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<u>Abstract:</u> A white calcium bentonite (CaB) from the K\"{u}tahya region/Turkey was activated by heating it for 6 hours at 97°C in H_2SO_4 solution. The mass percentage of H_2SO_4 in the bentonite-acid mixture was

varied from 0 to 70%. The chemical analysis (CA), cation exchange capacity (CEC), differential thermal analysis (DTA) curves and X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of the prepared samples were determined. The specific surface area (A) and the specific micropore-mesopore volume (V) were calculated respectively from the adsorption and desorption data of N_2 obtained at liquid N_2 temperature. How the calcium

montmorillonite (CaM) layers in the CaB were decomposed during the preservation of the crystal structure is discussed by using CA, CEC, DTA and XRD data. The variations in the porosity of CaB during acid activation were related to the variations in the crystal structure and are discussed. Although the values of A and V were 43 m²g⁻¹ and 0.107 cm³g⁻¹ respectively for the original bentonite, these values reached a maximum and were 134 m²g⁻¹ and 0.295 cm³g⁻¹ respectively after activation by 40% H₂SO₄

Key Words: Acid Activation, Bentonite, Cation Exchange Capacity, Pore Volume, Surface Area.

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