

II. International “Sanliurfa in Islamic History and Civilization” Symposium
“Sanliurfa in Ottoman Documents and Sources”
March 10-11-12, 2017
Sanliurfa/Türkiye

A. Organized by

Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality
Institution of Turkish History
Association of Islamic Historians
Ensar Foundation

B. The Purpose and Subject Matter of the Symposium

As it is well-known, Islamic civilization, which is based on the unity of god, was born and spread in an area where many civilizations existed before. As a matter of fact, the geographical areas where ancient Egyptian, Greek and Sassanid civilizations lived were the areas where Islamic civilization also spread later. No doubt, it is known that Islamic Civilization was influenced by these civilizations and adopted them in its melting pot. Muslims knew the famous personalities of these ancient civilizations who left important traces in history, and translated their works into Arabic and renewed these works adopting them to the Islamic Civilization. The Muslims adopted these works with their own stamps. It is observed that the most civilized and developed countries of Europe and Asia Minor were the countries in the Islamic Civilization from VII. Century (AD) until XIV. Century. During this period, wealthy cities emerged from Iraq to Andalucia, from Turkistan to Anatolia with developing science, literature, art and commerce. These cities also had become the center of an intense cultural life. These cities attracted scientists and artists from all over the world. According to Islamic historians and geographers, Sanliurfa was one of the first settlements on earth after the Great Flood of Noah, and has continued its importance during the history of Islamic Civilization.

As it is known, the city was conquered by Iyaz b. Ganm during the Omar the Caliph's Era (18/639). Urfa became a province together with Harran and Samsat during the Omayyad Period (67/686-87). In Abbasid Period, Harunurresid paid a visit to Urfa and stayed here for some time. The Byzantines came to Urfa in 348 (959). In Muharram-ul Haram 361, (October-November 971) the Byzantine Army entered the city and plundered and damaged the city. Sultan Meliksah send Emir Bozan with the duty of conquering Urfa, and the city was conquered with a severe siege within 3 months (Zilhiccah, 479/March, 1087). Meliksah appointed Emir Bozan as the governor of the city of Urfa and Harran.

Sanliurfa was under the Turkish dominance during the Seljukian State; and with this, the city regained the peace and quiet she had waited for long. The Seljukians defended the region and Urfa against the Crusades.

In March 10, 1098, Baudouin took over the control of the city and established the Crusader County. Imaduddin Zengi, who ruled in Musul and Aleppo in a suitable time when the French and Byzantians did not get on well with each other, and the Crusader Kings in Urfa and Antakya hated each other; made use of the situation when the Crusader Count II. Joscelin left the city, and came to Urfa. After a siege that lasted for 4 weeks, the Turks entered the city (26 Cemaziyelahir, 539 / 24 December, 1144). This conquest was the main reason for the starting point of the II. Crusades.

Urfa was included in the Ottoman Territory during the Era of Yavuz Sultan Selim (1516), and was given to the administration of Piri Bey. Urfa was connected to Diyarbekir, Rakka and to Halep States in 1867, respectively, in the Ottoman Period. Urfa gained the status of a “Pasha Guard Post” in the period when it was connected to the Rakka State.

Urfa was occupied by the British in 1919, and by the French seven months later. The people started a riot against the occupying forces on February 7, 1920. As a result of the battles, the French agreed to empty the city on April 10, 1920, and left the city the following day.

Sanliurfa was connected to Diyarbekir, Rakka and Halep States, respectively, in terms of administration during the Ottoman Period. The city continued as a city center during the Republican Period (April 20, 1924).

On March 2016, the “I. International İn Islamic History and Civilization Sanliurfa Symposium” was organized; and it has been decided by the Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality that the second symposium would be held under the title of “Sanliurfa in Ottoman Documents and Sources” with the sponsorship of the Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality.

The purpose of the symposium is enlightening the religious, cultural, economic and social history of the past 400 years of the city of Sanliurfa according to the Ottoman documents and sources; and thus, contributing to the development of the city.

In addition, another aim of the symposium is to encourage and support the scientists who work on the field of Sanliurfa.

Those who would like to participate in the symposium with reviews may send the abstracts of their reviews to the following address. New titles might be suggested provided that they are relevant to the subject matter.

C. The Topics Considered

1. The conquest of Urfa and its surroundings during the Yavuz Sultan Selim Period.
2. The position of Urfa District within the Ottoman Administrative System.
3. Urfa and its surroundings in Ottoman Sources (History, Geography, History of Sciences, Travel Books, Memoirs, etc.).
4. Urfa Judicial Affairs.
5. Urfa Foundations.
6. Education-Training Institutions in and Around Urfa (Madrasahs, Schools, etc.).
7. Urfa Religious Court Registers.
8. Urfa Religious Affairs Office.
9. Sufism, Islamic Monasteries and Zawiyas in and around Urfa.
10. Urfa Cadastral Record Books.
11. Urfa Typeface books.
12. Population in Urfa and its surroundings.
13. Urfa and it surrounding in Yearbooks.
14. Civil, religious, administrative and military architecture in and around Urfa (Pasha Mansions, Mansions, Houses, Barracks, Mosques, Masjids, Prayer Areas, Water Dispensers, Water Sources, Bridges, Roads, etc.).
15. The Administrator in Urfa throughout history.
16. The establishment and services of the municipality in Urfa.
17. The Ahi Community (Turkish-Islamic Guild) in and around Urfa.

18. Craftsmen and Artisans, the goods produced, and the agriculture in and around Urfa.
19. Bazaars, inns covered bazaars in and around Urfa.
20. Religious tourist attractions, tombs, burial areas for religious people and cemeteries in and around Urfa.
21. Urfa and its surroundings according to local and foreign travellers.
22. Urfa and its surroundings in Ottoman publishing.
23. Other topics that might be suggested on Urfa during Ottoman period.

D. Participation Conditions and Information

1. The reviews must be scientific and specific
2. The review abstracts must deal with the topic in main components
3. The abstracts must be written as 300 words
4. The review abstracts may be up to 15-20 pages
5. The reviews will be presented within 15 or 20 minutes
6. The travel and accommodation expenses of the participants will be covered by Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality

E. Symposium Agenda

1. First Notice: June 1, 2016
2. Deadline for Review Abstracts: September 12, 2016
3. Announcement of the Accepted Reviews: September 23, 2016
4. Sending the Review Papers: December 26, 2016
5. Acceptance of the Review Papers: January 05, 2017
6. Announcement of Symposium Program: February 24, 2017
7. Symposium Date: 10-11-12 March, 2017

F. Symposium Science Secretariat:

In the Name of Sanliurfa Metropolitan Municipality

Name, Family Name	E-mail	Telephone
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G. Symposium Coordination Secretariat:

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SANLIURFA**

You can fill in the review abstract application form and send to:
omersabuncusempozyum@gmail.com

Title, Name, Family Name	
Institution Worked at	
Duty	
Address	
Telephone (Work)	
Telephone (Mobile)	
Electronic Mail	
Title	
Summary of the Review Area (Use Additional Sheet if Necessary)	
	www.sanliurfa.bel.tr