

**Age of Rogues**  
**Rebels, Revolutionaries**  
**and Racketeers at the**  
**Frontiers of Empires**

**Edited by**  
**Ramazan Hakkı Öztan and Alp Yenen**

EDINBURGH  
University Press

Several demonstrations took place between imperial guards and the revolutionaries in the villages of Şirnak and around in the borders of the vilayet, ascending up to the heights around Mûş and Şirnak and the populous settlements of Geliguzan and Çaldıran.

The government and the military commanders of Şirnak arrived in the region with the grace of the Ministry of War and the Ministry of the Interior in late April. The orders were given to force the revolutionaries to surrender to the authorities to avoid bloodshed, which would not be beneficial for a place according to revolutionary accounts.<sup>95</sup> Clashes began shortly thereafter on 27 April. The revolutionaries were entrenched at and around the village of Geliguzan. In addition to a well-prepared defence, the Ottoman troops were faced with hostile weather in early April with frequent rains of rain, snow and more in their attempts to advance.<sup>96</sup> The government and the military commanders of Şirnak were on location, providing updates on the status of the Ottoman advance. On the first day of the clashes, they reported twenty-one dead, three missing and twenty-five wounded. They stated that they would resume their offensive upon the arrival of 800 troops in reinforcements.<sup>97</sup>

The revolutionaries held the village for a week against the army, which then utilised its mountain guns to force them to retreat or submit. After several more days of fighting around Geliguzan, the surviving revolutionaries succeeded in wedging through Ottoman lines to the Mûş plain and beyond. Some losses amounted approximately 1,000 losses. Revolutionaries were killed during the rebellion. Thousands of survivors became refugees in Mûş, Şirnak and the Mûş plain.<sup>98</sup> Women and children had started arriving in military camps in early May after the revolutionaries were pushed out of Geliguzan. By the end of the month, many more had surrendered to the troops or sought protection and food elsewhere.<sup>99</sup>

After the rebellion was put down, the Ottoman government developed

<sup>95</sup> *İstisnaat*, 27 May 1908, *İstanbul*, No. 433, April-May 1908, BSK, T. A. 1025, 1026, 2 April 1908.

<sup>96</sup> BSK, T. A. 1025, 1027, 20 April 1908.

<sup>97</sup> BSK, T. A. 1025, 1027, 27 April 1908.

<sup>98</sup> *İstisnaat*, 20 May 1908, *İstanbul*, No. 433, April-May 1908.

<sup>99</sup> BSK, T. A. 1025, 1026, 7 May 1908, *İstanbul*, No. 433, 1 June 1908.