



University of Zurich, Department of History and Department of Oriental Studies
Stiftung Forschungsstelle Schweiz Türkei (Research Foundation Switzerland-Turkey)
Schweizerische Gesellschaft Mittlerer Osten und Islamische Kulturen (SGMOIK)

Academic conference, Thursday, 13 to Saturday, 15 November 2008

Turkey 1908–1914: biographical approaches

This conference will attempt to ascertain the social and cultural dynamics of the Ottoman world before the catastrophe of World War I. It will emphasize the utopian moment of the Young Turk Revolution in Summer 1908, that is the hopes, fears, trends, doctrines, fraternizations and polarizations expressed against the backdrop of the crucial quest for the Ottoman Near Eastern future. The conference will tackle the years of 1908-1914 as a formative period of political, intellectual, and literary biography, but also try to bridge a century. At the core is the challenge of a common future, of a constructive appropriation of a vertiginous multitude of (seemingly) conflicting historical and cultural resources. We will attempt to rethink Turkey from the Ottoman world of the early 20th century, in particular from the Young Turk Revolution of 1908 and the end of the Belle Époque, instead of thinking it from its founding period, or "hour zero", after World War I.

Thursday, 13 November Main Building of the University of Zurich, room KOL-G-212

09.45 Introduction

10.00-11.00 *Political history and biography 1908-1914: seminal years?* Chair: Hamit Bozarslan, EHESS, Paris

Mehmed Şükrü Hanioglu (Princeton): The CUP and the 1908 Revolution.

Erik Jan Zürcher (Leiden and Amsterdam): Political socialization 1908-1914.

11.30-13.00 *Icons, leaders, and mentors 1908-14 (1)* Chair: Fatma M. Göçek, University of Michigan

Sacit Kutlu (Istanbul): Enver Bey, the icon of the period (in Turkish, paper in English).

Funda Soysal (Istanbul): Ahmed İhsan, the founder of the journal Servet-i Fünun.

Hans-Lukas Kieser (Zurich): Talat Bey, a biographical approach.

14.30-15.30 *Icons, leaders, and mentors 1908-14 (2)* Chair: Erik J. Zürcher, Univ. of Leiden and International Institute of Social

Ali Suat Ürgüplü (Bamberg): Hayri Efendi, minister and Sheikh ul-Islam, according to his diaries. History, Amsterdam

Raymond Kévorkian (Paris): Krikor Zohrap.

15.30 Conclusions of the first day. Discussion.

16.30 **Public lecture by Mehmed Şükrü Hanioglu**, Chair of the Near Eastern Studies Department at Princeton University:

Dr. Bahaeddin Shakir (1874–1922), a Young Turk par excellence, room KOL-E-18.

Friday, 14 November

09.15 Re-introduction

09.30-11.00 *Belief in an Ottoman future? The Young Turk Revolution in the provinces* Chair: Raymond Kévorkian, Univ. Paris VIII

Fuat Dündar (Paris): Milli İbrahim Pasha and Ziya Gökalp in Diyarbakir, 1908: clash of political cultures and visions?

Bernard Lory (Paris): Pance Dorev, a Bulgarian Young Turk at Bitola/Monastir.

Vangelis Kechriotis (Istanbul and Berlin): Izmir, the *Rum* and the Young Turk Revolution.

11.30-13.00 *The Young Turk Revolution in the provinces (2)* Chair: Şükrü Hanioglu, University of Princeton

Astrid Meier (Zurich): Intellectuals in the Arab provinces.

Henning Sievert (Zurich): Berber chief Sulayman al-Baruni: from prisoner to statesman.

Ryan Gingeras (New York): Circassian, the Special Organization and Deep State politics: a biographical approach?

14.30-15.30 *Women pioneers* Chair: Astrid Meier, University of Zurich

Serpil Çakır (Istanbul), Making women pioneers visible: Fatma Aliye, Ulviye Mevlan (paper read by S. A.).

Sima Aprahamian (Montreal): Ottoman women's movements and Armenians.

16.00-17.00 *A revolution in literature? Authors, figures, translators (1)* Chair: Hilary Kilpatrick-Waardenburg (SGMOIK)

Stephan Guth (Oslo): The sentiments of the "engineers": An "emotiogram" of early Turkish nationalism, based on Halide Edib's

Erol Köroğlu (Istanbul): Historical and political positioning of literary authors 1908-14. Memoirs and her pre-WW I novels.

17.00-17.30 Conclusions of the second day. Discussion.

Saturday, 15 November

9.30-10.30 *A revolution in literature? (2)* Chair: Stephan Guth (University of Oslo)

Kévork Bardakjian (Ann Arbor): The fatal failure of the Muses: literary biographies of Daniel Varuzhan and Siamanto.

Ahmet Altan (Istanbul, to be confirmed): Writing today on the Second Constitutional Period.

11.00-12.30 *From Union and Progress to the EU and reform, or to an apocalyptic Middle East? Rethinking a century.* Chair:

Fatma M. Göçek (Ann Arbor): 1908–2008: A sociological analysis of continuity and change. H.L. Kieser (Univ. of Zurich)

Hamit Bozarslan (Paris): From CUP to "Ergenekon": dynamics of violence and State-coercion in Turkey.

Final discussion.

For **updates** see hist.uzh.ch/lehre/neuzeit/kieser/tagung2008.html. Within the limits of the available seats, the conference is **open** to students of the University and registered visitors from outside. **Contact:** PD Dr. phil. Hans-Lukas Kieser (hlk@access.uzh.ch) or lic. phil. Doris Rütimann (d.ruetimann@access.uzh.ch). **Sponsored** by: University of Zurich, Gerda Henkel Foundation, Swiss National Science Foundation, Schweizerische Gesellschaft Mittlerer Osten und Islamische Kulturen, Research Foundation Switzerland-Turkey.

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