

S T A N D P O I N T

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A jury member of Konstantin Preslavski University of Shumen announced in the State Gazette (issue 41/ 03.06.2022) Competition for occupation of the **academic position professor** in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1 Philology, (Turkic Languages-Historical linguistics in the Turkish language) with the only candidate: **Associate Professor Dr. Miyryam Nedzhib Salim-Ahmed**, Lecturer at Konstantin Preslavski University of Shumen

1. Contest data: The procedure for announcing a competition for the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional strand 2.1. Philology, (Turkic languages – Historical linguistics of the Turkish language) at the University of Shumen meets the requirements according to the attached report on the fulfilment of the minimum national requirements under the Academic Staff Development Act and the report from the NACID.

The only candidate to participate in the competition is Associate Professor Dr. Miyryam Nedzhib Salim-Ahmed, whose application meets all the conditions under Shumen University Academic Staff Development Regulations. National science requirements in the humanities have been met, with 722.65 points out of the required 550 collected. The candidate participates in the competition with 1 monograph – rehabilitation work, 3 monographs in co-authorship, 1 studios, 26 articles (of which 12 articles in co-authorship), 3 dictionaries with co-authors and 18 cited.

2. Short biographical data on the applicant: As the biographical report shows, Associate Professor Dr. Miyryam Nedzhib Salim-Ahmed has worked at Konstantin Preslavski University of Shumen since 1999 as a lecturer. In 2008 she defended the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", and in 2014 the academic position "Associate Professor". Since 2017 she has worked as a head of the Department of Turkish Language and Literature.

She conducts in the same department numerous disciplines in Turkish. All of these courses correspond fully to the profile of the announced competition for

the academic position *professor* and are in the field of Turkology and Ottomanism. In the documentation they are detailed with detailed annotations. Among the main commitments that form Associate Professor Dr. M. Salim-Ahmed as a specialist are the lectures given to foreign universities under the Erasmus exchange programme, as well as her work in national and university scientific projects, participation in editorials and scientific committees.

3. Science-Research activity: The scientific, research and teaching biography of Associate Professor Dr. Miyryam Nedzhib-Ahmed shows very serious activity in both teaching and research in the field of historical linguistics in the Turkish language, in the field of modern Turkish language, linguistic and Ottoman culturology. In the competition for the academic position *professor*, the candidate participates with 4 monographs: independent habilitating work "On the traces of the Ottoman epistolary art "ilm-yuinsha", which is dedicated to the Ottoman epistolary art and its development. Structurally, the work consists of an introduction, four chapters, a conclusion, quoted literature, annexes and contains 195 pages. The introduction justifies the choice of the topic, sets out the reasons for work and presents the structure of the development. The main tasks, the object and the subject of the study, the methods of research and the source base are clearly and precisely formulated. The first chapter "*Epistolar culture and its emergence in Ottoman society*" presents the essence and specificity of the epistolar genre and epistolar culture. The second chapter "*Ottoman epistolar culture*" describes the concepts and epistolographic terms in Ottoman culture and literature. The third chapter "*Ottoman-Turkish letters insha and munsheat*" is presented by the Ottoman letterheads, with their classification and structure. A special emphasis in this chapter is the letter "as the center of epistolar culture". The fourth chapter "*Language and style of epistolar works*" concerns the main features of the language and style of the letters and the letters themselves insha and munsheat. The conclusion is well substantiated with all the essential conclusions drawn and summarised. The list of quoted literature included at the end of the work includes a large number of titles from the area examined. The study ends with supplements that represent lists of handwritten letter titles from different periods, etc. Monographic work is useful for students in linguistics and Ottomanism, history and cultural studies, as well as for all who would like to deepen their knowledge in this field. In the monograph "*Fragments of the cultural paintings of the world through the prism of the number*" (in co-authorship). The author in (Chapter I 1.3. The world through the prism of Arabic numbers in the Islamic religion and Turkish culture) focuses on the numbers hidden in

the letters of the Arabic alphabet and attempts are made to reveal their application in human life. In the next two monographs first and second revised edition "*Eski Dzhumaya Fair. Center for Economic and Cultural Dialogue in the 19th century*" (co-authored) Associate Professor Dr. M. Salim traces the history of the creation of the fair and its connection to the development of the city, the various participants present. An architectural sketch of the fair, the unique stamp of the fair and unknown archival documents from the Istanbul Ottoman Archive were published. In the studios "*The history of the founding of Targovishte (Eski Dzhumaya and Omurtag (Osmanpazara) until their formation of Centers of Nahie/kaza according to written sources*" based on written sources (archival documents), the development of the cities of Eski Dzhumaya and Osmanpazara is traced, starting from their establishment during the Ottoman period to their transformation into urban centers. The articles in the field of historical lexicology, phraseology and other aspects of the development of the Turkish language and Turkish language studies consider lexical units in Ottoman and Turkish languages, in Bulgarian and Urdu languages, in view of the importance, quantity, type and nature of the occupied elements, the spheres of penetration and the time of their borrowing (the documentation presents a detailed annotation for all 26 articles).

The contribution of the basic monographic work is undeniable, such as the consideration of important and untested features related to the construction, style and genre of letters, which are relevant for the theory and practice of communication and for the epistolar culture historically. The research and all analyses and results of the candidate's studies contribute to the expansion of the scientific field and enrich the research in Turkology and Ottomanism in Bulgaria.

The theoretical developments of the candidate are directly applied in the process of specialties in the field of Turkish language and literature. Under the guidance of Assistant Professor Dr. Miyryam Salim, 5 diploma projects have been successfully protected, 1 doctorate and, together with students, have been published scientific developments, and there are also 2 teaching aids issued.

Everything written so far gives me reason to summarize that the scientific production of Associate Professor Dr. Meyryam Salim testifies to very good preparation in the scientific specialty. In the course of examining the publications, I have not noticed any significant omissions. By highly appreciating her research, I recommend continuing to expand her scientific production.

4. Conclusion: On the basis of the proven teaching qualities, the scientific papers presented, their importance, the scientific and applied contributions contained therein, I strongly support the application and propose to the scientific jury to vote positively for the appointment by Associate Professor Dr. Miyryam Nedzhib-Ahmed of the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional department 2.1.Philology (Turkic languages – Historical linguistics of the Turkish language).

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