

The state of mind in the Anatolian Journal of Cardiology

*Ol mâhîler ki derya içredir,
deryayı bilmezler
Hayâlî*

I left the above verse in the original language as quoted from Hayâlî due to the harmony of words for those who can read Turkish-Ottoman Turkish. This verse is to satirize myself. Until the end of the last year, I supposed that I did not know everything or I did not know that much, but I did know what I did not know. When I adapt this verse of Hayâlî to myself, I realized that I did not know if millimeter of mercury was spelled out solid as in "mmHg" or separated as in "mm Hg". After making a research nights long, I found out that it is written separated in 70% of the papers and solid in 30% of the papers in the Pubmed. The word was also separated in our reference book Braunwald. Then, I realized that I did not know how the word "cut-off" was spelled. After reviewing tens of dictionaries from English to Turkish and Turkish to English and consulting with statisticians, I noticed that the word was spelled out in the Pubmed in all forms such as "cut-off, cutoff, or cut off" but without any significant difference in meaning or without a consensus on a particular spelling. The overall tendency was towards spelling the word as "cut-off", and the Anatolian Journal of Cardiology adopted this spelling.

It took me one night to figure out why the word was written as "aortic" and not as "aorta". We encounter such challenging situations in papers submitted to the Anatolian Journal of Cardiology. The anatomist, clinical cardiologist, and the surgeon all march to a different tune. After long researches, it turns out that the word "*Chi-square*" should not be written with title case due to the fact that "*chi*" is the 21st letter (x) in the Greek alphabet and that it should be written with lower case.

The poems of Hayâlî come to my mind again with the abundance of such examples. That is to say "*I was unaware of the water as a fish (mâhî in the verse) in the ocean*". In this case, may I have the right to criticize all those academicians who submit their papers to the Anatolian Journal of Cardiology? However, my age allows me to do so. I will be in the midway of my life by the end of this year, maybe, god willing, who knows.

Nevertheless, I will use light irony for my colleagues. Here are some examples. In the letter of my colleague who seriously

criticized the Anatolian Journal of Cardiology, he misspelled his own name. A researcher from abroad, who submitted an important, randomized, controlled and double-blind study, tried to convince me that he alone conducted the submitted research. A dearest student of mine by chance had included a Polish-Japanese reference dated to 1780. The other one included the Journal of Şirvan Vocational School in the reference list. All truth is not always to be told. Would they spare waving a greeting in the meetings of the Turkish Association of Cardiology which I will attend soon?

"El-ilmü evveli hû mürrun mine'l-basel / âhiruhu ahlâ mine'l-asef (Before knowledge tastes bitter like an onion, but after knowledge tastes sweeter than honey) (Y. H. Safadi, 1978). I have forgotten to note the author that presented the above sentences. Accept my apology. My word is to youngsters. If your Mentor is not sufficiently close to you, you cite the same reference three different times in a paper. You explain ECG recording in two paragraphs and not in a single sentence in the methods section.

Furthermore, it takes three months for an Englishman to learn German, and it takes six months for a Dutchman to learn English and German. Accordingly, it would not take three months for me to learn Kyrgyz-Kazakh-Uzbek languages.

However, English to Turkish and Turkish to English translation is a challenge for our language which we brought from Yenisey. I am able to read and easily understand a manuscript written in English by a Turkish man. An Englishman suggests extensive amendment and proofreading for the same manuscript. Is this clear?

We are all human, weak and humble but the most noble of all living creatures. Even if we fill our souls with humble and insignificant knowledge of the Anatolian Journal of Cardiology, we attribute overreaching meaning to all knowledge we obtain.

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