

A Historical Booklet on Horse Racing: A Team Sport of Human and Animal

Savaş Volkan Genç¹, Selçuk Ural², Atilla Özgür³

¹Department of Veterinary Medicine History and Deontology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, Burdur, Turkey ²Department of Atatürk's Principles and Revolution History, Sakarya University of Applied Sciences Esenetepe Campus, Serdivan, Sakarya ³Emeritus, Department of Veterinary Medicine History and Deontology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ankara University, Ankara Turkey.

Abstract: *Study Objectives:* A historical book on horse racing, a sport that humans and horses do together, was reviewed. It was aimed to contribute to the history of sports and veterinary. *Methods:* In this study, which was designed as document analysis, one of the qualitative research patterns, a historical booklet on horse racing and horse breeding was examined. *Results:* The book contains information on the history of horse races in the world and Turkey, horse breeds, racing rules, horse care, and nutrition. There is also information on the walking of the horses, the types of running-race, what the jockeys should do, and the love of horses in the Turks. The importance of horses in the Islamic world is explained. Folkloric information about the horse is also given. *Conclusion:* In this context, the booklet can be considered as an important scientific and cultural work for the history of Turkish veterinary medicine and Turkish sports history.

Key words: Horse racing history, Horse racing in Turkey, Equestrian sport, Veterinary history.

Introduction

Horse Racing History

It would not be wrong to think that horses were raced from the moment they were used as mounts. In Turkish mythology, there are many narratives about horse races. Chariot races were held in ancient Greece with two or three horses and in Rome with four horses. There are also races with cars in Hun, Hittite, and Ottoman (1, 2).

The first examples of horse races in history are seen in the religious ceremonies of the Turks, horse races were held at the meetings where the Huns made the count of people and animals. The most important ritual was to make three laps around the horse if there is a forest or a model of the forest. Horse races, which started with religious ceremonies, became popular in

festivals, fairs, war preparations, mourning ceremonies, etc. started to be done and gradually became the most important activity. It is a matter of honor for the tribe to win a horse in a race. The Tonyukuk Inscription, erected in 725 AD, is one of the oldest records of sportive horse races. Horse races were also organized on special days by the Seljuk and Ottoman Turks. It is a tradition to organize horse races in honor of ambassadors in the Ottoman Empire. Throughout history, horse racing has been loved by all classes of society (1, 2, 3).

Modern Horse Racing

The last period of horse racing is organized races. These races; It is divided into groups such as sprint, disabled, and konkurhipik (horse show). Organized races are organized between pureblood

(thoroughbred) registered in stud-books accepted by all countries and according to international rules determined according to race type. The cradle of these races are England. Betting runs XVIII. It started with match racing in the 19th century. At first, the prize and distance of the match race were determined by the horse owners. As the number of horse owners and horses increased day by day, races were organized in which more horses would compete at different tracks and distances according to the breed, age, and performance of the horses. The current system was established by providing the costs of racing from common bets. Local jockey clubs have emerged in England at different times. Founded in 1750 by a group of horsemen, the Newmarket Jockey Club publishes its own racing rules. The success of the club sets an example for Britain and other countries. The club is also authorized to set the race calendar and to create the General Stud Book. Responsibility for England races is also given to the club. The Jockey Club of England has been working independently since 1750 (1, 4, 5)

These races led to the creation of the precious horse breeds known today. Thoroughbred horses living today are descended from the “thoroughbred” stallions and mares included in the first volume of the pedigree published in England in 1793. Thoroughbred means bred with care and attention. However, today it is used incorrectly as pure blood. A horse that does not belong to this pedigree has no value in global racing and breeding. The origins of these horses are based on Turkish, Arabian, and Berber stallions and 20 mares sent from Italy to England. The Thoroughbred originated with the breeding of different horses brought to England and spread throughout the world. Byerley Turk; Along with Darley Arabian and Godolphin Barb, he is one of the three breeder stallions and the oldest. For a horse to be considered thoroughbred today, it must come from Byerley Turk's great-grandson Herod (1758), Godolphin Barb's grandson Matchem (1748), and Darley Arabian's grandson Eclipse (1764). Woodpecker (1773) forms the surviving branch of the Byerley Turk line. The 1929 Gazi Race winner Cap Gris Nez, 1934 Ece, and 1991 Gazi Race winner Abbas are the famous Byerley Turk representatives (1, 2, 4, 6)

Races in Turkey

There are also horse races in the Western/European life that entered the Ottoman society with the Levantines. The first organized races were held in 1856 by the Izmir Racing Club, which was founded by the Levantines. Unscheduled races were also held when important visitors came to İzmir. Horse races, which were held on April 24, 1863, in honor of Sultan Abdulaziz after returning from a trip to Egypt, are one of them. The Sultan liked the races and action was taken to organize them in Istanbul. The first scheduled races were run in Istanbul on 16-17 October 1863. Sultan II. Abdulhamid has a collection of Arabian horses, He presented the Arabian Stallions Leopard and Linden Tree as a gift to the US President Ulysses Grant, who came to Istanbul in 1878. Along with these horses, Obeyran and Bridesmaid, who were sent to the Chicago World's Fair in 1893, were also included in the pedigrees of purebred Arabian horses of the USA (1, 2, 7).

In 1864, the Dersaadet Jockey Club was established in Istanbul to encourage horse races and improve horse breeds. After this Club, the Ottoman Jockey Club was established in Istanbul to become a racing authority like its examples in the West. However, the political situation in the country allowed the Ottoman Jockey Club to live for 4 months. Political and international problems in the Ottoman Empire created a serious obstacle to horse racing. During the period of the Union and Progress Party (1910-1911), Evliyazade Refik Bey organized regular and successful races in Istanbul as well as in Izmir. The first hippodrome, consisting of two wooden stands and two tracks, was built, and the organization of the races was given to the “Association for the Improvement of Horse Lineage”. The races organized by this Association and the Sipahi Ocagi, which was established later, cannot be held continuously due to the war. It becomes more difficult to find resources for the races, the races were organized by Sipahi Ocağı in some years and by horse owners in some years (1, 7, 8).

At that time, a more beautiful and faster horse than a pure-blooded Arabian horse was not considered for the Turks. Thoroughbred's dominance in racing is seen in Makrikuey Racing Syndicate. In 1921, the

Veliefendi Races are restarted with the rules in England, by agreement with the Race Venue Operators Association in Britain. Each week there is one run for thoroughbreds. Horses brought from abroad participate in the races. These horses are also put up for sale. These purebloods are the basis of British horse breeding in Turkey. Neriman (Quarrelsome), who won the first Veteran Race in 1927, is one of these purchased purebloods (1, 7, 8).

With the proclamation of the Republic, important steps were taken in the field of equestrian, as in every field. Equestrianism is examined in detail, the practices in developed countries are examined, and the precautions to be taken are determined. Although horse races attract attention and demand, they do not have an organization. There is a lack of specialized organizations to organize the races. The cadre that governs the country with this awareness the new cadre enacts the “Animal Breeding Law” in 1926.¹ Based on article 27 of the law, a racing authority similar to jockey clubs in the West, the “Racing and Correction Sub-Committee” is established board; it starts working under the auspices of the President and the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. Most of the race expenditures are covered by the Prime Ministry disguised allowance and Ziraat Bank and Isbank. Although horse races attract attention and demand, they do not have an organization. There is a lack of specialized organizations to organize the races. Horse races in Ankara are among the priorities of President Gazi Mustafa Kemal. He believes that horse racing is a social need for contemporary societies. It demands a “derby” race, as in Western countries, and the name of the Turkish derby becomes “Gazi Run” with the permission of Gazi Mustafa Kemal. On June 10, 1927, the first Gazi Race was held at the Hippodrome in Ankara. The President, the Prime Minister, the Chief of the General Staff watch the race (1, 2, 7, 9).

Horse races are one of the most important studies for raising fast and strong purebred horses. Fast strong pure blood is the main purpose of breeding. The best method of detecting this is also competing.

¹Official Gazette of the Republic of Turkey (1926): Animal Breeding Law, Law No: 904, Official Gazette Date: 29.06.1926, Official Gazette Number: 407

The prohibition of races of castrated horses in countries such as England, Ireland, France, and Japan, where they are held in classical and respected races, is the most important sign that the main purpose of the races is breeding. Mustafa Kemal held a race in Ankara in the autumn of 1920. In addition to these activities, scientific studies were also carried out (4, 7, 9, 10).

In this study, it was aimed to reveal a historical source on horse racing, which is a sport that humans and animals do together and to give information about the start of internationally accepted modern horse races in Turkey.

Material and Methods

In this study, which was designed as document analysis, one of the qualitative research patterns, a historical book on horse racing and horse breeding was examined which is named “General Information about Horse Racing and Horses.” A booklet was published by Mr. Kemalettin, Bursa Cavalry Association, and Kocaeli Deputy, in Bursa, 1928 (Figure – 1). The book was written in the Ottoman language with the Arabic alphabet. One of them is the booklet titled “Horse Races and General Information about Horses” written by Soldier, public administrator, politician Kemal-tin Olpak. At the time that Olpak was preparing the booklet, he was the Head of Bursa Sipahi Ocağı and Kocaeli Deputy² (11, 12).

Results

The book titled Horse Races and General Information about the Horse is 21x14 cm in size and has 67 pages. Imprint information is on the outer cover.

²Kemal Olpak was born in Istanbul in 1867. His mother's name is Kevser, his father's name is Mehmet Emin. After graduating from the Military Academy, Olpak served as Military District Governor and Balıkesir Settlement Regional Director. Since 1927, III., IV., V. and VI. He was elected as Kocaeli Deputy. Between 01.11.1927 and 08.03.1943, he constantly participated in the legislative work in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. He died on February 19, 1942. Olpak, who is married and has two children, spoke French (12).

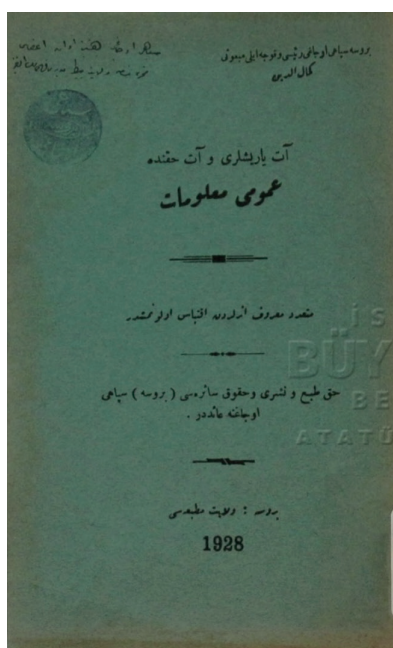


Figure 1. Cover of the booklet

The inside cover also has the same information. The book contains 11 titles and a picture. It is stated on the outer and inner covers that the book was prepared by making use of the books on the subject. In the chapter titled Horse Racing – History of the Race, the history of today’s organized races is explained. The author, who deals with the relationship between horse and human, says that the horse is man’s oldest friend, the most honorable creature after man, and the horse is praised in the Qur’an. He adds that horse races have been held since ancient times. While explaining that horse races were splendidly in ancient Greece, Egypt, Rome, Byzantium, and Arabs, he emphasizes that the strength, courage, and talent of the people are at the forefront in these competitions and the skills of the horses are secondary (11).

The author continues: Although it is not known exactly when the speed and strength races of the horses started, it started before the period of Richard the Lionheart (1180) in England. In order to understand the condition of the horses that were put up for sale in London at the time of Richard, their speed was determined by running them. The cavalry horses of the Crusader Army collected by Richard were chosen in

this way. A special area has been allocated for this work near London. Horse breeding was a very important activity in III. Edward, IV. Edward and VII. Henry’s times. VII. Henry’s palace stables have famous running horses. Until his time, there was no regular, regular square designated for horse racing. Races were held in any field, on defective terrain. Therefore, the idea of looking for a private, flat and grassy square was born. After this time, the word “Turf” meaning grass in English was used to mean jogging square – hippodrome. Today’s flat running squares was established in Newmarket in the time of II. Jack (1602-1625) and the races were under special rules. These studies started scientific training for the races. In 1680, for the first time in history, an official award of 100 liras was placed for running in England. Queen Anne increased the prize to 150 liras during her reign. (The grand prize in the English Derby run in 1928 is £20,000). Betting on races also started on this date. In 1720, George I put up a large amount of prize money for the races. At the same time, the principles of horse breeding began to be applied in England with purebred Arabian stallions. The famous stallion called Godolphin Arabian, brought from Syria during this period, was the first line of purebred English Persians. This marvelous animal earned its owner 62,500 francs in 17 months. From this date on, races were generalized all over England and famous race squares were made, and races with rules began to spread gradually in Europe (11).

The first competition in France was held in 1754. It is rumored that the rich and jogging English people started the races in France. The horses of many important persons of France participated in the races held on the Septun Plain in 1756. Races could not be held during the French Revolution. In the time of the I. Empire, the races started again in a spectacular way. Napoleon Bonaparte encouraged and patronized the races. Government and racing associations prepare many racecourses and allocate great prizes. In France, a committee is established under the name of the Breeding Encouragement Association for the improvement of the horse breed. The association has gone to the way of breeding the common breeds of France with purebred animals. The aforementioned Association has taken the example of the English Club, which was established in Newmarket under the name of Jockey

Club. On March 3, 1883, the obligation to prove the records of the speed and pedigree of purebred Persian horses was introduced. Race venues were set up in Paris and other cities, and funding began to be given from the government. The race grounds were 70 hectares and had the best conditions of its time. In every respect, there have been races worthy of the fame of Persian horses. The height of the award increased the participation in the races. The race, which started with a prize of 100,000 francs in 1863 under the name of Paris Great Interest, has been held in June every year since then. The prize for this race, called the grand prize, is 400,000 francs. This important award is made with Persians from various countries. For 30 years, French Persian horses have generally been victorious. These horses are native to France and were brought from England. For some years, they were even successful in London's Derby races. The existence of the French Persians today is only thanks to the races and the curiosity of the horse owners (11).

Horse races are also very old among Eastern societies. Especially Westerners, Turks, and Persians used to organize races. In fact, the Prophet Muhammad included many of his horses in the race, and sometimes he participated in the race as a rider and won. (He won with his red-haired horse named Sebha). Oriental literature is important evidence of the antiquity of the races (11).

The second title is on the types of races. The author identifies three types of runs, which are: straight running, assisted manila running, and unassisted manila running. Straight running is done on a straight or nearly straight square prepared specifically for speed. The goal is the speed of the horse. It is a race for thoroughbred horses with definite and regular rules. Steeplechase is also regulated like straight running. It is run on a flat square. However, there are obstacles in the path of the horse, such as fences or branches and metal sheets. Horses have to jump over them. Half-blooded animals can also participate in these races. Unassisted hurdles; It is run on a terrain selected for speed that includes many obstacles such as fence, wall, ditch, embankment. In the run, it is necessary to choose a target at a distance and reach it and quickly pass the obstacles in between. Cavalry participates in this type of race in Germany and France. Runs are

made by Trans Country horses. Apart from these races, the author also tells about races such as trot run and loading run (11).

In the next section comes the racing rules. Since the aim is breeding, the first condition is that the horses come from strong lineages. Otherwise, the horse is disqualified. There are also outliers, called handicaps, which have special rules about ancestry. Weight is loaded by the race stewards or handicapper according to the condition of the animal. These runs give mediocre animals a chance to win. The author explained how much weight is added to which age animal in France. This section is followed by the information he gives on the jockeys. It tells about the average weight of the jockeys (50 kg), what to do at the weighing place, what to do before and after the race. The chapter ends with the information that the official running regulation issued by the Promotion Association in France consists of 76 items (11).

The author gives information about Persian racehorses in the next chapter. These horses originate in England, and every country has racehorses with British Persian blood. English Persians, domestic mares XVII century. It was formed by mating with Arabian stallions imported to England in the 17th century. According to the legend told in eastern countries, Arabian purebreds have existed since Prophet Solomon. Arabian horses are renowned for their endurance and grace. Thoroughbred Arabian horses set an example for all horses and gained first degree reputation and privilege. The forehead of Arabian horses indicates a beautiful, large and clear, intelligent appearance. His face is bright. The ears are very mobile, the head is generally collected, and the neck protrudes forward and is slightly attached to the head. Withers high and sloping back, shoulders long and sloping. Chest, sides, head, flanks are medium, back is short, waist is short, rump is solid, long and the tail is high. The legs are hard and bony like cast iron. The knuckles are fleshless and playful. The feet are firm and the nails are neat. Apart from these individual qualities, the whole body is well-formed and harmonious in every region. Its bristles are thin and shiny like silk. There is no animal with a beautiful, proportional, and durable body like Arabian animals with beauty and grace. The British have created a new type by using Arabian horses (11).

The author also mentions Persian purebred families in England. Godolphin Arabian, whose lineage was taken from Syria, and Byerley Turk, who was taken from Izmir, are Turkish stallions. Although the author names two stallions, in the next sentence: "*These three horses were exported to England by the British consuls.*" He gives the information that the lineage is based on three stallions. In the continuation; Byerley Turkish Herod branch, Godolphin Arabian Eclipse branch, Darley Arabian Matchem branch. These three selected families have been mixed with many matings. These are the basis of Persians not only in England but also in other countries. French Persian horses have gained a great reputation for their superiority. Persians are uniquely different from Arabian purebreds. Their skin is thin and their hair is soft like silk. But their mane and tail are not abundant. Its eyes are large and bright, close to the apex. Their heads are small and their necks are always long. Their withers are high, their breasts are wide and deep, and their knuckles are adjacent. Her feet are good, her nails are beautiful. Its height varies between 1.52-1.58. Get the frosts down, dark and red. Grain and rain are rare. Their hind legs are slightly higher and stronger than their front legs. This structure is very suitable for speed at the canter. Among these animals, many can run a distance of one kilometer in one minute, two, or three seconds. Its minimum speed is one minute and six seconds per km. In other words, the minimum speed of the Persian horse is 15 meters per second, which is the maximum speed of the purebred Arabian horses. Maximum speeds are 18 meters per second. Abundant and appropriate food and careful and careful grooming are required. They are not self-confident like Arab purebreds. The temperature of their stables should always be warm. Despite their courtesy, Persian horses can be very good at war and hunting horses (11).

In the next section, he explains the necessary training for running: It explains the age at which the horses bred for the race start training, their nutrition, the types and amounts of feed to be given, and the applications to be made during the three-stage training. The aim is to strengthen the horse, save it from excess fat and bring it into a state suitable for its nobility. At the end of the training, the horse's muscles harden, tighten, its breathing becomes stronger, all body parts

become evident, its feathers shine, its gaze becomes meaningful and it is almost obvious from its looks that it is ready for the race (11).

Then it is explained how the races will be held. Where and how the referees stand, the jockeys' exit to the field and the order of the horses are explained. The rank advantage and how to start it are explained. During the race, prohibitions such as hitting the other horse, cutting the road, hitting the other animal with the whip, and entering the track are stated. At the same time, riding tactics are given, the attitude of a smart jockey is explained. If there is doubt among the first three animals, the race is made again between these three. If the owners' consent, the prize is shared equally among the owners. At the end of the race, the grooming and resting of the horse are also emphasized, and it is advised to avoid deliberate or ignorant misapplications. Dopings such as caffeine, cocaine, strychnine and their penalties are also described (11).

After this section, the author explained the natural gait of the horse under the title of Appendix-1. The movement of the feet and the repetition of this movement and how they should be in a racehorse are explained. For speed, a horse mustn't be 400 kg. A weight of 350-370 kg is optimal for Arabian and domestic hybrid horses. The author also describes the methods of measuring the weight of horses. Under the heading Description of the Natural Walks of the Animal, the regular walks of the horses are explained. It is given in detail how the feet should move in which walk. Walks such as trot, canter, and attack-race gallop are explained, and their speed and length differences according to races are given. Unnatural walks such as rahvan (easy-going), quilt are also given as names.

There is the following information under the title of Annex-2: Horse is the oldest and most loyal friend of people. It is the most honorable creature after man and has been mentioned in the Qur'an. Arab poets wrote poems describing the beautiful qualities of this supreme, Arabian sacred animal. The horse has many relationships and associations in the socio-cultural life of the human being. It has a special place in veterinary, cavalry, the history of civilization, craft, and literature. Among the countless animals on earth, the only creature that has devoted its existence and strength to man is the horse. It is not aggressive or predatory like other

animals. They live in groups and do not harass the weak. By nature, she is decent and noble, she is beautiful in shape. Even the lion that people like very much is not as beautiful as a horse. People did not have pets at the beginning of their lives and in their spread around the world. Later they needed it and first domesticated the horse. Today, the number of domesticated animal species is about forty, and the horse is one of them. Although it is not certain which nation domesticated the horse first, it is accepted that the peoples of the East started it. Recent studies in Europe say that the Turks and Mongols domesticated the horse for the first time. Turks not only domesticated the horse but also produced a very good lineage with their breeding work. In fact, they are very good veterinarians themselves. In the second part of Annex-2, Turkish equestrian and equestrian sports are explained. Games played on horses, such as the javelin, have existed in Turks since ancient times. Equestrian games are played in a nearby square every Friday in every city and district. With the abolition of the Janissaries, the military structure of the empire, the Sipahi Organization also disappeared, and the javelin began to fade among the Western Turks. After the Russian War (1877), the horse presence in the country decreased and the interest in horses came to an end. The Ottomans, who once went on an expedition with four-five hundred thousand horses and horses, could not supply thirty or forty thousand animals from Anatolia in time. He had to buy animals from Hungary and Russia. Even in 1928, animal existence is not of sufficient quality and quantity. For this reason, reproduction and breeding of the horse breed are mandatory. It is necessary to arouse the curiosity of horses, which are inherited from our grandfathers. One of the most important jobs for this is undoubtedly the races. Races are also an accepted and ancient tradition in Islam. The Prophet said in a hadith, "*The most beloved of games are horse races*". The Prophet himself participated in the race and raced his various horses several times, generally winning. Some literary terms in Turkish literature are taken from horse races (11).

This part is followed by the etymological origins of the Turkish, Arabic, and Persian names given to horses. Horse, stallion, mare, horse, etc. There are explanations. In Turkish, the word horse has remained from the word *atya*, which means speed and movement. This

section is followed by information about horse breeds and their characteristics in Turkey at that time. Those of these races in Europe are also told.

The author talks about the colors of the hairs covering the body of the horses, explains their differences and the names given to them in Turkish in detail. He talks about the interest or prejudice that the horses see because of their color. It gives examples of proverbs and rhymes on this subject. Explains accepted/believed horse characteristics and temperaments through color. He gives examples of exaggerated legends of their speed, courage, and skills. Tells the color preferences of Turks and Arabs. Under the heading of insignia and signs, information is given about the congenital signs and stains on the horse's body and legs. He also conveyed the thoughts that these features, which define the external appearance of the horse, aroused in societies from past to present. He listed how the underpants and insignia were evaluated in the Turks. However, he also stated that it is not correct to assess by looking at the frosts at the end of the list. He said that instead of commenting on the color of the animal, it is necessary to focus on its body structure and education, and emphasized that color and markings are just a matter of taste (11).

In the title of Horse Years and Races, the author explained the following: It has been observed that horses live an average of 18-20 years, but they also live 46 years. In addition, information about the dental structures of horses and the determination of age from teeth is also given in this section. It emphasizes that accurate age determination from teeth is difficult and requires experience. It tells that this subject is very open to cheating (11).

Information on body measurements is given under the heading of the stature of horses. Afterward, the races were emphasized and he explained that the races held in the Islamic geography tended to the races held in the West. He also said that the expected result from the races held in England has now changed. The superiority of Arabian horses is explained by evaluating the situation of Arabian, Persian, Caucasian, and Turkish horses in speed races. Emphasizing the beauty of Arabian horses and that there is no animal in the world more patient and brave than these horses, the author also emphasizes the success of the Arabs in preserving this lineage (11).

Under the title How to Examine an Animal to Buy First, general examination information about the controls of horses is given, how to experience the animal to be purchased is explained in 9 articles, and a 17-item standard regarding the external views of the horses to be used for racing has been added. In the Daily Walking Chart for Training Time and the Daily Step Chart for Training Time, the author has given a detailed training chart, minute by minute, hour by hour. On the last page, he explained the anatomical external view of the horse under a drawing of a horse (Figure – 2).

Discussion and Conclusion

The writer Kemalettin Olpak served as a deputy as well as being the President of an important institution of the period, such as Bursa Sipahi Ocağı. In addition to these two important duties, the fact that he was a soldier and had seen and fought great wars in his period can be accepted as proof that he was a person who knew the importance of a horse as well as his horse. The Turkish War of Independence, which he was in, was won with a great cavalry attack (11, 12).

The book titled Horse Races and General Information about Horse written by Mr. Kemalettin is important/important in terms of the information it contains. The historical information he gave in the introduction is also related to current horse races. The book also includes myths about horses. The author is the Prophet of Islam. It is noteworthy that Muhammad describes his participation in horse races both with his horse and as a rider. The legends of horses in Eastern societies are also correctly conveyed (13, 14, 18).

The story of the creation of Persian, the most popular horse breed of the period, and the comparison of this horse with Arabian horses reveals the meticulousness of the author’s work on this subject. The care, feeding, and training information in the book is scientific and accurate. The author is like an expert on this subject. This means that the sources he uses are reliable; he thinks that he is a good researcher himself. The story of the spread of Persian horses to Europe is also given in detail and accurately (6, 8, 15). The reason for the late arrival of these horses in Turkey can be considered as the fact that Arabia under the Ottoman Empire was a natural source for purebred Arabian horses (1, 2).

Again, while giving information about the ancestors of Persians, “two stallions” was written first, and the phrase “three stallions” was used in the following sentence. This may suggest a typographical error or thoughtfulness of the author’s rigor/carelessness (1, 8, 16). Identification of Arabian and Persian horses, flowing, and trousers are described very well. However, not enriching them with pictures can be seen as a deficiency. Again, the gaits of the horses are clearly described (17, 18, 19).

Horse racing, which is the common sport of man and horse, has also been important for the newly established Republic of Turkey. The love of horses and horsemanship of the founding fathers of the country led them to start horse races in the country, which is a revolutionary movement in every field. The process of revolutions in all areas of the newly established state led to the start of new processes for horse races, and this development was achieved thanks to the love of horse and horsemanship by the founding fathers of the country. Hippodromes were established in many cities of the country, a budget was allocated for horse races, and racing was developed (1, 7, 8, 9).



Figure 2. Horse drawing

The information he gave on the domestication of the horse has been proven more since published this booklet. In addition to this, he emphasized that the Turks, who were the first tribe to domesticate the horse, were also a knowledgeable community in veterinary medicine. This can be considered as information that should be noted in terms of the history of veterinary medicine (20, 21).

Erk and Dinçer found that between 1923 and 1938, 26 articles, 12 books, and brochures on horses were published in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Turkey. The booklet that is our study is not in the scientific literature. However, considering its content, it can be considered as a publication in this class (10). In this context, the booklet can be considered as an important scientific and cultural work for the history of Turkish veterinary medicine and Turkish sports history.

Acknowledgment: We thank Bülent H. Başaran (DVM, MSc) for his contributions.

Conflicts of interest: The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest about this manuscript.

References

- Köstem R. At Yarışlarının Kısa Tarihi. Z Mevsimlik Tematik Dergi 2018; 3: 360-367.
- Anon-2. World Arabian Horse Organization, WAHO Investigation & Inspection Report the Turkish Arabian Stud Book, 1997, <http://www.waho.org/blog/wp-content/uploads/StudBooks/WAHO-INVESTIGATION-AND-INSPECTION-REPORT-TURKISH-ARABIAN-STUDBOOK-1997.pdf>
- Özen A, Devcioğlu S, Özen R. Equestrian Games in Turkish History. F.Ü. Sağ. Bil. Vet. Derg. 2012; 26 (3): 197-202.
- Köstem R. At Yarışları ve Müşterek Bahis. Z Mevsimlik Tematik Dergi 2018; (3): 368-373.
- Vamplew W. Reduced Horse Power: The Jockey Club and the Regulation of British Horseracing. Entertainment Law 2003; 2 (3): 94-111 ISSN: 1473-0987 DOI: 10.1080/1473098042000275792
- Bower M, Mc Givney B, Campana M, et al. The genetic origin and history of speed in the Thoroughbred racehorse. Nat Commun 3, 643 (2012). <https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms1644>
- Eren E. Türk Kültüründeki Atlı Spor Dallarının Tarihi Perspektif Açısından İncelenmesi. T.C. Ondokuz Mayıs Üniversitesi Lisansüstü Eğitim Enstitüsü Beden Eğitimi ve Spor AD Yüksek Lisans Tezi 2020, pp., 26-28, Samsun.
- Alver M. Türkiye'de İngiliz Atı Yetiştiriciliği ve Haralar, Türk Kültüründe At ve Çağdaş Atçılık. Ed: Prof. Dr. Emine Gürsoy Naskali, Resim Matbaacılık 1995, pp, 332-334, İstanbul.
- Evcin E. Atatürk'ün spora ve sporculara bakışı. Tarih Araştırmaları Dergisi 2014, 33 (55): 303-378, DOI: 10.1501/Tarar_0000000573
- Erk N, Dinçer F. Türkiye'de Veteriner Hekimlik Öğretimi ve Ankara Üniversitesi Veteriner Fakültesi Tarihi. Ankara Üniversitesi Veteriner Fakültesi Yayınları 1970, Ankara.
- Kemaleddin. At Yarışları ve At Hakkında Umumi Malumat. Bursa Sipahi Ocağı 1928, Bursa.
- Anon-1 TBMM Basın ve Halkla İlişkiler Müdürlüğü Yayınları No:1, TBMM Albümü (1920-2010), Ed., Sema Yıldırım, Behçet Kemal Zeynel, TBMM Genel Sekreterliği Basın ve Halkla İlişkiler Müdürlüğü, Korza Yayıncılık 2010, 1: 158, ISBN: 978-975-8805-05-1
- Kızar O. The Place of Sports in the Light of Quran, Hadiths and the Opinions of the Muslim Scholar in Islam. Universal Journal of Educational Research 2018, 6 (11): 2663-2668, <http://www.hrpub.org> DOI: 10.13189/ujer.2018.061132
- Lone RA. Sports in Islam. International Journal of Research 2017, 4 (14): 1989-1995, e-ISSN: 2348-6848, p-ISSN: 2348-795X
- Cosgrove EJ, Sadeghi R, Schlamp F, et al. Genome Diversity and the Origin of the Arabian Horse. Sci Rep 2020, 10: 9702, <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-66232-1>
- Koçkar MT. Atlarda akıtma, seki ve donlar. Z Mevsimlik Tematik Dergi 2018, (3): 16-33.
- Schiettecate J, Zouache A. The Horse in Arabia and the Arabian Horse: Origins, Myths and Realities, Arabian Humanities 2017, URL: <http://cy.revues.org/3280>; DOI: 10.4000/cy.3280
- Thiruvnkadan AK. Inheritance of racing performance of Thoroughbred horses. Livestock Science 2009, 121: 308-326, doi:10.1016/j.livsci.2008.07.009
- Gültepe R. Atın hareketi. Z Mevsimlik Tematik Dergi 2018, (3): 34-35.
- Bekman M. Veteriner Tarihi. Ankara Basım ve Cildevi 1940, pp., 7-8, Ankara.
- Erk N. Veteriner Tarihi. Ankara Üniversitesi Veteriner Fakültesi Yayınları 1978, pp., 4-7, Ankara.

Correspondence

Savaş Volkan Genç,
Department of Veterinary Medicine History and Deontology,
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy
University, Burdur, Turkey
Phone: +90-248-213-20-45 Fax: +90-248-213-20-01
E-mail: svgenç@mehmetakif.edu.tr / svgenç@yahoo.com