Vernacular Islam in Medieval Iran and Anatolia

Even though an abundance of religious texts in Arabic, Persian and Turkish were composed in medieval Iran and Anatolia, our knowledge of the everyday religious lives of Muslims in these regions remains surprisingly (and disappointingly) meagre. In this lecture, Karamustafa will take stock of the existing scholarship on the topic of quotidian religiosity among Persian and Turkish speakers, assess the significance of the relevant historical sources for the study of this topic, and point the way forward for researchers working on "vernacular Islam."

Prof. Ahmet T. Karamustafa

Friday, March 8, 2013
2:30 - 4:00 p.m. in Gowen 201
This event is free and open to the public

Ahmet T. Karamustafa is Professor of History at the University of Maryland, College Park. His expertise is in the social and intellectual history of Sufism in particular and Islamic piety in general in the medieval and early modern periods. His publications include God’s Unruly Friends (University of Utah Press, 1994) and Sufism: The Formative Period (Edinburgh University Press & University of California Press, 2007). He is currently at work on a history of early medieval Sufism titled The Flowering of Sufism.