

# Aca'ib

Occasional Papers

on the Ottoman Perceptions of the Supernatural



A Journal issued by the Research Project

*GHOST: Geographies and Histories of the Ottoman Supernatural Tradition:  
Exploring Magic, the Marvelous, and the Strange in Ottoman Mentalities*

European Research Council Consolidator Grant 771766

3

2022



THE INSTITUTE FOR MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES  
FOUNDATION OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY – HELLAS

ISSN 2732-6659

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Zeynep Aydođan, *Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH, Greece.*

Feray Cořkun, *Özyegin University, Turkey.*

Iřık Demirakın, *Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH, Greece.*

Güneř Iřıksel, *Medeniyet University, Turkey.*

Bekir Harun Küçük, *University of Pennsylvania, USA.*

Ethan Menchinger, *Manchester University, UK.*

Aslı Niyaziođlu, *Oxford University, UK.*

Marinos Sariyannis, *Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH, Greece*  
(*editor-in-chief*).

Ahmet Tunç řen, *Columbia University, USA.*

SUPPORT STAFF:

Ilektra Gatou

Theodoros Nasioulas-Tzanatos

Aris Kydonakis

Maria Malathraki

We thank Crete University Press for their invaluable help in publishing this volume.

*Cover Image:* Professions associated with the seven planets. 1582, Mehmed ibn Emir Hasan al-Su'ûdı, *Matâli' al-su'âda wa yanâbi' al-siyâda*; Bibliothèque nationale de France, MS suppl. turc 242, f. 32v.

URL: <https://ghost.ims.forth.gr/acaib>

ISSN: 2732-6659

© Copyright 2022 by the Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH and the Author(s). This is an open-access journal distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC-BY 4.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

## Abbreviations

BL: British Library (London)  
BnF: Bibliothèque nationale (Paris)  
BOA: Başbakanlık Osmanlı Arşivi (Istanbul)  
İÜK: İstanbul Üniversitesi Kütüphanesi  
SK: Süleymaniye Kütüphanesi  
TSK: Topkapı Sarayı Kütüphanesi (Istanbul)  
TSMA: Topkapı Sarayı Müzesi Arşivi (Istanbul)

*ActOrHung: Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae*

*ArchOtt: Archivum Ottomanicum*

*BSOAS: Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*

*EB: Études Balkaniques*

*IJMES: International Journal of Middle East Studies*

*IJTS: International Journal of Turkish Studies*

*JAOS: Journal of the American Oriental Society*

*JESHO: Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*

*JOTSA: Journal of Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association*

*JTS: Journal of Turkish Studies*

*OA: Osmanlı Araştırmaları – The Journal of Ottoman Studies*

*RMMM: Revue du Monde Musulman et de la Méditerranée*

*ROMM: Revue de l'Occident Musulman et de la Méditerranée*

*SF: Südost-Forschungen*

*SI: Studia Islamica*

*TED: Tarih Enstitüsü Dergisi*

*THR: Turkish Historical Review*

*TSAB: The Turkish Studies Association Bulletin*

*TSAJ: The Turkish Studies Association Journal*

*WZKM: Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes*

*EI: E.J. Brill's First Encyclopaedia of Islam, 1913-1936*

*EI<sup>2</sup>: The Encyclopaedia of Islam, New Edition (Leiden, 1960-2002)*

*EI<sup>3</sup>: The Encyclopaedia of Islam Three (Leiden, 2007- )*

*İA: İslâm Ansiklopedisi (Istanbul, 1940-1979)*

*TDVİA: Türkiye Diyanet Vakfı İslâm Ansiklopedisi (Istanbul, 1988- )*

# Table of contents

## A. Editorial

Ottoman Esotericism in a Global Perspective  
(MARINOS SARIYANNIS) ..... 5

## B. Papers

Into the Deep Past of the Ottoman Istanbul:  
The Bronze Horseman of Constantine in Sixteenth-Century 'Acā'ibs .. 13  
(ASLI NIYAZIOĞLU)

Ottoman Occultism and its Social Contexts:  
Preliminary Remarks ..... 35  
(MARINOS SARIYANNIS)

Magic at the Imperial Palace, 1876–8 ..... 67  
(EDHEM ELDEM)

## C. Research reports

The Melting Occult Pot in Ottoman Bosnia:  
Between Theory and Practice..... 113  
(AMILA BUTUROVIĆ)

Halcyon Days XI international symposium  
“Enchantments and disenchantments:  
early modern Ottoman visions of the world”  
(Rethymno, January 14-17, 2022): a report ..... 125  
(MARINOS SARIYANNIS)

## D. Sources

Examples of translated materials for the study  
of Ottoman occultism III ..... 153  
(tr. KATHARINA A. IVÁNYI)