

Three pioneer academicians from the field of veterinary surgery in Türkiye

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ABSTRACT

The first examples of biography studies carried out within the scope of research on the history of veterinary medicine in Türkiye were given by Muzaffer Bekman, and these examples were continued with the efforts of Prof. Nihal Erk and Prof. Ferruh Dinçer. These studies, which are also given importance by later academicians in the field of veterinary medicine, are carried out both in the style of necrology and in the style of scientific biography, after the retirement or death of the professionals serving their profession. In this study, the scientific life stories of Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker, Prof. M. Tevfik Başer and Prof. Burhanettin Öktem are discussed. The main material of the study consisted of the personnel files in the Archives of the Dean's Office of the Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, and the first-hand sources obtained from the Biography Archive of the History of Veterinary Medicine and Deontology Department. In addition, various books and journals in the Library of the Department were also used. The data obtained were evaluated within the methodology of history and transferred to the text in chronological order. Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker, Prof. M. Tevfik Başer and Prof. Burhanettin Öktem's academic stages, contributions to education, professional services, publishing activities and the traces they left on their colleagues are revealed. Thus, it is aimed both to contribute to the veterinary medicine biography archive and to introduce these valuable professionals to new generations.

Türkiye'de veteriner cerrahi alanından öncü üç akademisyen

ÖZ

Türkiye'de veteriner hekimliği tarihi araştırmaları kapsamında gerçekleştirilen biyografi çalışmalarının ilk örnekleri Muzaffer Bekman tarafından verilmiş, bu çalışmalar Prof. Dr. Nihal Erk ve Prof. Dr. Ferruh Dinçer'in çabalarıyla devam ettirilmiştir. Veteriner hekimliği tarihi alanının sonraki akademisyenlerince de önemsenen bu çalışmalar, mesleğine hizmet veren meslek büyüklerinin emekliliklerinin ya da vefatlarının ardından hem nekroloji tarzında hem de bilimsel biyografi yazımı tarzında sürdürülmektedir. Bu çalışmada Türkiye'de veteriner hekimliğinde cerrahi alanının önde gelen isimlerinden olan Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker, Prof. Dr. M. Tevfik Başer ve Prof. Dr. Burhanettin Öktem'in bilimsel yaşam öyküleri ele alınmıştır. Çalışmanın ana materyalini, Ankara Üniversitesi Veteriner Fakültesi Dekanlık Arşivinde yer alan Personel Özlük Dosyaları ve Veteriner Hekimliği Tarihi ve Deontoloji Anabilim Dalı Biyografi Arşivinden sağlanan ilk elden kaynaklar oluşturmuştur. Bunun yanı sıra Anabilim Dalı Kütüphanesinde yer alan çeşitli kitap ve dergilerden de yararlanılmıştır. Elde edilen veriler tarih metodolojisi içerisinde değerlendirilerek kronolojik sıra ile yazıya aktarılmıştır. Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker, Prof. Dr. M. Tevfik Başer ve Prof. Dr. Burhanettin Öktem'in akademik aşamaları, eğitim-öğretime yaptıkları katkılar, mesleki hizmetleri, yayın faaliyetleri ve meslektaşlarında bıraktıkları izler ortaya konulmuştur. Böylece hem veteriner hekimliği biyografi arşivine katkı sağlamak hem de değerli meslek büyüklerimizin yeni nesillere tanıtılması amaçlanmıştır.

INTRODUCTION

In the Ottoman period, treatments and practices related to veterinary medicine were applied with folkloric methods within the framework of master-apprentice relationship before 1842, and after the establishment of the Military Veterinary School, the field of surgery, which is one of the most important elements of veterinary medicine, began to develop in par-

allel with this process (Godlewsky et al., 1846). Godlewsky, Dubroca, Lewis, Hüseyin Hüsnü, Dezutter, Yusuf Ziya, Necip Rıza Zobo and Hayreddin at the Military Veterinary School; Mehmed Ali, Yusuf Ziya, Martel, Abdullah, Hayreddin and Salih Zeki at the Civil Veterinary School (1889); Yusuf Ziya, Mustafa Santur, Salih Zeki, M. Tevfik and Burhanettin at the Higher Veterinary School (1921) which was established with the merge of Military and Civil Veterinary Schools, made ef-

¹Additional Law to the Universities Law No. 5234, Official Gazette dated 07.07. 1948 and numbered 6951.

²Universities Law No. 4936, Official Gazette No. 6336, dated 18.06.1946.

forts to develop this field both with the works they prepared and the courses they taught (Bekman, 1940, Tüzdil, 1955, Erk & Dinçer, 1970).

After the establishment of the Republic of Türkiye in 1923, the education, which was interrupted during the war years, was among the most prominent development plans of the new Türkiye, and the Higher Agricultural Institute (HAI) was established with modern facilities in Ankara in 1933 upon the principle that veterinary medicine and agriculture are the cornerstones of the country's economy (Tüzdil 1955). With this breakthrough, the Higher Veterinary School in İstanbul, with all its staff and equipment, was transferred to Ankara as a "faculty" (Bekman 1940, Tuzdil 1955). "Institute of External Diseases Clinic" within the institute system in HAI continued its activities with Max Gebhardt, Ludwig Lutz, Salih Zeki (Berker), M. Tevfik (Başer), Burhanettin (Öktem), Bekir Sıtkı (Artun) (Erk, 1961).

In 1948¹, after HAI Veterinary Faculty was engaged to Ankara University (AU), which was established in 1946², the unit continued its activities with the academic staff including Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker, Prof. Tevfik Başer, Prof. Burhanettin Öktem, Prof. Bekir Sıtkı Artun, Asst. Hüseyin Erk and Asst. Selim Tolkun. From 1933 to May 2022, a total of 30 faculty members took part in the Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (AUFVM) Department of Surgery (Anonymous, 2022).

Biography studies have a special place and importance in the field of veterinary medicine history (Küçükaslan & Yerlikaya, 2016). The first examples of biographical studies carried out within the scope of research on the history of veterinary medicine in Türkiye were given by Muzaffer Bekman, one of the leading names in the field (Başagaç&Öztürk, 2003). These studies were continued with the efforts of Prof. Nihal Erk and Prof. Ferruh Dinçer and gained momentum with the works of other academicians who joined the field in the following years. Various articles are published both in the style of necrology and in the style of scientific biography, after the retirement or death of the professionals serving their profession. The tags of these articles are reported in the bibliography source prepared by Küçükaslan and Yerlikaya (Küçükaslan

&Yerlikaya, 2016). This study was carried out to contribute to the veterinary medicine biography archive by examining the scientific lives of Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker, Prof. M. Tevfik Başer and Prof. Burhanettin Öktem.

MATERIAL and METHODS

The main material of the study was the Personnel Files of the AUFVM Dean's Archive. In addition to the first-hand sources from the Biography Archive of the AUFVM Veterinary History and Deontology Department, various books and journals in the Department's Library were also used. The data obtained were evaluated within the methodology of history and transferred to the text in chronological order.

RESULTS

Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker

Salih Zeki Berker (Figure 1) was born in Trabzon in 1886. His father is Ahmet Şaban, who is engaged in trade, and his mother is Zehra. He completed his primary, secondary and high school education there. He graduated from İstanbul Higher Civil Veterinary School (İstanbul Mülkiye Baytar Mekteb-i Âlisi) in 1908, which he entered with an exam in 1904 (Nebioğlu, 1962). After working as a veterinarian for a while in the districts of the Rumeli-Kosovo province, he passed the exam set by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1909 and was among the 10 veterinarians sent to Europe for surgery specialization. After two years of specialization training in the field of surgery at the Alfort Veterinary School in France, he returned to his homeland in 1911 and joined the school staff. The "*fenn-i viladé*" (reproduction science) courses, which were taught within surgery courses, were assigned to Salih Zeki in 1911 (Tüzdil, 1955, Öktem, 1963). Salih Zeki, who joined the Balkan War in 1912, was discharged at the end of the war and was appointed as a surgical assistant at the Civil Veterinary School in 1913, he also participated in World War I in 1914. Salih Zeki was awarded the War Medal and Order of the Medjidie for his military services (Anonymous, 1969).

After the Military and Civil Veterinary Schools were merged into the Higher Veterinary School in 1921, Salih Zeki became the school principal by election for the first time in 1923 and



Figure 1. Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker

continued this duty until 1928 (Anonymous, 1969). In this school, Salih Zeki was appointed as a lecturer of *fenn-i vilade-i baytari* (veterinary obstetrics), *emrazı hariciye-i umumiyeye ve bususiyeye* (general and special surgery), *ameliyat-ı cerrahiye* (operational knowledge), *fenn-i nalbandi* (orthopedics), *emrazı mevasi* (ruminant diseases) courses (Öktem, 1963).

With the establishment of the Higher Agricultural Institute in Ankara in 1933¹, the Higher Veterinary School in İstanbul was transferred to Ankara as a “faculty”. Salih Zeki was transferred to the HAI Veterinary Faculty “*Seririyat-ı Cerrahiye Enstitüsü*” (Institute of External Diseases Clinic) as an associate professor (29.10.1933) (Anonymous, 1934). Salih Zeki Berker

Table 1. Articles of Salih Zeki Berker

İneklerde Romatizmanın Seri Tedavisi. Baytarî Mecmua, 1(1): 17-19, 1339 (1923).

Osteomalasi ve Şeraiti Husulü. Baytarî Mecmua, 1(2): 59-63, 1339 (1923).

Dâ-i Distom-u Kebedî'nin (Kelebek Hastalığı) Tedavi-i Şafi-si. Baytarî Mecmua, 1(7): 219-224, 1339 (1923).

Gebelik Esnasında ve Doğurma Zamanında Dişi Hayvanlara Yapılması Lâzım Gelen Muamele ve İhtimâm. Baytarî Mecmua, 2(3): 77-83, 1340 (1924).

Vaz'ı Hamil Etmiş Olan Dişi Hayvanlara ve Nevzata Yapılması Lâzım Gelen İhtimâm. Baytarî Mecmua, 2(4): 110-117, 1340 (1924).

İneklerde Akametın Esbabı ve İzalesi Çareleri. Baytarî Mecmua, 2(2): 33-42, 1340 (1924).

Yeni Doğan Hayvanat Yavrularına Karşı Yapılması İcab Eden İhtimâmat ve Emzirme Usûlleri. Baytarî Mecmua, 2(5): 144-151, 1340 (1924).

Hayvanat Yavrularına Yapılması Lâzım Gelen İhtimâmatın Sun'ı Emzirme Usûlleri. Baytarî Mecmua, 2(6): 173-180, 1340 (1924).

Hayvanat Yavrularına Yapılması Lazım Gelen İhtimâmatın Sütten Kesme Yahut Fetam. Baytarî Mecmua, 2(8): 243-248, 1341 (1925).

(M. Halit ve Samuel ile) Distomatozun Şafi Devasının Memleketimizde İmâl ve İstihzarı Hakkında Mektebimizde Yapılan Tecrübeler ve Netaici. Baytarî Mecmua, 2(10): 306-317, 1341 (1925).

Kuzularda Dâ-i Felc-i Hâlfî. Baytarî Mecmua, 2(12): 359-362, 1341 (1925).

Koyunlarda Müvellid-i Kayh-ı İntânat. Baytarî Mecmua, 3(1): 8-13, 1341 (1925).

Humma-i Acul'un Esbab ve Mihanikiyet-i Husulü. Baytarî Mecmua, 3(6):168-176, 1926.

Hayvanatta Gebeliğin Alâimi ve Tanılması. Baytarî Mecmua, 3(11): 335-342, 1926 ve 3(12): 364-372, 1926.

Adem-i Tahallüs'ün Tedavisi. Baytarî Mecmua, 4(4): 97-106, 1926.

Vaz'ı Hamilden Evvelki Felc-i Hâlfî. Baytarî Mecmua, 4(5-6): 146-149, 1926.

Burun-Meri Sondasıyla Beygırlere İlâç İçirmek. Baytarî Mecmua, 7(4): 97-101, 1929.

Hayvanlarda İhsâ. Baytarî Mecmua, 7(8): 225-232, 1930.

Kısrak ve İnekte Gebeliğin Erkenden Teşhisi (Çeviri). Baytarî Mecmua, 7(10): 297-305, 1930.

İhsâ'ya Dair Bir Müşahade. Baytarî Mecmua, 7(10): 310-311, 1930.

Kısrak ve İneklerde Akametın Esbabı ve Tedavisi. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 5: 13-17, 1931 ve 6: 74-79, 1931 ve 7: 28-34, 1932.

Epidüral İptal-i His. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 9: 7-17, 1932.

Harp Cerrahisi. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 11(11): 9-15, 1942.

Kastrasyon Arızalarından Beygirin Kastrasyon Hemophilie'si. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 16(11): 21-24, 1946.

Kısrakta Kısrıklık. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 18(25):14-21 1948.

Tolkun S ile), Yeni Bir Anestezik “Anovenol-K”. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 22, 66-67, 67-71, 1952

Apart from his duties at the school, Salih Zeki founded the “*Ettıba-yı Baytariye Muhadenet Cemiyeti*” in 1927, which forms the basis of today's Turkish Veterinary Medical Society. Berker was an active member of the Turkish Veterinary Medical Society and had many professional articles in the society's journal. In addition, Salih Zeki undertook important duties as a manager and specialist in Fatih Animal Hospital³ until 1931, which was established in İstanbul in 1927 (Anonymous, 1933, Kural, 1938).

was promoted to professoriate in 1936 and was awarded the title of ordinary professor (distinguished professor) in 1944 (Erk & Dinçer, 1970).

The divisions that were in the form of “institutes” since the establishment of HAI were converted into “departments” (*keürsü*) at the beginning of 1952. In this context, Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker was brought to the management of the First Surgery Department and Clinic^{4,5}. Berker, who speaks French and Ottoman languages, conducted many studies in his field in Italy, France, Switzerland, Netherlands, Germany, England,

Table 2. Books of Salih Zeki Berker

Emraz-ı Mevaşi, I.cilt, Hilâl Matbaası, İstanbul, 304 s, 1342 (1926)
Emraz-ı Mevaşi, II. cilt, Hilâl Matbaası, İstanbul, 304 s, 1342 (1926).
Fenn-i Vilâde-i Baytarî, Hilâl Matbaası, İstanbul, 396 s, 1928.
Gebe Hayvanlara Henüz Doğurmuş Olanlara ve Doğan Yavrulara Yapılması Lazım Gelen Tedbirler, Sanayii Nefise Matbaası, İstanbul, 32 s, 1928.
Ehlî Hayvanların Cerrahî Hastalıkları, I. cilt, Sanayii Nefise Matbaası, İstanbul, 712 s, 1931
Ehlî Hayvanların Cerrahî Hastalıkları, II. cilt, Necmi İstiklal Matbaası, İstanbul, 877 s, 1932.
Nalbantlık, Maarif Basımevi İstanbul, 209 s, 1939.
Ehlî Hayvanların Cerrahî Hastalıkları, I. cilt, YZE, Ankara, 248 s, 1939.
Ehlî Hayvanların Cerrahî Hastalıkları, II. cilt, YZE, Ankara, 211 s, 1940.
Ehlî Hayvanların Doğum Bilgisi, YZE, Ankara, 265 s, 1943.
(Artun BS ile) Ehlî Hayvanların Dış Hastalıkları Klinik Teşhisi, YZE, Ankara, 91 s, 1945.
(Öktem B ile) Evcil Hayvanların Göz Hastalıkları, Ders Kitabı No: 36, YZE, Ankara, 111 s, 1946.
(Öktem B ile) Genel Şirurji, I. baskı, AÜ Basımevi, Ankara, 396 s, 1956.
(Öktem B ile) Genel Şirurji, II. baskı, AÜ Basımevi, Ankara, 429 s, 1956.

Hungary and Bulgaria (Nebioğlu, 1962). The list of Salih Zeki's works is presented in Table 1 and Table 2.

Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker retired from the age limit in 1956, as he turned 70 years old. Berker, who served the profession of veterinary medicine for 53 years and nine months, died on March 30, 1970 in İstanbul due to a set of ailments.

Prof. M. Tevfik Başer

Mehmet Tevfik Başer (Figure 2) was born in İzmir in 1893⁶. He completed his primary and secondary education in İzmir in 1911 and enrolled in the *Mülkiye Baytar Mektebi Alisi* (Higher Civil Veterinary School) in the same year. While he was still a student, he was drafted into the military as a veterinary reserve officer candidate in 1914 due to the outbreak of World War I⁷. Having served in the Thrace, Syria, Anatolia, Iran and Iraq fronts, M. Tevfik was discharged from the military in 1918 with the rank of lieutenant. M.Tevfik returned to veterinary school after completing his military service and graduated in

1920. Afterward, he worked as a Municipal Veterinarian in İstanbul for two years (17.08.1923-14.03.1925). M.Tevfik went to France Alfort Veterinary School in 1925 under the Ministry of Agriculture initiative and completed his Ph.D. in surgery in 1928⁶. After returning home, he was appointed as the Chief of Surgical Diseases at İstanbul Higher Veterinary School (07.11.1928-25.06.1937)⁸. Başer completed his habilitation work on surgical hernias⁹ in 1937 and was awarded the title of second-class associate professor in 1937 and first-class associate professor in 1939^{10,11,12}. Continuing his academic studies, Başer was promoted to second-class professoriate in 1941 and first-class professoriate in 1945^{13,14}.

Prof. M. Tevfik Başer provided many services related to his profession both inside and outside the faculty throughout his academic life. He worked in Karacabey Stud Farm about surgical diseases seen in mares¹⁵ and was among the members of the committee formed for the race determination of Thoroughbred Arabian horses¹⁶. Prof. M. Tevfik Başer was in the



Figure 2. Prof. M. Tevfik Başer

³Fatih Animal Hospital, which was established on 22.04.1927 as a subordinate of İstanbul Fatih Municipality, was established to treat the animals of the municipality and the sick animals of the people free of charge.

⁴Decision of the AU Senate dated 15.01.1952 and numbered 661.

⁵Decision of the AU Senate dated 15.01.1952 and numbered 661.

⁶Personnel Files of Prof. M. Tevfik Başer, AUFVM Dean's Archive.

⁷Letter dated 19.04.1945 and numbered 193 sent to HAI Rectorate by HAI Veterinary Faculty Surgery Institute.

⁸The letter dated 18. 11.1948 and numbered 1231 sent by the AU Rectorate Personal Affairs Directorate to the Deanery of AUFVM.

Table 3. Articles of M.Tevfik Başer

Trakya'da İhsâ. Baytarî Mecmua, 7(1): 2-14, 1929 ve 7(2): 47-54, 1929 ve 7(3): 77-78, 1929 ve 7(4): 118-128, 1929.

Yaraların "Lactoserum" la Tedavisi. Baytarî Mecmua, 7(3): 72-77, 1929.

Laypzik Cerrahi Enstitüsünde Meslektaşlarımızdan Saip Ali Beye. Baytarî Mecmua, 7(6): 171-178, 1930. (Aysoy S ile), Autohaemotherapie'nin Göz Hastalıklarına Tatbiki. Baytarî Mecmua, 7(9): 262-266, 1930 ve 7(10): 311-313, 1930 ve 7(11): 346-351, 1930.

Tekırnaklılarda Üçüncü Falanksın İstihsalı. YZE Dergisi, 1(1): 239-246, 1943.

Table 4. Books of M. Tevfik Başer

Ehlî Hayvanlarda Karın Fitki. YZE, Ankara, 43 s, 1939.

Fennî Nalbantlık kısım 1, Talebe Ders Kılavuzu (Roto), Sayı 89, 1940.

Fennî Nalbantlık kısım 2, Talebe Ders Kılavuzu (Roto), Sayı 61, 1940.

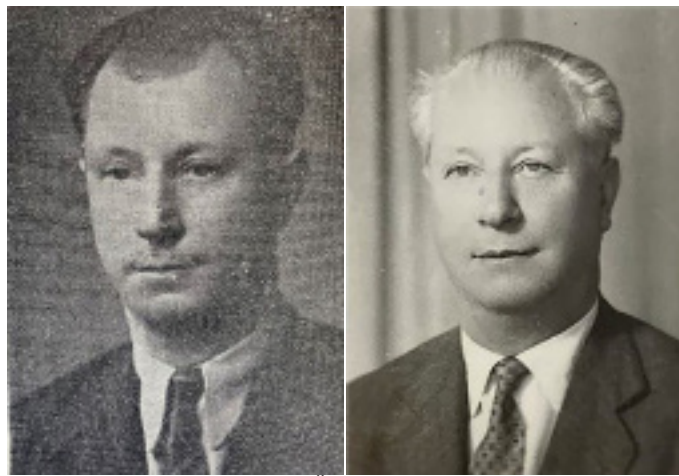
Ayak Ameliyeleri, Talebe Ders Kılavuzu (Roto), Sayı 104, 1941.

Hayvanlarda Koterizasyon, YZE, Ankara, 85s, 1943

management of the Second Surgery Department⁶ (1952) and Obstetrics and Gynecology Department¹⁷ (1957). He also managed various administrative duties such as senate, commission and jury memberships^{18,19,20}. Başer, in addition to his assignments in homeland, went to Italy, Switzerland, France, England and Germany and conducted numerous studies in his field^{21,22,23}. The list of works by M. Tevfik Başer is presented in Table 3 and Table 4. Başer, who has a special interest in equestrian sports, especially horse racing, and is knowledgeable about the special treatment methods of racehorses as well as the administration of horse races, served as a Principal Member of the Jockey Club of Türkiye in 1959. He served in this field for more than 30 years and became a member of the Supreme Council of Commissars (Anonymous, 2022, Tolkun, 1960, Tolkun, 1969). Prof. M. Tevfik Başer passed away on 26.09.1960 in the hospital where he was admitted with the diagnosis of myocardial infarction and heart failure in İstanbul after 42 years and 6 months of professional life^{24,25}.

Prof. Burhanettin Öktem

Burhanettin Öktem (Figure 3) was born in İstanbul in 1904. His father is Police Captain İbrahim. He completed his primary education in İstanbul and İzmit, his secondary and high school education in Harbiye Military High School, and graduated from the Higher Veterinary School with the first degree in 1927. After graduation, he was appointed as a veterinarian for the fight against rinderpest in Samsun (28.08.1927-05.03.1928). He did his internship for one year with the rank of lieutenant at the İstanbul Military Veterinarian Practice School (*İstanbul Askeri Baytar Tatbikat Mektebi*) (26.05.1928-26.05.1929). Later, he worked as a government veterinarian for four years in Erzurum's Hınıs and Pasinler and Gümüşhane's Torul and Kelkit counties (06.09.1929-14.01.1933). Öktem, who started as an assistant in general medicine at İstanbul Higher Veterinary School in 1933, was appointed as an assistant for external diseases on 28.10.1933 after this school was abolished and trans-

**Figure 3.** Prof. Burhanettin Öktem

⁹Baser M.T. Ehli Hayvanlarda Karın Fitki (Habilitation Thesis), HAI, Ankara, 1939.

¹⁰The letter dated 19.04.1945 and numbered 193 sent by HAI Veterinary Faculty Surgery Institute to the HAI Rectorate.

¹¹The letter dated 30.12.1939 and numbered 2356 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, HAI Administrative Consultancy to the HAI Specialist Consultancy.

¹²The letter dated 23.10.1933 and numbered 1848 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture HAI Rectorate to M. Tevfik Başer.

¹³The letter dated 14.04.1941 and numbered 2470 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture HAI Rectorate to the Higher Deputation Authority.

¹⁴The letter dated 22.12.1945 and numbered 21262 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture Personal Affairs Directorate to the HAI Rectorate.

Table 5. Articles of Burhanettin Öktem

- Baytar Fakültesinde Poliklinik Çalışmaları. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 5(4): 527-532, 1935.
- Evcil hayvanlarda ve bilhassa beygirlerde alt çene kemiği (mandibula) kırıkları. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 12(3-4): 3-31, 1942.
- Pisipisi otunun husule getirdiği travmasal bozukluklar ve hastalıklar. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 13(3): 44-58, 1945.
- Dişi bir köpekte bütün bir pisipisi otu (*Hordeum bulbosum*) başağından ileri gelme gayri tam göğüs fistülü ve myositis olayı. YZE Dergisi, 3(2): 500-504, 1945.
- Veteriner şirurjide sulfonamid preparatlarının lokal kullanılışı ve bilhassa ultraseptylurée ile marfanil-prontalbin yara tozlarından elde olunan faydalı sonuçlar. YZE Dergisi, 5(2): 514-536, 1946.
- Klinik muayene usullerile kesin olarak teşhis edilemeyen iki karın fitki (*hernia abdominalis*) olayı. YZE Dergisi, 7(13): 231-239, 1946.
- Türkiye'de zehirli yılanlar, zararları ve bunların sokmalarından ileri gelen arızaların tedavisi. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 16(7): 10-19, 1946.
- Karşılaştığımız enteresan bir olay dolayısıyla coxae (kalça) kırıkları üzerinde incelemeler. YZE Derg., 9(1): 96-111, 1947.
- (Erk H ile), Damar içine trypaflavin eriyikleri sırtıngasından sonra şekillenen phlebitis ve periphlebitis gangraenosa olayları. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 19(28-29): 23-39, 1949.
- Gebelik nasıl anlaşılır? Gebelere nasıl bakılır? Üretim, 1(10): 11, 1950.
- Doğuran hayvanlar ve yavrularına yapılacak yardımlar. Üretim, 1(12): 16, 1950 ve 2(13-14): 10-11, 1950.
- Hayvanlarımızın değeri ve bunların sağlığını korumadaki ödevlerimiz. Üretim, 2(20): 4-5, 1950.
- Lokal olarak kullanılan sulfonamidlerin veteriner şirurjide ve tercihan karın operasyonlarındaki profraktik değerleri. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 20(43-44): 138-166, 1950.
- Rahmetli Prof. Dr. Tevfik Başer'e son vazifemizi yaparken. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 30(168-169): 933-938, 1960.
- Fakültemiz otuz yaşında. T. Vet. Hekiml. Dern. Derg., 33(11-12): 562-572, 1963.
- (Anteplioglu H ile), Tendogen ve arthrogen hydrops'ların çeşitli cortison preparatları ile tedavisi üzerinde araştırmalar. A.Ü. Vet. Fak. Derg., 14(1): 25-54, 1967.
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ferred to Ankara HAI. He was first promoted to second-degree assistantship, and in 1935 to first-degree assistantship^{26,27}. Öktem went to Germany in 1935 to conduct research in his field and stayed at the Hannover and Berlin Veterinary Schools

for three months and participated in the works of surgery and small animal clinics. Returning to Türkiye after his education abroad and continuing his doctoral thesis, Öktem was promoted first as the chief assistant and two years later as the branch

¹⁵Decision of the AUFVM Professors Board dated 07.05.1958.

¹⁶The letter dated 28.05.1948 and numbered 126 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Veterinary Affairs, General Directorate of Veterinary Affairs to the HAI Rectorate.

¹⁷Decision of the AUFVM Professors Board dated 29.06.1957 and numbered 84.

¹⁸Letter from the AUFVM Deanery to Prof. M. Tevfik Başer, dated 29.03.1956 and numbered 826.

¹⁹The letter dated 21.12.1950 and numbered 5680 sent by the HAI Veterinary Faculty Deanery to HAI Rectorate.

²⁰Decision of the Professors Board of AUFVM dated 27.06.1955.

²¹The letter dated 27.08.1954 and numbered 2008 sent by the T.C. AU Rectorate Personal Affairs Directorate to the Veterinary Faculty Deanery.

²²The letter dated 25.08.1954 and numbered 1983 sent by the T.C. AU Rectorate Personal Affairs Directorate to the Veterinary Faculty Deanery.

²³Letter 107 dated 14.07.1955 sent by the Department of Surgery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine to the Veterinary Faculty Deanery

²⁴UFVM Deanery's letter dated 29.09.1960 and numbered 4827.

²⁵The letter dated 06.10.1960 and numbered 1198 sent by Ord. Prof. Ekrem Şerif Egeli from the Internal Medicine Clinic of İstanbul University Faculty of Medicine to the Veterinary Faculty Deanery.

²⁶Personnel files of Prof. Burhanettin Öktem, AUFVM Deanery Archive.

²⁷AUFVM Veterinary History and Deontology Department Biography Archive. Burhanettin Öktem File No: 563.

²⁸The letter dated 09.07.1943 and numbered 594 sent by the Directorate of the Institute of Surgery to the Deanery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at HAI.

²⁹Öktem B. Türkiye'de Nalbantlık (Ph.D. Thesis), HAI, Ankara, 1939.

³⁰The letter dated 17.08.1937 and numbered 4114 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture Personal Affairs Directorate to the HAI Rectorate.

³¹The letter dated 16.07.1937 and numbered 2196 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture Personal Affairs Directorate to the HAI Rectorate.

³²Decision of Officers Selection Council, letter dated 16.10.1939 and numbered 41.

³³Öktem B, Ehli Erkek Hayvanlarda Kastrasyon ve Memleketimiz İçin Müntehep Usuller (Habilitation Thesis), HAI, Ankara, 1943.

³⁴Letter 74 dated 12.02.1941 sent by the Deanery of the HAI Faculty of Veterinary Medicine to the HAI Rectorate.

³⁵The letter of the Higher Deputation Authority dated 16.07.1943 and numbered 44 and the Council Decision numbered 46.

³⁶The letter dated 28.09.1943 and numbered 1772 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture HAI Administrative Consultancy to the HAI Rectorate.

³⁷The letter dated 19.03.1947 and numbered 450 sent by the Deanery of the HAI Faculty of Veterinary Medicine to the HAI Rectorate.

³⁸The letter dated 22.02.1946 and numbered 229 sent by the Deanery of the HAI Faculty of Veterinary Medicine to the HAI Rectorate.

Table 6. Books of Burhanettin Öktem

İş Hayvanlarında Tırnak Bakımı. Köylüye Faydalı Bilgiler, YZE Yayınları, No:16, Ankara, 1938.

Yeni Doğan Yavrulara Nasıl Yardım Etmeli ve Nelerine Dikkat Etmeli?. Köylüye Faydalı Bilgiler, YZE Yayınları, No:17, 1938.

Türkiye’de Nalbantlık. YZE, Ankara, 145 s, 1939.

(Berker SZ ile) Evcil Hayvanların Göz Hastalıkları, Ders Kitabı No: 36, YZE, Ankara, 111 s, 1946.

Evcil Erkek Hayvanlarda Kastrasyon ve Memleketimiz İçin En Elverişli Usuller. YZE, Ankara, 151 s, 1948.

(Berker SZ ile) Genel Şiirurji, I. baskı, AÜ Basımevi, Ankara, 396 s, 1956.

(Berker SZ ile) Genel Şiirurji, II. baskı, AÜ Basımevi, Ankara, 429 s, 1956.

Evcil Hayvanların Göz Hastalıkları. Ders Kitabı No: 50, II. Baskı, Yeni Desen Matbaası, Ankara, 132s, 1959.

Özel Şiirurji-Baş ve Boyun Hastalıkları. Ders Kitabı No: 59, I. Fasikül, İstiklâl Matbaası, Ankara, 177 s, 1962.

(Anteplioğlu H ile) Ankara Bölgesi İneklerinde Görülen Mastitis’in Tedavisi Üzerinde Mukayeseli İncelemeler. İstiklâl Matbaası, Ankara, 96 s, 1962.

Özel Şiirurji-Göğüs ve Karın Hastalıkları. I. baskı, İstiklâl Matbaası, Ankara, 221s, 1964.

Özel Şiirurji- Ön ve Arka Bacak Hastalıkları. AÜ Basımevi, Ankara, 294 s, 1966.

(Samsar E ile) Enteresan Bir Polyabcedation Olayı Dolayısıyla Çeşitli Evcil Hayvanlarda Rasladığımız Apselerin Sebep ve Tedavileri Üzerinde İncelemeler. AÜ Basımevi, Ankara, 58s, 1967.

Özel Şiirurji-Göğüs ve Karın Hastalıkları. II. baskı, İstiklâl Matbaası, Ankara, 193s, 1969.

chief after completing his doctoral thesis titled “Türkiye’de Nalbantlık (Horseshoeing in Türkiye)”²⁹ in 1937^{30,31,32}.

Öktem prepared his habilitation thesis³³ titled “Ehli erkek hayvanlarda kastrasyon ve memleketimiz için müntehap usuller (Castration in domestic male animals and the appropriate methods for our country)” in 1943, and was awarded the HAI

second-degree associate professorship after a German language exam and trial course^{34,35,36}. Continuing his academic studies after being an associate professor, he was promoted to professorship in 1947³⁷. Throughout his academic life, he conducted research about his profession both inside and outside the faculty. For instance, he worked in Sultansuyu Stud Farm³⁸ in 1946 and in Karacabey Stud Farm in 1947 and 1954^{39,40,41},

³⁹The letter dated 31.01.1947 and numbered 6499 sent by the General Directorate of Veterinary Affairs of the Ministry of Agriculture to the HAI Rectorate.

⁴⁰The letter dated 29.01.1954 and numbered 5595 sent by the General Directorate of Veterinary Affairs of the Ministry of Agriculture to the Deanery of AUFVM.

⁴¹AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 6.02.1954 and numbered 76.

⁴²The letter dated 31.12.1949 and numbered 5909 sent by the Deanery of the HAI Veterinary Faculty to the Presidency of the General Staff Veterinary Department.

⁴³The letter dated 08.05.1958 and numbered 1236 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture Personal Affairs Directorate to the Deanery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

⁴⁴AUFVM Professors Board Decision No. 42 dated 25.04.1958.

⁴⁵The letter dated 17.07.1973 and numbered 4417 sent by the AUFVM Deanery to the Professoriate of the First Surgery Department.

⁴⁶The letter dated 22.07.1968 and numbered 2701 sent by the AUFVM Deanery to the Professoriate of the First Surgery Department.

⁴⁷AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 11.07.1968 and numbered 148.

⁴⁸AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 11.07.1968 and numbered 148.

⁴⁹The letter dated 29.08.1969 and numbered 31-507-820 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture Personal Affairs Directorate to the Deanery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

⁵⁰AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 26.8.1969 and numbered 193.

⁵¹AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 14.11.1968 and numbered 180.

⁵²The letter dated 29.11.1968 and numbered 4386 sent by the AUFVM Deanery to the Professoriate of the First Surgery Department.

⁵³AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 1.06.1955 and numbered 79.

⁵⁴The letter dated 12.07.1955 and numbered 31-500 sent by the T.C. Ministry of Agriculture Personal Affairs Directorate to the Deanery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

⁵⁵The letter dated 2.09.1955 and numbered 126 sent by the AUFVM First Surgery Clinic to the Deanery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

⁵⁶The letter dated 10.10.1961 and numbered 3083 sent by the AUFVM Deanery to the Rectorate.

⁵⁷AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 28.06.1961 and numbered 106.

⁵⁸The letter dated 16.09.1968 and numbered 169 sent by the Professoriate of the First Surgery Department and Clinic to the Deanery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

⁵⁹AUFVM Faculty Board Decision dated 9.05.1974 and numbered 111.

⁶⁰AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 27.11.1956 and numbered 3646.

⁶¹AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 25.06.1957 and numbered 81.

⁶²AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 4.11.1968 and numbered 168.

⁶³The letter dated 12.11.1968 and numbered 4293 written by the Deanery of AUFVM to Prof. Burhanettin Öktem.

⁶⁴AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 2.11.1966 and numbered 147.

⁶⁵AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 24.06.1959 and numbered 83.

⁶⁶AUFVM Professors Board Decision dated 3.11.1960 and numbered 113.

⁶⁷The letter dated 17.09.1964 and numbered 282 sent by the AUFVM Chair of the First Surgery Department and Clinic Professoriate to the Deanery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

⁶⁸The letter dated 11.04.1967 and numbered 1392 sent by the AUFVM Deanery to the First Surgery Department Professoriate.

⁶⁹The letter dated 17.06.1974 and numbered 4013 sent by the Deanery of the AUFVM to the AU Rectorate.

⁷⁰The letter dated 03.07.1974 and numbered 4604 sent by the Deanery of AUFVM to Prof. Burhanettin Öktem.

gave surgical courses in the Military Veterinary Academy in the 1949-1950 academic year⁴², and worked for 20 days at the İstanbul Animal Health Officers School Clinic and Municipality Animal Hospital in 1958^{43,44}. Between 1968 and 1973, he worked in the provinces of Balıkesir, Manisa, İstanbul, Bursa, Denizli, Antalya and Mersin^{45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52}. Öktem conducted scientific studies in his field in England, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Austria and France for 18 months^{53,54,55,56,57}. He represented our country at the European Veterinary Surgery Congress held in Italy⁵⁸.

Öktem, in addition to his many administrative duties, such as serving as the head of the Surgery and Reproduction Departments, was a member of the Senate, Faculty Board and commissions in various years^{59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66}. Öktem, who was actively working in the process of spreading veterinary medicine education and the establishment of new veterinary faculties, contributed to the establishment of Elazığ and İstanbul veterinary faculties by taking part in the related commissions^{67,68}.

After 47 years of professional life, Öktem retired from the age limit on 14 July 1974⁶⁹. Training hundreds of students throughout his career and making significant contributions to his field with his scientific research (Table 5 and Table 6), Prof. Burhanettin Öktem was not forgotten by his colleagues and he was given a service plaque by AUFVM in 1974⁷⁰. Öktem died on September 20, 1993 (Anonymous, 1993).

DISCUSSION

In the study, Ord. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker, Prof. M. Tevfik Başer and Prof. Burhanettin Öktem's scientific life stories are discussed (Figure 4, Figure 5, Figure 6). Within the scope of this study, it is thought that introducing eminent professionals to academicians and veterinary medicine students is important in terms of historical awareness. Küçükaslan & Yerlikaya (2016) reported that biographies in the style of necrology were written after the death of valuable scientists in the history of veterinary medicine. When these texts are examined, it is seen that there are various texts in which the contributions of the members of the profession to science and the profession are explained, among which there are writings by Berker, Başer and Öktem. For example, while describing Salih Zeki Berker after his death, Kolaylı (1970) explained that he was a teacher who *"loves his profession very much, is jealous and tries to prevent it from falling into the hands of others"*. Tolkun (1970) described his teacher Berker as *"a valuable teacher who corrects a problem every time he comes to the clinic, explains the importance of the white coat every time, is fussy, impatient, has a tough temperament, but explains the subjects to his students over and over again and does not hesitate to appreciate them"*. Hergüner⁷¹ who worked in the printing house for many years during HAI period at AU, stated that Salih Zeki Berker was *"hardworking, steadfast, resilient, respectful, and one of the great teachers who know how to make himself respected"*. These are expressions that reveal Berker's academic personality. It has been determined that there are many works written by Berker (Table 1 and Table 2). Among these, Küçükaslan (2012) re-

ported that the work named *"Fenn-i Vilâde-i Baytarî"* (veterinary reproduction science) written by Berker is the first copyrighted work written in the field of obstetrics and gynecology. It can be argued that with this work of Berker, he set an example of an academic path for his colleagues. Prof. Salih Zeki Berker was given the title of ordinary professor in 1944. It can be argued that giving this title to Berker, who has important services both scientifically and professionally, can be considered an important criterion of value. As a matter of fact, considering that this title is legally¹ only given to those with outstanding scientific research and scientists who made great contributions to the profession, the value of Berker in terms of the profession is better understood.

After Prof. M. Tevfik Başer, his colleagues wrote necrological texts about him. For example, Taşdelen (1960) quoted that Başer was known as an honest and honorable person with the words: *"He accepted that it is one of the qualities of humanity that people not to stay away from honesty and fear of God and who pursue honor and wealth with greed through illegitimate ways are devastated, by mentioning that it is the law of nature"*. It can be argued that, as one of the great professors in the field of surgery, the words of Prof. M. Tevfik Başer are also a piece of advice for today's colleagues. Ord. Prof. Hilmi Dilgimen, expressed his view of Prof. M. Tevfik Başer: *"He is the first founder of modern surgical methods and techniques in our country"* (Sevinç, 1960). Similarly, Öktem's (1960): *"He is the unique operator who brings, teaches and succeeds in modern surgery, the technique and meticulousness of performing operations under asepsis and antisepsis in Turkish Veterinary Medicine."* and Tolkun's: *"He is my late teacher who introduced modern aseptic veterinary surgery to our country"* phrases support the view that he undertook a leading role in this regard. Öktem (1963), regarding his polyclinic and clinical studies in 1928, said: *"Despite the fact that most of the courses on external diseases (surgery), which is my branch, were taught by our teacher Salih Zeki Berker, the Assistant Professor and the Chief of the Clinic Tevfik Başer who has returned to the country in 1928 after completing his Ph.D. in France, Alfort Veterinary School, manages the polyclinic and clinical studies with a meticulousness that we have not seen until then, and he personally performed the operative interventions with great knowledge"*. All these statements in the literature reveal that Başer contributed greatly to the field by bringing a pioneering approach to the field of veterinary surgery.

Being interested in horse races for many years and a member of the Higher Stewards Council of Commissars in Horse Racing, Prof. M. Tevfik Başer was not forgotten by the Jockey Club of Türkiye, many races were organized in his name (Anonymous, 2022). This can be considered as an indication that Başer provided important services in this particular area.

In his associate professorship report about Burhanettin Öktem, Professor of the Institute of Surgery M. Tevfik Başer described Öktem as *"serious, decent and honest, does not spare time, has mature clinical information and is able to manage the surgery clinic independently and performs surgery by taking all responsibility"*⁷².

After Prof. Burhanettin Öktem's retirement, his colleague

⁷¹Personal interview with the printing officer Ramazan Hergüner on 02.03.2010.

⁷²The letter dated 19.05.1949 and numbered 3221 sent by the Directorate of the Institute of Surgery to the Deanery of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at HAI.



Figure 4. The foot diseases exam that President İsmet İnönü attended during his visit to Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (1949)



Figure 5. Surgery instructors with faculty members at Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (First row from left to right, 1. M. Tevfik Başer, 4. Salih Zeki Berker, 10. Burhanettin Öktem, 1947)



Figure 6. M. Tevfik Başer, Salih Zeki Berker and Burhanettin Öktem during clinical courses at Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Prof. Hayrettin Anteplioglu stated the followings about his teacher: “Our teacher was very meticulous in his work. In the classroom, in practice, in the clinic, in the study of problems, in general, he sought the best and the most complete. In fact, this quality was a necessity of his creation. For a surgeon, this feature is considered a great and necessary factor. In the administrative and scientific stages he continued at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine for many years, he remained extremely loyal

to the laws. His firm belief, his cautiousness in examining events, his high-pitched voice that we hear from time to time, and then his slow return to a smiling softness, his stance against no neediness, his tendency towards doing the right in every job, his behavior that expresses his love of the profession, are good gifts for us to always consider and think about”. He emphasized that “despite the tiring and difficult conditions, he always carried out useful and valuable works for the public regarding the economic

⁷³The letter dated 02.08. 1974 and numbered 258 sent by the Chair of First Surgery and Clinic Department to the Deanery of AUFVM.

⁷⁴The letter dated 05.08. 1974 and numbered 5281 sent by the Dean of AUFVM, Prof. Sati Baran, to the Head of the Publication Commission.

problems of the country, and contributed greatly to the acquisition of many facilities and apparatus for the Surgical and Orthopedic units, and the afforestation and greening of the environment”^{73,74}.

CONCLUSIONS

As the surgery is one of the building blocks of the education process in veterinary medicine, it can be argued that these professionals, who are one of the first lecturers in the field of veterinary surgery, undertook important tasks in education, scientific research, publication activities, training of other lecturers and added significant value to the veterinary medicine profession. It can be said that the results obtained through biography studies can set an example for young profession candidates and have the feature of creating a spiritual effect that they can be proud of.

DECLARATIONS

Ethics Approval

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest

Authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest for this study.

Consent for Publication

Not applicable

Author Contribution

Idea, concept, and design: NY

Data collection and analysis: NY, ÖK

Drafting of the manuscript: NY, ÖK

Critical review: NY

Data Availability

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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