

- 1) *Caucasian Boundaries and Citizenship from Below*, Head of Research: Dr. Lale Yalcin-Heckmann, MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle/Saale, Research Associate Olarak- 1 Yıl (2006'da Başlıyor)

Caucasian borders have been especially strict on the Turkish-Georgian territory as this border was the Iron Wall for over 70 years. Nese Özgen in her project titled “Property and citizenship in an Eastern Anatolian border region” will be studying how property changes in this border region, from the background of a 150 year old imperial history of border changes and during the Soviet period of sever if not total isolation, have an impact upon citizenship regimes and on the cultural aspects of citizenship.

PROPERTY AND CITIZENSHIP IN AN EASTERN ANATOLIAN BORDER REGION

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**Levon Abrahamian, Lale Yalcin Heckmann Florian Mühlfried Milena Baghdasaryan
H.Nese Ozgen Teona Mataradze**

H. Nese Ozgen

POINTS OUT

My project “Property and Citizenship in an Eastern Anatolian Border Region” which undertake as a part of the Research Group “Caucasians Citizenship from below” is aiming at to research the developments of citizenship regimes and property systems on the Turkish side of the border in Ardahan, an Eastern Anatolian border in three borders Turkiye-Georgia and Armenian.

The Project will take place between February 2006 and 2008 and the field research will be carried out in the province of Ardahan in Eastern Turkey.

The idea here is to explore how property systems here and there have changed and have been interacting via the borders' itself; which has been claimed, negotiated, conquered and ruled by different states, different regimes.

The main idea is to evaluate a contribution on to citizenship regimes and its changes and being a part of the research Group "Citizenship from below". (And additionally to produce a comparable data for the group.)

THE CONTEXT

I will take the concepts of "border" and "property" as agents.

Borders offer privileged sides for studying the intersection of a state and its subjects and citizens, At borders social scientist can explore how identities are performed, manipulated and negotiated both by people who cross the border or live alongside it, and by those who work there as agents of the state. Moreover, as interstitial, laminar zones, borders are places which may challenge anthropological concepts such as culture, space, nation, society and identity. (explain how the researches in sociology and economics and research in international relations are studying on borders as holistically and researches in ethnology on borders are incapable the subject)

Research on international borders offers various potential advantages for anthropological reasoning in general:

First, such research involves a perspective across nation-state.

Second, taking the border as a point of departure in the study of the state shifts the focus from centre to periphery, enabling new insights into border peoples my actively influence national policies, identities and ideologies.

And third, it offers us a view from below: of how ordinary people ascribe or deny relevance to cultural differences, how they actively enact and modify their nations of "nation", "culture" and "identity".

The claim as “borderless world” in global era or “borderlessness” or “nation state’s borders’s uselessness” is really borders are disclaimed? Or and main contradictions to recent developments on global capitalism on border area, the sources solidarity – territorialization on the border and inner areas etc. are the possible context of the subject. I will follow M. Anderson’s claim that “border is both institutions and a process”, I will target to take the border as local- national- and international process; and also Paul Vila’s ideas how the borders are impermeable, - osmotic-as Luhmann’s word- .

By following Wolf and his frame that points out the relations between culture and economics¹, and by comparing to Cunningham’s words on how the contents and volumes change on discussions of relations between the culture and economic systems in global era; I will focus on the relations border and property, such as how the Gate between two state-s is working? Or if not the reasons of these? How the people is using the border as an agent of accumulation? Do border regimes modify the relations of power by the time? The time and history is the backwards of these study. I study the border and regions’ historical documents- state archives- personal registry archives, maps- historical and archaeological- village archives etc.- and I will take the time to show how the borders’ space changed by the time passed. I will take the border as a place to show how the borders’ positions changed by time passed.

Thus, I hope to explain – study on how the geography became “motherland” and how the history became “time” in nationality; consequently how the “motherland” became “space” and how the “time” became “speed” in global times.

Second concept is “property”.

I am very amateur on this subject .

First of all by focusing the concept of property ”study should go on the changes between different resources of property, the change for instance from agricultural to trade and international even transnational economy, and systems of pooling and redistributing property.

¹ See. Wolf, 1998:209.

Chris Hann: points it to “The total distribution of rights and entitlements within the society, of material thing and of knowledge and symbols (Hann, 1998: 34 akt. Yalcin-Heckmann& Behrends, Leutloff-Grandits, 2003: 2)

Verdery states ” a property regime entails determining *who* (what kind of actor) *should* have what kind of access (through what sorts of relations) to what sets of values and how these ‘*shoulds*’ are to be enforced” (Verdery, 2000:96 akt. Yalcin-Heckmann& Behrends, Leutloff-Grandits, 2003: 2)

“In other words, property regimes are about people and relations among them; about values and norms and their enforcement” (Yalcin-Heckmann& Behrends, Leutloff-Grandits, 2003: 2). F and K von Benda-Beckmann offers to analyse the property into four categories: “cultural ideals and ideologies, more concrete normative and institutional regulation, social property relationships, and social Practices” (F and K von Benda-Beckman, 1999: 22, 29-35 akt. Yalcin-Heckmann& Behrends, Leutloff-Grandits, 2003: 2). Yalcin-Heckmann& Behrends, Leutloff-Grandits argues the property as “rights and obligations over certain objects, knowledge and symbols, of usage, transfer, ownership and inheritance, in summary ‘a bundle of rights’” (Yalcin-Heckmann& Behrends, Leutloff-Grandits, 2003: 3). Beyond this discussion they expand their work to research the scarcity of land (as property) as an economic resource and as territory, and emotional dimensions to certain lands (pp.24-28).

Also I need to learn much more on property regimes and new forms from Hahn’ concepts on property. (The new book on ‘Property relations Focus Group’)

The Content of these Context

As a summary of the all words I will focus on the citizenship and state relations by syndicating the relations between property and its changes, and border and its process.

The border area chosen for this study, the city of Ardahan and its province as a border to Georgia and Armenia, called as Marchland by Allen and Edwards during their research

Also Allen by pointing the cities’ regional and strategic importance; adds “Since classical times of the population of this borderland has been mixed. Until the Ottoman

conquest in the fifteenth century the Georgians held a line of fortified towns and castles running west to north-east from Tortum and Oltu to Ardahan and Akhaltzikhe (*Ahiska*) . Kars and Ani on the Arpa-cay were city states successfully ruled by princes of Armenian, Arab, Kurd, Georgian and Turkish Blood”

Fieldwork will work in some towns (Damal-Hanak-Posof and some villages such as Gulyuzlu and Okam (Cayirbasi) will be held by the positions of the research.

Population:

Name of Resident	Total Population	Urban	Rural	Density
Ardahan city	44.794	17.274	27.520	38
ÇILDIR	14.869	2.415	12.454	20
DAMAL	8.677	2.571	6.106	26
GÖLE	37.814	10.478	27.336	27
HANAK	14.873	4.432	10.441	27
POSOB	12.729	2.555	10.174	20
total	133.756	39.725	94.031	28

Ardahan is the one of the less developed area in Turkey even among Eastern Anatolia’s cities, announced in recent times in the news Bird Flue and poverty together. The city is losing one fourth of its population in last 15 years from 163.731 to 128.606. Most of the villages has no road to closest urban centres, the conditions are worse during the difficult winter times. Most of the rural areas has no clean water and the main income source is animal husbandry in very traditionally.

The city is occupied by Russia during 1877 to 1918 and few years by Georgia till to 1920. The region was a frontier between Turkey and Soviet union and lived the “Iron Wall years” till 1991. After that time, the border and border relations changed rapidly at first sight locally and then nationally. The first two period settled the changes trade relations and family relations during their periods. The last recent development the Baku Tbilisi Ceyhan Pipe is expected to have an important impact in this region and is expected the influence the property relations by causing economic differentiation as well as leading to increased border trade and exchange.

TECHNIQUES (to calculate border’s inputs and of the property)

Qualitative quantitative togetherness (Tilly²- And by following Patrick Heady's "Joint research techniques³;

WHAT IS THE IMPOSE and INFLUENCE OF BORDER AND BORDER'S RELATIONS TO PROPERTY AND CITIZENSHIP REGIMES BY TIME?

- 1) Economic inputs and outputs in generally
(the properties' values before and after the Pipeline expropriation- the values of the lands- differences in the land-s- values according the public and authoritative prices- differences between the values of lands and other properties' in common and in market- the total and individual accumulation of the border trade- the varieties of the border trade- which trade is going on in what times between the border states and local places?
- 2) The differences during the past and present times of relations between family and trade matters. Which is hide to which relations for, means, when the border's accumulation is used to hide the relations towards to border; when is opposite a etc..

The points must be taken consider:

Properties

both the villages past and present properties

and both common, shared, households and individuals property data.

Direct, indirect, income, expenditure and time use

Spatial-social and work networks

Inheritance:

At death- retirement- gradually inheritance-at marriage-

As Qualitative works : family histories and family networks may work in the area- not sure-

How and what people say

Practical economic opportunities

Equality and inequality

Fair process, pay etc.

Kin and gender roles in relation the property

Status

Envy

² Observations of social process and their formal representations- 2004. 22:4 *Sociological Theory*)

³ HEADY, Patrick (2000) Growing Together, Methodological Aspects of Joint Research in the Property Abteilung, *Working Paper 16*, MaxPlanck Institute for Social Anthropology, Working Papers, Halle/Saale.

Talking about particular kinds of property
Religious ideas about property
Rituals and implicit ideas on property and social life