

STATEMENT

concerning a procedure for the acquisition of the academic rank of **Professor**
in 2. Humanities,

2.1. Philology (Turkic languages – Historical Linguistics of the Turkish Language),
as announced in the State Gazette, issue 41/3.06.2022

With the candidate: **Miryam Nedzhib Salim-Ahmed, PhD** – an Associate Professor at the department of “Turkish Language and Literature” at the Faculty of Humanities of Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen.

Author of the statement: **Associate Professor Boryan Georgiev Yanev**, Faculty of Philology, Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv.

By order № RD 16-169 from 31.08.2022 of the Rector of Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen, I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury participating in the procedure for the acquisition of the academic rank of **Professor** in 2.1. Philology (Turkic languages – Historical Linguistics of the Turkish Language), with a single candidate – Assoc. Prof. Miryram Nedzhib Salim-Ahmed, PhD from the above-mentioned department of the University of Shumen.

Overview of the presented documents

The set of documents submitted by Associate Professor Salim-Ahmed in an electronic form is in accordance with the requirements in the Rules for Development of the Academic Staff of Shumen University. The candidate has attached a total of 31 scientific publications in order to participate in the competition. All documents presented are eligible for review since they do not coincide with documents which have already been used in the candidate’s prior scientific and academic development.

As regards the type of publications presented, they include four monographs – one of them being a habilitation thesis (*По следите на османското епистоларно изкуство „илм-ю инша“*, Shumen, University Publishing House of the University of Shumen, 2022, 195 pages) and three monographs in which the candidate is a co-author (two issues of *„Ескиджумайският панаир. Център за стопански и културен диалог през 19 век“*, Shumen, 2021, and *„Фрагменти от културните картини на света през призмата на числото“*, Shumen, 2016. In order to take part in the procedure, the candidate has also presented 27 papers in national and international indexed and/or referenced specialized volumes.

Assoc. prof. Salim-Ahmed has acquired sufficient scientific indexing parameters which even exceed the minimum of points as required for the acquisition of the academic rank of Professor by the Rules of Shumen University as well as the Rules for Applying the Law for the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB). Her scientific work is remarkable and it shows her grand stature as a scientist with great potential.

Assoc. prof. Salim-Ahmed, PhD has participated in numerous scientific projects of a fundamental nature or particular adherence to doctrines in the sphere of Turkology, Intercultural Communication, and Ethnolinguistics.

The candidate’s teaching experience encompasses a wide spectrum of disciplines – compulsory as well as, I assume, elective and facultative – in the field of Turkological intra- and extralinguistics. Without a doubt, her teaching hours exceed the minimum required for the acquisition of the academic rank of Professor.

Overview of the candidate's scientific and scientifically applicable activity. Major scientific and/or scientifically applicable contributions

The publications presented for review by Miyryam Nedzhib Salim-Ahmed undoubtedly have scientific contribution and are the candidate's own merit.

A good indication in her participation in the procedure and her scientific training as a researcher in the field of diachrony is her monograph „По следите на османското епистоларно изкуство „илм-ю инша“. The scientific contribution of the research lies in its serious analysis of epistolary culture in a diachronic aspect, as well as of the intrinsic features of letters as communication mediator with specific genre and structural features. The discussed epistolary models in Ottoman Turkish are widely used and are particularly suitable for analyses of the style and utterance in this period of the development of the language. Additionally, the scholar offers a detailed classification of official and personal epistolary units, comparing their style, lexical and grammatical specific features as a result of social and linguistic influence. The findings and conclusions that are reached contribute significantly to the advancement not only of the genre under examination, but also of the Ottoman Turkish language in general.

A particular contribution is found in the papers submitted for review, among which there is a comprehensive study. They offer a rich list of references and sources that may be useful not only to linguists but also to historians, ethnologists, sociologists, and local historians. The researcher displays valuable observations on the connection between the Arabic script and the subcultural specifics of Turkish ethnicity. I would venture to put an emphasis on several papers, some of them written in cooperation with other scholars, that claim to offer basic theoretical-pragmatic models: *Турските пътеписи – пътуване през вековете*, 2017; *Обучението по калиграфия в историята на османското образование*, 2019; *За общите заемки в турския език и урду в контекста на междуезиковото взаимодействие*, 2015; *Научните изследвания по османистика и историческа лингвистика на турския език в България като основа за преподаване на османистични дисциплини в университета*, 2017.

The candidate's enormous research erudition is also demonstrated by her achievements as a compiler of notable multilingual dictionaries and teaching aids.

Conclusion

The documents and materials presented by asoc. prof. Miyryam Nedzhib Salim-Ahmed, PhD are in accordance with the requirements of ZRASRB, the Rules for applying ZRASRB and the corresponding Rules of Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen. Salim-Ahmed has presented a considerable number of scientific papers published after those used in the procedure for the acquisition of the academic rank of Professor. The candidate's publications show authentic scientific and scientifically applicable contributions. Therefore, I am convinced to vote positively for Miyryam Nedzhib Salim-Ahmed's acquisition of the academic rank of Professor in professional field 2.1 Philology (Turkic languages – Historical Linguistics of the Turkish Language).

Author of the statement.....

/Assoc. Prof. PhD Boryan Yanev/

19.10.2022