

TADEUSZ MAJDA  
(Warszawa)

## POLISH CENTERS FOR TURKISH STUDIES

Poland has had always a great interest in the Near East and especially in Ottoman Turkey, because for her political, diplomatic, commercial and cultural relations dating back to 14-th century. The knowledge of the Turkish language has been for centuries exercised mainly in diplomatic and commercial relations, although some attempts were made to enlarge the knowledge of the history, political and religious institutions, of the customs and manners of the Turks. At the end of the 18-th century a Polish School for dragomans was even opened in Istanbul, but it was soon closed.

In 19th century due to the Polish emigrants who fled to Turkey after the fall of the uprisings in 1830 and 1863, and who were very active in various fields of politics, administration, culture and science, the interest for Turkish studies in Poland grew up and some valuable works were published on Turkey. Yet in 19th century a Chair of Near Eastern languages was opened at the University of Wilno (opened 1803—1832). Some students of this University became very famous in various fields of Oriental studies, like Józef Sekowski, Antoni Muchlin-ski, Ignacy Pietraszewski, Józef Kowalewski, Aleksander Chodźko.

But it was only after the first world war that regular university institutions for Oriental studies were organized in Cracow, Lwów and Warsaw. The new centers for Turkish studies were organized with the help of professors Zygmunt Smogorzewski, Tadeusz Kowalski and Władysław Kotwicz. In the period between the two world wars besides the traditional fields of research studies, like Ottoman Turkish language, literature and history, some new fields of Turcology were developed — the studies of the Karaim, Armenian-Kipchak languages, the history, language and literature of the Polish Tatars, and what is very important the studies of Turkish dialects and folk literature were undertaken for the first time in Turcology in such a serious and large scale.

The first Chair of Oriental Philology which included Arab, Turkish and Persian languages, was opened at the Jagellon University in Cracow in 1919. In 1924 a Chair of Philology and History of the

Moslem Near East was established at the Lwów University. Finally in 1931 an Oriental Institute was organized at the Warsaw University, and the Chair of Turcology was opened in 1932.

After the second world war just in 1945 three centers for Oriental Studies were reactivated, that is — in Warsaw, Cracow and Wrocław (this one was closed in 1951). In each of these universities there was a Chair of Turcology. The development of political, economic and cultural relations between Poland and various Eastern and African countries after the second world war have encouraged the authorities to develop the Oriental and African studies in our country.

The biggest center for Oriental and African studies is the Oriental Institute at the Warsaw University which is divided in eleven sections (departments) (Turkish, Persian, Arabic, Mongolian, Languages of India, Hebrew, African languages with Abissinian (Amharic), Chinese with Vietnamese, Japanese with Korean, Old Egyptian, Summerian and Akkadic, Hettit.) The Oriental Institute in Cracow consists of following sections: Turcology, Iranology, Arabic philology, African languages, Indology.

#### THE ACTUAL STATE AND RESEARCH STUDIES IN TURCOLOGY

##### THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE IN WARSAW

Docent Dr. Habil. Tadeusz Majda — his fields of interest are: Anatolian and Ottoman Turkish literature and language, literature and language of the Polish Tatars, Mamluk-Turkish, Turkish texts written in non-Arabic scripts, Turkish art.

Doctor thesis: The story of Yusuf and Zuleyha in Turkish literature.

Publications\*: Catalogue of Persian and Turkish manuscripts in Polish collections; Catalogue of Turkish costume drawings in the University Library in Warsaw; Anthology of Turkish short stories (1945—1970); translations into Polish of »Dani, mendname« (14th cent.), »İşkname« (The book of love) (14th cent.); Development of Ottoman Turkish in 17th century (in print).

Dr. Aleksander Dubiński — he occupies himself with the language literature and folklore of the Karaims (a Turkish speaking minority in Poland), Turkish language (morphology) Doctor thesis: The infinitiv form in Turkish languages Publications: Translation into Polish of the »Seyahatname« by Evliya Çelebi (collective work); Turkish-Polish and Polish-Turkish dictionary (in collaboration with Dr. S. Płaskowicka-Rymkiewicz); Karaim-Russian.Polish dictionary (collective work).

\* Monographs and books are listed only. The titles are not given in original

language, without full bibliographical informations.

Dr. Wojciech Hensel — his main field is the Ottoman and new history, he is working on Ottoman Turkish documents and chronicles dealing with Poland.

Doctor thesis: The problem of slavery (jasyr) from Poland to Ottoman Turkey and the Crimean Khanat.

Dr. Danuta Chmielowska — she is interested in modern Turkish literature, the emancipation of Turkish women, she is preparing a study on the role of the »Hürriyet Gazetesi« of the Yeni Osmanlılar in the political and social life of Turkey.

Doctor thesis: The books of advises (pendname) for women by Nedim, Nabi and Vasif Enderuni.

Dariusz Cichocki (Magister) — he is interested in Turkish language, especially in contrastive studies, he is working on his doctor thesis on the »ip« gerundium in modern Turkish.

#### THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE IN CRACOW

Prof. Dr. Włodzimierz Zajaczkowski — he is mainly interested in Gagauz language, literature and folklore, as well as in Karaim language. Literature and folklore, he is also interested in history of Oriental studies in Poland.

Publications: Language, literature and folklore of the Dobrudja Gagauz Turks; contributing in the Dictionary of Karaim language.

Docent Dr. Habil. Stanisław Stachowski — his main field of interest are the Turkish borrowings in Slavic languages (Serbo-Kroat, Polish), and Persian, Arabic borrowings in Ottoman Turkish.

Publications: The phonetics of Ottoman Turkish borrowings in Serbo-Kroat; Arabic borrowings in Ottoman Turkish (2 vols.).

Dr. Teresa Ciecierska-Chłapowa — she was interested in Ottoman Turkish history and especially in Polish-Turkish economic relations, but since several years she devoted herself to modern Turkish drama, her habilitation thesis is on Orhan Asena's dramaturgy. Doctor thesis: The commerce between Poland and Ottoman Turkey in 17th century.

Dr. Jan Ciopiński — he is interested in Ottoman literature and literature, his habilitation thesis is on rethorics in Baki's »Mersiyeye« for Sultan Süleyman Kanuni.

Doctor thesis: Risalet ün-Nushiyye (The book of good counsels) by Yunus Emre.

Anna Rozenbajger (Magister) — she is interesting in modern Turkish literature.

## THE POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

- Prof. Dr. Habil. Edward Tryjarski — his main interest is the Armenian-Kipchak language and literature; Old Turkish, Turkish dialectology, history and culture of the Ancient Turks.  
 Doctor and habilitation thesis: *The Kipchak language of the Polish Armenians.*  
 Publications: *Aremnian-Kipchak-Polish dictionary* (4 vols.); *History of Protobulgars and Kumans* (collective work), Turkish »baba« s (in collaboration, in print)
- Dr. Teresa Nagrodzka-Majchrzyk — she is interested in history and culture of the Ancient Turks.  
 Doctor thesis: *The growth and evolution of towns among the Ancient Turks* (published)
- Dr. Zygmunt Abrahamowicz — his main field of interest is the Ottoman history and the history of the Crimean Khanat, Ottoman Turkish diplomatics, political relations between Poland and Ottoman Turkey, he is working on Turkish firmans from Polish archives dealing with the reign of king Jan Sobieski.  
 Publications: *Catalogue of Turkish documents in Polish archives* (part 1); *The chronicle by Kirimli Hadji Sena'i on the reign of Khan Islam Gery III*; *Kara Mustafa before Vienna* (translation with comments of Turkish chronicles dealing with the battle of Vienna 1683); *Introduction, comments to the Polish translation of »Seyahatname« by Evliya Çelebi.*
- Irena Tatarzyńska (Magister) — she is working on social problems in contemporary Turkish literature.

## TURCOLOGISTS WORKING OUTSIDE OF THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE IN WARSAW

- Andrzej Ananicz (Magister) — he is interested in Turkish languages (Ottoman Turkmen).
- Małgorzata Labecka-Koecherowa — she is interested in Turkish literature, mainly poetry (translations of Nazim Hikmet and other poets), literature, culture and mythology of the Turks.  
 Publications: several booklets of Turkish poetry translated into Polish, translations in verses of »Danışmendname« and »İşkname« into Polish.

One has to mention also the former Oriental Institute of the Polish Academy of Science with a Department for Turkish Studies. This Institute was opened in 1953 and closed in 1968. During this period some valuable research studies were undertaken, like cataloguing of Turkish (Oriental) documents and manuscripts in Polish collections,

works on Armenian-Kipchak, Mamluk-Kipchak dictionaries. The Institute has published a series of catalogues, monographs, dissertations etc.

As it was noticed before after 1945 a considerable great stress was laid on some important field of Turkish studies, like:

- 1) Turkish documents dealing with Poland and Turkey
- 2) history, language and literature of Turkish speaking minorities in Poland
- 3) Turkish dialects with a special consideration of texts in non-Arabic characters
- 4) folk and popular Turkish literature
- 5) Turkish borrowings in Polish and Serbo-Croat
- 6) modern Turkish history, literature and language.

These trends in Polish Turcology will be developed in the coming few years. More and more attention will be given also to social, political, economic and cultural problems of Turkey in our times.