


Foreword

Servet Gündoğdu, Editor-in-Chief 

University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany

The tenth issue of *Nesir: Journal of Literary Studies* brings together thirteen research articles and eight book reviews by scholars based in Türkiye, the United States, Germany, Austria, and Sweden. Reflecting the journal's bilingual structure and growing international reach, this issue brings together a wide range of literary questions across periods and traditions and fosters dialogue across diverse scholarly contexts.

The contributions explore how subjectivity is reconfigured beyond conventional humanist frameworks, particularly through posthuman and relational approaches. They also examine the relationship between literature and history by focusing on narrative construction, historiography, and cultural memory. At the same time, several studies turn to the philosophical dimensions of poetic expression and the material conditions of literary production, addressing how meaning emerges through language, translation, and interpretation.

This inquiry extends to the intersections of literature with different cultural forms and practices. By engaging with food, folklore, popular music, and theatre, the articles examine how literary meaning is shaped by broader social and cultural dynamics. Moving between close reading, conceptual reflection, and contextual analysis, they also reconsider questions of textuality and form, particularly the relations between orality and writing, improvisation and structure, and the shifting role of translation in the circulation of meaning.

The book review section forms an integral extension of this field of inquiry. With a particular emphasis on Ottoman and early modern literary cultures, the reviews engage recent scholarship on historiography, canon formation, and translation, while also addressing contemporary debates, including feminist speculative fiction and changing notions of literary space and readership. Taken together, the contributions in this issue articulate a shared field of literary inquiry shaped by sustained critical engagement.

The intellectual orientation of *Nesir* is mirrored in the journal's ongoing institutional development. Over the past months, the journal has strengthened its position within the international academic publishing landscape through its inclusion in major bibliographic and abstracting services, including the MLA International Bibliography, ERIH PLUS, Linguistic Bibliography Online (Brill), and the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). These developments have enhanced the discoverability and accessibility of the journal's content across a wide range of disciplinary and regional research networks.

In parallel with these indexing milestones, *Nesir* has further integrated into the global open-access infrastructure. The journal is now listed in OpenAIRE and the Jisc Open Policy Finder, facilitating its alignment with international standards for open-access publishing and research dissemination. At the same time, the journal's participation in the PKP Preservation Network ensures the long-term digital preservation of its content, with its archival status also reflected in The Keepers Registry. Preparatory steps toward integration with additional preservation services, including JASPER, are also underway. Collectively, these developments contribute to the reliability, continuity, and future accessibility of the journal's publications.

The journal has also undertaken important technical developments aimed at improving its publishing infrastructure. In this context, engagement with Redalyc represents a significant step toward adopting XML JATS-based publishing workflows. This system enables the automated production of multiple article formats, including PDF, HTML, and ePUB, thereby enhancing readability across platforms and supporting long-term digital sustainability. In addition, evaluation processes in databases such as The Philosopher's Index and the Norwegian Register are ongoing, while the journal remains under evaluation for inclusion in the Web of Science. Preparatory work for further inclusion in major international indexing systems is also underway.

Alongside these structural developments, *Nesir* has expanded and strengthened its editorial and advisory team. We are pleased to welcome Selim Sırrı Kuru (University of Washington), Sarah R. Bin Tyeer (Columbia University), and Zakir Hussein Gul (Harvard University) as members of the editorial team. Sergen Avcı (University of Washington) has joined as Turkish Language Editor, and Ebru Esmâ Yağız (Northwestern University) as Copy Editor. We are also honored to welcome Samuel Hodgkin (Yale University) to the advisory board. Their expertise and contributions will play an important role in the continued development of the journal. We also extend our sincere thanks to those who have stepped down from their roles for their valuable contributions in previous periods.

Building on these developments, *Nesir* continues to consolidate its position as a journal committed to rigorous scholarship and sustained intellectual exchange. The journal emphasizes the quality and originality of its contributions, the consistency of its editorial practices, and the cultivation of a genuinely international and multilingual scholarly environment. Rather than adhering to a single methodological or theoretical orientation, *Nesir* seeks to foster a space in which diverse approaches can enter into meaningful dialogue. In this respect, the journal aims not only to publish research but also to facilitate ongoing engagement across fields, traditions, and critical perspectives, thereby contributing to the broader circulation and transformation of literary thought.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to all our authors, reviewers, editorial team members, and readers for their contributions to this issue. The continued development of *Nesir* depends on this collective effort, through which the journal remains an active site of scholarly exchange and critical engagement. Submissions for the forthcoming eleventh issue (October 2026), titled "Literature and the Body: The Relations Between Being and Writing," will be accepted between 15 June and 1 August 2026. We warmly invite submissions of original research articles and book reviews.