Anglo-Turkish Society hybrid lecture, 14 September 2026, 6.00 pm (UK time)
Speaker: Dr Muhammed Hasanov
Venue: Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy St, Fitzrovia, London W1T 5BT
Title: 'From Merchant Consuls to the Caliph's Representatives: The Transformation of the Ottoman Consulates in Liverpool and Manchester, 1891-1914'

This talk focuses on the transformation of the Ottoman consulates in Liverpool and Manchester, which were established solely for commercial purposes as early as 1810, into political instruments during the reign of Sultan Abdulhamid II. It argues that Sultan Abdulhamid II's decree of 1891, which ordered the appointment of Muslim consuls to Liverpool and Manchester, marked a turning point, as consuls assumed political, religious, and intelligence-gathering responsibilities alongside their traditional commercial duties. Focusing on Liverpool and Manchester, the talk will demonstrates how these provincial consulates became important centres for implementing Pan-Islamic policies, monitoring Armenian political activities, and strengthening relations with Muslim communities in Britain, particularly through the Liverpool Muslim Institute.

Booking essential: https://muhammed-hasanov-presentation.eventbrite.co.uk
Contact: contact@angloturkishsociety.org.uk



Group photo of members of the Liverpool Muslim Institute in 1905 with the Ottoman Consul General Mustafa Enver Bey in centre [Courtesy: The Crescent Newspaper Archives]



Dr. Muhammed Hasanov, since November 2025, has been working as a Qualitative Researcher in the Department of International Development (ODID) at the University of Oxford. In April 2026, he completed his PhD. His doctoral thesis examined how the Armenian Question and Pan-Islamism affected the functioning of the Ottoman Consulates in Liverpool and Manchester between 1891 and 1908. He completed his bachelor's degree in history in Turkey in 2020 and earned a Master's degree in International Relations at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) in 2021. His research interests cover a wide range of topics in diplomatic history, with particular emphasis on Anglo Ottoman relations, Pan-Islamism and its impact on the British Isles, Balkan history, and Muslim communities in the Balkans.

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