

# PALACE IN THE MIST

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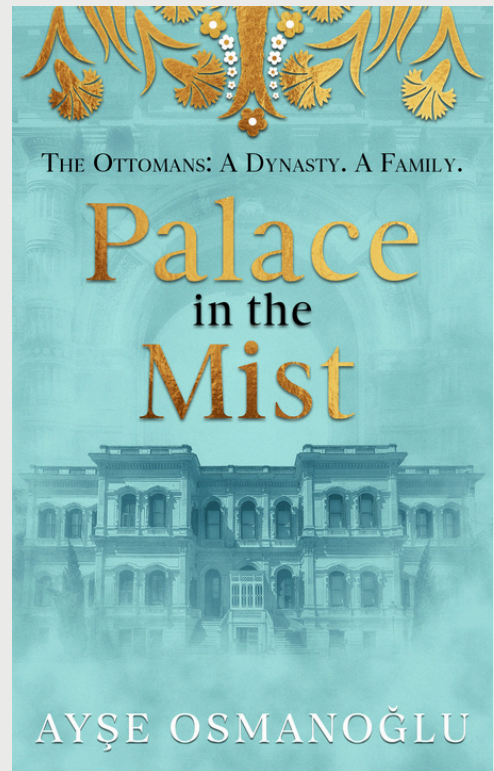
**A compelling tale of family, duty, and resilience unfolds amidst the magnificence and splendour of Imperial Istanbul during the twilight years of the Ottoman Empire.**

For over six centuries the history of the Turks and their vast and powerful Empire was intertwined with the Ottoman Dynasty.

1906-1909: The Ottoman Empire stands on the brink of change as a new order threatens to emerge.

Behind the high walls of Yıldız Palace, Sultan Abdülhamid II clings to power, convinced that only his firm hand can preserve the crumbling Ottoman State. In Macedonia, Captain Hakkı, a patriotic young Ottoman officer, is torn between loyalty to the Sultan and his oath to the secret Young Turk movement. And in their gilded cage on the Bosphorus, Prince Selahaddin and his family yearn for freedom and purpose within a collapsing world.

*Palace in the Mist* is the sequel to *The Gilded Cage on the Bosphorus* and the second book in the Ottoman Dynasty Chronicles series, written as a personal homage to the author's family, intended to give a voice to those who lived through history.



For further information about *Palace in the Mist* or Ayşe Osmanoglu, and for all media enquiries, please contact the author using the details below:

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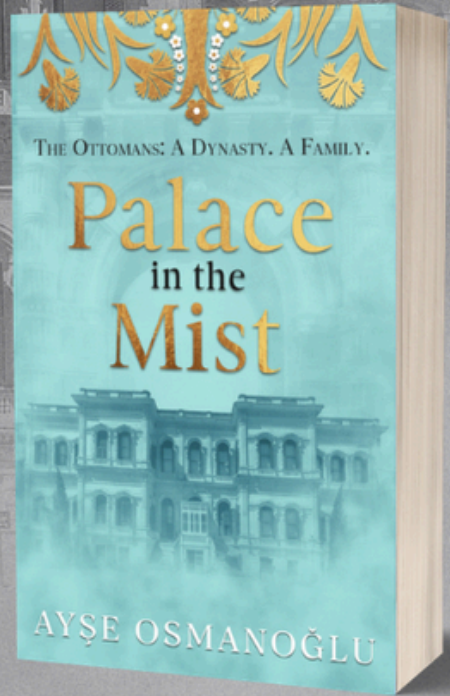
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# Information Sheet

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# Excerpt

“We come on behalf of the Committee of Union and Progress,” Karasu announced, a self-satisfied smirk curving on his lips. He glanced across at the others, his eyes gleaming in triumph.

Abdülhamid closed the Qu’ran with deliberate care. His fingers pressed into the gilded leather binding, whitening slightly with the slow squeeze. He lifted his hooded eyes and studied the men assembled before him: Karasu, the sharp-featured Jewish lawyer and Deputy from Salonica; Major General Esad Pasha, an Albanian commander in the Third Army; Aram Bey, the Armenian Deputy from Adana; and Vice Admiral Arif Hikmet Pasha, who was of Georgian descent.

“There is not one Turk among you,” Abdülhamid said, his voice edged with steel.

The deep chime of the English longcase clock struck half past two. The Vice Admiral’s hand twitched and his fingers curled around the hilt of his sword, shame circling in his eyes. Aram bowed his head and stared at his shoes. Karasu fiddled with the chain of his pocket watch, his smile widening with barely concealed smugness.

**Then Esad Pasha spoke. “In accordance with the fatwa issued by the Shiekh ul-Islam, the National Assembly and the Army have ruled that you are deposed.”**



## 🕋 Imran Mulla

AUTHOR of *The Indian Caliphate: Exiled Ottomans and the Billionaire Prince* &  
JOURNALIST for Middle East Eye

“Beautifully written and carefully crafted, moving gracefully between high politics and family drama, *Palace in the Mist* is an extraordinary accomplishment.

Osmanoglu has gifted us an inside story, and an essential read for all lovers of Ottoman history. “



# Biography

Ayşe Osmanoğlu was born and raised in England. She is a member of the Ottoman Imperial family, descended from Sultan Murad V through her grandfather and Sultan Mehmed V through her grandmother. After reading History and Politics at the University of Exeter, she obtained an M.A. in Turkish Studies from SOAS, University of London, where she specialised in Ottoman History. Ayşe lives between Türkiye and the United Kingdom with her husband and five children.

**Her research and literary works concentrate on the late Ottoman period, exploring narratives embedded in her Imperial heritage.**

Palace in the Mist is Ayşe's third book. Her debut novel, The Gilded Cage on the Bosphorus, was published in May 2020 and is the first book in the Ottoman Dynasty Chronicles Series. A Farewell To Imperial Istanbul was published in May 2024 as a personal homage to the author's family, to commemorate the centenary of the exile of the Ottoman Imperial family from Türkiye.

## ☯ Koray Erdoğan

JOURNALIST & CULTURE EDITOR AT TÜRKİYE TODAY

"Ayşe Osmanoğlu's new historical novel, 'Palace in the Mist', turns one of the most turbulent moments in late Ottoman history into an intimate story of palace life, family memory and political rupture."

## ☯ Nadia Khan

AUTHOR & JOURNALIST

"The personal and political are beautifully intertwined.... As with the previous books in the series, 'Palace in the Mist' succeeds because it humanises major historical events through the experiences of one family...[and] it allows readers to experience these transformations through people who loved their country."