Ottoman Empire
Orientalism
18th-20th Centuries
Hagia Sophia (6th c.), Istanbul, Turkey
The Ottoman Empire Under Suleiman I the Magnificent, 1580

200 Miles
Istanbul: plan of the city (19th c.)
Janissary Corps Musketeer (1577)
Istanbul: Galata neighborhood
Orientalism

“The Orient is an integral part of European material civilization and culture. Orientalism expresses and represents that part culturally and even ideologically as a mode of discourse with supporting institutions, vocabulary, scholarship, imagery, doctrines, even colonial bureaucracies and colonial styles. In contrast, the American understanding of the Orient will seem considerably less dense.”

--From Edward Said, Orientalism
Republic Monument, Taksim Square, Istanbul, Turkey (1928)
Kemal Atatürk Memorial, Ankara, Turkey (1953)
Kemal Atatürk (1881-1938)
The founder of modern Turkey
Sabina Gökçen (1913-2001)
Turkish aviator, adopted daughter of Kemal Atatürk

She is believed to be the world's first female combat pilot
King Amanullah Khan (r. 1919-1929) with Queen Soraya in Ankara with Kemal Atatürk 1928
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, current president of Turkey and wife
Mara Branković (ca 1418-1487), a Christian sultana

Daughter of the ruler of Serbia, wife of Sultan Murat II (1421-1444 and 1446-1451), honored stepmother of Mehmed II the Conqueror (1451-1481). It seems that the Mehmed regarded Mara as his “surrogate mother” after the death of his physical mother in 1449. As a widow of a former sultan she was admitted to the Ottoman court. Mehmed II donated to her landed property in today’s northern Greece, which facilitated her initiatives financially. The sources show numerous interactions between Mara Branković, her stepson Sultan Mehmed and his subjects in the period from 1457 until 1487. She was actively involved in the politics of his native country, Serbia. She also was a generous benefactor of Eastern Orthodox monasteries. A region of northern Greece has been named after her.
Sami Frasheri (1850-1904)
Ottoman intellectual and Albanian nationalist

“For all intents and purposes a war must be declared against fanaticism to crush it by force and thus open the road to civilization”
Stephan Gerlach (1546-1612)
Protestant theologian and scholar
He lived in Constantinople from 1573 to 1578
The New Martyr George of Ioannina (today in northwestern Greece) was a young Christian who maintained his Christian beliefs while laboring for Ottoman Turks. They considered him an apostate from Islam, which led to his martyrdom in 1838.
“Tanzimat, (Turkish: “Reorganization”), series of reforms promulgated in the Ottoman Empire between 1839 and 1876 under the reigns of the sultans Abdülmecid I and Abdülaziz. These reforms, heavily influenced by European ideas, were intended to effectuate a fundamental change of the empire from the old system based on theocratic principles to that of a modern state.”

--After Encyclopaedia Britannica

Abdülmecid I (1839-1861)