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Book Review

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For the Sake of a Crescent, From Balkan to Anatolia

by Ertuğrul Karakuş

Kırklareli, 2016

104 pages

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The work titled as “For the Sake of a Crescent, From Balkan to Anatolia” of Asst. Prof. Dr. Ertuğrul KARAKUŞ, who is an academic member of Kırklareli University, Faculty of Arts and Letters, Department of Contemporary Turkish Dialects and Literature, has been published by Kırklareli University Press.

This work contains the stories of veterans and martyrs who went to different parts of Anatolia and Ottoman geography, as Çanakkale in the first place, for combat from Macedonia. The work, which carries the characteristics of making a story out of verbal history compilations about the issue, is the first of its kind in this scholarly field in the region. The author Ertuğrul KARAKUŞ, who visited many regions of Macedonia so as to collect these data, emphasizes in his work that since a long period of time has passed it is more difficult to collect data about the issue. Therefore, he states that it is of vital importance that such studies should be carried out without delay.

This book, which has been dedicated to “Those who ran from Balkans to Anatolia ‘For the sake of a Crescent’” consists of the compilation of stories that were previously published in New Balkan newspaper and attracted a great attention. In the work, stories of veterans and martyrs, which affect the reader, from many cities and villages of Macedonia from Budaklar to Kalkandelen, Novak, Gostivar, and Skopje are presented. The stories in the book also prove how powerful historical and cultural bonds between Turkey and Macedonia have still been in the period from past to present.

Thanks to being the first work in this field, this study is greatly important. Such studies should be done for other Balkan countries without any delay. As a result of such studies, thousands of stories, which are of a value of treasure, will be compiled just like in this book.

The author Ertuğrul KARAKUŞ states that he is planning to carry out similar compilations and story-making studies for other Balkan regions.

