Cerrâhiyyetü'l - Hâniyye (Imperial Surgery)

The first surgical text book in Turkish (in Arabic script) was written by Şerafeddin Sabuncuoğlu in mid 15 th Century. This book, Cerrahiyyetu'l Haniyye (Imperial Surgery) was republished by Turkish Historical Society (Türk Tarih Kurumu with) original text in Arabic and in Latin scripts. Together with Modern Turkish and English translations and explanations in two volumes.

Şerafeddin Sabuncuoğlu was born in 1385 in Amasya, the ancient capital of Pontus Kingdom and a cultural and scientific center of Ottoman period. Şerafeddin was educated in Amasya hospital and became a physician at the age of 18 and practiced medicine for 14 years in the same hospital.

He is the author of the following three medical books:

- Akrabadin (A pharmacopea translated from persian)
- Mücerreb-name (The book of his own experiences in medical treatment) and
- Cerrahiyyetü'l Haniyye in 1465 (this book is mainly based on "At-Tasrif" a surgical treatise, written by Abu'l Kasım Zahravi (Albucasis) a famous surgeon of 10 th century from Cordoba. The partition in three chapters (cauterization,incision-perforation and treatment of fractures) as the same of Abulkasim's book entitled "at-Tasrif". But, Şerafeddin added many original observations of his own and three section as:

— Couterization of boils -Treatment of herpes (?) -Pharmacopea two of known three copies of this book are autographic examples . The most completed copy is kept at Bibliothque National, Paris. This copy contains 136 illustrations and more than 160 descriptions of tools . Its second copy is in Istanbul Fatih National Library. This colossal work translated with an introduction to Modern Turkish language by Dr. Ilter Uzel, Professor, History of Medicine.

In the introduction, Dr. Uzel describes the importance of entire and compared text based on the author's own experiences. The other chapters of introduction are:

 Amasya during Şerafeddin 's time, -Amasya Hospital -The life and personality of Şerafeddin and -Comparisons of three copies of Cerrahiyyetü'l-Haniyye

(This last chapter is very important for medical researchers)

In the second section of the first volume, the entire comparative text with miniatures and tools included.

The second volume is a full color facsimile of Paris copy, which includes the missing parts of the Fatih National Library copy.

(Cerrahiyyetü'l-Haniyye, Türk Tarih Kurumu Yayınları, Ankara 1992, 2 volumes)

(Turkish Historical Society, Kızılay Sokağı, No. 1 Sıhhiye, Ankara, Türkiye)