The purpose of this study is to examine the political thoughts and the ideologies of Young Intellectuals (Young Ottomans and Young Turks) and their views of women in the last period of Ottoman Empire. Young Ottomans, among whom were Şinasi, Ziya Pasha, Sadullah and Namık Kemal, emerged as a reaction to the authoritarianism, extreme Westernism and superficiality of Tanzimat policies. Their ideology involved a complex blend of Ottoman nationalism, Islamism and constitutionalism. Young Ottomans were the earliest advocates of women’s emancipation, preparing the ground for later reforms. Şinasi’s satirical play Şair Evlenmesi (The Poet’s Wedding) written in 1859 is considered one of the earliest criticisms of the arranged marriage system. Among them, Namık Kemal was the most important intellectual. He was vocal in his criticisms of the more oppressive and unjust aspects of marriage and family life, as well as women’s overall position in society. He used the newspaper he
edited, IBRET, to call for reforms in women’s education. His novel, *Zavallı Çocuk* (Poor Child) also offer critical commentaries on women’s condition.

Young Turks influenced by the political and the ideological thoughts of Young Ottoman were the second generation of Young Intellectuals in the last period of Ottoman Empire. Especially, the overthrow of the autocratic regime in 1908 by Young Turks, members of CPU (the Committee of Union and Progress), was followed by a period of intense social upheaval and ideological ferment. Women’s rights issues were no exception. During the Second Constitutional Period, debates on women and the family became more tightly and self-consciously integrated into ideological positions representing different recipes for salvaging the empire. These can be identified as Islamist, Westernist and Turkist positions. But it goes without saying that the activities of Young Intellectuals in the last period of Ottoman Empire served as an important springboard for the reforms under the Atatürk regime.

**[Key Words: Young Ottomans, Young Turks, Women, Ottoman Empire, CPU]**

I. 들어가는 말

1683년 오스만 터키의 제2차 비엔나 포위에서 시작된 유럽 동맹국과의 전쟁은 1699년 카를로비츠(Karlowitz) 조약의 체결로 종식되었지만 동 조약의 체결로 오스만 터키는 실질적으로 유럽에서의 영향력을 상실하였으나, 오스트리아, 폴란드 등에 포들리아지역과 우크라이나 그리고 베네치아에 모리아와 달마티아 연안 지역을 빼앗기게 되었다.

1) 동 조약으로 오스만제국은 오스트리아에 헝가리 전역과 트랜실바니아지역, 폴란드 등에 포들리아지역과 우크라이나 그리고 베네치아에 모리아와 달마티아 연안 지역을 빼앗기게 되었다.