

## **The Karamanlidika Newspaper *Anatoli*: The Voice of the Turcophone Orthodox Christians in 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

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### **Abstract:**

In the Ottoman Empire, from the mid-19th century onwards Karamanlidika press, newspapers and periodicals written in Turkish with Greek script, flourished which addressed mainly to Turcophone Orthodox Christian readers (Karamanlides) living in the interiors of Asia Minor as well as urban centers of the Empire. Among the publications, *Anatoli*, being one of the oldest newspapers of the Ottoman press, plays a significant role. Founded by Evangelinos Misailidis, the leading figure in Karamanlidika literature as a journalist, writer, translator and a publisher, the newspaper constitutes a forum for the expression of ideas in terms of various concerns related with Christian Orthodox community. In the presentation I will focus on the issues such as identity, language and literature as reflected on the pages of *Anatoli* in late 19th century with a particular emphasis on readers' letters.

### **Biography**

Şehnaz Şişmanoğlu Şimşek is an assistant professor at Kadir Has University, Istanbul where she coordinates the Turkish courses. She received her Phd from the Department of Turkish Language and Literature at Boğaziçi University with a doctoral thesis on Karamanlidika literature (Turkish in Greek script) in 19th century. Her research interests also include 19th century Ottoman-Greek culture and literature, Ottoman minority literatures, the serial novel, rewriting, intertextuality and gender studies. In 2021-2022 she was a post-doc fellow in the European Research Council's (ERC) Starting Grants Program, Staging National Abjection: Theatre and Politics in Turkey and Its Diasporas.