

Ottoman propaganda and Turkish identity : literature in Turkey during world war I

Koroglu, Erol, author

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Abstrak

This is the first work to deal with the role of literature and propaganda in Turkey during World War I...The author charts the efforts of the Young Turk government and its German allies to build up a propaganda apparatus. He also shows how the literature of the war years (both poetry and prose) not only tried to bolster patriotism but also was instrumental in the building of a new, Turkish, nationhood. In his description, he shows how the different writers of the period represented different interpretations of the idea of a Turkish nation. The work is not only an important contribution to our understanding of the Ottoman Empire during World War I, it also adds a completely new chapter to the study of World War I literature. For the many readers interested in World War I literature, who are familiar with the writings of British, French, German and American writers, this will open up new vistas. Koroglu is a meticulous researcher, intimately familiar with his subject, who is able to convey a good "feel" for the atmosphere of the period.'- Professor Erik Jan Zürcher, University of Leiden 'Dr. Koroglu's book displays and explains the need to change the attitudes of these two fields in order to reach a more productive and persuasive understanding of literature and history. His elegant and well-documented interdisciplinary approach, which also tackles disciplinary conventions and methodologies of literature and history at the same time, establishes a positive model for future studies in a new literary cultural history approach...this book offers a totally new and telling explanation and understanding of the literature of the late Ottoman period under the impact of the newly emerging Turkish nationalist ideology.'- Professor Nuket Esen, Bogazici University, Istanbul.