

## **Educational Buildings in Balkans from the Period of Abdulhamit II**

During the reign of Abdulhamit II, one of the most important enterprises had been made in governmental system, is in the area of education, as a result of the direct orders by Abdul Hamit II. Main point of those novelties in education is to apply western education system to Ottoman education policy and also to raise the awareness among public. Another point of these novelties is to improve these reformed schools enough to compete international schools which are to educate minorities. Abdul hamit II was so determined to maintain these novelties in educational area, although the graduates of these schools were to be a major agent to bring the end of the Ottoman State aftermath.

It can be seen the the improvements in educational system and their effects simultaneously in Balkans. Different kinds of schools which had initiated at that period were particularly at the big citys, which have crowded population, like Thessaloniki, Bitola,Skopje,Rhodes and Lesbos. Because of there are very few studies on the survived educational buildings from that period, it is difficult to have detailed and rich information on architectural characteristics and quantity of the buildings. The present study aims to provide a general point of view which concentrates on educational activities in Balkans during the reign of Abdulhamit II.

Keywords: Abdul Hamit II, Balkans, Educational Buildings, Ottoman Schools