

Visiting Hours:

Opening Time: 09.00
Closed Time: 17.00

Closed on Mondays.

Address: Kemalpaşa Mahallesi, İnönü Cd. 80-1 İzmit/KOCAELİ

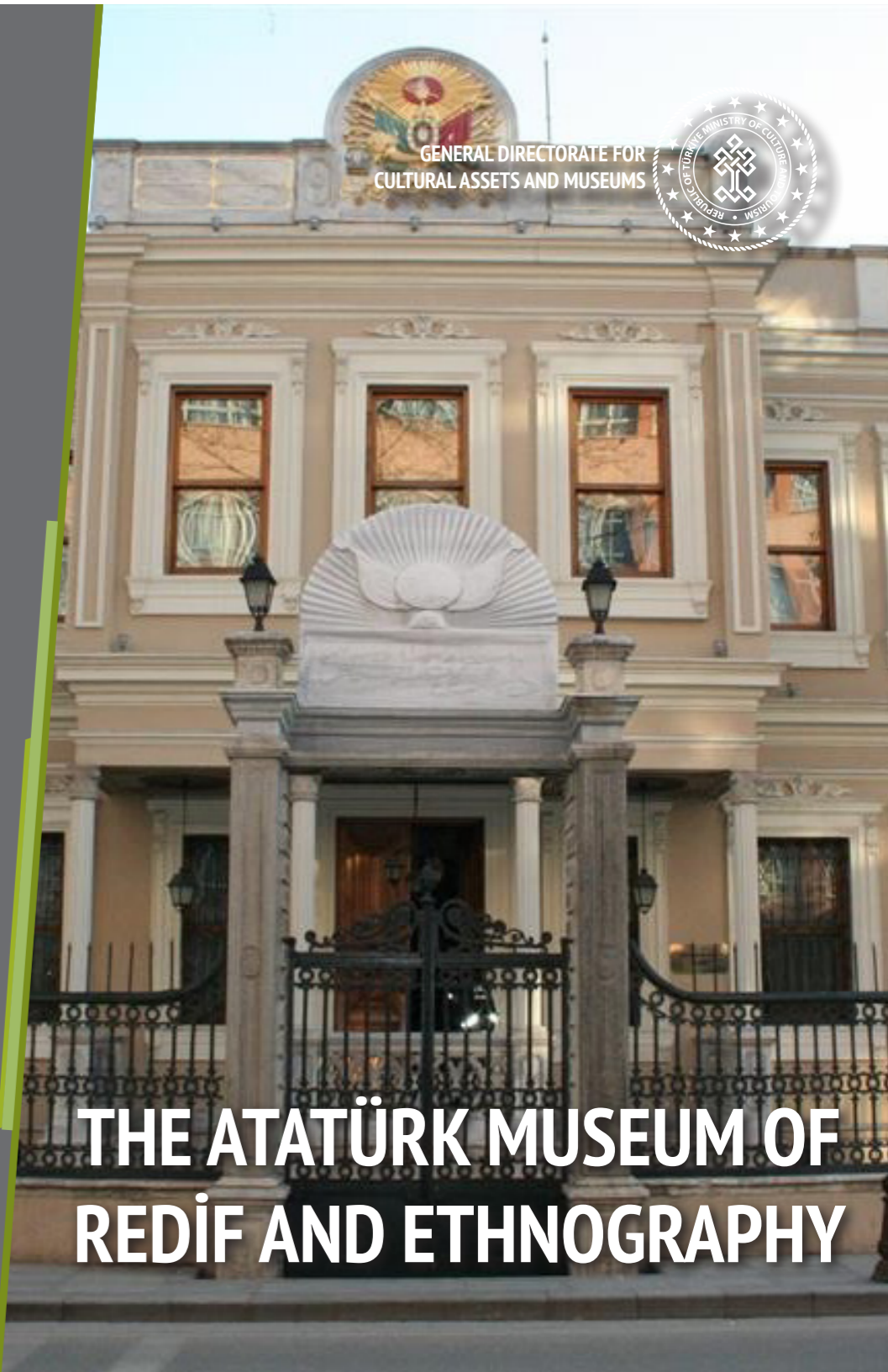
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Following the declaration of the Imperial Edict of Gülhane, the need for organizing the military forces of the Ottoman Empire emerged. For this purpose, the Ottoman lands were divided into five major army regions in 1843 and the Redif Organization was formed as a reserve force for those armies. The first headquarters of the Redif Organization was based in İzmit.

The İzmit Redif Office with its Imperial Pavillion(Kasr-ı Hümayun) was built by the Governor of İzmit, Hasan Pasha, during the reign of Sultan Abdülaziz (1861-1876). The architect of the building is unknown. Lately the building was used as the military court by the 15th Corps Command until the earthquake in 1999.

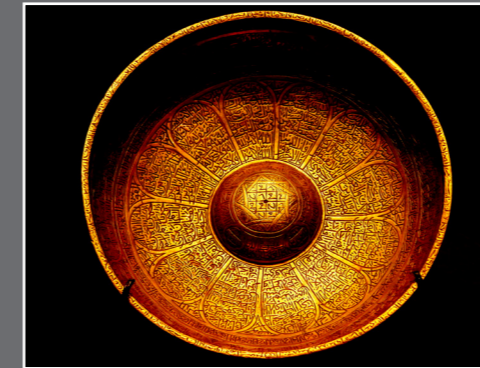
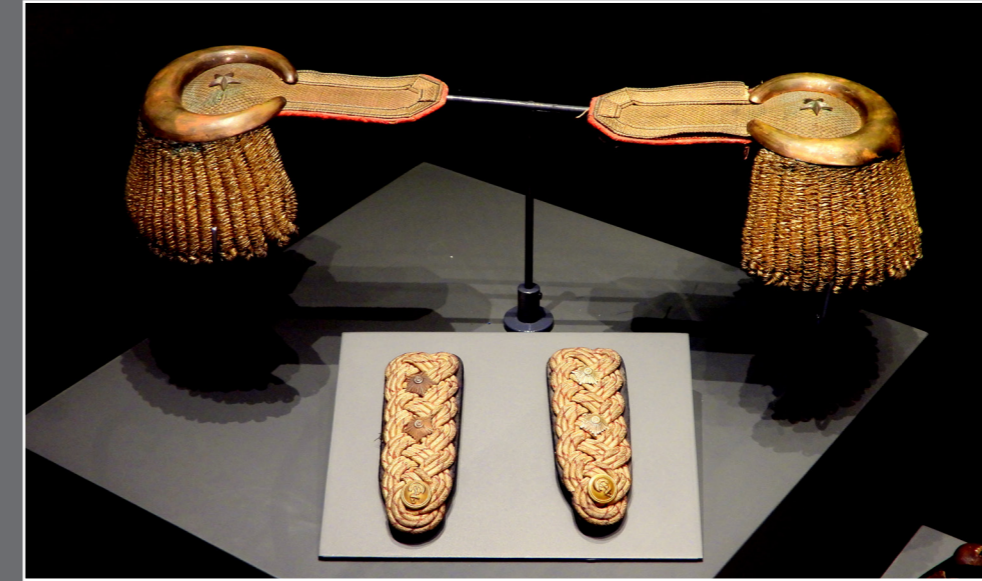
The building, which was badly damaged in the earthquake, was restored and opened to visitors as the Museum of Atatürk and Redif in 2012. Then it was temporarily closed in 2020 due to its structural and display problems. After the restoration and exhibition-organization works, it is reopened as the Atatürk Museum of Redif and Ethnography in 2022.



Architectural and Decorative Features:

The structure was built in masonry and has a rectangular plan in the east-west direction. The single-storey side wings of the building were doubled in the Republican Era. The four columns with fluted shafts and capitals in composite order at the entrance porch bear the upper loggia, in which has rectangular windows on the street-facing walls that are in line with the windows of the ground floor. The protruding entrance axis is also emphasized vertically at the upper part of the façade by the rectangular inscription with the Ottoman coat of arms. The façade walls behind the protruding entrance axis have two rectangular windows each that are also in line with the upper floor windows. The building is surrounded with the courtyard walls. The semicircle north part of the wall has the main courtyard gate. Another gate to the courtyard is at the southeast.

Despite its massive design and simple façade arrangement, İzmit Redif Office, with its Neo-Classical capitals, parapet roof and inscriptions with Ottoman coats of arms, is a typical example of the Empire style, which was commonly preferred in public buildings at the time. The ceiling decorations of the interiors also bear the taste of the 19th century.



Exhibitions:

The tangible and intangible heritage topics are here presented to visitors within the scope of contemporary museology are:

Artifacts from the distinguished ethnographic culture of the Ottoman Empire: weapons, clocks, candlesticks, bath utensils, kitchen and coffee utensils, textile works, clothes etc.; the oldest(1493) Ottoman tombstone in İzmit; historical documents and belongings of the Redif organization, and the silicone model of a Redif soldier; history of the immortalized heroes of the Turkish War of Independence: Kara Fatma, İpsiz Recep and Yahya Kaptan, and the martyrs of June 1921; the silicone statue representing Atatürk's visit to İzmit, in his military uniform, in 1923; various pieces representing the traditional carpet weaving culture and the most outstanding example of the 19th century Hereke Carpets; the other famous traditional handicrafts of Kocaeli: the Kandira cloth, the Karamüsel basket, the Kandira chest, and the Nüzhetiye rag doll; the story of 'pişmaniye', a kind of halva that is identified with Kocaeli; and many more.

