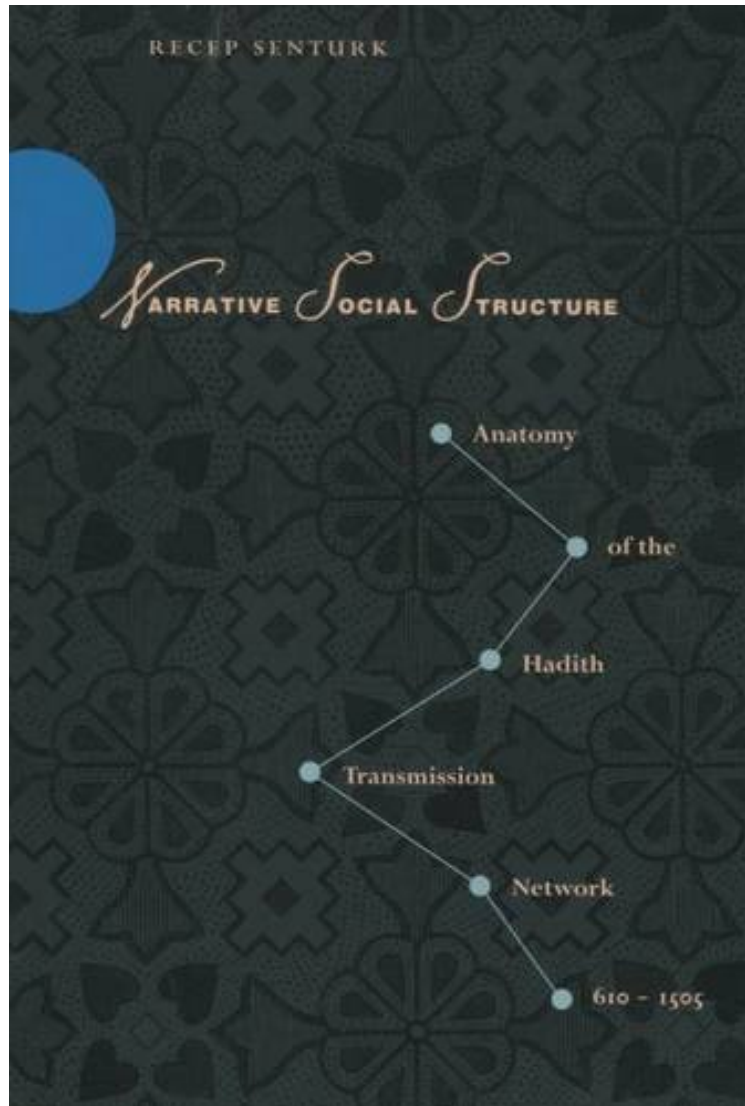


# Narrative Social Structure: Anatomy of the Hadith Transmission Network, 610-1505

Recep Senturk

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**Recep Senturk : Narrative Social Structure: Anatomy of the Hadith Transmission Network, 610-1505** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Narrative Social Structure: Anatomy of the Hadith Transmission Network, 610-1505:

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A groundbreaking workBy Hasan GucluStarting from the seventh

century, the Muslim scholars invented a new kind of science to protect the narratives about sayings, actions, or silent approvals (altogether hadiths) of the Prophet Muhammad (571-632 CE, peace be upon him) throughout the ages. They utilized and formulated basic rules for the authenticity of the hadiths, foremost by asking the simple question; whom did you hear it? These scholars analyzed not only the text of the narrative but also and even more, the chain of its transmission; i.e. who heard from whom and how reliable and trustworthy they are? Recep Senturk's book, `Narrative Social Structure, anatomy of the Hadith Transmission Network, 610-1505, is a groundbreaking work on the subject and a careful of analysis of this discourse network from sociological, linguistic, statistical and humanistic angles. In his analysis, he uses the methods of not only synchronic (cross-sectional) but also diachronic (cross-temporal) social networks analysis and demonstrates that the study of both aspects mutually give rise to each other on this network extending almost a millennium in time and with over thousand scholars and ten-thousands of teacher-pupil connections. Senturk's work is going to be an excellent and yet interesting part of your sociology books collection by authors such as Harrison White, Randall Collins, Jurgen Habermas and Andrew Abbott.

In both the social sciences and the humanities, current scholarship typically examines speech and social action as separate entities. But do they truly act in isolation? In Narrative Social Structure, Recep Senturk challenges the prevailing understandings of speech and social action, of actor and organization. Using the example of the hadith transmission network, Senturk demonstrates the synergy between speech and action in producing social reality. Hadith, a brief narrative about the Prophet Muhammad transmitted across generations by a chain of narrators, represents the longest recorded social network presently known to sociologists and historians. This book presents the first attempt by a sociologist to unearth the long hadith transmission network from ancient historical sources and analyze it using the most recent qualitative and quantitative analytical tools. It demonstrates how both synchronic and diachronic analyses uncover the structure of generational and inter-generational discourse networks used in the process of identity and authority formation. The author concludes that these networks of narrative are constantly at work in the world. Even if we are not aware of it, we are always part of them.

"This is an unusual and impressive piece of scholarship, bringing together the sophisticated methods of sociological network analysis, the comparative sociology of intellectual life, and the study of Islamic culture and society." Randall Collins, University of Pennsylvania