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Silje Susanne Alvestad

The Uppsala Manuscript
of Muḥammed Hevā'ī Üsküfī Bosnevī's
Maḳbūl-i 'ārif (1631)
from a Turcological Perspective:
Transliteration, Transcription,
and an English Translation

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Needless to say, any errors in this work are my own.

Oslo, February 2016

Silje Susanne Alvestad

SUMMARY

The object of study in this thesis is the Uppsala manuscript, O. nova 546, of Muḥammed Hevā'ī Ūskūfī Bosnevī's literary work *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* from 1631. The manuscript, handwritten in Ottoman script, reached the University Library in Uppsala from Cairo in 1924. *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* is frequently referred to as the first known Bosnian-Turkish dictionary, but this label is misleading. First, the work consists of three parts—a long and sophisticated foreword and an afterword in addition to the dictionary part. Besides, the part of the work that is the cause of the unfortunate label is not a 'dictionary' in the modern sense of the word. Among other things, it is versified, dialogue-oriented, and split into chapters according to a hierarchically structured set of different topics. The versified glossary is the only part where we find Bosnian words; approximately 650.

The motivation behind this thesis is twofold. First, *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* has received little attention from a turcological perspective. Considering the fact that *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* is a Turkish, or Ottoman Turkish literary work of art, it is striking to note that the vast majority of researchers concerned with the work examine it from a Bosnian cultural and/or linguistic perspective. Ūskūfī refers to 'the Bosnian language', so the widespread interest should perhaps be seen in light of a larger Bosnian nation-building project after the fall of Yugoslavia. However, it is time that *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* receives its fair share of attention from a turcological point of view too.

The second motivation is as follows. In the wake of the renewed attention drawn to the Uppsala manuscript of *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* by Svein Mønnesland in 2010, a new edition of *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* was published in Tuzla, Bosnia, in 2011 (Kasumović & Mønnesland 2011). One would expect, then, that the transcription provided would be based on the Uppsala manuscript, but this expectation is not entirely borne out. Instead the transcription given is for the most part based on works by previous scholars who have had several manuscripts of *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* at their disposal, but not the Uppsala manuscript. There are therefore several divergences between the transcription given in Kasumović & Mønnesland (2011) and the Uppsala manuscript.

Against the background of this twofold motivation, my contributions with this thesis are as follows. First, I provide a grapheme-by-grapheme transliteration of the entire Uppsala manuscript. Second, I give a transcription of the manuscript and, third, I provide an English translation of the entire *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif*. None of these enterprises have as yet been undertaken. The English translation may serve as a starting point to make *Maḵbūl-i 'ārif* available to a wider audience.