

CEVAT DARGIN

Department of Near Eastern Studies
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Postgraduate Research Associate, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (2021– Present).

EDUCATION

PhD in Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, NJ, 2021.

Dissertation: *State-Making in Dersim across Empire and Nation-State (1878–1938)*.

When the Young Turks and Kemalists declared new regimes in 1908 and in 1923 respectively, they put forth grand narratives of radical change. Whereas the dominant narrative in the existing historiography treats these regime changes as historical ruptures with the past, this dissertation highlights the continuity in state making across the Hamidian (1876–1908), Young Turks (1908–1923), and Early Republican (1923–1938) eras by examining the history of Dersim, a rugged region with a Kizilbash (Alevi) Kurdish-majority in Eastern Anatolia.

Advisor: Michael M. Reynolds

Examining Committee: Ekaterina Pravilova, Max Weiss, Bernard Haykel, Sabri Ateş

General Exams, 2018

Nationalism and Nation-State in the Middle East and Eurasia, by Michael Reynolds

Islamic Political Thought, by Muhammad Qasim Zaman

Ethnic and Religious Minorities in the Middle East, by Max Weiss

MA in Near Eastern Studies, New York University, New York, 2014.

Thesis: *Politics of Historiography in Eastern Anatolia*.

Advisor: Michael Gilsean

MA in Political Science, Brooklyn College (CUNY), New York, 2012.

Thesis: *Global Water Politics: Case Studies of Turkey and China*.

Advisor: Caroline E. Arnold

BA in Political Science and International Relations, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, 2007.

Concentration: Comparative Politics

PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS UNDER PREPARATIONBook

Manuscript under Preparation

State-Making in Dersim across Empire and Nation-State (1877–1938), to be submitted to Cambridge University Press.

Journal Articles

“‘It Is a Shame. It Is Cruel. It Is Murder!’: A Battle of Historical Memory behind and beyond a Mafia Leader’s Desire for a ‘Stylish Death,’” submission pending, *The International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

“‘A Universe, Many Folds Bigger Than It Appears’: Imagining a Non-State Space ‘In the Heart of Anatolia’ as Terra Incognita (1866–1938),” submission pending, *The Journal of Historical Geography*.

Book Chapters

“‘A Legend of Banditry’ across Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey: Koçan (Koçuşağı) Tribe (1890–1938)” in “*Gayri Eşkiyaya Çıkar Adımız*”: *Geç Osmanlı’dan Cumhuriyet’e Eşkîyalık, Şekavet, İsyân* edited by Yalçın Çakmak and Ahmet Özcan, forthcoming. [Turkish: Osmanlı’dan Cumhuriyet’e bir “Eşkîyalık Efsanesi”: Koçan (Koçuşağı) Aşireti (1890–1938)]

Short Essays and Opinion Pieces

“Why Does Televizyon Become Vizontele? Kurds and Orientalism from Within,” *Annual Review*, Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies at New York University, 2014.

“Turkey’s Shifting Foreign Policy Toward the Middle East and Its Relationship with Israel,” *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, December 2011.

“The Arab Spring and the Waves of Democracy,” *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, September 2011.

“Uprooted Trees—Identity Problems of Internally Displaced Persons,” *Siyahi Magazine*, January 2008.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Princeton University, 2021.

Dissertation Writing Grant, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, 2020.

Research Grant, American Research Institute in Turkey, 2019.

Research Fellowship, The Donald and Mary Hyde Foundation, 2018.

Language and Research Grant, Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University, 2017.

Language and Research Grant, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, 2016.

Research Grant for Zaza Language Project organized by Endangered Language Alliance, partially funded by The Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies, Princeton University, 2016.

Language and Research Grant, Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies, Princeton University, 2015.

TEACHING AND RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Research Mentorship, Princeton University, September 2021 - Present.

Assistant Instructor, *The Politics of Modern Islam*, in collaboration with Bernard Haykel, Princeton University, Fall 2020.

Teaching Transcript at the McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, Princeton University, 2020.

Teaching Assistant, *Problems and Methods in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies*, in collaboration with Michael Gilsean, NYU, Spring 2014.

Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Librarian, Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, NYU, 2014.

Public Programs and Outreach Assistant, directed by Greta Scharnweber, Near Eastern Studies, NYU, 2013.

Research and Teaching Assistant, *Political Systems of Africa*, in collaboration with Mojubaolu Olufunke Okome, Brooklyn College, CUNY, Spring 2011.

Research Assistant Intern, World Policy Institute, New York, 2011.

Teaching Assistant, *Comparative Politics*, Boğaziçi University, Fall 2006.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Alî Şîr: A Kurdish Nationalist Poet and Warrior in the Early 20th Century” presented at a panel on *Kurdish Nationalism and Russian Imperial Projects* for the workshop on the political and military histories of Russian-Kurdish relations (19th-20th centuries), funded by the French National Research Agency, Moscow, 2019.

“United Kingdom and the Kurds during World War One: A Critical Analysis of British Documentary Sources: 1914–1920,” presented at Kurdish Studies Conference organized by the Buffett Institute, Northwestern University, 2017.

“Identity in the Ideology, Art, and Literature of Kurdish Intellectuals at the End(s) of the Ottoman Empire,” presented at a workshop on identity politics, NYU, Spring 2015.

SELECTED EVENT PARTICIPATION

The Mid-Atlantic Ottoman Studies Workshop at Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, NYU, 2020.

Middle East Studies Association Annual Conferences, 2015–2020.

Russia and Eurasia Workshop, Center for Collaborative History, Program in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, 2019–2020.

Après Daech, un nouvel Irak (After ISIS, A New Iraq), Conférence de l’Ifri, Paris, 2019.

An Interdisciplinary Conference on Kurdish Politics and Societies, Council on Middle East Studies, Yale University, 2018.

Whose Allies Are Syria's Kurds?, a panel at The Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination, Princeton, 2016.

The "Subjects" of International Law: Autonomy, Extraterritoriality, and the Making of Ottoman Citizens Workshop, CUNY, 2015.

EVENTS ORGANIZED AND MODERATED

Zer: A film by Kazım Öz, Program in Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University. A panel discussion with Kazım Öz, the director of the film *Zer*, 2018.

A Voice from Syrian Kurdistan: The Civil War, Refugees, and Women, Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination, Princeton University. A panel discussion with Elham Ahmed, a political representative of the de facto autonomous region of Northern Syria, also known as Rojava, 2015.

Beyond the Arab Spring: Political (De)formation and Social Revolution in Rojava (North Syria), The Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies at NYU. A panel discussion with scholars working on political developments in Northern Syria, 2015

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ottoman/Turkish archives in Istanbul and Ankara (The Prime Minister's Ottoman Archives, the Republican Archives, the military archives (ATASE), the Turkish Historical Society, and the National Library), 2017–2019.

The Archives Nationales and Bibliothèque nationale de France in Paris and Les Archives Diplomatiques in Nantes, 2019.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions Archives, Houghton Library, Harvard University, 2018.

Preliminary research on archival and secondary sources, Russia, 2017.

Preliminary research on archival and secondary sources, Iran, and Turkey, 2016.

TEACHING AREAS/PROPOSED COURSES

Undergraduate Courses

Introduction to the Middle East/Islam/Ottoman Empire

World War I in the Middle East

Nations and Nationalism in the Greater Middle East

Selected Topics in Environmental History of the Middle East.

A Modern History of Ethnic and Religious Minorities in the Greater Middle East

Comparative Politics in the Middle East

The Modern World: A Global History Survey

Graduate Seminars

Introduction to the Professional Study of the Middle East

Theory and Practice of Modern State Making in the Greater Middle East

A History of the Late Ottoman Empire

Islamic Political Thought

Colonialism, Imperialism, and Cold War in the Muslim World

A History of the Kurdish, Kizilbash, and Armenian Questions

“Is Turkey in the Middle East?”: A Political History of a Country In Between

LANGUAGES

Turkish – Native, competent in reading Ottoman Turkish

Kurdish – Native in Kurmancî, competent in other dialects

Russian – Advanced

French – Advanced

Persian – Advanced

Arabic – Elementary

DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Member of the Graduate Student Committee for the Tenured Position in Modern Iranian Studies Job Search, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton, 2017.

Member of the Graduate Student Committee for the Tenure-Track Position in History of Medieval Iran Job Search, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton, 2016.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Journal manuscript reviewer for *International Journal of Kurdish Studies*.

INTERVIEWS

Interviewed by Carolina Avsar for her master's thesis titled "*My Name Is Sara*" A *Biomythography Exploring the Life of Sakine Cansiz*, 2020.

Conducted interviews with Alevi religious elder Pir Ali and other locals in Dersim (Tunceli, Turkey), for Zaza Language Project, organized by Endangered Language Alliance in New York, 2016.

Interviewed by Mahmood Monshipouri for his book manuscript published under the title *Muslims in Global Politics: Identities, Interests, and Human Rights*, 2005.

VISUAL ARTS

Documentary Film: *I Am Going Because I Am Scared, I Am Scared Because I Am Going*. Mithad Alam Film Center, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, 2006. (I made this film as final assignment for an undergraduate course).

OTHER EXPERIENCES & COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS

Middle East Studies Association (2015–current).

Vice President of Club of African Affairs, Brooklyn College, CUNY, 2010.

Assistant Proposition Development Specialist, Türkiye İş Bankası, 2009.

Compulsory Military Service: Infantry Company Infirmary Coordinator, Istanbul, 2008.

Work and Travel Program, Summers of 2005 (Michigan), 2006 and 2007 (Colorado).

Voluntary Service for European Union–Sponsored Project “Human Rights and Democracy Training in Coffee Houses,” Istanbul, 2006.

Member of Club of Social Sciences and International Relations: Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey, 2003–2007.

REFERENCES

Michael M. Reynolds, Associate Professor of Near Eastern Studies
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Brooklyn College

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