of this process, it was emphasized that the customs officers should obtain a certificate of origin stating that the wines were fine and pure. It was stated that the analysis was also made on the spirit in the bottom of the wines from Greece.<sup>104</sup>

**Picture:** Samos Juno Temple (The Island of Samos)



**Reference.** Marie-Gabriel-Auguste-Florent, comte de Choiseul-Gouffier, *Voyage pittoresque de la Grèce*, Paris, 1782, p. 98.<sup>105</sup>

Troubled processes were also experienced in Italy, the place where the most wine was sold after France, due to customs duties. This situation negatively affected the trade, especially with the excuse that wines were no longer produced as they used to be, and due to reasons, such as increasing the alcohol percentage.

<sup>104</sup> BOA, HR.İD. 2021 – 27. (7August 1909).

<sup>105</sup> Juno -Iuno (Ivno), Sister and Wife of the Chief God Jupiter in Roman Mythology, was an Ancient and Powerful Goddess who had Manifestations and Relevance in Many Fields, Especially Family and Birth. For general information about the history of Samos: Konstantinos Tsakos, *Samos: A Guide to the History and Archeology* Athens 2003.

### 2.3. Sales and Spirit to Austria (Nemçe)

The sale of both wine and spirit was a problem in the trade with Austria. This time, the complainant was Austria. Austria complained to the Ottoman Ministry of Foreign Affairs, requesting that the tax that was increased by the Sami Emirate be corrected on the grounds that it was against trade agreements.

In the document dated March 30, 1896 (15 Shawwal 1313), it was stated that a tax of two money was collected from each price of Samos Island wines, and 8% tax was charged even from spirits compared to various kinds of goods. Again, since the beginning of last August, the Austrian consul of Samos Island stated in his notification to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that it would not be appropriate due to the right and authority set out in the trade agreement.<sup>106</sup>

In the document dated December 23, 1896, it was stated that it was not possible to discuss the tax to be taken from the alcohol to be imported from Samos. Although it was accepted in the assembly of the Amirate of Samos, it was stated that it did not have a place in the trade agreement; it was stated that it was necessary to implement the amirate. However, it was emphasized again that this decision of the General Assembly could not be implemented unless there was a decision of the government. It was stated that there would be problems in trade due to this tax, that the goods would not be allowed to enter in the case of not being paid by the municipal officials in the ports of the whole island, and that the goods were waiting in boxes and warehouses.<sup>107</sup> In the document that came one year later, the decision regarding the customs clearance of spirits imported from foreign countries in Samos Island was sent to the Council of State. It was decided that this practice would be abandoned, and the situation was not suitable in the general sense and to Ottoman Public Debt Administration, as the decision of the General Assembly of the Samos Island Assembly, the 8% alcohol tax was not appropriate and it was contrary to the provisions of the trade agreement.<sup>108</sup>

In the document dated July 27, 1897 (26 Safer 1315), it was decided that the 8% customs tax collected from the General Assembly of the Samos Island Council would apply to the wines of the island. A proposal was made to increase the import tax imposed in accordance with the new customs tariff of the Samos Amirate, whose memorandum was submitted to the state by transfer. The Austrian Embassy, which objected to the 8% customs duty to the Samos Amirate, was answered. This tariff would be applied from August; it was reported that a tax of 37.5 money was applied to the goods and commodities within the country per each coast.<sup>109</sup> It was requested not to apply the treatment that was contrary to the provisions of the trade agreement in return for the tax that was considered to be applied.<sup>110</sup>

Although it was determined to implement the increased customs duty because it was found to be contrary to the trade agreements made by the Amirate, it put the Austrian State in an objectionable position.

All church fathers were in agreement on the legitimacy of the use of wine in rituals in Christianity. Since wine was obligatory in the Eucharist ritual, large wineries were established especially in monasteries to meet the need.<sup>111</sup> The abolition of the control over some foundations on the island and the supervision of others created a problem. In the document dated June 10, 1790 (27 Ramadan 1204), it was stated that the poor monks living in the monastery called "Panaiye", known as Beşevler, on Samos Island, and the foundation

<sup>106</sup> BOA, ŞD,2665-20. 15 Shawwal 1313 (30 March, 1896).

<sup>107</sup> BOA, HR.İD.. 2086 – 67. (23 December 1896).

<sup>108</sup> BOA, ŞD. / 2679 – 55. 8 December 1897(13 Recep 1315).

<sup>109</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. 1 – 73. 26 Safer 1315 (27 July 1897).

<sup>110</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. 1 – 73-2.

<sup>111</sup> Kürşad Demiri, "İçki", TDVİA, İstanbul, Vol. 21, 2000, p.456-458.

established for the food and beverage of the passengers were interfered with. It was requested that the intervention made to the foundation's vineyards, gardens, olive groves, land and various goods belonging to the year 97 be removed.<sup>112</sup> Again, a petition was written to remove the intervention of local officials from the Greek Patriarchate of Istanbul.<sup>113</sup>

We see that the vineyards in the foundation lands and the jizye income of Samos were collected as income to the Kılıç Ali Pasha Foundation in Tophane in Istanbul.<sup>114</sup> In the document dated 18 January 1836 (29 Ramadan 1251), the vineyards in the land on Samos Island were requested to be inspected by Hüseyin Ağa, a Samos Voivada. It was determined that it was not recorded how many decares the taxes and bonds required to be registered in the state consisted of. It was revealed that no records were taken for seven years, the land was measured; the laws were asked to be applied. The person who was the tax collector of the foundation made the necessary registration in the law by measuring the crop completely.<sup>115</sup>

Another type of tax at the beginning of the 19th century was "*Miri Mübayaa*". This tax was the collection of basic foodstuffs such as grains and meat, which were needed by Istanbul, by official officials over the price determined by the state, not on the fixed price. The food supply of Istanbul was one of the main problems that directly concerned the state. One of the taxes taken at the beginning of the 19th century was "*Miri Mübayaa*". This tax was to be taken by official officials over the price determined by the state, not the fixed price (fixed price) of basic foodstuffs such as grain and meat that Istanbul and its needs. In the ruling in 1580 (H 987) for the provision of Istanbul, it was requested that "*Meyve-i Huşk ve Revgan –ı zeyt*" (Dried Fruit and Olive Oil) be sent from Aydın, Saruhan and Menteşe Sanjaks for *Kiler-i Amire* and delivered to the cellars. In 1583 (991), it was requested to supply and deliver materials such as almonds, sesame and black-eyed peas as well as dried fruit; the same request was repeated in 1586 (994).<sup>116</sup> It was also known that from time to time, due to the demand for grain, the sanjak lords had friction and they caused torture on the villagers.<sup>117</sup> We see that grapes were sent from Samos to Istanbul three times.

We see that the grape was sent to Istanbul with its harvest in July-August. In the document written to the private apartments of palace (*Mabeyn Humayun*) dated 28 July 1888 (16 July 1304), the help of the Samos Bey Aleksandr was requested for the delivery of 20 muscat grapes sent from Samos, which was the season at this time, to *Kilar-ı Hümayun*.<sup>118</sup>

In the document dated 16 August 1904 (4 Cemazielahir 1322), the letter sent to the Samos Amirate, which asked for permission for three molds of fresh muscatel, sent from Samos Island to Istanbul, was reported.<sup>119</sup> Finally, in mid-August 1909, documents were sent to the Samos Principality about five baskets of grapes sent from the island crop.<sup>120</sup>

<sup>112</sup> BOA, C. ADL 59 – 3573. 27 Ramadan 1204 (10 June 1790).

<sup>113</sup> BOA, C. ADL. / 59 – 3586. 27 Ramadan 1204(19 June 1887).

<sup>114</sup> Halil İnalçık, "Cizye", TDVIA, İstanbul, c.8, 1993, p.45-48. It is the head tax taken from the men of non-Muslim subjects in the Islamic state.

<sup>115</sup> BOA C. EV. / 397 – 20145. 29 Ramadan 1251(18 January 1836).

<sup>116</sup> F. M Emecen, *XVI. Asırda Manisa Kazası*, TTK, Ankara, 1989, p.262; Zeki Arıkan, (), "Midilli-İstanbul Arasında Zeytinyağı Ticareti", *Ankara Üniversitesi, Dil ve Tarih-Coğrafya Fakültesi, Tarih Araştırmaları Dergisi*. XXV (40), 2006, p. 9; Robert Mantran, "XVIII. yüzyılda Osmanlı İmparatorluğu'nda Ticaretin Değişmesi", *Ege Üniversitesi, Tarih İncelemeleri Dergisi*, Vol, III, 1987, p.169–170.

<sup>117</sup> Emecen *XVI. Asırda Manisa Kazası*, p.245.

<sup>118</sup> BOA, Y. PRK.UM. / 12-71. 16 July 1304 (28 July 1888).

<sup>119</sup> BOA, Y. EE.KP. / 22 – 2148. 4 Cemazielahir 1322 (16 August 1904). 26 Recep 1327 (13 August 1909).

<sup>120</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. / 6 – 199.26 Recep 1327 (13 August 1909).

Although the inspection of the foundations had many problems, we see that the agricultural income and the jizye on the island were allocated to the Kılıç Ali Paşa Foundation. The island's acceptable grapes were also sent to Istanbul in baskets.

#### 2.4. Marketing of Wine: Incorporation and the Chicago Exhibition

Wine is still part of popular culture today.<sup>121</sup> Covered with vineyards all around, Samos has had a well-deserved reputation in the world with its unique wines throughout history, from ancient times to the present. Samos wine, made from Muscat grapes, known as musket in Anatolia, draws attention with its sweetness and intensity. These sweet wines, which some wine lovers may not like, taste very good when drunk with ice. The wine cooperative known as “EOSS”, founded in 1934 by the merger of 25 local cooperatives, is the main producer of Samos wines. In two separate factories of this cooperative, up to 10 thousand tons of wine is produced annually from the muscat grapes of the island. 80% of this wine is exported to Europe and America. Although most of the grapevines in Samos vineyards are muscat, red grapes called Fokiano and Ritino are also grown in the highlands of the island.<sup>122</sup>

The 1893 Columbus World Exhibition was held to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. The organization of the 1893 Chicago Columbian World Exhibition, besides the aims of improving the economy and international market opportunities and increasing cultural exchange, like other world exhibitions of the century, was concerned to prove America's superiority over Europe in terms of art and technology. In the document dated September 5, 1892 (12 Safer 1310), telegrams were sent to the provinces of Mosul and Yemen, with the Amirate of Samos, stating that the samples of the goods to be sent to the Chicago Exhibition of the Ministry of Trade and Public Works were sent.<sup>123</sup> In the document that came two days later, the Ministry of Public Works and Trade was asked to pay attention to the fact that the products that were decided to be sent from Samos to the Chicago Exhibition were the products of the region. 144 bottles of wine, two weighing scales of raisins, 50 kıyye arak (raki) and wines, which were requested to be sent via Hristidi Efendi, one of his well-known merchants, were requested to be sent to the Chicago commissioners upon the general notification received for this process that the wines were suitable.<sup>124</sup>

If we give from the original text:

*“Ticaret ve Nafia Nezareti Aliyyesine*

*Şikago Meşher-i Umumisi için Sisam Ceziresi mahsulat ve mamulatından tertib olunan eşyanın Hristidi Efendi vasıtasıyla gönderildiğine dair cezire-yi mezkure Emareti Celilesinden meb'us tahrirat pusulasıyla maan ve leffen ve eşyayı mezkure mamafih iktisayı mumaileyhe tevdiyen irsal ve ser aliyeleri kılınmağın icra icabı babında*

*20 Cemaziel ahir 1310 “.*

In the document written to the Ministry of Public Works and Trade, it was stated that it would be appropriate to send arak, raisins and wines, which are the natural products of the region that was decided to be sent from Samos to the Chicago Exhibition, through Hristidi Efendi in Gate of Felicity.<sup>125</sup>

The tradition of engagement, which was a symbol of the understanding of encouraging service to the state and ensuring loyalty, as well as emphasizing independence, started in the

<sup>121</sup> Deniz Gürsoy, *İnceliklerin Kadehindeki Şarap*, Oğlak Yayınları, İstanbul, 2014.

<sup>122</sup> İZMİR Temmuz- Ağustos / July- August 2013, p.114.

<sup>123</sup> BOA DH.MKT. / 1996- 94. 12 Safer 1310 (5 September 1892)

<sup>124</sup> BOA, DH.MKT. /2040 – 30.

<sup>125</sup> BOA DH.MKT 1998 – 30. 14 Safer 1310 (7 September 1892).

Ottoman Empire after the medals. The medals, which were produced and distributed with great expenditures from the state budget, to be given to citizens and foreigners who were more magnificent than medals, even adorned with precious stones, who were successful in state service, who showed devotion, self-sacrifice and usefulness to the state, started to become widespread especially during the reign of Sultan Mahmud II (1808-1839).<sup>126</sup> During the reigns of Abdüllaziz and Abdülmecit, different medals were awarded.<sup>127</sup> Yerrassimo, Nikolaki, Athenas and Ferandj from Samos Island were the individual participants in the wine and brandy category.<sup>128</sup> It was stated that the medal and diploma given to the drink sample sent by Athenas of Samos on March 26, 1895 (29 Ramadan 1312) to the Chicago Public Exhibition would be delivered to the person.<sup>129</sup>

It remained unclear what the outcome of the incorporation attempt that the Ottoman Empire wanted to establish in order to sell the island's wines first hand. In the document dated September 1, 1912 (August 19, 1328), it was stated that there was no negative situation for the joint stock company to be established in London by one of the British subjects, generally consisting of domestic capital, to be engaged in the sales of wines in Samos from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It was also requested to consider that the regulations of the company, which is planned to be established, were not accepted by the foreign embassies.<sup>130</sup> It was also stated that the branches planned to be opened under the company may close. Considering this situation, the operation of the activity was declared to the Sami Principality with a denunciation.<sup>131</sup> The attempt failed.

The island of Samos, which participated in the organization of the 1893 Chicago Columbian World Exhibition, was deemed worthy of an award with its wines, while many local products of the Ottoman Empire were promoted. Despite the request to establish a company in England for the marketing of Samos wines, no results were obtained.

## CONCLUSION

Grape has been a product grown in Anatolia and the Balkans since ancient times, and the Ottoman Empire continued to produce grapevines and received a tithe tax from this product. Wine & *mey* is an alcoholic beverage usually produced by fermenting grapes. The drink usually contains between 9% and 15% alcohol. Wines that can also be produced from other fruits are named after that fruit. On the other hand, since Islam forbids alcohol, it is not considered appropriate for Muslims to drink. Since the island's wine is very famous, it was represented as a well-known product in the Ottoman Empire's exhibition held in Chicago in 1892.

First of all, it is clearly stated that alcohol is prohibited in the Ottoman Empire. Vineyards In the 19th century, there were problems in the production of wine, especially since the vineyards were damaged by diseases such as phlotrexa, downy mildew, *Uncinula necator*. In order to get rid of these diseases, sulphurous soil was brought from İncirli Island and the surrounding islands. We see that this soil was brought close to 10 thousand scales and poured into vineyards during the periods of the disease. One of the tax types applied by the state at the beginning of the 19th century is "**Miri Mübayaa**". This tax is the collection of basic foodstuffs

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<sup>126</sup> K. H, Tekin. "Osmanlı Devleti'nde Gelenekten Yeniliğe Geçişin Anlamlı Bir Sembolü: Mecidi Nişanları", The Journal of Academic Social Science Studies, 2014,28, p. 393-411.

<sup>127</sup> İbrahim Artuk, "Madalya", TDVİA, Ankara, 2003c.27, p.302.

<sup>128</sup> Bengi Başaran, "1893 Chicago Kolomb Dünya Sergisi'nde Osmanlı Temsili "İstanbul Teknik Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü, İstanbul, (Unpublished PhD Thesis) ,2015, p. 57.

<sup>129</sup> BOA, DH.MKT. 356 – 30. 29 Ramadan 1312 (26 March 1895).

<sup>130</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. 7 – 247. 19 August 1328 (1 September 1912).

<sup>131</sup> BOA, A.} MTZ.SM. 7 – 247-4.

such as grains and meat, which are needed by Istanbul, by official officials over the price determined by the state, not on the fixed price. We see that the muscat grapes produced on this island were brought to the palace.

We see that the Ottoman state could not impose a fair customs tax on the sale of wine. While the Ottoman state applied 16% customs tax on its sales to foreigners, its merchants made sales to foreigners with 8% tax and unfortunately sacrificed its own merchant abroad. The sale of wine to France and Italy caused great difficulties at the customs, and caused long-lasting correspondence between the consulates of these states and the principality of Samos. While France regulated the sale of wine both with the certificates of the consulates and according to the degree, Italy made the sales of the wines through the certificates. Our article was written by including all kinds of documents related to viticulture and wine production, which is reflected in the Ottoman archive documents, and it is explained how the wine culture, which is prohibited by the religion of Islam, affected the social and economic life in the Ottoman state.

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