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SPRING LECTURES

2012

FICTION & REALITY:

Literature as a Means of Exploring Identities

LECTURE

Tuesday March 27
19.00

JALE PARLA
Bilgi University

The Two Voices of the Turkish Novel: The Assertive and The Interrogative

The two voices of the Turkish novel are the assertive and the interrogative: Discourses of assertiveness and the issues of interrogation always cluster around the major topic of modernization / westernization, or cultural change with its social, political, economic dimensions. I will discuss the work of some Turkish novelists (from Ahmet Mithat through Tanpınar) who represented this division in the Turkish novel by creating two kinds of writer-protagonists: the ideal, accomplished writer and the writer manqué.

Jale Parla is Professor of English and Comparative Literature. She is presently teaching at İstanbul Bilgi University following her retirement from Boğaziçi University in 2000. She graduated from Boğaziçi University in 1968 and pursued her studies in Comparative Literature at Harvard University where she was granted the Ph.D. degree in 1978. Her publications include *Efendilik, Şarkiyatçılık, Kölelik; Babalar ve Oğullar: Tanzimat Romanı'nın Epistemolojik Temelleri; Don Kişot'tan Bugüne Roman; Türk Romanında Yazar ve Başkalaşım*, together with various articles in national and international journals.

Refreshments are served after the lecture