Depicting the Late Ottoman Empire in Turkish Autobiographies
Philipp Wirtz 2017-03-16

The period between the 1880s and the 1920s was a time of momentous changes in the Ottoman Empire. It was also an age of literary experiments, of which autobiography forms a part. This book analyses Turkish autobiographical narratives describing the part of their authors’ lives that was spent while the Ottoman Empire still existed. The texts studied in this book were written in the cultural context of the Turkish Republic, which went to great lengths to dissociate itself from the empire and its legacy. The process has only been critically and partially reversed in very recent times, the memory present in autobiographical texts dealing with the “old days” by the Turkish reading public being part of a robbery committed against Ottoman legacies. Among the analysed texts are autobiographies by writers, journalists, artists and politicians, including classics like Okkyed Filis Adivar and Seyyid Memiyan Aşrelyal, but also texts by authors virtually unknown to Western readers, such as Ahmed Serin Yahya. While the official Turkish republicanism narrates a demise of the imperial past, autobiographical narratives offer a more balanced picture. From the earliest memoirs and personal orations of the authors, to the conflict and violence that overshadowed private lives in the last years of the Ottoman Empire, this book aims at showing examples of how the authors painted what one of them called “images of a past world.”

The Encyclopedia Americana - 1920

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Turkish Embassy Letters
Lady Mary Wortley Montagu 2015-06-18

The Birth of Modern Istanbul
Charles King 2014-09-15

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At midnight, December 31, 1925, citizens of the newly proclaimed Turkish Republic celebrated the New Year. For the first time ever, they had agreed to use a nationally unified calendar and clock. Yet in Istanbul—an ancient crossroads and Turkey’s largest city—people were looking toward an uncertain future. Never purely Turkish, Istanbul was home to generations of Greeks, Armenians, and Jews, as well as Muslims. It welcomed White Russian nobles ousted by the Russian Revolution, Bolshevik assassins on the trail of the exiled Lenin Trotsky, German professors, British diplomats, and American entrepreneurs—a multicultural panoply of performers and poets, dissemblers and ear-de-wads. During the Second World War, thousands of Jews fleeing occupied Europe found passage through Istanbul, some with the help of the future Pope John XXIII. At the Pera Palace, Istanbul’s most luxurious hotel, so many spies mingled in the lobby that the manager posted a sign asking them to relinquish their seats to paying guests. In beguiling prose and rich character portraits, Charles King brings to life a remarkable era when a storied city stumbled into the modern world and reshaped the meaning of cosmopolitanism.

The letters of lady M.W. Montagu during the embassy to Constantinople, 1716-18
Lady Mary Wortley Montagu 1825

Performing the Body/performing the Text
Professor of Art and Design and Vice Dean of Critical Studies Amelia Jones 1999

Exploring performativity in art theory and practice, this volume examines ways of rethinking processes in visual culture. Since the 1960s, visual art practices have taken contemporary art outside the museum and gallery, exploding the normal boundaries.

A Sail to Smyrna: Or, An Englishwoman’s Journal; Including Impressions of Constantinople, a Visit to a Turkish Harem, and a Railway Journey to Ephesus. Illustrated from Original Sketches
E. C. C. Baillie 1873

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