**Turhan Baytop** (1920–2002)

Turhan Baytop was born in Istanbul and graduated from the Istanbul University School of Pharmacy in 1945. After a year of voluntary study in botany under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Alfred Heilboorn (1885–1961), he was appointed as an assistant to the Istanbul University Pharmacology Institute in 1948. Between 1951 and 1952, he studied at the Faculty of Pharmacy in Paris, and then returned to Istanbul. He became a full professor in 1965 and retired in 1987. His academic duties included serving as dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy five times between 1963 and 1987 and serving as a professor of pharmacognosy for almost 40 years.

From the beginning of his career, Baytop was very passionate about two subjects: the plants of Turkey and the history of pharmacy in Turkey.

- **History of Pharmacy in Turkey.** From 1943 to 1999, he collected more than 16,000 plant specimens from Turkish flora thanks to his more than 170 individual plant-hunting trips to Anatolia, Botanist Peter H. Davis (1918–1992) dedicated the 8th volume of his book, *Flora of Turkey and the East Aegean Islands*, to Prof. Turhan Baytop and his wife, Prof. Asmahan Baytop (1920– ).
- **Acknowledging their contributions:** Baytop propagated the field of history of pharmacy through pioneering endeavors. He set up the first history of pharmacy museum in Turkey in 1960 and organized the first national congress for the history of pharmacy in 1990, which created widespread interest in the subject throughout the country.

He received several awards, including the Silver Medal of OPTIMA (Organization for the Phyto-Pharmacognosic Investigation of the Mediterranean Area) (1966), the TÜBITAK Scientist of the Year Award (1998), the Golden Medal of COE (Economic Cooperation Organization) (1992), and an honorary doctorate (Dr. honoris causa) from the Anadolu University (1998). He died on 23 June 2002, only three weeks after receiving the Golden Tulip Award, acknowledging his contributions to Turkish pharmacy history.

(*The tulip figure has been accepted as an official symbol of Turkish pharmacy history at the 6th Turkish History of Pharmacy Gathering in 1996."

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**Baytop’s Books & Their Contributions to Turkish Pharmacy**

In addition to more than 200 scientific papers, Professor Baytop authored 27 books/books written in Turkish, English, French, and Japanese, which primarily deal with pharmacognosy education, Turkish flora, medicinal and poisonous plants of Turkey, and the history of pharmacy. These books contributed to Turkish pharmacy in the following ways:

1. Providing new and up-to-date educational resources for pharmacy students, particularly in pharmacognosy.
2. Establishing new and original reference sources for researchers of ethnobotany, pharmacognosy, and the history of pharmacy.
3. Identifying and naming previously unknown plant species in Turkish flora.
4. Shedding light on ambivalent sides of Turkish pharmacy history.
5. Publicizing hundreds of unique historical materials related to Turkish pharmacy from his private collection (i.e., photos, books, manuscripts, documents, pharmacognostic objects, and ephemera).

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**Pharmacognosy Education**

- **Drugs Needed to be Known for the First Examination of Pharmacy Apprenticeship (1956, 2nd ed. 1963)**
- **Introduction to Pharmacognosy (1964)**

**Medicinal and Poisonous Plants of Turkey & Flora of Turkey**

- **Medicinal and Poisonous Plants of Turkey (1963)**
- **The Bulbous Plants of Turkey (co-authored with Brian Marbee) (1984)**
- **Poisonous Plants of Turkey, Plant Poisoning and Its Treatment (co-authored: Asmahan Baytop, Alfie Mat, Sadi Sarı) (1989)**
- **Tulip of Istanbul (1992, 2nd ed. 1998)**
- **Dictionary of Plant Names in Turkish (1994, 2nd ed. 1997)**
- **Phytotherapy in Turkey – In the Past and Today (1994, 2nd ed. 1999)**
- **50 Years on Mountains of Anatolia – Observations of a Plant Hunter (2000, 2nd ed. 2005)**

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**REFERENCES**