**Field 3: Local Government and Urban Politics**

§         According to Castells, when squatter movements break their relationship of dependency vis a vis the state, they may become potential agents of social change. Please discuss this view with reference to the Turkish case.

§         In the 1960s and the 1970s, the Turkish cities were studied around a duality metaphor.
**a.** What were the limitiation of such a metaphor in understanding the Turkish cities of that period.
**b.**Do you think such a metaphor would help us to understand the current dynamics and structure of the Turkish cities.

§         There is widely held view that the strength of democratic tradition in a society is measured against the degree of decentralisation of power. According to this view, the more decision making bodies are decentralised, the more a society becomes democratic. Please critically evaluate this view with reference to Turkish case.

§         Discuss the centrality of gender and ethnicity to urban conflict and change in the work of David Harvey.

§         It is a well-known argument that there is an intimate and necessary relationship between decentralization ad democratisation. Please discuss this argument with reference to the Turkish case.

§         Compare and contrast Castell’s positions with that of the Chicago School concerning the Urban Question and the City and the Grassroots.

§         Dwell upon the assertion that ‘minimal state’ leads to increased efficiency and enhanced individual liberties.

§         Please discuss the validity of the quotation below. “Local government is an indispensible element of contemporary society both as a service delivery instrument and as a channel of participation”.

§         Discuss the transition from urban managerialism to entrepreneurialism in Turkey by referring to so-called Administrative Reform package of the current government.

§         It is one of the common assumption that local scale is the scale of democratic governance. Discuss this statement in the light of the quotation given below.

*‘Different societies not only produce space… but also produce scale. The production of scale may be the most elemental differentiation of geographical space and it is every bit a social process. There is nothing ontologically given out the traditional division between home and locality, urban and regional, national and global scales. The differentiation of geographical scales establishes and is established through the geographic structure of social interactions. With a concept of scale as produced, it is possible to avoid on the one hand the relativism that treats spatial differentiation as a mosaic, and on the other to avoid a reified and uncritical division of scales that repeats a fetishism of space.’*

§         It is widely argued that patron-client relations are one of the dominant form of interest representation at the local level in Turkey. For some, patron-client relations are transitory phenomenon and would give way to more pluralist forms of interest representation. Please write an essay on this issue by taking the recent dynamics of local politics in Turkey into account.