

A TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR KEMAL H. KARPAT

INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present the new issue of the *International Journal of Turkish Studies*. The long interruption in the publication of the IJTS was the result of extraordinary circumstances. Among these were economic crises that undermined our financial support and the COVID-19 pandemic, which frayed the scholarly networks crucial to a journal such as the IJTS. But most important, the passing of our founding editor, Kemal Karpap, who had provided the intellectual guidance and spirit of the journal throughout its existence, forced us to step back and regroup.

As we start a new phase in the life of the IJTS, we are determined to continue publishing scholarly articles that engage with the history, people, and geography of Turkey from a critical and interdisciplinary perspective. We believe that Kemal Karpap's leadership provided a strong foundation for the journal to fill an important space in Turkish Studies. Under the guidance of our Editorial Board, which includes diverse perspectives and specializations, we hope to continue this tradition and look forward to carrying the journal into the future by bringing in new viewpoints and engaging in contemporary debates.

We envisioned this issue to be a tribute to Kemal Karpap in two senses of the word. The articles in the thematic section are the proceedings of a conference held at McMaster University. They are written by both early-career and more established scholars and represent a cross-section of Turkish Studies today. Starting from a nineteenth-century atlas, they explore questions of maps, map-making, map-commissioning, map-sharing, and more broadly geography and politics. Their central concern is the place of the Ottoman Empire in its region and the world in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, which was always a central focus of Kemal Karpap's scholarship. By studying the movement of people and ideas, Karpap probed the connections between the Ottoman Empire and its neighbors and beyond, considering the effect of such movements on the Ottoman Empire and the rest of the world, just as these authors are doing.

In this issue, we include tributes from Kemal Karpap's colleagues and students. These memorials demonstrate the deep influence Professor Karpap had through his work and teaching during his long life.

In conclusion, we express gratitude to our contributors and readers, and to all who supported us throughout our lengthy hiatus. We look forward to meeting you again in future issues.

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