This lent dates from the reign of the twelfth Ottoman emperor, Sultan Murad III (1574-95). It was issued from Istanbul during the last ten days of the month of Rechb 983 (late October 1575). The sign was drawn in lapis lazuli blue and outlined in gold ink; it is similar to the sign in cat. no. 75 but of a superior quality. The illuminated details within the sign, as well as the curtain of graceful illumination the hangs above it, reflect the brilliant elegance of the sixteenth century. The sign reads: FatMurad-han Selemt Fat Htin al-mughrabhava (Shah Murad, son of Shah Selim Hans, the ever-victorious).

This lent renew a previous lent from Sultan Selim II, which gave the tax revenue of the Cermen of the Grand Vezir Sakkuli Mehmed Pasa (1529-1570). Therefore, it is called a (sultaniman tarihi) harvit that renew a multicaih.

(Grants made during a sultan’s lifetime were abrogated after his death, and it was necessary for the succeeding sultan to renew them on documents written under his own name.)

The text of this lent is written in naskh script. The first line—the sign—patri—is in gold ink, and the main text is in lampblack ink. As an attractive contrast, references within the text to God and to Mehmed Pasa are written in gold ink.
77. BERAT OF MURAD III

ISTANBUL, 1381/1962
INK AND GOLD
INK, COLORS, AND GOLD ON
PAPER
148x85.5 CM
SAM 1951-25-11

This hewt dates from the
reign of the twelfth Ottoman
emperor, Sultan Murad III
(1574–95). It was issued from
Istanbul during the last ten days
of the month of Rebeh 1381
late October 1375. The hewt was
drawn in lapis lazuli blcu
ad outline in gold ink; it is
similar to the hewt in cat. no.
75, but of a superior quality.
The illuminated details within
the hewt, as well as the curtain
of graceful illumination that
hangs above it, reflect the
brilliant elegance of the
sixteenth century. The hewt
reads: Sahn Murad bin Selim Sahn Kha
el-majdser-dżumal (Shah Murad,
son of Shah Selim Han, the
ever-victorious).

This hewt resemble a previous
hewt from Sultan Selim II,
which gave the tax revenue of
the Divan to Grand
Veyet Sokollu Mehmed Pasha
(1505–1579). Therefore, it is
called a millsawist tahveh hewt—a
hewt that remend a millsawist.
(Grants made during a sultan’s
lifetime were abrogated after
his death, and it was necessary
for the succeeding sultan to
remend them on documents
written under his own tahveh.)

The text of this hewt is written
in colhahat script. The first
line—the hewt—7eh is in gold
ink, and the main text is in
lumblack ink. As an attractive
contrast, references within the
text to God and to Mehmed
Pasha are written in gold ink.
This leaf dates from the reign of the thirteenth
Ottoman emperor, Sultan Mehmêd III (1595–1603). It
was issued from Istanbul during the
first ten days of Ramadan
1354/ early May 1596. The
inscription is crudely drawn in lapis lazuli
blue and outlined in gold, with
some interior illumination. It
reads: Mehmed III Murad Nîzâ
mukaffe Efendi (Mehmed III, son
of Murad II, the ever-victorious). The text is written
in a beautiful, flowing calligraphic
tabular that compensates for the flawed
tag. The first line (beginning
with the nisâb) is in gold
ink, and the rest in lampblack
ink.

The document concerns a
mosque, school, and
caravansary, in the Cemal
district of Edirne province, that
were constructed by order of
Grand Vizir Sokûlu Mehmed
Pasha (1555–1579). The
document is a typewritten text
sheet, removing the contract
with the previous owners.
Notable here is the long-
drawn-out name of Mehmed
Pasha, piled with honorifics and
patronymics, which seems to be
competing for length with the
work itself.
HMED III

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h with the
This ferman dates from the reign of the sixteenth Ottoman emperor, Sultan Mehmed IV (1648–87). It was decreed from Istanbul on Rebiil 19, 1070 (December 5, 1660). The sign of the sultan is drawn in gold ink, and the spaces between the letters of the script are painted with lapis lazuli blue. It reads: "Sultan Mehmed\r
Ibrahim Pasha, may God！！!!\\nMehmed, son of Ibrahim Hidiv, the ever-victorious.\r
The style of decoration that envelops the sign is less complex than that of the sixteenth century. It consists of scrolls and filli\r
motifs—that is, stylized vegetable pods (sometimes baselessly called arabesques).\r
The hat-\r
\r
The hat-tasvir (order of the sultan) is written in his own hand in an ornate (as in the usual sub\r
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**The document decrees that no one except the sheikhs of the Ahi\r
Mehmed Hidayet Serif Lodge in Uskudar and its chapel may\r
interfere with the income of the lodge and chapel.**
79. FERMAN OF MEHMED IV

ISTANBUL, 1650/1651
TURK AND OTTOMAN LOUVRE
INK, COLORS, AND GOLD ON PAPER
56.7x47.9 CM
58M 350-6058-SDM

This ferman dates from the reign of the nineteenth Ottoman emperor, Sultan Mehemed IV (1648–87). It was decreed from Istanbul on Rehberesi 20, 1075/December 5, 1659. The text of the sultan is drawn in gold ink, and the spaces between the letters of the kufic are painted with lapis lazuli blue. It reads: (Set Mehemed Mehemmed son of Ibrahim Hân, the ever-victorious). The style of decoration that envelops the text is less complex than that of the sixteenth century. It consists of scrolls and月至 monograms—that is, stylized vegetable pods (sometimes baselessly called anabouqas).

The kuf-i hüsni (order of the sultan) is written in his own hand in an ayn (as in the word shofa) that is topped by a dome shape and crescent frayed. It reads: furnâ-i-dâvûdîm nûrûz ve bâbâ-i hüsni ve (Let my illustrious decree be put into effect; beware of opposing it).

The text of the ferman is written in a sort of shorthand version of dâ'îî known as furnâ dâ'îî.

The document decrees that no one except the shekhs of the Azya Mahmud Hüdai Safi Lodge in Uskudar and its chapel may interfere with the income of the lodge and chapel.
80. BERAT OF SÜLEYMAN II

ISTANBUL, 1599/1600
INK, COLORS, AND GOLD ON PAPER
105 x 75 CM
SNM 66/1-0007: 85U

This hort dates from the reign of the twelfth Ottoman emperor, Sultan Süleyman II (1587–96). It was issued from Istanbul during the last ten days of Rebi sila (late January and early February) 1098/1688. The hort is written in gold ink, with some color between the letters of the hort, and is finished with simple ornamentation. It reads: Şah Süleyman lel Hüsrev hâli d- maqâfî-şâbî (Şah Süleyman, sons of Ibrahim Hâli, the ever-victorious). Written above the hort is a brief invocation. The first sentence (with the leftmost column) is written in gold ink, the rest in lampblack ink, and all in the cuf diwâni script.

This hort relates the tax-collecting rights established in the time of Sultan Salim II (r. 1566–74) by his daughter Ismâilî Sultan (d. 1794)—in some townships in the sanjak of Ardânya.
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This leaf dates from the reign of the twenty-first Ottoman emperor, Sultan Ahmed II (1604–17). It was issued from Edirne during the last ten days of Rabi‘a 1129 (late March 1614). The text is written in red ink. It reads: Jak Ahmed bin Ibrahim Han al-mugheffidi (Shah Ahmed, son of Ibrahim Han, the victorious). The first sentence (superfluous) is written in all-black in gold ink; the rest of the text is in the same script in lampblack ink.

This document is a renewed of an earlier leaf concerning some properties in the estates of Ismail Sultan (d. 1585) acquired during the reign of her brother, Sultan Murad III (1574–95).
St. BEKAT OF AHMED II

EDIRNE, 1205/1792
FUŞH AND IQTLİŞ
INK, COLOR, AND GOLD ON PAPER
19.344.8 CM
SM 160-1918-36A

This letter dates from the reign of the twenty-first Ottoman emperor, Sultan Ahmed II (1691–95). It was issued from Edirne during the last ten days of Bebebi 1205/late March 1694. The letter is written in red ink. It reads: Şah Ahmed his Ibrahim Hâse al-
müçaffer alâdîn (Shâh Ahmed, son of Ibrahim Han, the ever-
victorious). The first sentence (şah-âv-şey) is written in red ink; the rest of the text is in the same script in lampblack ink.

This document is a renewal of an earlier letter concerning some properties in the estate of İsmâhâ Sultan (d. 1585) acquired during the reign of her brother, Sultan Murad III (1574–95).
Hoca Bekir Nash Efendi was born in Istanbul in 1229/1814. In 1245/1829, after receiving his primary education, he entered service in the chancery of the Imperial Council of State (Divân-ı Hümâyûn), where he received the name Nâşîh. He learned dânî, colî dânî, and hâddî râzî as from Mûmîz Efendi (1225/1810–1287/1871). (It is not known with whom he studied sâlînî and nûshî writing.) In 1250/1834, he became a teacher of the hutût-i mü活動 the (all the scripts in use) in the chancery, and in 1258/1842, he was transferred to the Bureau of Urgent Affairs, where he was commissioned to copy the sultan’s annual address to the pilgrims in Mecca. He continued to rise in rank until his death on Rebi‘îvelvel 13, 1303/December 20, 1885. He was interred in the bâcjîr (enclosed cemetery) of the Ramazan Efendi Mosque, in the Koca Mustafa Paşa quarter of Istanbul.

Nash Efendi wrote the inscriptions on the tomb of Grand Vezir Koca Reşid Paşa, adjacent to the Bayezid Mosque, Istanbul. His son, Haci Rifat Efendi (b. 1259/1842), was also a calligrapher at the Imperial Council of State.
Iz Nasuh Efendi was born in Istanbul in 1245/1830. After receiving his education, he entered service in the Imperial Council of State (Divân-i Şerî). He received the name Nâşh. He served as a teacher of the hatâ-yi script in the chancery, and in 1422, he was transferred to the Bureau of the Pilgrims, where he was commissioned to write the inscriptions on the doors of the Koca Mehmet Pasha Mosque, in the Koca Mustafa Paşa district. He also wrote the inscriptions on the doors of the Koca Reşid Pasha Mosque, adjacent to the mosque in Istanbul. His son, Haçı Rifat (1876-1952), was also a calligrapher at the Council of State.

82. MEMûR OF ABDÜLHAMİD II

ISTANBUL, 1290/1873
INK, COLORED AND GOLD ON PAPER
59.5 x 27 CM
SSM 70-0014-SAB

This manuscript dates from the reign of the thirty-fourth Ottoman emperor, Sultan Abdülhamid II (1876-1909). It was issued from Istanbul on 31 January, 1301/February 7, 1885. The author is certain that Nâşh Efendi (see cat. nos. 29-62) drew the image, executed in the gothic style, and without outlining. It reads: "Abdülhamid II bin Abdülaziz d-ümmî dâvid (Abdülhamid Han, son of Abdulmejid, the ever-victorious). It was further illuminated in 1970 by Bikkat Kânt (see cat. no. 38), who enclosed the image within an elegant teardrop shape that extends to the invention at the top of the document.

The text concerns the appointment of Abd-i Ulah Pasha, who held the rank of governor of Rumelia, as a member of the Imperial Council of State. It is written in calligraphy, with lines in black alternating with lines in gold. This script reached its mature form in the sixteenth century. It is written in a channel-shaped line with complex intertwining and composition of the letters and words. From the style of the writing on this piece, it is clear that the calligraphy is by Haçı Bekir Nasuh Efendi.
This mescit dates from the reign of the thirty-fourth Ottoman emperor, Sultan Abdulhamid II (1876–1909). It was issued from Istanbul on Şâban 15, 1316/December 19, 1898, and was sent to the rai of Mecca, Yazar Şerif Anşüretiğ Pasha. It concerns various real properties and their incomes, which were transferred to a foundation to support the poor and others living near the holy shrines in Mecca and Medina. Because this document was being sent to the Hijaz, it was written in Arabic rather than Ottoman Turkish.

It is most likely that Sani Efendi (see cat. nos. 59–62) wrote the inscription, which is executed in gold ink with no outlining. It reads: Abdulhamid Han (i.e. Abdulmeid Han), son of Abdulmeid Han, son of Abdulmeid, the ever-victorious. The text above and below the name is written in a beautiful nineteenth-century version of the long-stemmed abandoned kufic script. The author believes this text was written by Haci Kamal Efendi (see cat. no. 60). At the very top of the mescit there is a boshkiri written in mahabhill script, using gold ink.
This msiqui dates from the reign of the thirty-fourth Ottoman emperor, Sultan Abdulhamid II (1876–1909). It was issued from Istanbul on Şaba 15, 1316/December 29, 1898, and was sent to the emir of Mecca, Veiz Şerif Avnurtevik Pasha. It concerns various real properties and their incomes, which were transferred to a foundation to support the poor and others living near the holy shrines in Mecca and Medina. Because this document was being sent to the Hijar, it was written in Arabic rather than Ottoman Turkish.

It is most likely that Sâmi Efendi (see cat. no. 59–60) wrote the msiqui, which is executed in gold ink with no outlining. It reads: Abdulhamid Nîl bî Abdulmevlî d-muaffer-iîmâl (Abdulhamid Han, son of Abdulmecid, the ever-victorious). The text above and below the msiqui is written in a beautiful nineteenth-century version of the long, slanting, 'abandoned serif' script. The author believes this text was written by Haci Kâmil Efendi (see cat. no. 64). At the very top of the msiqui is a bold written in naskhî script, using gold ink.