



# MY CITY



## Tekin ÇİÇEK Turkish Cordinator

This project is within the scope of Erasmus + Programme (Longlife Learning or Youth Programme ) that is implemented by Republic of Turkey Ministry for EU Affairs and the Presidency of the EU Education and Youth Programmes Centre ( Turkish National Agency, <http://www.ua.gov.tr>) and is carried out with a grant provided by the European Commission. But, Turkish National Agency or European Commission can not be held responsible for opinions contained herein.



# KAHRAMANMARAŞ



**The area : 14,525 km square**  
**The population : 1, 075 million**



The minaret of Grand  
Mosque of  
Kahramanmaras

- **Kahramanmaraş** is a city in southern Turkey (The Mediterranean Region ) and the administrative center of Kahramanmaraş Province. The city lies on a plain at the foot of the Ahir Dağı (Ahir Mountain) . The region is best known for its production of salep, a flour made from dried orchid tubers, and its distinctive ice cream. It is connected by air to Istanbul and Ankara. Turkish Airlines has daily direct flights from İstanbul and also Anadolu Jet operates direct flights from Ankara.

# HISTORY (Early )



Marash was called **Germanicia Caesarea** (Γερμανίχεια, **Germanikeia**, in Greek) in the time of the Roman and Byzantine empires. According to a 2010 *Republic* article, the first ruins of Germanicia have already been unearthed in the Dulkadiroğulları quarters of the city).

In 645, Germanicia was taken from the Byzantines by the Muslim Arabs, to whom the city was known as Mar'ash. Over the next three centuries, Marash belonged to the fortified Arab-Byzantine frontier zone and was used as a base for incursions into Byzantine-held Asia Minor by the Arabs. It was destroyed several times during the Arab-Byzantine Wars. It was rebuilt by the Umayyad caliph Muawiya I and was expanded ca. 800 by the Abbasid caliph Harun al-Rashid. The city was also controlled by the Tulunids, Ikhshidids and Hamdanids before the Byzantines under Nikephoros Phokas recovered it in 962.



# HISTORY (Seljuks)



In 1100, it was captured by Danishmends and by Seljuks in 1103. But in 1107 Crusaders retook it with aid from Byzantine.

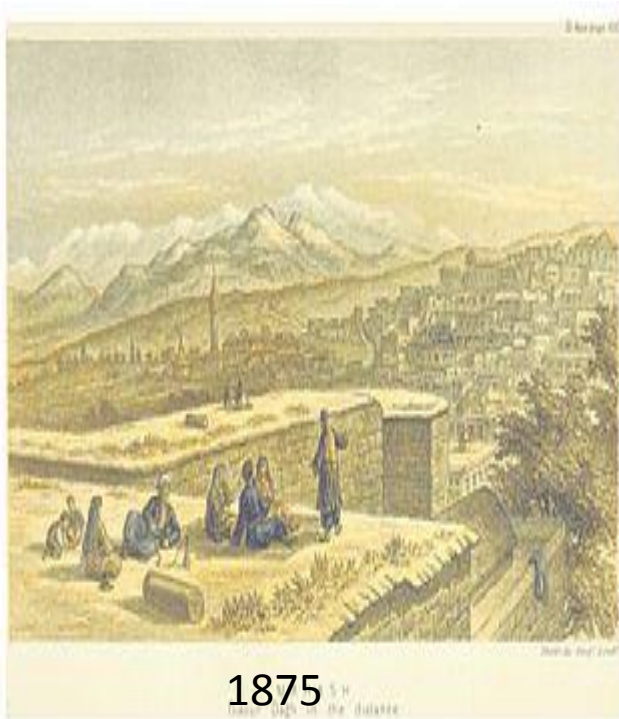
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Kaykhusraw I, Sultan of Rum captured Marash in 1208. Seljuk rule lasted to 1258. In 1258, Maraş was captured by the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia , following the war with the Ilkhanate .

Marash was ruled by Dulkadirs, as vassals of Mamluks between 1337-1515 before being annexed to the Ottoman Empire. In the early days of Ottoman rule (1525-6) there were 1,557 adult males (total population 7,500), at this time all the inhabitants were Muslims. Later a substantial number of non Muslims immigrated into the city mainly in the 19th century

# HISTORY(Modern)



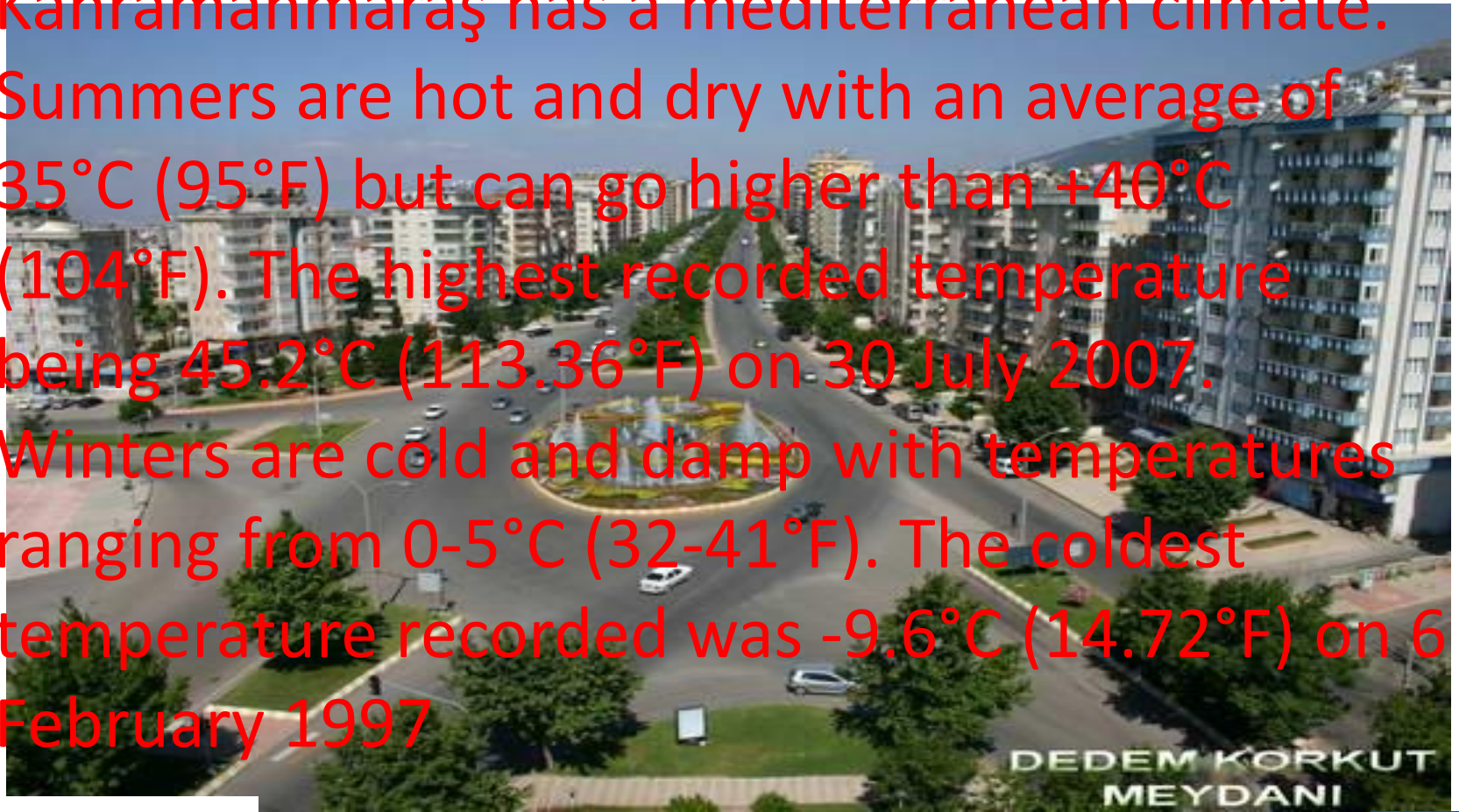
1875

During the Ottoman rule, the city was at first centre of Eyalet of Dulkadir (Also called Eyalet of Zülkâdiriyye ) before first half of 19th century, later in was a sanjak centre in the Vilayet of Aleppo before 1918. It was controlled first by British troops between 22 February 1919 and 30 October 1919, after by French ones after signing Armistice of Mudros . It was taken over by the Turkish National Movement after Battle of Marash in 13 February 1920. Afterward a wholesale massacre of Armenian civilians took. The Armenians themselves, as in previous times of trouble, sought refuge in their churches and schools. Women and children found momentary shelter in Marash's six Armenian Apostolic , three Armenian Evangelical churches and in the city's sole Catholic cathedral.. Early reports put the number of Armenians dead at no less than 16,000, although this was later revised down to 5,000–12,000.

In 1918, Marash had its name changed to Kahramanmaraş when the Turkish government added "Kahraman" to the name, in reference to the bravery of the people of the city in resisting against the French occupation after the First World War. "Kahraman" means "hero" in Turkish.

# CLIMATE

- Kahramanmaraş has a mediterranean climate. Summers are hot and dry with an average of 35°C (95°F) but can go higher than +40°C (104°F). The highest recorded temperature being 45.2°C (113.36°F) on 30 July 2007. Winters are cold and damp with temperatures ranging from 0-5°C (32-41°F). The coldest temperature recorded was -9.6°C (14.72°F) on 6 February 1997





# ECONOMY



The Covered Market

- Some of the internationally-known ice-cream companies like MADO, Yaşar Pastanesi, EDO and Ferah Pastanesi started their business in this ice-cream city and thousands of people visit Kahramanmaraş because of its ice-cream (dondurmain Turkish).
- The town was the home town of the 172nd Armored Brigade of the Turkish Second Army .



# SPORTS



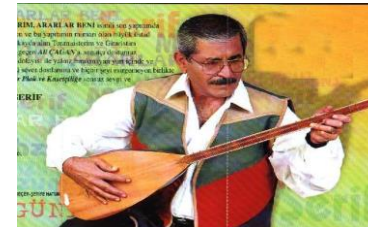
The city has a local football team called; Kahramanmaraşspor which plays in the Turkish 2nd Division league. Kahramanmaraşspor plays its home games in Hanefi Mahçiçek Stadium. Some famous Turkish players like Mehmet Özdilek and Kemalettin Şentürk ,played in Kahramanmaraşspor before transferring to bigger clubs.



# NOTABLE NATIVES



- Leo III - Byzantine Emperor (717 - June 18, 741)
- Nestorius - 5th century religious leader
- Karacaoğlan - 17th century Turkish Poet and Ashik
- Senem Ayşe Gençay - Hero of the Turkish Women at the First World War
- Sümbülzade Vehbi - Turkish poet
- Necip Fazıl Kısakürek - Turkish poet and writer
- Aşık Mahzuni Şerif - Turkish folk singer/songwriter
- Kırâç - Turkish singer/songwriter
- Şeref Eroğlu - European and World champion, Olympic medalist wrestler
- George E. White - American missionary and witness to the Armenian Genocide



# THE END

## THANK YOU

This project is within the scope of Erasmus + Programme (Longlife Learning or Youth Programme ) that is implemented by Republic of Turkey Ministry for EU Affairs and the Presidency of the EU Education and Youth Programmes Centre ( Turkish National Agency, <http://www.ua.gov.tr>) and is carried out with a grant provided by the European Commission. But, Turkish National Agency or European Commission can not be held responsible for opinions contained herein.