Location and Establishment of Neighbourhood

Kazımkarabekir is an old neighbourhood established in 1950’s, located in Sarıyer district at the north side of Istanbul.

Kazımkarabekir (KKB) is located at the west side of the Sarıyer district.

Neighbourhood is very close to center of Sarıyer.
Location and Establishment of Neighbourhood

Lies between the districts PTT Evleri, Çayırbaş, Büyükdere, Kocatas and centre of Sarıyer.

The first areas inhabited by migrant workers, were in the middle of present neighborhood.

Until the year 1970 there was no drinking water in houses, so residents have banded together near the water tank ISKI.
Now, the district is formed by 36 streets, 1383 buildings and commercial properties, a primary school, a public garden and a factory not working (Çay-kur).

Immigration to this area is caused by the industrialization realized in this region.

Ekmekçioğlu brick factory, Tekel match factory, Kavel cable factory, Çaykur tea factory were few of these.

Construction of Faculty of Forestry of Istanbul was the most important work area in this period.
Pressure Zones

Very close to Bosphorus

Along with the forest

Beautiful view of Istanbul

Very close to finance center of Istanbul (Maslak – Levent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Alsit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Sedat kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Tekel match factory closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Roads are been expanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>9 villas has been constructed in the KKB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Construction of Çayırbaşı - Sarıyer tunnel road has begun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Rumours of 3th bridge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Socio-Economic Situation of Neighbourhood

According to national statistics; population is 7306 in 2000 and 9833 in 2008.

In the neighbourhood you can see a spatial differentiation of groups of citizens’ groups.

The first residents of neighbourhood are mostly from Sinop, Tokat and Sivas.

At the top of the neighbourhood, there is a traditional coffee house called “Munzur Kırathanesi”, around this place there are many people from Tunceli.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birthplaces</th>
<th>Istanbul</th>
<th>Other Cities</th>
<th>Other Country</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
<th>Sum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kazımkarabekir</td>
<td>2861</td>
<td>4426</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sariyer</td>
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<td>124083</td>
<td>4439</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>219032</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: TÜİK – 2000 (National Statistical Institute of Turkey)

In Kazımkarabekir there are 9 associations, 7 of them are the citizens’ fellowship associations.
Socio-Economic Situation of Neighbourhood

Most of the inhabitants works in service sector and 31% of the inhabitants work in industrial sector.
Socio-Economic Situation of Neighbourhood

Unemployment rate is 7% in Sarıyer and 9% in Kazımkarabekir.
Socio-Economic Situation of Neigbourhood

%51 of the inhabitants has primary school degree, %25 has high school degree, only %3 have college degree and %21 of inhabitants are uneducated.
Kazımkarabekir has a tradition of leftist politics. In this district, political movements have begun in the 70s simultaneously with political changes in Turkey.

Between 1970 and 1980 several significant events have been realized. The first event was the expulsion of the land mafia from the neighborhood in late 70’s.

Secondly, in 70’s, under the leadership of some of leftist groups constructed houses in the district in an organized way. There were some principles of this action. If a person wants to have a house in this area:

- Should not have another house in any district.
- Must participate in construction processes.
- Must help the neighbours.
Social Bases of Movement Against top-down Implementations

In my master research I found some important factors influencing the strength of the anti-movement in the gecekondu neighbourhoods.

- Sense of belonging to neighbourhood
- Social networks between inhabitants
- Old solidarity actions
- Political commitments of inhabitants
- Property conditions
Sense of Belonging to Neighbourhood

Most of our respondents live in the district more than 30 years. Almost all the residents know each other ever since tens of years.
Another argument showing the sense of belonging of the residents to the neighborhood is the reluctance of moving from the neighborhood. %88 of our respondents don’t want to move from the neighborhood, even most of the people who want to move, say that they would not move if public services were improving.
Sense of Belonging to Neighbourhood

The relations between neighbours are very good. 79% of our respondents declare that they have very good, 19% good neighbourhood relations.
Beside strong neighbourhood relations, the inhabitants coming from the same cities and the members of same families generate different relation networks.

%70 of our respondents has family members or the neighbours coming from the same cities.

On the other hand, Alevi population is very dense in KKB and they have closer relations between. They are connected to their customs and don’t want to leave each other.
Old Solidarity Actions

In KKB all sorts of public services obtained by the local residents’ efforts, such as getting electricity, canalization system or potable water for each house.

These practices form the foundations for the spirit of resistance specific to this area.

“In which actor do you trust in the process of urban transformation”, %36 : “I trust in KKB inhabitants”, %22 in State, %21 in municipality, %14 in her/himself, %7 in chief of neighbourhood.
Property Conditions

There are different types of property in gecekondu neighbourhoods, houses having title or not, having shared title or temporary deeds. Every household has different legal rights due to his property type.

Home owners: %67 Lease holders: %27 Mass housing: %1 Lodger not paying: %5
Conclusion

Consequently, Kazımkarabekir is a neighbourhood having very strong background on the subject of solidarity actions. Therefore, relations between habitants are very strong and sincere.

All the inhabitants have one common desire which is never leave KKB and never leave their social relations.

So this potential can be used to build a new participatory processes.

Moreover all Sariyer neighbourhood associations interested in urban transformation issues are gathering every Friday and talk about the solutions of the problems of their homes and try to inform all the rest of their hometowns.