



GENÇOSMAN, MEHMED NURÎ

GENÇOSMAN, MEHMED NURÎ, Turkish poet and translator of Persian works (b. 1897 in the Aġın district of Elazığ; d. Istanbul, 1976). Gençosman was educated in Diyarbakır, Elazığ, and Konya, and became official clerk of Elazığ before being called up for military service in World War I. At the end of the war, he was given the task of accompanying back to their homeland German soldiers who had been taken prisoner in Turkey by the victorious allies. After returning, he began writing for periodicals and newspapers such as *Osmanlı*, *Ocak*, *Bahalık*, and *Yeni Fikir* in Konya and *Donanma* and *Servet-i Fünun* in Istanbul.

Gençosman became a member of the Translation Bureau (Tercüme Bürosu) established in 1938, and was responsible for preparing a number of Turkish translations of Persian texts. These included: the *Bahārestān* of Jāmī (Ankara, 1945); the *Pand-nāma* attributed to ‘Aṭṭār (*Öğüt Kitabı*, Ankara, 1946); the quatrains and *ġazals* of Sa‘dī (*Rubâiler ve Gazeller*, Ankara, 1947); selected quatrains of Kayyām (*Hayyam’dan Rubâiler*, Ankara, 1963); the quatrains and early *ġazals* of Jāmī (*Rubâiler ve İlk Gazeller*, Ankara, 1965); the quatrains of Rūmī (*Mevlânâ’dan Rubâiler: Seçmeler*, 2 vols., Ankara, 1965-71); and the discourses of Šams Tabrīzī (*Makalat*, Istanbul, 1974). He also translated two works on Saljuq history. The first was a translation of the *Saljūq-nāma*, an anonymous recension of the history of the Saljūqs of Anatolia by Ebn Bībī (q.v.), which had been published by M. Th. Houtsma (*Recueil IV: Histoire des Seldjoucides d’Asie Mineure d’apres l’abrégé du Seldjoukname d’Ibn Bibi*, Leiden, 1902; tr. as *Anadolu Selçukî Develeti Tarihi: Ibn Bibi Farsça Muhtasar*



Selçuknamesinden, Ankara, 1941). The other was the *Mosāmarat al-aḳbār wa mosāyarat al-aḳyār* of Karīm-al-Dīn Maḥmūd Āqsarā'ī (tr. as *Selçukî Devletleri Tarihi*, Ankara, 1943). In recognition of these services to Persian culture, Gençosman was invited to the ceremonies marking the 2,500th anniversary of the Persian monarchy, held at Persepolis in 1971.

Among his other works, mention should also be made of his translation of Ebn 'Arabī's *Foşūş al-ḥekam* (Istanbul, 1952). His original compositions include the satirical *Nükteler Bahçesi* (Istanbul, 1969) and two collections of poetry, *Kırkından Sonra: Gönül Sazı* (Istanbul, 1939) and *Dağlardan Dağlara* (unpublished).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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