

Necati Alkan – CV

Necati Alkan has published articles and has works in progress in the field of Turkish Baha'i Studies, such as translations of articles by Ottoman reformers on the Babis and Baha'is; papers on writings of 'Abdu'l-Baha in Turkish which have been unresearched, and translations from Arabic and Persian writings of Baha'u'llah. He moreover is pursuing a research on a legendary history of Antioch according to an Ottoman manuscript from the 18th century and is writing a paper for the next MESA conference on Süleyman Nazif's 'Open Letter to Jesus' (Hz. Isa'ya Açık Mektup) in the context of Christian-Muslim polemics in the early Turkish Republic.

Necati Alkan was born into an Arabic-speaking ('Alawi) family in Antakya (Antioch), Turkey and has been living since 1976 in Germany. He received his MA in Middle East Studies and will shortly present his PhD thesis at the Ruhr University of Bochum/Germany, in late Ottoman history, on the subject of the Babis-Baha'is in the Ottoman Empire and Turkey, 1844-1928, in the light of Ottoman Turkish sources and with special reference to contacts between Ottoman reformers and Baha'is. For his research he is qualified in Turkish, German, English, Ottoman Turkish, Arabic, Persian and reads Spanish and French, as well.