

CONTRIBUTOR TO DERMATOLOGY AND TO THE TURKISH RED CRESCENT  
**CELAL MUHTAR ÖZDEN**  
 1865 – 1947



A distinguished physician as well as a good economist and an extraordinary organiser.



Celal Muhtar Sayis



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At the Turkish Red Crescent board meeting

He was distinguished by his simple and practical approach in his clinical education of medical students. The following phrase which he insistently repeated to his students during bedside visits, well demonstrates the importance he gave to clinical observation and practice:

**"Look, sirs, look well. You can not find these in books, so look carefully"**

- 1881-1887** Educated in the Military Medical School in Istanbul.
- 1887-1889** Employed at the Rabies Institute of Istanbul.
- 1889-1892** Studied dermatology at St. Louis Hospital (Paris). Attended histology, microbiology and pathologic anatomy courses at Collège de France and the Pasteur Institute.
- 1892** An honorary member of the French Dermatology and Syphilology Society.
- 1892-1924** Lectured on Dermatology at the Medical School.
- 1911** Board member of the Turkish Red Crescent.
- 1913-1925** General inspector of the Turkish Red Crescent.
- 1917-1924** Board member of the National Bank
- 1918** Minister of Social Aid



His article describing tinea pedis et manuum



Wax model of a foot showing tinea pedis.

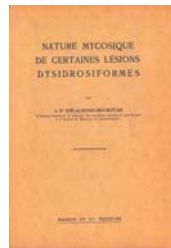
He studied the dermatomycotic infection known today as tinea pedis et manuum and described its agent, prognosis, differential diagnosis and therapy and named it as "trichophysis".

In 1890 when these palmar and plantar lesions were still being misdiagnosed as eczema, syphilis or dishydrosis, he showed that the lesions were caused by fungi of the trichophyton class. In 1892 Celal Muhtar published an article in France to announce his observations on this subject.

As a result of his work, this ailment which was epidemic among the soldiers during World War I could successfully be treated.



Celal Muhtar took care of the needs and necessities of the great number of emigrants during the Balkan war, and organized aid to Anatolia during the Independence War. He worked for the Red Crescent voluntarily. Besides leaving his newly built house as a shelter to the emigrants, he also donated his salary to those in need.



Wax model of a hand showing Trichophytie