

*Voice of*

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# ATATÜRK

Remembering

## Admiral William Crowe

Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff,  
Amb. to the United Kingdom,  
1998 Recipient of Atatürk Society of  
America "Democracy Award" and  
member, ASA Board of Trustees.







## The Atatürk Society of America

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**Hudai Yavalar**  
Chairman, Founding President

# Atatürk and his Universal Wisdom for Humanity

I visited Turkey for a month during autumn 2007. It was great pleasure for me to join my friends and Turkish citizens to attend the 84th anniversary celebrations of the Republic of Turkey in Istanbul on October 29th. Then I participated in the 69th Commemoration Day at Atatürk Mausoleum in Ankara on November 10th, as I do every year.

From the moment I arrived in Turkey, until I left one month later, I was inundated with concerns expressed by people of all walks of life who felt that Turkey was no longer on the course delineated by Atatürk, who brought modernization and enlightenment to our country and nation.

Perhaps Atatürk's most dramatic contribution to modern Turkey was the introduction of laicism, which is not only the separation of church and state, but also the separation of religion from educational, judicial and cultural affairs. He sought to eradicate the dominance of religion in the government in and other national institutions.

This visit to Turkey was different to my earlier visits, because of what I heard from long time friends and supporters of our Society. There are ongoing rumors that fundamentalism was creeping into all corners of government and public life. That there is increasing cronyism, with only like-minded colleagues being appointed to all government agencies including public television, ministries, high educational board, public enterprises, and especially the judicial system. That preference is given for desirous and lucrative government contracts to friends, families, religiously affiliated groups, and business leaders whose wives wear headscarves. I was very disturbed to hear that so many people believe that the current political leadership openly exploits religion for political reasons.

Atatürk established the Republic of Turkey based on the principles of reason, knowledge and innovation. Yet, I am told that the budget for the State Organization for Religious Affairs, is second in size only to the budget of the Ministry of Defense. Atatürk stressed that education and science were the two pillars the country needed to take its place among the civilized countries in the world. He established a unified education system which replaced the medreses – or religious schools which instructed students in Arabic, a language they did not understand. If Atatürk had been alive today, he would balk at the mushrooming of Koran classes around the country which teaches children Arabic even before they learn the Turkish language that Atatürk created for the new nation.

In contrast to what I have heard, I witnessed a groundswell of longing for Atatürk's leadership on two occasions; the Republic Day parade in Istanbul, and the November 10 visit to the Atatürk Mausoleum in Ankara.

In Istanbul, Turkish youth took ownership of the Republic Day parade, proudly displaying flags and holding their heads high with the Turkish military and civilian popula-

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tion. It was a truly moving experience.

In Ankara, when I left my hotel early in the morning on November 10th to go the mausoleum, it was a beautiful day, and there were streams of men, women and students of all ages walking with flowers, flags, and Atatürk pictures in their hands towards Atatürk's resting place and they had obviously the similar emotion as I had. This was the largest gathering I remember so far and it was encouraging that perhaps all is not lost yet. People waited for hours for the opportunity to pause in respect before Atatürk's tomb. Some simultaneously recited poems vowing to uphold his principles.

It is obvious that there is a serious reaction to what the public now believes is an erosion of Atatürk's reforms. I believe there is no other country in the world whose great leader is commemorated after many decades with increasing appreciation every year.

As I write these lines on my return to our home in Washington, D.C., I remember the inscription I wrote a few years ago on behalf of the Atatürk Society of America in the guest signing book in the mausoleum: "MY GREAT ATATÜRK! WE SHALL NOT RELINQUISH NEITHER YOU NOR YOUR REFORMS."

His political philosophy which could be summarized through three of his great dictums; "Peace at home peace in the world", "The great guidance in life is science" and "Be proud, work and have self-confidence" continues to be probably the only way for the nations to solve their many urgent and critical problems. The human race can neither advance its progress and security nor live with fear of the religious or ethnic terrorism in an overcrowded, impoverished, polluted and fragile planet Earth in the 21st century.

Let us hope that peoples and their political leaders everywhere should soon realize and believe in a universal wisdom for a better fate for the human race before it is too late for their nations.



## *Let us turn our attention to Atatürk:*

*He says: "as it has been for centuries, including today, those who dare to use religion as a tool and means to procure all kinds of political and personal purposes and interests by profiting from the ignorance and fanaticism of these peoples, inside and outside the country, cannot restrain us from speaking on this matter. In the world of humanity, all expertise and deep knowledge on the subject of religion, purified from all superstitions, will coincide everywhere with actors of the play of religion until it is cleansed and perfected with the light of true knowledge and science." (1927)*

*"The most true mentor for everything in the world, for materialism, for spiritualism is knowledge, science. To look for a guide other than knowledge and science is carelessness, ignorance, deviance."*

*"Countries are diverse, but civilization is one, and it is necessary to participate in this single civilization for the progress of the nation."*





**Timur Edib**  
President

## Dear Friends:

**W**ell it has been two years since I was elected President of the Atatürk Society, and while I am excited by what we accomplished, and I am even more excited about how much more the Atatürk Society can do with your continued support. At the beginning of my term, I had stated that we were limited in what we could do by our resources, and yet for each challenge we faced, our supporters time and time again helped us reach our goals. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Board of Trustees, I thank you.

During these past two years I have also witnessed an extreme polarization in the debates as to the direction of the Republic of Turkey, a democratic nation built on Atatürk's principles eighty-four years ago, and to the preservation of Atatürk's principles. While I expect and encourage the debates to continue, I would like to share two observations that I believe must be remembered. The first is that we, as the children of Atatürk, must honor his charge and his legacy. I remind you of his charge:

**"There are two Mustafa Kemals. One the flesh-and-blood Mustafa Kemal who now stands before you and who will pass away. The other is you, all of you here who will go to the far corners of our land to spread the ideals which must be defended with your lives if necessary. I stand for the nation's dreams, and my life's work is to make them come true."**

The second is that we must never confuse democracy with politics. Democracy simply defined means "governed by the people." Inclusive in this definition is the concept of open, fair, and free elections. Within the framework of American democracy this also includes the freedom of the press, the right to petition and demand redress, and the right to due process. The goal of democracy is to establish the rule of law, or to accept each person's right to be treated "equally before the law." Politics on the other hand is the dynamic of social relations and interactions involving individuals in ascertaining and maintaining the authority or power to devise methods and tactics to formulate and create social policy. Democracy is static, Politics is dynamic. Democracy is an institution, Politics is ephemeral. Simply put, democracy is the road, and politics is the vehicle.

As you all know, the Atatürk Society is an organization dedicated to promoting Atatürk's principles. My goal is that we will continue our efforts to educate the world about Atatürk's vision of promoting stable democracies, and we will refrain from involvement in the politics of the day. So, I ask you as you join in the debates, be mindful of the conversation. If it is the roads that are being debated; do not yield, do not falter, remember Atatürk's charge and protect our future, for without sound roads we can not move forward. If it is the vehicles that are being debated; be guarded and cautious, but realize that it is the road that matters, for without roads vehicles can not travel.

It is my personal opinion that the most effective way to promote Atatürk's vision is to work to empower the individual. I also believe that the most effective way to empower an individual is to provide economic security. Our efforts on behalf of the Mehmetciks this year is a beginning. With the national movement that we helped start this past Septem-

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# The Atatürk Society of America: Who we are and what we are doing.

**T**his year, the Atatürk Society of America (ASA), has witnessed an unprecedented interest in Atatürk and our Society, from people all over the globe. We, as the Board of Directors, are extremely excited to be a part of this awakening, and wanted to thank all of you that have become members and supporters this year. As we start a new year, and I start a new term as President, I wanted to take a moment to explain who we are and what we are trying to accomplish as the Atatürk Society of America. As such, it is my sincere hope that readers of our magazine will agree with our mission and get involved by becoming a member, or simply help us grow.

In short, the ASA was formally incorporated in the District of Columbia in

1995 as a charitable non profit organization. Twelve years ago, Hudai Yavalar, the Founding President and Chair of the Board of Trustees, along with his wife Mirat Yavalar, our Treasurer, with a small circle of friends established this Society with a simple vision of maintaining Atatürk's legacy. In just a decade, this organization has grown under the exceptional leadership of the past presidencies of Mr. Yavalar, Mr. Orhan Tarhan and Mr. Metin Camcigil. Because of the solid foundation they established, this Society is recognized today around the globe for the work we do in promoting Atatürk's principles for World Peace. Our supporters include a very diverse spectrum of believers in the life work of one of the greatest leaders of our time. They include

world leaders, from former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, to President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan, to President George Bush, and former Turkish President Necdet Sezer, Prime Minister Helen Clark of New Zealand. They include distinguished statesmen, like Senator Robert Byrd, and military leaders like the Late Admiral William Crowe. They include authors, like Mr. Andrew Mango, a biographer of Atatürk, to Dr. Arnold Ludwig, a medical doctor doing statistical analyses of world leaders. Our supporters also include many people that simply believe that the universality of civilization means peace at home and peace in the world.

One of the fundamental beliefs of ASA, is that the work and principles of Atatürk are for creating world peace, and for the benefit of humanity. As such, ASA does not directly engage in national or political issues. As tempting as it may be to get involved in political discourse, the ASA believes that supporting enlightened debate on the basic principles of Atatürk is the best way to promote democracy, secularism, truth, and world peace. Over the past decade, ASA has organized scholarly lectures, worked to provide research fellowships, collected and disseminated resource and research references, and provided educational and cultural forums. This is how ASA as a Society has earned its reputation as an organization dedicated to promoting Atatürk and his vision. While it is Atatürk's principles that are universal, ASA is also dedicated to memory of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the Republic of Turkey. In his honor, the Society has provided books, library material, and beautification projects to public schools in Turkey, and has sent supplies and support to assist with the upkeep and care of the Atatürk Mausoleum over the years.

In response to the grassroots movement







Mehmetcik Fundraiser: Bill Alli Delivers Keynote Speech at Yavalar Residence



and interest in our work this last year, The ASA has seen record growth in membership and donations, and has continued to increase its activities and outreach. As a Society, we realize that there are times that no matter how much we value debate as a medium of enlightenment, sometimes talking the talk is not enough, and we must also walk the walk. This summer the ASA participated in the grassroots movement to show strong support for "An Ever Secular Turkey." With nearly one thousand supporters of Atatürk and his principle of secular and democratic government, we peacefully assembled in Lafayette Park across from the White House, in the nation's capital, to show our support. In support of the Mehmetciks, Turkish military veterans that have sacrificed life and limb on behalf of the Republic of Turkey, we have raised nearly \$35,000.00, to show our support. The bedrock of our activity however will continue to focus on May 19 celebrations and November 10th remembrances as was recognized by Turkish Radio and Television, TRT-International this year. In the coming year, with your continued support, it is my hope to establish institutions to empower Turkish women by finding opportunities to provide economic security. Only when mothers know that

their future and their children's future are secure, can they focus on Atatürk's democratic principles of promoting knowledge, science and enlightenment. Only then can we achieve a true sovereignty, built on stability, which promotes secular govern-

ments and world peace.

This is who we are, and what we are doing. I hope you agree with our mission and join our cause. By sharing this magazine with others, and getting others to join, we can make a difference in the world.



Bill Alli and Gen.Huseyin Demiraslan

# The Late Admiral Crowe: Atatürk Admirer

*With a heavy heart, Atatürk Society of America pays tribute to Admiral William J. Crowe, Jr., member of the Board of Trustees, who passed away on October 18, 2007, in Bethesda Naval Hospital due to heart failure.*

**W**ith a heavy heart, Atatürk Society of America pays tribute to Admiral William J. Crowe, Jr., member of the Board of Trustees, who passed away on October 18, 2007, in Bethesda Naval Hospital due to heart failure. On October 31, 2007 mourners came from all over the world to celebrate his life at the U.S. Naval Academy Chapel. President Bill Clinton was among the speakers.

As a military man and statesman himself, Admiral Crowe had a deep appreciation for and understanding of Atatürk's genius. He even kept a large portrait of Atatürk in his office at all times as a source of inspiration for leadership.

In 1998 Admiral Crowe became the fourth recipient of the "Atatürk Peace and Democracy" Award for his dedication to Atatürk's principles of "Peace at home and Peace in the World."

Born in La Grange, Kentucky at the beginning of the Great Depression, he

grew up in Oklahoma City but graduated in 1947 from the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Admiral Crowe earned a master's degree in education at Stanford University, and an M.A. and a PhD in Political Science at Princeton University. He pursued a degree at George Washington University.

President Ronald Reagan nominated William Crowe as the 11th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on July 10, 1985, where he remained until he retired from the Navy on September 30, 1989. He was the first Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to benefit from the Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986 where he became, by statute, the principal military adviser to the President of the United States and the most senior officer in the entire military establishment (across all the U.S. military branches). He had the greatest number of degrees for his position. His successor, Army General Colin L. Powell replaced him as Chairman of the

Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Crowe surprised Washington when he endorsed Bill Clinton in the 1992 presidential race, at a time in which the candidate's foreign policy experience was being questioned. In 1994 President Clinton appointed Crowe Ambassador to the United Kingdom, and he served in that capacity until 1997.

William Crowe sat on the Boards of Texaco, Merrill Lynch, Pfizer, Norfolk Southern Corporation and General Dynamics. At the time of his death, Crowe served as the Chairman of the Board of Visitors for the International Programs Center of the University of Oklahoma. He also served as an advisory board member for Global Options Inc., an international risk management and business solutions company headquartered in Washington, DC.

In 2000 Admiral Crowe was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in recognition of his years of service to the country.

Crowe was also awarded Doctor of Laws (LL.D) honorary degrees from numerous universities, including University of Liverpool, (England) The George Washington University, and Knox College.

He received four Defense Distinguished Service Medals and following his retirement from the Navy he was awarded a 2000 Presidential Medal of Freedom, the United States' highest civilian honor.

Crowe taught a seminar class on National Security at the United States Naval Academy.

Admiral Crowe will always be remembered as a staunch friend and ally of Turkey, and a supporter of Atatürk's ideals.

## MILITARY AWARDS

- Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge
- Submarine Warfare Insignia
- Defense Distinguished Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters in lieu of four awards
- Navy Distinguished Service Medal
- Legion of Merit with 2 gold stars
- Bronze Star Medal with Valor device
- Air Medal (7 awards)
- Navy Unit Commendation
- China Service Medal
- American Campaign Medal
- World War II Victory Medal
- Navy Occupation Service Medal with Pacific clasp
- National Defense Service Medal with two bronze service stars in lieu of three awards
- Vietnam Service Medal with 1 campaign star
- Humanitarian Service Medal
- Republic of Vietnam Navy Distinguished Service Order
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm and Bronze Star
- Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Honor Medal (First Class)
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation
- Order of the National Security Merit Tong-II Medal (Republic of Korea)
- Grand Cross with Cordon of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy (Cavaliere di Gran Croce Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana)[5]
- Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal



# An Interview With Admiral Crowe

*Below is an interview with Admiral Crowe carried out by Prof. Dr. Özer Ozankaya in 1998 and published in Atatürk's Legacy: Views by World Famous Intellectuals.*

Ö.O.: Admiral Crowe, Atatürk is said to be the only leader who, even 60 years after his death can still inspire his people and guide them with his ideas. If you agree with this information, what would be according to you, the main reasons for that?

CROWE: Kemal Atatürk is greatly revered in Turkey. There is no question about that. I don't know any other leader in his era who is still revered in the country which he led. That is a remarkable tribute to Atatürk. I think he deserves the respect and sublimation he receives, I really do. In my judgment, he was probably the finest military man in the twentieth century. I was asked once by TIME Magazine who were my heroes and I said I did not have very many. He said "Well you must have some military people that you admire very much." And I said "It is Kemal Atatürk." I received more mail on that than on any other press conference or press interview I had ever given.

Ö.O.: From the military point of view Atatürk once said that "The military might of a nation must be based upon lofty and valid ideas". Would you like to comment on this idea of Atatürk please?

CROWE: I think Americans often agree with that statement. We believe that the operation of our nation's power is based on lofty ideas. I certainly call it an American philosophy and attitude.

Ö.O.: We know that Atatürk has emphasized that there is no room to expect any favour or even compassion from the enemy. It is said that there is a parallelism between this stand of Atatürk in the

Turkish War of Independence and that of Mr. Churchill during the 2nd World War. What would you say about this, please?

CROWE: I certainly believe that there are probably many characteristics common between Mr. Churchill and Kemal Atatürk. They were both very decisive, very deep thinkers and not only char-

ismatic but also had a real instinct for reading the situation correctly. He of course demonstrated that graphically as a military man. Time and again he took the view of the situation very quickly. And just instinctively he knew where the enemy was coming from and where the best place to be was and how to deploy his own forces. He did that time and time again, and he was remarkably successful.

Ö.O.: Admiral Crowe, also from the military point of view, Atatürk is known to have said particularly during the Dardanelle campaign, that the dugouts should not be used primarily as shelters; unless they are used for the purpose of assaults against the enemy, they may be a factor of defeat. What would you like to comment about this, please?

“ Kemal Atatürk is greatly revered in Turkey. There is no question about that.”



Admiral Crowe receives ASA Peace & Democracy Award. L to R (Admiral Crowe, Chairman Hudai Yavalar, Past President Orhan Tarhan)

CROWE: He certainly was a man with an offensive spirit. And off course he was very successfully in using the offensive. I think the official British historian on the Dardanelles campaign I can not recall it directly, but I can say in substance- said that there is few example in all history of a single division commander affecting so strongly the outcome of a battle or even of an entire campaign. And that reports to the Gallipoli action and I assume that is where Atatürk first came into prominence outside just the Turkish army.

Ö.O.: Admiral Crowe, Mustafa Kemal is also said to be the only military person to have shown the example of total warfare by succeeding in involving his people together with all her resources in the war of independence. Would you like to comment about this aspect of Atatürk?

CROWE: Well, I think that is a very worthy principle. I don't know if it is an example of total warfare, but certainly it is a practice of the principle of democracy and this country generally subscribes to that proposition. He practiced it, off course; Atatürk did. And I think he first came out even when he was enjoying military success. He had such a complete understanding of the Turkish fighting men. He knew how to use them, he knew how to appeal to them and he knew what he had to do to get them to follow him. And I think he was very much addressing to the general population when he was talking about the Turkish army who served them well. And when he then became a statesman he did appreciate what his country's strengths and weaknesses were. He was a very realistic man. H had a real faculty for facing up to the facts. He did not paper over or cover up deficiencies, for instance; he faced them squarely. I think that was obvious in his attitudes towards his own country, towards his own countrymen. And this has in many ways distinguished him from other politicians and leaders.

Ö.O.: Admiral Crowe, would you like to comment about the political reforms that

Atatürk carried out in Turkey?

CROWE: I think hey are rather remarkable. I must say they were above and beyond a call of duty. He affected some changes that really touched upon the essence of the society. And it is amazing that he can affect them and bring the country along with him as he did so.

Ö.O.: Admiral Crowe, Atatürk is also said to have served the cause of democracy by introducing secularism into a Moslem society, raised the prestige of Islam, and the cause of freedom. Would you like to comment about these views, please?

“ I have a picture of Kemal Atatürk here on the wall and off course in Turkey in all offices you see many of it. ”

CROWE: I certainly agree that he did that, and I certainly agree he did it successfully and for good reason. He was intent upon bringing Turkish society into the modern era, and he felt that some of these customs that they had historically were attuned to the time, but were not appropriate today. If they were moving into the modern technological society, it was imperative that they change their ways and try to get more in tune with progressive, particularly technically advanced countries. That is what he wanted to do and that is what he did. He moved forwards and overcame all the obstacles. And there was great reluctance I think; you know better than I do that there was great reluctance on some of these reforms within Turkey. But ultimately Atatürk prevailed, and I think that country is much better off because of that.

Ö.O.: What would be, Admiral Crowe, ac-

cording to you, the legacy of Atatürk both for Turkey and humanity in general?

CROWE: Certainly it would be hard to overemphasize his legacy for Turkey. I mean he is literally the shaper, the founder and the most outstanding leader of modern Turkey. He has done what he intended to do; he brought Turkey into the mainstream of international politics as well as laid down the ground work or the foundation stones for Turkey moving into a technologically oriented age. I don't know any other country that has had a single leader that had so strongly impacted the entire society, the entire culture and personality of the nation as Atatürk. That is a legacy that clearly Turkish people recognize because you see examples of it wherever you go. I have a picture of Kemal Atatürk here on the wall and off course in Turkey in all offices you see many of it. Because I think most Turkish people understand what his legacy is. They understand what tremendous impact he has made on their country, their nation and their lives. That is something they can be very proud of him and they are proud of him. They make that clear constantly.

Ö.O.: Do you think that Atatürk might have some influence in the civilized world, particularly in Western countries and on Western governments?

CROWE: He was a major player in international circles in Western Europe. I have heard it said that it was a shame he died when he did; if he had lived a little longer, more into the World War Two, he probably would have made a major impact in settling the conflict. He certainly had the art of prediction. He predicted World War Two. That is not the only example of the stability with which he could foresee events, political events. Similarly in military he could foresee events in away very few leaders can. And he has transferred it very easily to his political eye, to his attempts to work for Turkish society

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# "Bringing the Past into the Present"

*Mount Vernon has never received funding from Federal, State or Local Governments. The new Education Center was made possible by donations from various foundations and corporations.*

By Pelin Aylangan \*

**H**ow do you make a nation's first president accessible to future generations in a way that educates, inspires, invites additional exploration, and is long-lasting?

Such was the challenge facing the Mount Vernon Ladies Association with respect to George Washington. Since 1853, the principal mission of the Association has been to restore and preserve George Washington's Mount Vernon estate in Alexandria, Virginia for the citizens of the United States and the world. About ten years ago, Mount Vernon recognized that the nation's familiarity with the life and character of George Washington had seriously declined. This realization encouraged Mount Vernon to broaden

its mission and elevate *education* about George Washington's achievements and significant role in American history to be of equal importance to the preservation of his historic estate. Toward this end, a 10 year planning and development effort began.

“ The new Education Center, which cost nearly \$110 million.”

The crown jewel of Mount Vernon's focus on education is the new 41,000 square foot Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center.

I recently visited the Center and left with a greater appreciation for and understanding of George Washington. *More importantly*, I was awestruck by the Center itself. Throughout 23 galleries and theaters, visitors encounter touch-screen computer monitors, LED map displays, surround-sound audio programs, immersion videos, life-like statues of George Washington, and illusionist lighting effects. The engaging state-of-the-art displays tell Washington's entire life story from his childhood overcoming adversities to becoming a land surveyor and farmer, and then the commander of the Continental Army and first president of the United States. The Center even had a room dedicated for very young children with low tables and small chairs where arts and crafts activities and special programs take place. No detail had been overlooked. I watched the other visitors on the busy Sunday; everyone from age 7 to 70 was engaged in the exhibits; touching, uncovering, listening, watching, and reading. Mt. Vernon receives 1 million visitors a year, 400,000 of which are schoolchildren. Moreover, through its outreach programs, it reaches out to nearly 6,000,000 students in all fifty states.

As I explored the Center, I could not help but think of how Turkey, Turks and Turkish-Americans educate future generations about Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's life, accomplishments, and his perspectives on science, education, art and culture, economics, women rights and so on. Two things struck me most about Mount Vernon and I would like to share them in the next couple of paragraphs. As you read on, you may think I am criticiz-

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Mt. Vernon

# Republic or Democracy

*The republican tradition is fairly strong in Turkey. There is by and large a broad allegiance to the Republic. The Turkish Republic was established after a successful War of Independence.*

By Professor Suna Kili \*

There is an ongoing discussion in Turkey, for that matter in the U.S. as well as in some European countries, as to which is more important “republican” or “democratic” values. This seems to be an intellectual confusion. For some historical and ideological reasons “a republic” is prior to democracy. However, the goal of a republic should be its further democratization.

A brief historical assessment would help shed light on the topic under discussion here.

## HISTORICAL ASSESSMENT

The central meaning of republican government since Cicero has been legislation for the common good of the people. In Cicero’s words “a republic is a people’s state”. Thinkers such as Cicero, Polybius and Plutarch helped formulate the basic principles of republicanism and these principles were used for centuries to resist the unlimited powers of kings, emperors and other wielders of absolute power. Thinkers such as Montesquieu and J.J. Rousseau helped the further evolution of republican tradition. The U.S. was founded as a republic. Thinkers and statesmen such as John Adams, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton, in particular in the **Federalist Papers**, enriched and endorsed the republican tradition. However, in later years not much attention was paid to republican values and to the republican tradition. If it were not for the publications of a few writers such as Caroline Robbins and Quentin Skinner the West

would have almost ceased to be interested in republican philosophy for much of the 20th century.

Political developments in the U.S. since the 1980’s led to the revival of the republican tradition particularly due to the works and endeavors of those academics dealing with constitutional law.

“Democracy gives us the opportunities for self-expression and the use of our liberties.”

The following political development was the main cause of this revival: When Ronald Reagan became the President in 1981, he made a statement to the effect that he thought that “Federal Jurists” and the “Federal Institutions” were too “activist”. This criticism instigated the intellectual protest of some American scholars such as Frank Michelman and Cass Sunstein leading to the activation of studies concerning the republican doctrine, in particular in the various Schools of Law and Departments of Political Science.

In the second half of the 20th century, we could also witness the activation of studies on republicanism, particularly in France. Régis Debray, the one-time advisor to

the late French President Mitterrand, has been among the most important upholders of the republican tradition. In his provocative essay “*Etes-vous démocrate ou républicain?*” which appeared in the 30 November-6 December 1989 issue of the **Le Nouvel Observateur**, Debray says the following: democracy may allow the promotion of private interests and egoism; it may allow unlimited materialism, it is tolerant of appearance of religiosity. In a republic the state is free from all religious influence. In a republic, liberty is the conquest of reason; hence, a republic is committed to laicism. A republican wants primarily an honorable state- a state which serves society.

## REPUBLICAN DOCTRINE AND DEMOCRACY

Republicanism is committed to public welfare. The Republic has to consider the common good of the people and how the conditions befitting human dignity and enabling the functioning of the rule of law can be achieved. Democracy gives us the opportunities for self-expression and the use of our liberties. But a republic gives us the socio-historical and institutional context in which this use occurs. Democracy may be tolerant of the particular, of the private, of the selfish, but a republic is always committed to the good of the whole. Hence republicanism is prior to democracy. In fact, republicanism is a pre-condition of democracy.

If a society loses its touch with republican values, if it loses sight of the public good,



of its commitment to the laic basis of political authority, and if it is committed to particularism and particular interests, it may lose its grasp on democracy. If democracy is lost, and if the republic and republicanism remain viable, then democracy can be reborn. But if the republic is destroyed and the republican commitments to sovereignty of the people, to public good and to the laic basis of political authority are neglected democracy will die. Only if the republic and republican commitments survive will it be possible to reincarnate democracy. However as stated earlier “the real goal is, of-course, the further democratization of the republic”. The republic gets its priority due to its commitment to the good of the “whole”, to public good.

In a republic, it is not solely the “individual” that is important but also the “citizen”. Republican doctrine emphasizes the equality of citizens. This doctrine is committed to public freedom in addition to that of the individual. It believes that you cannot achieve freedom for the public without realizing equality. Hence, republicanism emphasizes social justice.

## “REPUBLICANISM” AND “DEMOCRACY” IN TURKEY

Republic is the system of administration, of the regime embraced by the nation-state of Turkey. In order to implement a rational plan of modernization, it is important that a society has already achieved its independence. It is also important that a society has abandoned its tribal, religious, and other outdated commitments in the process of establishing the state. And that efforts have been made to establish the nation-state structure. It is not possible to pursue and implement a successful plan of modernization without establishing the nation-state structure and without basing the regime on the sovereignty of the people.

Atatürkism embraces republicanism as the most suitable regime for Turkey. In fact, Atatürkism gives legitimacy only to

a republican regime. This is understandable for the following reasons: Public good and the unconditional sovereignty of the people are among the most important pillars of Atatürkism. In other words, **Atatürkist system of thought is primarily republican.** A republican regime can survive through a laic order which is possible only by embracing rationality and scientific thought as guide lines. **A true, real Republic must rest on a laic foundation.** In a democracy anti-laic views can be expressed.

“**Atatürkism embraces republicanism as the most suitable regime for Turkey.**”

**But a Republic can only survive in a laic regime and a Republic gives legitimacy only to a laic regime.** The Atatürk Reform Laws, in particular the laicization of the Constitution of 1924 in 1928 and the implementation of cultural and legal reforms enabled the modernization of the Turkish state and achieved the laicization of political authority. **Atatürkism is republicanism.**

In Turkey the term Republic signifies values and commitments beyond the actual meaning of the term. The Republic signifies the rebirth of the Turkish nation and the establishment of the Turkish state after giving a long and arduous struggle against countries and powers which wanted to bring to an end Turkish existence. Hence, while some Western states nearly forgot about the meaning and philosophy of republicanism, in Turkey commitment to republicanism continued, though perhaps not with the same vigor after the 1950's. However, in recent years, republicanism and commitment to the Republic have become among the primary items

on the agenda, in particular of the modernist groups in Turkey. At this juncture it is important to note that the Turkish military has played a crucial role in all the events leading to the establishment of the Republic. And the Turkish military has continuously been among the foremost supporters of the Atatürk Reform Laws. The Turkish military is committed to republican values. The Turkish military is republican.

The republican tradition is fairly strong in Turkey. There is by and large a broad allegiance to the Republic. The Turkish Republic was established after a successful War of Independence. What was dead was the Ottoman Empire. The Republic signified the rebirth of the Turkish nation. And with the implementation of the radical Atatürkist model of modernization, which included among other things a full-scale adoption of the European Codes of Law, the term Republic began to be equated with “modernity”, in Turkish terminology with “*çağdaşlık*”. Hence, there is by and large a rational as well as an emotional commitment to the Republic, in particular by the modernist groups in Turkey. The Turkish people are committed to the further democratization of Turkish society. Let us further democracy, but without damaging and/or killing the Republic.

### \* Professor Suna Kili

Professor Suna Kili is Professor of Political Science in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey. She received her B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College, U.S.A. She also carried on research



work and post-doctoral research work, respectively, at the University of California-Berkeley, the London School of Economics and Political Science, Columbia and Princeton Universities.

She has been a visiting professor and has lectured at about forty universities and colleges outside her own country.

# Honoring Our War Veterans

*In the year 2000, I was in South Korea on a visit to the United Nations Military Cemetery. It is in the Southeast coastal city of Pusan. I went to the Turkish section and looked at all the graves.*

By William Edward Alli \*

**T**oday is November 10 and we remember a great man: Atatürk. Tomorrow, November 11, is Veterans Day and we should include Atatürk as a great war veteran.

There are many war veterans memorials in the United States, especially here in Washington DC. Question: Can you tell me the only official memorial which has – inscribed in granite or stone – the names of both Turkey and the United States?

The answer is: the Korean War Veterans Memorial on The National Mall in Washington DC.

Did you know that a photograph of that Memorial was put on 75 million United States postage stamps and issued on the 50th anniversary of the Korean War armistice, July 27, 2003? And here is another question: who took that photograph?

The answer is: a United States Marine Corps officer. That officer's grandfather immigrated to America from Harput Turkey. The officer is my son, John Alli.

Both American veterans and Turkish veterans have a common experience; it is called "the Korean War." We were brothers-in-arms, silahdaşlar.

Let me tell you something about that war.

In the year 2000, I was in South Korea on a visit to the United Nations Military Cemetery. It is in the Southeast coastal city of Pusan. I went to the Turkish section and looked at all the graves. Most of the Turkish soldiers buried there were very young – between 19 and 23 years old. I walked up and down the rows, looking at the names and ranks on their headstones.

I felt sad. When I arrived in Pusan Korea during the war, I was only 19 years old. But I survived the war; these Turkish soldiers did not. And, some of my American comrades did not survive the war.

I have had a full life – a college education, a good job, a wife and sons and daughters and even grandchildren, plus a retirement with a decent income. But these fallen Turkish soldiers had merely a few years. It was appropriate for me to ask: "what would they have done, if they had been given a full lifespan?"

I invoked God's blessing on them: "Allah rahmet etsin."

**“ There are many war veterans memorials in the United States, especially here in Washington DC.**

The Korean War started on June 25, 1950. The Turkish Brigade (Türk Tugayı) of 5,000 men arrived in Pusan, during the second week of October 1950.

The Brigade was attached to the United States Army's famous 25th Infantry Division – nicknamed the "Tropic Lightning" Division. The Turkish soldiers were given American uniforms and weapons. They received training with these new weapons and then were sent to the Western Front, in North Korea.

China had announced to the world that it would not tolerate any enemy armies

on its borders. So, a few weeks after the Turkish Brigade arrived on the front line, the Communist Chinese armies attacked United Nations forces all across the Korean Peninsula.

The Turkish Brigade fought in violent and bloody battles, but during the months of November and December, the Chinese forces were able to force all United Nations units back down South.

As 1951 arrived, the Chinese offensive continued to gain territory. They crossed the 38th parallel, the prewar border between North and South Korea.

Between January 25 and 27, the Turkish Brigade fought a fierce battle against an overwhelming Chinese force and, in a violent bayonet attack, the Turkish soldiers routed the Chinese.

It was the Battle of Kumyangjang-ni. Because of their bravery, the Turkish Brigade received the United States Presidential Unit Citation, signed by President Harry S. Truman. It was highly unusual for a foreign military unit to receive such an award.

I should also tell you that my division, the First Marine Division, also received the US Presidential Unit Citation.

During the war, some wounded Turkish soldiers were taken prisoner by the Chinese. These prisoners of war were greatly resistant to the Communists' attempts to break their unit cohesion.

Unfortunately, too many American prisoners cooperated with the Chinese. So, after the war, US Department of Defense officials studied the prisoner of war experiences and were greatly impressed with the Turkish soldiers' discipline. The US revised its military regulations and



training, so that Americans would be more able to deal with enemy captivity. And, in the next war, Vietnam, American prisoners of war did much better.

One American prisoner was in the same prison camp with the Turkish prisoners. He describes his experience in Mary Lee Settle's wonderful book: *Turkish Reflections* (pp. 232-233). Here is what she writes:

"I have a friend in Virginia who... was in a prison camp in Korea. His life was saved by a Turk. He told me that hundreds of GIs died there.

'We didn't know how to look after ourselves, and the Turks took pity on us. They thought we were babes in the woods. My friend was Hakim. ...When I was sick, he brought me food, and he looked after me as he would have another Turkish person. They knew how to survive. ... When our sweaters and socks wore out, they picked the wool apart and reknitted it. Hakim made me a pair of socks.' "

The book also tells how the Turkish soldiers prayed (namaz) and the Chinese soldiers hit them with their rifles to make them stop praying and stand up. The reaction of the Turkish prisoners was to stand up and say: "Kill me. I will go straight to Heaven." Then they turned their backs on the guards and knelt to finish their prayers. After a while the Chinese let them alone.

The Turks also refused to go to the Chinese Communist propaganda lectures. They claimed they couldn't understand the language. Most of the Turks had found an American friend who would teach them English.

"They didn't have any more to eat than we did, but they shared it. When I was so sick I thought I was going to die, Hakim brought me soup and sat with me, and pulled me through it. I think he gave me courage; so many GIs just died because they gave up, but the Turkish soldiers in the camp didn't lose a single man. They looked after each other. They organized, and when one of them was sick, the others shared what little food they had with him until he was well again."

The book ends as the American soldier

remembers:

"I taught Hakim English, and he taught me Turkish. He studied it so well that he became a driver for an American officer in Turkey after the war. But I only remember one Turkish phrase. I have remembered it for nearly 40 years. It is İyi arkadaşım, my good friend."

When I started talking to you, I mentioned my visit to the United Nations Military Cemetery in Pusan, seven years ago. I want to tell you one more thing about that Turkish section.

It has a small display case. Inside the case is a bronze plaque. On the plaque is engraved a poem in Turkish. I copied the poem and had it translated into English.

### 1950 – 1953 Kore Savaşında Şehit Düşen Türk Askerine Şiir

*Sınırların ve inançların ötesinde  
Buluştu bakışlarımız;  
Ve geçmişte kalanların kucaklayıcı sıcaklığını  
Birlikte hissedip okşadık.*

*Ne kadar anlamlıydı Pusan öncesi zamanlar  
Ortak değerlerin şanını paylaşılarak,  
Geniş vadiler boyunca ve tepeler ötesinde  
El ele çarpıştığımız anlar.*

*Heyhat Kısa sürdü bu anlar  
Çünkü yol aldım bir bilinmeze doğru,  
Kanım bir bayrağın dalgalanması ve  
çırpınması gibi  
Akıp gitti bir gece.*

*Şimdi Pusan toprağıyla örtülmüş,  
Ve hislerim ölümün sonsuzluğuna uzanırken;  
Artık burası da benim "Anavatan"ım  
Artık tüm diller benim dillerim.*

*Biz şehitler aslında yaşıyoruz;  
Semalara uzanan ellerimiz birleşmiş,  
Kucaklaşmışız birbirimizle  
Ait olduğumuz bu yaşayan toprakta.*

*Selam sana ey Türk şehidi  
Sen Anadolu'da, ben Pusan'da;  
Sen Türkiyem için düşmüş  
Ben de, dünyamız.*

*This poem is on a bronze plaque in the Turkish Section of the United Nations' Cemetery in Pusan, South Korea. It was reproduced and distributed as a memento of ceremonies in Washington DC on January 25, 2001 – the 50th Anniversary of the award of the United States Presidential Unit Citation to the Turkish Brigade in Korea. (William Edward Alli, Director, American and Turkish Veterans' History Education Project.)*

And now, I will read the English version and another guest here, General Demir-aslan, will read the Turkish: (poem read and copies distributed to the guests)

\* The author was born in Detroit Michigan in 1932. His father, immigrated from Harput Turkey in 1913 and his mother, Mary Goans, came from eastern Tennessee in 1926. He served as a United States Marine in the Korean war, 1951-52.

He has Bachelor's and Masters degrees in economics and is a retired employee of The United States Agency for International Development. His wife is Frieda Christine Alli (was Pappas) and they have two sons and two daughters.

He is now writing a book about his experiences during the Korean War. It is called: Too Young for a Forgettable War.

### Ode to the Turkish Soldiers Fallen in the Korean War, 1950 – 53

*Beyond frontiers and faiths  
Our rights now in a rendezvous;  
Enabled thus to sense and caress  
The hugging warmth of all that is past.*

*How precious were times before Pusan  
When sharing the glory of unified thought,  
And of battling hand-to-hand  
Over vast valleys and hills.*

*Brief was this advent for soon I parted  
In much mysterious a way,  
My life-blood drained one night  
In flag-like waves and flutters.*

*Now enwrapped in Pusan's soil,  
My senses reaching death's infinity;  
And "Fatherland" grown to such dimensions  
Conversant I am, in all tongues there are.*

*We martyrs are actually alive;  
With our hands joined, reaching for the skies,  
We have embraced each other  
on this thriving land which belongs to us.*

*I salute you, oh Turkish martyr  
You in Anadolu and I in Pusan;  
You have fallen for my Türkiye  
And I, for our world.*



# ATATÜRK'S VISION FOR TURKISH WOMEN: How Far Have We Come?

*"If a society does not wage a common struggle to attain a common goal with its women and men, scientifically there is no way for it to get civilized or developed."*

*Mustafa Kemal Atatürk*

**By Ilknur Boray**

**A**tatürk had a great vision for women's rights and thanks to his wisdom and exceptional leadership, Turkish women were one of the first women in the world to enjoy the privilege of voting and attending universities. It has been eighty-one years since the Civil Code was adopted in 1926, abolishing polygamy and recognizing the equal rights of women in divorce, custody, and inheritance. Atatürk strongly believed in the vital importance of women in the society, and his plan to modernize Turkey into a western style democracy was centered on advancement of women. In 1930, the Local Election Law passed giving women

the right to vote, and in 1934 women were given the right to be elected. In the next elections held in 1935, 18 women deputies were elected to the Grand National Assembly. Turkish women have accomplished a lot since then. But looking back at the urgent and dynamic way Atatürk launched his reforms, it would be fair to say that he would be disappointed in the fact that Turkey still lags far behind Europe and many other countries – 105th out of 115 countries (World Economic Forum report)- in terms of gender equality.

Turkish women, like women of all nations, do experience discrimination and gender-based hardships. Since 1998, with the implementation of a new "Protection of Family" law, preventive measures have

been taken against domestic violence. The Turkish women's liberation movement has been steadily growing since the 1950's. But the emergence of a real strong Feminist movement didn't happen until the 1980's. As a result of the activities of women's groups since then, there has been significant progress on preventing domestic violence against women. One may wonder what took the women's groups so long, considering the fact that Atatürk's liberal idealism gave Turkish feminists very early on the opportunity to express their ideas on social topics. Halide Edip Adivar, Turkey's first modern feminist, who was a renowned novelist, professor, and politician founded the Society for the Elevation of Women (Teali-i Nisvan) in 1908, dedi-



cating herself to the improvement of education opportunities for Turkish women. Just as Halide Edip exemplified the modern Turkish women, Atatürk's wife Latife and his adopted daughters were models of the modern Turkish women. Latife Hanım accompanied Atatürk on his official tours of the country, emphasizing the new image of the modern Turkish women, with her outspokenness and unveiled outfits. She was educated in Europe, and no doubt her strong belief in women's liberation had a big impact on Atatürk, even though their marriage was brief. Atatürk encouraged his seven adopted daughters, in addition to his one adopted son and two boys who were under his protection, to all study and build careers. Among his adopted daughters there was a judge, a history professor and an air force pilot. The pilot, Sabiha Gökçen was the world's first female combat pilot at a time when few women were allowed into military forces in Europe.

On the political field, compared to the election results of 1935, women's participation is not encouraging. Turkish women started enjoying the privileges of political participation early in the 20th century, yet today the numbers look gloomy. The following statement made by Burhan Kuzu, the president of the Constitutional Committee at the parliament, shockingly summarizes attitudes toward women among some male parliamentarians: "Parliamentarianism is a hard task. We often work after midnight. A woman returning that late from work will not be looked upon with decency." This kind of attitude confirms the fears that secular traditions and Atatürk's vision of greater equality for women are under threat. Then there is the battle over the headscarf, which represents the destruction of secularism, and the suppression of women for Turks who believe that headscarf is a political statement. Most in western thinking countries may feel that a headscarf is simply a choice of a person, and not understand the outrage about a piece of garment. But the fight is not about a piece of garment. It is about honoring the principles of the secular Turkish Republic, it is about upholding the

## “ In the elections held in 1935, 18 women deputies were elected to the Grand National .

idealism of one of the greatest leaders of all times and a great undertaking ,a secular Turkey, that he gifted to the Turkish nation.

Despite the recent concerns about disrespect of women's reforms, there has been much great advancement towards recognizing the equal citizenship of women since Atatürk's reforms were first introduced. Today Turkey is among the leading countries in Europe as far as the ratio of women as private sector CEO's, lawyers, engineers, scientists, bankers, and college teachers. The head of the Turkish Industrialists and Businessmen's Association (TÜSİAD) is a woman. These exceptionally accomplished women and their dedication to the preservation of secularism in Turkey undermines the sad fact that today Turks find themselves In the midst of a crisis about women's rights.

According to a European Union study, in the rural regions of eastern Anatolia women's illiteracy rate is as high as 50%.

"Girls Education Campaign" (Haydi Kizlar Okula Kampanyasi) has resulted in 177,000 girls and 87.000 boys being enrolled in primary school since 2003 all around Turkey (as of 2007). There is no doubt that taking big steps such as the "Girls Education Campaign" will definitely be a key factor in Turkey's progress. Adult Literacy programs, even though not widespread, have accomplished a lot through their volunteer teaching forces over the years. With the new campaign targeting girls -and boys-, starting early and making sure every child goes through 8 years of primary education will help bring Turkish education system closer to Atatürk's vision. He repeatedly said, "Our most urgent present task is to catch up with the modern world. We shall not catch up with the modern world if we only modernize half the population."

Turkish women have come a long way since Atatürk first introduced his reforms. All women in Turkey today must recognize Atatürk's reforms, and not turn their back on their country's secular traditions. Those who fail to remember the significance of Atatürk's revolution will have to answer to millions of Turkish women- "Atatürk's Daughters"- who are committed to defend Atatürk's reforms and principles of secularism.

**We are grateful to you Atatürk !  
Sana minnettarız Atam!**



# A Tribute to Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and to one of his many Visions<sup>1</sup>

*“Atatürk had a vision of raising the quality of life in Turkey to that enjoyed in Europe in all areas across the board, and as rapidly as possible. He saw a way to implement this vision, when some of the gifted Jewish-German scientists and physicians, forced to flee the Nazi regime, were invited to Turkey. Shortly after their arrival, these scientists began to assist in elevating the level of science and technology in Turkish universities to hitherto unseen levels, all in accordance with Atatürk’s prescient vision. This paper is a personal story of these scientists.”*

By Arnold Reisman\*

As a sophomore at UCLA, I remember juniors and seniors excitedly discussing “the German professor’s” philosophy lectures. I couldn’t wait till I could take his course as an elective outside of my engineering major. Sadly for me, he died just before the semester I was to take his class. Little did I know then that, over half a century later, I would be learning about *Hans Reichenbach’s* life, talking via long distance to his 96-year-old widow, Maria, and his daughter, Elizabeth. As a first-year graduate student, I was not aware that *Richard von Mises*, *William Prager*, and *Arthur von Hippel*, authors of seminal texts I was reading, would appear in the course of my research for a book manuscript on their enforced exile years.

While moving away from mathematical dynamics of fluid flow and the highly experimental materials science and beginning to read for my dissertation in the fast-emerging field of Operations Research, I quickly learned about America’s pioneers in the science of management—the time studies of *Frederick W. Taylor* and the motions studies by *Frank and Lillian Gilbreth* (*Cheaper by the Dozen*, 1948). I was also impressed to learn that the modern

American (as well as urban Turkish) home kitchen was designed to conserve limb motion and body movement. It was not until doing research for this book that I learned who had first converted these efficiency ideas into kitchen design blueprints. *Margarete Schütte-Lihotzky*, an Austrian architect, integrated this concept into large multi-dwelling complexes that had been built in Austria and Germany for working-class families in the 1920s. I also learned that there was an anti-Nazi underground in Austria and that *Schütte-Lihotzky*, (and a fellow Austrian architect) left Turkey to join this movement. I did not understand that each time my doctoral advisor would invite me to have lunch at the UCLA Faculty Club, I would be sitting in the same room as the great Turkologist, *Andreas Tietze*, the superb sinologist/sociologist, *Wolfram Eberhard*, and the renowned theatrical producer and opera director, *Carl Ebert*.

Long after my student days, I listened to *Paul Hindemith’s* music being performed by the Cleveland Orchestra. By the time the children of my children had reached young adulthood, I had spent many a Saturday morning at the Atatürk Arts Complex in the Taksim Square of Istanbul where the music was always good, as was the company of my Turkish friends, and the ticket price always low, thanks to

municipal subsidies. I have only recently found out that the original concert hall was designed by *Clemens Holzmeister* in collaboration with the very same *Carl Ebert* whose theatrical and operatic productions I had so enjoyed in Los Angeles back in the 1950s.

In the late 1950s, I did not reflect on the possibility that the optical, solar, and radio telescopes I was helping design would be used over the coming decades by astronomers who, like me, had had to escape from the Nazis. Nor could I have known in the early 1940s that, in Istanbul, only one night’s voyage away across the Black Sea from Feodosiya, there were young displaced persons like me. But, unlike me, they were living fairly normal, happy lives surrounded by family, and each was receiving a good education. They were under the protection of the “barbarian” Turks while I was in Feodosiya and elsewhere often just trying to be on the “right side” of the battle between armies of the “proletariat” Russians and those of the “civilized” Germans. It was the Germans that I feared most.

I was keenly watching the news coming in from Europe when the Soviet Union cut off ground traffic in an attempt to starve the Allies out of Berlin during the first stand-off of the Cold War (1948),

but I did not make the connection that Berlin's mayor at that time was *Ernst Reuter*, whose life had been saved by a Turkish invitation to help set up their universities and city planning organizations.

As an amateur sculptor, I enjoyed seeing a *Rudolf Belling* sculpture every time I went to give guest lectures at the Macka campus of Istanbul Technical University. The older I become, the more I get X-rayed, CTed, and MRled. So when that happens, I think of physicist, *Friedrich Dessauer*, an early X-ray researcher, and *Carl Weissglass*, his engineer. I also think of radiologist *Max Sgalitzer*, a victim of excessive exposure over a lifetime of pioneering this wonderful diagnostic medium, and his Istanbul wing mates, *Walter Reininger*, the engineer and inventor of an early dosimeter, and *Margarethe Reininger*, an early radiological nurse, one of a husband-and-wife team.

As I researched material for, *Turkey's Modernization: Refugees from Nazism and Atatürk's Vision* I came to the conclusion that *Erica Bruck's* research publications and laboratory manuals/standards have influenced the health care I received in California, Wisconsin, and Ohio. The same is true for my children and grandchildren who are scattered around the globe. Also, with age, many more of my friends have to fight off cancer, a dreadful disease indeed. Each time the word comes up, I think that if a cure is ever found, zoologist *Curt Kosswig* will have played a role in that outcome.

Ignorant as I am of immunology, I cannot help but wonder whether the work in this field by immunologist *Felix Haurowitz* influenced the use of *Bacillus Calmette-Guerin* vaccine (BCG), a tubercular agent, widely used to prevent reoccurrence of bladder cancer. As I followed the controversy surrounding the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum's exhibit entitled "The Crossroads: The End of World War II, the Atomic Bomb and the Cold War" and the uproar regarding the refurbishment of the

“ Atatürk's foresight and prescience as well as the follow-through by his successor Ismet Inonu helped save Jewish lives throughout the course of war in Europe. ”

warrior plane *Enola Gay*, all to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the war in 1995, I had no idea the museum's director at the time was *Dr. Martin Harwit*, the son of *Felix Haurowitz*. And to my great, although pleasant, surprise, while in the final stages of getting the manuscript ready for the publisher, one of its guest copy editors, *Jean Hull Herman* who spent sixteen years as editor-in-chief of *MÖBIUS, The Poetry Magazine*, was shocked to learn that *Erich Auerbach*, one of her literary idols, wrote his classic account of the genesis of the novel, *Mimesis*, while in Turkey.

Being interested in the history of science, I was delighted to read in Albert Einstein's own words that astronomer *E. Finlay Freundlich* "was the first among fellow-scientists who has taken pains to put the [relativity] theory to the test." But I was shocked to read Albert Einstein's letter of May 2 1936, saying, "he was told explicitly that they did not want to hire Jews at Princeton [University]." On the other hand, as a survivor of the Holocaust, I was delighted to learn that an invitation from the Turkish government extracted dentistry professor *Alfred Kantorowicz* from nine months of concentration camp incarceration, that ENT specialist *Karl Hellmann* was able to yank his brother

Bruno out of *Buchenwald* and bring him to safety in Turkey, and that pediatrician *Albert Eckstein* was influential in persuading ministers of Turkey's government to let European Jews go through Turkey, thus saving over 20,000 Jews from extermination, including a train load of 233 souls that came out of *Bergen-Belsen* in July of 1944.

As indicated, Atatürk's foresight and prescience as well as the follow-through by his successor Ismet Inonu helped save Jewish lives throughout the course of war in Europe. More could have been saved if only the British Colonial Office was more forthcoming in issuing permits to Palestine. Turkey was ready and willing to issue the necessary transit visas. The British were playing to Arab audiences, sources of much needed oil. Turkey had a precedent in welcoming Jews at risk. It goes back to the expulsion from Spain of Jews during the 15th century. Many were welcomed in Turkey. The same was true following the Soviet Revolution in 1928. Atatürk's actions in the 30s essentially reflected that tolerance, but as a visionary, his was much more. He must have realized how much Turks could learn from the Jewish scholars. Of course the salutary effect for Turkey was immense.

It is sad but true that when I contacted professionals teaching Holocaust history at the local schools, and colleges, as well as some of the rabbis who had given recent sermons on the subject, none had any knowledge whatsoever of Turkey's role in saving so many intellectuals. Of the larger issue of Turkey and the Holocaust, they either had fragmentary knowledge (such as the sinking of the refugee ship *Struma* in the Black Sea with great loss of life), were grossly misinformed, negatively predisposed (particularly in the *Struma* incident), or all of the above.

Likewise, each time I run into a Turkish intellectual, academic, or practicing physician, engineer, musician, artist, or lawyer, I can't help but think about how profoundly their educations were influenced by their "German" professors.

*continued on page 22*



# Atatürk in the World Press November 1938

*Atatürk achieved his greatness to make Turkey a fully independent and a respected member of the community of civilized nations in a very short time which was between 1919 – 1938.*

**A**tatürk died on November 10, 1938. He was only 57 years old. The state funeral for him was an historical event in the country and the entire world which had never been witnessed before, creating feelings of both sorrow and pride for millions of people who knew his remarkable achievements in the short span of his life. The funeral was very remarkable on the part of the countries that had fought against him on the battlefield. They had all sent special representatives and armed detachments to attend the funeral.

Atatürk achieved his greatness to make Turkey a fully independent and a respected member of the community of civilized nations in a very short time which was between 1919 – 1938. He left behind him a country structured on democracy and based on secularism, not a dictatorship. Atatürk has strongly believed that religion should be separated from state.

He had great faith in the youth who he called on to be

proud, self-confident, and hard working since they would be the generation to carry on the goals of the new Republic.

Atatürk inspired change not only in his own country, but also among nations occupied then by colonial powers, particularly in French North Africa and British India. Yet Atatürk did not encourage subversion among subjects of imperialism, he merely served as an example. As a military man, he knew what a war cost, and therefore emphasized the importance of world peace. His well known foreign policy statement was; “Peace at Home, Peace in the World” which has guided the young country up to present day.

Atatürk will be remembered for anchoring Turkey to the civilized world, namely the West, and his goal was mainly modernization. Atatürk’s reforms have been sustained and strengthened over the years.

After his death on November 10, 1938, the world’s media attention focused on Turkey. Below is a list of the coverage:

- *The Herald* (Australia, November 11, 1938) “The Noblest Turk is Dead: Kemal, The Man Who Rebuilt a Nation.”
- *Dominion* (New Zealand, November 11, 1938) “Kemal Atatürk Dead: The Maker of Modern Turkey, Revitalizer of a Nation.”
- *The Osaka Mainichi* (Japan, November 11, 1938) “Turkey’s President is Taken by Death”
- *Japan Weekly Chronicle* (Japan, November 17, 1938) “Kemal Pasa lived to become not only Turkey’s greatest general in modern times, but the innovator of reforms that would be incredible if they had not actually been brought about.”
- *The China Press* (China, November 12, 1938) “With the death of Kemal Atatürk, President of the new Turkey, there passes more than a magnificent world figure and a great leader; there passes the very source of unquestionable flame of freedom

“ Atatürk knew what a war cost, and therefore emphasized the importance of world peace.”

kindled and fostered through a decade in the bosom of the Turkish people.”

- *Toronto Daily Starr* (Canada, November 11, 1938) “Turkey’s Strong Man is Dead: One of the Outstanding Men of Our Time.”
- *Egyptian Gazette* (Egypt, November 11, 1938) “Soldier and Statesman. Creator of Modern Turkey. Story of a Prodigious

Career.”

- *Cape Times* (South Africa, November 11, 1938) “Death of Kemal Atatürk : Career of Amazing Achievements.”
- *Pravda* (Yugoslavia, November 14, 1938), “Representatives of All of Europe’s Countries Will Attend Atatürk’s Funeral)
- *The Irish Times* (Ireland, November 11, 1938) “Mustafa Kemal: Savior of His Country, A Fine Military Leader, and the Man Who Changed the Fate of His Country.”
- *Kathimerini* (Greece, November 11, 1938), “Turkey was very fortunate to have a leader who friends and foes alike around the world admired and were jealous of. His death is a great loss not only for Turkey, but for world civilization.”
- *Berlingske Tidende* (Denmark, November 11, 1938), “The Man Who Lifted the Turkish Nation and Created a Modern State.”



Quite naturally one day mortal body will become soil; but the Turkish Republic will last forever. (1926)

- *Corriera Della Sera* (Italy, November 11, 1938), "The Creator of Modern Turkey Died."
- *L'Action Francaise* (France, November 11, 1938) "The Death of Gazi: He carved out thousands of years of tradition, and was able to undertake unbelievable reforms in a few short years."
- *Le Figaro* (France, November 11, 1938)

"This Great Statesman Was a Person: He enthusiastically loved life."

- *Berliner L. Anzeiger* (Germany, November 10, 1938) "Flags Lowered at all Government Buildings in Berlin."
- *Washington Post* (USA, November 13, 1938) "Fearless Turk Leader Taught Country How to Take Care of Itself."
- *Chicago Daily Tribune* (USA, November

11, 1938) "A Great Man is Gone."

- *TIME* (USA, November 21, 1938)

"Modern Turkey Has Lost Her Foremost Social and Political Architect."

- *The New York Times* (USA, November 12, 1938) "Roosevelt Expresses Sympathy: 'I Have learned with sincere sorrow of the death of His Excellency, Kemal Atatürk, the President of Turkey, whose devotion to his country won for him the respect of the entire world.'"

- *The New York Times* (USA, November 11, 1938) "Atatürk, a Military Hero, Formed Surging Nation."

- *The New York Times* (USA, November 11, 1938) "Nation Goes in Mourning: Peaceful Transition to New Era Seen. Unity is Stressed Under Ideal of Founder."

- *London Illustrated News* (England, November 19, 1938) "He Loved His Country, Created a Modern Turkey, and Brought Back Respect for the Turkish Nation."

- *Economist* (England, November 19, 1938) "Atatürk, the Great Turkish Statesman who died this Thursday, will go down to history as a genius of the same type and stature as Peter the Great. Like his Russian peer, President Mustafa Kemal Atatürk has achieved the super human task of converting a whole world to the western way of life in the span of a single generation. Peter "westernized" all the Russians; Kemal, in westernizing Turkey, has determined destinies of the whole of the Islamic world."

- *Daily Sketch* (England, November 11, 1938) "Man who Made Turkey a Great Nation."

- *The Times* (England, November 11, 1938) "Of the leaders the new Europe has seen emerge from confusion of the war and revolution, none has accomplished more, none has faced greater difficulties. He leaves his people mourning. It may at least console them to know that in this country their old opponents, now turned friends, who admired him as a redoubtable enemy, deeply regret the loss that Turkey and Europe have sustained in the death of a great man."

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But above all, I think of the men and women whose stories of enforced but life-saving exile are the very essence of my book. And, each time I read of a scientific or technological development affecting all of us, I can't help but consider possible linkages back to the work of the émigrés in Turkey, their progeny, their students, and the ensuing generations of all of the above.

***Sleep in peace! Turkish medicine is grateful to you.***

So reads Alfred Erich Frank's gravestone at a cemetery overlooking the Bosphorus. It was erected by the Medical Faculty of Istanbul University.

The work of these émigrés and their advancements, as well as the work they each inspired in their students and colleagues worldwide, boggles the imagination. Had that been lost, a whole range of disciplines would have certainly been impacted, some irreparably. To this I say thank you Turkey, and thank you

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk for having the vision to modernize your society and the wisdom to cease an opportunity that presented itself when other nations turned their backs. You have saved the lives of some 190 eminent intellectuals many of whom with their progeny have come to our shores at war's end to enrich our lives and the course of science, medicine, and knowledge in general.

*I This article is based on Reisman, A. (2006) Turkey's Modernization: Refugees from Nazism and Atatürk's Vision Washington, DC: New Academia Publishers. 600 pgs. [http://www.newacademia.com/turkeys\\_modernization/](http://www.newacademia.com/turkeys_modernization/)*



**\* Arnold Reisman**

was born in Lodz, Poland in 1934 and immigrated to the US in June of 1946. He received his BS, MS, and PhD degrees in engineering from UCLA. He is a registered Professional Engineer in California, Wisconsin, and Ohio, and has published over 200 papers in refereed

professional journals, along with 14 books. After 27 years as Professor of Operations Research at Case Western Reserve University, Reisman chose early retirement in 1994. During 1999-2003, he was an invited Visiting Scholar in Turkey at both Sabanci University, and the Istanbul Technical University. His current research interests are technology transfer, meta research, and most recently, the history of German-speaking exiled professors starting in 1933 and their impact on science in general and Turkish universities in particular. In this regard Reisman is also researching Albert Einstein's role in saving Nazi persecuted intellectuals and the rise and fall (in stature) of universities in selected countries. Reisman is still actively pursuing his lifelong interest in sculpting. He is listed in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the World, American Men and Women of Science, and Two Thousand Notable Americans, and he is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Among his 200-plus publications in refereed journals and 14 books Reisman's most recent book is: *TURKEY'S MODERNIZATION: Refugees from Nazism and Atatürk's Vision*. It has received many outstanding pre and post publication reviews as can be seen among other outlets from. e-mail: [arnoldreisman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:arnoldreisman@sbcglobal.net)

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ber, many Turkish organizations in America have made bringing economic security to the Mehmetci a reality. The Atatürk Society, with the help of ATA-DC and our members, has raised over \$17,000.00 for our Mehmetcik Fund. That money is being matched dollar for dollar by the Turkish Coalition of America. My goal for the coming year is to first finally upgrade our web-page and make it an interactive medium to promote our work. My second goal is to work with other organizations in the United States and abroad to empower women and to bring economic security to the people in the smallest of communities in Turkey and elsewhere. By bringing economic security, we can promote education, science, democracy, and ultimately world peace.

Before I close, I want to publicly thank my fantastic Board of Directors, and those that have really made a difference in my presidency. Mirat Yavalar, our Treasurer, is the backbone of this organization, and somehow always makes the impossible possible. Filiz Odabas-Geldiay, our Vice-President, is always profound in her thoughts, and magically turns the essence of my ideas into actionable realities. Ilknur Boray, our Secretary, is an angel, and somehow always gets it right or makes it right. Bulent Atalay, our member at large, is a man larger than life, and

is as much an inspiration to me as DaVinci is to him. Finally, I thank Hudai Yavalar, our founder, who always reminds me of what matters most-promoting Atatürk's vision for world peace. I also want to thank Sitki Kazanci, for designing this publication; William Alli, for valuing what really matters; Kenan Aylangan, for being a benchmark of what every Turkish parent should be, and for his May 19th gift to us (who I also thank), and finally I thank Ambassador Nabi Sensoy and Gülgün Hanim for going the extra mile (sometimes 5423 miles) to make things happen.

I look forward to your continued support, and I thank you for helping us continue our work in promoting Atatürk and his vision to help establish world peace. Finally, I also ask that you share this magazine with as many friends as you can, and ask them to join us as members in our mission.

With sincerest gratitude



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and culture. I know that in his later life he became very close to Britain. That is interesting since that was his main enemy in the Dardanelles campaign. But he did admire things British and worked very hard to adopt what he thought were the most civilized aspects of English culture. I think that his appreciation for Western Europe, for its society and for was reciprocated. Many of them, and particularly Mr. Churchill soon saw what Kemal Atatürk was attempting to accomplish, and they applauded it. And they worked with him in whatever way they could. He was highly respected in those circles.

Ö.O.: Admiral Crowe, might there be anything that you would like to underline for this interview?

CROWE: I have always looked at Atatürk primarily through my own experience, my military experience. The reason why I always felt that he was a step above most prominent military men is that when Atatürk entered the First World War; he did not only have the problem of just leading the Turkish army,

he had the problem of setting up a government and literally creating a new Turkish army before he could ever fight. That is a tremendous task. And incidentally he had to do it with very few indigenous resources. He did not have that much backing, that much money, etc. But he literally created a modern army and took it into the field, led it to victory. But this demonstrated that he was a man with many parts; that he was not just a typical military field commander. He had a very broad gaze, and was a deep person. And then of course the next twenty years he made a big transition as a politician and Statesman and he was very successful there as well.

Ö.O.: I thank you very much indeed, Admiral Crowe.

CROWE: Thank you. I always enjoy talking about Atatürk. When I served in the Mediterranean I became quite interested in your country and particularly in Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Remarkable story, incredible man!

*continued from page 11*

ing existing organizations or materials on Atatürk. Quite the contrary; my intention is to show what is possible when there is a common purpose and focus, and we act with the goal of creating concrete, tangible, long-lasting achievements. These qualities are, after all, representative of Atatürk.

When Mount Vernon decided to elevate education within its mission, its activities, development, and exhibits were undertaken with this goal in mind. In addition to the new Education Center, which cost nearly \$110 million, Mount Vernon's Web Site provides a wealth of information for children, adults, and educators. If you have a few minutes, please visit <http://www.mountvernon.org/learn/>, especially clicking on Meet George Washington and exploring the links in the left hand column. In addition, the new Phoebe Apperson Hearst Learning Center at Mount Vernon features shelves filled with lesson plans, bibliographies, biographies and general histories, as well as educational cd-roms and dvds. Of course at Anıtkabir, Atatürk's Mausoleum and Museum in Ankara, Turkey, Atatürk's legacy and place in world history have been preserved as impressively as Washington's life at Mount Vernon. We must make sure that the national treasure housed at Anıtkabir

continues to be preserved and accessible. However, I was hard-pressed to find information on Atatürk specifically geared towards educators and children on any web site or in other easily accessible forms. Our approach should be not to dump pictures and text onto the printed- or web-page but to present Atatürk's life philosophy and accomplishments in a manner that is easily accessible, sharable, educational, and inspirational. It is incumbent upon us, but perhaps more importantly, the Ministry of Education to ensure this happens. As you can read in the accompanying article "Atatürk yok, peri ve sihir var", children in Turkey certainly are not learning about Atatürk through school books.

Secondly, Mount Vernon has never received funding from Federal, State or Local Governments. The new Education Center was made possible by donations from various foundations and corporations. In addition to an extensive gift shop, and entrance fees, Mount Vernon receives financial support through various types of membership and giving programs. There is an opportunity for the public to donate and be involved regardless of the size of your budget. It is amazing to see what can be accomplished and sustained when there is financial support. I have watched The Atatürk Society of America continue its

activities with limited human and financial resources over the past 10 years. We should support ASA on an on-going basis so that it can both expand and deepen its range of activities. Though we do not have the benefit of a physical center in the U.S focusing on Atatürk, imagine if ASA had the resources to reach out to 400,000 (or merely 4,000) school children each year. Better yet, imagine if you were one of the people who could make that possible! Therefore, I encourage you to show your support for ASA and for 'what can be possible' by making a contribution, no matter the amount, to the Atatürk Society of America, 4731 Massachusetts Ave. NW Washington DC 20016.

As a community of Turks and Turkish-Americans, with focus, commitment and financial support for associations such as ASA, I believe that the sky is the limit in terms of what we can accomplish in our life-times, and more importantly, what we can leave behind for future generations.

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*\* Pelin Aylangan served as President of the American-Turkish Association of Washington DC (ATA-DC) from 2005-2007. She currently works for Dun & Bradstreet and resides in Fairfax, Virginia and Istanbul, Turkey. She can be reached at [paylangan@yahoo.com](mailto:paylangan@yahoo.com)*

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The Board of Directors of the Atatürk Society of America THANKS the following donors for their generous contributions to help support Turkish Veterans that have sacrificed life or limb for the preservation of Atatürk's Republic.

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