

AMEDDJI (T.), an official of the central administration of the Ottoman Empire; before the *tanzimdt*, he was directly subordinate to the *Re>is iil-Kuttdb*; he made copies of reports written by the latter, and also drafted reports on minor matters; in short, he performed all the clerical duties connected with the office of *Rc*is ul-Kuttdb*. Moreover, he was present at meetings between the *Re*is Efendi* and ambassadors, and kept official minutes of the proceedings. He, like the *Beylikdji*, held the title of *Kh"ddiagdnllfy*. The name and origin of this office derives from the Persian word *dmad* meaning "has come, has been obtained", an endorsement on documents acknowledging receipt of the dues payable to the *Re*is ul-Kuttdb* by newly installed military personnel for their *tlmdrs* and *zPdmets*. The person making this endorsement was called the *Ameddji*, and the administrative bureau where the formalities connected with these documents were completed, *Amedi*. The terms *Amedl Kdtibi* (secretary to the *Amedi*), and *Amedi Kalemi* (the *Amedl* department), were also used.

This office seems to have come into being later than the 17th century. After the *tanzimdt*, the office of *Ameddii* increased in importance and was also known as *Amedi-i Diwdn-i Humayun*: its function was to make copies of the documents sent to the *saddret* by other ministries and administrative departments which required the sanction of the Padishah, after resolutions of the Council of Ministers or the *Sadr-i A'zam*; in the case of documents which did not require this formality, its duty was to correct them, register them and send them to the Head Chamber-

Encyclopaedia of Islam

lain; and, on the other hand, to register imperial decrees communicated to the *saddret*. The *Ameddii* supervised the secretaries whose duty it was to keep the minutes of the Council of Ministers. He was one of the five principal officials of the Sublime Porte; this department was more important and more distinguished than the other departments of the *saddret*. After the proclamation of the Second Constitution, the name *Amedi-i Dlvdn-i Humayun* was changed to Secretariat of the Council and Interpreters' Department, under one official, but later (1912) it was restored. — See also my article in *I.A.* (M. TAYYIB GOKBILGIN)