

GLOSSARY

âhâr: size applied to calligraphic paper

akkâse: calligraphic paper whose writing area and margins are dyed different colors

aklâm-ı sitte: the *sülûs*, *nesih*, *muhakkak*, *reyhânî*, *tevkî'*, and *rikâ'* scripts, together known as the six scripts

aşere gülü: rosette that appears after every ten verses of the Qur'an

bâbiâlî rik'ası: method used in Ottoman government offices for writing the *rik'a* script

berat: document granting an imperial title, privilege, or property

besmele: 'In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful'; the first sentence in the Qur'an, and the invocation that occurs at the beginning of all but one of its chapters

çakmak mühre: paper burnisher

cedvel: ruled gold frame surrounding the text of a calligraphic work; also a gilded line separating poetic verses or elements in a *kit'a*

celî: scripts (with the exception of *celî divânî*) written larger than their normal size, with a broad-nibbed pen, or enlarged by means of squaring

celî divânî: version of the *divânî* script written with vowels, reading signs, and decorative features, and used only for the most significant

documents and proclamations of the Ottoman state

çiharyâr: the first four caliphs (successors of the Prophet) Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, and Ali, also called the Four Friends, whose names often appear on hilyes

cüz: one of thirty sections of the Qur'an, generally twenty pages each

Delâilü'l-Hayrat: handbook of prayers for the Prophet

dîvânî: script that evolved from old Persian *ta'lik*; in Ottoman Turkey, its use was restricted to the Imperial Council of State

divit: portable inkwell and penholder

durak: rosette-style decoration occurring between each verse of the Qur'an, as well as between the sentences of the *hilye* text; also used to punctuate *hadîs*

ebru: Turkish marbled paper

elif: first letter of the Arabic alphabet, tall and vertical in shape (Arabic spelling: *alif*)

En'âm: The Cattle; chapter 6 of the Qur'an, frequently written as a separate volume

En'âm-ı Şerîf: collection of chapters from the Qur'an

etek: bottom portion of a *hilye* containing the second part of the *hilye* text, a prayer for the Prophet, and the calligrapher's signature

Fâtîha: opening chapter of the

Qur'an

ferman: imperial edict

Four Friends: see *çiharyâr*

göbek: central cartouche in which the first part of the *hilye* text is written

hacı: title conferred on one who has made the pilgrimage to Mecca

hadîs: sayings and deeds of the Prophet recorded by his companions

hafız: one who has memorized the Qur'an

halkârî: type of illumination in which the motifs are painted in a wash of gold ink and outlined in full-strength gold ink

hareke: vowel signs used in writing the Arabic script

hâtîme: colophon

hilâl: crescent that often surrounds the *göbek* on a *hilye*

hilye: *levha* composed of a text describing the Prophet Muhammad

hilye-i saadet: 'the felicitous hilye'; term describing the complete *hilye* text

hızib gülü: rosette that occurs after every five pages of the Qur'an

hokka: inkwell

hurde (or hafî) ta'lik: small version of the Ottoman *ta'lik* script, used for literary works and collections of poetry, and for *fetvâs* (opinions on Islamic canon law)

and *vakfiyes* (endowment deeds)

icazet: calligraphy teacher's authorization for the student to sign his own name to his work; also the script (see *rikâ'*) in which the teacher notes his approval on the permission document

icazet ceremony (icazet cemiyeti): assembly, usually in a mosque, at which a student who has earned the *icazet* is presented to a jury of master calligraphers

icazet kît'ası: *kît'a* written by a calligraphy student to obtain his *icazet*

icazetnâme: document, most often in the form of an *icazet kît'ası*, certifying the holder to practice as a professional

iç pervaz: inner border of a *kît'a* or *levha*

istif: calligraphic composition

kadı: judge of Islamic law

kadıasker: supreme judge

kalıp: stencil used in the production of large-scale calligraphic works and inscriptions

karalama: calligrapher's practice piece

kırma dîvânî: shorthand version of *dîvânî* script

kît'a: small calligraphic work, usually rectangular, and generally using two scripts (one large and one small) or *ta'lik* script alone

kol: tail-like projection growing

out of, and to the right of, the ovals of the *tuğra*; also called the *hançer*

koltuk: rectangular or triangular space in *kît'as*, *hilyes*, and *levhas* that allows for the arrangement of longer lines of a larger script with shorter lines of a smaller script; often decorated

körüklü murakkaa: accordion album

kubur: cylindrical penholder

kürsü: monogram proper in the *tuğra*; also called the *sere*

kuruş: piaster; unit of Ottoman currency

levha: large-scale calligraphic composition, most commonly in the *celî sülüs* and *celî ta'lik* scripts, that can be framed and hung in mosques, offices, and homes

lika: wad of raw silk used in an inkwell to absorb ink

mâil kît'a: *kît'a* in which the writing slants upward, from the lower right to the upper left

makta: pen-cutting slab

menşûr: imperial appointment

meşk: lesson, practice work, or sample for study

meşk kît'ası: calligraphic-exercise *kît'a*

mikleb: envelope flap attached to the back of an Islamic binding that protects the edge of the book and can be tucked between the pages to

serve as a bookmark

müfredât exercises: elementary calligraphy exercises consisting of single and paired letters

müfredât kît'ası: *kît'a* consisting of *müfredât* exercises

müfredât meşki: lesson in writing single and paired letters

muhakkak: one of the group of six scripts, written with a pen whose nib is approximately 2 millimeters (3/32 inch) wide; used for copying large-format Qur'an (until the sixteenth century) and for writing the *besmele*

murakkaa: calligraphic album

mürekkebât exercises: advanced calligraphic exercises consisting of combinations of letters

mürekkebât kît'ası: *kît'a* consisting of *mürekkebât* exercises

mürekkebât meşki: lesson in combining letters in words and sentences

mushaf: the Qur'an in a single volume

nesih: one of the group of six scripts, written with a pen whose nib is approximately 1 millimeter (3/64 inch) wide; favored in Ottoman calligraphy for copying the Qur'an; also used in writing *vakfiyes* (endowment deeds)

nesta'lik: Persian name for the Ottoman *ta'lik* script

reisü'l-hattâtîn: chief of the calligraphers

reisülulemâ: chief of the Islamic religious establishment

reyhânî: one of the group of six scripts, written with a pen whose nib is approximately 1 millimeter (3/64 inch) wide; a smaller-scale version of the *muhakkak* script; used until the sixteenth century for copying small-format Qur'ans

rîh (or rîk): fine, colored sand sprinkled over writing to dry it

rîhdan: container for *rîh* powder

rîk'a: script for daily use not considered worthy of artistic treatment

rîkâ': one of the group of six scripts, written with a pen whose nib is approximately 1 millimeter (3/64 inch) wide; a smaller-scale version of the *tevki'* script; mainly used for official purposes and rarely for copying manuscripts; also called *icâzet* script

Rumelia: European territory of the Ottoman Empire

sancak: banner or standard; also a division of a province in the Ottoman Empire

sa'y: 'persevere'; a device representing this exhortation appears between the lines of writing in calligraphic exercises

secavend: symbols, in red ink, added by the calligrapher to indicate stops, pauses, and other elements in the recitation of the Qur'an

secde gülü: rosette in the border of a page of the Qur'an marking where the reader is required to prostrate himself

şemse: sunburst design stamped into a leather binding

şemse kap: classic Ottoman bookbinding using the *şemse* design, alone or in combination with other motifs, on embossed leather decorated with gold

serlevha: symmetrical double-page illumination opening a Qur'an

şeyh: sheikh

şeyhülislâm: highest Islamic authority in the Ottoman state

seyyid: descendant of the Prophet

six scripts: see *aklâm-ı sitte*

sülüs: one of the group of six scripts, written with a pen whose nib is approximately 2 millimeters (3/32 inch) wide; with *nesih*, particularly favored by Ottoman calligraphers

sûre başı: chapter heading

taklîd: imitation of the work of other calligraphers as a method of education, to receive the *icâzet*, or as a token of homage

takoz: 'chock'; extra strip of paper, illumination, or *ebru* added to a calligraphic work, 'propping up' the work in the manner of a chock

tal'îk: delicate script (unrelated to the old Persian script of the same name) written with a pen whose

nib is 2 millimeters (3/32 inch) wide; largely used for writing *kit'as*

tashih kalemtıraşı: correction knife

tevki': one of the group of six scripts, written with a pen whose nib is approximately 2 millimeters (3/32 inch) wide; mainly used for official purposes and rarely for copying manuscripts

tomar: scroll; also the very large script and pen for writing on a scroll

tuğra: sultan's calligraphic emblem

tuğrakeş: writer of *tuğras*

unvan sahifesi: single illuminated opening page

vezir: one of the sultan's ministers; the grand vezir was the sultan's chief minister

zahriye: frontispiece

zer-endûd: method using a stencil to produce *levhas* in gold ink or gold leaf

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