

PIECES ACCORDING TO THE INTENDED USE IN THE OTTOMAN STATE

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1. Introduction

The older the human history, the older hunting and war must be. Protecting from predators, being able to fight or hunt them, and being protected against other enemy tribes were the basic life instincts. It required protection to survive, feeding and hunting naturally to sustain life. It is probable that the motive of protection and survival led to the emergence of the first weapon technologies. This weapon development in the primitive was directly proportional to the physical development of the first humans. If the use of all biomotor abilities was possible with the completion of the development, similarly the ability to use weapons largely depended on this development.

The first materials that could be called weapons consisted of substances found in nature. The rocks and trees must have provided enough of the initial raw material needed. “The first tools used as weapons in history were stones and sticks. Then, the first spears and axes were made by attaching the properly carved stones to the ends of the sticks” (Iyiat, 2017). While wood, rock and other plants were the first materials used, structural and chemical changes over time led to the emergence of different weapons. The impulses to resist, defend and attack show that the similarity or similarity of the weapons converted from use to use by throwing with the hand can strengthen the view that they basically belong to the same period. However, it should be kept in mind that there is a development for the motor abilities connected to the human body and that holding or throwing skills can develop according to this development.

On the other hand, the transition to firearms would take time in the Ottoman Empire as in the rest of the world. Moreover, the use of weapon technology at that time was advancing simultaneously with the west. In fact, the development of fuse-fired cannon technology, which is in the firearms group, was ahead of Europe. Because “Ottomans, from the 15th century on, rifles, 16.-17. They have used guns since the 19th century. In this process, the Ottoman Empire was the biggest state of its age. The Ottomans, who had to constantly engage in conquest movements as a state policy, attached great importance to the army and weapon power, especially for this reason and due to the military experience brought by their traditions throughout the ages” (Çoruhlu, 1993). However, it was also difficult to transport the weapon from one place to another. At first, at least two soldiers were needed to carry a rifle on the battlefield. This was not an economic situation at all. Moreover, “in early single-shot firearms, it took a long time to prepare the weapon for a second shot” (Çoruhlu, 1993). This not only endangered the lives of the soldiers, but also lagged far behind the performance of conventional weapons. Naturally, these weapons were used by more stationary soldiers. This was ideal for castle defenses for the first time. However, it would take a long time to replace Turkish arrows with good range. Archery and other traditional war tools continued to be important in the Ottoman Empire for a long time.

2. Pin and Similar Terms

The geographical location of the Ottomans also made it possible to interact with other civilizations. The transition of Arabic and Persian words to Ottoman Turkish, especially in the 1600s, increased this interaction. In this sense, the word club has settled in today's Turkish in this way after the interaction in question.

If we evaluate this short reminder; “While the word nobud is not found in Turkish dictionaries, the Arabic word that we consider to be its origin with its similarity in sound and meaning is nebbût” (Ayverdi, 2011; Özveri & Acar, 2016). It is likely that the word will transform in terms of easy expression in the Ottoman country, such as nebbüt - nübüt - nobut. Moreover, the term “pin” is also mentioned in recent sources. Until today; Rather than dwelling on the differences such as club-pin-pin, the terminology of the instrument is more important in terms of its intended use. Acar, as the dictionary meaning of the club "scepter; short, smooth and solid stick". The meaning of sport is mentioned in TDK as "gymnastic tree made of hornbeam, used to improve arm strength".

3. Pin Structural Features

Referring to the expression in Özveri and Acar dictionaries, “Before the invention of the cannon, a smooth stick with a length of 70-80 cm and a diameter of 5-6 cm, used as a weapon by throwing it over the walls by master junds in horse riding, in castle sieges, to injure those inside; training tool” (Özveri and Acar, 2016). According to this definition, no structural feature related to the tip of the pin is specified. Kahraman, on the other hand, while describing the pin in his work, says, "It is a dry oak stick with a length of 85-90 centimeters and a thickness of 4-5 centimeters" (Ata, 1291; Kahraman, 1995). He points out their structural differences by saying that "the tip of the pin is the one with a pointed and sharp iron" (Kahraman, 1995) as the feature that distinguishes the pin from each other. This recipe is actually more suitable for the analogy of a pin thrown into a castle. Because the pin must have metal pieces so that its weight is effective when it is thrown into the goal. Again, the tip should be metal and pointed so that it really does its job for this job. The pins, whose weight is on the tip and this weight side is pointed metal, can only harm those inside the goal when they fall from high into the goal. Because, as a physics rule, an object that is thrown into the air and falls to the ground falls on the heavier side. In addition, as it is described like a pen, with a quote from Ahmed Ata, "It is also called with a pen because it looks like a big pen. Apart from this feature, it is different from the javelin and it is a little short and thick” (Ata, 1291; Kahraman, 1995).

As for the purpose of use, it is rust; He describes it as a tool that is thrown "to pierce generally hard objects, to stab the horse of an escaping or distant enemy while fighting, and to knock the rider to the ground" (Hero, 1995). With similar expressions, he also explains the purpose of the use of the pin by saying, “...athlete youth and jundies used to knock down the enemy and their horses by stabbing them with pins” (Kahraman, 1995). However, according to Kahraman's statements, here it seems that pin and hustle are mixed in terms of usage. The common feature is that, apart from the fact that both are used by throwing, just as the purposes of use change according to the developing situation during the war, these changes seem natural during the drill, and it is understood that no definite distinction can be made in this respect. As a definite and decisive distinction, it will give a healthier result to discuss the structural features according

to their intended use. The club was used for different purposes in different areas, just as the mace was used.

Pin; As an instrument of war and sport, it had an important place in the Ottoman military organization. Until the use of long-range gunpowder guns to serve the purpose, pinball was one of the important actors of the war, especially in castle and city sieges.

4. Pin as a War Tool

In addition to melee tools such as sword, ax and mace, tools such as spear, club and knuckle were the weapons used in the Ottoman Military Organization at the same time. Both mounted cavalry and foot soldiers were using these weapons, and they were rehearsing outside of the war with both these weapons and their heavy imitations. Pins were lighter than maces. Because the maces were used in close combat with the aim of damaging the enemy's body or armor and eliminating the enemy. It was an effective weapon invented to pierce, crush or shatter leather or metal armor of the period. "The mace is a weapon that creates a blunt trauma effect on the target by being thrown by its handle. Their weight varies in a wide range from roughly 10 kg to 100 kg" (Acar and Özveri, 2018).

This must be the biggest feature that separates the ball and the club from each other. The maces were a tool used by both cavalry and foot soldiers. While mace, club and knuckle could be used on horses and these tools could be carried, pedestrian soldiers were not suitable for this.

It seems logical to carry a sword and mace or sword and ax as a swinging feature. However, taking a launching device into them is not considered very usual in terms of the warrior's mobility. Because when we look at its use as a sports equipment, the technique of throwing pins while on a horse will be mentioned. However, no records of the foot soldier's club practice could be found.

Pins and kicks were made of lighter material and their construction was very different from knobs. Unlike the mace, the pins could only be used once during battle and were naturally thrown away. Some of the pins were also getting more weight towards the tip, just like the balls. This gave them a stronger hit speed. But in terms of structure, they were sharper than the knobs, and there were mostly those with metal ends. Also, using it on a horse allowed it to be thrown even more powerfully. Shots on a horse are effective in close combat as well as in ranged combat. It seems that there is no exact standard in terms of weight, thickness and structure in the club, as in the mace, and probably the standards of the soldiers or masters using it created differences. It should be considered reasonable that the same archers have different sizes and weights, as in the bows of the soldiers. In the bow, just as the masters produced bows according to the traction power of the soldier, there were also these differences in the mace, club and maybe ax and its derivatives.

One reason they achieve high speed, whether pins or other throwing slams, is because they are reasonably long. "A high-speed weapon has high kinetic energy and momentum. Therefore, besides hitting the target from afar, it has the potential to cause more damage to it" (Özveri and Acar, 2016). "It is written in some dates that the horse that the Hungarian king was riding in the war of Varna (1444) was knocked down by throwing a club, and the armored king was caught by the Janissaries because of his difficulty in moving and beheaded" (Kantemir, 1979; Kahraman, 1995)

In close combat, "thanks to the high stirrup, the warrior can rise on the horse and make a more effective strike with the sword, where he uses the speed of the horse to make his move" (Tuzcuoğulları, 2021) which gives him an advantage. The same logic applies to war tools such as maces and axes. Again, in terms of throwing ranged combat techniques, the high stirrup provides some advantages. In pin throwing, the warriors first move towards the ground on the horse and then rise on the horse and shoot.

5. Pins as a Sports Equipment

Returning to the battle scene, the soldiers fighting for life and death both in face-to-face battles and castle sieges have to attack, throw, hit and smash whatever they have as a weapon of war or whatever tool they see and pick from the ground. If we think about it in this way, it was necessary to pick it up from the ground, to stick it into a pile of straw and earth at close or far distances, to be able to pull it over the determined heights by stretching a rope, and to train it at every opportunity. In short, it can be thought that such structural differences were not so important during the war. However, it is important to develop the skill of being able to throw each weapon of war if necessary. Because in a war, the first rule is to protect yourself, and the second is to eliminate the enemy you encounter.

After the reasonable use of firearms was simplified, some traditional war tools were no longer used in wars and were kept alive as sports equipment for a while. In this sense, the pin also found a place for itself as a sports equipment in the Ottoman Empire, and even continued as an important activity where the Sultans did not spare their attention and competitions were held. The game has been given a structure in which the shooting height is accepted as a success. It was already used in war, in castle sieges, by throwing it inside the castle walls. To practice this, a rope is stretched between two trees and regular repetitions are made based on pin throw. "The rider would run away from the rope and approach the middle part of the rope, bend the rear end of the labud in his right hand, and touch the ground and, taking strength from the stirrup, he would stand up and throw it into the air. It was very important to adjust the speed of the horse, the distance to be thrown and to be able to give the angle of the shot to the lab (Kahraman, 1995). Hafız Hızır, on the other hand, describes the shooting moment as "sharp bridle" while describing this technique, and describes it as "the horsemen ride their horses and stand at one point and knock their pins on the ground and toss them into the air" (Hafız Hızır, 1987). "In order to achieve this technique, the number of shots was increased every day by starting from a small number, and in this way, the highest desired record would be reached after months or even years" (Kahraman, 1995). It is clearly seen that the pin; It has become a sport where competition, spectators and, in a way, records are kept. Sultan IV. The measurement of Murad's pin throw in distance (87 meters) indicates that records regarding the record were kept.

Sultan II. Mahmut was at the head of the Ottoman Empire as the 30th sultan between 1808-1839. Although the exact date is not known, it is seen that horse running, jogging, rowing, pulling and swimming games were not included for a while during this period. ...Sultan II. When Mahmud tried to make innovations, we see that these games were abandoned" (Hafız Hızır, 1987). It is stated that the game was banned by the Sultan for a while after the injuries experienced in the horse javelin game and a game that resulted in death in some sources. It is known that later measures were taken such as cutting the javelin tip bluntly and making it from lighter trees. Today, we see it played with plastic sticks on which soft stoppers are attached. It

is stated in the sources that more importance was given to games such as archery, hammer and pin throwing in these periods.

If we go back to the time of the Sultan, it had become a tradition to perceive throwing pins as a sport and to reward the successful ones. “Sultan II. It is known that Mahmud stretched a rope between two very tall trees in the Gülhane Garden and Ağa Garden areas in Topkapı Palace, had a horse tied there with valuable harnesses to be given to the competitor who would pass his pin over the rope, and the Harem and İç Ağalar tried to pass this rope with their pins for days. (Özveri and Acar, 2016).

Equestrian technique was as important as the force to throw the lobe. In order to make a good shot, it was necessary to be a master rider first. Two different skills; Combining good riding and throwing technique requires good training. Soldiers with this coordinative ability can only catch a good throw. “Sultan IV. Murad's horse riding "from one stone to another" and throwing the nobudu when reaching the second stone shows that conventional measurement methods were applied for this throw as well" (Özveri and Acar. 2016). After this technique of the Sultan, the pin reached 87 meters. For these shots, of course, horses must have been special. “Training was not for the rider alone. His horse had to be trained as much as the rider. Just as not all horses were suitable for playing javelin, a small and agile horse trained for javelin was not suitable for cuddling and throwing pins” (Kahraman, 1995).

Sultan IV. The mentioned inscription written for Murad should also be mentioned. Although the exact shape of the thrown tool has not been defined here, the terms pin or nobud are used.

Özveri and Acar, who examined the inscription written for the shot in question; He mentions that "When you examine the inscription carefully, it will be seen that this inscription, which is referred to as a labud in some texts related to the Ottoman sports history, and which is given as "a kind of heavy, short javelin (spear)", is not actually a javelin" (Özveri and Acar, 2016). . It has been described as a tool that is not a spear, but a shorter javelin. If it is not in the javelin, which is understood from the inscription, could it be "hsht"? If we go back to the main subject; Could it be that the mounted warrior's riding the pin on the ground for a while and then rising up on the horse has the aim of developing a technical skill beyond giving an impetus to the pin?

6. Famous Pin Throwers

The ability to throw spears, javelins, arrows, slash and pins depended first of all on a good level of horsemanship. In a way, the use of all these war or sports equipment was seen as a branch of jundi in the Ottoman Empire. Since the ancient Turks, owning horses and horses was a skill developed from an early age. It's not enough for a good warrior to have a good horse, he has to be a good rider. Western historians and Islamic historians have praised a lot about this. In the Ottoman Empire, riding training started naturally at a young age. A soldier who enters the military organization grows up with the horse until he reaches that age. Therefore, he tries to master the above-mentioned war and sports equipment by taking the training required by the jundi within the military education.

The pin, which was perceived as a sporting instrument rather than a war instrument in the Ottoman Empire, was accepted as a game based on technique, horse riding and power in the palace. If we count the Ottoman pin throwers in order, definitely Sultan IV. Must say Murad. The degree that the Sultan achieved as a result of his technical skill and strength was mentioned

above. The epitaph of the monument erected on the ground, where the Sultan shot a pin, is still in the corner of the north wall of the tower in the Fourth-place inside the Topkapı Palace Museum. In front of it, there is a marble chair where Sultan Murad sits while watching sports competitions” (Kahraman, 1995). Other pin throwers recorded can be listed as follows.

II. We gave information about sports activities and especially club competitions during the Mahmud period. The fact that the sultan gave gifts to those who stole the pin over a rope stretched to a certain height shows the importance of these activities. Again in such an activity, the sultan announced that “whoever pulls a rope from the top of two high cypress trees in Gülhane Square and pulls his labud over this rope, he will give a horse worth 5000 kuruş. ... On May 20, 1817, Hasan Ağa succeeded in receiving this valuable award given by the Sultan” (Kahraman, 1995).

Again, Sultan II. Mahmud once placed a horse prize with a rope stretched around the Besiktas Palace Tiled Kiosk. “Slave İsmail Ağa got the award on October 10, 1825 by hanging his labud over the rope” (Kahraman, 1995). İsmail Ağa, a member of the Ak-ağas, is famous in sports and, of course, in jundi. Hızır İlyas praises İsmail Ağa's sexuality and sportsmanship in his work "Tarih-i Enderûn Letaif-i Enderûn".

7. Conclusion

As it is known, the common feature of some war-based horse games among Turks; It contains rules that encourage taking the weapon of war by leaning from the horse to the ground. In the mounted javelin game, picking up the javelin on the ground and attacking again earns appreciation points. In the game Kökbörü, grabbing a 30-35 kilos goat on the ground, carrying it until it wins and throwing it into the cauldron brings points.

Picking up spears, pins, axes or bats that are thrown or thrown during the war and using them again during the war can be experienced with constant repetitions. Sultan IV. It must be precisely for this reason that Murad and other pin throwers use the aforementioned technique. It is based on the idea of lowering the back of the pin from the horse so that it touches the ground, that is, hanging the body towards the ground, in a way to develop combat skills. Equestrian war sports are also important activities for the development of these skills.

Pin; The sword, ax, spear, and sometimes mace is a tool that is thrown with vertical acceleration among the tools used during the war. Their technique is different as others are launched on the horizontal axis. In order to send the pin on the vertical axis, it is necessary to complete the throw by bending down while on the horse, taking force from the ground and rising towards the horse. A warrior or athlete must be a good rider, manage his horse well, and have the technique and strength to shoot well. Therefore, at every opportunity, there were opportunities to experience them at weddings, weddings, festivals, boarding passes or palace sports areas.

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