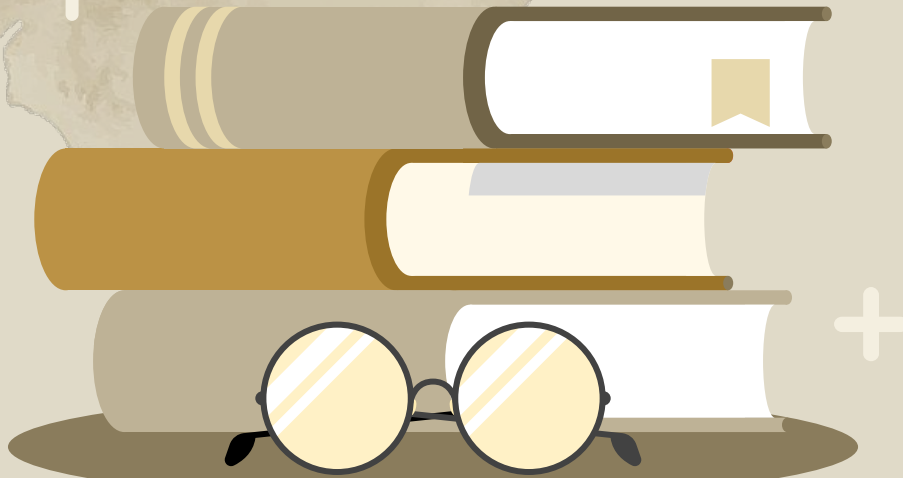


# Wikilala

## Google for Ottoman Turkish

[www.wikilala.com](http://www.wikilala.com)



# Headings

**01.** A Short  
Introduction

**03.** The Process and  
the Ways of Access

**02.** Stimulation  
for the Project

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# A Short Introduction

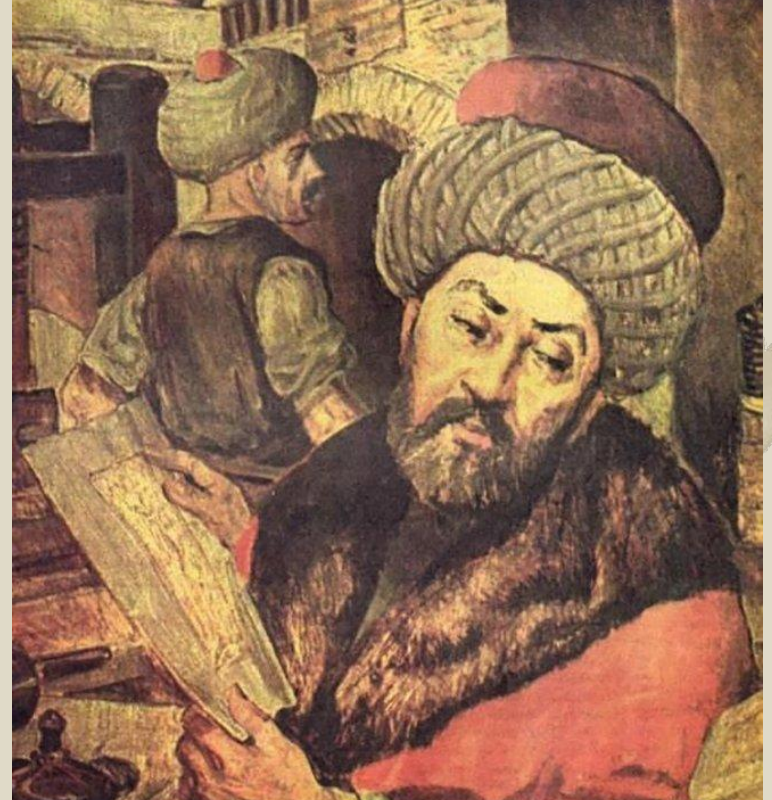
Wikilala is an online digital library project which aims to gather and digitize all the printed texts inherited from the Ottoman Empire since the introduction of the printing press. That will be giving the chance for shedding new light on the empire's history, culture and the intellectual legacy as a whole. Thousands of books, magazines, journals, newspaper and various other documents in Ottoman Turkish have been digitized under the project.



In Ottoman Turkish Papers, Journals and Books  
**SEARCH FOR ANYTHING YOU WONDER**

Since the reformation of the alphabet in 1928, which converted the official script of the Republican Turkey from Arabic into Latin, there was a serious and significant separation and disengagement from the Ottoman past. And it is a must to say that the society and the academy became oblivious to the Ottoman culture, social structure and political knowledge for a couple of decades due to the political and social atmosphere then prevailed.

However, there was a significant, nay crucial treasure trove of knowledge waiting to be discovered in Ottoman texts produced since the time of Ibrahim Müteferrika, who introduced the printing press to the empire and was the first Muslim convert to run a printing press with movable Arabic type.



# Stimulation for the Project

The Turkish society as a whole and partly the academic milieu are oblivious to this wealth of knowledge; they don't know how to access it, how to evaluate it. Once they do access it, they don't have many means to search through all those texts. This fact has been the thing that stimulated us to develop the project. This is a rejuvenation movement, like a late-time or modern Turkish Renaissance. The project provides means to rejuvenate that huge stock of knowledge, that is our main aim.



# The Process and the Ways of Access

As part of the project, the documents are transferred into the digital library in a three-part process. In the first stage, the documents are scanned in high-resolution if they are obtained as a physical copy, and then they are digitized. Then the digitized documents are cataloged and lastly, are uploaded to the system, where they are available to be read and analyzed.



Once they are registered the researchers can access the documents online without having to obtain physical copies from libraries. They can also search through the documents easily and quickly using the system's search engine, which can be used with Arabic and Latin letters thanks to the optical character recognition (OCR) technique used in the scans.

The project's website, which is in full version for the last couple of weeks, houses almost 150.000 documents in Ottoman Turkish, including over 60,000 issues of newspapers, 50,000 journals, 4,000 books and 35,000 articles.



# A Worldwide Interest

With a talented group of software developers and humanities experts we've been working on the project for two years and recently launched the full version of the website. In just ten weeks' time there have been more than 250.000 personal accesses from over 130 different countries.





# Subscribers & References

- **Universities (70+)**

*University of Bogazici, University of Cornell, Ankara University, İstanbul University and other 70+ universities*

- **Libraires (80+)**

*The Nation's Library, National Library of Turkey and the public libraries in 81 provinces.*

- **Governmental Institutions (2)**

*Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism,  
Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry*



# What is Next?

## Beta

We succeeded to make  
research in digitized  
Ottoman Turkish text

Now

## Goal

Make it possible to get the  
transliterated text

Feb  
2021

## Content

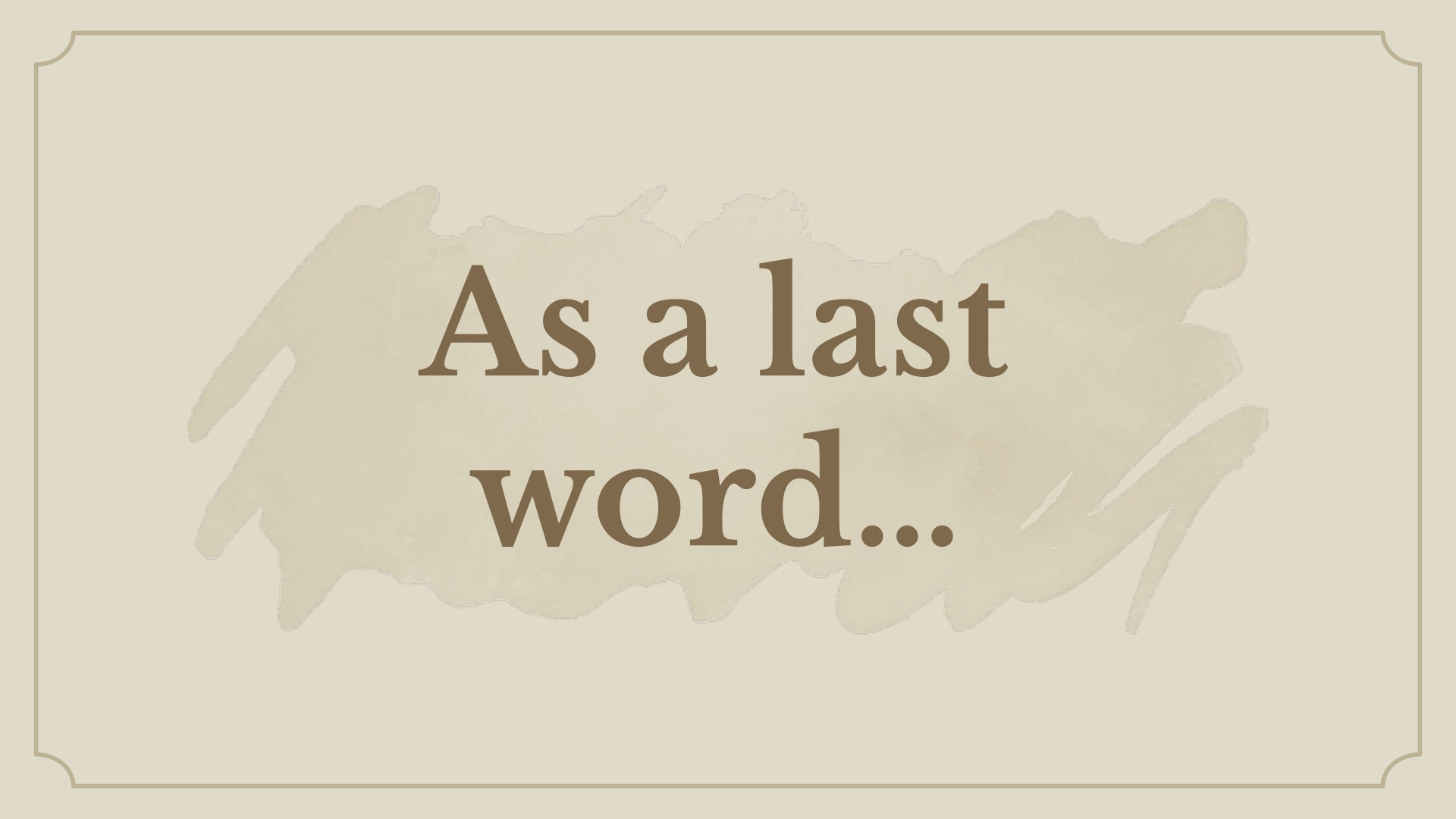
Working for enriching  
the content

Dec  
2022

Surely we are just at the beginning, and more are to come. We will have uploaded half of the number of documents that we want to reach till the first half of the coming year. Researchers, with the contributions of our users, will have access to a body of works amounting to 2 million pages of the 5-6 million pages that we believe exist.

The second move will be the transcription of the documents thanks to the AI technologies. Users will have the chance to ask for the transliteration of the pieces of texts they look for and find through the search engine. Then as the last step users, by the end of 2022, will be able to get the “simplified” version of the transliterated Ottoman Turkish texts if they need.

We’ve used several sources to supply the catalog of the library including foreign open source libraries and public and private Ottoman collections. It is also possible for the users to upload the “royalty-free” documents and images they hold through clicking the “upload” option seen on the homepage. So Wikilala is an interactive and user-friendly database that will do much service for almost every researcher from any field of science.



**As a last  
word...**

# The Innovative Initiative of The Year Award

As a newly launched digital library of Ottoman Turkish Wikilala has been conferred on the innovative initiative of the year award by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.



# Catalogs



## Newspapers

You can search in 15 national and 74 local Ottoman newspapers by typing keywords in a total of nearly 1 million newspaper pages.



## Journals

Search nearly 500 thousand magazine pages in dozens of categories from literature to economics, from sociology to technology.



## Books

Search through a total of 4,658 books in 36 different categories from literature to art, history to science.



## Documents

Search official / unofficial documents and papers in dozens of categories, from decrees to certificates, letters to telegrams.

# Kullanım İstatistikleri

3 ay gibi kısa süre içerisinde dünya genelinde 107 ülkeden siteye giriş yapıldı.

Sağda; Google Analytics ülkelere göre metrikler

Ülke boyutuna göre Kullanıcılar ▾ metriği



ÜLKE	KULLANICILAR
Turkey	161 B
Germany	12 B
United States	9 B
United Kingdom	4 B
Netherlands	2 B
France	964
Belgium	642

[Ülkeleri görüntüle →](#)

# How it Works?

Let's see how one can make a research in the database with a couple of keywords and display the results.





# Thanks

If you have any questions,  
please contact us via

[destek@wikilala.com](mailto:destek@wikilala.com)

+90 212 293 07 05

[www.wikilala.com](http://www.wikilala.com)