

İdris Bostan, *Beylikten imparatorluğa Osmanlı denizciliği*, İstanbul 2006; Katib Çelebi, *Deniz savaşları hakkında büyüklere armağan (Tühfetü'l-kibâr fi esfâri'l-bihâr)*, ed. Orhan Şaik Gökyay, İstanbul 2007; Katib Çelebi, *The gift to the great ones on naval campaigns*, ed. İdris Bostan, Ankara 2008; İdris Bostan, Kapudan Paşa, *TDVİA* 24:354-5; İdris Bostan, Saruca Paşa, *TDVİA* 36:168-9; S. Özbaran, Kapudan Pasha, *EA*; İsmet Parmaksızoğlu, Kaptan Paşa, *İA* 6:206-10.

İDRİS BOSTAN

Kemal Reis

Kemal Reis (Kemāl Re'īs, d. 916/1510) was a renowned Ottoman naval captain who served Sultan Bayezid (Bāyezīd) II (r. 886-918/1481-1512). He was the son of Ali (Alī) Reis of Gelibolu (Gallipoli) (İbn-i Kemal, 145; İnalcık, 113) and the uncle of Piri (Pīrī) Reis (d. 960/1553), the author of *Kitab-ı bahriye* (*Kitāb-i bahriyye*, "Book on seafaring"). In 874/1470, he took part in the Eğriboz (Negroponte, the Greek island of Euboea) campaign as an *azab* ('azabs, marine troops) under the command of Mahmud (Mahmūd) Paşa (d. 878/1474). Following the island's capture, Kemal Reis became commander of the *azabs* on Eğriboz and fitted out a *kalyata* (*qalyata*, galliot) at his own expense to prey on Venetian ships and raid Venetian-held coastal territories and strongholds. In 979/1475, he entered Ottoman state service as a galley captain at Gelibolu, for which he received a daily wage of eight *akçes* (*aqçe*) (*Gelibolu tahrir defteri*, 47).

In 892/1487, Kemal Reis and a group of Ottoman captains sailed a fleet equipped by Bayezid II to Spain's southern shore to deliver aid to the Moriscos. On the Iberian coast Kemal Reis dispersed a Spanish fleet and sacked the town of Malaga. Later, he launched attacks on settlements

on the Spanish, French, and Italian seaboards from naval bases in North Africa, at Djarba, Bidjaya, and al-'Annāba (Bône). In 897/1492, after raids on the French coast, Balearic islands, and Malta, he returned to Gelibolu with abundant booty and captives. With the assistance of Sinan (Sinān) Bey (d. 947/1540), *kapudan* (*qapūdān*) *paşa* (admiral of the Ottoman fleet), he presented the spoils to Bayezid II in Istanbul and was rewarded with a wage of fifty *akçes* per day (Gelibolulu Mustafa Ali, 855).

As a corsair, Kemal Reis attacked Christian towns and shipping until the sultan summoned him to Istanbul in 900/1495 to improve the Ottoman navy's military capacity. The ruler was committed to *ghazawāt* (religiously sanctioned raids)—or *jihād* (military action aimed at expanding Islam)—at sea against the Venetians, and the death of his brother Cem (864-900/1459-95) that year had intensified political tensions between the Ottoman Empire and Venice, which erupted into open war. When Kemal Reis arrived at the Ottoman capital, he was granted a royal reception where he presented rich gifts to Bayezid II, who appointed him captain of one of two newly constructed *gökes* (galleyons with oars). In the naval campaign of 901/1495, he spread fear among the enemy as a corsair (İbn-i Kemal, 146-7).

In 903/1498, because of political instability on the mainland, Kemal Reis transported the revenues of the pious foundations endowed for Mecca and Medina (*awqāf al-ḥaramayn*) in Anatolia to Alexandria by sea (Devlet Arşivleri, Osmanlı Arşivi, İE-Maliye, no. 4). On his return, he defeated and captured the renowned pirate captain Nicolas Centurione (known as Santurluoğlu to the Turks, d. 1518) at Rhodes, along with five ships and several