ABDULLAH ZÜHDİ (o.1296/1879)


He is the son of Abdullah Efendi from Temimü’d-dârî descent of the Sahâbe. His family moved from Damascus to Kütahya and then to Istanbul in 1251/1835. He exercised thuluth and naskh scripts first under the instruction of Eyüp Roşit Efendi (d. 1292/1873) and then Kazasker Mustafa İzzet Efendi. He gained reputation in a very short time with his success in scribing the thuluth-naskh in the Kazasker style and especially the compositions in dijli thuluth. He became the calligraphy tutor of the script courses of the Nurusçumayye Mosque and the calligraphy and art teacher of the Military School for Land Engineering. He had been charged with writing the scripts of Harem-i Şerif in Medina (Mesdjid of Muhammed the Prophet) by Sultan Âbu’l-Mecid in 1273/1857. He stayed in Medina for seven years and with the assistance of the calligrapher Qomézâde Muhsin and illuminators Haci Hüseyin Efendi and Haci Ahmet Efendi, he wrote verses, hadiths, and eulogies about the prophet in the dijli thuluth script on the dome-ring and walls of the Mesdijd of Muhammed the Prophet. No one can deny the influence of his qualification as a painter on the beauty of his compositions. Following the completion of his mission in Medina, he settled in Egypt and acquired the title of “Calligrapher of Egypt”. Abdullah Zühdî, whose lots of works are in the museums of Egypt, died in Cairo in 1296/1879 and was buried in the vicinity of the Imam-ı Şafi Mausoleum. (İhraç eden: Mahmud Kemal İnal, Son Hatattar, ist., 1955, ss.15-19; M. Uğur Deman, İslam Kültür Mirasında Hat Sanatı, ist., 1999, s.147.)

Abdullah zühdî'nin (o.1296/1879) muhakkak, süslüs, nesih ve gubârî hatlarıyla yazdığı Hilye-i Şerîfe, 24 x25 cm. SHM inv. no. 15519 Y 112. Hilye-i Şerîfe scribed by Abdullah Zühdî (o.1296/1879) with muhaqqaq, thuluth, naskh and goobari scripts. 34 x 25 cm. SHM inv. no. 15519 Y 112.
Mehmed Şefik Bey'in
(1235/1819 – 1297/1880)
muhakkak, sülüs ve
nesih hattıyla
1270 / 1854'de yazdığı
Hilye-i Şerife,
62 x 39 cm.
SU SSM nr. 93.

Hilye-i Şerife scribed
by Mehmed Şefik Bey
(1235/1819-1297/1880)
with muhaqaq, thuluth
and naskhi scripts in
1270/1854.
62 x 39 cm.
SU SSM Inv. no. 93.
MEHMET ŞEFİK BEY (1235/1819 – 1297/1880)


Mehmet Şefik, the son of Süleyman Mâhir Bey, was born in Beşiktaş in Istanbul. He began having calligraphy lessons from Lâzım Efendi's pupil Ali Vâsî Efendi. Following the decease of his instructor, he continued to execute his exercises in the thuluth and naskhi scripts with his aunt's husband Kazasker Mustafa Izzet Efendi. In addition to deevani and djeli deevani, he also learned to design tughras. He was appointed as the calligraphy instructor of the Imperial Band and the palace in 1261/1845. He retired from these missions after thirty-four years of service. He restored the calligraphic works of Bursa Ulu Cami, which were extremely damaged by the earthquake of 1271/1855 with Abdülfettah Efendi (1230/1814-1314/1896) and added new djeli scripts. He scribed the Koranic verses for the plates of the dome-rings in Sultan Abdulmeçid's Mausoleum and the Sura of Yâstî-i Şerîf on the ceramic tiles of Kubbe's Sahra (Dome of the Rock) in Jerusalem. He died in 1297/1880; his grave is in the courtyard of the Yahya Efendi Tomb in Istanbul. (A. Şehşen Ünver, Hattat Şefik Bey, İst., 1996; M. Uğur Demirman, S.U.S.M. Hat Koleepsiyonundan Seçmeler, İst., 2002, p.170; Mehmet Serin, Hat Sanati ve Meşhur Hattatlar, İst., 1999, p.149-151)
Mehmed Şefik Bey'in
(1235/1819–1297/1880)
sülsüz ve neshihatlarıyla
1270 / 1854 de yazdığı
Hilye-i Şerife
Özel koleksiyon.
(sol sayfa)

Hilye-i Şerife scribed by Mehmed Şefik Bey
(1235/1819-1297/1880)
with thuluth and
naskhi scripts in
1270/1854.
Private collection.
(Left page)