

Spatial, social and economic factors of marginalization in the changing global context:
Agri, 23rd to 26th August 2015

International Geographical Union – Union Géographique Internationale



Commission on Marginalization, Globalization
and Regional and Local Responses C12.29

SECOND CONFERENCE CIRCULAR

**SPATIAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS OF
MARGINALIZATION IN THE CHANGING GLOBAL
CONTEXT**

Agri, 23rd to 26th August 2015

Registration with abstract submission **before 25th May 2015**

[Link to the webpage of the conference](#)



Hosting institution: AĞRI İBRAHİM ÇEÇEN UNIVERSITY, Türkiye

Conference subthemes:

1. Global changes in economic power: more or less marginalization on local and regional level?
2. Local, regional and national developmental initiatives and their impact on (de)marginalization.
3. Local and regional bottom-up projects and their impact on (de)marginalization of communities or social groups.
4. Marginality and marginalization in societal context – their manifestation and explanation.
5. Evidence of globalization effects in spatially marginal areas.
6. Understanding marginality and marginalization.

Conference venue, date and time

The hosting institution of the Conference is the AĞRI İBRAHİM ÇEÇEN UNIVERSITY. The conference will be held at the University campus from 23rd to 26th August 2015.



The University campus is situated about 6 km eastward from the city center. Campus area covers way over 100 hectares where several university buildings are located.

Registration, abstracts and publication

The registration fee is the same for participants and for accompanying persons and can be either basic, for those that will only participate in paper presentations from afternoon 23rd till morning 26th or extended for those who will also attend the field trip to Dogubeyazit and the farewell dinner.

You can save 50 € with early registration (payed fee), so we encourage you to pay the registration fee before June the 1st, 2015. Registration after that date is possible as long as the highest number of participants (90) is not exceeded.

The table below shows what is included within registration fees:

	Early bird (payed before June the 1 st)	Regular (payed after June the 1 st)	Registration fee includes:
Basic	270 €	320 €	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 nights accommodation,• 3 x (breakfast, lunch, dinner),• tea/coffee, snacks during the breaks,• conference materials
Extended	350 €	400 €	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 nights accommodation,• 3 x (breakfast, lunch, dinner)+<i>farewell dinner</i>,• tea/coffee, snacks during the breaks, +<i>field trip to Dogubeyazit</i>,• conference materials

The book of abstracts will be published on C12.29 website. The conference publication will be published with the support of IC foundation after the conference.

You can register and submit your abstract online via Google form at:
<http://goo.gl/forms/Ke717jZcQC>

If you will participate as a paper presenter you need to register before 25th May 2015 because all the abstracts need to be submitted by then.

Bank account for payments:

Name of the Bank: Vakıfbank Ağrı Şubesi-Türkiye
Name of the Euro account (EU): IGU Sempozyum Hesabı

IBAN NO :TR840001500158048015091938

CONFERENCE STATEMENT

The location of the 2015 Conference is in Eastern Turkey in the city named after a famous mountain dominating larger area of Armenian plateau – Ararat or Ağrı Dağı in Turkish language. The mountain itself is a symbol of the city as well as it is a national symbol of neighboring country Armenia. In their mythology the mountain was the home of the Gods. It also plays an important role in Judeo-Christian as well as Islamic tradition as the place where Noah’s ark finally came to rest after the Great Flood.

Ağrı is located on a 1650 meter high plateau, named after the majestic mountain mentioned above that can be seen from the city centre. It is a gateway of east where you can have an overall view of “Türkiye” from the highest point. Ağrı hosted various nations and civilisations throughout history. It is one of the important tourist centres of the east with suitable tracks for mountain climbing and trekking in summers, skiing in winters. It is a seat of a Province with the same name with an area of 11,376 square kilometers and a bit more than half million inhabitants. On the east it extends all the way to Iranian border. The neighbouring province Iğdır on the north borders even with Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic that is exclave of Azerbaijan and with Armenia. The border with Armenia has been closed since 1993. Turkey closed it as an act of disapproval of Armenian intervention in the Nagorno Karabakh region in Azerbaijan. Border character of the region is further evident from the fact that aerial distance from Ağrı to Georgian border is about 160 km and to the one with Irak about 260.

Located at the east edge of “Türkiye”, Ağrı became a settlement beginning from the ancient times and a stage for various civilisations. Being a part of Anatolia and a cradle of various rich and advanced civilizations, the history of Ağrı can be traced to 18th century BC. Hurrians are one of the oldest civilisations settled in Ağrı. In the middle of the 7th century the dominance of the province had passed to Arabs. When Seljuk Turks entered into Anatolia, the province was dependent to Byzantines yet it was dominated by Seljuk Turks in 1054. Before the period of Republic the province used to be a “sanjak” named Doğu Bayazıt. It was changed to Karaköse in 1927 and finally to Ağrı in 1938.



Most of the territory of Ağrı Province is mountainous and undulate. The mountains of Ağrı stretch in series. Rich, grassy plants cover the surface of the province. Grasses refresh at spring and extinct at fall because of the cold weather. Winters are cold whereas summers are dry and hot.

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The Hosting institution has been opened as AğrıDağı University in May 2007. In 2008 the University was renamed after its founder civil engineer and businessman – İbrahim Çeçen (ICUA). It is still a state university lead by rector prof. dr. İrfan Aslan.

At the start, the university had only one faculty – the faculty of Education with 20 professors, 18 lecturers and 1,200 students. Today, the number of professors involved in teaching and training is around 300, including 59 academicians and 259 corresponding members of the academy. Over 7,000 students are studying at 10 regional branches of the university.



Today ICUA is the 4th largest university in Eastern Anatolia. It has two campuses, 1 central laboratory for scientific-research and study-scientific institutes, 4 scientific-research laboratories and centers, 12 study laboratories and rooms, and 2 libraries. Bachelor and Master courses are held at The Vocational School, Faculty of Science and Letters, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences

and Vocational Health School.

Accommodation

Accommodation for the 3 days of conference (and additional 2 with extended fee) is provided by the organisers in shared or single rooms. The cost for the nights of the conference (23/24, 24/25 and 25/26) is included in basic registration fee. Extended registration fee covers the accommodation for the day before and the day after the conference (22/23 and 26/27).



Field trip (26th in the afternoon)

The field trip is supposed to give you the impression of eastern Anatolia and is destined to Doğubeyazıt, a city that is located in Turkey's most eastern district close to the border with Iran. It lies 1,625 meters above sea level and the population of the district in 2010 according to Wikipedia was 115,354 (only 73,794 in 1980) of which about 70,000 live in the town of Doğubeyazıt and the rest in the surrounding countryside.

Doğubeyazıt lies 25 km southwest of Mount Ararat and 35 km from the Iranian border. It is located on a plain surrounded by some of Turkey's highest peaks. Beside Ararat (5,137 m) these are ridges and peaks well above 2,500 m like Little Ararat (3,896 m) or Tendürek Dağı (3,533 m).

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About 90 km long road from Ağrı to Doğubeyazıt generally follows the flow of river Murat (Murat Nehri) the major source of Euphrates (Eastern Euphrates). The land is not densely populated and there are few settlements along the road.

Doğubeyazıt's authorities aim to develop tourism. The 17th to 18th century Ishak Paşa Sarayı (Ishak Pasha Palace) that we will visit is certainly one of the main tourist attractions of the region. There is also an interesting rock formation called Durupinar site that resembles the ship and is therefore also called the Noah's ark. Some people actually believe(d) that it really is a petrified boat from the holy books. Another place of interest can also be a lake in a lava bed named Balık Gölü, 60 km from the city.



We believe that it is not just worth seeing the place and the palace but also to get deeper insight into efforts of local community located in border peripheral land of sleeping volcanoes that strives to avoid marginalization.

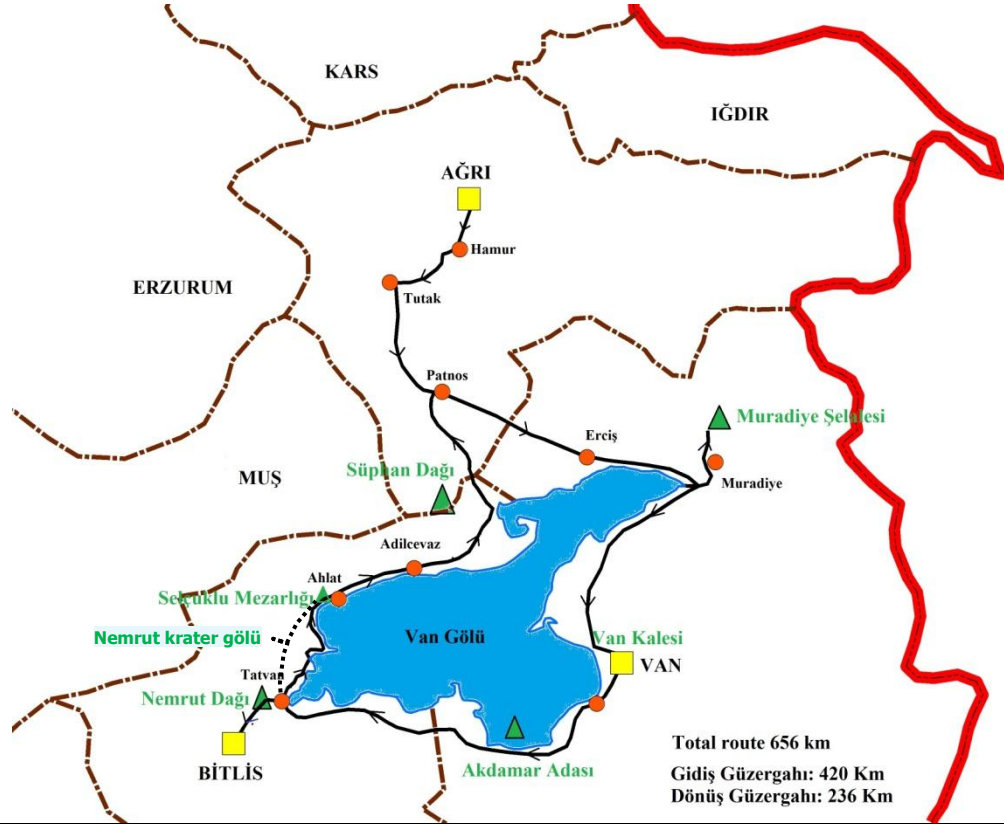


In case that we get the permit we can also visit meteor crater 35 km east from the city. It is the result of a meteor crash in 1892 and is the second biggest one in the world at a width of 35 meters and depth of 60 meters.

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Post conference Excursion – Eastern Anatolia Insights (27th to 28th)

The total cost of the excursion is 110 € per person (all inclusive - bus service, meals, tickets and two overnight stays). The itinerary may still be a subject to minor changes:



27 08 2015 Perşembe

08:00 Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen Üniversitesi
Konukevi'nden hareket
09:30 Patnos
12:00 Muradiye Şelaleleri'ne hareket
13:30 Muradiye'ta öğle yemeği
15:00 Muradiye Şelaleleri
16:00 Van'a hareket
17:00 Van Kalesi gezisi
18:30 Van şehir turu ve akşam yemeği
21:30 Van Yüzüncü Yıl Üniversitesi
Konukevi İstirahat

27 08 2015 Thursday

08:00 Departure From Ağrı
09:30 Patnos
12:00 Departure to Muradiye waterfalls
13:30 Lunch at Muradiye
15:00 Arrival to Muradiye waterfall
16:00 Departure to Van city
17:00 Visiting Van Castle
18:30 Van city tour and Dinner
21:30 Staying at Van

28 08 2015 Cuma

08:00 Van Yüzüncü Yıl Üniversitesi
Konukevi'nden hareket
09:00 Gevaş'tan feribotla Akdamar Adası

28 08 2015 Friday

08:00 Departure from Van
09:00 Visiting Akdamar Island and Church
12:00 Lunch at Gevaş

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12:00 Gevaş'ta öğle yemeği 13:00 Ahlat'a hareket 15:30 Nemrut krater gölü 17:00 Ahlat tarihi Selçuklu Mezarlığı 17:30 Ahlat tarihi eserleri 18:30 Ağrı'ya hareket 20:30 Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen Üniversitesi Konukevi'ne varış	13:00 Departure to Ahlat 15:30 Nemrut crater lake 17:00 Ahlat historical Seljukian cemetery 17:30 Ahlat historical monuments 18:30 Departure to Ağrı 20:30 Arrival to Ağrı
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The The city of Patnos has many historical ruins from Urartian period. There are a number of places of historical interest around it, including the castle of Aznavur Tepe, an impressive Urartu building. It is a small town in an impoverished rural area.
Girik Tepe ve Aznavur Tepe Ören Yerleri

Muradiye falls - Muradiye Şelalesi
(Bendimahi waterfall) - one of the least known.

The Muradiye (Bendimahi) river rises from the volcanic formations and basalt lavas of Eastern Anatolia and apart from the main waterfall near the village of Degerbilir (formerly known as Gevrika) gives rise to a cascade of smaller waterfalls extending as far as the Devil's Bridge 4 km away. The Devil's Bridge is itself a very old and interesting monument constructed in the basalt rock at a very narrow section of the river 4 km from Muradiye. In 1985 a suspension bridge was built in front of the main waterfall thus providing visitors with a magnificent view of the waterfall and an ideal spot from which to take photographs. Unfortunately during the summer rivers in Turkey have very few water therefore that is not the best time for visiting waterfalls.



Van Castle - Van Kalesi

was an Iron Age castle which now stands as a stunning ruin on the rocks to the west of the modern city of Van. It was constructed as part of the Urartu Kingdom in the ninth century BC. Upon the fall of this kingdom in the seventh century BC, Van Castle was taken by the Assyrians.

The site of Van Castle bears the marks of these two civilisations as well as others, such as the Ottoman Empire. In particular, it is home to the remains of a mosque built by the Ottoman Sultan, Suleiman the Magnificent (1494-1566).



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Akdamar Island - Akdamar Adası

also known as Aghtamar (Armenian: or Akhtamar), is the second largest of the four islands in Lake Van. About 0.7 km² in size, it is situated about 3 km from the shoreline. At the western end of the island a hard, grey, limestone cliff rises 80 m above the lake's level (1,912 m asl). The island declines to the east to a level site where a spring provides ample water. It is home to the 10th century Armenian Holy Cross Cathedral, which was the seat of the Armenian Apostolic Catholicosate of Aghtamar from 1116 to 1895.

If possible: crater (caldera) lake Nemrut

Lake (12 km²) is 2247 m above sea level and 600 meters above Lake Van. The lake covers an area which is shaped like a half moon. Crater Lake's water is fresh and cold. There are also three smaller lakes in caldera.



Ahlat and its surroundings are known for a large number of historic tombstones left by the Ahlatshah dynasty. Efforts are presently being made by local authorities with a view to including the tombstones on UNESCO's World Heritage List, where they are currently listed tentatively.

In recent years, Ahlat also came to be known for the quality of its potatoes, which carved themselves a sizable share in the Turkish agricultural market.

Travel and visa information

As of April 17, 2013, electronic visa (e-Visa) replaces “sticker visa” which was issued at the border crossings. Applicants just need to log on to www.evisa.gov.tr, provide the requested information, (after the application is approved) make online payment and download their e-Visa.

To see whether you need Visa to enter Turkey visit the official site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey and check the data for your country (<http://www.mfa.gov.tr/visa-information-for-foreigners.en.mfa>).

The easiest and fastest way to get to Ağrı is by air. According to Turkish airlines schedule there are direct flights once daily from Istanbul and from Ankara (from/to Ankara there are no flights on Mondays and Wednesdays).

The nearest railway station is in Horasan on half way between Erzurum and Ağrı, but it may not be easy to get a taxi from there to Agri. From Erzurum you can travel to Ağrı by bus and the journey from there takes about 3 hours and the price is between 20 and 30 TL (Turkish Lira).

Flight Information

FLIGHT	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	DAYS
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Response

NUMBER			TIME (Local)	TIME (Local)	
TK2730	İSTANBUL	AĞRI	10:00	12:00	Every day of the week!
TK2731	AĞRI	İSTANBUL	12:45	15:05	
TK7096	ANKARA	AĞRI	13:35	15:10	Except Monday and Wednesday!
TK7097	AĞRI	ANKARA	15:40	17:25	

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