

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Spring 2018
Art on the Move Across Asia and Beyond – Part II
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Imperial Cities: Architecture and Power in the Ottoman Empire
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People and Places:

Ottoman dynasty: ca. 1300-1923.

Sultan Mehmed II (r. 1444-1446, 1451-1481), conquers Istanbul in 1453.

Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent, or the Lawgiver (r. 1520-1566).

Sinan, chief imperial architect (died 1588).

Husrev Pasha, died 1544. Known as *Deli*, “crazy or quick-tempered.” Ottoman general, provincial governor of Aleppo, later vizier.

Istanbul (Constantinople), the Ottoman capital after 1453

Hagia Sophia: Built as a church by the Byzantine emperor Justinian in 532-537; becomes the Ottoman Mosque known as Aya Sofya Camii

Süleymaniye Mosque Complex, 1550-57. Patron: Sultan Süleyman; Architect: Sinan

Aleppo, capital of the Ottoman province of Aleppo

Khusrufiyya Mosque Complex. 1546. Architect: Sinan. Patron: Husrev Pasha

Art and architecture terms:

Iznik pottery and architectural tiles

Mihrab: an interior niche in a mosque that indicates the qibla, Mecca’s direction

Bedesten: covered market, often locked at night

Waqf (Arabic), vakıf (Ottoman Turkish): an endowment

Tuğra: calligraphic emblem of the Sultan

Devshirme: Child levy

Manuscripts:

Süleymanname. An illustrated history of the reign of Süleyman. 1558. Topkapi Palace Library, H. 1517.

Surname of Murad III. 1582. An illustrated account of a festival and parade of the guilds in Istanbul. Topkapi Palace Library, H. 1344.

Further Reading:

Babaie, Sussan, and Cigdem Kafescioğlu. "Istanbul, Isfahan, and Delhi: Imperial Designs and Urban Experiences in the Early Modern Er." In *The Companion to Islamic Art and Architecture*, eds. Gülru Necipoğlu and Barry Flood (New Jersey: Wiley-Blackwell, 2017), Vol. II, 846-873.

Bierman, Irene A., Abou el-Haj, Rifa'at A., and Preziosi, Donald, eds. *The Ottoman City and its Parts: Urban Structure and Social Order*. New Rochelle, NY: Aristide D. Caratzas, Publisher, 1991.

Necipoğlu, Gülru. "A Kânûn for the State, A Canon for the Arts: Conceptualizing the Classical Synthesis of Ottoman Art and Architecture." In Gilles Veinstein, ed., *Soliman le Magnifique et son temps*. Paris: La documentation française, 1992. 195-216.

Necipoğlu, Gülru. "Visual Cosmopolitanism and Creative Translation: Artistic Conversations with Renaissance Italy in Mehmed II's Constantinople." *Muqarnas* 29 (2012): 1-81.

Sinan's Autobiographies: Five Sixteenth Century Texts. Edited and translated by G. Necipoğlu, H. Crane, and E. Akın. Leiden: Brill, 2006.

Watenpaugh, Heghnar Zeitlian. "Architecture without Images." *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 45 (2013). 585-588.

Watenpaugh, Heghnar Zeitlian. *The Image of an Ottoman City: Imperial Architecture and Urban Experience in Aleppo in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2004. Winner of the Spiro Kostof Book Award from the Society of Architectural Historians.