

**A Meeting, ‘Louis Victor Marcé and Perinatal Psychiatry’ was held
at İstanbul, Turkey by Turkish Marcé Society**

Since Prof. Mazhar Osman, the most popular pioneer of Turkish Psychiatry, founded Bakirkoy Research and Training Hospital for Psychiatry, Neurology and Neurosurgery in 1924, many women with psychiatric disorders have been treated in this hospital, including perinatal ones. Nowadays, psychiatrists are paying more attention to the topic of perinatal psychiatry in every part of Turkey, where the rate of pregnancy is the highest in Europe. The professionals look for what has been done before, undertake researches to highlight previous knowledge.

Recently, two perinatal psychiatry specialists, Dr. Goksen Yuksel and co-panelist Dr. Urun Ozer who are Turkish Marcé members, presented a seminar as part of a weekly teaching which is being held in the conference hall of Bakirkoy Research and Training Hospital for Psychiatry, Neurology and Neurosurgery. The seminar, ‘**Louis Victor Marcé and Perinatal Psychiatry**’ was held on the 5th of March, 2014 with the participation of 150 professionals working in the hospital. The duration of the seminar was 40 minutes, excluding the interactive part with the audience. It was aimed to introduce Louis Victor Marcé, doyen of perinatal psychiatry, his life and work to the psychiatry residents and specialists, as well as the nursing team of our hospital.

Dr. Goksen Yuksel started her presentation with the examples of women’s social status in the 19th century. Although improvements in women’s health, contraception and pregnancy rates have had taken place in that period, they were still not enough. In such a dynamic background, Louis Victor Marcé was born in Paris 1828 and died in 1864. In his relatively short life, his path crossed those of many important names, especially after he started working in **La Maison d’Ivry**, founded by **Esquirol** in 1828 and directed until Esquirol’s death in 1840. Esquirol, writer of ‘*Maladies Mentales*’, bequeathed an academic environment to the emerging ‘*alienists*’ **Moreau de Tours** and **Baillarger**, two colleagues who supported Louis Victor Marcé, and thus gave rise to his perinatal works. The core of the seminar was his best known work, extensive monograph providing extensive clinical descriptions of syndromes, with 79 case examples which he personally evaluated, published in 1858 and ignored for 150 years. After mentioning his academic achievements and books, 4 perinatal cases of him were presented as translated from French to Turkish. The audience had the chance to perceive his detailed way of observation and astonishing foresight with the up-to-date clinical examples.

The feedback concerning the seminar was far better than expected. The audience was impressed by his risk management and foresight, his handling of depression, acute mood disorders and psychoses, during pregnancy and postpartum. We are about to plan more presentations about perinatal psychiatry emerging as a psychiatric subspecialty and we are honored to be collaborating with the International Marcé Society as the Turkish Marcé Group.

Dr. Goksen Yuksel would like to thank Nine Glangeaud, the former president of Marcé and Dr Jean-Pierre Luauté who conducted the recent research on the life and death of Louis-Victor Marcé for generously supplying related literature during the preparation phase.