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## Macaronic Turkic poetry

**Macaronic Turkic poetry** is termed *mülemma* in Turkish (Ott. *mülemma*), from the Arabic *mulamma'*, which literally means "multi-coloured, motley," but is used in literature to define "poems containing a verse, word, or word group written in another language" (Şemseddin Sâmî, 1403; Çağbayır, 3364). *Talmî'*, as a literary term, is the composition of *mulamma'* poems, and poems composed in this way are called *mulamma'ât* (Tahirü'l-Mevlevî, 106, 158; Macit, 451).

In Turkish literature, "*mülemma*" mostly designates poems of *divan* (*dīvān*, high culture) Ottoman poets written in Turkish-Persian or Turkish-Arabic (Kurtuluş and Pala, 539). Some sources indicate that *mülemma* poetry could also be written through *iktibas* (*ıktibās*) and *tazmîn* (*taḏmîn*) (Bilgegil, 271; Külekçi, 216). In both *iktibas* (quoting a Qur'anic verse or *ḥadīth* to strengthen a poem's meaning, Külekçi, 205) and *tazmîn* (quoting another poet's couplet or line in one's own poem for the same purpose,

Menemenlizâde Mehmet Tâhir, 104), the quoted phrases belong to others. In *mülemma*, however, even though different languages are used in one poem, the person using them is the poet himself.

The first examples of *mulamma'* (macaronic) poetry are observed in Persian literature of the fourth/tenth century (Kurtuluş and Pala, 539). This style of composition later passed from the Persians to the Turks, and the first identified example of macaronic Turkic poetry is a *rubā'î* (a type of quatrain) attributed to Badr al-Dīn al-Qiwāmī-yi Rāzī (a sixth/twelfth-century poet from Khwārazm), with its first line in Arabic, the second line in Persian, and the last couplet in Turkish (Köprülüzade Mehmed Fuad, 437-40).

Macaronic poems are the product of different languages interacting with each other, which occurs through commerce, politics, war, inclusion in the same religious environment, and the establishment of cultural relations. Turkish has not only influenced many other languages but has also been influenced by them, and macaronic Turkic poems are the result of these linguistic contacts. The emergence of macaronic poetry in Turkish literature began when Persian rather than Turkish was the literary language of Anatolia, and Mawlānā Jalāl al-Dīn Rūmī (d. 672/1273) produced the first examples (Banarlı, 318-9). Sultan Veled (Sultān Veled, d. 712/1312) also composed macaronic Turkic poetry, and it has been created by poets from Ottoman times up to the present. In periods when Turkish was relatively weak vis-à-vis Arabic and Persian, the poetry was mainly written in Arabic and Persian (especially), and Turkish was only incorporated at the level of words, phrases, or hemistichs. With the development of Turkish as a literary language and