

Also noteworthy in this article of the law is the foreshadowing of the issuance in 1865 of a law requiring title deeds for endowed properties. Both *arāzi mevkufe* and *mülk*, (private property) had been excluded from the 1858 Land Code. In sum, then, the 1860 *Tahrir-i Emlāk ve Nufüs* can be seen as expression of the empire's long-term vision.

Almost another decade would pass, however, before an order was issued for commissions to be dispatched to villages to systematically record all properties. A note from the Ministry of the Defterhane written in December 1871 (1288 H) notes that a *yoklama* (examination) official was to be appointed in every sancak, supported by a team of scribes. Local committees at the village level were to work with this official and his team at the village level to register all *miri* lands in the district.⁷⁵

Later that same year, a law regarding the issue of title deeds for private property (*mülk*, pl. *emlāk*) was promulgated, and it, too, called for *yoklama* commissions to register properties first in the towns and, following them, the villages. *Yoklama* (يوقلامه) is often translated as “roll-call” and these commissions’ work as “surveying”.⁷⁶ In fact, however, as the preceding discussion has shown, despite personal and property registration being legally mandatory, its implementation depended on local cooperation. According to the procedure,

⁷⁵ Mundy and Saumarez-Smith, 51 and endnote 76, pp. 256-257. The date on the document is 5 Shawwal 1288 / 18 December 1871.

⁷⁶ This is the third of four possible definitions offered in the *Redhouse Yeni Türkçe – İngilizce Sözlük*, after (1) verbal noun of *yokla* (to feel with the fingers or hand; to examine, inspect, search; to try, to test); and (2) examination, test, inspection. (Istanbul: Redouse Yayınevi, 1968, Eighth edition 1986), p. 1259.