

Conference Program



THE MANY POEMS OF BAKI

January 27-29, 2017

University of Washington, Seattle

Organized by **Walter Andrews** (Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations), **Selim Kuru** (Near Eastern Languages & Civilization), and **Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano** (Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near & Middle Eastern Studies)

Sponsored by the Department of Near Eastern Languages & Civilization, the Ottoman & Turkish Studies Program, and the Simpson Center for the Humanities



THE MANY POEMS OF BAKI



THE SCHOLAR, JURIST, AND AUTHOR Mahmud Abdalbaki, composing under the pen-name Baki, is often considered the greatest poet of the sixteenth-century golden age of Ottoman Turkish literature. In the Ottoman Empire, as in the rest of the Islamic World, printing technology came late and publication meant creating a hand-written manuscript, which would be copied and re-copied from the sixteenth century through the late nineteenth century. A major poet like Baki might add poems to his divan, or collection, throughout his lifetime and issue revised versions, which would also be copied and recopied for hundreds of years. As a result, Baki's collection exists in a haze of many manuscripts, most of which are undated and each of which has a different look, feel, and content from every other manuscript. Some are finely calligraphed and relatively easy to read, while others are not. We believe that there might be more than two hundred manuscripts of Baki's divan but we don't know how many more.

New digital technology offers an unprecedented ability to create a multi-dimensional visualization of the history of Baki's texts, taking all its copies into account and constructing a truly modern manuscript edition. The workshop *The Many Poems of Baki* sets the groundwork for an innovative large-scale collaboration to transform the way Ottomanists and others approach a manuscript tradition.

THE MANY POEMS OF BAKI

The workshop The Many Poems of Baki is dedicated to Walter G. Andrews for his groundbreaking contributions to scholarship in Ottoman and Turkish literature as well as the digital humanities and in appreciation of his mentorship and friendship.

THE BAKI PROJECT GOALS

The Baki Project will be a multi-year collaborative international project with the following broad goals:

- 1) Bring digital technologies to bear on the problems of dealing with large and complex manuscript traditions in non-Latin complex scripts.
- 2) Create digital tools or adopt existing tools for identifying and visualizing the history and evolution of a large manuscript tradition.
- 3) Develop methodologies for organizing, managing, and implementing a large-scale collaborative manuscript editing project with many participants.
- 4) Model and test such tools and methods by creating an exemplary edition of an exceptionally famous Ottoman poet.

More information at www.thebakiproject.org

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Communications 202

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| 5:30-5:45 PM | OPENING REMARKS Selim S. Kuru |
| 5:45-6:15 PM | THE MANY POEMS OF BAKI Walter G. Andrews |
| 6:15-6:45 PM | DIGITAL HUMANITIES AND TEXTUAL STUDIES Jeffrey T. Knight |
| 6:45-7 PM | PROJECT AND WORKSHOP INTRODUCTION Gülşah Taşkın and Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano |
| 7:15 PM | RECEPTION |

THE MANY POEMS OF BAKI

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

Communications 202, 204, and 218D

8-8:30 AM *Coffee*

8:30-8:45 AM **INTRODUCTION TO WORKSHOP**

Walter G. Andrews and Selim S. Kuru

8:45-9 AM **WORKSHOP FORMAT**

Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano

9-10 AM **PRESENTATION OF REVERSIBLE TRANSCRIPTION (RT) TOOL**

Walter G. Andrews and Gülşah Taşkın

10-11:30 AM **HANDS-ON WORKSHOP WITH RT TOOL**

11:30 AM-12 PM **EVALUATION OF RT TOOL BY PARTICIPANTS**

12-1 PM *Lunch*

1-1:30 PM **QUESTIONS BEYOND THE RT TOOL**

Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano

1:30-2 PM **THE DATABASE PROJECT**

Walter G. Andrews and Gülşah Taşkın

2-3:30 PM **HANDS-ON WORKSHOP WITH THE DATABASE AND MANUSCRIPTS**

3:30-4 PM **OTTOMAN TEXT ARCHIVE PROJECT (OTAP) AND COMPUTER SCIENCES**
MEHMET KALPAKLI

4-4:30 PM *Tea break*

4:30-5:30 PM **TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT IN DIGITAL HUMANITIES**

Sarah Ketchley and Brad Holland

5:30-6:30 PM **DISCUSSION SESSION: IMAGINING NEW TOOLS FOR THE STUDY OF MANUSCRIPTS AND THEIR HISTORY**

1) Conversation with the RTT Development Team

2) Future of the project, directions, and management

6:30-6:45 PM **NEW CHALLENGES AND CONCLUDING REMARKS**

7 PM *Dinner (off-site)*

THE MANY POEMS OF BAKI

PROJECT STAFF

Walter G. Andrews, Project Director (Professor, Near Eastern Languages & Civilization, UW)

Selim S. Kuru, Project Director, Principal Investigator (Chair and Associate Professor, Near Eastern Languages & Civilization, UW)

Sarah Ketchley, Project Manager (Digital Humanities Technology Specialist, UW Libraries)

Gülşah Taşkın, Project Manager (Lecturer, Koç University, Istanbul)

Oscar Aguirre-Mandujano, Project Coordinator (Doctoral Candidate, Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Near & Middle Eastern Studies, UW)

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS/STEERING COMMITTEE

Guy Burak (Middle East Librarian, New York University)

Murat İnan (Assistant Professor, Social & Human Sciences, Social Sciences University, Ankara)

Didem Havlioğlu (Lecturer, Asian Studies, Duke University)

Mehmet Kalpaklı (Chair and Associate Professor, History, Bilkent University, Ankara)

Sooyong Kim (Assistant Professor, English and Comparative Literature, Koç University, Istanbul)

Jeffrey T. Knight (Associate Professor of English and co-director of Textual Studies, UW)

Nir Shafir (Assistant Professor, History, University of California, San Diego)

REVERSIBLE TRANSCRIPTION TOOL DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Natasha Dietzler (UX/UI Designer, UW)

Brad Holland (Back-end Developer, UW)

Rutvi Patel (Front-end Developer, UW)

The WALTER CHAPIN SIMPSON CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES fosters intellectual discovery across boundaries, supporting crossdisciplinary exchange among scholars at the University of Washington and beyond. The Simpson Center supports a broad conception of the humanities that includes the humanistic social sciences and the arts, as well as the sciences and the professions.

The Simpson Center sponsors a diverse range of programs and research projects to inspire the cross-pollination of ideas, encourage emerging knowledge and ways of knowing, and spark meaningful campus-community engagement. These include public forums, scholarly conferences, collaborative research groups, interdisciplinary courses at all levels of higher education, public humanities programs, and fellowship programs for UW faculty and doctoral students.

SIMPSON CENTER STAFF

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Malia Trick, Administrator

Jonathan Hiskes, Communications Director

Erin Langner, Program & Events Manager

Alison Fiorenza, Administrative Coordinator

Roneva Keel, Digital Humanities Initiative Program Coordinator

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