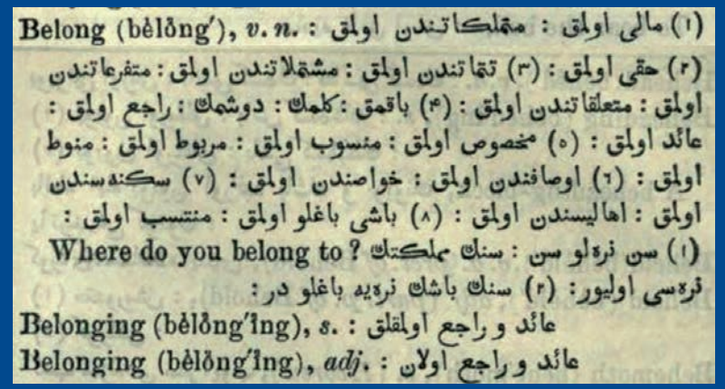
Veruschka Wagner / Fırat Yaşa (eds.)

Positions and Possessions

Belonging in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire

Bonn University Press


Belong (bèlŏng'), v. n. : (١) مالی اولمق : متملکاتندن اولمق
(٢) حقی اولمق : (٣) تتماتندن اولمق : مشتملاتندن اولمق : متفرعاتندن
اولمق : متعلقاتندن اولمق : (۴) باقمق : کلمك : دوشمك : راجع اولمق :
عائد اولمق : (٥) مخصوص اولمق : منسوب اولمق : مربوط اولمق : منوط
اولمق : (٦) اوصافندن اولمق : خواصندن اولمق : (٧) سکنه‌سندن
اولمق : اهالیسندن اولمق : (٨) باشی باغلو اولمق : منتسب اولمق :
Where do you belong to ? (١) سن نره‌لو سن : سنك مملکتك
نره‌سی اولیور : (٢) سنك باشك نره‌یه باغلو در :
Belonging (bèlŏng'ĭng), s. : عائد و راجع اولمقلق
Belonging (bèlŏng'ĭng), adj. : عائد و راجع اولان

Ottoman Studies 12

Positions and Possessions

Wagner / Yaşa (eds.)

V&R unipress

Veruschka Wagner is a Research Associate at the Department for Islamic Studies and Middle-Eastern Languages at the University of Bonn and Affiliated Researcher of the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies (BCDSS). Her research focuses primarily on Ottoman slavery and dependencies, as well as late Ottoman and early Republican satire and caricatures. Fırat Yaşa teaches history at Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey, focusing on micro-historical studies of slavery, captives, and social dependency in the Crimean Khanate and early modern Ottoman Empire.

Ottoman Studies / Osmanistische Studien 12

The early modern Ottoman Empire offers a compelling context for exploring the many-sided and often fluid nature of belonging. Spanning vast territories and encompassing diverse ethnic, religious, and social groups, the Ottoman context reveals how this fundamental human relationship operated across religious, spatial, social, cultural, professional, and emotional dimensions simultaneously. Beyond the theoretically prescribed affiliations of legal classifications and social norms, factors like spatial proximity, individual career choices, and dependencies emerged as crucial markers. The fluidity of identity within this complex, multi-ethnic, multi-religious, and multilingual society is a key finding. The contributors demonstrate that while proximity fostered strong bonds of solidarity and shaped social hierarchy, belonging itself was often a fragile and volatile experience for both individuals and groups.

UNIVERSITÄT BONN

Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht Verlage
www.vandenhoeck-ruprecht-verlage.com

9 783847 119869

Ottoman Studies / Osmanistische Studien

Band 12

Herausgegeben von
Stephan Conermann, Sevgi Ağcagül und Gül Şen

Die Bände dieser Reihe sind peer-reviewed.

Veruschka Wagner / Fırat Yaşa (eds.)

Positions and Possessions

Belonging in the Early Modern Ottoman Empire

V&R unipress

Bonn University Press





Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek
Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über https://dnb.de abrufbar.

Veröffentlichungen der Bonn University Press
erscheinen bei V&R unipress.

© 2026 Brill | V&R unipress, Robert-Bosch-Breite 10, D-37079 Göttingen, info@v-r.de,
ein Imprint der Brill-Gruppe
(Koninklijke Brill BV, Leiden, Niederlande; Brill USA Inc., Boston MA, USA; Brill Asia Pte Ltd, Singapore; Brill Deutschland GmbH, Paderborn, Deutschland; Brill Österreich GmbH, Wien, Österreich)
Koninklijke Brill BV umfasst die Imprints Brill, Brill Nijhoff, Brill Schöningh, Brill Fink, Brill mentis, Brill Wageningen Academic, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Böhlau und V&R unipress.
Alle Rechte vorbehalten. Das Werk und seine Teile sind urheberrechtlich geschützt.
Jede Verwertung in anderen als den gesetzlich zugelassenen Fällen bedarf der vorherigen schriftlichen Einwilligung des Verlages.

Umschlagabbildung: A lexicon, English and Turkish by James Redhouse (1884)
Druck und Bindung: CPI books GmbH, Birkstraße 10, D-25917 Leck
Printed in the EU.

Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht Verlage | www.vandenhoeck-ruprecht-verlage.com

ISSN 2366-3677 (print) | ISSN 2366-3685 (digital)
ISBN 978-3-8471-1986-9 (print)
ISBN 978-3-8470-1986-2 (digital) | 978-3-7370-1986-6 (eLibrary)

Contents

Suraiya Faroqhi / Veruschka Wagner / Fırat Yaşa
Introduction 7

Boğaç Ergene
Friends with Benefits: Material Obligations of Companionship among Premodern Ottoman Elite 27

Işık Tamdoğan
Being a *Rum* Subject in Ottoman Society: On dwellers of Üsküdar and Cilicia (18th century and beginning of the 20th century) 45

Nurcan Abacı
Households with Double Qibla and The Hedgehog Dilemma of Converts 73

Turan Açık
The *Celestialisation* of Space and Belonging in the Ottoman Empire 87

Zeynep Dörtok Abacı / Fırat Yaşa
'The Nose Never Makes a Mistake': Smell and Belonging in Early Modern Ottoman Society 109

Nilüfer Alkan Günay
In Pursuit of Missing Family Members: Loyalty to the Family in Ottoman Society in the Second Half of the 16th Century 129

N. İpek Hüner
Hanging Out and Helping Out: Women of the Ottoman Daily Life 153

Günhan Börekçi
The Rise of Grand Vizier Nasuh Pasha (d. 1614): A Study on Premodern Ottoman Elite Formation and Intra-Elite Relations 167