

YÜK:

Türk ağırlık ölçü birimidir. Çeşitli yörelerde farklı ağırlıkları ifade için kullanılır. Doğu-Anadolu'da yaklaşık olarak 162,144 kg. dır.

— assimilation régressive, d'où *bennâk* (cf. anatolien dialectal *annaç*, variante de *alnaç* et *anlaç* précités; *annı* «son front» = *aln-i*)⁵.

Si l'on accepte cette étymologie, on est amené à supposer que le *resm-i-bennâk* (de **resm-i-belnâk*) concernait à l'origine des paysans cultivant des parcelles «à la bêche»: cf. le *resm-i-çifti* (du persan *juft* «paire» et «paire de bœufs») concernant, étymologiquement parlant, ceux qui labourent avec une «paire de bœufs».

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YÜK (HİML) IN OTTOMAN SILK TRADE,
MINING, AND AGRICULTURE

Yük or *himl* (Arabic synonym for *yük*), which was widely used in the assessment of market dues and in the regulations on mining and agricultural taxation, was one of the most varied and imprecise measures in the Ottoman Empire¹. In general, the word was used for a variety of bundles of goods packed for transport. The size or weight varied according to the type of pack animal used or the kind of good being carried. Thus, bundles packed for transport by donkey, mule, horse, or camel varied in weight. However, the high priced goods such as textiles, silks, or spices conformed to a rather fixed weight or capacity and therefore standardized bags or sacks were used and a uniform rate of tare was applied. On bales of cotton and alum for instance, 10 percent of tare was levied as a rule². An animal pack load could consist of 2, 4, or even 8 separate bundles or bags which were called in the texts, sometimes interchangeably, *tay*, *denk*, *heybe* (*hegbe*), *boğça* (*bohça*), *gîrâr* (*garâr*, *harâr*), *tağâr* (*dağâr*), *çuval*, *şandûk* (*şandık*), *sepet* (*seped*), or *ıulum*. Individual bundles were often called simply *yük* or *himl* creating confusion in calculations.

A *yük*, or bundle, had to be fastened³ in a proper and customary way for government inspection and collection of duty. A binding fee (in Italian *legatura*) was paid per bundle of silk. Because of the importance of the regulations on the sizes and measures, and even the shapes, of the bales and tares⁴ in international commerce, the medieval manuals for merchants as well as travellers' books often contained precise definitions of them.

¹ For example, the exact weight of one sack of spices, whether 160 (Sombart) or 200 kg (Schaube), continues to be a matter of controversy.

² Pegolotti, Index: *Tara*, 443, in particular 307-319.

³ *Yük bağlanub şehirden metâ' gitmelü olsa yükten iki akça alınur*. «When a packload is tied up to send out a good from the city two akça per load is taken as market due» (The Regulation of Bosna, dated 1530: Barkan, *Kanunlar*, 399-400); wheat was shipped in sealed sacks of a certain quantity (M. Aymard, 71).

⁴ The Italian word *tare*, and Turkish *tara* (*dara*), are derived from the Arabic *tarha*, something to be thrown out (from the main body).

⁵ Cf. pour *alnaç* et ses variantes: T.D.K., *Söz Derleme Dergisi*, t. I, Istanbul, 1939, pp. 97 b & 105 a, 105 b; — pour *yanlız*: T. Günay, *Rize ili ağızları*, Ankara, 1978, p. 98; — pour *allı* et *elli*: *Philologiae Turcicae Fundamenta*, t. I, Mayence, 1959, pp. 353 et 544; pour *annı*: M. Räsänen, *Materialen zur Lautgeschichte der türkischen Sprachen* (Studia Orientalia, XV), Helsinki, 1949, p. 237. On trouverait certainement bien d'autres exemples dans les parlers anatoliens, mais les variantes purement phonétiques ont été généralement négligées par les rédacteurs de *Söz Derleme Dergisi*, dont l'intérêt est essentiellement d'ordre lexical (recherche de néologismes *öz türkçe*).