Wealth, Power, and Death: Capital Accumulation and Imperial Confiscations in the Ottoman World (1453-1838)

A public lecture by

Ali Yaycioğlu
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Friday, March 8, 2013
12 noon
1246 Social Science & Humanities Building
(CSIS Conference Room)

Ali Yaycioğlu received his B.S. from Middle East Technical University, and his M.A. from Bilkent University (both in Ankara, Turkey). He completed his Ph.D. in History and Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University (2008). He did his postdoctoral work in the Program in Hellenic Studies at Princeton University and joined the History Department at Stanford University in 2011. He is completing a monograph tentatively titled Partners of the Empire: The Rise of Provincial Notables and the Crisis of the Ottoman Order (1700-1820).

Yaycioğlu's talk will focus on his new project about capital accumulation and imperial confiscations in the Ottoman Empire, roughly from the sixteenth to the early nineteenth centuries. In this project, he focuses on economic and social implications of imperial confiscations and examines how some individuals and families developed strategies to maintain their wealth and the power they accumulated, and to escape from the constant threat of imperial seizure. He also analyzes how this instability of property rights affected attitudes towards inheritance, life, and mortality in Ottoman society.

Co-sponsors: Economics and History Departments

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