

Albert Nekimken, born in 1944, completed his undergraduate education at the California State University at Northridge. Immediately after graduation in 1966, he left for two years of service as a Peace Corps Volunteer teacher of secondary school English in Tokat, Turkey. Subsequently, he continued his studies at the University of Iowa and the Los Angeles and Riverside facilities of the University of California. During this period, he was awarded a Fulbright research fellowship. Supplemented by support from the Turkish Ministry of Education and the American Research Institute in Turkey, he was able to spend the 1975-1976 academic year in Istanbul with his family conducting on-site research on Turkish theater that resulted ultimately in the present work. A short excerpt was published in Turkish in *Tiyatro 76* journal in 1976. Soon after receiving his Ph.D in comparative literature from the University of California at Riverside, Dr. Nekimken relocated with his family to metropolitan Washington, D.C. where he began working in the field of investment research, publishing and consulting. Initially, he published analytic articles on oil & gas limited partnership investments along with due diligence consulting reports for an Annapolis, Maryland-based firm, followed by securities analysis on American and Australian stocks for Baltimore and Amsterdam-based firms. In 1993, he returned to Turkey after an absence of 17 years to accept a new position as Director of Research for an investment bank and securities broker/dealer. In addition, he wrote economic and political analysis for the investment banking division of another Istanbul-based commercial bank. During this period, he re-established his connections with Turkish academic and theater, organizations. His book, *Kocsis Scourged. Surviving the arts* — to be published in winter 1998 by Paragon Press — examines the art world from the point of view of independent artists-painters, actors, dancers, musicians, writers, who struggle to survive, despite the institutionalized forces that conspire to dominate and exploit them. Currently, Dr. Nekimken publishes analyses of electronic banking, digital money and other aspects of Information Technology as a Senior Analyst for an international planning research firm at its metropolitan Washington office.