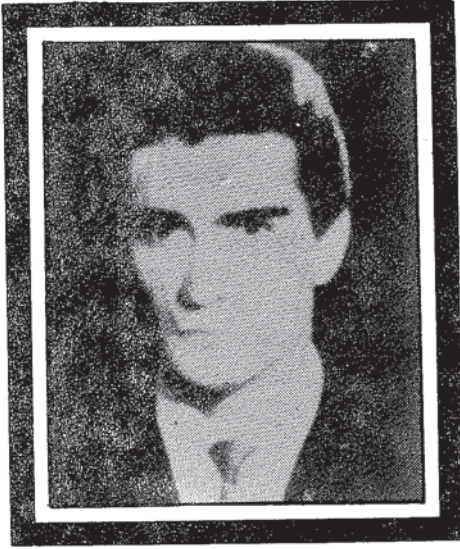


## OBITUARY

*Dr. GALİP ÇAĞIRGAN (1941 - 1990)*



**GALİP ÇAĞIRGAN**  
1941 - 1990

In an early event of 1990 we have lost Dr. Galip Çağırğan (January 28, 1990) by a car accident at a time when he was not active as an assyriologist. He was the victim of alcohol, and it is always especially sad when some one with obvious talent was not able to use it, and especially sad since Assyriologists are so rare we have to take care of them. Dr. Galip Çağırğan, a graduate of Sumerology at Ankara (1966-1970) under the supervision of Professor Emin Bilgiç and Kemal Balkan, later entered the university of Birmingham in 1971 as a post graduate student and studied

under the guidance of Prof. Dr. W G. Lambert until he received his Ph. D. in 1976. Having returned from Birmingham he began his career teaching at the Faculty of Letters -Sumerology Department until he was unable to continue as active instructor. There followed a short stay at the Anatolian Civilization Museum at Ankara, where he was reading Cappadocian tablets, shortly after this he was earning his life as a tourist guide until he passed away in the early days 1990. During his active life as Sumerologist Dr. Çağırğan has completed two articles: «Some Remarks on a Sultantepe Tablet (Anatolia Vol. XIX, 1975-1976-Ankara Üniversitesi Basımevi-ANKARA. 1980)» and «Three more duplicates to Astrolobe B-Belleten C.XLVIII, Sayı : 191-192-Türk Tarih Kurumu Basımevi-Ankara 1985». He has read also a paper at the 8th Turkish

Historical Association Meeting in 1982 on the subject of «Month *Elūlu*» and prepared an article on a similar subject month *Sīmānum*. The latter has not been published yet. It may be said that the death put an end to his miserable life of his last days.

Professor Dr. W. G. Lambert was kind enough to convey us information on Dr. Çağırğan's works at Birmingham :

«Galip Çağırğan entered the University of Birmingham in 1971 as a postgraduate student. He came from Ankara, where he had studied especially under Kemal Balkan. He chose as a thesis topic "Babylonian rituals", since he was convinced that his own experience of the life of farmers in modern Turkey would help him to understand Babylonian rituals, which were tied in with the seasons of the year. Thus he began to collect the remains of the ritual programmes of the major temples of first-millennium Babylonia. To this end he copied some hitherto unpublished pieces in the British Museum, and this formed part of the thesis. His thesis was approved in 1976, the external examiner being Professor E. Reiner the internal examiner his supervisor, W. G. Lambert. He was a meticulous scholar, careful in generalities and in detail, and took great pains to commit to writing only those things which were really established. Unfortunately he was unable to prepare his thesis (The Babylonian Festivals) for publication before his untimely death, but the present writer will take steps to ensure that his valuable work is not lost». March 15, 1990.

Veysel Donbaz