

OTTOMAN SCHOLARSHIP FROM SAHN-I SEMÂN TO DÂRÜLFÜNÛN: SCHOLARS, INSTITUTIONS and INTELLECTUAL PRODUCTS

-v-

19th CENTURY

DECEMBER 20-22, 2018 – Istanbul

The 19th century was a period of important fluctuations and discontinuities for the Ottoman state. Military defeats along with internal and external upheavals led the state to endeavor to reform in many fields during this period. The process of reorganization declared during the *Tanzimat* was not limited to the field of administration; it also naturally heralded a series of transformations that would affect social and cultural life. This process, which reflected its most evident effects in the field of law and education, signaled the beginning of a new era for Ottoman scholarship and thought.

Coined as “the longest century” for the Ottoman state, a number of academic works have been and continue to be published on this period. However, most of these studies continue to present essentialist analyses that tend to prioritize the political and social changes indicating a deficiency of work that should aim to clarify developments in Ottoman scholarship and thought. This situation however is not simply restricted to the 19th century, as works of earlier periods of Ottoman studies also require further scrutiny.

In order to address this issue, in 2014 Istanbul University initiated “Ottoman Scholarship from Sahn-ı Semân to Dârülfünûn: Scholars, Institutions And Intellectual Products”, aiming to illuminate developments in Ottoman scholarship and thought during the different centuries. Our final symposium of the series, which will address the 19th century, will be held this year. A key objective of the symposium is to provide a platform for academics to present more recent scholarship in the field of late Ottoman studies.

The themes and academic disciplines that fall under the scope of this symposium are listed below to guide prospective researchers. These include, but are not limited to:

- Developments in the Islamic sciences (*Quran, Tafsir, Hadith, Fiqh, Kalam, Tasawwuf*)
- Ethical and political perspectives
- Transformation of social and religious life
- Changes in the understanding of science
- Scholarly venues, personalities and their works
- Book culture and translations from Europe
- The education system and its impact on the perception of humanity
- Legal regulations
- Repercussions in literature and the arts

The languages of the symposium are Turkish, English and Arabic. Prospective presenters are requested to send an abstract of no more than 200 words within the dates of the symposium schedule (see below). Those that wish to present in either Arabic or Turkish are expected to also send an English abstract. Accepted abstracts will be collected into a book and published.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Deadline for submitting abstracts: June 15, 2018

Notification of accepted abstracts: July 1, 2018

Deadline for submitting papers: December 1, 2018

Date of Symposium: December 20-22, 2018

Deadline for submitting final versions of articles: January 15, 2019

Contact:

e-mail: sahniseman19yy@gmail.com