

The background of the book cover is a grayscale photograph. It shows a close-up of a hand holding a pen, poised to write on a document. The document has some faint lines and a prominent red circular stamp. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows.

C. M. Kösemen

## A Karakaş Speaks:

Interviews With a Member  
of Turkey's Crypto-Judaic  
"Dönme" Community

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C. Mehmet Kosemen

## A Karakas Speaks: Interviews With a Member of Turkey's Crypto-Judaic "Dönme" Community



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Since the late 20th century, academic interest in the crypto-Judaic group known as the Donmes has grown and intensified. Most studies resulting from this interest have got concentrated on the Donmes' place in a world of intersecting identities, and on the type of their secret religious beliefs. In this process, however, narratives by actual members of this community have been few and far-between. Previously-unpublished intra-communal religious papers, calendars and partial genealogies of the Karakas sect are also reproduced in this volume. Complete with presenting chapters on the annals of the Donmes, and in particular the Karakas group; this book will charm both to specialist employees, as well as general readers thinking about this curious chapter at the intersection of Ottoman, Judaic and modern Turkish background. richly annotated with footnotes that explain local nuances and provide additional resources; This function, based on a series of interviews with a member of the Karakas group - among the three main Donme sects - aims to fill that gap.



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