

## A Book List from the Early 17th Century

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## Context

The folio 123a of the *Zübdetü'l-eş'âr*, registered in the Şehit Ali Paşa Collection of the Süleymaniye Manuscript Library, contains a list of books. Some of these books belonged to the early modern Ottoman 'ilmiye curriculum. The list contains books that a certain Veysî Efendi's son lent to the one who took the note. Considering the author of the text and the colophon, we can glean information on the identity of this person who made a list and the book circulation among the early modern Ottoman 'ulemâ. The author of *Zübdetü'l-eş'âr* was Kâf-zâde Fâ'izî ('Abdü'l-ḥayy) Çelebi (1589-1622). It is the oldest copy of the manuscript and was copied by Fâ'izî's close friend Nev'î-zâde 'Aṭâyî Efendi (1583 – 1635) in 1624.<sup>1</sup> These two were not only friends<sup>2</sup> but also members of the 'ilmiye class and the same literary coterie. The famous prose writer and judge Üveys Çelebi, or with his penname, Veysî (1561 – 1628) stayed in touch with this circle.<sup>3</sup>

Could this Veysî be the Veysî mentioned in the list? I argue that he could be the one and his son lent these books to Nev'î-zâde 'Aṭâyî. My claim is based on three points:

- 1) These names were the members of the same literary and social circle;
- 2) The owner and copyist of the manuscript was Nev'î-zâde 'Aṭâyî;
- 3) There was a personal and literary relationship between Veysî and 'Aṭâyî.

The latter meant to write a parallel to Veysî's *Dürretü't-tâc fî sîreti şâhibi'l-mi'râc*.<sup>4</sup> Besides, in 'Aṭâyî's *Hadâ'ikü'l-Hakâ'ik fî Tekmîleti'ş-Şakâ'ik* some parts were directly conveyed from Veysî.<sup>5</sup>

The booklist must have been written between 1628 and 1635, the dates of Veysî's and 'Aṭâyî's deaths, considering the phrase "Veysî Efendi merḥûm" (the late Veysî Efendi).

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<sup>1</sup> "istektebehü el-fakîr [...] 'Aṭâyî eş-şehîr bi-Nev'î-zâde munfaşılan 'an każâ-i Hezarğrad 'afâ 'an-humâ el-'iyâd reb? ḥılâl-ı sene 1033" (Kafzade Faizi. *Zübdetü'l-eş'âr*. Süleymaniye Yazma Eserler Kütüphanesi, Şehid Ali Paşa Koleksiyonu, 1877, 5a).

<sup>2</sup> "şâhib-i âsar-ı maḡbûle 'Aṭâyî merḥûm ki şâhib-i imzâdur // bu nüshada ḥaṭṭ-ı nesta'lik ile ol mevâzi' eyler kendi ḥaṭṭı iledür // câmi'-i kitâb ol Kâf-zâde Fâ'izî muḥliş 'Abdü'l-ḥayy Efendi // ile mu'âşır olub anlar ile âmîziş üzerelerdür" (Ibid, 5a).

<sup>3</sup> Aslı Niyazioğlu, "The Very Special Dead and A Seventeenth-Century Ottoman Poet: Nevizade Atai's Reasons for Composing His *Meşnevîs*," *Archivum Ottomanicum*, 25 (2008): 221–31.

<sup>4</sup> Bayram Ali Kaya, "Veysi," TDV İslâm Ansiklopedisi, 2013, XLIII, 76-77.

<sup>5</sup> Nevizade Atayi, *Hadâ'iku'l-Hakâ'ik Fî Tekmîleti'ş-Şakâ'ik*, vol. I-II, ed. Suat Donuk, İstanbul: Türkiye Yazma Eserler Kurumu Başkanlığı Yayınları 2017, p. 1756.

## Transcription

*Ḥalā Veysi Efendi-i merḥūm maḥdūmı ʔarafından faḳırde emānet olan kütübdür*

<i>Ḳāmūs nüṣṣa-i celīledir</i>	<i>Merḥūmuñ ḳāmūsı tahrīru bi-ḥaṭṭihi</i>	<i>El-ḳavlü 'l-me'nūs 'ale l-ḳāmūs</i>
<i>'Uyūnü'l-eṣer fi's-siyer</i>	<i>min Ḥayavāni'l-Cāḥiḻ dört cilddür cild 2 alındı</i>	<i>Fāyık el-luḻa vaḳf cild 1</i>
<i>Fāyık fi'l-ḥadīs vaḳf</i>	<i>Fāyık [...] -zādeden gelmişdür</i>	

*Görölmek için gelüb ḳalan kütübdür*

<i>Nihāye-i İbnü'l-Eṣīr fi'l-luḻa nüṣṣa-i celīledür</i>	<i>El-Misbāḥü'l-Münīr fi'l-luḻa</i>	<i>Ḥāvī li'l-Ḥaṣīrī kātib Muṣlī Çelebi 300</i>
<i>Mu'inü'l-Müfti</i>	<i>Mezcü'z-Zühür fi Veḳāyi'id-Dühür cild 2</i>	<i>Dürretü'l-Eslāk fi Devleti'l-Etrāk cild 3</i>
<i>Ṣerḥ-i Mantūḳa En-Nesefti</i>	<i>[...] li'l-'Allāme [...]</i>	<i>Tārīḥ-i Güzīde</i>
<i>Telvīḥ</i>	<i>Ḳıṭ'a-i āḥire-i Ravzatü'l-Aḥbāb</i>	<i>Kitāb 11</i>
<i>cild-i evvel-i İbn Ḥallikān</i>	<i>iki cildde tamāmdır</i>	<i>Cild geldi [?]</i>
		<i>3</i>
		<i>14</i>
		<i>1</i>
		<i>15</i>

## Translation

These are the books that the late Veysi Efendi's son lent to me and which I still have in my possession.

<i>Ḳāmūs</i> , it is a beautiful copy	<i>Ḳāmūs</i> <sup>6</sup> of the deceased by his handwriting	<i>El-ḳavlü 'l-me 'nūs 'ale l-ḳāmūs</i>
<i>'Uyünü 'l-eser fi 's-siyer</i>	From the <i>Ḥayavāni 'l-Cāhiz</i> <sup>7</sup> four volumes, volume 2 was taken	<i>Fāyık el-luġa waqf</i> volume 1
<i>Fāyık fi 'l-ḥadīs</i> <sup>8</sup> vakf	<i>Fāyık</i> , it has come from [...]zāde	

These are the books that came to be seen [but] remained in our hands.

<i>Nihāye-i İbnü 'l-Esīr</i> <sup>9</sup> <i>fi 'l-luġa</i> , it is a beautiful copy	<i>El-misbāḥü 'l-münir</i> <sup>10</sup> <i>fi 'l-luġa</i> “	<i>Ḥāvī li-l-Ḥaṣīrī</i> <sup>11</sup> kätib Muṣlī Çelebi 300
<i>Mu 'inü 'l-Müfti</i> <sup>12</sup> “	<i>Mezcü 'z-zühür fi veġāyi 'ed-dühür</i> volume 2	<i>Dürretü 'l-eslāk fi devleti 'l-etrāk</i> <sup>13</sup> volume 3
<i>Şerḥ-i mantūka</i>	[...] li 'l- 'Allāme	<i>Tārīḥ-i Güzide</i> <sup>15</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Probably Veysi Efendi's *Merace'l-bahreyn fi-ecvibe 'alā-i'tirāzāti'l-Cevherī*. See, Şensoy, Sedat: Veysi (Üveysi b. Muhammed El-Alaşehirî) ve Eseri 'Merace'l-Bahreyn'in Tahkiki, (MA Thesis) Konya: Selçuk University, 1995.

<sup>7</sup> *Kitāb al-Ḥayavān*, one of el-Cāhiz's books. See, Pellat, Ch., “al-Djāhiz”, in: Encyclopaedia of Islam, Second Edition, Edited by: P. Bearman, Th. Bianquis, C.E. Bosworth, E. van Donzel, W.P. Heinrichs. Consulted online on 17 January 2023 [http://dx-doi-org.uaccess.univie.ac.at/10.1163/1573-3912\\_islam\\_SIM\\_1935](http://dx-doi-org.uaccess.univie.ac.at/10.1163/1573-3912_islam_SIM_1935)

<sup>8</sup> Probably Zemahşeri's (d. 1144) work entitled *el-Fāyık fi ġaribi'l-ḥadīs*. See, Selman Başaran, "El-Fāik Fi ġaribi'l-Hadīs", TDV İslām Ansiklopedisi, <https://islamansiklopedisi.org.tr/el-faik-fi-garibil-hadis> (17.01.2023).

<sup>9</sup> *Mecdü'd-din İbnü'l-Esīr's* (d. 1210) dictionary on less common words and meanings occurring in the Prophetic traditions, *en-Nihāye fi ġaribi'l-ḥadīs*. See, Rosenthal, F., “Ibn al-Aṭḥir”, in: Encyclopaedia of Islam, Second Edition, Edited by: P. Bearman, Th. Bianquis, C.E. Bosworth, E. van Donzel, W.P. Heinrichs. Consulted online on 17 January 2023 [http://dx-doi-org.uaccess.univie.ac.at/10.1163/1573-3912\\_islam\\_SIM\\_3094](http://dx-doi-org.uaccess.univie.ac.at/10.1163/1573-3912_islam_SIM_3094)

<sup>10</sup> *el-Misbāḥü'l-münir fi ġaribi's-şerḥi'l-kebīr li'r-Rāfi 'i*, Aḥmed b. Muḥammed Feyyūmī's (d. 1368-69) dictionary on Islamic jurisprudence. See, Hüseyin Elmalı, "Feyyūmî, Ahmed b. Muhammed", TDV İslām Ansiklopedisi, <https://islamansiklopedisi.org.tr/feyyumi-ahmed-b-muhammed> (17.01.2023).

<sup>11</sup> *el-Ḥāvī fi'l-fetāvā*, Muḥammed b. İbrāhim Ḥaṣīrī's work on fiqh.

<sup>12</sup> *Mu 'inü'l-müfti fi'l-cevāb 'ale'l-müstefti*, Pīr Meḥmed Üskübī's (ö. 1611) work, in which his fatwas were compiled. See, Şükrü Özen, "Pīr Mehmed Üskübī", TDV İslām Ansiklopedisi, <https://islamansiklopedisi.org.tr/pir-mehmed-uskubi> (17.01.2023).

<sup>13</sup> İbn Ḥabīb el-Ḥalebī's work on Mamluks. See, Süleyman Tülücü, "İbn Ḥabīb El-Halebī", TDV İslām Ansiklopedisi, <https://islamansiklopedisi.org.tr/ibn-habib-el-halebi> (17.01.2023).

<sup>15</sup> *Ḥamdu'llāh el-Müstevfī's* work on history. See, Abdülkerim Özeydin, "Tārīḥ-İ Güzide", TDV İslām Ansiklopedisi, <https://islamansiklopedisi.org.tr/tarih-i-guzide> (17.01.2023).

<i>En-Nesefti</i> <sup>14</sup>	[...]	
<i>Telviḥ</i> “ the first volume of İbn Ḥallikān <sup>16</sup>	The last part of the <i>Ravzatü'l-Aḥbāb</i> <sup>17</sup> two volumes in total	Book 11 volumes have come
		13 1
		14 1 15

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<sup>14</sup> I could not find information about the work and its author.

<sup>16</sup> İbn Ḥallikān (d. 1282), the author of *Vefeyâtü'l-a'yân*. He was a historian, scholar and poet from Arbil.

<sup>17</sup> *Ravzatü'l-aḥbāb fî siyeri'n-nebî ve'l-âl ve'l-aşḥāb*, Cemâl el-Ḥüseyinî's (d. 1521) work on the Prophet Muhammed. See, Mehmet Aykaç, "Cemâl El-Hüseyinî", *TDV İslâm Ansiklopedisi*, <https://islamansiklopedisi.org.tr/cemal-el-huseyni> (17.01.2023).

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