



Anglo-Turkish Society online lecture, 2 December 2021, 6.00 pm (UK time)

Speaker: John Curry

Platform: Zoom with link provided to those who register

Title: 'The Legacy of Mezemorta Hüseyin Paşa: Corsair, Captain, Ottoman Grand Admiral'

This presentation will address a little-known episode in the history of the Ottoman Empire of the later seventeenth century, in the form of the career of Mezemorta Hüseyin Paşa, who rose from the ranks of the Algerian corsairs to become the Ottoman grand admiral in the closing years of the Wars of the Holy League. In contrast to the general narrative of Ottoman defeat during that conflict, it argues that Mezemorta in fact won some significant victories that helped to preserve the empire's position in the Mediterranean theatre.

Booking essential: <https://john-curry-lecture.eventbrite.co.uk>

Contact: contact@angloturkishsociety.org.uk



John Curry, associate professor, received his B.A. in history with a minor in sub-Saharan African Studies from Northwestern University (1992). After spending a year in Cairo, Egypt and other parts of the Near East on a Fulbright scholarship during the 1992-93 academic year, he returned to acquire a dual M.A. from The Ohio State University in both the department of History and Arabic Language (1998). After several years of work and research in Turkey's manuscript libraries and archives, he completed his dissertation on early modern Ottoman religious history and received his Ph.D. in history from The Ohio State University (2005).

His research focuses on the history of mystical, religious, and intellectual movements in the Ottoman Empire and its environs. His first book, *The Transformation of Muslim Mystical Thought in the Ottoman Empire: The Rise of the Halveti Order 1350-1650*, was published by Edinburgh University Press in 2010 to strong reviews. He is also presently researching a second book on Ottoman religio-mystical movements during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in Istanbul's libraries and manuscript collections.

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