



HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
50TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

***BRITISH AND TURKISH LITERARY AND CULTURAL
INTERACTIONS***

12-14 May 2015

Hacettepe University, Beytepe Campus
Ankara, Turkey

www.britishturkishinteractions.hacettepe.edu.tr

Call for Papers

Important Note: Abstract submission deadline has been extended until **20 January 2015**.

Since the publication of Edward Said's *Orientalism* (1978), most of the academic appreciations of the literary, artistic and cultural texts representing the encounters and exchanges between the East and the West have been dominated by Said's Orientalist discourse argument. Originally developed with reference to the alleged unfavorable discursive construction of the East in the Western literature and art of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Said's "Orientalism" has also been criticized for its essentialism, apparent in the absence from the discussion of favorable discursive constructions of the East by the West, of discursive constructions of the West originating in the East (the so-called reverse-gaze), and of almost the entire early modern period as the historical background.

Even though a discussion of the West's representations of the Ottoman Empire and the Ottoman Turks is almost completely absent from *Orientalism* – as yet another gap in Said's work given the fact that the Orient imagined by the West for many centuries (including the eighteenth and the nineteenth) still designated the territories of the Ottoman Empire, notwithstanding its position as an independent political entity un-colonized by European powers – the study of English/British-Ottoman/Turkish literary, artistic and cultural encounters and exchanges has similarly been under the influence of Saidian arguments. With respect to the validity of many arguments criticizing Said's position, there seems to be several gaps in the studies investigating the meetings of these two great empires in the world's history and of the modern political entities that are the descendants of these empires.

Therefore, the aim of this conference is to revisit the literary, artistic and cultural texts, whether they are canonical or non-canonical, from both the (English/British) West and the (Ottoman/Turkish) East, from a historical period stretching from the Medieval Period to the end of the twentieth century, and representing the encounters and exchanges between the two. One major concern of the conference is to include into the debate the discursive constructions other than "Orientalism" (i.e. possible Occidentalism(s)?, essentializing self-representations) for the purpose of expanding the scope and scale of the academic conversation in this area. Especially papers dealing with very little studied texts that are set in the Turkish context or in the context of the British Empire from new perspectives are expected from scholars in the fields of English

Language and Literature, British Cultural Studies, Turkish Language and Literature, Turkish Cultural Studies, History, History of Art, and Media and Screen Studies.

The conference language is English. However, a few comparative sessions will be held in Turkish. All submissions for presentation will be subject to peer review for acceptance. **Papers selected by a board of referees will be also published in English in an edited collection** by a Turkish or an international publisher.

Sample Paper Topics

- British and Ottoman-Turkish non-fiction (i.e. travel writing, letters, memoirs, diaries)
- British and Ottoman-Turkish fiction (i.e. novel, short story)
- British and Ottoman-Turkish diplomatic correspondence (i.e. *sefaretnames*)
- British and Ottoman-Turkish journalism (i.e. news discourse, political cartoons)
- British and Ottoman-Turkish material culture
- British and Ottoman-Turkish popular culture and literature
- British and Ottoman-Turkish art (i.e. paintings, miniatures, book-map illustrations)
- Discourse, ideology, identity, gender, and race in East-West studies
- The post-Saidian paradigm shift
- The image of Turkey or the Ottoman Empire in British literature / the image of Britain or the British Empire in Ottoman-Turkish literature
- Space (i.e. demarcated, liminal, thresholds)
- British and Turkish postmodern literatures
- Borders of comparative studies redefined
- British and Turkish gendered cultures and literatures

Abstract Submission: 300-word abstracts, together with the contact information (name-last name, academic title, institutional affiliation, department, email address, primary phone number, mailing address) of author(s) should be sent as Microsoft Word 1997-2003 documents, attached to an email message addressed to Dr. Sinan Akıllı (huide50con@gmail.com) by **20 January 2015**.

Authors of papers accepted for presentation will be notified by **13 February 2015** and expected to submit a Registration Form (downloadable file on conference website, to be submitted with all other documents to huide50con@gmail.com) and a digital copy of the proof of conference registration fee payment (i.e. notification email from bank, high-resolution scanned copy of bank transaction receipt). The registration fees for participation to the conference (with or without a paper presentation) are:

Before 28 February 2015

	TL	Euro*	USD*
Faculty members	300	130	160
Graduate students**	200	90	110

After 28 February 2015

	TL	Euro*	USD*
Faculty members	350	150	190
Graduate students**	250	110	140

* All participants affiliated with institutions outside of Turkey are kindly requested to pay the registration fee at the international participant rate, either in Euros or in US Dollars.

** All graduate students are kindly requested to send a scanned copy of their Student ID cards together with their Registration Form and a digital copy of the proof of conference registration fee payment.