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The Lands of Rum: Seljuks, Beyliks, and Early Ottomans in Anatolia

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Key dates

- 1071: Seljuq forces defeat the Byzantine army at Manzikert and establish themselves in Anatolia
- In the 1180s, Anatolian Seljuqs overpower most of their rivals
- 1243: Mongol conquest of Anatolia, Seljuqs become vassals of the Ilkhanids (centered in western Iran) until the end of dynasty in 1308
- 1326: the Ottomans conquer Bursa, which becomes their first capital
- 1362: Ottoman conquest of Edirne
- 1380s-1400: The Ottomans absorb most of the beyliks
- 1402: Timur defeats the Ottomans at the battle of Ankara and restores the beyliks formerly absorbed by the Ottomans
- 1453: Ottoman conquest of Constantinople

Names

- Ala al-Din Kayqubad, r. 1220-37, Seljuk sultan of Anatolia
- Jalal al-Din Qaratay, d. 1254, Seljuk vizier
- Sahib Ata Fakhr al-Din Ali, d. 1285, Seljuk and later Mongol vizier
- Rūm Seljuks or Anatolian Seljuks, rulers of central Anatolia, 1070s to 1240s, nominally continue as a powerless puppet dynasty until 1308
- Ilkhanids, Mongol rulers of Iran, c. 1250s to 1330s
- Ottomans, dynasty emerging in northwestern Anatolia in the late 13th century, and expanding to a large empire spanning much of the Middle East and southeastern Europe by the mid-16th century
- Osman I (r. c. 1299-1326), first Ottoman sultan
- Bayezid I (r. 1389-1402), Ottoman sultan defeated by Timur
- Mehmed I (r. 1413-1421), Bayezid's son, rebuilds the realm after internal war with his brothers
- Mehmed II, known as the Conqueror (r. 1444-46 and 1451-81), conquers Constantinople

Terms

- Anatolia: Greek geographical term for the landmass roughly equivalent with the Asian side of present-day Turkey, up to the Taurus Mountains (see maps in lecture)
- Beyliks: term used for a number of Muslim-ruled principalities in Anatolia, late 13th to mid-15th century. The Ottomans in their early phase are also considered a beylik (Turkish term meaning “ruled by a bey/ lord”).

- Bursa: the first capital of the Ottomans
- Konya: capital of the Anatolian Seljuks

General reading

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