

# Teaching Ottoman Turkish in the US: Princeton University Case Study

26<sup>th</sup> ICC Conference, 3-5 May 2019, Berlin Germany

NİLÜFER HATEMİ

# What is OTTOMAN Turkish?

- an 'extinct' language based on Anatolian Turkish (Ural- Altaic language family)

the official administrative language of the Ottoman Empire (~1300-1919)

spread over three continents

found in the written records and archives of the areas controlled by  
or in relation with the Ottomans

- referred as *Osmanlıca* i.e., the language of the *Osmanlı* -the ‘Ottoman people’

Lisan-ı Osmanî “ “

Lugat-ı Osmanî “ “

Osmanlı dili “ “

Eski Türkçe ‘old Turkish’

today, Ottoman Turkish is also understood simply as a “**script**,” i.e.: the “modified form of the Arabic alphabet” used by the Ottomans (and by the Turkish Republic for a short period of time) until a variant of the Roman alphabet was adopted in 1928.

- in its grammar and vocabulary

it is fundamentally Turkish

but borrowed a vast number of Arabic and Persian words

(as well as some: Greek, Armenian, Slavonic, Hungarian, Italian, French and English)

in *higher literary forms*, grammatical structures from Arabic and Persian are abundant

(!! The Turkic vocabulary is saturated with Arabic and Persian elements *in the same proportion* as English with French)



۱۳۳۶ هجرتی ۱۳۳۸  
 رمضان المبارکی  
 ۲۱  
 ۲۸  
 کون روز خضر ۳۰  
 وقت ظہر ۳۰  
 ۴ ۳۷  
 جماعت شنبہ  
 31 Май 1920 Срѣда 30  
 ΜΑΙΟΣ JUIN  
 20 2  
 Τετάρτη Mercredi  
 Θεαλελαίου μάρτυρος Ste. Emilie - St. Justin  
 154 5680 16 211  
 Henri Zellich & C° - Constantinople



ولدی نه شاه جهانک لطف احسانی بید  
آفاق ایشدی سید  
خیره موفق رحسی جوق برد اور عالی نژاد  
اهل تلوون قیلدی شاد  
دیور حضور اسلم له لطفیلا اول خیر الملوک  
جان بولدی اریاب سلوک  
راشد کتر بار تخم ای نیک سزادر سالکان  
از جان اول ووردو زبان

باشد  
دگر ایشدی  
دام اکا  
یادیرد

ŞAZELİ  
TEKKE  
CAMİİ

