



THE 2019 LECTURE IN THE
MEMORY OF GUNNAR JARRING

October 8, 2019, 19:00

Istiklal Caddesi 247 (Beyoğlu – Tünel)

Professor

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Manuscript evidences of early modern knowledge transfer from Anatolia to Central Asia

The long-standing political and cultural relations between Turks of Anatolia and Central Asia is an often cited cliché in historical publications. For instance, there are indications that Babur's (1483–1530) success in conquering Hindustan is attributed to the artillery innovations he acquired from the Ottoman empire. Another example is Abdarrauf Fitrat (1886–1938) who spent some time in Istanbul, and after returning to his native Central Asia he became a prominent figure of the newly formed group of Young Bukharans. There is, however, little information supported by manuscript evidences on how knowledge was circulated and/or distributed between the two regions and how Central Asian Turks integrated and utilized the acquired knowledge. Manuscripts housed in the Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies, Tashkent, Uzbekistan do provide a valuable insight into the true nature of knowledge transfer and adaptation in early modern Central Asia. Besides the pure existence of Ottoman manuscripts in the archive of the Al-Biruni Institute, some documents demonstrate in a clear manner that knowledge of science coming from Anatolia became integrated part of the local lore.

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