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HASAN BEYZĀDE AHMED PAŞA

Ḥamdī (d. 1636 or 1637)

LIFE

Ḥ.B.'s given name was Aḥmed, and his sobriquet was Ḥamdī.¹ He was generally referred to as Ḥasan Beyzade in reference to his father, Reisülküttab Küçük Ḥasan Bey. We do not know when and where Ḥ.B. was born. After receiving a *medrese* education, Ḥ.B. left the *'ilmiyye* class because of his low income and entered the service of the imperial council during Dal Meḥmed Efendi's (d. 1006/1597-98) first term as minister of foreign affairs (*re'īsülküttāb*) (Dhulqada 998- Shawwal 999/September 1590-August 1591).²

H.B. participated in Mehmed III's (1003-12/1595-1603) Egri (Eger) expedition (1004/1596) as courier (teslīmatī) and, as secretary (tezkireci) for grand vizier Dāmād İbrāhīm Paşa (d. 1011/1602). After participating in the Varad (Nagyvarad) expedition (1006-07/1598-99) in the retinue of Satırcı Mehmed Paşa (d. 1007/1598-99), H.B. returned to Istanbul and was assigned to the secretariat of İbrāhīm Pasa. H.B. served grand vizier İbrāhīm Paşa as assistant secretary during the Uyvar (Ujwar) expedition which began on 20 Shawwal 1007/16 May 1599.⁵ He was promoted to chief secretariat (bastezkireci) in Muharram 1008/August 1599 at the station (menzil) of Vulgovar (Wugowar) before the army arrived at the plain of Osek (Osijek).⁶ H.B. also participated in İbrāhīm Paşa's Qanije (Kanisza) expedition (1009/1600) as chief secretary. When Yaycızāde Hamza Efendi (d. 1032/1623), the minister of foreign affairs, was dispatched to Istanbul from the station of Oariha near Osek, H.B. was appointed deputy minister of foreign affairs (re'īsülküttāb vekāleti). He served Yemisci Hasan Pasa (d. 1012/1603), who had become grand vizier and commander-in-chief after the death of İbrāhīm Paşa, as chief-secretary (baştezkireci) during the recapture of İstolni-Belgrad (Székesfehérvár) on 11 Safar 1011/31 July 1602 and the siege of Peşte (Pest) during the same year. Although H.B. remained in office after the arrival in Istanbul of Yavuz ^cAlī Paşa (d. 1013/1604), who was appointed to grand vizierate on 26 Rajab 1012/30 December 1603, he was dismissed before the beginning of grand vizier's Hungarian expedition (1 Muharram 1013/30 May 1604).8 He continued, however, to serve Ahmed Paşa (d. 1022/1613), the grand vizier's deputy while he was on campaign (sadāret qā'immaqāmi), as secretary (tezkireci). After his warrant (berāt) for a scribal position (gedikli kātib) was renewed on 28 Dhulqada 1012 /28 April 1604, H.B. became the deputy of the director of the main registry of revenues (defter-i hāqānī emīni qā'immaqāmı) on 15 Rabi II 1013/10 September 1604, and director of the registry of landed property (defter emīni) on 15 Shaban 1013/6 January 1605.¹⁰

Ḥ.B. continued his career as a finance officer. He handled the funding of campaign ammunition as director of financial administration of sultanic properties (*emvāl-i sul-*

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tānī defterdāri) for Qara Dāvud Paşa (d. 1032/1623), who was appointed commander-in-chief of the forces sent to Anatolia to suppress the Celālī uprisings on 10 Jumada II 1014/23 October 1605. 11 As director of financial administration of Anatolian provinces (Anadolu defterdāri), he also recorded and submitted to chief minister of finance (başdefterdār) Etmekçizāde Ahmed Paşa (d. 1026/1617) the inheritance of Yūsuf Paşa, who had been executed on 14 Jumada II 1018/14 September 1609 for his revolt in the provinces of Aydın and Ṣārūḫān. 12 H.B. then served twice as director of financial administration of Tuna, Qaraman and Haleb, and later as governor-general of Qaraman and Kefe (Theodosia). According to an archival document dated 18 Shawwal 1018/14 January 1610, H.B. was transferred to the directorship of the financial administration of Tuna. 13 While at this post, in 1023/1614, H.B. participated in the Erdel (Transylvania or Ardeal) and Eflāk (Wallachia or Vlahia) campaigns of İskender Paşa (d. 1028/1619?) and Ketenci ^cÖmer Paşa (d. 1035/1625-26). ¹⁴ He was then appointed to Kefe as governor-general. When H.B. arrived at the coast of Varna after his dismissal, he contributed to the defense of the fortress against the Cossacks. For his services in Varna, he was assigned to Oaraman as director of financial administration. 16 Shortly after serving in Haleb as director of financial administration of sultanic properties, he was appointed to the directorate of financial administration of the province of Haleb. ¹⁷ He retired after briefly serving as governor-general of Qaraman but was then appointed to the directorate of financial administration of Tuna for the second time.¹⁸

When the Ottoman army under the command of the governors-general of Özi (Ochakov) and Rumelia gathered in Boġdan (Moldavia) to set out against the Poles who conspired with the Cossacks, Ḥ.B. was charged with the duty of funding the campaign expenses from the imperial treasury. He was, however, soon relieved from this duty. Och was charged with the duty of funding the campaign expenses from the imperial treasury.

Ḥ.B. seems to have spent long periods of time unemployed. This was probably caused by chief minister of finance (*başdefterdār*) Bāqī Paşa (d. 1036 /1626-27). In fact, Ḥ.B. was not in civil service²¹ during Bāqī Paşa's second term as *defterdār* (1 Dhulqada 1030-8 Rajab 1031/17 September 1621-19 May 1622),²² or even when he died on 29 Jumada II 1034/8 April 1625.²³ Ḥ.B. participated in Murād IV's (1032-49/1623-40) Revān (Yerevan) campaign (20 Ramadan 1044-16 Rajab 1045/9 March-26 December 1635), but he does not state the capacity in which he served. It is clear, however, that Ḥ.B. observed all events first-hand²⁴ and died shortly after his return from the campaign. Sources give 1046/1636-37 as the date of his death.²⁵ He was buried at Gümüşsuyu cemetery, which no longer exists.²⁶

WORKS
① Ta'rīh

The first volume of the work, entitled *Telhīṣ-i tācü't-tevārīh*, is essentially a summary of Ḥoca Sa^cdüddīn Efendi's (d. 1008/1599) *Tācü't-tevārīh*. It consists of a preface (*dībāce*) and a summary (*telhīs*). As an abbreviated version of its source, *Telhīs-i*

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tācü't-tevārīh is not very original. The second volume, however, entitled *Zeyl-i tācü't-tevārīh*, is an entirely original work covering the period from the reign of Süleymān I (926-974/1520-66) up to and including most of the reign of Murād IV (1032-49 /1623-40). Much of it is based on the author's own personal observations, especially the part where Ḥ.B. relates the events that transpired from the reign of Mehmed III (1003-12/1595-1603) onward.

In terms of its content, Zeyl-i tācü't-tevārīḫ can be divided into two parts. The first part is based on the information provided by historians such as Kemāl Paṣazāde, Matraqçı Naṣūḥ, Celālzāde Muṣṭafā Çelebī, Ramazānzāde Küçük Niṣāncı Meḥmed Paṣa, Ḥocazāde Meḥmed Efendi, and Meḥmed Mecdī, as well as on the account of Ḥasan Beg, minister of foreign affairs (re'īsülküttāb) and Ḥ.B.'s father. In the more important second part, Ḥ.B. relates the expeditions in which he participated and the historical events he observed as a civil servant from the reign of Meḥmed III onwards in a chronological fashion and at times with reference to their reasons and consequences. He also recorded the charities (ḥayrāt) and good works (ḥasenāt) of each sultan, as well as the biographical notices (ḥāl tercümesi) of Ottoman princes, viziers, scholars and sheikhs.

 $Ta'r\bar{t}h$ went through six editions. The first edition does not include an introduction. H.B. states in the introduction of the second edition that he composed the summary (telhīs) of, and the addendum (zeyl) to, Hoca Sacdüddīn Efendi's Tācü't $tev\bar{a}r\bar{i}h$ with the encouragement of the 'ulemā of the time. In the third and final editions, however, he singles out şeyhülislām Zekeriyyāzāde Yahyā Efendi (d. 1053 /1644) as the figure who prompted the composition of the addendum. The composition of the first edition began before Muharram 1038/September 1628 and was completed in 1039/1629-30; the second edition was penned between Rabi II-Shawwal 1038/December 1628-June 1629; the third edition began after Murād IV's succession on 14 Dhulgada 1032/9 September 1623 and was completed before Rajab 1040/February 1631; the fourth edition was penned during the reign of Murād IV and completed before that same date; and the fifth and sixth editions began after 11 Rabi II 1043/15 September 1633 and were completed when Murād IV returned from the Revān expedition (16 Rajab 1045/26 December 1635). H.B.'s references to the individuals who influenced him change with each edition. The phases of the composition of the work and their political consequences have been studied by Gabriel Piterberg.

Although the influence of the sources \dot{H} .B. cites is discernable in the style of $Ta'r\bar{\imath}b$, the language of the work is not as ornate as that of its original sources. The language of the sections where the author relates his own observations is relatively plain in comparison to those parts that rely on other sources.

Zeyl-i tācü't-tevārīh has been published by Şevki Nezihi Aykut in 3 volumes. Volume 1 includes textual analysis and source criticism. Volume 2 includes the sections that rely on the information provided by historical sources and Ḥ.B.'s father (926-1003/1520-95). Volume 3, which includes an index, is the part based on Ḥ.B.'s personal observations (1003-1045/1595-1635).

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2 *Usūlü'l-hikem fī nizāmi'l-* ^cālem

A political treatise (*siyāsetnāme*) composed for °Osmān II's (1027-31/1618-22) grand vizier Güzelce °Alī Paşa (d. 1030/1621). It consists of an abbreviation of Muḥyiddīn Meḥmed b. Ḥaṣīb Qāsım's *Ravżu'l-aḥyār*, which was based on Zamahsharī's *Rabī* al-abrār. The work is comprised of an introduction, four parts, and a conclusion. In terms of its coverage and the arrangement of its chapters, the work appears to be a compilation of relevant sections from *Rabī* al-abrār. The beginning of the conclusion includes an autobiographical note (ḥasbiḥāl) consisting of 27 couplets composed as a *meṣnevī*, which sheds light on periods of Ḥ.B.'s life. The copyist and the copy date of the manuscript located at Istanbul University Library (no. 6944) are unknown. The manuscript copy located at Istanbul Municipality Library (Belediye Kütüphanesi, Atatürk Kitaplığı O-49) was copied on an unknown date by Dervīş Aḥmed, a member of the cavalry forces of the artillery (*humbaracı sipāhīsi*).

$3 Mecm\bar{u}^c a$

This compendium, which appears to have been prepared by an anonymous member of H.B.'s retinue, was located in the private library of Cavit Baysun. As it was not mentioned among Baysun's possessions which were transferred to Yapı ve Kredi Bankası after his death, I did not have the opportunity to consult this compendium ($mecm\bar{u}^c a$) personally. According to Baysun's two articles on H.B., the compendium consisted of 131 folios written in $ta^c l\bar{l}q$ script and included ${}^c Ayn\bar{l}$ $H\bar{l}at\bar{l}n$ Vaqfiyyesi and four poems penned by H.B. It also included copies of twenty letters and three copies of $Qanice\ Fethn\bar{a}mesi$, one of which was incomplete. The compendium also contained $fetv\bar{l}as$, letters, and compositions in verse and in prose.

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(1) Istanbul, Arkeoloji Müzeleri Kütüphanesi, no. 482; 422 fols., 17 lines, taliq. (2) Istanbul, Süleymaniye Kütüphanesi, Hamidiye 898; 428 fols., 37 lines, 1b-368a nesih, 368b-428b taliq. (3) Istanbul, Topkapı Sarayı Müzesi Kütüphanesi, Hazine 1585; 109 fols., 23 lines, coarse taliq.

2nd Edition:

(1) Istanbul, Nuruosmaniye Kütüphanesi, no. 3105; 321 fols., 33 lines, thin nesih. (2) Istanbul, Topkapı Sarayı Müzesi Kütüphanesi, Emanet Hazinesi 1434; 486 fols., 25 lines, nesih. (3) Paris, Bibliothèque nationale, Ancien Fonds Turc, no. 124; 600 fols., 23 lines, nesih.

3rd Edition:

(1) Cairo, Kutubhana al-Hidiwiyya, no. 8836/40; 325 fols., 29 lines, nesih. (2) Istanbul, Arkeoloji Müzeleri Kütüphanesi, no. 481; 320 fols., 29 lines, nesih. (3) Istanbul, Nuruosmaniye Kütüphanesi, no. 3134; 222 fols., 19 lines, nesih. (4)

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Istanbul, Ragıb Paşa Kütüphanesi, no. 987; 389 fols., 27 lines, taliq. (5) Istanbul, Süleymaniye Kütüphanesi, Hamidiye 974; 190 fols., 21 lines, taliq. (6) Vienna, Nationalbibliothek, no. OH 19; 326 fols., 25-27 lines, nesih and nestaliq. (7) Vienna, Nationalbibliothek, no. OH 65; 185 fols., 21 lines, nesih.

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(1) Istanbul, Arkeoloji Müzesi Kütüphanesi, no. 234; 538 fols., 23 lines, nesih. (2) Istanbul, Istanbul Üniversitesi Kütüphanesi, no. 6028; 417 fols., 23 lines, nesih.

5th Edition:

Dr. Orhan Köprülü Özel Kütüphanesi, 93 fols., 25 lines, coarse divani. 6^{th} *Edition*:

(1) Ankara, Türk Tarih Kurumu Kütüphanesi, no. Y517; 370 fols., 23 lines, nesih. (2) Istanbul, Nuruosmaniye Kütüphanesi, no. 3106; 610 fols., 21 lines, sülüs. (3) Istanbul, Topkapı Sarayı Müzesi Kütüphanesi, Bağdad Köşkü 207; 405 fols., 16-29 lines, 1a-394a taliq, 394b-405b nesih. (4) Konya, Mevlana Müzesi Kütüphanesi, no. 3086; 400 fols., 25 lines, nesih. (5) Vienna, Nationalbibliothek, no. Mxt. 199; 100 fols., 17 lines, divani.

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Secondary Sources: Gabriel Piterberg. An Ottoman Tragedy: History and Historiography at Play (Berkeley, 2003).

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$3 Mecm\bar{u}^c a$

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