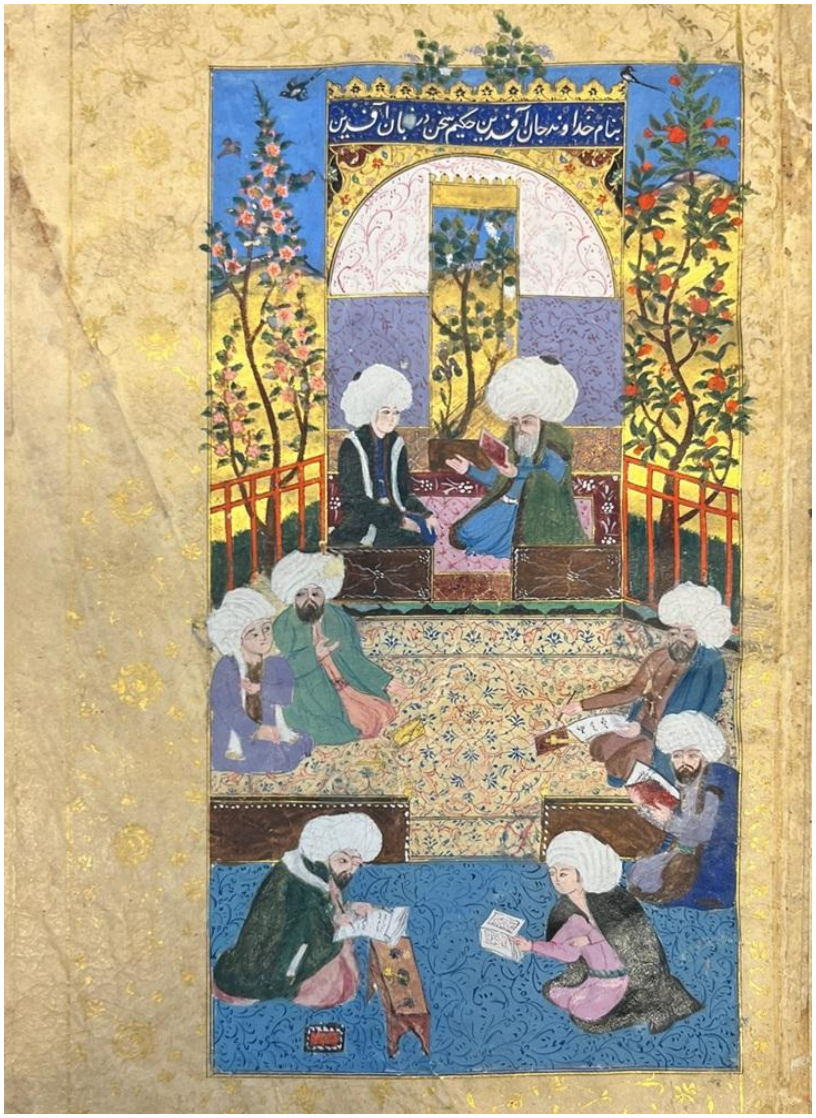
Anglo-Turkish Society hybrid lecture, 26 May 2026, 6.00 pm (UK time)
Speaker: Michael Erdman
Venue: Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy St, Fitzrovia, London W1T 5BT
Title: 'A Delight to Behold: The Ottoman Turkish Manuscript Collection at the British Library'

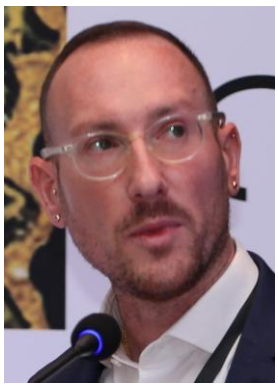
Since its inception in 1753, the British Library's manuscript collection has included Ottoman Turkish and other Turkic texts. Over the following 270 years, the holdings grew to nearly 2000 items. While small in comparison to other language holdings from the Middle East, and miniscule compared to those in Western European languages, the British Library's Ottoman Turkish manuscripts are nonetheless a rich survey of Ottoman cultural production from the 14th to the 20th centuries. In this presentation, Dr. Michael Erdman will provide listeners with a brief history of the collection; its contents; and a look at some of its most treasured elements.

Booking essential: https://michael-erdman-presentation.eventbrite.co.uk

Contact: contact@angloturkishsociety.org.uk



The poet Baki gathers his students and admirers in a garden (Or 7084, *Divan-i Baki*, 16th century)



Dr. Michael Erdman is the Head of the Middle East and Central Asia Section at the British Library. He received his PhD in Near and Middle Eastern Studies from SOAS in 2018 and specializes in the 20th century intellectual history of Turkic communities and minority groups in Anatolia and Mesopotamia.

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