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Essays in honor of
Thomas D. Goodrich

Part I

Misafir Editörler / Guest Editors
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İSAM 

Seyfi Kenan, ed.

Nizâm-ı Kādîm'den Nizâm-ı Cedîd'e III. Selim ve Dönemi / Selim III and His Era from Ancien Régime to New Order

(İstanbul İSAM, 2010), 750 pp., colored illus.

This new collection from İSAM was published to commemorate the bicentennial of the death of Sultan Selim III (1789-1808), and is largely the result of a symposium organized in December 2008. It includes diverse and lengthy contributions from both senior and junior scholars and hence can be considered representative of some of the current work on Selim III and his era. The volume is organized into an introduction, seven sections and two appendices, one of which is a superb group of images of Selim, tied to the informative article by Günsel Renda, "Sultan III. Selim ve Ressam Sanatı," 641-52. The collection includes an index, but no comprehensive bibliography. Each piece includes extensive citations.

The first section, *Selim ve İslahat*, opens with an article by the master himself, Kemal Beydilli, easily the doyen of eighteenth century Ottoman studies and inspiration for many of my own writings. We owe Beydilli a debt of gratitude for mentoring the production of the extraordinary number of modern Turkish editions of eighteenth century manuscripts of late. His contribution, "III. Selim: Aydınlanmış Hükümdar," pp.27-57, reminds us that Selim III was as much of

an “Enlightened Absolutist” as Catherine II of Russia or Joseph II of Austria, and even though Beydilli concurs with the general opinion that Selim III was not, in the end, the man to complete the job, the review of his achievements is impressive.

The next four articles continue in this fashion. Mehmet Öz reviews the question of pre-Selimian reformers and their ambitions and reminds us that the debate constructed around the “old order” was more about the particular context of the present than any idealized past, while Muzaffer Doğan discusses the impact of the reforms as a legitimation and consequent enlargement of both the provincial and central bureaucracy. İlhami Yurdakul has the task of assessing the reforms and the religious class, where corruption and disarray were rampant. Seyfi Kenan takes a look at reading habits and the intellectual deficit in both technology and theology confronting Selim. I’m reminded of the Karateke and Reinkowski edited volume on *Legitimizing the Order: The Ottoman Rhetoric of State Power* (Brill, 2005), which complements the discussion found in these four articles.

The second section, *İktisat ve Teknoloji*, begins with the only article in English by the indefatigable Suraiya Faroqhi, on the problem of feeding Istanbul and the possible causes of Janissary rebellion. (“In Quest of Their Daily Bread: Artisans of Istanbul Under Selim III, 167-82)). As always, the article pulls in recent research by a handful of younger Ottoman scholars, a signature of the generous Faroqhi. The subtitle of this article is misleading, however as she is really drawing a picture of a society in deep financial and social crisis at the end of the 18th century, and speculating about the causes: food shortages, over-population; under-production; devaluation of real wages, and a deeply felt mistrust and hatred for the palace. The next piece, by Cengiz Kırılı, takes the question of the artisan population of the city further, by using the *esnaf kefalet defterleri*, a systematic survey of the shops and business of Istanbul from 1792. Some of Kırılı’s work is available to readers of English (“A Profile of the Labor Force in early Nineteenth Century Istanbul,” in *International Labor and Working Class History* 60 (2001), for example) as is that of the next author, Tuncay Zorlu, on the Selimian navy (*Innovation and Empire in Turkey: Sultan Selim III and the Modernization of the Ottoman Navy* (Tauris, 2008)). Zorlu demonstrates the vibrant climate of change around the rebuilding of the navy and ends by calling for some rethinking around the question of technology transfer in the period.

Discussion of the navy is followed in a rather neat fashion by a section of seven pieces on politics and diplomacy, several of which concern the Ottoman navy in action in the Adriatic during the Napoleonic Wars (Kahraman Şakul,

Enes Kabakçı, Yüksel Çelik and Fatih Yeşil). The group of writings represents a veritable encyclopedia of new approaches to the question of the Ottoman, British and Russian fleets and the troubled anti-Napoleonic diplomacy of the period. All are richly endowed with footnotes. Also in the section is an exhaustive historiographical review on Selim's diplomacy by Güneş Işıksel, and a piece on Selim III's policy on the Caucasus by Mustafa Aydın.

Two articles comprise the section on Selim's initiatives in setting up permanent diplomatic missions: M. Alaaddin Yalçinkaya examines Yûsuf Agah in London and Abdullah Uçman takes on Ebubekir Râtib Efendi in Vienna. Yalçinkaya has previously issued some of this material in English ("Mahmud Raif Efendi as the Chief Secretary of Yusuf Agah Efendi, The First Permanent Ottoman-Turkish Ambassador to London (1793-1797)" *Osmanlı Tarihi Araştırma Merkezi.*) Readers might also like to know that Fatih Yeşil has just published what appears to be the definitive volume on the all important report that Râtib Efendi compiled for Selim III (*Aydınlanma Çağında bir Osmanlı Kâtibi: Ebubekir Râtib Efendi (1750-1799)*, 2010).

In the section on art and music are two articles: one by the well-known art historian Günsel mentioned above and another on Selim's music by Şehvar Beşiroğlu. The final piece, by Ali Yaycıoğlu, is on the *Sened-i Ittifak of 1808*, a fitting closure to a volume commemorating successes as well as failures of the Selimian regime. What is new here is the deliberate placing of the Ottoman crisis in the context of the constitutional crises of the world in what C. A. Bayly has called "the first age of globalization." Authors and editor alike are to be congratulated for this erudite and informative collection of articles.

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Kevin Featherstone .. [et al.]

The Last Ottomans: The Muslim Minority of Greece 1941-1949

Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010, xxxiv+343p.

İkinci Dünya savaşı sonrası Avrupa siyasî yapısının şekillenşi sürecinde, Balkan halklarının tutumu, son yıllarda yakınçağ tarihçilerinin ilgisini daha fazla çekmeye başladı. Palgrave yayınlarının *Güneydoğu Avrupa Üzerine Yeni Yaklaşımlar* serisi altında çıkan ve yazarlığını Kevin Featherstone, Dimitris Papadimitriou, Argyris