THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT in 2013

In the course of the year we received many guests delivering seminars and conferences at our department, including: Dr. Raja Adal from the University of Cincinnati, Dr. Daniel Johnson from Bilkent, American Culture and Literature, Yannis Lolos from the University of Thessaly, David Haberstich from the Smithsonian Institute and Dr. Tanfer Tunç from Hacettepe University, American Culture and Literature.

In April we organized a trip to Bursa, Eskişehir and Sivrihisar with the participation of students and professors from our department and under the guidance of our own Prof. Dr. Özer Ergenç. We traveled, we had fun and we learnt.

In the month of May, on a pleasant spring day, we visited the Citadel area of Ankara once more, our students and professors participating.

Our department’s Prof. Dr. Özer Ergenç was presented with the “Excellence in Education” award. We felt happy and proud.

The exhibition, “Masters of the Map: Piri Reis and Mercator” and its associated activities, organized at Bilkent in 2012, traveled to London and Belgium as well, where Dr. Mehmet Kalpaklı delivered talks to accompany the exhibition.

The “Symposium of Ottoman Social and Economic History” organized in honour of Prof. Dr. Halil İnalcık, the founder of our department, was held by the Municipality of Yalova on July 27, 2013.

Several books written by the professors of our department were published: Arap Milliyetçiliği by Akif Kireçci (Grafiker Yayınları, Ankara), and three books by Kenneth Weisbrode, Churchill and King (Viking Press, New York), Old Diplomacy Revisited (Palgrave Macmillan Press) and A Brief History of Americanism (AHA Press, Washington DC). We congratulate them once again.

One of our graduates, İşıl Acehan, started at İpek University as an Assistant Professor. We wish her the best of success.

In September, two new books by our esteemed Prof. Dr. Halil İnalcık were published: Modern Türkiye and İnalcık: Söyleşiler ve Konuşmalar... Prof. İnalcık continues to set an amazing example to all of us with his prodigious academic productivity.

On September 7, 2013 we celebrated the 97th birthday of Halil İnalcık. That day, we found out that he was actually just entering his 96th year rather than being 97. We wish many more healthy years to Professor İnalcık, who actually thus became at least one year younger on this birthday of his.
We organized an award ceremony for the undergraduate students who had written the best assignments for the HIST 200 course in the 2012-13 academic year.

In the Fall semester of 2013-14, Dr. Ayşe Ezel Kural Shaw started to teach History of Civilization courses at our department. We extend to her a warm welcome.

Fulya Özturan, one of our M.A. students in Ottoman History, got married. We wish her much happiness.

In October, the “IAOSEH 2013 Congress”, the secretariat of which was handled by our department’s Dr. Oktay Özel, was organized in Madrid, Spain, with the participation of our professors and students.

A “Gift book” (Festschrift) for Prof. Özer Ergenç, edited by Ümit Ekin, was prepared by his colleagues and students who all contributed to the publication with articles. The book was presented at a special ceremony held at our university. We congratulate our professor once again.

In October, the BBC2 documentary “The Ottomans: Europe’s Muslim Emperors” which includes interviews with Dr. Mehmet Kalpaklı as one of the advisors to the documentary, was broadcast. In November, the gala night for the documentary “Fatih: Avrupa’nın Kaderini Değiştiren Adam”, the script of which was written by Dr. Kalpaklı, also one of the advisors to the documentary, was held at the Church of Hagia Irene within the Topkapı Palace grounds and attended by 60 members of the Ottoman dynasty.

In November, the book Compassionate Episode in Anglo- Ottoman History : British Relief to the ‘93 Refugees (1877-78 ) by one of our Ph.D. students, Sena Dinçyürek, was published by Libra Kitap, İstanbul. We heartily congratulate her.

Our students who graduated this year:

MA – Kamil Erdem Güler (now working at the United Nations)
MA – Saadet Büyük (now at Ankara Univ.)
MA – Sarper Yılmaz (continuing with Ph.D. at our department)
MA – Müzeyyen Karabağ (continuing with Ph.D. at our department)
MA – Gözde Pınar (now Research Assistant at Kütahya Univ.)
MA – Yasin Arslantaş (accepted to Oxford Univ. for Ph.D. studies)
PhD. Nuray Ocaklı
PhD. Fatih Durgun
PhD. Grigor Boykov
PhD. Harun Yeni
Ph.D. Selim Tezcan

We extend our heartfelt congratulations.