



SRII SPRING LECTURE SERIES 2019

STORYTELLING

June 11, 2019, 19:00

Istiklal Caddesi 247 (Beyoğlu – Tünel)

Pinar Dinc

Lund University

The “Art” of Government: Reading Turkey’s *Raison d’état* through Novels and Short Stories on Dersim 1937–38

Being a mountainous region with numerous bodies of water, valleys, and grottos, Dersim or Tunceli was a shelter for non-dominant groups (non-Sunni and non-Turkish) for centuries. Both the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish Republic conducted numerous military operations in the region, of which the Tunceli Operation in 1937–38 was especially traumatic. Turkey’s *raison d’état* described it as the self-righteous state operation against the rebellious tribes, which was largely reproduced in political as well as public spheres. Over the last five decades, various political movements have challenged this *raison d’état*. This lecture sheds light on the reflections of the continuities and ruptures of Turkey’s *raison d’état* on Dersim 1937–38 through 35 fiction (novels/short story) books published –in Turkish– between 1966 and 2018.

Admission only after registration to event@srii.org.tr !