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 360. Schmad, preface according to the Leiden manuscript / Ian Schmidt
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in the centre of power (preferably that of nisancl, the secretary of the Council of State who controlled the tugrā, the sultan's official monogram which legalized official documents) in which he could turn his literary talents to account.
His early exile from Court and Capital, his difficult temperament which made him many enemies, and the uncertainty and spasmodic character of his later career embittered him, so that he was almost ready to retire from public life and give up his aspirations for good. His misfortunes he attributed mainly to a neglectful and disastrous disregard for tradition and literary talent on the side of the sultans who let themselves be influenced by, in his eyes, unworthy ministers such as Grand vizier Sokollu Mehmed Paşa. This, in his view, was an indication that the Empire was in a dangerous crisis following the ideal years of Sultan Süleymän (15201566) ${ }^{4}$. In this mood 'A$l i ̄$ started, during the nineties, to work on his History.

## 2. The Künhuu l-ahbär

'Alī began to work on his 'Essence of Histories' in the ominous millenial year 1000 AH (1591/92), two years after a violent insurrection of the Janissaries had shocked the Empire. This was followed by revolts in the provinces, while on top of that Istanbul was wrecked by devastating fires. Ali kept working on the 'Essence' until the summer of 1599 , when he left the Capital for good ${ }^{5}$. The 'Preface' to the fourth part, the subject of the present publication, was originally written between the years $1597 / 98$ and 1599 . In the text itself 'A $1 \bar{i}$ explained that in this 'pillar', as the four parts were called, he wanted to deal with Ottoman history up to the year $1006 \mathrm{AH}(1597 / 98)^{6}$. In one of his lasts works, the Mevā'idü $n$-nefá 'is ('The Table of Delicacies')', he wrote that he 'was busy annotating' the Künh up to the year $1008 \mathrm{AH}(1599)^{8}$. The last major event, or rather series of events, which he describes in the Künh, was the Egri-campaign

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## MUȘȚAFA ‘‘̄ALĪ'S $K \ddot{U} N H \ddot{U}{ }^{\prime} L-A H B \overline{A R}$ AND ITS PREFACE ACCORDING TO THE LEIDEN,MANUSCRIPT

by

JAN SCHMIDT


NEDERLANDS HISTORISCH-ARCHAEOLOGISCH INSTITUUT TE ISTANBUL
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219), caused partially by the political (and a physical) disturtances millenial mood' of Istanbul ('Âli', general. The insurrection of the Janissaries, was the so-called Beglerbegi-incident of April 1589. It was called so because the anger of the Janissaries directed itself against the beglerbegi of Rumeli, Dogancı Mehmed Pasa, a friend of 'AII's's, and basdefterdār Mahmūd Efendi, who had been responsible or their being paid in debased silver. Both men lost their lives in the aftermath. This disruption, which was in fact a precedent, was seen by 'Alì as 'a landmark of imperial decline' (ibidem, 218).
$L$, fol. $3 \mathrm{a}: 16$.
The full title is
Salons'), facsimile edition by C Bats is kava idit'-mecālis ('The Table of Delicacies on the Etiquette of Lit. : '( $\ldots$ ) till the beginning of the year 8 after 19 .
he writing of the Künhü' 1 -albbār and the loads of work [it gave me] ( $)$ ' Âlî, 327.
(1588-1589); yeñiçeri kätibi (secretary of the Janissary corps) (1592); defter emini (registrar of the imperial lands) (1592-1593); again yeñiçeri kātibi (15941595); sancakbegi of Amasya and māl defterdārl of Rūm (1595-1596); sancakbegi of Kayseri (1596); sancakbegi and emin (trustee) of Jidda (1599$1600)^{2}$.
‘Ālī was unemployed when he began to write the Künhü l-ahbär in 1592. The work was not commissioned nor was it written for anyone, although the author toyed with the idea of dedicating it to Sultan Mehmed III, and perhaps also to the Grand viziers İbrāhīm Paşa (in office April-October 1596) and Çigalazāde Yūsuf Sinān Paşa (in office October-November/ December $1596)^{3}$.
(B) The $K \ddot{U} N H \ddot{U} L-A H B \bar{A} R$
(a) Scope and contents

The "Essence" is a voluminous work consisting, roughly, of 1000 manuscript folios. In it - the title itself clearly reflects the author's intentions - ${ }^{\wedge} \bar{A} 1 \overline{1}$ wished to present a digest of universal history, thereby continuing, if not, as the author claimed, bringing to perfection, a genre practised for 600 years by Islamic historians. In an early stage of writing, he conceived a four-fold division of the work. The resulting four volumes were called "pillars" (rükn, pl. erkān).
The first pillar was to describe history from the creation until the time of the Prophet, the second the history of the Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties, the third the history of the "Turkish and Tatar" dynasties, and the fourth the history of the Ottomans. The four pillars were to be provided with biographies and the first pillar would contain essays on geography and ethnology ${ }^{4}$.

This scheme was not completely executed. The contents as divided into four pillars and found in MSS are the following: (1) the first pillar describes the history of the prophets from Adam up to the "departure of Yūsuf" as well as that of the ancient dynasties, and is preceded by lengthy introductory sections (mukaddime ${ }^{5}$ ), containing the author's preface, and digressions on cosmogony, geography, ethnology and historiography; (2) the second pillar deals with the history of the prophets, from the "departure of Yüsuf" up to

[^1]the history of 'İsā, the history of Muhammad, the biographies of his companions and important personalities of the first centuries of the Islamic era, the history of the twelve Imams and the Persian and Ptolemy dynasties; (3) the third pillar is devoted to the history of a great many Islamic dynasties including those of the Umayyads and Abbasids; (4) the fourth pillar contains the history of the. Ottomans up to the Egri campaign of 1596 during the reign of Mehmed III; the volume is furnished with lengthy biographical chapters and is preceded by introductory sections, containing praise of the dynasty, an author's preface and short paragraphs on the origin of the Ottoman population, ethnology and the status of rulers.

The work as we have it is not complete: there does not seem to exist a complete version of the biographies of the second pillar ${ }^{6}$; the rest of the same pillar is only provisorily ordered ${ }^{7}$; the treatment of the Islamic dynasties in the third pillar is highly unequal in length and detail as well as incomplete; the fourth pillar lacks the chapter of biographies for the reign of Murād III to which nevertheless references are made ${ }^{8}$. Another aspect that might point to an unfinished redaction by the author is the occurrence of repetitions in the text: the story on the king and prophet Iskandar (Alexander), for instance, occurs thrice in both the first and second pillars ${ }^{9}$.

## (b) Dating

The writing history of the "Essence" may be reconstructed from data occurring in the history itself and in other works by the author. ' $\bar{A} 1 \overline{1}$ apparently began writing the work in the winter of 1592 (the date of Friday, Rebī̈ü l-ähir 14, 1000, in the beginning of December (Kānūn-i evvel) is mentioned in the general introduction ${ }^{10}$ ). ' $\bar{A} l \overline{1}$ wrote that he worked for eight, elsewhere for ten years ${ }^{11}$, on the book, constantly revising it and making "additions" (ta'likāt) ${ }^{12}$. In the work itself we find datings, not in any logical order, of the years between 1000/1592-93 and the year of his death, 1008/

- KA III, 250-348.
${ }^{7}$ KA III, 429-440
${ }^{8} \mathrm{Cf} .$, e.g., KA (IV), the reign of Murād III (hereafter MU III), 53 rd unnumbered chapter ("event") (53*), MS SB Hs. or. quart 1090 (hereafter B, of. Appendix II, below, no. 35), 590b, where the poet Nev'T is mentioned "whose biography will be mentioned under the 'ulemä-below".
${ }^{\circ}$ Cf. below, Chapter Three and Appendix II.
${ }^{1} 10 \mathrm{KA}$ I, 5 ; this is an impossibility, cf. BIOE, 140 (n. 92), 245.
${ }_{11} \mathrm{KAI}$, 259; and KA I, 7; these were rather estimations than statements post facto, written in respectively 1006/1597-98 and 1002/1593-94.
 MN), 7; cf. for this technical term: Franz Rosenthal, The Technique and Approach of Muslim Scholarship (Rome, 1947), 7.

Ali mustofacifanti
－Kこnん リーAhbar

# PURE WATER FOR THIRSTY MUSLIMS <br> a study of mustafa $\cdot \bar{A} L i ̄ ~ O F ~$ GALLIPOLIS KÜNHƯ L－AHBA $R$ 

by

JAN SCHMIDT



## HET OOSTERS INSTITUUT LEIDEN

## PURE WATER FOR THIRSTY MUSLIMS

A STUDY OF MUSTTAFA $\cdot \overline{A l i ̄ ~ O F ~}$ GALLIPOLI'S KÜNHUU L-AHBAR

PROEFSCHRIFT<br>ter verkrijging van de graad van Doctor aan de Rijksuniversiteit te Leiden, op gezag van de Rector Magnificus Dr. L. Lecrtouwer, hoogleraar in de faculteit der godgeleerdheid, volgens besluit van het college van dekanen te verdedigen op woensdag 12 februari 1992<br>te klokke 16.15 uur.<br>door<br>JOANNES SCHMIDT<br>geboren te Arnhem in 1951



Ak, Mustafs bin Ahmet, 1541-1599.
Hallit el-Kahire min el-Ldas el-zahire. English \& Turk-
Hallat el-Kahire min el-tidat el-zahire. Englinh at Turk-
iahy
Mustars Ali's Description of Cairo of 1599: text, transliveration, translation, ,otes / Andreas Tietze. - Vienna : Verl. d. Osterr. Alad. d. Wiss., 1975.

177 p ., lxxsix p. of facsims. ; 30 cm . - (Forschungen zu siamisehen Philologie und Kulturgeschichte ; Bd. 5) (Denkschriften - Osterteichische Akademie der Wisen(Denkschriften - Osterteichasche Axademie det
The Outoman Turkish text is a facaimite of ms. Setim Aga no. 757, fol. $49 \mathrm{v}-91 \mathrm{v}$.
Tille may also be romanized: Helst al-Qahirah min aj-adal 1-zllhirah.
I. Tiesze. Andreas. II. Sciim Abs Kuiuphanesi. IIl. Tiue.

ASI42.V32 Bd. $120 \quad 76-364491$ neg $1-13412$ DLC AzU CagVaU CLU CoFS CSi DGUICU IEN InU DLC AzU CabVaU CLU CoFS CS: DGU ICU IEN
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NcU NIC NjP NNMM NNU NRU OCU OU PPiU PU UU Vibibv ViU WaU

An, Mostaf: Hin Aluset, 1541-1599.
Heft meclis / Alf. - Istanbul : Ikdam Matbansi, 1316 1900

55 p. - (Kitaphone-yi Ikdem ; 17)
Otroman Turkish

1. Title.
neg 1-13413
MH
© KŨNHÏZ-AHBARR
Ah. Mustefe bin Ahmet, 1541-1599
Kunh el-ahbar / te'lif-i Mustafa bin Ahme: bin AbdulmeviA'dir, ki Ali dinmekle şohret şiardur. Istanbul 1277-1285 ie 1861-1869
$5 \mathrm{v} . ; 25 \mathrm{~cm}$
Tilie may also be romanized: Kunh al-aikbat Olloman Turkish
I. Tilie. II. Titie: Kunh si-Ekhber.
neg 1-13414
CU DDO ICU MH NNC OrPS OU PU UU AENAKKIO-HÜNERUEAAN

Ali, Mustefa bin Ahmet, 1541-1599.
Menalib-i hunerveran / Musuia Ali ; Ali'nin hayat ve esarana dair lballemin Mahmut Kema! Bey'in tetkiknamesiyle "Menakib-i hunerveran"in muhtelif metinleri arasindaki farklari havidir. - istanbul : Matbas-yi Amire, 1926.

133, 92 p. : facsim. - (Turk Tarih EncUmeni kulijazt : 9) Title mey alwo be romanized: Manaqib-i hunarvaran. Otoman Turkish
I. Inal. Jbnulemin Mahmut Kemal, 1870-1957. II. Title. III. Tiue: Mensqib-i hunarvarth

CUICU MH NNC

Ali, Mustafa bin Ahmet, 1541-1599.
(Mevaid el-nefais fil kavaid el-mecalis)
Meva'idU'n-nefa'is fikava'idi'l-mectis / GeliboluIu Mustefe Alî. - lstanbul : Yeniçak Terihi Kursusu. 1956.
avii, 304 p. - (latanbul Universitesi Edebiyal FakUliesi yaynlanndan : 679)
Titie may also be romanized: Mawtid al-nafin is $n$ qualid al-majalis

Otcoman Turkish text, in facsimile.
 aeg 2 -3401 $\mathbf{M H} \mathbf{M i U}$

Ali, Mustafs bit Abmet, 1541-1599
Mevaid ei-nefais fi kevaid ei-mecalis,
Meve'idu'n-neff is filave'idili-mecelis : oneltunct
Yuxyal Osmanh Imparstorlukunda geienckler-gor
renekler ve soayel hayat / Gelibolulu Mustafa Alf ;
gtnumuz Turkcesine geviren, Cemil Yener. - Istan-
bul: Huniar Kitabevi, 1975.
208 p : ill., facsims.
Thie mey also be romenized: Mown'id at-naflis $n$ quwa'id
-mpjels. Turbist version of the OHoman Turkish origi.
A modern Turbist verbion of the Onoman Iurkish orig.

1. Yener, Cemil. II. Title. III. Titke: Maw Bid atrafi'is qeweid al-majalis. l m .

## EDEBIYAT TARIHI AÇISINDAN KÜNHƯ'L-AHBAR'IN ÖNEMI

Yard. Doç. Dr. Mustafa Isen

Bunlar 23. mekame ile Hamîdînin diğer mekameleri arasında görülebilen farklardır.


123 ARALIK 1992

Eski Edebiyat tarihimizin hiç şüphesiz en mühim kaynağını Şuarâ tezkircleri meydana getirir. Bumunla birlikte, Vefayat kitapları, alimlerle ilgili Biyografi eserleri, Meslek mensuplarıyla ilgili tezkireler, Nazire ve şir Mecm:aları, Seyahat-nameler, Kcşfii'z-züaun gibi Bibliyoğrafya Kitaplanı, Şehir Monoğrafileri, Menakzp-nameler ve Umumi Tarih Kitapları da bu edebiyatın başlca tarihi kaymakları arasnda yer alir.

Sosyal ilimler arastada tarih kadar insanla haşr neşir olmuş bir başka bilim dalt yok gibidir. Bu bilgi sahası, günümüzden önce yaşyanların durumlarm, yüz yüze geldikleri olayları ve oalarm kahramanlarm anlattığı gibi, yine eski devirlerdeki ilim ve medeniyetin durumunu, o dönem insanuun yasayıs tarzın ve onların hayar hikayelerini de ele alır. Böyle olması da gereklidir. Çünkü, tarihçinin dikkatini çe ken olaylarda etkili olmuş kişi vega kişileria hayat hikayesi, o hadisenin açıkhğa kakavuşurulabilmesi için son derece miühinedir. Bundan dolayidır ki doguda ve batıda tarihçilerin hemen hepsi, eserleri içinde biyografiye önem vermişlerdir. Bu usûl, islam, ülkelerind: gittiķ̧e daha da rağbet bulmuş ve bu şekliyle Osmanlulara da geçmiştir.

Böylece, önemli ilk tarihlerimizden başlayarak, tanunmıs tarihlerimizin çoğunda, padişahlar zamanunda yaşayan vezirler, emirler, bilginler, scyhler ve sairlerin ya hep padişhun oltumünder sonra, ya da her yilm olaylarn aalatilurken "vefeyat" başl̆̆gı altunda biyografileri verilmiştir. Bu iki farklı şcklin Osmanh tarihçiliginde, vefeyat kayularmi ihtiva edenina, yaai her yuln olaylarmun sonunda o sene vefat eden vezir, alim, şeyh ve şairleria kısa hal tercümeleriai verenine örnck Katip Çelebi'nin Fezleke'si, her padişahn ölümüadensonra hayatharı ayrı bir bölüm halìnde anlatılanına örnck de Gclibolulu Mustafa 'Alî'nin Künhü̈'l-ahbâr'ıdır.

Künhü’l-ahbâr, sadece bir Osmanlı tarihi dcğil, dünyanun yaradulısı, peygamberler tarihi, İslam tarihi, Türk ve Moğol tarihi bahis ve bölümlerini içine alan bir umumi tarihtir.

# KÜNHÜ'L-AHBÂR'IN TEZKİRE KISMI 

Hazırlayan
Dr. Mustafa İSEN


ANKARA - 1994


[^0]:    4 The bad influence of Grand vizier Sokollu Mehmed Paşa on Sultan Selim II (1566-1574) and the ${ }_{5}$ crisis of the Empire are discussed essentially in the 'Preface', $L$, fol. 5a:9-5b:9.
    5 According to Fleischer, 'Ālī shared up to a certain point 'the millenial mood' of Istanbul ('Âlî', 219), caused partially by the political (and physical) disturbances of the Capital and the Empire in general. The insurrection of the Janissaries, was the so-called Beglerbegi-incident of April 1589. It was called so because the anger of the Janissaries directed itself against the beglerbegi of Rumeli, Doġancı Mehmed Paşa, a friend of 'Ali's, and basdefterdār Mahmūd Effendi, who had been responsible for their being paid in debased silver. Both men lost their lives in the aftermath. This disruption, ${ }_{6}$ which was in fact a precedent, was seen by 'Ali as 'a landmark of imperial decline' (ibidem, 218).
    ${ }^{6} L$, fol. $3 \mathrm{a}: 16$.
    7 The full title is: Mevā idü'n-nefâ'is f il karā'idi'l-mecālis ('The Table of Delicacies on the Etiquette of ${ }_{8}$ Salons'), facsimile edition by C. Baysum (Istanbul 1956).
    ${ }^{8}$ Lit.: '(...) till the beginning of the year 8 after 1000 , the annotations (ta likāt) in relation with the writing of the Künhü̈ l-ahbär and the loads of work [it gave me] (...), Mev ar id. 7:7-9. Cf. Fleischer, Alî, 327.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ BIOE, 222-224.
    ${ }^{3}$ Ibidem, 162, 165 (n. 73), 169, 236.
    ${ }^{4}$ Künhü l-ahbār (hereafter KA), 5 vols. (Istanbul, 1277-84) I, 13-16; cf. for the contents of the first pillar, KA I, 75. I will refer to the number of the pillars in parenthesis, i.e.: KA(I), KA(II) etc. If no number is indicated, the unedited part of the fourth pillar is meant. For a detailed survey of contents, and division into pillars and volumes of the printed edition, see Appendix I, below.
    ${ }^{5}$ KA I, 48.

