The Islamisation of Anatolia, c. 1100-1500

Fact Sheet

Project Information

ISLANAMATOLIA

Grant agreement ID: 284076

Funded under
FP7-IDEAS-ERC

Start date
1 January 2012

End date
31 July 2017

Overall budget
€ 1 320 788

EU contribution
€ 1 320 788

Hosted by
THE UNIVERSITY COURT OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF ST
ANDREWS
United Kingdom

Objective

This project studies the transformation of Anatolia from a Christian to a majority Muslim society over the period c. 1100 to 1500AD. Whereas previous research has concentrated almost exclusively on conversion, this study also emphasises the importance of acculturation to Islam, and thus seeks to understand the processes through which Islamic culture took root among the recently converted Turkish as well as Christian populations. Very little is known of the spread of Islam in the region, and the nature both of the religion and culture of Muslim Anatolia is little understood, even though these transformations gave birth to the Ottoman Empire, which played a vital role in shaping European history, and ultimately Turkey itself which remains a dynamic if much debated force in the modern world. This project examines the formation of
Anatolian Islamic society through the extensive but largely unstudied literary evidence it has bequeathed us in the form of numerous Arabic, Persian and Turkish manuscripts. Despite work on individual texts, the contours of this literature as a whole are largely unknown, and many works remained unpublished. This project will create a publicly accessible database of the extant manuscripts produced and circulated in Anatolia during the formative period of Islamisation from the twelfth to the beginning of the sixteenth century, containing information on their contents as well as details of place and date of copying, patronage, and authorship. This will also represent a major contribution to the study of the literatures of Arabic, Persian and especially Turkish by providing a repository of reliable information about the early manuscript heritage of the region. The database’s codicological information will be linked to mapping software, providing for the first time solid data about the dates and places in which specific texts were circulated, illuminating the intellectual sources for the cultural and religious Islamisation of Anatolia.

Fields of science

Programme(s)

Topic(s)

Call for proposal

ERC-2011-StG_20101124

Funding Scheme

ERC-SG - ERC Starting Grant

Host institution

THE UNIVERSITY COURT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS

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<th>Address</th>
<th>Activity type</th>
<th>EU contribution</th>
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<td>North Street 66 College Gate KY16 9AJ St Andrews</td>
<td>Higher or Secondary Education Establishments</td>
<td>€ 1 320 788</td>
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The University Court of the University of St Andrews (United Kingdom)

**Beneficiaries (1)**

**THE UNIVERSITY COURT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS**

**Address**
North Street 66 College Gate
KY16 9AJ St Andrews

**EU contribution**
€ 1 320 788

**Activity type**
Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

**Website**
Contact the organisation

**Principal investigator**
Andrew Peacock (Dr.)

**Administrative Contact**
Trish Starrs (Ms.)

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