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Book Review

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Divan of Uskubi (Analysis of Veysi Uskubi's Divan)

by Fadil Hoca

Macedonia, 2013

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Veysi - Uveys "Uskubi" 969 (1561) - 1037 (1627) born in Alasehir was a personality known of his political carrier and poetry. He lived by the end of 16th and the beginning of 17th century, when Divan poetry was spread beyond Istanbul throughout the entire Empire, including Skopje, as well.

The reason why the author decided to analyze Divan of Veysi Uskubi, is due to the fact that Veysi was poet and served seven times as judge in Rumeli, within the city of Skopje, where he developed his personality in the spirit of Ottoman life, where he lived and passed away. In spite of his political career he dedicated himself to Divan poetry.

Veysi Uskubi's Divan consist of two verses naat, 27odes, terki-i bend, terci-i bend, tahmis, ghazals and religious poetries. The Divan on Muslim prophet starts with two naats. The last ode "Istanbul Kaside" (Istanbul Eulogy) which is a long poem was written during a critical period of public reflection and political problems.

The author of this book examines the Divan in seven main sections. Veys's life derived from the Divan in section (works of art), evaluation of the eulogy, analysis of ghazals, religion, mysticism, community, focus on the human and natural concepts. At the end of the study also describes the words of foreign origin, including a directory containing place names and concepts with special meaning. Except all naat, eulogies and odes readers of this book, in particular are relevant the verses and explanations given in an extensive review of the Istanbul Eulogy. At this poem the poet puts on focus the immorality, corruption, disorder, and disrespect for religious provisions by civil servants who serve their own private in spite of the public interest. All this is intertwined in a very fluent language that makes the poem very familiar to the reader.

The author of this book is Prof. Dr. Fadil HOCA, professor at University "St. Cyril and Methodius", Skopje, Faculty of Philology, Department of Turkish language and literature. He is very prominent in research and analysis of Old Turkish Literature, especially in classic Divan literature. In addition to this, he is the editor and publisher of HIKMET, the Turkish magazine in Macedonia.

