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50th VOLUME

With this issue we celebrate our journal's 50th volume. In the years since 1980 several excellent pieces of research and analysis as well as assessments of significant original documents related to Ottoman studies have been published. Past and present members of the editorial board of *Osmanlı Araştırmaları*/*The Journal of Ottoman Studies* are proud to see that the journal plays an integral role in the flourishing field of Ottoman studies.

The journal was founded in 1980 by the late Nejat Göyünç along with the late Halil İnalcık and Heath Lowry, with the aim of publishing original research and careful analyses of archival and other primary source materials in Ottoman history, philology, aesthetics, and the history of Turkish literature in the Ottoman period. It foregrounded studies of political and economic history and the history of education, culture and intellectual thought. The founders of the journal sought to create a platform through JOS/OA where both senior and junior scholars of Ottoman studies could engage freely in national and international scholarly exchange. The current editorial board continues to foster this spirit on a global, comparative, and cross-cultural scale.

The journal essentially encourages systematic research and analysis on Ottoman history from the late 13th century until the early 20th century, with a global perspective. The first international scholarly journal in Ottoman studies was published by Friedrich von Kraelitz-Greifenhorst and Paul Wittek in 1921 entitled *Mitteilungen zur osmanischen Geschichte*. Since then, major progress has been made in the field as a more profound understanding of Ottoman history contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of world history.

The Journal of Ottoman Studies, the first 34 volumes (1980-2009) of which was published by the proprietor of Enderun Kitabevi, İsmail Özdoğan (the indispensable dealer of books on Ottoman history), has appeared twice a year since 2004. In 2010 the journal moved to İSAM (the Centre for Islamic Studies), an institution which brings students of Ottoman studies who come to Istanbul from

all around the world closer to each other. The richness of its library and its unconditional welcome of all researchers is well known. Since 2014, the journal has been jointly published by İstanbul 29 Mayıs University and İSAM which are located in the same complex.

All who have contributed to the journal – readers, authors and evaluators of manuscripts – have formed and refined the character of our journal. Our readers and researchers in Ottoman studies can rest assured that *The Journal of Ottoman Studies* embraces complete freedom of analysis and opinion, based on thorough investigation of evidence with special attention given to issues of method and originality.

May there be many more *JOS* issues as long as history continues to inform and guide our lives. Çok yaşa!

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