A Chiflik was a system of large agricultural estates that developed within the Ottoman Empire, particularly from the 16th century onwards. Its expansion was linked to the gradual weakening of central authority and changes in landholding patterns.

Military officers, provincial elites and influential individuals increasingly acquired control over agricultural lands that had previously been administered as part of the Sultan’s domain. Over time, many such estates became hereditary and privately controlled, transforming the traditional Ottoman agrarian structure.

APSC Relevance: Ottoman History, Land Tenure Systems