

ARIT Newsletter

American Research Institute in Turkey



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since 2002-2003, ARIT has had the distinct honor of awarding Ilse Böhlund Hanfmann and George Maxim Anossov Hanfmann Fellowships in archaeology and related fields. Made possible through the generosity of an anonymous donor, the fellowships allow young Turkish scholars based in Turkey to engage in study and research at foreign institutions for up to nine months. To date, ARIT has made awards to 14 individuals for study in the United Kingdom, the United States, continental Europe (Austria, France, Germany, Italy), Uzbekistan, and Australia.

The research topics of Hanfmann Fellows are rich in variety and cover a tremendous cultural span. Gülsün Altınbilek (Istanbul University) and Başak Boz (Hacettepe University) both pursued Anatolian Neolithic interests in the U.K., looking, respectively, to obsidian use in eastern Anatolia and to the human teeth of inhabitants of Çatalhöyük. At the other end of the spectrum, İbrahim Çeşmeli (Yıldız Technical University) conducted research in Samarkand on the Medieval mosques of Central Asia, while Namik Erkal (Middle East Technical University) worked in several European libraries gathering visual materials relating to the extra-mural Golden Horn in Early Ottoman times. In between in cultural terms: Yiğit Erbil (Hacettepe) went to the Oriental Institute to carry out research on the water cults of Hittite Anatolia; Hüseyin Köker (Istanbul University) took advantage of the rich cabinets of the American Numismatic Society in connection with preparing a catalogue of the ancient Greek coins in the Burdur Museum; Fatih Onur (Akdeniz University) spent half a year in Oxford working on the military reforms of the Early Byzantine emperor Anastasius.

In its brief history to date, the Hanfmann Program has proven to be an unqualified success. ARIT is most pleased to be involved in giving outstanding young Turkish scholars the opportunity to study abroad and increase their base of professional contacts. The Coulson-Cross Aegean Exchange is the only other program that allows us to offer such an opportunity. For the latter program, we are grateful to the U.S. Department of State, as we are for the generous funds that provide the core of our U.S.-based fellowships program. We are thankful also to the National Endowment for the Humanities and its funds for post-doctoral research, and to the U.S. Department of Education, which supports our infrastructure while allowing students of Turkish to advance their language skills in Istanbul. The private sector gives us edges that we otherwise would not have: fellowships for non-U.S. citizens based at North American universities (Samuel H. Kress Foundation, Joukowsky Family Foundation, Istanbul Friends of ARIT), grants to East European scholars to study in Turkey (Andrew W. Mellon Foundation), supplemental funds for our Turkish fellowship program (Turkish Cultural Foundation), and funds to send Turkish scholars around the world (Hanfmann). Our close and effective affiliate in all our enterprises continues to be the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, Mary Ellen Lane, Executive Director. We are, as always, most grateful to all our supporters.

With best wishes to you all for the coming year.

G. Kenneth Sams

ARIT-ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

It's always a pleasure to give an update on the fundamental operations of the Center in Istanbul, particularly when one can report increased activity in those areas that are most basic to our mission. For Istanbul ARIT our two most important facilities are the library and the hostel, and both have shown an upward trend in use over the past three years, and over this past year have operated at the highest level ever. This is a reflection of the fact that in recent years increasingly large number of scholars have been visiting Istanbul for research purposes and that they have needed library and hostel facilities. Presumably this is an indication that our facilities are serving these purposes to their satisfaction.

Last year the **hostel** housed seventy-seven guests, up from an annual average of 60-65 over the last 15 years, and hostel revenues were at an all-time high. (Fortunately, because with the YTL remaining strong against the dollar, local operating expenses in dollar terms are also at an all-time high.) Many of the guests were relatively long term, and as result we were fully booked 70 nights out of the year. Even some of the winter months, the hostel, which never used to show much use, was completely booked for some periods. The hostel clientele has been remarkably varied; although understandably it is dominated by faculty and graduate students from member institutions in North America, in the past year we have had guests from nine countries outside the U.S., including Ireland, the U.K., Belgium, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Germany, Israel, Greece, and Egypt.

The heart of the Institute is the **library**. It now totals almost 9,000 monograph titles and something close to 13,000 total volumes. Thanks to the efforts of **CAORC** and the **Digital Library for International Research (DLIR)**, formerly AODL) our catalogue is largely online, although a portion of the newest acquisitions and of the least common materials have stubbornly resisted matching with other existing catalogued materials and have therefore not yet been posted. The collection can be accessed through the ARIT website. On site at the Center, we now have three internet-connected terminals in the library space, and almost the entire building is now wireless.

On average over the past four years we have added some 300-350 titles per year (not including journals), a little less than half of which have been in Turkish, and a little more than half of which have been donations. Library use has been slowly rising over the last decade, and last year a total of 776 outside visitors – an average of about three per day – called on the library. This total does not include hostel residents, our most important users, who have 24-hour access without signing in and are therefore not reflected in the statistics. This user increase is due at least partly to the donation in the late 90's of the **Kenneth Snipes**

collection in Byzantine studies, which added a large amount of material that is not otherwise found in the city, or certainly not as conveniently. That collection has seen increased use, especially on the part of an emergent body of Turkish graduate students and faculty conducting research in these areas. This is reflected in library patronage statistics which show a remarkable growth in local graduate student use; the statistics for the last year show that for the first time ever graduate students affiliated with Turkish universities formed a majority of overall library users, more than all other users combined (foreign and local faculty, non-Turkish graduate students, etc.).

Of course in addition to the library and hostel, other activities continue apace. We had seven **lectures** at the Institute over the past spring and summer, providing an opportunity for scholars and Friends of the Institute to keep abreast of some of the interesting research projects that either have brought outside researchers to the institute and/or Istanbul, or that the local academic community is engaged in.

Lectures at the Institute during Spring/Summer 2005 include:

Dr. Orlin Sabev (Balkan Studies Institute, Sofia, ARIT-Mellon Fellow) “The First Ottoman Turkish Printing Press and the Formation of Ottoman Print Culture (1726-1746)”

Dr. Elizabeth Bishop (Department of History, University of Texas at Austin) “Gertrude Bell, *Femme Impériale*”

Mr. Hugh Pope (Istanbul Bureau Chief of *The Wall Street Journal*): “Sons of the Conquerors: the Rise of the Turkic World”

Professor Heath Lowry (Atatürk Professor of Ottoman and Modern Turkish Studies, Princeton University) “In the Footsteps of the Ottomans: a Tour of 15th Century Ottoman Monuments in Northern Greece”

Professor Steven Richmond (Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Istanbul Technical University) “The Two Turkish Dreams of Tsar Peter the Great of Russia, 9 October and 9 November, 1716”

Professor Robert Ousterhout (School of Architecture, University of Illinois) “The Sanctity of Place and the Sanctity of Buildings: Jerusalem vs. Constantinople”

Professor Irene Banias (Department of Political Science and International Relations, Boğaziçi University): “The Challenge of Human Rights: Access to Justice in Contemporary Turkey”

The **Turkish Language Summer Program** at Boğaziçi University had a record number of participants this past year, of which ARIT supported sixteen at the advanced level through a grant from the Department of Education. The ARIT program,

now in its 21st year, continues to be administered masterfully by **Professor Erika Gilson** of Princeton University. ARIT fellows in the program met twice at ARIT for orientation and evaluation programs, joined the FARIT tour with **John Freely** for a boat tour around the Princess Islands, and took a boat trip up the Bosphorus for a relaxing lunch at Poyrazköy, a clamber up to the Genoese castle at Anadolu Kavak with expert guidance from **Professor Robert Ousterhout**, and a chance to swim across the Bosphorus between the two Kavaks.

I have mentioned above that our library's continued growth depends significantly on the **generosity of donors**. I am extremely grateful to the following **individuals** for their gifts last spring and summer: Iris Agmon, Mehmet Altun, Ayda Arel, Bashir Bashir, Harriet Blitzer, Andrew Bynom, Güneş Duru, John Freely, Rebekah Green, Ayşe Gürel, Paul and Martha Henze, Svetlana Ivanova, Charlotte Jirousek, Tufan Karasu, Machiel Kiel, Benjamin Lellouch, Mihai Maxim, Robert Ousterhout, Sandor Papp, Gabriel Piricky, Scott Redford, Alessandra Ricci, Orlin Sabev, and Filiz Yenişehirlioğlu, as well as to the following **institutions**: Kültür Valipları ve Müzeleri Genel Müdürlüğü, Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation, Türk Diyanet Vakfı, and the University of Chicago Library.

Remember that ARIT can help with reducing the costs of sending book donations to Turkey. Please contact the office in Philadelphia for further information.

ISTANBUL FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

The past six months were an exciting time for the Friends of ARIT, with an interesting and well-received mix of old favorites as well as several new and adventurous off-the-beaten-track tours.

The spring season began with an improved version of an old classic, a whirlwind trip to **Van** and **Ani**. Taking advantage of the long weekend offered by the May 19 holiday, with the enthusiastic leadership of longtime ARIT supporter **Professor Geoffrey Summers**, director of the Iron Age excavations at Kerkenes Dağı, a group of over 40 Friends set out for Van in such stormy weather they were almost forced to land in Muş instead. The weather improved quickly and over the next day and a half they visited the **Van citadel**, Çavuştepe, the castle at **Hosap**, and the magnificent Armenian cathedral at **Aktamar** (where a restoration team was just beginning to set up). The following day they drove to **Kars** via **Doğubeyazıt** and the spectacular 18th century mountainside **palace of İshak Paşa**, and on the following morning visited the medieval Armenian capital of Ani (which no longer involves any cumbersome formalities). The final thrill of the trip came when the bus driver took the group to the wrong airport, but with the mobile phones buzzing and with 40 passengers at stake, the plane's departure was delayed long enough for them to get back to the right airport and get on board for the flight home.

The Friends' next foray was even more adventurous, to **Divriği**, site of the most ornate and complex of all Seljuk period building complexes, and to **Kemaliye (Eğin)**, an open air museum of wonderfully preserved domestic architecture. The latter was spread out through a beautiful gorge in the upper Euphrates, and connecting the two sites is the **taş yolu**, a series of tunnels blasted through sheer rock hundreds of terrifying meters up the side of a deep canyon on the Euphrates. The road was begun in the late 19th century by the good folk of Eğin as part of an effort to open up access for people and goods to the West. It was a Herculean task, so much so that it was only finished two years ago, and those who took this trip have seen why! This is an area where tourism had had very little impact, where the feel is authentic, the people hospitable and the scenery spectacular. The Friends were fortunate to have ARIT Board member and frequent FARIT tour leader **Professor Scott Redford** along to help explain the historical and artistic context out of which the impressive complex at Divriği was created, as well as to point out what is so special and incomparable about it.

In early July the Friends boarded ship for yet another variation on the "floating with Freely" theme that has been so popular in recent years. This time, aided by veteran FARITs **Ben and Mary Ann Whitten** and in conjunction with the publication by Ada Press of a **new book on the Princess Islands by Professor Freely**, **Kaptan Tezcan** and the good ship Kumsal took the Friends on a spin all the way around all the Islands (with the exception of the two outlying the furthest, Sivri and Yassı, to which Professor Freely had taken us the year before). This tour gave the Friends a view of the islands from all angles and thus a new perspective on the natural beauty and the variety of architecture found on them.

Later in August, when much of the rest of the world was on vacation, those diehard Friends left in Istanbul took the opportunity to venture off with **Professors Hadi Özbal** and **Günhan Danışman** into the deep forest of northern Thrace to look at the work they are doing there to excavate and explicate the Ottoman period remains of what was a large iron ore mining and smelting establishment, complete with a large residential settlement. Located near today's Demirköy, a small town just inland from İğneada, the complex was known in Ottoman times as **Samakocuk**, which connects it to the historic mining area of Samakov across the modern border in Bulgaria. One of the larger goals of the project, which includes teams from a number of universities, is to undertake restoration work that will make it possible to turn the whole area into a working industrial archaeological park.

In the late summer the Friends returned to their ships and for the tenth consecutive year, with Ottoman military historian **Caroline Finkel** as their guide, ventured up the Bosphorus to visit the castles guarding its northern entrance. Later, turning their prow downstream, they sailed into the **Golden Horn** with **Professor Freely** for a walk around its upper reaches,

including the area around the **Blachernae** (reached from the Ayvansaray boat landing) and some of the back streets of Eyup. The day trip ended up at one of Sinan's lesser known and unorthodox masterpieces, the **complex of Shahsultan and Zal Mahmut Paşa**.

Lastly, in the mid-fall, **Dr. Turgut Saner** of Istanbul Technical University led the Friends to southeast Anatolia to visit **Mardin, Dara**, the monasteries of **Deyrzaferan and Mar Gabriel**, and **Hasankeyf**, repeating a trip first made six years ago. Much has changed in the interim, and Mardin in particular is now firmly ensconced in the local and foreign tourist route, boasting a first class hotel and numerous boutique hotels in the old stone vernacular, all of which are fully booked on the weekends for months in advance. Nevertheless, the center of the town is well preserved and little changed, and the view over the North Syrian plain at sunset remains breathtaking.

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ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, I was unable to attend the 2005 annual ARIT meeting in Philadelphia because of the birth of my son, **Yunus Maximus Yıldırım**, on January 11th at Ankara. A newborn certainly helped put change and adaptation into perspective as I was struggling to keep up with the morphing laws and regulations in Turkey that have an effect on research and institutions like ARIT. These changes have been occurring fairly rapidly during these past two years as a result of the single party rule and the reforms instigated by the push to become a member of the European Union.

Fortunately, the ARIT-Ankara center's ability to facilitate research in Turkey continues, thanks to the generous donors and institutions that support our fellowship programs. In April the annual meeting of the jury for the **George and Ilse Hanfmann fellowships** took place at ARIT-Ankara. Twelve applicants for the 2005-2006 Fellowships – mainly doctoral students – came from nine universities: Istanbul University, Çanakkale 18th of March University, Hacettepe University, Middle East Technical University, Ankara University, Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul Technical University, Akdeniz University and Atatürk University. They represented a wide range of fields, including anthropology, art history, architecture, archaeology, ancient history, and ancient languages and cultures. The seven-person jury set by our Dernek in Istanbul and its branch in Ankara, was composed this year of Professor Dr. Ömür Bakırer (METU), Professor Dr. Serra Durugönül (Mersin University), Dr. Charles Gates (Bilkent University), Dr. Antony Greenwood (ARIT-Istanbul director), Doç. Dr. Mihriban Özbaşaran (Istanbul University), Professor Dr. Oğuz Tekin (Istanbul University)

and Dr. Bahadır Yıldırım (ARIT-Ankara director). The jury selected four applicants with projects ranging from pottery of the Halaf period and Iron Age settlements to Greek coinage and Late Antique epigraphy. (Please see the list of fellows and their project descriptions on page 10.)

Three of our **W.D.E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellows** for 2005 completed their projects between January and July. During her stay at the School, **Sertaç Erten** reported finding considerable material for her project on the effect of the Olympics on Athens. **Baki Demirtaş** documented the cuttings for lifting architectural elements on monuments at Olympia in order to compare with the lifting techniques at Magnesia-on-the-Meander and made important contacts with P. Pedersen and Barbara Barletta. **Şenay Özdemir** investigated Ottoman seafaring using the resources of the Gennadius library. In June I also visited the **American School of Classical Studies at Athens (ASCSA)**, thanks to the kind invitation of **Professor John Camp** and the hospitality of the school's director **Professor Stephen Tracy**. I met with John Camp, Bob Bridges, Guy Sanders, Charles Williams, and Maria Georgopoulou as well as many colleagues. I learned about the school's operations, facilities, programs, and the Agora and Corinth excavations. I recognized the many commonalities between ARIT and the ASCSA despite differences in scale. The Coulson-Cross Aegean Exchange Program reflects a long-standing relationship between the two centers. From the Turkish Aegean Exchange fellows, I had heard much about their positive experiences in Greece and how important the ASCSA was in facilitating their research. I was happy to learn that Greek fellows, whom we had assisted in gaining permits and research contacts in Turkey, also have benefited from the program. The trip was a productive one, thanks to the fact

that everyone took time out of their busy schedules to discuss their work with me. I am especially grateful to John Camp for making me feel so welcome and making my first visit such a memorable one.

The Aegean fellows from Greece as well as those from other foreign countries have begun to benefit from the new procedures which went into effect last June. These changes, which do not affect the procedures for archaeological excavation and survey permits, are explained on the ARIT website through the link "**Turkish Research Permit Application Procedures**." The new process allows individuals to apply directly to the institutions from which they are requesting permission rather than through the Turkish foreign ministry, thus removing the need to apply for a research visa. The few reports I have received from those who have used this new procedure have been positive.

The most recent regulations, promulgated over the summer, concern the need for archaeological excavations to include site preservation and management plans in their annual excavation permit applications. The regulations have been translated and also posted on the ARIT website through the link "**Archaeological Excavation and Survey Permit Process and Regulations**" as "**June 2005**" and "**August 2005**" regulations.

Late spring and summer are traditionally the most hectic months for ARIT-Ankara because of the arrival of archaeologists who are either reporting at the annual international archaeology symposium, meeting with government officials about their permits, or on their way to participate on an archaeological project. We are all grateful for the efficiency and hard work of the **ARIT-Ankara staff - Pelin Gürol** (administrative assistant), **Özlem Eser** (librarian), and **Elmas Demirel** (housekeeper) - who ensured as always that the center managed everything so well during these busy months.

In May this year, ARIT held its **annual lecture series on art and archaeology in Turkey**, kindly hosted by the Turkish American Association (TAA). I was able to contribute to the series this year with a lecture on "Aphrodisias and its Mythical Past." I am grateful to the other two speakers for their lectures: doctoral candidate **Sue Ann McCarty** (Fulbright-Hays, Department of Anthropology, University of Virginia) who spoke on "The Social Organization of Kazane Höyük, a Sixth Millennium BCE Village in Southeastern Turkey," and **Dr. Lale Özgenel** (Department of History of Architecture, Middle East Technical University), who presented "Eating and Meeting in Late Antique Houses in Asia Minor."

Last May ARIT-Ankara received a certificate of appreciation from the program coordinators of the **ACCESS program at the Turkish American Association**, for ARIT's assistance in facilitating the distribution of new Turkish-English/English-Turkish dictionaries (Redhouse) to support English language study and training in Turkey.

The **International Symposium of Excavations, Surveys and Archaeometry**, sponsored annually by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums, was nearly cancelled this year due to delays resulting from the appointment of a new Minister of Culture and Tourism, Atilla Koç. As in 2004, the 2005 symposium was held outside of Ankara, this time in Antalya on the campus of Akdeniz University. Once again we could not hold the Mini-Symposium on the American Contribution to Archaeology in Turkey, nor our traditional ARIT reception for symposium participants and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, since our main support for the occasion, the US Embassy, is unable to host the event outside of Ankara.

The Ankara **hostel** was home for 33 guests who stayed for various periods from January to June 2005. The busiest months were June, July and August, mainly because of the team members of archaeological projects passing through the city. The guests had support from various fellowships and institutions including the ARIT Mellon, ARIT – U.S. Department of State, CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), Fulbright-Hays, National Science Foundation, LSB Leafer Foundation, and Loeb Classical Library. The affiliations of the guests included Harvard University, the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Boston University, CNRS, the University of Arizona, Cornell University, Gonzaga University, New York University, the University of Poznan (Poland), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Buffalo State College, Northwestern University, the University of Birmingham (UK), the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Illinois at Chicago, the University of Toronto, the University of Virginia, American University in Cairo, CAORC, and the University of Paris - Pantheon Sorbonne.

After some hardware and network problems all of the **office and library computers** were partially upgraded to run the same operating system software. This enabled us to set up an automated backup system to ensure that all files on the computers will be fully protected. Finally, the internet system at the ARIT office and library was changed from a cable-based one to ADSL, which has improved the speed of internet connections and reduced the cost of using the internet. We plan to upgrade the internet system of the hostel from its present dial-up one to ADSL as well.

The core of our center, the **Toni M. Cross library**, was visited a total of 434 times between January and June. The detailed records that we now keep of our library users enables us to provide a breakdown of usage by University affiliation and academic level. We can report that there was considerable continuity with the usage as reported in the last *ARIT Newsletter*. Among the nineteen Turkish universities that used our library (Abant İzzet Baysal University, Adnan Menderes University, Anadolu University, Eskişehir, Ankara University, Başkent University, Ankara, Bilkent University,

Çanakkale University, Dokuz Eylül University, Ege University, İzmir, Erciyes University, Kayseri, Gazi University, Hacettepe University, İstanbul University, Kocaeli University, Konya Selçuk University, Mersin University, Middle East Technical University, Muğla University, Yüzüncü Yıl University, Van), those with the most usage were once again universities from Ankara, with Ankara University having the most usage followed by Hacettepe, Bilkent and Middle East Technical Universities, the same profile that we noted during the period from July through December of 2004.

Among the eight foreign universities most were from the US (Georgetown University, Gonzaga University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia), followed by Poland (University of Poznan, Poland), Italy (Università di Cattolica Milano), and France (Sorbonne University). The users affiliated with foreign universities once again represented less than ten percent of the users of the library. The academic levels of the users were remarkably similar to those reported for the previous six-month period: master's (40%), undergraduate (33%), doctoral (14%), post-doctoral (11%), and other (1.6%). The most common user profile stayed the same: a master's student from Ankara or Hacettepe University.

A total of 248 items (86 monographs, 50 offprints, 21 dissertations, 76 issues of journals, and 15 newsletters/annual reports) were recorded in the library catalog during this six-month period as well. Our librarian, Özlem Eser, worked closely with Leonora Navari to catalog our map collection on a database for the **MedMaps project** of the **Digital Library for International Research (DLIR)** under the aegis of **CAORC**. The project, now in its initial phases, will enable scholars to search a web-based catalog of significant maps in the collections of American Overseas Research Centers in the Mediterranean region.

Finally we must thank as always those **donors** who ensure the library remains an important resource for the local academic community as well as visiting scholars: American Research Center- Egypt, American Information Resource Center of the U.S. Embassy – Ankara, ARIT – Istanbul, Archaeological Institute of America, Murat Arslan, Ayşe Aydın, Hatçe Baltacıoğlu, Cevdet Bayburtluoğlu, British School at Athens, John M. Camp, Serra Durugönül, Maria de J. Ellis, Faculty of Arts and Sciences American University of Beirut, General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums – Republic of Turkey, Sevinç Günel, Pelin Gürol, Yılmaz İzmirliler, Journal of Near Eastern Studies, Musa Kadioglu, Veronica Kalas, Ellen Kohler, Gary Leiser, Machteld Mellink, Ministry of Culture and Tourism – Republic of Turkey, National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research Centre of Excellence – Quaid-I-Azam University, Sándor Papp, Die Römisch-Germanische Kommission (DAI), Christopher H. Roosevelt, Savaş Özkan Savaş, Türk Eskiçağ Bilimleri Enstitüsü, University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Ed Webb, and Bahadır Yıldırım.

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ANKARA FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

The Steering Committee of the Friends of ARIT-Ankara (Jennifer Barbarie, Christine Deutsch, Pamela Dunham, Patricia Edelman, Shirley Epir, Charles Gates, Melissa Kunstadter, Ken Moffat, Perin Öztin, Melissa Sagun, Ron Tickfer, and Patricia Ülkü) and Friends of ARIT assistant Pelin Gürol continued the events and cultural activities that make the Friends such a vital component of the experience of those who wish to learn more about Turkey. They organized ten events from January to June.

The season of trips began in February with the traditional President's Day Weekend trip to sites in the **Aegean region** led by **Dr. Charles Gates** (Bilkent University). This year we were blessed with fine weather as we traversed the spectacular Classical sites of Pergamon and Assos, as well as the legendary site of Troy and modern Gallipoli in the footsteps of Dr. Gates, whose insights and guidance made our journey into the past all the more unforgettable. We also thank the **museum at Çanakkale** for opening their doors just for us to see two exceptional sarcophagi that have created a sensation since their recent discovery. The Friends also had time at Çanakkale to see the Trojan Horse used in the recent movie "Troy," now on display at the port of the city.

The next trip took place in March when the Friends took to the border of Syria and Turkey to what was one of the largest cities of the ancient world, **Antioch-on-the-Orontes**. **Professor Scott Redford's** (Georgetown University) guidance brought alive the colorful mosaic of civilizations of the area including those of the city of Aleppo as he lead us to mountain top monasteries, citadels and palaces; to the excavations at Kinet Höyük; through Roman tunnels and busy markets; and to restaurants to taste the delicious cuisine of the region.

In June the Friends participated in two trips. The first was a trip to **Nemrud Dağı, Şanlıurfa, Harran, and Atatürk Dam**, which is led every two years by **Professor Dr. Suna Güven** (Department of History of Architecture, METU). Many had waited anxiously for two years to have the chance to visit the sites under Suna's guidance, so famed is her trip. The trip began with an overview of the civilizations that inhabited the area by observing their distinctive material cultures in the collections of the **archaeological museum of Şanlıurfa**. The group then traipsed up the city's ancient citadel to learn more about the city's monuments and sacred sites such as the Pool of Abraham. The trip continued to the ancient ruins of Harran with its large mosque, citadel, city walls, and distinctive beehive dwellings, still inhabited today. Finally the Friends saw monuments of the Hellenistic period kingdom of Kommagene and climbed to the top of Nemrud Dağı to visit the tumulus of king Antiochos I (one of UNESCO's World Heritage sites), where they truly felt they were at the top of the world. Then storm clouds rolled in and dashed their hopes for seeing a mesmerizing sunset.

The second trip in late June was the annual day trip to **Gordion**. We had great weather as we witnessed archaeology in action, and were enthralled by the tour led by Gordion Project Director and ARIT President **Professor G. Kenneth Sams**, to whom we are always grateful for his warm hospitality and informative guidance. We also had the opportunity to learn about the activities of the field projects from Professor Mary Voigt, Dr. Andrew Goldman, and Dr. Brendan Burke. After learning much about the latest work of the archaeologists at the site, the Friends enjoyed a picnic lunch with members of the excavation team.

The **series of lectures** sponsored by the Friends began in February with a pre-trip lecture by **Dr. Charles Gates** (Bilkent University) about the artifacts and civilizations associated with the sites that were to be visited during the President's Day weekend trip to **Troy, Pergamon, Assos, and Gallipoli**. The annual seminar series of the Friends, traditionally held over the winter months, was extended into the Spring this year. Its subject was "**The Medieval World in Turkey**" and consisted of three lectures: **Professor Scott Redford** (Georgetown University) presented "Anatolia and the Crusades;" **Zeynep Yürekli-Görkay** (Harvard University) discussed "The Shrine

Complexes of Seyyid Gazi and Haci Bektash;" and **Dr. Hugh Elton** (Director- British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara) and **Dr. Lale Özgenel** (Middle East Technical University) spoke on "The Göksu Archaeological Project and Medieval Isauria." The library was packed for all of these fine presentations which gave both an overview of the period as well as some specific highlights of the latest research of the each of the speakers, three of whom were fellows of ARIT, excepting Dr. Elton.

In March the Friends once again organized an informative **show-and-tell session** modeled on the 'Antiques Road Show' format. Six local experts on Turkish handcrafts (Abdulkadir Ersoy, Kamil, Yılmaz and Özcan İzmirliler, Fatma Tuna, Dilek Güngen) examined items brought by the Friends and discussed the various traditions of their manufacture. We are most grateful for the kind hospitality of the Canadian Ambassador, **Michael Leir**, for hosting this event at his residence, as well as **Jennifer Barbarie**'s organization of the event, and **Ron Tickfer**'s guidance of the evening.

The **Annual Members' Dinner** at the US Ambassador's Residence was a great success once again. The Friends were able to support 20 guests, including archaeologists from the US and Canada visiting Ankara before their field seasons began as well as those from universities in Ankara who had recently led Friends of ARIT trips. We all very much appreciated the excellent lecture, "5000 Years of Merchants and Sailors at Kinet-by-the-Sea," by the director of the Kinet Höyük excavations, **Professor Marie-Henriette Gates** of Bilkent University, who gave us a comprehensive account of this archaeological project and its findings over the past decade.

We thank our hosts, the **Honorary President of F/ARIT, Patricia Edelman, and Ambassador Eric S. Edelman**, for their kind hospitality. The dinner also gave us a chance to thank supportive Steering Committee members who were leaving us this year: **Jennifer Barbarie, Christine Deutsch, Pamela Dunham, Patricia Edelman, and Melissa Kunstadter**, each of whom received a silver-plated carnation pin. Certificates of appreciation were also presented to Patricia Edelman for her active involvement in the Friends and Melissa Kunstadter for all her support and contributions to F/ARIT over the many years she has lived in Turkey.

ARIT Fellows 2005-2006

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellows:

Professor Nicholas Cahill, Archaeology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, "Partitioned Cities in Anatolia." Professor Cahill will study city planning in Anatolia during the first millennium B.C. Distinct from the better known Mediterranean tradition of grid plans, the Iron Age Lydian city of Sardis embodies an example of a city laid out on monumental built terraces and subdivided into functional partitions that links to the city planning practices of the Near East. In the light of his extensive first-hand knowledge of Sardis, Profes-

sor Cahill will visit relevant city sites to examine the layout of each in its landscape.

Ms. İpek Yosmaoğlu-Turner, History, Princeton University, "Passages into Nationhood: Imperial Disintegration and the Making of National Identity in Ottoman Macedonia, 1897-1912." Ms. Yosmaoğlu-Turner plans to expand and develop her dissertation research on the historical processes that transformed Christian peasants of rural Macedonia into peoples with different national identities within the Ottoman spectrum. She will complete her study of

Macedonia in early 20th century by working on documents in the Prime Ministerial archive that tell of the Muslims in Macedonia for the period. She will recast the narrative of the struggle for Macedonia and contribute to our understanding of national identity construction in multi-ethnic contexts.

U.S. Department of State ECA-CAORC Fellows:

Mr. Eliot Bates, Ethnomusicology, University of California at Berkeley, “Cultural Debates in Istanbul Recording Studios.” Mr. Bates will explore how practices in contemporary Istanbul recording studios illustrate broader ongoing cultural debates between ‘alafranga’ (European) and ‘alaturka’ (Turkish) aesthetic sensibilities.

Ms. Lale Can, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies and History, New York University, “Subjects of the Tsar, Brothers of the Sultan: the Ferghana Valley between Russian Colonialism and Ottoman Pan-Islamism.” Using newly-available Ottoman archival material, Ms. Can will study a significant anti-tsarist rebellion lead by an Ottoman partisan. Her work will expand the record on the history of Central Asia and the Ottoman Empire in the east.

Dr. Kay Ebel, Geography, Ohio Wesleyan University/McGhee Center for E. Mediterranean Studies, “City Views, Imperial Visions: Geographical Narratives of Ottoman Imperialism, 1453-1603.” Dr. Ebel will consider the use of the image of the city in the ideology of the Ottoman Empire.

Ms. Tolga Esmer, History, University of Chicago, “Religion and Rebellion: the Cultural Practices of Christian and Muslim Notables in Ottoman Bulgaria, c. 1750-1839.” Ms. Esmer will use the archives of important Muslim and Christian leaders of the Ottoman city of Filibe in Bulgaria to study how local politics and Ottoman government interact to form Balkan society and nationalism.

Mr. Ryan Gingeras, (in combination with Istanbul Friends of ARIT funding, see below).

Samuel H. Kress Foundation Doctoral Fellows in the History of Art and Archaeology:

Ms. Suzan Ayşe Yalman, History of Architecture, Harvard University, “A Civilizing Mission? Religion, Urbanism, and Identity in the Architectural Patronage of Sultan Alaeddin Keykubad (r. 1220-1237).” Ms. Yalman will study architectural patronage under the great 13th century ruler of the Seljuk sultanate, Alaeddin Keykubad, exploring the role of religion, urban planning, and identity in multi-cultural Anatolia.

Mr. Andrew Creekmore, Archaeology, Northwestern University, “Investigating the Role of Neighborhoods in the Development of Mesopotamian Cities: the Case of Kazane Höyük.” Mr. Creekmore plans to investigate the role of neighborhoods in the growth and development of Early Bronze Ages cities in northern Mesopotamia using two broad sectors of Kazane Höyük in Turkey as a case study.

Istanbul Friends of ARIT Fellow:

Mr. Ryan Gingeras, History, University of Toronto, “Notorious Subjects, Invisible Citizens: Ethnicity, Islam, and Revolution in Western Anatolia, 1914-1936.” Mr. Gingeras will explore the emergence of Turkish nationalist, anti-nationalist, and Islamist movements in the formation of the Turkish Republic focusing on the role of North Caucasian and Albanian immigrants in shaping or opposing Turkish secular, nationalist ideology.

Joukowsky Family Foundation John Freely Fellow:

Ms. Ebru Kayaalp, Anthropology, Rice University, “From Seed to Smoke: an Ethnography of Tobacco Production in Turkey.” Rapid deregulation of the Turkish economy in the 1990s affected the agricultural production of tobacco. Ms. Kayaalp will examine how changes in the global and local markets and trade practices have transformed the lives of tobacco farmers and production in Turkey.

Kenan T. Erim Fellow (American Friends of Aphrodisias):

Mr. Philip T. Stinson, Archaeology, New York University, “The Civil Basilica of Aphrodisias and the Architectural Development of the Asiatic Basilica.” Mr. Stinson will travel to the sites in Turkey that provide the remains of basilicas comparable to the Civil Basilica at Aphrodisias, including Ephesus, Smyrna, and Aspendos, to document their architectural detail and make compare it with the structure at Aphrodisias.

Boğaziçi University Program in Advanced Turkish Language Fellows:

Julia Cohen, Stanford University

Mathew Creighton, University of Pennsylvania

Ceylan Erman, Princeton University

Zhaleh Feizollahi, Georgetown University

John Frager, Columbia University

Michael Gold, University of Minnesota

Bryce Kaufmann, Yale University

Ryan Keating, Yale University

Jennifer Miller, Rutgers University

Sepideh Monirabbassi, University of California, Los Angeles

Rachel Anne Prager, University of Chicago

Dayla Rogers, University of Michigan

Katayoun Sadeghi, New York University

David Stevens, Columbia University

Jeremy Walton, University of Chicago

Sam White, Columbia University

Turkish Dernek Fellows:

Dr. Meryem Acara, Art History, Hacettepe University, “Armenian Mastercraftsmen and Metalworking in 17th and 18th Century Anatolia.” Taking as her focus a group of six silver liturgical bowls associated with Armenian mastercraftsmen from the Kayseri region and found in the collection of the Istanbul Archaeological Museum, Dr. Acar’s hopes to shed light on the craft techniques and liturgical and cultural contexts which informed Armenian metal working in central Anatolia in these centuries.

Dr. Turgut Saner and Dr. Zeynep Kuban, Architecture, Istanbul Technical University, “An Archaeological and Architectural Survey of the Sacred Spaces at Lake Kiran.” Drs. Saner and Kuban will be completing topographical measurements and preparing for publication their research over the last ten years on the site of Kiran Gölü on the tip of the Bozburun Peninsula in Lycia.

Mr. Ömerül F. Böülübaşı, History, Marmara University, “The Ottoman Imperial Mint in the Second Half of the 18th Century.” This study hopes to fill an important gap by going beyond traditional numismatic concerns and looking for the first time in a comprehensive fashion at the extensive records of the imperial mint during a half

century when it played an exceptionally critical role in monetary policy.

Mr. Bahattin Çelik, Archaeology, Hacettepe University, “Early Pre-Pottery Neolithic B Culture in Southeastern Anatolia in the Light of the Recently Discovered Settlements of Yeni Mahalle, Karahan Tepe, Sefer Tepe and Hamzan Tepe in Urfa.” Mr. Çelik’s work seeks to further elucidate the nature of early Pre-Pottery neolithic B culture in south east Anatolia based on data he has been collecting from a series of sites he has discovered in the Urfa region.

Mr. Aytaç Coşkun, Archaeology, Ankara University, “The Apollo Smintheus Temple in Gülpınar.” Aytaç Coşkun will be attempting a reconstruction of the roof and its support system at the Temple of Apollo Smintheus.

Ms. Didem Danış, Sociology, Galatasaray University, “Networks in Mobility: Iraqi Transient Migrants in Istanbul.” Didem Danış’ study entails an analysis of the various survival strategies used by Iraqi transit migrants in Turkey, as well as of the use to which they put their social capital and social networks in the nature, direction, and social structure of their journeys.

Mr. Selçuk Dursun, History, Sabancı University, “The Fleet, the Forests and the Nation: the Administration of Forest Lands in the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish Republic, 1850-1950.” Combining the concerns of nationalism studies with ecological and environmental studies, Mr. Dursun plans to look at the development of Ottoman and then Turkish forestry policies as a running parallel to and reflecting the stages of the development of the modern state.

Ms. Betül Ekimci, Architecture, Istanbul Technical University, “The Architectural Legacy of the Pious Foundations of Üsküdar.” Ms. Ekimci will attempt to document the present condition of the vakıf-controlled monuments of the historic city center of Üsküdar, to determine the place of these buildings in the traditional urban structure, and to propose propose a model for their reconstruction, upkeep and use that is in harmony both with their traditional urban role and with modern urban concerns.

Turkish Cultural Foundation Fellows:

Dr. Nazlı Çınarlı-Karaaslan, Archaeology, Hacettepe University, “The Importance for Aegean Archaeology of the Decorative Objects found in the Panaztepe Excavations.” This will be a comprehensive study of the small objects - glass, stone, pottery and metal - found in the burial sites of Panaztepe. Some of these items appear to be unique; others show clear links with the Aegean Islands, with Central Anatolia, and even with sites further afield in the eastern Mediterranean.

Dr. Bora Uysal, Archaeology, Hacettepe University, “The Ninava 5 Ceramics of Girnavaz.” This will be the first publication of the pottery from Girnavaz, the only Ninava 5 ceramics group found in stratigraphic context in southeast Anatolia, and as such should shed light on the relation of southeast Anatolian Ninava 5 culture with the better known examples in Northern Mesopotamia and North Syria.

Ms. Evren Çelik-Wiltse, International Relations, Hacettepe University, “After the Fog of Reform: Prospects for ‘Democracy Without Qualifiers’ in Mexico and Turkey.” This thesis will attempt a comparison of the dynamics of sub-national politics in two ‘bounded democratic’ regimes, Mexico and Turkey. The focus of the study will be municipal politics in six major cities of these two countries.

Ms. F. Arzu Demirel, Paleoanthropology, Ankara University, “The Small Mammal Taphonomy of the Karain Cave.” This study of small mammal taphonomy aims to elucidate the climactic and ecological conditions which determined the context for the preservation of early human remains in the Karain Caves.

Ms. Pınar Dost, French Institute of Anatolian Studies in Istanbul, “Turkish Neutrality in World War II: the Westernization Project between a Traditional German Orientation and a new American Orientation (1939-1947).” This study of Turkish foreign policy during and immediately after World War II argues that the central conflict informing all debate in this period concerned what ideal of the West would be pursued, one based on a traditional attachment to central European and German ideologies, or a new concept of the West which for the first time put America and ‘Americanization’ rather than England and France in the center of its ideology.

Mr. R. Eser Kortanoğlu, Classical Archaeology, İstanbul University, “The Rock Tombs of Phrygia in the Hellenistic and Roman Periods.” This dissertation will attempt to provide a complete inventory of more than a thousand rock-cut tombs of mountainous Phrygia from the Hellenistic and Roman periods, and to determine the nature of their relationship both with earlier Phrygian tombs in the area and with other rock-cut tomb traditions of Anatolia.

Andrew W. Mellon Central and East European Fellows:

Dr. Éva Csáki, Turkology/History/Linguistics, Peter Pazmany Catholic University, Budapest, Hungary, “Bektashi Traditions in Thrace.” Dr. Csáki will search archives and libraries for records of Bektashi ceremonies. She will build on her prior fieldwork in the traditional Shi'a Bektashi villages of Thrace to record current traditions and ceremonial music.

Dr. Vasilica Lungu, Archaeology, Institute of Southeast European Studies, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania, “The Cultural Mobility of the Phrygians in the Black Sea Basin.” Dr. Lungu will use archaeological and epigraphical evidence to document cultural exchanges between the western Phrygian areas and Pontic cities and the role of the Milesian colonies settled on the Black Sea.

Dr. Mirena Slavova, Classics, St. Kliment Ohridski, Sofia University, Sofia, Bulgaria, “Thracian and Greek Epigraphic Evidence in East Thrace and Asia Minor.” Dr. Slavova will collect Thracian names by excerpting Greek epigraphic monuments from East Thrace and Asia Minor. She will analyze the patterns of Greek transliteration of the Thracian names in both regions.

W. D. E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellows:

From Turkey:

Baki Demirtaş, Archaeology, Ankara University, “A Comparision of the Technical and Workmanship Characteristics of the Temple of Artemis at Magnesia on the Meander with Four Monuments at Olympia.” Mr. Demirtaş plans to complete research on the Temple of Artemis at Magnesia on the Meander by comparing its technical characteristics and workmanship with monuments at Olympia: the monument of Ptolemaios and Arsinoe, a monument next to the Philippeion, a monument between the Temple of Zeus and the Echo-Stoa, and the Palaestra.

Ms. Sertaç Erten, City and Regional Planning, Middle East Technical University, “Bidding For Hosting Mega-Sports Events as a Problem of Sports-Infrastructure Capacity Building: Olympic Bids of Istanbul and Athens as a Comparative Study.” In order to examine the impact of mega sports events on cities, Ms. Erten will study the dynamics of how the social and spatial capacities of Athens were developed to host the most recent Olympic games, and will compare them with those surrounding the preparations and bids by Istanbul to host the Olympic games.

Dr. Elçin Macar, Political Science and International Relations, Yıldız Technical University, “Turkey’s Aid to Greece During World War II – the Ship *Kurtuluş*.” Dr. Macar will study the assistance given by Turkey in the form of food to Greece during the years 1941-1942 when the country faced great difficulties. He will focus on the ship *Kurtuluş*, which transported the food to Greece and symbolized the solidarity between the two countries.

Dr. Şenay Özdemir, History, Mersin University, “The Significance of Greek Sailors in the Ottoman Navy.” Dr. Özdemir will study the contributions, influences and roles of Greek sailors in the process of establishing an Ottoman navy by examining documents in the National Library, Benaki Museum, National Archives, and archives at Hania and Heraklion in Crete, the Thessaloniki History Center as well as the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

From Greece:

Dr. Christina Kokkinia, Institute of Greek and Roman Antiquity, National Research Foundation, “Epigraphy of the Lycian Region.”

Mr. Ioannis Papadopoulos, Political Science and History, Panteion University of Athens, “Migration from Ottoman Asia Minor and Thrace to the United States of America from the Beginning of the 19th Century to 1929.”

Ms. Athena Boleti, Aegean Prehistory, University of Paris I - Pantheon-Sorbonne, “The Exploitation of Emery in Eastern Mediterranean during the Bronze Age.”

Dr. Despina Ignatiadou, Curator, Archaeological Museum in Thessaloniki, “Colorless Glass of the 4th Century BC in Asia Minor.”

Ms. Maria Tsouli, Archaeology, University of Athens, “Gladiatorial Monuments in the Greek-Speaking Provinces of the Roman Empire: the Case of the Provinces of Achaea, Macedonia, Epirus, Crete, Cyprus and Asia.”

George and Ilse Hanfmann Fellowships for Advanced Research in Archaeology:

Dr. Sevket Dönmez, Archaeology, Istanbul University, “The Significance of the Iron Age Sites of Samsun Province Surveyed in 1997-2004 and of the Objects Found at those Sites in the Iron Age Cultures of Anatolia and Black Sea Basin.” Dr. Dönmez will spend six months at the University of Melbourne working with Professor A. Sagona and Dr. G. Tsetskhladze.

Ms. Vildan Gürdil, Art and Archaeology, Istanbul University, “The Appearance of Paint-Decorated Pottery in Southeastern Anatolia and the Influence of the Tradition in the Halaf Period.” Ms. Gürdil will work for three months at the University of Manchester in England with Dr. Stuart Campbell.

Mr. Hüseyin Köker, History, Istanbul University, “Catalogue of the Ancient Greek Coins in the Burdur Museum.” Mr. Köker will

work for three months at the American Numismatic Society in New York.

Mr. Fatih Onur, Prehistory, Akdeniz University, “The Army Reform of Anastasius I, on the Basis of a New Military Inscription from Perge.” Mr. Onur will spend six months at Oxford University working with Professor R.S.O. Tomlin.

REPORTS ON ARIT FELLOWSHIP

Socio-Economic Dynamics in the Territory of Antioch in the High Roman Empire

Andrea U. De Giorgi, ARIT-Kress Fellow, 2004-2005

I received the generous ARIT/Kress fellowship while my project was at its initial stage, and the benefit of this grant was twofold: it supported my four-month research project in Turkey, during which I completed the database that underpins my project, as well as allowing me to focus and present my work at two conferences and engage in dialogue with other scholars working on ancient urbanism.

My project stems from the scholarly debate on modeling ancient cities and their territories. The problem lies in the monolithic view that historians have traditionally taken of the “Roman city,” whether praising or decrying its economic role. Models of unilateral exploitation like Finley’s “consumer city” scenario, which seeks to comprise the social and political dynamic of the town-country relationship as well as the nature of urban institutions and ideologies of the ancient city, have become for many historians a city theory per se. I argue that while some of these models are heuristically valid for the ancient world, they are ineffective once robust archaeological data enters the picture. The appearance of technologies, the presence of certain types of industry and the overall responses to the exploitation of resources not only dictate rural settlement patterning but are the indices of a fertile landscape that, in feeding urban markets, benefited from new forms of land tenancy and amply invested surplus and capital to enhance productivity. In sum, I argue that the territory of Antioch (the Amuq Valley) reverses the basic tenets of Finely’s consumer paradigm, thus claiming its fundamental role in the economic growth that the city experienced during the 1st and 2nd century CE.

I spent four months in Turkey, from early July to early October 2004, researching the Amuq Valley Regional Project (AVRP) pottery collections accommodated in Tayfur Sökmen, Hatay, using the facilities of the Tell Tayinat Project. This phase of research was instrumental in refining the chronology of many Roman sites of Antioch’s hinterlands that bloomed at the beginning of the 1st century CE. Moreover, I analyzed their spatial information relying on the AVRP gazetteer, there-

by gaining a comprehensive picture of sites rationally located in the vicinity of specific resources or often performing a determinate economic function. In addition, after two months of fruitful research at ARIT in Ankara, I flew to Athens in October to present my work at the 7th International Conference on Urban History. The paper, "Town and Country in Roman Antioch," will be published in the forthcoming proceedings of the conference.

The Dönmes: a History of the Messianic Judeo-Islamic Community in the Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Ottoman Empire

Cengiz Sisman, ARIT-NEH Fellow, 2004-2005

The purpose of this project was to answer the enigmatic question of what happened to the Ottoman Judeo-Islamic messianic communities, later to be known as the "Dönmes," in the 18th and 19th centuries. Numerous questions were raised during the course of my research: What kinds of religious and mystical beliefs and practices did they develop? Did they modify their principles as they interacted with other communities? And how did outsiders perceive them?

Although a few scholars have written on the formation of the sect in the 17th century and its subsequent dismantling in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, almost nothing has been published about the period between these two episodes. This project is meant to help fill this gap, as well as to pursue answers to the questions posed above in order to derive a more complete picture of the symbiotic, sectarian developments of these Judeo-Islamic communities.

During my research, I was able to interview several people of Sabbatian origin whose ancestors settled in Turkey after the population exchange between Greece and Turkey in 1924. Although they are not practicing Sabbatians, their testimonies and knowledge about their ancestors confirms that close ties existed between the Sufis and the Sabbatians. While I also researched the topic in Ottoman archives, my efforts did not yield many documents from the 18th and early 19th centuries. However, by the second half of the 19th century, a greater number of references appeared, and those documents suggest that, on the official level, Ottoman authorities acknowledged the existence of such a group but did not take a position against these idiosyncratic Muslims.

In addition I examined literary sources, especially travel literature and missionary accounts, which describe the ethnic and religious composition of Salonica. I was able to discover several references to the socio-economic and cultural dimensions of the Sabbatian communities. More importantly, I found out that the Salonican census of 1912 contains detailed accounts

of every family who lived in the city. Since we have a list of neighborhoods where the Ottoman Sabbatians lived, this census is a potentially rich source for obtaining Sabbatian family names, family sizes, their socio-economic status, etc. Finally, I was able to discover traces of two additional Sabbatian communities in Antalya and Bergama, unearthing in the case of the latter a possible fourth Sabbatian subsect, which I tentatively call the Bergamalilar.

To date, most of my findings have confirmed the initial observations and impressions obtained about the fate of the Ottoman Sabbatian communities during the course of my doctoral research. In a presentation at Bogazici University in April 2005, I argued that while Sabbatian communities took their principle doctrines from the Jewish mystical tradition during the formation period, they acquired their structural format from the Ottoman Sufi tradition. After centuries of interaction within Ottoman society, the community members became not only dervishes but also sheyhs among the Mevlevi, Melami and Bektaşı Sufi orders. More particularly, I analyzed the life of Mehmed Esad Dede (1842-1917), who was of Sabbatian origin (Kapanci sect) before becoming a Mevlevi Sheyh first in Salonia and then in Istanbul, as a means of demonstrating interaction between the Sabbatians and Ottoman society. I presented a revised version of this paper at Marmara University in May 2005, and currently I am preparing it for publication.

With the help of an ARIT-NEH postdoctoral fellowship, I was able to accomplish a major part of my project; being in Turkey gave me a chance to meet and talk to several surviving community elders who have distant memories of the past and who have promised to be of help in conducting future research on this topic. The result of this project will be a monograph on the Ottoman Sabbatian community before the dismantling of its traditional structure at the beginning of the 20th century.

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