



The California State University, Fresno
Armenian Studies Program
welcomes



DR. ÜMIT KURT

FIFTEENTH HENRY KHANZADIAN KAZAN VISITING PROFESSOR

THREE PUBLIC LECTURES -

Lecture I-Friday, September 21 • 7:30 PM

**“A RESCUER, AN ENIGMA, AND
A GÉNOCIDAIRE: CEMAL PASHA”**

(6:30-7:30PM Hors d'oeuvres Reception-UBC Gallery)

University Business Center • Alice Peters Auditorium • Fresno State

***Free Admission. Parking is free on Friday evenings. Permits are not needed.
Park in Lot P6 or P5 near the UBC.***

Known for his rigid policies towards Arab nationalists and Zionists during his posting in Greater Syria, Cemal Pasha and his role in the Armenian Genocide has always remained an issue of contention. There are important accounts of Cemal's activity, particularly during the First World War, which have found him to have had no active role in the deportation and extermination of Armenians – here differing from the other two pillars of the CUP, Enver and Talaat.

On the contrary, they argue that he extended a helping hand to Armenians in so far as his authority and power would allow, and that he even faced off against members of the central government in Istanbul and the CUP head office to do so. This lecture will question that argument, examining the politics of Cemal Pasha during the war, while concentrating on his approach to the Armenian matter. Dr. Kurt will also explore Cemal's own responsibility for the Genocide, in so far context and contingencies played a role in this crime.

Dr. Ümit Kurt received his Ph.D. from the Department of History at Clark University in 2016. He received his M.A. degree in European Studies from Sabancı University in 2008 and undergraduate degree in Political Science from Middle East Technical University in 2006. He taught in the Faculty of Arts and Science in Sabancı University, from 2012 to 2014.

He is currently working as a Polonsky Fellow at the Van Leer Jerusalem Institute.

Dr. Kurt is the author of The Great, Hopeless Turkish Race: Fundamentals of Turkish Nationalism in the Turkish Homeland, 1911-1916 (Istanbul: İletişim Publishing House, 2012) and the author, with Taner Akçam, of The Spirit of the Laws: The Plunder of Wealth in the Armenian Genocide (New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2015).

**For more information about upcoming events contact
the Armenian Studies Program at 559-278-2669.
fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies**

