

The Illustrations in the Lithography of the Turkish Folk Novels

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(Summary)

The first issues of Turkish folk novels (hikaye) in the form of lithography appeared in the first half of the XIX century, later followed by publications. Illustrations were an indispensable part of the lithography editions of the Turkish folk novels. In contrast to the miniatures in manuscripts, the illustration in lithography was meant to accompany the text only and could not exist separately. The primary aim was not achieving artistic perfection in the image, but marking the basic turns in the plot of the hikaye (for example – the meeting of lovers, wedding, hunt, rivalry and competition of the central characters, death of personages). In this way the illustration has turned into an additional – nonverbal – means of fixating the folklore base, and in this meaning – into an eternally varied text.