HATAY İNANÇ TURİZMİ SEMPOZYUMU-I
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Antakya Ottoman Otel

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Antakya as a Safe Place and “Eminu’l Umme”

The ontological and metaphysical value and reliability of places is as important as the epistemological source and value of our knowledge. Apart from the sacred places of religions around the world, there are so many places which have welcomed various beliefs, one of the most important of which is undoubtedly Hatay. One of the most significant metaphysical sources that gives this city a peaceful atmosphere is the pure spiritual source of Ebu Ubeyde Bin Cerrah (r.a.) who conquered Antakya and was promised with the Heaven. His fairness and tolerance were praised by various belief communities of that time. Ebu Ubeyde Bin Cerrah inherits the honour of being trustworthy with entrustment from the Prophed Muhammed (s.a.v.), the most trustworthy of all. The lord of the universe stated that, “Every community has their own entrusted one; this community’s entrusted one is Ebu Ubeyde bin Cerrah” (Muslim, VII, 127). The source Ebu Ubeyde (r.a.) nourished himself from the purest and most reliable one; thus, he constructed the foundation for peace, justice, freedom, cohabitation and love in Antakya, just like anywhere else he conquered. We can easily observe the outcome of this passion coming from that source in different belief systems leading a life feeling safe and secure about their future in Antakya.

Keywords: Ebu Ubeyde, ontology, Antakya, freedom, belief