



Pulpit, Mosque and Nation

Turkish Friday Sermons as Text and Ritual

Elisabeth Özdalga

Analyses the historical and sociological roles of Friday sermons in the nation-building process in modern Turkey

- Explores various forms and contents (including a large number of translations from Turkish to English) of Friday prayer oratory
- Highlights how state patronage conducted through a secular political order has controlled religion, as well as how an overpowering state has been challenged by various religious groups and institutions
- Synthesises three basic analytical dimensions of official Muslim oratory: the religious ritual; political and ideological discourses; and governmental supervision through the official religious institution Diyanet

With an all-pervading sermon theme of social, national and political unity, Elisabeth Özdalga explores how long-standing religious rituals are utilised and mobilised in the formation of modern political loyalties and national identities.

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