

Aziz Gökdemir

SUMMARY

Bilingual editor, writer, and English < > Turkish translator affiliated with an editorial services agency serving prominent clients in the Washington, D.C. area. Learned Turkish as mother tongue and acquired English between ages 9 and 12; extensive in-country experience in both environments. Extremely well-organized, conscientious, accurate, and computer-savvy professional, with a master's degree in industrial and management engineering.

FIELDS OF EXPERTISE IN TRANSLATION

Management, marketing, and other business topics; arts, literature, and communications/media; international development and environmental issues; public health and other social policy issues; politics and current events.

TRANSLATION AND OTHER BILINGUAL EXPERIENCE (1995–present)

Edited or wrote hundreds of thousands of words in English, dealing primarily with business-related themes, for U.S. clients as summarized in the next section (1998–present, as well as 1990–1992).

Translated portions of think-tank report on fiscal transparency from Turkish into English (2005).

Translated a Royal Dutch Shell management training manual from English into Turkish for Alexandria, Virginia editorial services agency, Grammarians Inc. (1998).

As editor of the William Saroyan Translation Project for Aras Publishing of Istanbul, Turkey, oversaw the translation from English into Turkish a six-volume selection of American writer William Saroyan's work, wrote each book's introduction, translated several short stories, and acted as publisher's liaison with the William Saroyan Foundation and the University of California, Fresno (2001–present).

Provided escort interpreting services to the editorial director of Swedish publishing house Norstedts and Sweden's deputy consul in Istanbul during fact-finding mission on freedom of speech in Turkey (2001).

Translated into Turkish, and wrote a brief introduction to, an analysis of Joseph Conrad and Albert Camus. Published in the popular Turkish arts/literary monthly, *E* (January 2000).

Translated English-language stories, poems, and novel excerpts by Armenian writers into Turkish for a mini-anthology. Published in *E*, Istanbul (July 2000).

Wrote a 5,600-word essay in Turkish on exilic themes in Pulitzer Prize–winning American writer William Saroyan's body of work, with Saroyan's 1964 visit to his ancestral homeland serving as a focal point. Published in *E*, Istanbul (May 1999). Translated excerpts of Saroyan's writing, which were published alongside the article.

Wrote 20 essays in Turkish on American culture and literature for Turkey-based publications *E*, *Agos*, and *Cumhuriyet* (1997–2000).

Contributed a short story to an anthology of Turkish writers published by Voice of Germany, Cologne (1998). *Lebensspuren*, the German translation, appeared in 2000.

Wrote collection of short stories in Turkish, published by Gendaş Kültür in Istanbul (1995–1998).

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WRITING AND EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES (1990–present)

Writing/Rewriting and Editing (1998–present)

As editor, writer, or project consultant, worked on more than 70 projects for prominent clients in the Washington, D.C. area, handling wide-ranging subject material including environmental conservation, international development, indigenous cultures, emerging markets, financial accountability, privatization and deregulation, judicial reform, education, poverty alleviation, social capital, domestic and foreign policy, crisis management, and health insurance reform.

- *Writing or substantive editing*: Produced original content and substantially revised or rewrote existing content for marketing and/or public information purposes for clients including the World Bank, the World Wildlife Fund, International Resources Group, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and George Mason University's College of Nursing and Health Science.
- *Copyediting*: Copyedited books, reports, and Web content for organizations including the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the World Bank, the World Wildlife Fund, Appalachian Regional Commission, National Association of School Psychologists, Health Insurance Association of America, American Health Lawyers Association, American Bankers Association, PricewaterhouseCoopers, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, and the U.S. Departments of Labor and Commerce.
- *Project management and consulting*: As project manager, oversaw the logistics from manuscript preparation through editing and production of a multivolume World Wildlife Fund book project on international cooperation in biodiversity preservation. Edited the flagship volume, *Beyond Boundaries*. The project's print run was distributed to environmental organizations and agencies worldwide and its entire content was made available on the Web. Provided consulting services to other clients as requested, including one-on-one guidance on improving writing style.

Reporting and Other Writing Experience (1990–1992)

As staff writer and columnist for *The Daily Iowan*, reported for the science, environment, social issues, and arts and entertainment beats; wrote over 100 articles under deadline including a feature on a renowned physicist's controversial theory on life's origins on Earth and a four-part series on acquaintance rape. The feature story was included in the 2003 coursework at Iowa State University's Department of Education.

Wrote University of Iowa M.S. Thesis on emerging markets and crisis management.

EDUCATION

M.S., Department of Industrial and Management Engineering, University of Iowa (1992).

B.S., Department of Industrial Engineering, School of Management, Istanbul Technical University (1989).

H.S.D., Istanbul American Robert Academy [known as "Robert College"] (1985).

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WRITING AND TRANSLATION SAMPLES

The non-Internet version of this résumé includes a writing sample and two translation samples. The translation samples also can be viewed online at http://www.proz.com/pro/45852?show_mode=portfolio. Additional samples and complete list of publications are available upon request.

REFERENCES AND OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Available upon request.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Translators Association (ATA, Member ID 236978).

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

Proficient in Windows and MacOS platforms; primary focus on Windows with ConversionsPlus installed to handle Mac files in Windows. MacOS setup also available. On-site and off-site file backup system to safeguard against loss, and complete second PC setup for equipment failure emergencies. On-site laser-printed hard copy delivered upon request. Primary software tools: Word, WordPerfect, PowerPoint, Excel.

RESOURCES

Personal library includes several Turkish, English, Turkish-English, and English-Turkish dictionaries (general and specialized) and thesauri as well as reverse (topic to word) and visual (image category to word) dictionaries; Ottoman-Modern Turkish dictionary; Turkish and English style and grammar handbooks and etymological reference material. The Internet is used to access bookmarked professional glossaries to verify field-specific usage.

Style manuals include *Ana Yazım Kılavuzu* in Turkish and the *Chicago Manual of Style*, the *Associated Press Stylebook*, Harvard Law Review's *Uniform System of Citation* (the "Blue Book"), Strunk and White's *Elements of Style*, the *World Bank Publications Style Guide*, and the American Psychological Association's *Publication Manual* in English.

CITIZENSHIP

U.S.-Turkey dual citizen.