

**E.E.F. Stamps Usage in Cilicia: New Discovery “KARS (ADANA)” ?**  
(Barry Katz)

Barry Katz writes:

The attached scan is from a small lot I recently acquired (fig. 1 below). “ADANA” (Cilicia) is clearly visible in small print, but I’m unable to identify the larger inscription on the postmark which could contain the letters KABS or KARS. I may have missed something, but I did not see any place names in your list<sup>1</sup> that match this combination. Can you help?

*Editor: I can clearly identify this as cancel as “KARS (ADANA)” with a “23|9|19” date. This Ottoman postmark has been registered in catalogues such as Birken (see fig. 2 to the right),<sup>2</sup> but does not appear on lists of postmarks in Cilicia known on E.E.F. stamps. So maybe this is a new discovery?*

Today the city is called Kadirli.



**Kars Zulkadirije**

(Kadirli)

قارص ذو القدرية



Kars posta şubesi 1310  
BAY 1 \*\* (1894)



Kars posta şubesi  
A/P 1 RRR (1908)  
= BAY 1 ?



BAY 2 80F (1922)  
C/W IV 78 9P (1922–24)  
A/P 2 R (1913–24)



A/P 3 R (1924–299)

Large parts of the Ottoman Empire were conquered and occupied between 1917 and the armistice of Kudros on 30.10.1918. British (Egyptian Expeditionary Forces, E.E.F.) and French forces occupied Palestine, then Syria and finally reached Cilicia.

Initially E.E.F. stamps were used. Eventually they were replaced by specific occupation stamps issued by British and French administrations. Though sale of E.E.F. stamps stopped consequently, they remained valid for some time. Invalidation was decreed for all these territories for 1.05.1922.

Cilicia has a complicated history of occupation and reoccupation by various forces. The French initially produced local overprints (“T.E.O. Cilicie” on Turkish stamps), but withdrew them on 23.05.1919. Until new stamps were provided after the reoccupation (overprint “O.M.F. Cilicie” on French stamps) E.E.F. stamps were used.

1 Referring to Zywietsz, Tobias: *Postal use of EEF stamps outside Palestine*. In: A Short Introduction To The Philately Of Palestine. Online: [https://www.zobbel.de/stamp/pal\\_21e.htm](https://www.zobbel.de/stamp/pal_21e.htm).

2 Birken, Andreas: *Die Poststempel = The postmarks*. Hamburg: Arbeitsgemeinschaft Osmanisches Reich/Türkei, 2021. CD-ROM. (Handbuch der Türkischen Philatelie ; 6 : Abteilung I: Osmanisches Reich ; 4)