

ASSEMBLY OF TURKISH AMERICAN ASSOCIATIONS

23rd Annual Convention

December 12-14, 2002

Hotel Washington, Washington, DC

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*In the case of
Alexander the Great,
follow this path.*



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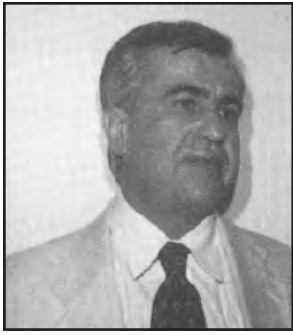
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Welcome Message By ATAA President

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings and welcome to the 23rd Annual Convention of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations.

We are holding this convention as Turkey stands at the threshold of historic opportunities and challenges. A new government has been formed by the Justice and Development Party (AKP) that for the first time in many years will govern the country on its own. Turkey's EU membership prospects will reach an important milestone with the Copenhagen Summit; negotiations have reached a critical momentum on Cyprus with a new UN settlement plan proposed to the two sides for negotiations; global and regional foreign policy challenges, in the form of Turkey's role in the war against terrorism and future international action regarding Iraq, are augmented by ongoing efforts to salvage the losses from the worst economic crisis in Turkey's modern history. Monumental changes have taken place in Turkey's constitutional, legal, social and political order that may yet be followed by other groundbreaking reforms in compliance with the wishes of the Turkish people, such as election law and political party law reforms, that will open the way for more representative and transparent governance. This is the backdrop against which we have gathered, and we will try to address some of these crucial issues here during our convention.

In my last Convention as President of the Assembly, I would also like to take this opportunity to review the past two years and what we have accomplished as ATAA.

During my tenure, we set out to undertake a major expansion in our national outreach and worked to increase the visibility of ATAA, both in the United States and in Turkey. I believe that in great part we have achieved this goal.

Building upon the work of past ATAA leadership, we worked to increase the profile of the Assembly in Washington DC and across the country. Despite the fact that 2001 and 2002 were marred by a terrible attack on our country on September 11 and an ensuing economic downturn both in the United States and in Turkey, we strived to undertake the many activities we set out to do. The war against terrorism brought special spotlight on Turkey and our community rose to the challenge to help ATAA to reap benefits for Turkey out of this renewed interest. We worked hard to increase individual ATAA members, while strengthening our relations with ATAA component associations around the country. The appeal of ATAA as the national umbrella organization of the Turkish American community remained strong, as three new Turkish American associations applied to join ATAA at this convention, which will bring the number of ATAA member associations to 57.

I had also pledged to help ATAA be even more an organization of the community, not a body entrenched in Washington DC, out of touch with its members and supporters. During my term, our Board decided to implement a series of nationwide Grassroots/Leadership conferences for our community. The result were a series of events in Houston, New York, Atlanta, Detroit, Monterey, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Seattle. These road shows were designed to learn more about the interests and needs of different local communities and answer the questions of specific groups of

local activists. Each event was customized according to the preferences of the local ATAA component association and our regional Vice Presidents and were designed to provide participants with information and know-how to help them become more successful and focused in their work. Nearly one thousand members of our community participated in these seminars and activities around them, strengthening the national grassroots outreach of the Assembly and increasing advocacy efforts of the Turkish American community. To further solidify the national presence of ATAA, I believe in the long-term benefit of opening ATAA regional chapters in at least 3-4 locations with large Turkish American local communities and hope that ATAA can undertake this important step in the near future.

In line with our efforts to provide the Turkish American community's input to policy making in Ankara and to educate the ATAA leadership on issues of importance to the United States and to Turkey, we organized two trips to Turkey during my tenure. In 2001, we visited Ankara and extended our visit to South/Southeast Turkey, visiting lands that have been continuously inhabited for over 7,000 years, rich not only in history, but also in a living culture of different religions and ethnicities. During this journey we discovered the many different faces of Turkey and gained a better understanding of the issues that affect this region and Turkey, while witnessing its enormous potential. In 2002, after our visit to Ankara, we traveled on to Bulgaria, an important neighbor of Turkey with which it shares a long history and that is home to a large Turkish community. Through our many meetings with Bulgarian officials, including those of Turkish descent, we saw the transformation of the Bulgarian Turkish minority into a vibrant partner in the country's government and in its future. I am also happy to report that many recommendations made by ATAA delegations during our visits to Ankara were brought to fruition, one of them being a visit by 39 Turkish American youths to Turkey, which we hope will continue as an annual program.

On the legislative front, the past year has been a good one for both Turkey and the Turkish American community, reflective of the increasing importance of Turkey for the United States and globally. 2002 has seen an unprecedented number of resolutions and legislation pass the United States Congress in support of US-Turkish relations and Turkey. ATAA provided leadership and guidance to members of our community in support of these measures. Another indication of growing awareness about Turkey in Congress and the contributions to this extend of our community was the significant increase in membership of the Caucus on US-Turkish Relations and Turkish Americans.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my fellow board members, without whose committed leadership, volunteer spirit and extraordinary dedication to Turkish American causes, we would have not accomplished what we have.

Last but not least, I want to thank the professional staff that works tirelessly for the ATAA and with great dedication and who have given the board and me all the support we needed as we tried to accomplish our work.

Sincerely,

Orhan Kaymakçalan, M.D.

President



US President's Message

I send greetings to those gathered for the 23rd Annual Convention of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA).

Turkey serves as an example of a constitutional and secular democracy that treasures the vibrant faith of Islam. By embracing modernity while remaining true to its rich cultural heritage, Turkey demonstrates a hopeful alternative to religious intolerance and extremism.

As our only Muslim NATO ally, Turkey has stood as a strong friend of the United States for over 50 years, and our Nation is grateful for Turkey's continued cooperation in the war against terrorism. As we face the challenges and opportunities of a new era, America recognizes the historic and strategic importance of advancing Turkey's evolution towards the European Union. We also strongly support the efforts of United Nations Secretary General Annan to foster a just and lasting political settlement for Cyprus that will contribute to regional peace and stability.

I commend the ATAA for your dedication to promoting greater understanding between the American and Turkish peoples through social, educational, cultural and charitable activities. Your efforts advance tolerance and peace, and strengthen the friendship between our countries.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a memorable event.

George Bush

President of the United States of America



Turkish President's Message

Türkiye ile Amerika Birleşik Devletleri arasındaki karşılıklı anlayış, işbirliği ve dostluk ilişkilerinin gelişmesine büyük katkılarda bulunan Türk-Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi'ni 23. Yıllık Genel Kongresi nedeniyle kutluyorum.

Türkiye ile Amerika Birleşik Devletleri arasında geçmişin sınavlarından başarıyla çıkarak kendini kanıtlamış olan stratejik ortaklık 11 Eylül sonrasında yeni boyutlar kazanmıştır. Türkiye ile Amerika Birleşik Devletleri, tarihin bu döneminde, ortak yarar temelinde kapsamlı bir işbirliği gerçekleştirebilecek konumdadır. Uluslararası düzeyde mücadele ettiğimiz terör, ileride daha sıkı bir işbirliğini gerektirecek sorunlardan biri olarak önümüzde durmaktadır.

Amerika Birleşik Devletleri'nde sürekli büyüyen Türk toplumunun seçkin temsilcilerini biraraya getiren Asamble, zaman içinde işlevlerini geliştirerek Türk-Amerikan ilişkilerinin daha ileri götürülmesinde vazgeçilmez bir rol üstlenmiştir. Türk- Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi, özveriyle çalışan üyeleri ve dernekleriyle, Türkiye'nin Batı ile Doğu'yu yakınlaştırma çabalarına, ekonomik ve stratejik konumunun güçlendirilmesinde ve Türk-Amerikan halkları arasındaki bağların pekiştirilmesine en yapıcı biçimde destek olmuştur.

Hiç kuşkusuz, Türk kökenli Amerikalıların ve Türk-Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi'nin sürekli desteği iki ülke arasındaki ilişkilere güç kazandıracaktır. Toplum içinde merkezi konumda bulunan ve Amerika Birleşik Devletleri'nin her köşesinde etkin temsilcileri olan Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi, gerekli bilgi ve deneyimi sadece Türk kökenli Amerikalılara aktarmakla kalmamakta, aynı zamanda genelde Amerikan kamuoyuna ve ticari çevrelere etkin biçimde sunmaktadır.

Türk-Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi'nin tüm üyelerine ve bu çatı kuruluş içinde yer alan derneklere övgüye değer çalışmaları nedeniyle teşekkür eder, Asamble'nin çalışmalarına ivme kazandıracığına inandığım 23. Genel Kongre'nin başarılı geçmesini dilerim.

Ahmet Necdet Sezer

President of the Republic of Turkey



Turkish President's Message

On the occasion of the 23rd Annual Convention, I congratulate the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) for its great contributions to the improvement of mutual understanding, cooperation and friendship between Turkey and the United States of America.

The strategic partnership between Turkey and the USA, which has successfully passed through past challenges, has gained new dimensions in the aftermath of September 11th. Turkey and the USA, at this juncture in history, are in a position to enjoy a comprehensive cooperation based on mutual benefits. The global fight against terrorism is one of the problems that will require even closer cooperation in the future.

Uniting distinguished representatives of the ever growing Turkish American community, the Assembly has enhanced its role over time and has assumed an indispensable role in furthering relations between Turkey and the USA. Through the selfless efforts of its members and associations, the Assembly of Turkish American Associations contributed, in a most constructive manner, to Turkey's efforts in bridging East and West, strengthening the economic and strategic position of Turkey, as well as the bonds between the Turkish and American people.

I am confident that the ongoing support of Americans of Turkish descent and ATAA will further strengthen relations between the two countries. ATAA with its central position within the community and its effective representatives nationwide not only provides its expertise and experiences to Turkish Americans, but also to the American public at large and the business communities.

I would like to thank all members and associations under the ATAA roof for their commendable efforts and wish for a successful 23rd Annual Convention, which I am sure will further the future endeavors of the Assembly.

Ahmet Necdet Sezer

President of the Republic of Turkey



Turkish Prime Minister's Message

In contemporary history Turkey's role in bridging East and West remains as crucial as ever. Turkey's commitment to common values such as democracy, respect for human rights, the rule of law, and free market economy is a testament to Turkey's irrevocable Western orientation.

These common values and shared interests paved the way for a mutual beneficial cooperation between Turkey and the United States following World War II. The progress we achieved in our relations since then is impressive and we now look forward fully utilizing the economic potential that this partnership promises.

Our common efforts towards the establishment of political stability and promotion of economic progress in a vast geography underline the importance of contemporary Turkish - American strategic partnership. Furthermore, as a country that has suffered from terrorism, Turkey understands well and empathizes with the American people. As a friend of the United States of America and a NATO ally, Turkey will continue to do its share in the global fight against terrorism, till this scourge is eradicated.

The Turkish experience through its peaceful harmony of eastern and western values with global economic and political perspectives in a secular society, creates a unique cultural and geographical asset for both Turkey and the United States in their continuous endeavors to achieve global peace, security, and prosperity.

Turkish – Americans have indeed contributed to the strategic relations prevailing between the two countries. The growing activity and the vigorous support of the Turkish – American community and its distinguished representatives such as the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) create an exemplary coherent atmosphere for the two countries' strategic partnership to gain momentum.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank ATAA and all its members for their diligent work carry further the understanding, cooperation and friendship between Turkey and the United States. We follow with great appreciation ATAA's tireless efforts such as publishing the "Turkish Times" and organizing festivals throughout the United States, as well as its latest endeavor to bring Turkish – American students to Turkey.

The annual ATAA convention has proved to be an excellent forum to further develop the friendly ties between our two nations and to promote the Turkish – American strategic partnership.

In congratulating ATAA, I am happy to observe that this year's convention once again takes up issues vital to Turkey and also endeavors to seek ways to contribute to the progress of the Turkish – American community. I thank ATAA for advancing Turkish – American relations through its extensive activities and various programs.

Abdullah Gül

Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey



Turkish Foreign Minister's Message

Half a century ago, Turkey and the United States embarked on a path of mutually beneficial cooperation defined by common values and shared interests. Over the decades, our bilateral relations have expanded, diversified and strengthened. In the aftermath of the Cold War and 9/11, Turkey and the USA now enjoy a comprehensive and substantial “strategic partnership.”

I am happy to observe that over the years, ATAA has developed increasingly effective projects such as organizing leadership and grassroots conferences around the United States, hence reaching out to Turkish Americans all over this great country.

I am confident that ATAA with its impressive track record in helping to further relations between Turkey and the United States will continue to remain a vital element of Turkish –American relations and promote full realization of present potentials and future goals of the two countries.

I congratulate ATAA on its 23rd Annual Convention, thank all members and associations for their commendable efforts and wish them continued success in their endeavors.

Yaşar Yakış

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey



Turkish Ambassador's Message

On the occasion of its 23rd Annual Convention, I congratulate the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) and convey my warm greetings to its members.

Turkey and the United States have been able to enhance their exemplary ties of friendship in recent years more than ever. The bilateral relationship between the two countries with shared common vision and values is now qualified as a strategic partnership. This partnership plays a key role in promoting and preserving regional and global peace. I am confident that Turkey and the United States will both gain more by deepening and further diversifying their relations, especially by expanding their economic and commercial cooperation.

The Turkish-American community has been a key factor in the promotion of the Turkish-American partnership thanks to the efforts of organizations like ATAA. Indeed, Turkish-American organizations have come a long way and achieved many successes. However, further efforts to increase the synergy among these organizations will create even more opportunities to promote their agenda.

The ATAA annual conferences have proven to be an outstanding forum to further increase the solidarity and awareness of the Turkish-American community and advance the Turkish-American partnership. I have no doubt that ATAA will continue to contribute to the full realization of present potentials and future goals in Turkish-US relations.

I commend each and every member of ATAA for the dedication to strengthen the ties between Turkey and the United States and extend my best wishes for a productive conference and continued success.

H.E. Osman Faruk Loğođlu

Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the United States



Assembly of Turkish American Associations

***Home of 54
Turkish
American
Associations
across U.S.,
Canada and
Turkey***

***Founded in 1979,
the mission of
the Assembly of
Turkish American
Associations
(ATAA) is to unite
to the fast growing
community
of Turkish
Americans, friends
of Turkey and
their associations
throughout the
United States;
preserve and
protect the
identity of the
Turkish American
community and
build bridges
between the
American and
Turkish people.***

ATAA was co-founded by the American Turkish Association of Washington and the Maryland American Turkish Association in an effort to create a national organization representing the Turkish American community. The first meeting of the ATAA General Assembly was held in May of 1980 in Washington. Delegates from 26 organizations participated and created a coordination committee to write the constitution and bylaws. The bylaws of ATAA were ratified on November 16, 1980 and the first board of ATAA elected.

From this nucleus, the Assembly has grown into an organization that represents 54 Turkish American organizations in the United States, Canada and Turkey. Today, the Assembly is an influential and fast growing civic organization that pursues the interests of Turkish Americans and friends of Turkey in Washington and beyond, as well as contributes to the strengthening of relations between the United States and Turkey.

A growing base of individual ATAA members support the work of the Assembly through dues and donations. Financial assistance to the operations of ATAA is also granted from the ATAA Endowment Fund established to secure the long-term growth of the organization.

To fulfill its mission and objectives, ATAA undertakes a number of activities, such as educational seminars for Turkish American communities on grassroots advocacy and civic leadership; conferences on contemporary political, social and economic issues related to Turkey and US-Turkish relations; and cultural events to promote Turkey's rich traditions, art and heritage. Working as an information clearinghouse, ATAA regularly publishes reference material on issues that concern the Turkish American community. The Assembly is also the publisher of a bi-weekly newspaper since 1989, The Turkish Times. ATAA hosts one of the most dynamic website on Turkey and maintains an extensive E-mail communication network. For more information on the daily work of ATAA, visit www.ataa.org.

ATAA is a 501 (c) 3 tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Dues and donations are tax-deductible.

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ATAA Board of Directors (2003-2004)

Executive Board

President: **Ercüment Kılıç**

Mr. Kılıç was born in 1958 in Ankara. He is a graduate of UT-Austin with a BS in Economics and International Politics. He has served numerous times as President of TURANT and as VP of ATAA. Among his accomplishments is his involvement and arrangement of Congressman Jim Moody's trip as the first US Congressman in history to visit Azerbaijan. Due to his formal training in performing arts, he has been a cultural ambassador for Turkey since 1977. He has been invited by various organizations to do seminars and workshops on Turkish folklore in all 50 states in the US and in England, Germany, Holland, Switzerland, the Republic of China, Hong Kong, and Japan. .

President-Elect: **Vural Cengiz**

Mr. Cengiz graduated from Ankara University's School of Political Sciences (SBF) in 1980 with a B.A degree. He holds an M.A. degree from Çukurova University of Turkey. He received his MBA from State University of West Georgia in 1989. Member of the Turkish American Cultural Association of Georgia since 1986. President of TACA-GA from 1994 to 1997. Vice-President of ATAA from 1996 to 2000: Executive Board member and Treasurer of ATAA since 2000. He received the High Service Award of TACA-GA in 1998, Meritorious Service Award of ATAA in 1996, and the Distinguished Service Award of ATAA in 1998. He is the President of 101 Brands, Inc. and American Culinary Development, Inc. He is also a board member of Turcorp, Inc. and is married to Sabina.

General-Secretary: **Özgür Karaosmanoğlu**

Mr. Karaosmanoğlu received his BA in Economics as well as his MBA from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. In addition to his past two years of service as Secretary General of the ATAA and his active membership in Turkish-American Business Forum, Özgür previously served as a Board Member for the ATA-DC. He is very active in the national and local Tulane University Alumni Associations and is a former President of the local alumni chapter. Özgür has enjoyed working in the financial industry for the past 17 years and is a Senior Vice President, Investments and International Sales in the Washington, DC office of Raymond James & Associates. He lives in Bethesda with his wife Lori and their three children, Leyla, Alexander and Sara. Özgür is very active at the kids' school events, on the playing field and in their extracurricular activities.

Past-President: **Orhan Kaymakçalan**

Dr. Kaymakçalan was born in 1948. He graduated from Hacettepe University Medical School, Ankara, in 1972. After completing his surgical residency in Basic Science in Hacettepe Hospital in 1973, he performed his Surgical Residency at Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Center in Chicago, IL between 1974 and 1978. Receiving his Fellowship in Hand Surgery from University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, in 1983. He is currently Chief of the Section of Hand and Reconstructive Microsurgery at Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Center. He is a member of American and Chicago Society for Surgery of the Hand. Dr. Kaymakçalan presented multiple papers in National and International Hand Society Meetings and Lectures. His publications "Dorsal Finger Subcutaneous Rotational Flap" printed in "Technical Tips for Hand Surgery" was published October of 1993. He is married to Nezahat and has two children, Sevil and Ömer.

ATAA Board of Directors (2003-2004)

Regional Vice Presidents

Midcentral Region - **Nurten Ural**

Mrs. Ural received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Environment and Design and a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Interior Design and Human Shelter for the Special Needy from Michigan State University. Nurten is the owner of an interior design firm in Farmington Hills, MI, Ural Interiors, Inc. She has received many awards for her business accomplishments and community service work including receiving the 1998 Athena Award, Business Accomplishment Award, Republican of the Year Award and served on the Board of Directors of two Chamber of Commerces, serving as Vice Chair and Chair on one of them. She has also served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Women Business Owners, Historic Homes, of the Republican Club, and on the Board of the Farmington Area Homeowners Association. Nurten served as Treasurer and as President of the Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan.

Western Region - **Ahmet Toprak**

Mr. Toprak is an engineer working in Silicon Valley. He is a graduate from Istanbul Technical University and holds a Masters Degree in Industrial Engineering from UC Berkeley. He has been active in TAAC since 1976, and has been coordinating Radio programs in the San Francisco bay area since 1982. He is also the Director of Turkish Radio Hour, a program to share Turkish culture news and music with the Bay area residents. This program is put together by the Turkish community for the benefit of the local people of non-Turkish background. He is married with one daughter.

Northeastern Region - **Erkut Gömülü**

Mr. Gömülü received his B.S. degree from Gazi University, Ankara, and his M.A. degree in Economics from Northeastern University, Boston. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the field of International Political Economy at Northeastern University. Erkut has been serving as the ATAA Vice President for Northeastern Region since May 2000. He has been the President of the Turkish American Cultural Society of New England (TACS) since 1997. He has organized numerous activities to promote Turkey and the Turkish culture, including one-month long annual Boston Turkish Festival comprising of various academic, cultural and social events since 1996. Erkut also chairs the ATAA Convention Planning Committee. He has received the ATAA Meritorious Service Award in 1999 and has been working at the Information Systems Customer Services Department of Northeastern University. He is also the founder and President of the Turkish American Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Maritime Trade. He lives in Boston with his wife Ferhan Gömülü.

Capital Region - **Oya Bain**

Mrs. Bain is a graduate of Robert College, came to the United States as a Fulbright scholar to do post graduate work in Biochemistry. In her professional career, she worked as a Clinical Chemist and Laboratory Director in the Clinical Pathology laboratories of several medical centers in Canada and the US. In 1998, she retired from her position as the Laboratory Director from Georgetown University Medical Center. Oya Bain has been involved in the Turkish -American community issues since 1970s. As the board member of American Turkish Association of Washington DC (ATA-DC), she held positions as the chair of ATA-DC Membership, Lecture and Turkish Radio committees. She was also a board member and secretary of ATAA in the 1990s and chaired the 1992 ATAA Turkish Heritage month activities. She has been ATAA Secretary General in 1998-2000, and ATAA Vice President since 2000. She is the editor of ATANews, a monthly publication of ATA-DC and frequent contributor to Turkish Times. In addition to ATA-DC, she serves on the boards of Ataturk Society of America (ASA), Washington Turkish Women's Association (WTWA),

and Maryland American Turkish Association (MATA) and serves as a liaison among various local associations and ATAA. Oya Bain lives in Bethesda, with her husband Ralph Bain, a chemist and educator, retired from the National Institutes of Health. They have one daughter, Tuvana, a physician in New York.

Upper New York Region - **Asım Şen**

Dr. Şen got his MS in Applied Engineering from Polytechnic University, NY in 1966 and Ph.D. in Economics from Rutgers University in 1978. He is currently a tenured professor at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY. He is actively involved in Global Awareness Society International, having served as the Program Committee Chair and a Board Member. He has chaired numerous conferences throughout the US and Turkey dealing with, but not limited to, international issues and technology. He has been appointed as ATAA Vice President in 1999.

SouthwesternRegion - **Coşkun Çağlar**

Mr. Çağlar received his MBA in Finance from the University of St. Thomas, and already P.E.as well as an M.S in Mechanical Engineering. He is employed at the Bechtel Corporation as a Senior Control Systems Engineer. Mr. Çağlar has been President of ATA-Houston, and continues to serve as a Board member.

Midwestern Region - **Mehmet Çelebi**

Mr.Çelebi received his BA in International Relations at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and he is currently doing an MBA at the University of Illinois-Chicago He is the current President of TACA-Chicago. Prior to that he was Chairman of the Board of TACA from 2000-2001. Current he is a Financial Advisor at Prudential Financial. He is married to Stephanie Oppenheimer-Çelebi and has one child, a son, 5 months old-Eren Çelebi.

New York Metro Region - **Tomris Azeri**

Ms. Azeri works at a family business as a finance manager She attended and graduated from the CPI (Computer Programming Institute of Paterson NJ)and studied at Montclair State College. Tomris has already served ATAA as regional VP in 1998-2000, and is currently the president of Azerbaijan Society of America. She is also serving on the Coordination Council of the World Azerbaijanis.

Northcentral Region - **Hakan İlkin**


Mr. İlkin graduated from Bogaziçi University as an Industrial Engineer in 1992. He continued his education at University of Pittsburgh where he received his Masters degree in Business Administration in 1994. Hakan is a member of Pittsburgh Turkish American Association. During 1994-1995 he acted as Treasurer to PTAA. Currently Hakan is a member of the team working on creating a Turkish Nationality Room at University of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning (www.turkish-nationality-room.org.) Mr. İlkin is Founder, President and CEO of Entelechy Health Systems / PeriOptimum , a boutique firm that specializes on continuous improvement of the perioperative services in hospitals.

Southeaster Region - **Güney Adak**

Mr. Adak graduated from Istanbul University's College of Economics. Before coming to America in 1980, he was involved in the family business of general contracting. After his move Güneyheld managerial positions in the construction industry. He is a partner at Florida Quality Truss, in the business of wooden roof and floor truss systems. The company has major operations in South Florida, serving from three plant location, and branched out into International trade Mr. Adak is currently Assembly of Turkish American Associations' Vice President for the Southeastern United States and President of the Florida Turkish American Association. He is married with two children..

Nortwest Pacific Region - **Ufuk Gökçen**

Mr. Gökçen is an aerospace engineer working for the Boeing Company. He graduated from Istanbul Technical University (ITU) in 1980 and continued at ITU and EN-SAE in Toulouse, France, for his post-graduate degrees. He worked for Alarko, Turkish Airlines, Boeing Canada, Bombardier-De Havilland Division before joining the Boeing Co. He has been a Board member of the Turkish American Cultural Association (TACA) of Washington State since moving to Seattle in 1996. He held the Presidency of the association for a year until his election as Vice President of ATAA's Northwest Pacific Region.



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long NY stay
into a
great NY stay*



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Conference Program

Thursday, December 12, 2002

8:00am-8:45am **Registration**

8:50am-9:00am **Welcoming Remarks**
Dr. Orhan Kaymakçalan, ATAA President

9:00am-11:00am **Ambassadors' Breakfast**
U.S.-Turkish Relations: One Year After September 11th
Co-sponsored by TEXTRON
Speakers: Ambassador Faruk Loğoğlu, Turkish Ambassador to US
Ambassador Robert Pearson, US Ambassador to Turkey

Commentators: Edward Gresser, Director, Project on Trade and Global Markets, Progressive Policy Institute
Dr. Attila Karaosmanoğlu, Former Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey
Alan Makovsky, Democratic Professional Staff Member, House International Relations Committee

12:00pm **Luncheon**
Keynote Speakers: His Excellency Ali Babacan, Minister of Turkey, Republic of Turkey
The Honorable Marc Grossman, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

GRASSROOTS/ LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Co-sponsored by the American Turkish Council (ATC)
(This event is open to members of Turkish American Associations, ATAA and ATC only)

2:00pm-5:00pm **Current Issues Briefing by US Administration Representatives**

Co-Moderators: Ercüment Kılıç, President-Elect, ATAA
Lincoln McCurdy, President, ATC

Panelists:

2:00-2:30pm **David Loevinger**, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary in International Affairs, Department of Treasury

2:30-3:00pm **Douglas Hengel**, Office Director for Southern European Affairs, Department of State

3:00-3:30pm **J.Scott Carpenter**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor

3:30-4:00pm **David Birdsey**, Director for Europe, Office of the United States Trade Representative

4:00-4:30pm **Jonathan Katz**, Co-Chief of Staff / US-Turkey Caucus, US House of Representatives
Legislative Director, Congressman Robert Wexler

6:30pm **Cultural Program** (by invitation only)
Private Tour of The Textile Museum's exhibition
"The Classical Tradition in Anatolian Carpets" & Reception
Co-sponsored by the Turkish Cultural Foundation and The Textile Museum

Friday, December 13, 2002

8:30am-8:50am **Registration**

9:00am-10:45am **Rethinking Security and the Threat of Terrorism**

Co-sponsored by GAMA Holding

Moderator: James Kitfield, National Journal

Panelists: Dr. Michael A. Ledeen, American Enterprise Institute

Amb. (ret.) Onur Öymen, *Former Turkish Ambassador to NATO, Member, Turkish Grand National Assembly*

David Trachtenberg, *Principal Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Policy*

R. James Woolsey, *Former Director of Central Intelligence and Vice President, Booz Allen Hamilton Inc.*

10:45am-11:00am Coffee Break

11:00am-12:45pm **Reevaluating Democracy and Islam After September 11th**

Moderator: Dr. Helena Kane Finn, Cyrus Vance Fellow in Diplomatic Studies, Council on Foreign Relations

Panelists: Prof. Yılmaz Esmer, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Boğaziçi University

Prof. John Esposito, *Director, Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, Georgetown University*

Amb. (ret.) Richard Kauzlarich, *Director, Special Initiative on the Muslim World, United States Institute of Peace*

Stephen Schwartz, *Senior Policy Analyst, The Foundation for the Defense of Democracies*

1:00-2:15pm **Luncheon** (*JW Marriott Hotel, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.*)

The Honorable Robert I. Wexler, (*D-19th/FL*) *US House of Representatives. Co-chair and Co-Founder of the Caucus on US-Turkish Relations and Turkish Americans*

2:30-4:00pm **After Elections: The Political Landscape of Turkey**

Moderator: Dr. Bülent Alirıza, Senior Associate and Director, Turkey Project, Center for Strategic and International Studies

Panelists: Soner Çağaptay, Coordinator, Turkish Research Program, Washington Institute for Near East Policy

Prof. Yılmaz Esmer, *Department of Political Science and International Relations, Boğaziçi University*

Prof. Haluk Şahin, *Radikal daily*

4:00-4:15pm Coffee Break

Friday, December 13, 2002

4:15-6:00pm **Turkey and the European Union: What's next?**

Moderator: **Ilan Berman**, *Vice President for Policy, American Foreign Policy Council*

Panelists: **Amb. (ret.) Mark Parris**, *Baker, Donelson, Bearman & Caldwell*

Prof. Mümtaz Soysal, *Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey*

Tunku Varadarajan, *Editorial Features Editor, The Wall Street Journal*

7:00pm **Ambassador's Reception** (*By invitation only*)

Saturday, December 14, 2002

8:30am-12:45pm **In Search of Cultural Identity in a Multicultural Society**

Moderator: **Altay Cengizer**, *Turkish Permanent Mission to the UN*

Panelists: **Osman Bengur**, *Bengur Bryan & Co., Inc.*

Prof. Emre Kongar, *Former Undersecretary, Ministry of Culture of Turkey*

Prof. Justin McCarthy, *University of Louisville*

Tomris Azeri, *President, Azerbaijan Society of America*

Suzan Demircan, *President, Solidarity of Balkan Turks of America*

Ömer Kanat, *Vice President, Uyghur American Association*

Orhan Ketene, *Washington Representative, Iraqi Turkmen Front*

1:00-2:15pm **Luncheon**

Keynote Speaker: **Ambassador Osman Faruk Loğoğlu**, *Turkish Ambassador to the US*

2:30-5:45pm **ATAA Assembly of Delegates Meeting** (*ATAA delegates only*)

7:30pm-1:00am **ATAA Annual Ball**

Crown Plaza Hotel, 14th & K St., NW, Washington, DC

Live Music by Kamil Sönmez

Foklore Dance by Collage Dance Ensemble

Ball Info: 7:00pm - Registration

7:30pm - Dinner

Sunday, December 15, 2002

9:00am-2:00pm **Daughter's of Atatürk's First Annual Meeting/Hospitality Suite**

Caucus Room, Hotel Washington

Keynote Speakers

Ali Babacan

Mr. Babacan was born in 1967 in Ankara. He received his BS degree in Industrial Engineering from Middle East Technical University, (1989) and MBA degree from Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University (1992). He was an associate at QRM, Inc. in Chicago (1992-1994). He served as a chief advisor to mayor of Ankara in 1994. He served as a chairman of a textile company (1994-2002).

Marc Grossman

Ambassador Marc Grossman was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 23, 2001 and sworn in as Under Secretary for Political Affairs on March 26, 2001. Ambassador Grossman has been a career Foreign Service Officer since 1976. He was Director General of the Foreign Service and Director of Human Resources, from June 2000 to February 2001, and Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, from August 1997 to May 2000. From November 1994 to June 1997, he served as U.S. Ambassador to Turkey. Prior to this, from January 1993 to September 1994, he was Special Assistant to the Secretary of State and Executive Secretary of the Department of State. Before assuming these duties, Ambassador Grossman served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Political Military Affairs. He was Executive Assistant to Deputy Secretary of State John C. Whitehead, from September 1986 to January 1989. From 1984 to 1986, Ambassador Grossman was the Deputy Director of the Private Office of Lord Carrington, then Secretary General of NATO. Other overseas assignments include tours as a political officer at the U.S Mission to NATO and in Islamabad. In Washington, DC he also has served as Deputy Special Adviser to President Carter and in several capacities for the Bureau of Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs. Ambassador Grossman earned a B.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a MSc. in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

O. Faruk Loğoğlu

Dr. O. Faruk Loğoğlu is currently the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to US. He joined the Turkish Diplomatic Service in 1971, and served in a variety of positions in Ankara and in the Turkish missions abroad. His first ambassadorial assignment was in Denmark from 1993 to 1996. Later, he served as Turkey's ambassador to Azerbaijan from 1996 to 1998. He served as Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs between 2000- 2001. After graduating from Tarsus American College in Tarsus in 1960, Dr. Loğoğlu obtained a B.A. in Political Science from Brandeis University in Boston, and his MA and Ph.D. degrees in Political Science from Princeton University.

Robert Wexler

Congressman Robert Wexler (D-19th/FL) will be serving his fourth term in the US House of Representatives. Congressman Wexler, who previously served in the Florida Senate for six years, currently represents Florida's 19th Congressional district, comprising portions of Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Born in Queens, New York, Congressman Wexler moved to South Florida with his family at the age of 10. He earned his B.A. degree in Political Science from the University of Florida and his Juris Doctorate degree from George Washington University Law School. Congressman Wexler's is, among many other fields, very well versed in international affairs, as he is an active Member of the International Relations Committee and serves on the Middle East and South Asia and the Europe Subcommittees. Throughout his tenure in Congress, Wexler has been deeply involved with the Middle East peace process and has traveled on numerous congressional delegations to meet with the leaders of Israel, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Kuwait, Turkey, and Oman. He recently traveled to Israel and Saudi Arabia and met with Prime Minister Sharon, Foreign Minister Peres, and Crown Prince Abdullah to discuss the current situation in the Middle East. Wexler also was the only member of the House of Representatives present during the signing of the Wye River Peace Agreements. Congressman Wexler also serves on the Judiciary Committee and the Courts and the Internet and Intellectual Property Subcommittee. He is also highly devoted to making our nation and its citizens safe from the global threat of terrorism.

Speakers & Moderators

Bülent Alırıza

Dr. Bülent Alırıza is an expert in Turkish politics, economy and foreign policy relations between Turkey and the wider Turkic world and the politics and transportation of Caspian oil. Dr. Alırıza joined CSIS in June 1994 and established and directs the Turkey Project examining Turkey's domestic and foreign policy issues. He is also co-director of the CSIS Caspian Energy Project. Prior to joining CSIS, he was a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington D.C. He previously served as a Turkish Cypriot diplomat with posts at the United Nations and in Washington. He has a B.Sc (Econ) degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a Ph. D. from the University of Oxford.

Tomris Azeri

Tomris Azeri works at a family business as a finance manager. She graduated from the Computer Programming Institute of Paterson NJ and attended and Montclair State College. Tomris has served ATAA as Regional VP, and is currently the President of Azerbaijan Society of America. She is also serving on the Coordination Council of the World Azerbaijanis.

Osman Bengür

Osman Bengür was born in Montgomery County, Maryland 1949. Following his graduation from Princeton in 1971 where he received his B.A in English, he was appointed as Special Assistant to the Commissioner of the Department of Youth Services in Massachusetts. His accomplishments in working with disadvantaged children lead to his role in helping reform foster care in the Department of Children and Family Services in Illinois. In 1975, he went on to earn a graduate degree in Criminology from University of Cambridge in England. In 1978 Mr. Bengür participated in then Attorney General Joseph Brennan's successful campaign for Governor. In 1979, Oz joined Gov. Brennan's staff as a Special Assistant and liaison to the state Departments of Corrections and Business Regulation and state housing finance authority. In 1980, he was elected a delegate to the Democratic National. He returned to Baltimore

in 1983 to join Alex Brown & Sons (now Deutsche Bank), serving as a successful investment banker. In this position, he became an expert in local and state finances. In 1991, he co-founded Bengur Bryan & Co., a firm that provides financial advice to mid-sized companies for mergers, acquisitions, and raising capital. In 2002 Oz Bengür ran for Congress in Maryland's 2nd district. He is married with three children.

Ilan Berman

Professor Ilan Berman is Vice President for Policy at the American Foreign Policy Council in Washington, DC, and Director of the Council's Eurasia Program. An expert on international terrorism and regional security in the Middle East, Central Asia and the Russian Federation, Mr. Berman's writings have appeared in such publications as the Wall Street Journal Europe, Middle East Quarterly, the Washington Times, United Press International, the Jerusalem Post, the Journal of International Security Affairs and Strategic Review. A frequent guest on radio and television, Mr. Berman has provided expert commentary for Fox News, the BBC, Voice of America and Radio Liberty, as well as the Agence France Presse news service, U.S. News & World Report and Insight on the News. Fluent in Russian, Hebrew and French, Mr. Berman holds a Masters degree in International Politics for the American University in Washington, DC, and a Juris Doctorate from the Washington College of Law. He is an adjunct professor at the American University's School of International Service.

David M. Birdsey

Mr. David Birdsey joined the State Department as a Foreign Service Officer in 1994 and is currently on detail to USTR as Director for European Regional Affairs. He has primary responsibility for trade policy with Turkey, Greece, Ukraine, and the Baltics. Mr. Birdsey has also worked at the National Security Council, the State Department's Bureau for European Affairs, and has served abroad in Germany and Pakistan. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Mr. Birdsey worked in the Office of Japan Trade Policy at the Department of Commerce, where he managed a high-tech trade portfolio covering

medical technology, aerospace, and telecommunications issues. He led technical-level negotiations during the 1993-1994 U.S.-Japan Economic Framework talks on government procurement of medical technology. Mr. Birdsey holds a Master's Degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and speaks German and Urdu.

Soner Çağaptay

Mr. Soner Çağaptay graduated from Marmara University's International Relations Department with a BA in International Relations. He received his MA in International Relations from Bilkent University. Mr. Çağaptay is currently doing his Ph.D. in History at Yale University concentrating on modern Turkish history, Islam and secularization, contemporary Middle East and the Balkans and he is also a Soref Fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy in Washington DC. His awards include Yale's Robert M. Leylan Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities, and the Smith-Richardson Fellowship. His publications include the upcoming "Race, Assimilation and Kemalism: Turkish nationalism and the minorities in the 1930s," Middle Eastern Studies, "Enhancing the Turkish-American Alliance: The Campaign for Iraq and Other Possibilities." Policy Watch # 665 (Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 2002) and "Population Resettlement and Immigration Policies of Interwar Turkey: a study of Turkish nationalism" Turkish Studies Association Bulletin, 26, no. 2, (Fall 2002).

Altay Cengizer

Altay Cengizer has been a career diplomat with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey since 1979. Minister Counselor Cengizer is currently the Deputy Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations. Born in 1954 in Istanbul, Mr. Cengizer is a graduate of TED Ankara College and Bosphorus University. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in International History from London School of Economics. Mr. Cengizer's previous postings abroad include Kuwait, London and Brussels. In Brussels he served as political counselor at Turkey's Permanent Representation to the European Union at a time when the important Maastricht Summit was convened and Turkey completed the negotiations for the establishment of the Customs Union with the European Union. On his return from Brussels in 1994, Mr. Cengizer was appointed as

Deputy Chief of Staff and Advisor on Foreign Affairs to then President Süleyman Demirel. After serving as Turkey's Consul General in Chicago between 1996 and 1998, Mr. Cengizer returned to Ankara to head the Department of Policy Planning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2000, he arrived in New York and a year later he assumed his present responsibilities as Deputy Chief of the Mission. Mr. Cengizer is married and has two daughters from a previous marriage.

John Scott Carpenter

Deputy Assistant Secretary Scott Carpenter was sworn in as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor on October 31, 2001. Prior to joining the State Department. Mr. Carpenter worked with the International Republican Institute (IRI), a non-profit organization based in Washington, DC that promotes democratic development around the world, in several capacities. He also served as co-Director of IRI's Central and Eastern Europe regional programs based in Bratislava, Slovakia. In that capacity, Mr. Carpenter worked in ten countries on a variety of exchanges, conferences, and political training programs. During his time with IRI, Mr. Carpenter developed and managed election programs in Turkey, Poland and Bulgaria. In Turkey, during the lead-up to the 1998 parliamentary elections, he conducted training sessions focused on internal and external communications strategies as well as grassroots outreach. Before joining IRI, Mr. Carpenter worked on the NAFTA desk at the International Trade Agency (ITA). While at the ITA, he worked on implementation issues related to financial services. Mr. Carpenter also worked on Capitol Hill for Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA), as his press secretary, and Congressman Rick Santorum (R-PA), where he worked on telecommunications issues, among others. Mr. Carpenter holds a graduate degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Economics and European Studies. He received undergraduate degrees in political science and history from Hope College.

Suzan Demircan

Ms. Suzan Demircan was born in Bulgaria and currently owns a real estate firm in New Jersey. She is an active member of her local community and heads the Balkan Turks of America Association. She is married to

Nureddin Demircan, another leading members of the Turkish-American community in New Jersey, and has 4 children.

Yılmaz Esmer

Professor Yılmaz Esmer has a B.A. in Political Science from Yale University, and an M.A. and Ph. D in Sociology, from Stanford University, California. He has held many academic positions in his career and he is currently a Professor at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, Turkey. His Administrative positions include Director of The Institute for Social Sciences at Boğaziçi University, Founding Director General of The Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation and Provost of Boğaziçi University. His most recent publications include *Politics, Parties and Elections in Turkey* (coedited with Sabri Sayarı), Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner and “Is There an Islamic Civilization?” *Comparative Sociology*.

John L. Esposito

Mr. John L. Esposito is University Professor as well as Professor of Religion and International Affairs and of Islamic Studies at Georgetown University. He is the Founding Director of the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding: History and International Affairs in the Walsh School of Foreign Service, he has served as President of the Middle East Studies Association of North America and of the American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies as well as a consultant to governments, multinational corporations, and the media worldwide. Esposito specializes in Islam, political Islam, and the impact of Islamic movements from North Africa to Southeast Asia. He is Editor-in-Chief of *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World*, *The Oxford History of Islam*, and *The Oxford Dictionary of Islam* his more than 25 books include: *Unholy War: Terror in the Name of Islam*, *What Everyone Needs to Know About Islam*, *The Islamic Threat: Myth or Reality?*, *Islam: The Straight Path*, *Islam and Politics*, *Islam and Democracy and Makers of Contemporary Islam* (with John Voll), *Political Islam: Radicalism, Revolution or Reform?*, *Iran at the Crossroads* (with R.K.Ramazani), *Islam, Gender and Social Change* (with Yvonne Haddad), and *Women in Muslim Family Law*.

Helena Kane Finn

Mrs. Helena Kane Finn is a career diplomat and is the Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs; Previously she was Minister-Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy, Ankara; Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy, Vienna; Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Consulate-General, Frankfurt; Cultural Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy, Islamabad and US Consulate, Lahore; and Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy, Ankara. She has holds a B.A and a Ph.D from St. John’s University, and she did her Post-doctoral studies at Princeton University. Her career has included positions such as Assistant Professor at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul and her current posting of Cyrus Vance Fellow in Diplomatic Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. She speaks Turkish, German and French and her publications include *Turkey’s Crisis, Iraq’s Future, and the Wolfowitz Visit* (July 2002), *Turkish Political Disarray: Why Now? What Next?* (July 2002), and *The U.S.-Turkish Economic Partnership Commission: Time to Take a Look at QIZ’s* (February 2002). Her Honors include the Presidential Meritorious Service Award (2001), the Superior Honor Award (1999) the Senior Foreign Service Award (1999) the Meritorious Honor Award (1997, 1996, 1986).

Edward Gresser

Mr. Ed Gresser is director of PPI’s Project on Trade and Global Markets. In this capacity, he writes and speaks on the value of open markets, internationalism and social responsibility in trade and international economic policy. His major trade policy focuses include issues such as fast-track trade negotiating authority, the Free Trade Area of the Americas, WTO negotiations and China policy in the wake of WTO membership. He is the only think-tank professional to be writing on the U.S.-Turkish economic relationship Mr. Gresser joined PPI following ten years of service in the Clinton Administration and Congress. As Policy Advisor to U.S. Trade Representative, Charlene Barshefsky from April 1998 through the close of the Clinton Administration, Mr. Gresser twice received USTR’s prestigious Special Achievement award. Earlier, he served as Legislative Assistant and then Policy Director for Senator Max Baucus (D-MT). Before joining Baucus’ staff, He had worked for the consulting firm Podesta Associates, and as a Legislative Assistant for Congressman Silvio Conte

of Massachusetts. He graduated from Stanford University with Distinction in Political Science in 1984. He earned a Master's Degree in International Affairs from Columbia University and a certificate from the Harriman Institute for Advanced Study of the Soviet Union in 1987, writing a thesis focusing on political relations between the Soviet Union and Southeast Asia.

Douglas Hengel

Douglas Hengel joined the Foreign Service in 1978 and has served at the U.S. Embassies in Caracas (1979-81), Rome (1984-88), Lima (1991-93) and Prague (1994-97), in addition to various positions in the State Department in the Bureau of European Affairs, the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs and the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs. From 1999-2002 Mr. Hengel was Deputy Chief of Mission in Bratislava, serving more than half of that period as Charge d'Affaires. He currently is Director of the Office of Southern European Affairs at the State Department, responsible for Turkey, Greece and Cyprus. A native of New York State, Mr. Hengel studied at Colgate University (BA, 1976). He obtained a Masters in Public Policy at the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University in 1998. Prior to beginning his diplomatic career, Mr. Hengel worked for the Union Carbide Corporation in New York. Mr. Hengel is married and has two children, aged 14 and 11.

Ömer Kanat

Ömer Kanat was born in 1961 in East Turkistan. He graduated from the Department of history of Istanbul University and for many years worked as a journalist for Radio Liberty in Munich. He is one of the founders of the East Turkistan Union in Europe and served as General Secretary, Vice President and later as President of the organization. He is one of the founders of the World Uyghur Youth Congress and served as its President between 1996-2000. Now he serves as the General Secretary of the East Turkistan National Congress and vice-president of the Uyghur-American Association.

Attila Karaosmanoğlu

Dr. Attila Karaosmanoğlu is an economist by profession. He was educated at the University of Ankara and Istanbul. He was a visiting scholar at Harvard and

Exchange Faculty. He is a member of NYU's Faculty. He also attended Ankara and Middle East Technical Universities between 1954-63. In his professional life, he was Head of the Economic Planning Department of the State Planning Org. of Turkey, Adviser to the Federation of Turkish Trade Unions, Consultant to the Turkish Scientific and Tech. Research Council, Senior Consultant Directorate for Scientific Affairs OECD, an Economist at the World Bank, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey in 1971 in charge of Economic Affairs and Chairman of the High Planning Council. He has also been the World Bank's Chief Economist for European, Middle East, and North Africa Region, Director of Europe, Middle East and North Africa Region Country Programs, Vice President East Asia and Pacific Regions, Vice President of the Asia Region and between 1991-1994 he was appointed as the Managing Director of the World Bank. Presently he is a Board Member of the Turkish Scientific and Technical. Research Council. His Publications include Towards Full Employment and Price Stability (OECD Pub. with others) 1977, Poverty and Prosperity- The two Realities of Asian Development (World Bank Pub.) 1989; Diversity and Consensus- The Emergence of an Asian Development Paradigm (World Bank Pub) 1991, 21. Yüz yılda Planlama (State Planning Org. of Turkey) 2000. Türkiyede Yeniden Yapılanma ile ilgili Sorunlar (Turkish Acad. of Sciences Pub.) 2002 and several articles.

Richard D. Kauzlarich

Ambassador (ret) Richard D. Kauzlarich has been Director of the Special Initiative on the Muslim World at the US Institute of Peace since February, 2002. Previously, he was a consultant in the Washington DC area working on peacekeeping operations in the Balkans, energy, and development issues in the Caucasus and the Balkans. A former career Foreign Service Officer, he served as US Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina (1997-1999), and Azerbaijan (1994-1997.) He was Senior Deputy to the Secretary's and the President's Special Representative to the Newly Independent States (NIS) from 1993-1994. He was Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the Bureau of European Affairs (1991-1993) responsible for relations with the former Soviet Union and economic ties with EU and OECD countries. Ambassador Kauzlarich has also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs (1984-1986) where he was in charge of the technical and specialized agencies

of the United Nations. He was also Deputy Director of the Policy Planning Staff (1986-1989) handled global and international economic issues. Abroad, in addition to his ambassadorial assignments, he served at American Embassies in Togo, Ethiopia, and Israel. In December 2001, The Century Foundation published his report "Time for Change? U.S. Policy in the Transcaucasus." Kauzlarich received his BA from Valparaiso University and MAs from Indiana University and the University of Michigan.

Orhan Ketene

Mr. Orhan Ketene was born in Kerkük, Iraq. He graduated from Al-Markaziyya high school in Baghdad in 1971 and from the Technical University of Istanbul, Turkey, as an aerospace engineer in 1977. For 22 years he has worked as a design, chief engineering specialist and liaison engineer in the automotive and aerospace industries in Turkey, Canada and USA. He has been active in Iraqi Turkmen politics since 1969 and is the US Representative for the Iraqi Turkmen Front in Washington, DC. He has published in various publications.

Ercüment Kılıç

Mr. Kılıç was born in 1958 in Ankara. He is a graduate of UT-Austin with a BS in Economics and International Politics. He has served numerous times as President of TURANT and as VP of ATAA. Among his accomplishments is his involvement and arrangement of Congressman Jim Moody's trip as the first US Congressman in history to visit Azerbaijan. Due to his formal training in performing arts, he has been a cultural ambassador for Turkey since 1977. He has been invited by various organizations to do seminars and workshops on Turkish folklore in all 50 states in the US and in England, Germany, Holland, Switzerland, the Republic of China, Hong Kong, and Japan. He is currently involved with his own business, TCI Travel and TCI Construction. He currently serves as ATAA Treasurer.

James Kitfield

Mr. James Kitfield is presently the national security and foreign affairs correspondent for National Journal magazine, an independent and non-partisan newsweekly on politics and government published by National Journal Inc. He has written on defense, national security and

foreign policy issues from Washington, D.C. for more than fifteen years, previously as a defense correspondent and senior editor of Government Executive and Military Forum magazines. Mr. Kitfield is also the author of "Prodigal Soldiers," (How the Generation of Officers Born of Vietnam Revolutionized the American Style of War). Before moving to Washington, D.C. Kitfield observed the U.S. military in Europe as managing editor of Overseas! magazine, a publication for U.S. service members stationed overseas. His articles have appeared in Omni, Newsday, National Journal, Penthouse, Los Angeles Magazine, Army Times, Air Force Magazine, The Stars & Stripes, Off Duty, The National Interest, and other publications. Mr. Kitfield is a 1978 magna cum laude graduate of the University of Georgia's Henry Grady School of Journalism. Mr. Kitfield's awards include the 2000 Edwin Hood Award for Diplomatic Correspondence given annually by the National Press Club to recognize excellence in reporting on diplomatic and foreign policy issues, the Gerald R. Ford Award for Distinguished Reporting on National Defense and the Washington Monthly Journalism Award for Investigative Reporting.

Emre Kongar

Professor Emre Kongar graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences of Ankara University, majoring in Economics. He received his M.S.W from the School of Social Work of the University of Michigan. He did his Ph.D. in Sociology at Hacettepe University, with his thesis on Urban Family Structure in İzmir. He became a Full Professor in 1981. He was Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture between 1992-1995. He was reappointed as a Professor of Sociology at Hacettepe University in 1996. He is presently teaching at Yıldız Technical University on an hourly appointment basis, and at Müjdat Gezen School of Arts on a voluntary basis and writing two different weekly columns in daily Cumhuriyet one on politics and one on the media. His many awards include a U.N. scholarship between 1964-1966, Writer of the best social science book of the Turkish Language Association for his book "The Social Structure of Turkey", decorations from Germany, Italy and Poland and the "Best Book Award" by the Faculty of Communications of Marmara University for his book Letters to My Daughters". He is married with three children.

Michael A. Ledeen

Mr. Michael A. Ledeen is a resident scholar in the Freedom Chair at AEI. An expert in contemporary history and international affairs, Mr. Ledeen contributes frequently to the Wall Street Journal, the Weekly Standard, National Review, and Commentary and serves as a foreign editor of the American Spectator. During the Reagan administration, he was a consultant to the national security adviser, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the State Department and was a special adviser to the Secretary of State. He is the author of twelve books, including *Grave New World* (Oxford University Press, 1985), which predicted the crisis in the Soviet Union five years before it occurred; *Freedom Betrayed: How the United States Led a Global Democratic Revolution, Won the Cold War, and Walked Away* (AEI Press, 1996); *Machiavelli on Modern Leadership* (St. Martin's Press, 1999); *Tocqueville on American Character* (St. Martin's Press, 2000); and *The War Against the Terror Masters*, which has just been published by St. Martin's Press.

David Loevinger

David Loevinger is the Acting Deputy Assistant Treasury Secretary for Africa, Middle East and Asia, reporting to the Assistant and Under Secretary for International Affairs. Loevinger advises on U.S. policy regarding the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and regional development banks, and represents Treasury in bilateral and multilateral meetings. His earlier positions at Treasury (he first joined in 1991 as a staff economist) included Special Assistant to the Under Secretary, Assistant Attaché in Paris, Economist on the Mexico Crisis Task Force, and Director of the Office of East Asian Nations. In 1995-1999, Loevinger worked at the IMF, first in the U.S. Executive Director's office and then as an economist in the Caribbean Division. Loevinger received a B.A. from Dartmouth College in 1984. In 1988, he completed a Master's in Public Policy from the Kennedy School and then spent three years working for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the Senate Banking Committee, and the U.S. Commerce Department. He is married with two children.

Alan O. Makovsky

Alan O. Makovsky is currently a Senior Staff member of the Democratic professional staff of the House International Relations Committee. Prior to this he was a Fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, specializing on Middle Eastern and Turkish affairs, and heading the Institute's Turkish Research Program. He served for eleven years in the U.S. Department of State, in a variety of capacities mainly focusing on the Middle East and Turkey. Most recently, he worked as Special Advisor to Special Middle East Coordinator Dennis Ross in 1993 until his departure in May 1994. In 1992, he served as State Department liaison officer and political advisor to Operation Provide Comfort. His other positions included analyst for Turkish and Greek affairs (1983-85), analyst for Palestinian affairs and the Middle East peace process (1985-88), and division chief for Southern Europe in the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research. Mr. Makovsky holds a B.A., from Princeton University in Near Eastern Studies (1973) and M.A.'s from the University of Michigan in History (1975) and Princeton University in Near Eastern Studies (1977). His focus in graduate school was on both the history of the Ottoman Empire and the history of the modern Arab world, and he received a Fulbright Fellowship to conduct research in Turkey, Egypt, and Israel in 1978-79. Mr. Makovsky is conversant in three Middle Eastern languages, Arabic, Hebrew, and Turkish.

Justin McCarthy

Justin McCarthy received a Ph.D. in Near Eastern history from UCLA in 1978 and a Certificate in Demography from Princeton University in 1980. He is presently Distinguished Professor of Arts and Sciences at the University of Louisville, where he also served as Chairman of the Department of History from 1986 to 1992. He has been a Visiting Fellow at Princeton University, the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London, and Bogaziçi University in İstanbul. From 1967 to 1969 he taught at Middle East Technical University in Ankara as a US Peace Corps Volunteer. Professor McCarthy specializes in the social and demographic history of the modern Middle East. His books include *Muslims and Minorities*, a study of population of Ottoman Anatolia in the period of World War I, *Death and Exile*, on the expulsion and mortality

of the Muslims of the Balkans, Caucasus, Crimea, and Anatolia, The Population of Palestine, and a textbook, The Ottoman Turks. He has written a number of articles on Middle Eastern, Turkish, and Ottoman topics. He has also contributed to or has written teachers' manuals. He frequently addresses academic and public audiences in the United States, Europe, and Middle East. Professor McCarthy has been voted a Corresponding Member of the Turkish Historical Association. He has received the Chairman's Education Award from the Turkish-American Friendship Council and awards from Turkish-American organizations. In 1985 he received an honorary doctorate from Boğaziçi University. He has held a Senior Research Fellowship from the National Needs Postdoctoral Fellowship from the National Science Foundation, a Fulbright-Hays fellowship, and other fellowships and grants

G. Lincoln McCurdy

Mr. McCurdy is the president of the American-Turkish Council (ATC), one of the most dynamic bi-national trade associations in Washington, DC. ATC is a non-for-profit trade association with over 200 corporate members and is the leading business association in the United States devoted to the promotion of U.S.-Turkish commercial, defense and cultural relations. He has been affiliated with the organization since 1989 and has previously served in the capacity of Senior Vice President and Executive Director. Mr. McCurdy has over twenty years of experience in both U.S. government service and the private sector, particularly working in developing countries in the promotion of trade, foreign investment and tourism. He was one of the principle organizers of the first U.S. – Turkish Trade and Investment Mission to the newly independent states in Central Asia and the Caucasus in Spring 1992. Before joining ATC, Mr. McCurdy was with the U.S. Department of Commerce and served in the American Consulate General in Istanbul as the Consul for Commercial Affairs. He also worked in Istanbul as an international marketing consultant. G. Lincoln McCurdy received his B.A. at Hanover College in Indiana and holds a M.A. in International Management from The George Washington University. He is also a graduate of the Foreign Service Institute's Turkish Language and Culture Program.

Onur Öymen

Amb. (ret) Onur Öymen is Member of Parliament as a Deputy for the Republican Peoples' Party. He graduated from Galatasaray Lycee and the Political Sciences Faculty of Ankara University, where he also received his Ph.D. In 1964 he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and his positions include: Deputy Permanent Representative, Turkish Delegation to the Council of Europe, Strasbourg; Counsellor, Turkish Embassy, Nicosia, Prague and Madrid; Head of the Policy Planning Department, Ambassador to Denmark and Germany; Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Permanent Representative to NATO in Brussels. In 1995 he was awarded the Civil Servant of the Year Award by Nokta Magazine and in 1995, 1996 and 1997 Diplomat of the Year by the Turkish Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association. His publications include "Turkey's Challenge" and "Geleceği Yakalamak: Küreselleşme ve Devlet Reformu". He is married with two children.

Mark R. Parris

Ambassador (ret) Mark R. Parris is Senior Foreign Policy Advisor with the Washington law firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman & Caldwell. He served as U.S. Ambassador to Turkey from 1997-2000, a period of broad-gauged growth in U.S. - Turkish relations, culminating in President Clinton's designation of Turkey as a "strategic partner" of the United States. From 1989-1997, Ambassador Parris played a key role in the development and implementation of U.S. Middle East policy. As Deputy Chief of Mission in Tel Aviv he witnessed the first intifada, the Gulf War, and the Madrid Peace Conference. As Principal Deputy Assistant of State for Near East Affairs and then Special Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor for Near East and South Asian affairs, he oversaw U.S. policy toward Iraq and Iran and participated in high-level peace negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Ambassador Parris was Director of Soviet Affairs during President Ronald Reagan's second term, organizing and serving as notetaker for President Reagan's first four summit meetings with Mikhail Gorbachev. The Ambassador's earlier assignments included Moscow, Lisbon and the Azores. Since retiring from the Foreign Service in 2001 with the personal rank of Career Minister, Ambassador Parris has served as Chairman of the Board of the American Friends

of Turkey, and as a member of the Executive Board of the American Turkish Council. He is Counselor to the Turkish Research Program of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

Robert Pearson

Ambassador W. Robert Pearson, of Tennessee, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, has a broad background in European and Security issues as well as wide management experience overseas and in Washington. The Senate confirmed Ambassador Pearson as Ambassador to Turkey on July 9, 2000. He officially assumed his position in Ankara on September 21, 2000. Ambassador Pearson was Deputy Chief of Mission of the U.S. Embassy to France from July 1997 to July 2000. He followed closely the evolution of European Union policy regarding the candidacy of Turkey for membership, and defense and security issues within the Atlantic Alliance and the EU. He actively promoted business ties between France and the U.S. and helped in the opening of five new offices in France's regions. He served twice at NATO, from 1993 to 1997 as Deputy Permanent Representative to the U.S. Mission during the Balkan crisis and NATO's enlargement, and from 1987 to 1990 on the international staff as Chair of NATO's Political Committee. From 1991 to 1993, he was the Executive Secretary of the Department of State. He served as Deputy Executive Secretary of the National Security Council (1985-1987). He served in Beijing, China as a political officer (1981 to 1983), was staff assistant in the East and Pacific Affairs bureau, and began his Foreign Service career with a two-year assignment in Auckland, New Zealand (1976-1978). Ambassador Pearson served in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps from 1969 to 1973, and is a graduate of the University of Virginia Law School in 1968. He is a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. He speaks French and Chinese. His wife, Margaret, is a career diplomat. The Pearsons have one son, Matthew.

Stephen Schwartz

Stephen Schwartz is a Senior Policy Analyst for the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies in Washington, DC and has pursued a long literary and journalistic career. He was a staff writer for San Francisco Chronicle for 10 years and was secretary of the Northern California Newspaper Guild, AFL-

CIO. His articles have appeared in most of the world's leading newspapers including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, The Daily Telegraph of London and many more. He is a regular contributor to The Weekly Standard as well as to Reforma in Mexico City and leading periodicals in the Balkans. He began a serious study of Islam in 1990, when he first visited Yugoslavia. Researching the history of Jews in the Balkans for articles published in the Jewish Forward and other periodicals he developed close relations with Balkan Islamic intellectual, religious and political leaders. In 2000, he published a book in Bosnian and English on Muslim identity and media issues in the Balkans, "A Dishonest 20th Century Comedy" (Forum of the Congress of Bosnian Muslim Intellectuals, Sarajevo.) He also published a volume in Britain on the Kosovo war. His many publications include Religion in Kosovo, International Crisis Group, Brussels/Washington/Kosovo, 2001; Kosovo: Background to a War, Anthem Press, London, 2000, introduction by Christopher Hitchens; From West to East: and California and the Making of the American Mind, New York, The Free Press, Inc., 1998.

Mümtaz Soysal

Professor Mümtaz Soysal is a Professor of constitutional law and comparative government at Ankara University. He is President of the Center for the Development of Public Enterprise (KIGEM) and a Constitutional Adviser to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. He did his Undergraduate and doctoral studies at Ankara University and his Graduate research at the London School of Economics, Princeton and California (Berkeley) Universities. He has been a member of the Constituent Assembly (1961), a member and Vice-Chairman of the International Executive Committee of Amnesty International. He was Member of Parliament between 1991-1998 and served as Minister of Foreign Affairs in 1994. His awards include First International UNESCO Prize for the Teaching of Human Rights (Paris, 1998); Distinguished Service Award, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Ankara, 1990) and Officer de L'Ordre National de Mérite (France, 1991). He has published widely mainly on constitutional law, government and politics.

Haluk Şahin

Prof. Dr. Haluk Şahin is recognized as one of Turkey's leading media figures, both as a practitioner of journalism and a communications scholar. He currently teaches at Istanbul Bilgi University as a Professor of Journalism in addition to writing a column for Turkey's prestige daily, Radikal, and producing a weekly discussion program for TV8. Şahin graduated from Istanbul University, Faculty of Law in 1964 before receiving a Masters Degree in Journalism (1972) and a Doctorate in Mass Communications (1974) from Indiana University. Ever since, he has pursued a double-track career as a practicing journalist and a teacher of mass communications. Şahin has won many professional awards for his journalistic work both as a print journalist and as a television editor and producer. Twice the Turkish Association of Journalists chose him Journalist of the Year for Best Commentary. He won two international investigative journalism awards in connection with his work with Arena, once Turkey's leading television news program. Şahin has published 10 books. He also has an extensive record of academic publications both at home and abroad. Şahin was president of the Turkish Foreign Press Association, also president of the Turkish Communication Research Association (ILAD), and secretary general of the Turkish Press Council. Currently, he is a member of the Turkish Journalists' Association, International Press Institute, and vice-president of the Trojan Art Society.

Tunku Varadarajan

Mr. Tunku Varadarajan is the Wall Street's Journals Editorial Features Editor. He is responsible for soliciting, selecting and editing the Journal's daily-oped features. He joined the Journal in June 2000 as a senior editorial page writer and later that year became deputy editorial features editor. Earlier this year he assumed the added responsibility of chief media critic. He has been an editorial writer and Madrid and New York bureau chief for the London Times. He is an Oxford graduate.

R. James Woolsey

R. James Woolsey joined Booz Allen Hamilton in July 2002, as a Vice President and officer in the firm's Global Strategic Security practice located in McLean, VA. During the twelve years he has served in the U.S. Government Mr. Woolsey has held Presidential

appointments in two Democratic and two Republican administrations. He was Director of Central Intelligence in 1993-95. He also served as: Ambassador to the Negotiation on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Vienna, 1989-1991; Under Secretary of the Navy, 1977-1979; and General Counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services, 1970-73. He was appointed by the President as Delegate at Large to the U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Talks and Nuclear and Space Arms Talks and served in that capacity on a part-time basis in Geneva, 1983-1986. As an officer in the U.S. Army he was an adviser on the U.S. Delegation to the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, Helsinki and Vienna, 1969-1970. Mr. Woolsey has been a Director or Trustee of numerous civic organizations, including The Smithsonian Institution, The Goldwater Scholarship Foundation, and The Aerospace Corporation. He has been a member of The National Commission on Terrorism, The Commission to Assess the Ballistic Missile Threat to the U.S, The President's Commission on Federal Ethics Law Reform, The President's Blue Ribbon Commission on Defense Management, and The President's Commission on Strategic Forces. He is married to Suzanne Haley Woolsey, and they have three sons. Mr. Woolsey attended Tulsa public schools, graduating from Tulsa Central High School in 1959. He received his B.A. Degree in 1963 from Stanford University an M.A. from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar 1963-65, and an LL.B from Yale Law School in 1968, where he was Managing Editor of the Yale Law Journal.

2002 ATAA Awards

The strength of ATAA comes from individuals and organizations that embody the values, mission and goals of the Assembly. Each year during its annual convention, the Assembly honors such individuals and organizations that have been nominated by the Turkish American community and stand out in community service, their respective professions and serve as role models for us all. We are honored to announce the recipients of the 2002 ATAA Awards.

ATAA Turkish American of the Year Award

Osman (Oz) Bengur from Maryland became the first Turkish American to make a credible run for a seat in the US House of Representatives. Campaigning openly as a Turkish American, he embodied our motto “Proud to be Turkish, proud to be American” and his bold challenge in an important election, as well his personal sacrifice to serve the American people, is an inspiration to all Turkish Americans.

ATAA American Friend of Turkey Award

Cheryl Wyly from Texas receives this award for her outstanding dedication to help Turkish children, promote Turkish culture in the United States and for her outstanding support of local and national community activities. Her love for the people of Turkey and generosity in support of Turkish American causes give new meaning to this award.

ATAA Şükrü Elekdağ Award

A distinguished diplomat and former Ambassador to Turkey, **Mark Parris** made visionary contributions to strengthening US-Turkey relations and is recognized as a true friend of Turkey. This award recognizes his commitment to strengthening relations between the American and Turkish people, his efforts to create a better understanding about Turkey in the United States, and his commitment to the Turkish American community.

President’s Special Award

The Textile Museum in Washington DC has made major contributions to enhancing US-Turkish ties by bringing Turkish art, history and culture to Americans through its high quality exhibitions and other educational activities. The latest exhibit organized and currently on display at the Museum, The Classical Tradition in Anatolian Carpets, has created wonderful publicity for this centuries old art form of Turkey.

ATAA Distinguished Service Award

Dr. Sevinç Balımtaş from Maryland is a volunteer leader who has served the Turkish American community and women in Maryland for a long number of years, and has made outstanding contributions to building schools in needy villages and small towns in Turkey while serving as president of the Washington Turkish Women’s Association.

John and Peggy Blake from California are the flag bearers of the Pleasant Hill, CA - Merzifon Sister City program. They shouldered prejudice and propaganda from those who wanted to prevent this cultural exchange between the US and Turkey. Now, they are working on establishing an endowment for these kinds of programs.

Barbara Sher from New York is a best-selling author who is also running a very successful team workshop. She picked a small town in Ürgüp, Turkey, to implement her “Kilim Women” project. As part of this endeavor she has been motivating the local village women to regain their weaving skills and to learn how to use computers in order to be able to direct market their products worldwide through the Internet.

Osman Tat has served the ATAA with distinction as Assistant Director for Public Affairs since July 1999. In this capacity, he advanced the Assembly’s grassroots advocacy program, managed its public affairs portfolio and relations with ATAA component associations. He is leaving the Assembly to join US Foreign Service as a career diplomat.

Ahmet Toprak from California is a community service veteran. He is the founder of Turkish radio broadcasts in the Bay Area, and started them in 1982 collaboration with two other Turkish Americans. Since then, the Turkish radio program has been on the air every weekend. He also hosts the Orient Express, another weekly program on the culture of the Turkish world on KKUP.

Mine Tuncak from Washington is a Rotary Club member who was able to initiate a major fund raising campaign during the earthquake relief efforts that turned into a project of equipping a rehabilitation center in Istanbul.

Nurten Ural from Michigan is a long time community activist and the current Vice-President of ATAA’s Midcentral Region. She is a community leader par excellence and has worked diligently to promote the profile of the Turkish American community in her area and has stood up against defamatory actions against Turks.

ATAA Outstanding Achievement in Arts & Humanities Award

Ahmet Lüleci from Massachusetts has dedicated most of his life to research, perform and promote various areas of Turkish folk arts, especially Turkish folk dances. Over the years, he has worked with numerous international groups, teaching and performing Turkish folk dances in the United States and all over the world. He is recognized for his accomplishments for bringing Turkish culture and folk art to international and American audiences and artists and for his long time community service.

Armağan Selçik is an architect and Vice President of R. Bratti & Associates of Virginia and spearheaded his company to be part of the Pentagon Phoenix Project after 9/11, to help the healing process of the whole nation. He inspired his workers to finish replacing the damaged limestone wall five months ahead of schedule by spending countless hours at the crash site.

ATAA Outstanding Achievement in Science Award

Dr. Orhan Nalcıoğlu has made many outstanding contributions to the field of Medicine. He is currently the Director of Health Sciences Research Imaging Center at University of California, Irvine’s College of Medicine. Since 1975 his research has been in the development of medical imaging systems and image based measurement techniques for medical research and patient healthcare. He has published a large number of papers in addition to co-authoring/editing several books on medical imaging. He has trained a great number of students and postgraduate researchers many of whom are now established researchers in the field of medical imaging in their own right.

ATAA Meritorious Service Award

Başak Brown from Missouri is a hard working community volunteer and always ready to bring ideas to community activism. She has a history of introducing the Turkish culture to diverse groups of people, widening the circle of American friends of Turkey.

İsmail Hakkı Ercan from Florida has been a long time community volunteer, serving as president of the Florida Turkish American Association. His has made valuable contributions to the promotion of Turkish culture and image in his region.

Feriha İřtar from Maryland has been a leading member of the Turkish American community for a great many years. She has not only led local Associations but has supported the many Turkish American groups in Washington DC. Her enthusiasm for her community and her deep involvement in Washington area activities has made her an irreplaceable force, a force of experience, practical knowledge and know-how.

Marcus Mann from Michigan has been a long time member of the Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan and has supported numerous local and ATAA activities. Most recently he was involved in the Turkish Festival in Indianapolis that coincided with the World Basketball championships.

Erol Palantekin from Florida has for many years given outstanding contributions to the Turkish American Cultural Association of Florida. His dedication to the community and fairness are qualities that have made him a leader in both the Association and among Turkish Americans.

řermin Ünsal from Florida organized the 1st Turkish Festival in South Florida, an event that brought Turkish culture and art to American audiences in the region. This event has now become a staple of the year's cultural calendar.

Sel Yackley from Illinois has been a long time community volunteer and an effective advocate for Turkish Americans issues. She has made outstanding contributions to the promotion of Turkish culture, art and archeology through her leadership role in many projects, including the endowment of the Kanuni Suleyman Professorship of Ottoman and Modern Turkish Studies at the University of Chicago and her efforts to promote the Amuq Valley excavation in southeastern Turkey as part of the Friends of the Amuq Valley Regional Project.

ATAA Component Association of the Year Award

Azerbaijan Society of America: ASA has become a solid voice for the Azerbaijani community in the United States. ASA has assumed leadership in increasing awareness on issues of importance to US-Azerbaijan relations and the Azerbaijani people, and in promoting the history and culture of Azerbaijan. Some of their activities included testimonies and briefings at the US Congress, organizing rallies, as well as other grassroots advocacy efforts.

Turkish American Cultural Alliance of Chicago: TACA of Chicago is one of leading Turkish American community organizations in the United States and has made outstanding contributions to including the Turkish American community in the cultural landscape of the Chicago area. The organization has a solid track record in the representation of the local Turkish American community and its interest and an exemplary component association relationship with ATAA, the last example of which was their hosting of the highly successful ATAA Regional Conference in Chicago.

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ATAA Activities in 2002

January

- ATAA and the ARI Foundation set up a special briefing on Turkey in Congress for members of Congress and their staff.
- ATAA co-sponsors video show and lecture on “Suryoyo-The History of Syrians in Turkey” at the University of Washington.
- ATAA co-sponsors a series of “Anatolia - Land of Contrast’ slide show in Seattle libraries.



“Desperate Hours” Gala in Atlanta, January 22, 2002. (L to R) [Back Row] Dogan Eroglu, Dr. Yavuz Tarcan, Nuran Tarcan, Dr. Vildan Ercan, Cookie Shapero, Dr. Erdoğan Oran, Yüksel Yeşiltepe. [Front Row] Mona Diamond, Gülten Ercan, Dorothy Yeşiltepe.

February

- ATAA organizes a briefing on grassroots advocacy and issues concerning Turkish and Azerbaijani community for civil servants from Azerbaijan.

March

- ATAA and the Turkish American Cultural Society of New England (TACS-NE) hold the year’s 1st ATAA Grassroots/Leadership conference in Boston, MA.
- ATAA co-sponsors screening of documentary on Turkish-Jewish history at Brandeis University, MA with TACS-NE.
- ATAA co-sponsors screening of “Desperate Hours” with the Turkish American Cultural Alliance-Chicago, American Jewish Committee and the Consulate Generals of Turkey and Israel.



ATAA / TACS Grassroots & Leadership Conference in Boston, March 16, 2002 (L to R) Ferhan Gömülü, Nuri Kılıç, Fatih Çatalbaş, Dr. Orhan Kaymakçalan, Aylin Tat, Osman Tat, Vural Cengiz, Melih Hendekli. Sitting in front: Selis Önel Evren, Beril Kılıçaslan.

April

- Conclusion of an ATAA-led project to send 39 Turkish Americans between the ages of 18-25 to Turkey. This 1st of its kind trip for young Turkish-Americans goes ahead in June and proves to be an extremely popular and successful concept.
- ATAA and the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, jointly publish the first issue of “The Observer”, a quarterly review of Turkish-US-Israeli relations.
- ATAA co-sponsors a series of slide shows on “Archaeological Sites in Turkey” at Seattle libraries.

May

- ATAA and the Turkish American Cultural Alliance of Chicago jointly organize the year’s 2nd ATAA Grassroots/Leadership Conference in Chicago, IL.
- ATAA launches Turkish American Youth Network (TURKAY) to reach out to young Turkish Americans around the nation (www.turkay.org).
- ATAA launches “Adopt a Sister City from Turkey” program.

June

- ATAA and Turkish American Friendship Society jointly organize the year’s 3rd ATAA Grassroots/Leadership conference in Philadelphia, PA.
- ATAA co-sponsors Association for Safety in International Road Travel (ASIRT) fundraiser in Washington, DC.
- The annual ATAA Delegation leaves for Turkey. The trip lasts a total of 13 days and includes an extensive stay in Bulgaria. ATAA leaders and members meet with top officials in Turkey and in Bulgaria.

July

- ATAA prepares Questionnaire for the the November US elections, designed to get feedback from elected officials and their challengers about their perspective regarding Turkey and the region.



Association of International Safe Travel (ASIRT) Annual Fundraising Gala at the Turkish Embassy. (L to R) İskender Coygun, President of International Rotary District 2430 of Turkey, Joan Rosenberg and Feriha Istar, co chairs of the gala and ASIRT Board members, Laura Wexler, executive director of ASIRT, Ambassador F. Loğoğlu, Ömer Tezcan, president of Çankaya Rotary Club, Rochelle Sobel, founder and president of ASIRT, a friend and Congressman Robert Wexler.

August

- ATAA launches a “Voter Registration” drive. The Legislative Action Center on ATAA’s website provides a portal for easy voter registration.
- ATAA co-sponsors TAAC 5th Annual California Turkish Arts and Culture Festival in Monterey, CA organized by the Turkish American Association of California (TAAC).



Californians Celebrate Turkish Arts & Culture in Monterey, August 3-4, 2002

September

- ATAA and the Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington jointly organize the year’s 4th ATAA Grassroots/Leadership conference in Seattle, WA.
- Elections for the new Board of Directors of the Assembly

are concluded. The new board, under the leadership of Mr. Ercüment Kılıç, will begin its duties on December 15 2002.

- ATAA co-sponsors Turkish Festival in Indianapolis organized in conjunction with the World Basketball Championship and welcomes Turkish national team to US.

October

- ATAA co-sponsors month-long 7th Annual Boston Turkish Festival (Oct 29 - Nov 30) organized by TACS-NE.
- ATAA co-sponsors tour and performances of “The Silicon Dance Project,” a modern dance group consisting of Turkish and American dancers, in Washington, DC and New York.
- ATAA supports the screening of “Desperate Hours” by the “Esther Plihal Memorial Educational Fund” as a fundraiser in support of educational programs on Turkey for the Jewish community, at the Turkish Embassy.
- ATAA co-sponsors a series of Turkish concerts as part of festivals held by local Turkish American associations in Dallas, Houston, Chicago, Seattle, Raleigh and San Francisco.
- ATAA co-sponsors panel discussion on “Democracy and Islam: Turkish Women’s Experience” at the Meridian International Center in Washington, DC.

November

- ATAA leads an effort of Turkish American non-governmental organizations to visit Embassies of all EU member countries, voicing support for Turkey’s EU accession and delivering a Communiqué in support of Turkey’s entry into the EU.
- ATAA co-sponsors panel discussion on “Democracy and Islam: Turkish Women’s Experience” at the George Washington University Club in Washington, DC.

December

- ATAA organizes 23rd Annual Convention in Washington, DC.
- ATAA co-sponsors “Turkish Business and Dining Etiquette” dinner with World Trade Club and Business Development Alliance in Seattle.



ATAA Delegation Visits President Ahmet Necdet Sezer

ATAA Delegation Visits Turkey and Bulgaria

The annual ATAA delegation to Ankara and Bulgaria took place prior to the November 3 2002 elections on June 10-23 2002.

The Ankara part of the visit began with the traditional wreath laying ceremony at the tomb of modern Turkey's founder, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

After the ceremony, the delegation made its way to the Presidential Palace where it was received by President Ahmet Necdet Sezer. President Sezer expressed his gratitude for the visit, and said that he truly valued what the Turkish American community was doing to promote Turkey in the US and he always looked forward to meeting with the ATAA to exchange ideas.

The delegation then met with State Minister Şükrü Sina Gürel and the press. Dr. Gürel indicated that the Turkish American community, under the leadership of ATAA, plays an important role in representing Turkey's interests in the US.

At the next meeting with US Ambassador Robert Pearson and Mrs. Pearson, the delegation was shown a power point presentation on Turkish-American relations and

Turkey. Ambassador Pearson indicated that the US truly appreciates her relations with Turkey, and values the contribution it is making in the war against terror.

The next day, meetings were held with the Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Uğur Ziyal, former Turkish Ambassador to the US, Ambassador Baki İlkin, who hosted a luncheon in ATAA's honor at the Ankara Palace, and Interior Minister Rüştü Kazım Yücelen.

On Wednesday morning, the group met with the Turkish Grand National Assembly's Speaker, Mr. Ömer Izgi., members of the Foreign Affairs Committee headed by Mr. Kamran Inan and several members of the TGNA and members of the Turkish-USA Interparliamentary Friendship Group.

The delegation held further meetings leaders of parties represented in the Turkish parliament, including, Saadet party leader Mr. Recai Kutan, AKP party leader Mr. Tayyip Erdoğan, DYP party leader Dr. Tansu Çiller and MHP leader and Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Devlet Bahçeli. Mr. Bahçeli talked about Turkey's role in the fight against global terrorism, Turkey's leadership of the peacekeeping force in Afghanistan, and the political and economic situation in Turkey.

The Ankara part of the delegation program ended with a visit to the Secretariat General of the National Security Council. General Tuncer Kılıç, Secretary General of the NSC, briefed the group on a variety of issues, including Armenian genocide allegations, Turco-Greek relations and Cyprus.

The visit to Ankara had ended June 13th and was then followed by a visit to Bulgaria, a country whose 10% of the population are ethnic Turks.

The first meeting the group held was with the Movement for Rights and Freedom officials whose party is the coalition partner with the party formed by former King Simeon II. The Movement for Rights and Freedom Party led by Mr. Ahmed Doğan has as its members ethnic Turks, Muslims, Bulgarians, Romas and Jews.

Monday, June 17th began with a briefing at the American Center in Sofia and was then followed by briefing Turkish by Ambassador Haydar Berk who discussed the political progress of the Turkish ethnic minority.

That day's luncheon was hosted by newly appointed American Ambassador James W. Pardew, followed by an afternoon of meetings beginning with Mr. Ivan Petkov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Petkov as well as representatives of the Americas and Europe Directorate emphasized the strong relationship between Bulgaria and the U.S., particularly as anti-terrorism coalition partners. Tuesday, June 18th included meetings with State Minister Nezhdet Mallov and Mr. Nik Marinov. Chief Mufti Selim Mehmed, Mr. Stanimer Ilchev, Chairman of the Foreign Policy and with Mr. Ünal Lütüfi, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

The next several days, June 19-23, were spent visiting major cities such as Veliko Turnovo, Russe, Razgrad, Shoumen, Varna, Nessebur and Burgas. The delegation met with local officials and members of the Turkish minority and visited historic and cultural sites, many of importance to Turkish cultural and historical heritage.



With Deputy Prime Minister Devlet Bahçeli



Presentation of NSC Gift to ATAA



ATAA delegation visiting the historic mosque in Razgrad.



The dinner hosted by the Rights and Freedom Party representing in the government the Turkish Bulgarian community.

Call For Support!

YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION ENDORSE AND DIRECTLY SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSEMBLY OF TURKISH AMERICAN ASSOCIATIONS

- ✓ The publication of *The Turkish Times*, the only newspaper of the Turkish-American community.
- ✓ The national ATAA Grassroots Program which includes regional Leadership/Grassroots seminars around the country organized to educate Turkish-Americans on grassroots political activism.
- ✓ Educational seminars on Turkish history, culture and politics.
- ✓ Project grants for ATAA's component associations.
- ✓ ATAA delegations to Turkey for leaders of the Turkish-American community (Participants pay their own expenses).
- ✓ The ATAA Annual Convention, the premier event organized by the Turkish-American community.
- ✓ Most importantly, your contribution to the Assembly makes it possible for us to maintain a Central Office and a small, but dedicated, staff of professionals who make the above activities possible.

ATAA Membership Form

I cast my vote as "YES" for ATAA to continue to represent the Turkish-American community in the US.
Enclosed please find my TAX DEDUCTIBLE donation for my annual membership dues.

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For any single donation of \$ 250 and above ATAA will send you a letter confirming your donation, For any single donation under \$ 250, your cleared check/credit card statement may serve as proof of your donation for tax purposes. If you receive any benefits/services in return for your donation, a portion of your donation may not be tax-deductible, please consult your accountant.

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- Recognition as Corporate Member in ATAA Annual Donor list published in The Turkish Times
- Two full registration packages to ATAA Annual Convention
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- Half page advertisement in The Turkish Times (6 issue)
- Five gift subscriptions to The Turkish Times
- Logo on ATAA webpage with link to sponsor's homepage

TOPKAPI CLUB MEMBER: \$ 1000

- Two gift subscription to The Turkish Times
- Special recognition as TOPKAPI Club member in ATAA Annual Donor list published in The Turkish Times
- Special recognition and fullpage message/ad in Annual Convention booklet
- 20 % discount on all paid ATAA activities* and publications

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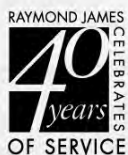
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Connected to each other through YOU, we resolve to stay FRIENDS FOREVER, Sel. We are richer for having known you. Thank you for enhancing our lives with your positive and upbeat personality. Stay happy and healthy! Once again, **CONGRATULATIONS, SEL.** With love and affection,

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The Turkish Cultural Foundation is a US tax exempt public charitable organization and your contributions are US tax deductible. Checks can be mailed to Turkish Cultural Foundation.



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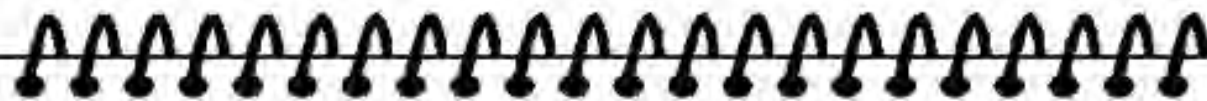
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On their 23rd Annual
Conventions
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On their 23rd
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on the occasion of
their 23rd Anniversary

Kadir Karabay, CPA
December 12, 2002

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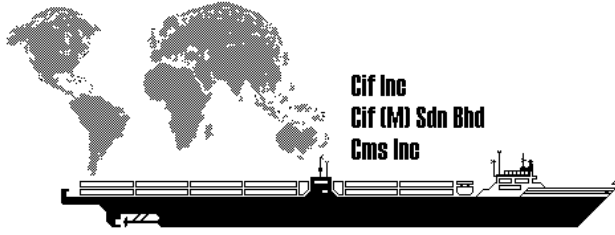
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Former Administrator, Former President
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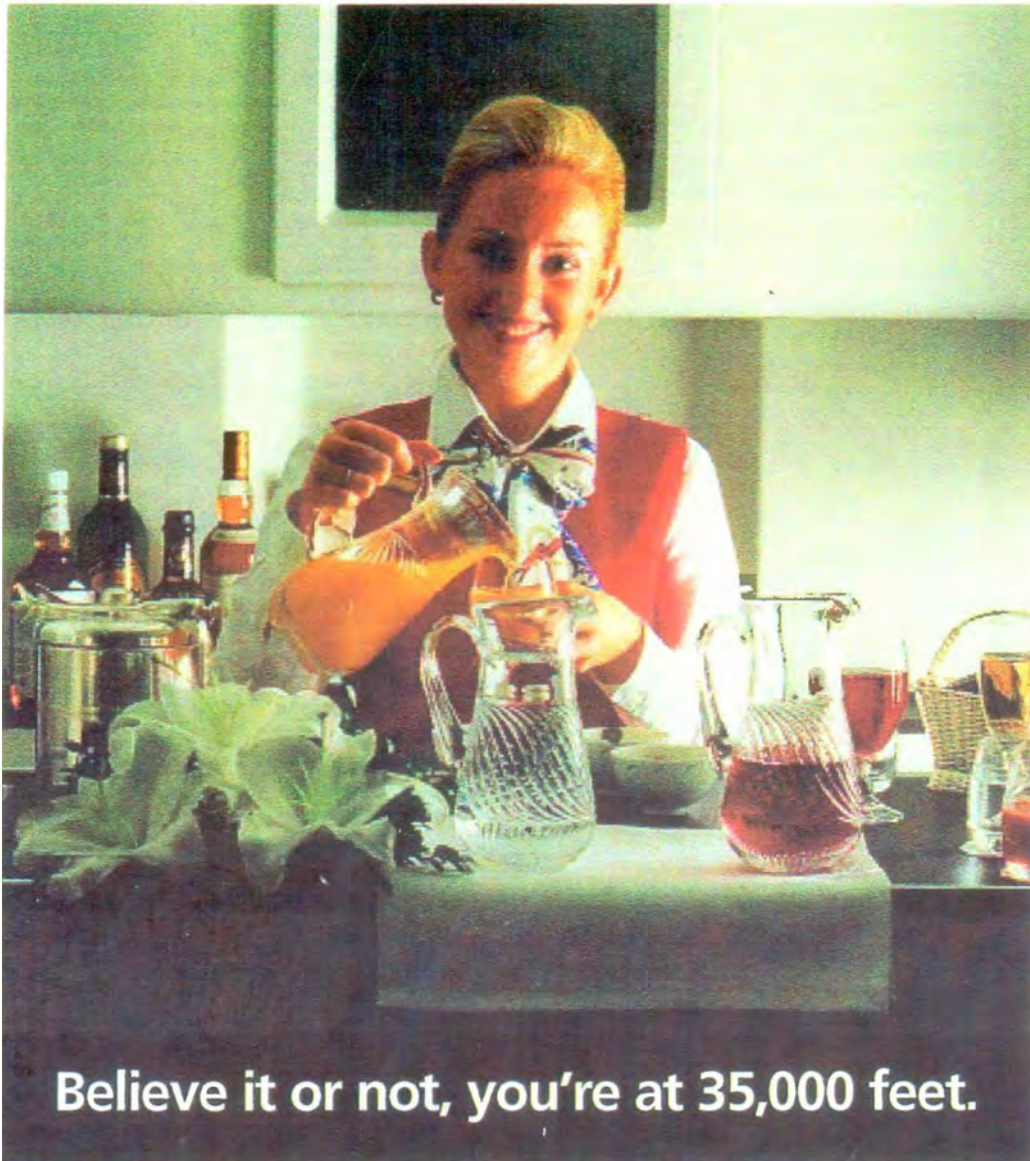
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