

Ezgi CAKMAK

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EDUCATION

Ph.D in Africana Studies & History University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA	2022
BA in Sociology Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey	2005-2011
University of Granada, Spain Student of Erasmus Program	February 2009-July 2009

WORK EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Associate , The Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice at Rutgers University, and Department of Africana Studies at Rutgers University- Newark	2022-2024
Translator , Documentary “Arap Kızı Camdan Bakıyor” (<i>Baa Baa Black Girl</i>) by Gül Büyükbeşe Muyan, 2006	February-April 2020
Research Assistant , <i>Marginalized Populations Project</i> , directed by Professor Michael Hanchard University of Pennsylvania	October 2018- May 2019
Translation Assistant , Documentary <i>Familiar Faces/Unexpected Places: A Global African Diaspora</i> , by Sheila S. Walker.	March-April 2019

Research Assistant, *Marginalized Populations Project*
and Conference, titled “*Under the Gun*”
organized by Professor Michael Hanchard
University of Pennsylvania 2017 (Spring)

Project Assistant, Refugee Support Service - Caritas Turkey December 2011- June 2014

Archive Assistant, Oral History Project
“Human Landscape of Mardin” the *Foundation of History*, Istanbul October 2006-May 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, Comparative Slavery in the Middle East and Africa Spring 2024

Guest Lecturer, Race, Colonialism, and Childhood
in Afro-diasporic Art, Rutgers University- Camden Spring 2023

Guest Lecturer, Ottoman Cultural History, Bogazici University December 2021

Guest Lecturer, Introduction to Africana Studies
University of Pennsylvania February 2019

Teaching Assistant, “Introduction to Africa”
University of Pennsylvania 2016 (Fall)

Teaching Assistant, “Introduction to Africana Studies”
University of Pennsylvania 2016 (Spring)

Teaching Assistant, “Introduction to Africana Studies”
University of Pennsylvania 2015 (Fall)

PUBLICATIONS

Book Translation

“*Transit Refugees: Legalization Struggles of Iranian Asylum Seekers in Van, Eastern Turkey,*”
(Ph.D dissertation: UNIVERSITE de STRASBOURG, 2012.) *Turkiye’de Multecilik: Iltica, Geçicilik ve Yasallik ‘Van Uydu Sehir Örneği, Ozge Biner. (Istanbul: Bilgi University Press, 2016)*

Book Chapters

Siyah=yabancı=göçmen: Afrikalı göçmenlerin İstanbul deneyimine dair bir okuma” in *Goçler Ulkesi*, ed. by Lülüfer Korükmez and Ilkay Südas, (Istanbul: Ayrıntı Yayınları, 2015) 169-178.

INVITED TALKS

Invited Talk, “Reminders of the Imperial Nostalgia: Encounters with Blackness in Early Turkish Republic.” *Afro-Asia Interactions*, NYU Center for Global Asia. November 17, 2023.

Invited Talk, “Reminders of the Imperial Nostalgia: Encounters with Blackness in Early Turkish Republic.” *Conversations and Connections*, The Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice at Rutgers University Newark. November 13, 2023.

Invited Speaker, “Lexicons of Race Project in Turkish,” organized by MESA 2022. September 12, 2022.

Invited Talk, “The Roots of the Silence. Encounters with blackness in Early Turkish Republic” the third talk of the public lecture series ‘Reflections on Whiteness, Blackness, and Race in the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey,’ organized by Keyman Modern Turkish Studies, May 7th, 2021. <https://keyman.buffett.northwestern.edu/events/visiting-speakers/index.html>

Invited Speaker, “Blackness Across Geographies: From the United States to Turkey.” 9th Conversation of “Critical Bodies in Conversation.” Organized and released by *Online Seminars & BoMoVu*. June 20, 2020. Online. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2OdwDxoswM&feature=youtu.be>

Invited Speaker- “Blackness in the Middle East” the public lecture organized by Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania. September 16, 2020

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS and LECTURES

“‘Real slaves’ of the Empire: Entangled histories of Africanness and Slavery in the Late Ottoman Empire” Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA 2023) Montreal, Canada November 2, 2023.

“Slavery and Power in Afro-Asian Histories” in *Global Asia Meets Global Africa* workshop organized by NYU Abu Dhabi (NYUAD), on January 20-23, 2023.

“*What can Middle East Studies Teach us about Race?*” Presidential Panel, Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA 2022) Denver, CO December 2, 2022.

“Encounters with Blackness: Discussions on Race in Early Turkish Republic, 1923-1933” Racial Formations in the Middle East and Africa Workshop organized by the Project on Middle East Political Science and the Program on African Social Research (POMEPS-PASR), February 25-26, 2021.

“Blackness in the Middle East” panel organized by the Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania. September 16, 2020

“Remnants of the Empire: Encounters with the history of African slavery in the Early Turkish Republic” Africa in the Middle East / Middle East in Africa workshop, organized by Cornell University & New York University. Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, NYU. November 18, 2019

“Remnants of the Past: Encounters with the history of African slavery in the Early Turkish Republic,” Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA 2019) New Orleans, LA November 17, 2019

“Africa and Africans in Ottoman/ Turkish Studies: Past, Present, Future. Roundtable participant, Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA 2019) New Orleans, LA November 16, 2019

“Remembering a Silenced History: A Discussion on the Diasporic Identity of African Descent Community in Turkey” Center for the Study of Africa and African Diaspora (CSAAD-ASWAD) Medial Meeting, New York University, May 2-3, 2019

“Sound like Turkish, look like Turkish: Reading Surname Law through the case of Afro-Turk community.” Association for the Study of Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) 9th Biennial Conference, Seville/Spain November 7-11, 2017

“African Slave of African Servant? a discussion on the forms of “free labor” in domestic servitude in the late Ottoman Empire.” Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA 2016) Boston, MA November 17-20, 2016

“*Gerçek yabancilar: mültecilik, siyahlik ve Istanbul*” (Real Strangers: Refugeeness, Blackness and Istanbul), Lisansustu Goc Arastirmalari Sempozyumu, Ege University, Izmir/ Turkey. April 2013

INTERVIEWS AND PODCASTS

Interview, Critical Ottoman & Post Ottoman Studies Initiative at Cornell University with Mostafa Minawi. February 26, 2022. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p9OFHGGaq6Q>

Interview, “One Race, the Human Race: From F1 to Football.”4th Conversation of “(Anti)Racism in Sports Series.” Organized and released by *Online Seminars & BoMoVu*. October 22, 2020. Online.

<http://bomovu.org/antiracisminsports/>

Interview, Agos (Armenian bilingual weekly newspaper) with Emre Can Dağlıoğlu about history of slavery, racialization processes and blackness in the Ottoman Empire. Spring 2024 (forthcoming)

Interview, *dokuz8GUNDEM* (online news portal) with Gurkan Ozturan. “Special Broadcast on police violence in the United States” for. June 4, 2020.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOX0EBDiJQ&list=PLy4CTqZsIRqiZDusRYN_bFudeT91uqr4B&index=67

HONORS AND AWARDS

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania	2014-2019
Vartan Gregorian Fellowship	2015-2016
Summer Language fellowship, School of Arts and Sciences University of Pennsylvania,	June-August 2015

LANGUAGES and INSTITUTIONS

Turkish- Native

English –Fluent: Nisantasi High School in English, Bogazici University

Spanish- Advanced: University of Granada- Erasmus program in Sociology Department at University of Granada February- July 2009 and in Intensive Spanish Language Program.
Bogazici University Foreign Languages Institute October 2005- December 2008

Ottoman Turkish- Read and Write: Koc University Intensive Ottoman Turkish Summer Program, July 3- August 13, 2015.

Independent studies at the Middle East Center and in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania.

