The Historian Semdanizade Süleyman (d. 1780) A Deputy Judge and Intellectual in the Ottoman Empire



A research talk by

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Thursday, May 31, 2018; 12:10 PM @ 176 Kerr Hall

Şemdanizade Fındıklılı Süleyman, a practitioner of Islamic law as a judge, is known for his chronicle that includes original observations and harsh criticism. Although his critical attitude toward the violation of social norms has been recently highlighted, he represented himself in his work as a fair judge and loyal official as well as an author who wrote for the benefit of a wider audience. By examining the different versions of his manuscripts, this presentation will locate him in the context of the eight-eenth-century book culture as well as the transformation of the judicial institution in which he served.



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