

Life in KAYSERİ up to now

 The city has been continuously inhabited since perhaps c. 3000 BC with the establishment of the ancient trading colony at Kultepe (Ash Mountain) which is associated with the <u>Hittites</u>. The city has always been a vital trade centre as it is located on major trade routes, particularly along what was called the Great Silk Road



Settlements

- Assyrians(BC 2000)
- Hittities (BC 1200)
- Pyrigians (BC 800)
- Kimmerians (BC700)
- Lydians (BC 650)
- Persians -mazaka- (BC590)
- Alexander-the king of Macedonia (BC 400)
- Kingdom of Cappadocia (BC 332)

- Roman period-CEASAREA(100 AD)
- Byzantine period (500 AD)
- Arabian invasions (600 AD)
- 2nd Byzantine period (900 AD)
- Turkish domination (1080 AD)(Danishmends)
- Mongolian invasion(1200 AD)
- Anatolian Seljuks (1245 AD)
- Ottomans (I463AD)
- Republic of Turkey (1923AD)

Life in 11th-13th Centuries

- The Seljuk Turkish history spanned the period from 1060 to around 1307. The Seljuks were a tribe of Tartars from Central Asia who established a powerful empire in Persia in the 11th century. The Seljuk Turkish history is significant in that they are regarded as the ancestors of the Western Turks - the modern Turks of today. The Seljuk Turks were the first people to invade Anatolia completely. With the establishment of the Anatolian Seljuk State as part of the Great Seljuk Empire began the Islamic period in Turkey
- In 1085, Kayseri became a part of the seljukians



Where did they live?

- Most of the Turks lived in tents as they migrated and traded. If they built a place, the buildings met all of their needs.
- In their construction

of <u>caravanserais</u>, <u>medreses</u> and mosques, the Rum Seljuks translated the Iranian Seljuk architecture of bricks and plaster into the use of stone. Among these, the *caravanserais* (or *hans*), used as stops, trading posts and defense for caravans, and of which about a hundred structures were built during the Anatolian Seljuks period, are particularly remarkable.



Tents are made of wool



• A caravanserai was a roadside inn where travelers could rest and recover from the day's journey. Caravanserais supported the flow of commerce, information, and people across the network of trade routes covering Asia, North Africa, and southeastern <u>Europe</u>, especially along the <u>Silk Road</u>.

Ancient hotels..



madrasah means "a place where learning and studying take place".







Bath (hamam)







Mosques – places to pray









Tombs (kumbets) The Central Asian tradition of mummifying the dead and keeping them in a tent for six months gave rise to the construction of domed tombs and turbe







• A **kulliye** is a complex of buildings, centered around a mosque and managed within a single institution, often based on a vakif (foundation), and composed of a <u>medrese</u> (religious school), a darüşşifa (clinic), kitchens, bakery, <u>hammam</u> (bathhouse), other buildings for various charitable services for the community and further annexes.



Tips

- based their political, religious and cultural heritage on the Perso-Islamic tradition, even to the point of naming their sons with Persian names though of Turkic origin
- used Persian as a language of administration while the common man in the street spoke Turkish
- Greeks, Jews and Turks lived together

How did they live?

 Trade: cities prospered in wealth and population. The Seljuks had a wellorganized system of international trade and for the first time introduced insurances for the losses of traders. Realizing the importance of transit trade, they developed caravanserais for the needs of the tradesmen

They used horses, camels and donkeys to carry goods



The trade currency was dirrhem, struck with the reigning sultan's name and sometimes with elaborate symbols like horseman, star, sun, lion or crescent. Most of the coinage was minted in copper, silver and gold.



Things to survive

- People formed an active sector of importance in metalwork, textiles, sugar, wool dying, and construction.
- Metal mining
- Farming & Animals
- Hunting
- Weaving
- Baking
- Rugs and carpets
- handcrafts



Religion

- Life after death-most of them are muslim
- Shamanism, on the other hand, the oldest and most widespread of the religions adopted by the Asian Turks, endowed natural forces with human or animal form, and various Shamanist symbols appear in Anatolian stone carving and handicrafts bearing the full weight of their inherent significance

Army

- Local soldiers
- The Seljuk palaces, as well as their armies, were staffed with <u>ghulam</u>, enslaved youths taken from non-Muslim communities, mainly Greeks from former Byzantine territories. The Ghulam practice may have offered a model for the later <u>Devshirme</u> during the time of the Ottoman Empire.







Clothes - what did they wear?









men



Seljuk, 11th-12th centuries





accessories









Daily Tools scales-mirror-candle-pot









Bowl – Belt – perfume - lock









Art is aplied to stone, wood and ornaments

 Several sources of inspiration shaped the style of the Anatolian Seljuk art. First, a strong influence came from Islamic Sufism. The art of Islam was powerfully influenced by Sufism, which regarded the material world of appearance, with its thousand and one varying aspects, as a reflection of the divine will, recreated at every breath. Inspired by this trend of thought and spirituality, the Anatolian Seljuk art contributed its own interpretation. The conception of the universal order was most clearly represented in architectural stone decorations.





Seljuks coat of arms

Eight point star is used to symbolize the 8 gates to paradise. These 8 principal basis are: Mercy and clemency, patience, honesty, concealment, devotion, being aware of one's insolvency and weakness, generosity, and to thank and praise to God.





Double headed eagle

common motifs in Seljuk artwork were lions, bulls, double-headed eagles, dragons and astrological motifs like planets or the tree of life.





Common symbols













- Greetings from Turkey.....
- Soner yuceer ③