

TURKISH PHYSICIANS, LATE OTTOMAN AND EARLY REPUBLICAN, AS CONTRIBUTORS TO MEDICINE

Post Graduate Medical History Course Workshop

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PROJECT

The idea of collecting the subject in a set of posters was put forth during the post graduate courses by Nil Sarı, the instructor who planned it as a model for interactive education which would keep the students attentive. The aim was to train students to work as a group and share ideas that would in turn help to compose more interesting posters, create eagerness for competition, but above all, motivate willingness to study and learn medical history. The members of the group include Ahmet Ataman, Elif Vatanoğlu, Esin Karlıdağ, Emrah Kurt, Ferda Gündoğdu, İbrahim Topçu, Necla Kırık and Zeynep Belbez.



POSTERS

Nine posters were prepared in total. This one describes and illustrates the aim, method and achievement of the group; each of the rest deals with only one physician. The eight physicians chosen to be studied were: **Esat Işık Paşa** (1865-1936), **Celal Muhtar Özden** (1865-1947), **Akil Muhtar Özden** (1877-1949), **Besim Ömer Akalın** (1885-1940), **Hasan Reşat Sığındım** (1884-1971), **Hulusi Behçet** (1889-1948), **İhsan Şükrü Aksel** (1899-1987) and **Münir Ahmet Sarpyener** (1902-1982).

OBJECTIVE

The aim for choosing these physicians was to describe the characteristics shared in each biography, hence have a general view of the medical science of the period. All of the eight physicians were born during the late Ottoman period; had medical education in an Ottoman medical school; then went on to a European medical center for training and research; and later lived and died as citizens of the Republic of Turkey, founded in 1923. Each of them was an eminent physician, who contributed to medicine by introducing one or more innovations or starting a foundation in different fields of medicine; such as ophthalmology, pharmacology, internal medicine, obstetrics, pediatrics, hematology, dermatology, neurology and orthopedics. These physicians and their work symbolize the peak of the efforts of the Ottoman intellectuals in Westernization in the field of medicine; and the role of positivism on their attitudes and activities, which also guided them in their laboratory and clinical researches and practices. As a result, this study did not only enable us to recognize the eminent Turkish physicians, but also the development in the field of the late Ottoman and the early Turkish Republican medicine.



METHOD

As to the method of study; the instructor gave to the students the documents, publications and illustrations needed for the study and asked them to prepare a poster describing one of the said physicians and their contributions. Meanwhile, the students were encouraged to search for new knowledge on the subject they dealt with. For three months the class came together once a week and was led by the instructor during the workshop. The instructor asked the students to criticize the posters during the process of composition, while putting questions to be answered first by the composer, later by the other members of the group. The items criticized were: the title, the kind and length of information to be included; the literary style; the illustrations to be included; the graphical arrangements of letters and illustrations.



CONCLUSION

IN THE COURSE OF TIME, THIS PROJECT PROVED TO BE A GOOD MEANS FOR TRAINING POST GRADUATE STUDENTS TO DISCUSS AND MOTIVATE THEM TO WORK WILLINGLY ON THE MEDICAL HISTORY SUBJECTS, UTILIZING THE PREPARATION OF A POSTER AS A PRACTICAL MEANS.