RESEARCH PROGRAMME

2014-2016

Historical and Etymological Dictionary of Turkish: Continuation

[A. G. Leventis Foundation Research Programmes, 2014-2016]

The project aims at the continuation of the Historical and Etymological Dictionary of Turkish. Conceived and initiated by the well-known Austrian Turcologist Andreas Tietze (1914-2013), so far two volumes (letters A-E, F-J) of this unique reference work have been published (Andreas Tietze: Sprachgeschichtliches und etymologisches Wörterbuch des Türkeitürkischen/Tarihi ve Etymolojik Türkiye Türkçeşi Lugatı. Istanbul/Wien 2002, 2009). Unfortunately, funding which had been provided by the Austrian Science Fund and the Austrian Academy of Sciences, was discontinued. For this reason, a new start is being proposed by the Turcologists at the University of Cyprus (UCY), especially since Tietze’s private library, to which access is an indispensable condition for carrying out the project, now constitutes a part of the Turcological library at UCY. Funding by the A. G. Leventis Foundation will allow us to produce volume n. 3 of the dictionary.

The structure of the dictionary is such that an entry may contain one or more phonetic variants of a lexeme, followed by a brief explanation of its meaning, its lexicographical sources and the lexeme’s etymology. Each lexeme is accompanied by comments on morphological, stylistic and syntactic aspects, some of which are discussed in summary paragraphs. Embedded in historical, regional and social contexts, different usages of a lexeme are demonstrated. From the point of view of historical linguistics the dictionary includes lexemes from the earliest Ottoman and Old Anatolian Turkish sources of the 13th century up until contemporary Turkish novels.

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