

# The Great Storm and Tornado Incident in Istanbul (19 July 1914)

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## Abstract

This article mainly tries to reveal the details of the unique and unforeseen tornado incident and the big storm in Istanbul on 19 July 1914. In addition, in order to give the readers a better perspective about the weather conditions of 1914 and show the short-term process before, the important storms that had been influential in and around Istanbul until July 19 are briefly mentioned as an introduction. Besides, another important storm that shortly broke out after the tornado is referred as well. The Ottoman archival materials as well as the reports of the four big newspapers of the Ottoman Empire-Tanin, İkdam, Tasvir-i Efkâr and Peyam were used as sources for the creation of this article

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The first storm that happened in Istanbul in 1914 became effective in the second week of January. During the period when the storm was especially dominant in Marmara, Aegean and Black Sea regions from January 9 on, no ships were able to enter the Harbor of Istanbul. Ships that came from or went to Black Sea had to stop at Kavak in the north of the strait. Those supposed to depart were to cancel their departures. As for the steamers that were able to approach the port, they were unable to unload due to the storm. Passengers could disembark with the help of rowboats. The Russian flagged ship Tisma ? تيسما anchored in Kuruçeşme offshore could not endure the violent current and waves. It started drifting off. At this moment a fire broke out in one of its storerooms. Salvage vessels did not see the s.o.s signals of the ship and could not help. As the storm became more powerful, the rowboat transportation between Karaköy and Sirkeci ceased. A rowboat with six soldiers capsized and they were all

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rescued. The storm caused the delay of conventional trains for a few hours. Owing to the violence of the storm, the telegraph wires ruptured as well.<sup>1</sup>

Meanwhile, when the steamer Necat of the Trabzon (Trebizond) Company was off Kabataş, the Greek registered ship Kokona? قوقونا struck and fell over it. The steamer Necat was damaged with the impact of the collision.<sup>2</sup> The fifteen ton Hüdaverdi ship which was empty and whose master was Musa Reiszade Mehmed, was going to Bandırma from Çekmece when it sank because of the adverse weather conditons. The shipmaster and three sailors were rescued.<sup>3</sup> The four ton barge, called Âşık, laden with coal and whose owner and master was Salih Reis from Edremit came to the Yenikapı Port. Having discharged its burden the barge crashed into the shore as a result of the severely blowing southwest wind. The crew of the vessel was saved. Again another four ton barge laden with flour and departed from Istanbul Harbor to Kartal, partially managed to unload before the tavern booths (stalls) in Kartal. However it hit the booths ashore on account of the violent southwest wind. The barge and a few booths crashed. The crew of the vessel was rescued and evicted.<sup>4</sup>

On 18 March 1914, the telephone exchange of the Ministry of Interior was struck by lightning during the heavy rainfall at about four o'clock. Bobbins numbered 40 (between the center and ministry), 13 (Province of Istanbul), 15 (The Directorate of Police), 12 (The Grand Vizierate) burned. Immediately after the strike of lightning, the telephone room burned into flames but there were no casualties.<sup>5</sup>

After this event, an executive committee of the Grand Vizierate prepared and submitted a report about the potential danger that the wires of telephone machines without insulators in the rooms of the Grand Vizierate were liable to the strikes of lightning during the rainy weather, which did harm to the machines and people close by. In order to eliminate this hazard, it was emphasized that insulators and lightning conductors had to be installed and to discuss and determine the necessary measures for this purpose, an expert official from the Ministry of Telegraph, Mail and Telephone was demanded.<sup>6</sup>

In the same day (18 March) the storm that happened towards evening tragically claimed a life. The victim was 13 year old Hikmet Effendi who studied at the Soğukçeşme Military Junior High School and was the son of haberdasher Mehmed Effendi living in Kasımpaşa, Uzun Yol. Hikmet Effendi was passing by the Şişhane Gendarmerie Station when

the telephone wire between the Ottoman Bank and the Gendarmerie Station broke due to the heavy rainfall. This broken wire was first intertwined with the electrical wires of tram and then wrapped around the feet of Hikmet Effendi. The telephone wire had got the powerful electrical current of the tram's wires. Poor child suddenly received the electric shock and did not know what to do in dismay. He began writhing and screaming in great pains as a result of the electric shock for a while and lost his life. At that moment one of the conductors of a tramcar ran for help with a nonelectrical tool to break the wire but he was too late to save the child. There was great sorrow among the eyewitnesses of this horrible event, who were unable to intervene and help the child. Two more people were wounded during this incident. Ziya bin Salim who was beside Hikmet Effendi and the student of the same school was injured in the hand. Ziya bin Salim was staying at his uncle, Police Lütfullah Effendi's home in Kasımpaşa, Kulaksız. Because of this terrible incident the 18 year old son of Ayfando, آیفاندو who was an employee of the Anatolian Railway Company, got wounded in some parts of his body. In addition, an old man from Singer Company, who was about to receive electric shock was rescued as the tram conductor broke the wire.

Police and other officials came to the scene at once. Police Doctor Fahri Bey examined the very pale body of the victim and reported that Hikmet Effendi had died of the intense electrical shock.<sup>7</sup>

At the end of March, in consequence of the storming southwester in the Sea of Marmara, some ships were badly affected. The steamer Antalya belonging to Hilal Company and whose captain was Sabri Kaptan, was in Tekfurdağı (Tekirdağ) when its anchor was dislodged and dragged. It ran ashore and was later salvaged. The thirty ton ship called Aya Nikola (St. Nicholas) owned by Manizade and whose master was Salim Kaptan from Rize was unloading gas in front of the gashouse in Gemlik. Due to the harshness of the storm, its anchor was similarly dislodged and the ship started drifting towards the coast and grounded. It was later salvaged by another ship. On 29 March 1914, a lighter laden with tiles and whose master was İzzet Reis from İnebolu, was discharging its cargo in Caddebostan when it crashed onto the stones of the demolished quay of İdare-i Mahsusa and wrecked owing to the violence of the storm. There were not any casualties in the wreck.<sup>8</sup>

On 12 April 1914, as the steamer of Şirket-i Hayriyye numbered 38 was at the Yeniköy Pier, on account of adverse weather conditions, another steamer of the same

company (Şirket-i Hayriyye) numbered 50 came and fell over it. Dockman Dursun Bey who remained between the two vessels was crushed to death.<sup>9</sup> On 13 April 1914, A British flagged 2500 ton ship dragged its anchor at night at two a.m. due to the strength of northeaster as it was unloading in Bandırma and grounded on the sand before Kadıboğan. Salvage vessels were sent there from Istanbul to rescue the ship. The ship which did not have an important damage was successfully refloated.<sup>10</sup>

Two ships drifted to the shore and eventually sank on account of the storm that broke out on 16 May 1914. One of them was a fifty ton barge owned by a brick merchant named Mehmed Nail Effendi and captained by Mehmed Reis from Ayazma. It was anchored at Davud Pasha Wharf and laden with brick when it sank. The other whose master was Kamil Reis from Bartın was a fifteen ton lighter laden with stone and owned by a moneychanger in Balıkpazarı. There was no loss of life at the sunken ships.<sup>11</sup>

In late May 1914, a ninety ton sailing vessel owned by Ahmed Kaptan (Captain Ahmed) from Cide and navigated by Ali Kaptan (Captain Ali) sank off Kilyos due to bad weather conditions while it was coming to Istanbul with its load of timber. The nine sailors and captain of the vessel were rescued and brought to Istanbul where their needs were satisfied by the municipal.<sup>12</sup>

On 1 June 1914, a thick branch of a plane tree beside the fountain at Veli Effendi Meadow broke and fell during the sudden storm at around two p.m. The branch hit Hazım Effendi, who was the first-year student of the Koca Mustafa Pasha Military High School and Said Effendi Büstanbaşı. Hazım Effendi had come there with a group to wander and was singing under the plane tree as the branch dropped and struck him. He was wounded in his head, eye and many parts of his face and fell down. He was immediately taken to a nearby hospital in a carriage by his teachers and friends. Hazım Effendi whose wounds were not serious was taken under treatment at the hospital. His father was an employee of the Cartridge Factory (Fişenkhane). Meanwhile, Said Effendi whose father was a retired major named Sadeddin Bey was not injured at this incident.<sup>13</sup>

The Tanin newspaper dated 13 June 1914 made remarkable comments about the general weather conditions of Istanbul:

*“If we say that ‘Istanbul has not seen the spring this year’, this claim of ours is supposed to be as true as the one that ‘last year there was no winter’. Indeed, through the last three weeks rain, cold, storm, bad weather ensued. Rains that were very useful for crops two weeks ago have now reached to a threatening degree for all the crops... We understand by the news that rains in Istanbul are prevalent over not only in and around Istanbul but likewise even the whole Balkan Peninsula. Yesterday Paris newspapers brought news that had been unseen for long years: People of Paris who complained of very hot weather fifteen days ago, saw the city covered in a thick layer of snow after a fierce storm four days ago... We wonder whether the world is changing?”<sup>14</sup>*

### **The Great Storm of 19 July 1914 and the Tornado (Cyclone) in Istanbul**

The weather had been very hot in Istanbul for a few days.<sup>15</sup> The storm that happened in Istanbul on 19 July 1914 became very influential particularly in Çatalca and the surrounding region. A tornado (cyclone) having a diameter of 300-400 meters and consisting of black clouds emerged “like a big column” at sea and moved by the town of Büyükçekmece. Such a natural event had never been seen in Istanbul before. It caused great damage especially around the lake at Harman location between 2.30 and 3 p.m. The cyclone completely dug the earth of the area through which it passed more than one inch. While it was passing through the harvests 800 meters away from the town, it threw them into the air and scattered meters ahead. The tornado hurled up all the carriages-loaded or empty- with their animals into the air and ruined them. In addition, old big trees as well as corn and other crops at the vegetable gardens were uprooted and carried 200 meters away.

The tornado had emerged over the sea in the south-east of Büyükçekmece town. The fact that the tornado passed through the vicinity of the town and did not directly touch down it prevented a much greater catastrophe. There were twenty people affected and two of them died. The number of the wounded was thirteen and one of them was serious. The badly wounded person was sent to Istanbul for hospital treatment. Others were taken under treatment within the region. All the clothes of a child who was affected by the cyclone were torn off but luckily nothing bad happened to the child. However, in the same region Ali Agha who was driving his carriage drawn by two horses was found naked and dead. For the two female passengers of the coach, one of them was seriously and the other was slightly injured. As for the carriage, it fell to pieces. Eight animals were wounded by breaking their legs and

waists in the region when the strong wind lifted them up to the air and let them fall. About ten carts and coaches were shattered; harvests and vegetable gardens suffered a lot in consequence of the tornado. Nothing remained secure and undamaged within the area through which the cyclone passed.

There were interesting observations immediately before and after the tornado. One hour before the cyclone, a lot of snakes in the moorlands were seen to hold their heads up and try to pierce the earth by their tails. Fifteen minutes before the violent storm, rising waters of the lake became hot and advanced towards the land. After the cyclone, many dead animals like fish, snakes and insects were observed to be drifted on the ground in the surrounding villages. According to the report of the Çekmece district authorities, the total cost of the damages was two to three thousand Turkish liras. The communication was also disrupted due to the breakage of telegraph poles. The tornado also led to the collapse of a few houses. The vice governor (mutasarrıf) of Çatalca, İbrahim Süreyya Bey, went to Çekmece together with the doctor of the center, visited the wounded and took care of their treatments. He granted two Ottoman liras to the families of the wounded for their needs. Furthermore, De Gois Bey<sup>16</sup> who was the French director of the Ayastefanos (Saint Stefanos) Air Force Academy came to the scene and visited the local government office for expressing his condolence. He also donated five Ottoman liras. The government of Büyükçekmece district started accepting donations for the victims of the disaster as well.<sup>17</sup>

İbrahim Süreyya Bey sent a telegram to the Ministry of the Interior on 20 July 1914 and gave information about the consequences of the tornado:

*“With the impact of the cyclone that passed near the town of Büyükçekmece, it was understood that two people died, one person was seriously injured and the remaining thirteen people were slightly wounded. Due to the harvests, yields of vegetable gardens and corn produce, about 2000 liras of damage occurred. The badly wounded was being taken to Istanbul for hospitalization and others were under local treatment.”<sup>18</sup>*

The storm lasting with thunder and lightning in various districts of Istanbul resulted in great damages. In the same day (19 July 1914), a lightning struck between the minaret balcony and the crescent (âlem) of the Fatma Sultan (Bab-ı Ali) Mosque across the Sublime Porte at around four thirty. The lightning perforated the minaret in six places and also made a big hole at the Adliye Han (Court House). The pieces of stone broken off by the lightning dropped into

the street, avenue and the garden of the mosque and even some small pieces reached as far as the front of the Grand Vizierate mounting block. Due to the violence of the lightning, the telephone exchange of the Ministry of the Interior's bobbins numbered 4 and 22 burned. There were no casualties. Another thunderbolt which was about to strike the telegraph station in the park was directed by the lightning conductor to the well.<sup>19</sup> After the stroke of lightning, chickpea-sized hail fell for a very short while. Then a heavy rainfall that started and lasted for about half an hour cooled the weather a little.<sup>20</sup>

A landlady in Hasköy, Taşkasap was sitting with her neighbors on a bed laid by the cypress in the garden of her house when it began raining. After they went home one or two minutes later, a lightning struck the cypress and split it into two. The bed next to the cypress caught fire and started burning. The fire was distinguished by people who heard the screams of women and came for help. There were no casualties. Meanwhile, as the bobbin 25 of the Courthouse's Telephone Exchange was communicating with the center, a lightning struck. The operator Nail Effendi's right hand's little finger slightly burned.<sup>21</sup>

Süleyman Sûdi Effendi<sup>22</sup> who was the junior (third year) student of the Imperial School of Music (Musika-i Hümayun), his mother-in-law, Hayriye Hanım and other family members were wandering as a group at Fıstıkdibi Promenade in Kuruçeşme Wood when the weather clouded over and rain started. They decided to take shelter under a tree. Having done this, they were suddenly struck by a lightning followed by a horrendous thunder. Both Süleyman Effendi and Hayriye Hanım immediately and tragically burned to death at that place. The rest in the group, Ahmed Effendi who was the senior (fourth-year student) at the Imperial Servants (Hademe-i Hümayun), his eight-year old son Kemal<sup>23</sup> and three-year old daughter Memduha, Avni Effendi who was the imam of Keçeciler quarter in Yeni Bahçe<sup>24</sup>, Mehmed Hilmi Effendi who was eighteen-year-old brother in law of Süleyman Effendi and the senior (fourth year) student of the Imperial School of Music, were wounded suffering burns. Wounds of Ahmed Effendi and his two children were serious. Mehmed Hilmi Effendi's toes and Avni Effendi's arms burned. Besides, Avni Effendi became tongue-tied as a result of the shock and was in a condition unable to speak. In addition, Meserret Hanım residing in Ortaköy was slightly wounded in her heel. The incident was notified first to the police and then from there to the municipal. The automobiles sent by the municipal to the scene took Mehmed Hilmi Effendi to the Beyoğlu Males Hospital (Zükur Hastanesi) and the other wounded to the Hamidiye Children Hospital (Etfal Hastanesi). Avni Effendi who was

tong-tied, hardly said that he was very much suffering from his head and left arm. The victims, Süleyman Suudi Effendi and Hayriye Hanım were buried with the attendance of a large crowd to their funeral on 20 July 1914.<sup>25</sup>

A twelve-year-old Armenian child named Mıgırdiç Barusyan who resided in Tatavla (Kurtuluş), was struck by lightning and died at once while he was playing in front of his home.<sup>26</sup>

The storm accompanied by heavy rainfall completely demolished the İncirli Çiftliği Casino in Makri Köy (Bakırköy). In addition, a cement plant at the same location was totally destroyed and its debris was drifted toward far places. Again in Bakırköy, straps of a coach adrift by the wind broke and its horses, passengers and driver fell down to different places. The coach was utterly shattered.<sup>27</sup>

### **Another Storm in the Aftermath of the Tornado Incident**

On 1 August 1914, a fierce storm which was also described as “a hurricane” broke out in Istanbul at a quarter past two. The windows of some houses, branches of trees and some telegraph wires broke. The hurricane came from the direction of Kağıthane and passed through Beyoğlu, the Golden Horn and partly Istanbul. In the meantime there occurred some accidents at the sea. A short time before the hurricane, Arab Zeyyur who was a boatman at the Cibali Pier had taken two clients, a man and a woman, into his rowing boat and set off. When the storm suddenly broke out, the rowing boat capsized and they all fell into the sea. Only the boatman Arab Zeyyur could be rescued and the two passengers were drowned. Dursun Ali was going in his sailboat registered to Yağ Kabanı (Yağkapanı) Pier and numbered 92 when the vessel was overturned and he fell into the sea. He managed swimming to the shore and saved himself.<sup>28</sup>

On 2 August 1914, the weather became overclouded in Istanbul at night and a torrential rain accompanied by storm started from the first hours of the morning (particularly around six thirty a.m.) on. Heavy rain continued until about eleven a.m. when it abated for a while. However, it began raining more fiercely than before at one p.m. and lasted until half past two.<sup>29</sup> All the streets of Istanbul looked like brooks and small falls came into existence everywhere. During the downpours, almost all kinds of transportation halted and even trams did not move for a while. In Sarıyar (Sarıyer), Kavak, İstinye, Beykoz and almost everywhere



in Bosphorus, trees fell, bridges and walls collapsed, gardens and truck farms were ruined. The financial damage in Istanbul was very great. Articles drifted by the flood to the sea formed an island between Arnavutköy and Kuruçeşme. It was not possible to pass through hollow districts like Bahçe Kapısı (Bahçekapı), Eminönü, Balık Pazarı and Aksaray. Besides in Üsküdar (Scutari), the Üsküdar Bazaar, Atlama Taş Street, Bülbül Creek, Kassam Çeşmesi (Fountain) Street were flooded. Low level homes were inundated. There were no casualties in Üsküdar but in Beyoğlu, Elma Dağı a wall suddenly collapsed as a result of the rainfall and a man named Mehmed, who was walking on the street remained beneath the debris and lost his life.<sup>30</sup> Since the telegraph wires were damaged during the storm, direct communication with some places was not possible for a while. For example, telegraph communication with İzmir (Smyrna) was fulfilled via cable on 2 August 1914.<sup>31</sup>

In consequence of the heavy rainfalls that happened at six a.m. in the morning and continued after one p.m. in the afternoon, all the houses in Aksaray, Eminönü, Arnavutköy, Yeni Mahalle and some other districts on the Anatolian side of Istanbul were submerged. The floods coming from Sarachanebaşı and Etmeydanı merged with one another at Hor Hor Street and reached Aksaray tramline. Water outlets could not resist the flooding there and therefore traffic halted for about an hour. Floodwaters forced the doors of the passenger lounge at Sirkeci Quay but did not get in since the doors were closed. However, Sirkeci tram station front and the street towards Hamidiye Türbesi (Tomb) were completely inundated and became like a lake. Besides the brooks of Kasımpaşa and Dolabdere overflowed and traffic in many places stopped. The other creeks of the Bosphorus also flooded causing a lot of damages and the color of the sea up to Sarayburnu turned into very yellow due to the floodwaters. Dockman Mustafa's house at İstinye collapsed as result of the flooding waters. The damage in Arnavutköy was important according to the controls of the municipal.<sup>32</sup> Besides, devastation of the deluge in Ortaköy was great and the dike of the brook at the Katolik Kilisesi (the Catholic Church) Street was destroyed by the floodwaters. Hence the streets of Ortaköy were covered with slimy earth and basement floors of some houses were inundated. Mud brought by the floods filled the front of the School of Hadice Sultan at the Ortaköy Tramway (Tram) Street. In Kuruçeşme, the road to the pier was closed by the accumulated earth.<sup>33</sup> In Kasımpaşa, Bedreddin Quarter, the downpour caused the collapse of some filled parts of the pious foundation (hayrathane) that had been enlarged fifteen meters by the municipal. At the

same quarter, on the Alemdar Baba Street, Hacı (Hadji) Şevki Bey's home and four other houses next to it were completely inundated. There were not any casualties.<sup>34</sup>

In some places after the heavy rainfall; a violently blowing storm led to loss of lives at sea. The rowboat which Yasif oğlu Uriel? اوریل residing in Hasköy, Kalyoncu Bahçesi (Garden) and Hayim were on board to come from Tarabya to Beykoz overturned. Hayim was rescued but Uriel drowned. Another rowboat boarded by Yorgi from Yeniköy, his nephew Todori and Leygor? لیغور from Yeniköy who was a gardener in Yeniköy capsized. Leygor and Todori drowned, Yorgi was saved.<sup>35</sup>

A letter of complaint and request by a retired soldier named Ali who wrote on behalf of the residents of the Katolik Kilisesi Sokağı (Catholic Church Street) in Ortaköy, Yeni Mahalle, was sent to the Tasvir-i Efkâr newspaper and published on 5 August 1914 edition of it. Ali Bey requested the mediation of the newspaper to attract the municipal's attention into the immediate consideration of their serious problem. The flood last year had already brought a lot of debris into the street and made the lanes impassable. Even though various committees of the municipal visiting the scene had decided that the debris was to be removed, nothing had been done for one year until the flood two days ago brought more debris into the street. Thus, even the highest doorsills remained below the ground and therefore floodwaters got into the houses. All the residents of the street-men, women and children regardless of age- had tremendously worked hard to cope with the last two floods up to that time. However a third flood would certainly destroy the homes of the poor residents if the necessary precautions which had already been late in the day were not taken at once by the municipal.<sup>36</sup>

The flood damaged the Rumeli Kavağı Mosque and in order to demolish its wall facing the Karakol Street and posing a great danger for passersby, the municipal went into urgent action.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Fırtına", **Tanin**, 29.12.1329 (11.1.1914), p:4; "Fırtınalar", "Limanda", **Tasvir-i (Tasfir-i) Efkâr**, 11.1.1914, p:4.

<sup>2</sup> "Müsademe", **Tanin**, 29.12.1329 (11.1.1914), p:4.

<sup>3</sup> "Kaza-i Bahri", **Tanin**, 15.1.1914, p:4.

<sup>4</sup> "Deniz Kazaları", **Tanin**, 16.1.1914, p:4.

<sup>5</sup> "Bab-ı Ali'ye Saika", **Tanin**, 19.3.1914, p:2.

<sup>6</sup> **The Ottoman Archives of the Prime Ministry (BOA.) The Registry of the Sublime Porte (BEO) 4273/320445** (The Report of the Executive Committee, 17.3.1330 [30.3.1914] and the notice sent by the Grand Vizierate to the Ministry of Telegraph, Mail and Telephone, 19.3.1330 [1.4.1914]).

<sup>7</sup> "Feci Bir Kaza", **Tanin**, 19.3.1914, p:4.

<sup>8</sup> “Deniz Kazaları”, “Gark”, **Tanin**, 1.4.1914, p:4.

<sup>9</sup> “Deniz Kazası”, **Tanin**, 13.4.1914, p:4.

<sup>10</sup> **BOA. The Ministry of Internal Affairs (DH.) The General Directorate of Security (EUM.) Security Office (EMN.) 70/9** (The notice sent by the governor [mutasarrıf] of Karesi to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 5.4.1330 [18.4.1914]); “Deniz Kazaları”, **Tanin**, 14.4.1914, p:4.

<sup>11</sup> “Deniz Kazaları”, **Tanin**, 18.5.1914, p:4.

<sup>12</sup> “Gark”, **Tanin**, 25.5.1914, p:4.

<sup>13</sup> “Veli Efendi Çayırı’nda Bir Kaza”, **Tanin**, 3.6.1914, p:4.

<sup>14</sup> “Hava”, **Tanin**, 13.6.1914, p:4.

<sup>15</sup> “Dünkü Hava”, **İkdam**, 20.7.1914, p:3.

<sup>16</sup> De Gois De Mezeyrac (De Goÿs de Mézeyrac). Tanin newspaper dated 22 July 1914 praised his conduct: *De Gois Bey, who immediately succored as soon as he was informed of the incident, proved his philanthropic view by this generous behavior.*”

<sup>17</sup> “Son Havadis”, “Siklon”, “Malumat-ı Resmiye”, **Tanin**, 21.7.1914, p:4; “Afat-ı Semaviyye”, **İkdam**, 21.7.1914, p:1; “Siklon”, **Tanin**, 22.7.1914, p:2; “Evvelki Günkü Fırtına”, “İstanbul’da Hortum Zuhuru”, **Tasvir-i (Tasfir-i) Efkâr**, 21.7.1914, p:4; “Siklon”, **Tasvir-i (Tesvir-i) Efkâr**, 22.7.1914, p:4; “Siklon Hadisesi”, **İkdam**, 22.7.1914, p:2; “Son Haberler”, “Kasırğa Hadisesi”, **Peyam**, 21.7.1914, p:6. According to the first news in Tanin newspaper, the number of the wounded was sixteen and two of them were serious. Later this number was reduced to thirteen and one of them was serious. On the other hand, Tasvir-i Efkâr newspaper wrote that a total of nineteen people were affected by the tornado, five of them were very seriously wounded, twelve were slightly injured and two died. It also estimated the cost of the damage as four thousand liras.

<sup>18</sup> **BOA. DH. EUM. EMN. 116/58** (The telegram sent by Vice Governor (Mutasarrıf) of Çatalca, İbrahim Süreyya Bey to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 7.4.1330 [20.4.1914]). This is the only document determined in the Ottoman Archives about the incident.

<sup>19</sup> “Yıldırım”, **Tanin**, 20.7.1914, p:4; “Yıldırımlar”, **Tasvir-i (Tasfir-i) Efkâr**, 20.7.1914, p:4; “Dünkü Hava”, **İkdam**, 20.7.1914, p:3; “Dünkü Dolu ve Saika”, **Peyam**, 20.7.1914, p:5.

<sup>20</sup> “Dünkü Hava”, **İkdam**, 20.7.1914, p:3; “Dünkü Dolu ve Saika”, **Peyam**, 20.7.1914, p:5. According to Peyam newspaper, nut-sized hail continued for about one or two minutes.

<sup>21</sup> “Saika”, **Tanin**, 21.7.1914, p:4; “Evvelki Günkü Fırtına”, “İstanbul’da Hortum Zuhuru”, **Tasvir-i (Tasfir-i) Efkâr**, 21.7.1914, p:4.

<sup>22</sup> There are some differences in the reports of İkdam, Peyam and Tasvir-i Efkâr newspapers. For example, the name of this person is given as “Süleyman Mustafa Effendi” in Tasvir-i Efkâr newspaper.

<sup>23</sup> In Peyam and 20.7.1914 dated edition of İkdam, the name of the boy is given as “Cemal”.

<sup>24</sup> In Tasvir-i Efkâr newspaper, the name of this person is mentioned as the imam of Halıcılar who was the brother-in-law of Eşref Effendi, the superintendent of the clothes (esvab emini) at the Imperial Servants (Hademe-i Hümayun).

<sup>25</sup> “En Son Haberler”, “Saika, Facia”, **İkdam**, 20.7.1914, p:6; “Afat-ı Semaviyye”, “Kuruçeşme Faciası Tafsilatı”, **İkdam**, 21.7.1914, p:1; “Vefat Edenlerle Mecruh Olanlar”, **Tasvir-i (Tasfir-i) Efkâr**, 20.7.1914, p:4; “Dünkü Dolu ve Saika”, “Saika Tesiriyle Vefat”, **Peyam**, 20.7.1914, p:5.

<sup>26</sup> “Afat-ı Semaviyye”, **İkdam**, 21.7.1914, p:1.

<sup>27</sup> “Fırtına Hasarati”, **Tanin**, 21.7.1914, p:4; “Makri Köyü’nde”, **Tasvir-i (Tasfir-i) Efkâr**, 21.7.1914, p:4.

According to the report of Tasvir-i Efkâr, a carriage with its animals was drifted with water.

<sup>28</sup> “Dünkü Kasırğa”, **İkdam**, 2.8.1914, p:4.

<sup>29</sup> According to İkdam, excessive rain showers continued almost without interruption everywhere in Istanbul for about four to five hours.

<sup>30</sup> “Dünkü Hava”, **Tanin**, 3.8.1914, p:3; “Dünkü Seylab”, **Tasvir-i (Tesvir-i) Efkâr**, 3.8.1914, p:4; “Dünkü Yağmur”, **İkdam**, 3.8.1914, p:3.

<sup>31</sup> “Dünkü Yağmur”, “Hutut-ı Telgrafiye”, **İkdam**, 3.8.1914, p:3.

<sup>32</sup> “Yağmur ve Hasarat”, **Tanin**, 3.8.1914, p:3; “Dünkü Seylab”, **Tasvir-i (Tesvir-i) Efkâr**, 3.8.1914, p:4;

“Dünkü Yağmur”, **İkdam**, 3.8.1914, p:3.

<sup>33</sup> “Evvelki Günkü Seylab”, **Tasvir-i (Tesvir-i) Efkâr**, 4.8.1914, p:4.

<sup>34</sup> “Seyl Hasarati”, **Tasvir-i (Tesvir-i) Efkâr**, 5.8.1914, p:3.

<sup>35</sup> “Kaza-yı Bahri”, **Tanin**, 5 Ağustos 1914, 5.8.1914, p:3.

<sup>36</sup> “Şehremaneti’nin Nazar-ı Dikkatine”, **Tasvir-i (Tesvir-i) Efkâr**, 5.8.1914, p:3.

<sup>37</sup> **BOA. DH. The Administrative Department (İD.) 177/33** (The notice sent by the Mayor to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, 27.7.1330 [9.8.1914] and the notice sent by the Ministry of Internal Affairs to the Ministry of Mortmain Estates, 31.7.1330 [13.8.1914]).

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