



## KEŞĀLİ ÇELEBİ

**KEŞĀLİ ÇELEBİ** (Hisâlî Çelebi; d. Budapest, 1062/1651-52), Ḥosayn, Ottoman poet and writer born in Budapest at an unknown date. His *divân* is the only source of information about his life. He learned Ottoman Turkish, Arabic, and Persian during his childhood. According to the records in his *divân*, he served as an official of the revenue office (*defterdar*) in the town of Zevil in Hungary. All we know of his life story is that he traveled to Baghdad to visit his relatives, participated in the Ottoman-Austrian wars, and died in poverty in Budapest in 1062/1651-52 (Ercan, 2008, pp. XXI-XXIII).

Hisâlî compiled two anthologies of parallel (*nażıra*) poems, one of Persian (*Laṭā'ef al-kiāl*) and the other (*Maṭāle' al-nażā'er*) of Turkish poetry, both classified thematically. *Laṭā'ef al-kiāl* is kept in two manuscripts at the Süleymaniye Library in Istanbul (Lala İsmail, no. 575; Esad Efendi, no. 2383).

*Maṭāle' al-nażā'er*, compiled in two volumes, contains samples of Turkish parallel poems by poets living in the Ottoman empire. It also includes some poems by well-known Persian poets such as Ḥāfez, Sa'di, Jāmi, and 'Orfi Şirāzi. *Maṭāle' al-nażā'er* is available in several manuscripts at the Nuruosmaniye Library, nos. 4252, 4253 (autograph?); Süleymaniye Library, Lala İsmail, no. 576; Esad Efendi, no. 2883; Millet Library, Ali Emiri, Manzum Eserler, nos. 566, 679, 680, 681, 682 (from autograph); the first volume was edited and submitted as doctoral thesis by Bilge Kaya in 2003.

Hisâlî also wrote Turkish poems. Recurring keynotes of his poetry are love, mysticism, and natural themes, but it also contains a range of folk idioms and



proverbs. Two manuscript copies of his *divân* are available at Istanbul, Millet Library, Ali Emiri, Manzum Eserler, no. 130; and Edirne, İl Halk Kütüphanesi, no. 2119. It has also been edited by Özlem Ercan (2003 and 2005).

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