

# RELIGION, MEMORY AND SENSE OF BELONGING

The Tradition of Memorization of the Qur'an  
in Turkey (1923-1950)

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Büşra Demirden



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## Büşra Demirden

Büşra Demirden received her bachelor's degrees in Sociology and Theology from Marmara University, Istanbul, in 2018. She completed her MA in Sociology at Ibn Haldun University in 2022 with a thesis titled "Religion, Memory, and Sense of Belonging: The Tradition of Qur'an Memorization (Hafızlık) in Turkey, 1923–1950."

Büşra Demirden is actively engaged in voluntary educational and social assistance projects through various civil society organizations and is currently preparing for doctoral studies.

Her publications include "Memories of Fear: Narratives of Qur'an Memorizers (Hafizes) from the Single-Party Era" in R. Aras (ed.), *Anthropology and Sociology of Emotions: Theoretical and Ethnographic Perspectives from Turkey and Beyond* (Istanbul: Ibn Haldun University Press). An oral presentation titled "The Role of Media in Shaping Gender Perceptions: The Case of Roblox" will also be published soon.

Büşra Demirden's research interests cover the Sociology of Religion, Sociology of Islam, Migration, Identity, and the Digital Society.

Dedicated to,  
Martyrs of Gaza  
My father Hidayet Coşkun

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*When a man dies, his deeds come to an end  
except for three things:  
sadaqah jariyah (ceaseless charity);  
a knowledge which is beneficial, or a virtuous descendant  
who prays for him (for the deceased).  
(Muslim)*

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Büşra Demirden