

and studied those parts of the rituals that pertained to themselves (ibid.). His yol-usta, who assumed charge of him from the day that he had set foot in the Fütüvvet, would prepare him for the rituals.

Now let us follow the rituals.

In accordance with the regulations, the candidate would approach the entrance to the hall in the company of two nakibs. The nakib al-nukaba would read the tercüman for admission as follows:

Biz (correct to bu) du'agû-yi fakir bende-yi müştakınız
İçeri gire, dura, nedir sizin fermanınız.³⁴

This poor supplicant, servant of your desire,
Entering inside, waiting, what is your command?

Another version of this tercüman exists.³⁵ These tercümans, of course, were designed for the Muslim candidates. The Armenians recited their own admission tercümans. As Urakh Grigor claims, "when they reach that hellish door, they do not dare to enter, but stopping there they would, with words of praise, beseech and implore, and offer the following much more extensive supplication" (ibid., pp. 59a-59b):

İki han olmuş seraser âleme ihsanı[n]ız
Eksik olmaz kûyunuzdan dembedem mihmanı[n]ız
Daima dergâhı[n]ız mahtur olur her say ilen
Fathulia hali din dir, nakş olur eyvanı[n]ız.

Huni vücudundan seyr eder her bir geda,
Acizi muhtaç elinden eksik olmaz nanı[n]ız,
Asita-yi devlete yüz sira geldi bir geda,
Gelsin mi, dönsün mü, ne olur fermanı[n]ız. (Ibid., p. 59b.)³⁶

Your beneficence to the world is two inns from end to end,
Guests are never missing from your street,
All are considered continuously prostrated [at?] your court,
"Fathulia"(?) is an empty belief, [with which?] your hall is adorned.

Every beggar looks on [travels] from his cruel existence,
Your bread is not lacking in the hands of helpless indigents,
A beggar came a hundred times to the threshold of prosperity,
Should he come in or turn back, what is your command?

This text differs from those found in the Fütüvvet-Nâmes. In the latter, the Muslim candidate expresses his readiness to serve in the Fütüvvet organization. In contrast, the Armenian candidate offers