



26th Annual **ATAA**
Convention

Palmer House Hilton in Chicago
November 17 – 19, 2005



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ATAA President's Message

Dear ATAA Members and Friends,

It is my distinct honor and pleasure to welcome you to the 26th Annual Convention of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) in the Windy City of Chicago.

As you will see in our annual report in this convention booklet, it has been an incredibly busy year for ATAA-one that has been marked with positive change and great successes, including the new Turkish American magazine, the start of two ATAA Lecture Series, the Peace in the World Project, and a new staff in the central office. It's an exciting time for ATAA and I have confidence that this is only the beginning.

Since we last gathered, we have seen devastating tragedies all around the world: the earthquake in Pakistan, the hurricanes along the southern coast of the United States, the terrorist attacks in London, and the tsunamis that struck southern Asia. I would like to again extend my condolences to families whose lives were irreversibly changed following these harrowing events. Yet we should be thankful that we are part of a community that was willing to open their hearts, their homes and their pocketbooks to the victims and their families. Under the ATAA umbrella, we were able to collect and allocate donations from generous Turkish American individuals and families and disburse them to victims and aid organizations. Thank you for acting out of the characteristic philanthropy that we as Turkish Americans embrace so dearly.

As the Turkish American community continues to grow to more than two million, ATAA must expand its scope and outreach as well. We are pleased to welcome six new component organizations and 68 new members to our family. It is through our individual members and component organizations that the ATAA mission is carried out. It is our members who contact their representatives in support or opposition of legislation in Congress. It is our members who host festivals to promote Turkish culture and art. It is our members who selflessly donate their time and money. And it is our members who have made ATAA the largest organization representing Turks and Turkish Americans in the United States.

We have established ourselves as a community that can actively and legitimately pursue our collective interests on all levels-politically, socially and educationally-with one voice. I truly believe that ATAA has the capacity to be the unifying force behind all groups that share our principles of integrity, dignity and service to society.

I want to again express my gratitude to the dedicated work of the Central Office Staff. They consistently put in the time and effort to make this convention and the many other activities of ATAA successful. I would also like to thank the members of the Board of Directors and Board of Trustees-your vision, leadership and spirit are unmatched.

Sincerely,

Vural Cengiz
President



We have established ourselves as a community that can actively and legitimately pursue our collective interests on all levels-politically, socially and educationally-with one voice. I truly believe that ATAA has the capacity to be the unifying force behind all groups that share our principles of integrity, dignity and service to society.



Foreign Minister's Message

*Message by H.E. Abdullah Gül,
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of
Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey*

On the occasion of its 26th Annual Convention, I wish to congratulate the Assembly of Turkish - American Associations which is one of the most important umbrella organizations created by the Turkish community living in the United States.

The strong foundation created by our alliance relationship of 50 years with the United States as well as the common interests and goals created by developments in our age require us to act together. Our bilateral relations with the United States are multifaceted, covering diverse areas such as defense, security, energy issues, economy, trade and regional cooperation.

Turkey and the United States share the goal of establishing and institutionalizing democracy, fundamental freedoms, human rights and free market economies. Both states also have common concerns regarding numerous regional problems. The continuation of the friendship and partnership between the two countries on firm grounds and based on mutual respect, understanding and interests is of prime importance and will be instrumental in achieving stability and welfare in the wider geography that constitutes our common area of interest.

The United States presents numerous opportunities to the communities it is home to when the members of such communities can act in unison and in a coordinated fashion. As persons living in the United States, you are aware of how effective lobbying activities here can be. In this context, it is important that Turkish - Americans appreciate the importance of organized action and become active in American politics.

We follow closely and with appreciation the role that the Assembly of Turkish - American Associations plays in furthering Turkish - American relations and value its constructive efforts to strengthen the ties of friendship between Turks and Americans as well as its contributions to achieving better recognition of Turkey in the United States. We firmly believe that these efforts will continue in the future with a steadily increasing momentum.

I congratulate the leaders of the Assembly of Turkish - American Associations, the organizations that operate within its framework as well as their members for the commendable work they are doing and express my wishes of success for the 26th Annual Convention of the Assembly.

The strong foundation created by our alliance relationship of 50 years with the United States as well as the common interests and goals created by developments in our age require us to act together.

Ambassador's Message

*Message by H.E. O. Faruk Logoglu,
Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey
to the United States*

I congratulate the Assembly of Turkish - American Associations (ATAA) on the occasion of its 26th Annual Convention. The Assembly is one of the leading organizations that has brought together Turkish - Americans across the country, promoted their unity and advanced their interests.

Turkey and the United States are close partners and allies that share the core values of democracy, respect for the rule of law, adherence to human rights and the implementation of a free market economy. Furthermore, both states share a vision of establishing sustainable peace and freedom for the wider geographic area where Turkey is located. This common vision extends to the war on terror and also comprises a number of other significant foreign policy issues. Our two states are close friends as they are strategic partners.

One vital component of the friendship between Turkey and the United States is the Turkish - American community living in the United States. This community is the primary human link between the two countries. It is mainly through Turkish - Americans that other Americans are acquainted with Turkey, our customs and values. By providing a source of knowledge on Turkey as well as furthering relations in the fields of trade, sciences and culture, the Turkish - Americans living in the United States act as an important catalyst in our ties with this country.

As the Turkish presence in the United States has grown over time, it has been our pleasure to witness the growth of the ATAA alongside it. Today the ATAA superstructure gathers over 50 local organizations and associations under its framework. This requires hard work and we are grateful to all its officers and members. They should know that the ties between Turkey and the United States benefit significantly from their efforts.

I once again congratulate the ATAA on the occasion of its 26th Annual Convention and extend my best wishes to all its members and as well as its affiliated organizations.



Turkey and the United States are close partners and allies that share the core values of democracy, respect for the rule of law, adherence to human rights and the implementation of a free market economy.



Assembly of Turkish American Associations

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 was elected.

From this nucleus, the Assembly has grown into an organization that represents 60 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 quarterly magazine, *The Turkish American*. ATAA hosts one of the most dynamic websites 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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*The Assembly
has grown into
an organization
that represents
60 Turkish
American
organizations in
the United
States, Canada
and Turkey.*

ATAA Board of Directors 2005-2006

Mr. Vural Cengiz

President

Vural Cengiz graduated from Ankara University's School of Political Sciences (SBF) in 1980 with a BA degree. He has an MA degree from Cukurova University in Turkey. He received his MBA from State University of West Georgia in 1989. He has served in the following capacities: a member of the Turkish American Cultural Association of Georgia since 1986; President of TACA-GA from 1994-1997; Vice President of ATAA from 1996-2000; Executive Board member and treasurer of ATAA since 2000. He has received the following awards: 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 Florida Investments and Developments, Inc., and is married to Sabina with no children.

Ms. Nurten Ural

President Elect

Nurten Ural is currently the Assembly of Turkish American Associations' President Elect and an Honorary Consul of the Republic of Turkey for Michigan. She has a 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-both from Michigan State University. Nurten is the owner of Ural Interiors, Inc., an interior design firm in Farmington Hills, MI. 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, 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, as well as ATAA Vice-President of the Midcentral Region.

Ms. Oya Bain

Secretary General (National)

Oya Gain is a graduate of Robert College, who 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 is the editor of ATANews, a monthly publication of ATA-DC and frequent contributor to the Turkish American magazine. In addition to ATA-DC, she serves on the boards of the Atatürk 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.

Mr. Timur Edip

Treasurer (National)

Timur Edip is a third generation Turkish-American, born and raised in New York, and has been active in the Turkish-American community since 1989. He served as President of TAA-Arizona, as Co-Founder and Chair of TAA-Central Pennsylvania, on the Executive Board of TAFSUS, on the Executive Board of ATA-DC, and he currently serves on the Executive Board of MATA. He was also a founding member of the DC chapter of the Turkish American Business Forum. Timur is a Maryland attorney serving the metro Washington, DC area with a solo practice in business and immigration law. Timur also has a Masters in Public Administration, where he concentrated in Public Policy, and has over five years experi-

ATAA Board of Directors 2005-2006

ence working as a legislative analyst for the Pennsylvania General Assembly's Budget and Finance Committee. Timur and his wife, Melek (Demircan of Ankara), reside in Rockville, Maryland and have two children.

Mr. Ercument Kilic *Past President*

Mr. Kilic 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 in his own business, TCI Travel and TCI Construction.

Mr. Gunay Evinch *VP Capital Region*

Günay Evinch (Övünç) was born in Chicago in 1963 and raised in San Francisco. Gunay has been an ATAA volunteer since 1989, served as ATAA Secretary 1998-2000, and is the current ATAA Vice President for the Capital Region. Between 1991-93, Gunay researched the Ottoman Armenian tragedy at the Ankara University Human Rights Center, with grants from the U.S.

Fulbright Commission and Sasakawa Peace Foundation. Günay received his Juris Doctor from Washington & Lee University (W&L) School of Law, Virginia (1991), completed an EU Legal Studies Program at the University of Madrid (1989), and double majored in Economics and Political Science-Public Service at the University of California, Davis (UCD) (1986). He interned with the San Francisco District Attorney, Sacramento Federal Public Defender, and San

Mateo office of Congressman Tom Lantos. Günay served as President of his law school, President of the American International Law Society W&L Chapter, and Chairman of the Student Programs Board of his college. At UCD, he served as advisor to international and upper-division students, for which he received the UC Regents Outstanding Senior Award.

A former striker for the California U-14 and U-16 teams, Gunay continued his interest in sports, writing the "Sports News" in the ATAA Turkish Times (1993-1998) and founding the Turkish American local soccer teams network, www.AnatoliaFC.com. He practices international law at Saltzman & Evinch, www.Turklaw.Net, and founded www.TurkishLawProject.org and www.EthnicTerror.org. Günay and his wife, Senem, have a baby daughter, Lara, and two golden retrievers, Plato and Luna.

Mr. Mehmet Celebi *VP Midwestern Region*

Mehmet was born in Aleppo, Syria to a Turkish mother and a Syrian father of Turkish origin. He moved to the United States in 1988.

He received a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and International Economics with concentration in the politics of the Middle East and Central Asia from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. During his studies, he interned at the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, The United Nations and various Congressional offices.

Professionally, Mehmet worked as Manager of Financial Services at Prudential Financial until 2004, and was a Partner at New York Life & Securities until recently. In 2005, he started BMH Worldwide along with 2 friends to provide comprehensive business services to the entertainment and television industries as well the corporate world.

Mehmet has been serving as the President of the Turkish-American Cultural Alliance since 2000 and as the Midwest Vice-President of the Assembly of Turkish-American Associations since 2001.

Mehmet served/continues to serve on the Board of several non-profit organizations including National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (member of the Board), Turkish-American Doctors Association of Midwest (Advisory Board) and Association of Turkish-American Scientists, Engineers and Architects (Advisory Board).

Mehmet has also been serving on the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations' "Task Force on Islamic relation in the US" since 2003.

Mehmet is fluent in English, Turkish, Arabic and Spanish. He is married to Stephanie and has two children, Emre, 8 months, and Eren, 3 ½ years.

ATAA Board of Directors 2005-2006

Mr. Kivanc Oncu ***VP New York Region***

Kivanc Oncu was born in Izmir in 1978, and graduated from Istanbul Technical University's Civil Engineering Department, where he was involved in the activities of MHK (Mühendisliğe Hazırlık Klübü). During his studies, Kivanc worked as an engineering intern in Amtrak headquarters in Philadelphia. After being involved in the process of ACELA, high-speed rail system for Amtrak, Kivanc started his master's education in business administration at the State University of West Georgia. He spent two years in Atlanta, GA where he got involved with Turkish community through ATAA. In 2002, he moved to New York as a Structural Engineer for Parsons Brinckerhoff to work on various tunnel and bridge projects in and around the Tri-state area. Kivanc is an active member of ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers), TMMOB (Türkiye Mimarlar ve Mühendisler Odası Birliği), ITSS (Intercollegiate Turkish Student Society), and ATAA. He is currently pursuing his second master's degree in Structural Engineering in Rutgers University, New Jersey.

Dr. Atilla Soran ***VP North Central Region***

Dr. Atilla Soran was born in Istanbul in 1965 and graduated from medical school in 1989. He worked at the St. Mary's Hospital in England during his residency, which he completed in 1994. Between 1997 -1999, Atilla did postdoctoral fellowship on breast cancer and intensive care at the University of Pittsburgh. He became an Associate Professor of Surgery in 2000, and Professor of Surgery in 2004, and he is currently employed with the University of Pittsburgh as a Professor of Surgery. Atilla was elected as the Vice President of the Pittsburgh Turkish-American Association (PTAA) in 2002, of which he has been the president since 2003. Atilla is currently the ATAA President for North-central region, which includes the states of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

Mrs. Ferhan Gomulu ***VP Northwestern Region***

Ms. Gomulu was born in Istanbul. She holds a BS in Public Administration and Political Science, Middle East Technical University, Ankara; and an MA in Economics, Northeastern University, Boston. She started her professional career as a Career Diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey. She worked in IBM Turkey for seven years as the Special Bids

Representative. Currently, she works in the Information Services department at Northeastern University and is also working on her Ph.D. dissertation on Internet Law and Public Policy in the same university.

She came to the U.S. in 1991 and has been actively involved in the issues of the Turkish American community ever since. She has been an Executive Board Member of the Turkish American Cultural Society of New England since 1996, and the Secretary General of this organization for the last eight years. She is a public advocate of the Turkish community in the area and works closely with organizations such as AJC and Mayor's Office of Boston. She has led numerous projects and has organized many educational, cultural and social events to promote Turkey and the Turkish culture. She is the Coordinator of the Boston Turkish Arts and Culture Festival and the Boston Turkish Film Festival. She is among the recipients of the "Women of Distinction Award" by the Daughters of Atatürk (2001). Currently the ATAA Vice President for Northeastern Region, she has been actively involved in ATAA and its projects in the region since 1999.

Mr. Emin Pamucak ***VP Southeastern Region***

Emin Pamucak was born in 1959 in Kutahya, Turkey to immigrant families from Ottoman Turkish towns in Bulgaria and Greece. After receiving his elementary school education in Karadeniz Ereglisi and Ankara, Emin attended middle school and high school in suburban metropolitan Washington, D.C. He holds BS and MS degrees in engineering from Bogazici University and University of Maryland. Employed by IBM since 1984, he has worked at company locations in Minnesota, New York, Connecticut and most recently North Carolina.

A firm believer in "by and for" civic representation, Emin is involved in community service and advocacy with emphasis in diversity relations. He has been an active member of ATA North Carolina since 1996, serving as the President of the Association for the last three years. He has received Association's Distinguished Member and Distinguished Leader Awards. In 2004, ATA North Carolina was recognized as ATAA's Component Association of the Year. Emin is also a founding member and the current president of Bridge to Türkiye Fund, which is a US charitable organization focused on improving the underprivileged segments of Turkish society. Emin is happily married to Ayse and is the father of Ayca, a senior in high school.

ATAA Board of Directors 2005-2006

Mr. Ertugrul Turhal ***VP Western Region***

Ertugrul Turhal was born in Eskisehir, Turkey in 1958. He holds MS/BS degrees in Aeronautical Engineering and BA degree on Business Administration. He retired as Colonel from Turkish Air Force after 23 years work in logistics systems in different fields of aircraft manufacturing, repair and overhaul services. He came to the US for the first time in 1984 for graduate program in Dayton Ohio. He has worked at the USAF Material Command and Defense Logistic Agency in 1990s. Since 2002, he has worked at Aero Precision Industries Inc as Vice President, Product Technical Support. He is married Birsan and has one son Cem (20 years old) and one daughter Ece (14 years old). He has volunteered for various social organizations in Turkey and USA including Turkish American Organizations in Ohio and California. Mr. Turhal served as Vice President of the Turkish Scouting Federation until 2002 and has two books about scouting

Dr. Hakan Kaya ***VP Northwestern Region***

Hakan Kaya is the Eastern Washington Representative of TACA Washington. Since he moved to Inland Northwest from North Carolina in 2001, he has promoted the Turkish culture in multiple community activities. His mission is to reach out and support Turks, Turkish Americans and American friends of Turkey who live in isolated communities of Eastern Washington, North Idaho, and Montana. During the last two years, he has been reaching these communities via e-mails, phone calls, and actual site visits. As a part of this mission, he founded the Turkish American Cultural Association of Inland Northwest (TACA-IN), which is the first, and the only Turkish American association in Inland Northwest (Montana, Idaho, and Eastern Washington). Hakan functions as the liaison between TACA-WA and TACA-IN. Dr. Hakan Kaya is an award winning physician who specializes in cancer, blood disorders, and stem cell transplantation. He is a partner at Cancer Care Northwest in Spokane, WA. Dr. Kaya has been on the clinical faculty of the University of Washington Medical School since 2002. He is an active teacher for internal medicine residents and medical students in Spokane hospitals. He is in the process of establishing the first stem cell transplantation program in Inland Northwest.

Mr. Coskun Bayrak ***VP Southwestern Region***

Dr. Coskun Bayrak is a tenured full professor in the department of Computer Science at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He also has been serving on the Faculty of Applied Science since 2000. Although he is specialized in the area of software engineering, component based development, distributed systems, and data mining, His primary research interest currently is in biomedical engineering, modeling and simulation, and cellular automata, and monitoring and control. Dr. Bayrak has published one book chapter, over forty research articles in scientific conferences and journals, given tutorials at major conferences, and served on program committees for numerous international conferences and symposiums. Dr. Bayrak holds a BS from Slippery Rock University, and a MS from Texas Tech University, and Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University in Computer Science. He is the founder and first president of Friends of Turkey in Arkansas (FOTIA).

Mr. Alp Berker ***VP Mid-Central Region***

Alp Berker was born in Hull, Canada in 1966. After living in Canada, the U.S.A and Turkey his family settled in Indiana in 1983. He attended Purdue University and received a degree in computer Technology in 1991 and a Masters in Sociology in 1998 from the University of Indianapolis. He currently works as a Database Administrator in Indianapolis. He has served in ATA-IN (American Turkish Association of Indiana) in various capacities, Treasurer in 2003 and has been the Vice-President since 2004. He is married with 3 children.

ATAA Board of Trustees

Dr. Tamer Aikalın, *Chairman*

Dr. Acikalın was born in Antalya, Turkey and is a graduate of Ankara University Medical School. He came to the United States in 1973. In 1979, he established the Turkish-American Association of Louisiana (TAAL), and served as the founding president from 1979-1980, and again in 1982-1983. He was also director of TAAL from 1980-1985. Tamer served as the Regional Vice President of ATAA for the South/Southwest region during 1986-1994. In this capacity, he traveled throughout the region in support of the activities of the local organizations. He also organized the first Southern Regional Conference of ATAA with the participation of Turkish-American associations in the region. Tamer played a vital role in the creation of The Turkish Times, and organized the first ATAA Media Watch and Response Committee, serving as its first chairman. Tamer was the president of the ATAA Board of Directors during 1996-1998.

Güney Adak

Gunay Adak graduated from Istanbul University's College of Economics. Before coming to the United States in 1980, he was involved in the family business of general contracting. After his move, Güney held managerial positions in the construction industry where he gained knowledge and experience in wooden building structures of rafters and trusses. He later went on to partner a business of wooden roof and floor truss systems, where he started designing and manufacturing these systems. The company has not only evolved into a major operation in South Florida, serving from three plant locations, but has also branched out into international trade. Güney has served as a Director on the Board of ATAA, as well as the President of the Florida Turkish American Association. He is married and has two children.

Dr. Bülent Basol

Dr. Bulent Basol received his Ph.D. in Solid State Electronics from the University of California in 1980. Bülent's involvement with the Turkish community started with the local organizations in California, where he served as a Board Member, Vice President, and President of the American-Turkish Association of Southern California (ATA-SC). Serving as the ATAA Vice President for the western region, Bülent later became the President for the term of 1992-1994. Bülent has his own company, and resides in California where he is married with two children.

Cemal Altaylı

Cemal Altaylı as born in 1960 in Adana. He graduated from Hacettepe University's Geology Engineering department in 1984, after which he started his career within the Turkish government. After working for the government for 1.5 years, he entered the private sector and worked for Metro Turizm as the vice president of the accounting department, as well as for Kocar Maden Oca?? and Erbil, Inc. in Germany. Cemal came to the US in 1982 and earned a degree in business administration from Georgetown University. He is married to Hülya and is very involved with the Turkish-American community.

Tolga Cubukcu

Tolga Cubukcu is a Senior Associate at Smislova, Kehnemui & Associates, PA and has been with the company since 1981. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers. He received a BS in Civil Engineering from Robert College in Istanbul and an MS in Structural Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Mr. Cubukcu has been involved in the Turkish community for quite some time in the following respects: 11 years as an ATA-DC Board Member; ATAA Treasurer; 4-year term as ATA-DC President; ATAA Board Member; ATAA President; Chair of the ATAA Elections and Nominations Committee; and most recently serving as a Member of the ATAA Board of Trustees. He is a member of the Ataturk Society of America, ATA-DC, and MATA. He has been married to Ala since 1964 and has one son (Kerim, 36) and one daughter (Dane, 33).

Saduman Gürbüz

Saduman Gurbuz was born in Trabzon and came to the United States in 1989. She served as ATAA's Vice President for the Southwestern Region from 1991 to 2001, and she was the president of the Turkish-American Association of Northern Texas (TURANT) during 1998-1999. Saduman has won many awards for her contributions to the community. In 1999, she received the ATAA Distinguished Service Award, followed by the Spirit of Woman Award from the Jewish Congress in 2001, and the Meritorious Award from the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2002. Saduman is the president of Vira Tekstil, and lives in Texas with her husband Ergin, and their two daughters, Deniz and Ipek.

ATAA Board of Trustees

Suzan Demircan

Suzan Demircan was born in 1946 in Bulgaria and came to the United States as a political refugee in 1964. After settling in New Jersey, she studied Management and Real Estate at the Bergen Community College in Paramus. Suzan is the president of the Solidarity of the Balkan Turks of America in New Jersey. She and her husband, Nureddin, are the owners of the Demircan construction and real estate company. They live in New Jersey with their four children.

Dr. Mustafa Hatipoglu

Dr. Mustafa Hatipoglu was born in Izmir and graduated from Ege University's Medical school. After immigrating to the US, Mustafa specialized in internal medicine nephrology, and established metropolitan dialysis centers in New Orleans and South Louisiana. Mustafa and his wife Lale were charter members of the Turkish American Association of Louisiana (TAAL), where Mustafa served as the president and has been supporting its activities since its establishment. Mustafa's charitable and community activities expand to both the US and Turkey as a Rotarian for many years, earning numerous awards from the Rotary Club. Mustafa excels in investments, as well as in medicine in which he is considered to be wise and a leader among his colleagues.

Mike Mehmet Mustafaoglu

Mr. Mustafaoglu is a distinguished businessman and a community leader. On May 11, 2002, he was awarded the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor and his name entered into the Congressional Record. He is the first American citizen of Turkish and Turkish Cypriot heritage to receive this award. Six Presidents of the United States have received this award, as well as many Members of Congress, Nobel Prize winners, prominent scientists, distinguished businessmen such as Rupert Murdoch and outstanding military heroes such as Generals Norman Schwartzkopf and Colin Powell. In 1994, in recognition of his entrepreneurial accomplishments, Palm Beach Atlantic University has awarded him the companion American Free Enterprise Medal. In October 2001, he received the Outstanding Achievement in Business Award in a joint meeting of the Jewish American Congress and American Turkish Association of Southern California.

Born in Cyprus and educated in the United States, he attended high school in Illinois as an American Field Service Scholar and college in Kansas as a Fulbright Scholar. He holds an Electrical Engineering degree from Wichita State University and a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from

University of Southern California/University of Houston with finance and quantitative science concentrations.

Mr. Mustafaoglu is the founder and Chairman of TransGlobal Financial Corporation; a Los Angeles based private equity firm investing in and providing services to emerging growth-oriented companies.

Taking pride in his ethnic heritage, he is passionate in promoting and helping the Turkish American community to achieve and maintain high standards through good citizenship, business education, the arts and philanthropy. He is a past chairman of American Turkish Association of Southern California and a member of the Board of Trustees of Institute of Turkish Studies, which funds research in the U.S. universities regarding the Turkish history and culture.

Mr. Mustafaoglu is the Honorary Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus to Los Angeles and the Western states.

Bonnie Joy Kaslan Bio

The Honorable Bonnie Joy Kaslan, Consul General of the Turkish Republic, is former Executive Vice President of Kaslan Associates, Inc. Prior to closing, Kaslan Associates was a Sonoma based Structural and Geotechnical Engineering firm. She has served the Turkish American Community since 1978. Mrs. Kaslan, former graduate student at the Sorbonne, Paris, educator and department chairperson, was president of the Turkish American Association of California from 1983-1985. She served as the first woman on the Board of Directors of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations as Western Region Vice President from 1982-1986. In 1982, she was named woman of the year for the Turkish American Community in California. She was national chairman of the Assembly's Curriculum Committee on History and Social Science.

She has represented Turkish American interests at high-level State Department meetings, addressed human relation commissions nationwide, worked on a one-to-one basis with innumerable congressional representatives and their staffs, as well as delivered expert testimony before the Committee on Foreign Relations. She was the first non-Turkish woman worldwide to represent the Republic of Turkey as Honorary Consul General developing and implementing educational and public relations programs as deemed necessary. She has appeared on radio and television nationwide as an educator, advocate and facilitator for a better understanding of Turkey and her people.

In addition to her advocacy for the betterment of Turkish

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American relations, Bonnie Joy is a former Member of the Board of Directors of Soroptimist International of Oakland. She is a graduate of the Coro Foundation's Public Affairs Leadership Program for Women, as well as a past member of the Board of Directors of American Women for International Understanding.

She was awarded Soroptimist's distinguished "Women Helping Women" award and honored as a role model for women on all levels' local, national and international. The Assembly honored her with the Distinguished Service Award in 1987 and Meritorious Service Award in 1989. The International Institute of the East Bay honored her as the recipient of the Women of Tribute Award in 1991. She was honored for her leadership and contributions towards peaceful and greater international understanding. The Daughters of Ataturk recognized her in 1999 for her efforts to advance Turkish American causes.

She has been appointed to the Ethnic Advisory Commission for the State of California's Department of Rehabilitation and served as the President of the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce. Recently, she was one of the organizers of a "Spirit in Flight" retreat, dedicated to honoring flight attendants post-September 11th. She is also a member of the Citizen's Advisory Council of the Sonoma Police Department. Mrs. Kaslan is a graduate of the "First Class Leadership Sonoma Valley".

Dr. Orhan Kaymakçalan

Dr. Orhan Kaymakçalan was born in 1948 and graduated from Hacettepe University's Medical School 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 between 1974 and 1978. Orhan received his fellowship in Hand Surgery from the University of Louisville in 1973, and is currently the Chief of the Section of Hand and Reconstructive Microsurgery at Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Center. He is a member of the American and Chicago Society for Surgery of the Hand, and has presented multiple papers in National and International Hand Society Meetings and Lectures. Orhan regularly performs free surgeries for poor and needy patients, particularly for Turkish patients and patients who have been injured in conflicts in Bosnia and Russia. Orhan is the Past President of ATAA, and is married to Nezahat with two children, Sevil and Ömer.

Dr. Coskun Tunca

Dr. Coskun Tunca was born in 1943 and graduated with honors from Istanbul University's Cerrahpasa Medical School in 1968. He completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine between 1978-1980, and obtained his diploma from the American Board of Obstetrics & Gynecology in 1975. Coşkun is with the Division of Gynecologic Oncology Department of the University of Illinois at Chicago since 1984. He is a member of the ATAA Board of Trustees, and he is married to Barbara Tunca with four children.

2005 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 all of us. We are honored to announce the recipients of the 26th Annual ATAA Awards.

ATAA American Friend of Turkey

ED WHITFIELD

Ed Whitfield is serving his sixth term as U.S. Representative for the 34 counties of Kentucky's First Congressional District. Congressman Whitfield serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. In January of 2005, Whitfield was chosen to serve as Chairman of the Committee's Oversight and Investigation Subcommittee. The Subcommittee has jurisdiction over a wide range of Departments, Agencies and issues, including general commerce, security, consumer protection, energy policy, safety, public health, travel and professional sports. In addition to his Chairmanship, Whitfield serves on the Telecommunications and Energy Subcommittees.

Born May 25, 1943, Whitfield is a native of Hopkinsville, Christian County, Kentucky. After graduation from Madisonville (Ky.) High School, he earned a Bachelor's Degree and Juris Doctorate from the University of Kentucky. In addition, Whitfield studied at American University's Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., where he now serves on the Board of Governors. Whitfield served as a 1st Lieutenant in the 100th Division of the U.S. Army Reserves. He served in the Kentucky House of Representatives in 1974-75 while practicing law in Hopkinsville and operated a successful oil distributorship in the west Kentucky coal fields.

Whitfield was one of a three-member congressional delegation that traveled to Northern Cyprus this summer. The flight that took the delegation there landed directly in Northern Cyprus was the first of many steps that Whitfield and other Members of Congress plan to take to end the isolation of the people of Northern Cyprus.

Married to the former Connie Harriman, Whitfield has a daughter, two grandchildren and a Scottish terrier.

President's Special Awards

FARUK LOGOGLU

Ambassador Logoglu arrived in Washington, D.C. on September 23, and formally assumed his duties following the presentation of his credentials to President George W. Bush on October 10, 2001. He previously served as the Turkish Ambassador to Copenhagen, Denmark, from 1993 to 1996, and to Baku, Azerbaijan, from 1996 to 1998. He was the Undersecretary of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) from 2000 to until his current assignment to the U.S. capital.

Ambassador Logoglu joined the MFA in 1971 and has been involved in the major areas of Turkey's external relations. Earlier in his career, he worked on the Middle East and European matters at the MFA, served as First Secretary at the European Union (then EEC) from 1973 to 1976, and in Dhaka, Bangladesh, between 1976 and 1978. During the 1980s, Ambassador Logoglu, as Head of MFA Department, focused mostly on bilateral political affairs, and Cyprus and Greece issues, serving as a Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations in New York from 1980 to 1984, and Consul General in Hamburg, Germany, from 1986 to 1989. He was appointed as Deputy Undersecretary subsequent to his return from Baku in 1998.

Ambassador Logoglu was born in Ankara in 1941. He attended Brandeis University (Boston) where he majored in Political Science receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1963. Ambassador Logoglu then received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Princeton University in 1969.

Ambassador Logoglu was a lecturer in Political Science at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, 1969-1970. He is the author of *Ismet Inonu and the Making of Modern Turkey*, a book about the times and life of the second President of the Turkish Republic. He is married to Mevhibe (Mimi) Logoglu.

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MEVHIBE LOGOGLU

Mrs. Mevhibe Logoglu was born in Adana, Turkey. She studied and graduated as a teacher. During her marriage to her husband, Ambassador Osman Faruk Logoglu, Ph.D., she had the opportunity to live in Belgium, Bangladesh, New York, Hamburg, Germany, Denmark and Azerbaijan.

She speaks English, German and French. She paints, and is interested in flower arrangements. She is also interested in computer technology.

Sukru Elekdag Award

MARC GROSSMAN

In 2005, Ambassador Marc Grossman completed 29 years of distinguished public service when he retired from the State Department as the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. Appointed by President Bush, Ambassador Grossman served as the Department's third-ranking official, responsible for directing U.S. diplomacy worldwide from 2001 to 2005. Following the September 11th attacks, he helped marshal international diplomatic support for the Global war on Terrorism and for the military campaigns in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Ambassador Grossman previously served as the Director General of the Foreign Service and Director of Human Resources from 2000 to 2001. At the direction of the Secretary of State, he revamped the State Department's human resource strategies, including the Department's strategies for training, assigning, and retaining personnel both at home and abroad.

Ambassador Grossman was Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs from 1997 to 2000. In this capacity, he was responsible for over 4,000 State Department employees posted in 50 sites abroad with a program budget of \$1.2 billion. He played a lead role in orchestrating NATO's 50th anniversary Summit in Washington in 1999 and helped direct U.S. participation in NATO's military campaign in Kosovo that same year.

In 1994, President Clinton appointed Ambassador Grossman U.S. Ambassador to Turkey. In Turkey, he promoted security cooperation, human rights and democracy and forged a vibrant U.S.-Turkish economic relationship. Ambassador Grossman had previously served as the embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission from 1989 to 1992.

Special ATAA Award

NACI KORU

Consul General Naci Koru was born in Izmir, Turkey. He earned his BA in International Relations from the Faculty of Political Sciences at Ankara University. He began his career in the Turkish Foreign Service in 1981 and his postings have included: Second Secretary-Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Vice Consul-Bregenz, Austria; First Secretary, Counsellor-Bonn, Germany; Counsellor at the Turkish Permanent Representation to the FAO-Rome, Italy; Consul General-Mainz, Germany. He currently serves as the Turkish Consul General in Chicago. He speaks English and German. He married with two children.

2005 ATAA Awards

ATAA Turkish American of the Year

OYA BAIN

Oya Gain is a graduate of Robert College, who 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 is the editor of ATANews, a monthly publication of ATA-DC and frequent contributor to the Turkish American magazine. In addition to ATA-DC, she serves on the boards of the 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.

ATAA Distinguished Service Award

CEMAL ALTAYLI

Cemal Altayli as born in 1960 in Adana. He graduated from Hacettepe University's Geology Engineering department in 1984, after which he started his career within the Turkish government. After working for the government for 1.5 years, he entered the private sector and worked for Metro Turizm as the vice president of the accounting department, as well as for Kocar Maden Ocagi and Erbil, Inc. in Germany. Cemal came to the US in 1982 and earned a degree in business administration from Georgetown University. He is married to Hülya and is very involved with the Turkish-American community.

ATAA Benefactors Award

TOLGA CUBUKCU

Tolga Cubukcu is a Senior Associate at Smislova, Kehnemui & Associates, PA and has been with the company since 1981. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Turkish Chamber of Civil Engineers. He received a BS in Civil Engineering from Robert College in Istanbul and an MS in Structural Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Mr. Cubukcu has been involved in the Turkish community for quite some time in the following respects: 11 years as an ATA-DC Board Member; ATAA Treasurer; 4-year term as ATA-DC President; ATAA Board Member; ATAA President; Chair of the ATAA Elections and Nominations Committee; and most recently serving as a Member of the ATAA Board of Trustees. He is a member of the Ataturk Society of America, ATA-DC, and MATA. He has been married to Ala since 1964 and has one son (Kerim, 36) and one daughter (Dane, 33).

MIKE MEHMET MUSTAFOGLU

Mr. Mustafaoglu is a distinguished businessman and a community leader. On May 11, 2002, he was awarded the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor and his name entered into the Congressional Record. He is the first American citizen of Turkish and Turkish Cypriot heritage to receive this award. Six Presidents of the United States have received this award, as well as many Members of Congress, Nobel Prize winners, prominent scientists, distinguished businessmen such as Rupert Murdoch and outstanding military heroes such as Generals Norman Schwartzkopf and Colin Powell. In 1994, in recognition of his entrepreneurial accomplishments, Palm Beach Atlantic University has awarded him the companion American Free Enterprise

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BULENT BASOL

Dr. Bulent Basol received his Ph.D. in Solid State Electronics from the University of California in 1980. Bülent's involvement with the Turkish community started with the local organizations in California, where he served as a Board Member, Vice President, and President of the American-Turkish Association of Southern California (ATA-SC). Serving as the ATAA Vice President for the western region, Bülent later became the President for the term of 1992-1994. Bülent has his own company, and resides in California where he is married with two children.

SADUMAN GURBUZ

Saduman Gurbuz was born in Trabzon and came to the United States in 1989. She served as ATAA's Vice President for the Southwestern Region from 1991 to 2001, and she was the president of the Turkish-American Association of Northern Texas (TURANT) during 1998-1999. Saduman has won many awards for her contributions to the community. In 1999, she received the ATAA Distinguished Service Award, followed by the Spirit of Woman Award from the Jewish Congress in 2001, and the Meritorious Award from the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2002. Saduman is the president of Vira Tekstil, and lives in Texas with her husband Ergin, and their two daughters, Deniz and Ipek.

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ATAA Outstanding Achievement in Science Award

DR. AZIZ SANCAR

Dr. Aziz Sancar is Sarah Graham Kenan Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. He was born in Savur-Mardin, Turkey in 1946, the 7th of 8 siblings. He obtained his primary and secondary education in Savur and Mardin and received an M.D. degree in 1969 from the Istanbul University School of Medicine. After practicing medicine in Savur for two years he attended the University of Texas at Dallas and obtained a Ph.D. degree in Molecular Biology in 1977 with his work on a DNA repair enzyme called 'photolyase'. Dr. Sancar conducted postdoctoral work at Yale University on another DNA repair enzyme called 'excinuclease' in the period 1977-1982. He joined the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics at UNC as an Associate Professor where he rose through the ranks to his current position in 1997. Dr. Sancar is currently conducting research on DNA Repair, Cell Cycle Checkpoints, Cryptochrome and the Circadian Clock. He has published 279 research articles and 32 book chapters. He is a recipient of the Presidential Young Investigator Award (USA), the American Society for Photobiology Research Award, the Turkish Scientific and Technical Council (TUBITAK) Scientific Achievement Award, and the North Carolina Distinguished Chemist Award. He is a Fellow of the Third World Academy of Sciences, a Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Member of The American Academy for Microbiology, and a Member of the National Academy of Sciences, USA.

ATAA Meritorious Service Award

YASEMIN SAN

Yasemin San is a graduate of the University of Bosphorus with a B.A. in Comparative Literature, M.A. in Linguistics and a Teaching certificate in ESL. She moved to Seattle, Washington in 1979 and formed the Anadolu Turkish folk dance group the same year. The group, led by Yasemin, has been performing in the Pacific NW for many years. In 1980, she joined the Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington and served on the Board of Directors for several years, organizing social events to promote Turkish culture, and giving lectures on Turkey to community groups. In 1980, she became one of the founders of the Ethnic Heritage Council of the Pacific Northwest, an umbrella organization that has grown to include more than 600 ethnic community members today. She was a Board member for several years and the organization's first editor-in-chief for their publication, "Ethnic News." She became the president of the Board of Directors in 2000. Currently, Yasemin is one of the most active members of Seattle's growing Turkish community. She teaches folk dances to children and adults and Turkish language to Americans. She also works as a professional court and medical interpreter and volunteers her time to help the newcomers. With a handful of dedicated community members, she organizes the annual Turkish Cultural Festival of Seattle, which has become a very powerful cultural event in five short years. In her real estate career of nine years, Yasemin has also helped many Turkish families become home owners.

GOKCE D. SEZGIN

Gokce D. Sezgin has been the President of TACA Washington for two years. After graduating from the Middle East Technical University (ODTU) in 1996, Gokce worked as a Brand Manager in Turkey for four years, for Unilever and Digiturk. She came to Seattle, WA in 2000 and received her MBA from the University of Washington in June 2003. Currently, she works for Philips Oral Healthcare (makers of Sonicare) as a Global Brand Innovation Manager on the development and the global introduction of new products.

Gokce has shown great interest in and spent long volunteer hours working for the development of the Turkish community in Seattle since the first month she set foot in the US both as an organizer and a participant (Anatolian folk dancer and classical Turkish music singer). In 2004, she decided to (and was strongly encouraged/persuaded) to take a more active role and was elected as the president of TACA WA. She was re-elected in 2005. She is also a member of the Turkfest board for the fifth year in a row and current Marketing & Promotions Coordinator, as part of a group that has managed to make Turkfest a success.

Gokce enjoys traveling, spending time with her family and close friends and reading historical fiction books. As a former

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athlete (bronze medalist in 200 m. in Turkey National Championship), she enjoys running and yoga. She prides herself in being able to find her way around in German, Spanish and Italian.

ATAA Peace Award

DETROIT PEACE IN THE WORLD COMMITTEE

ATAA Component Association Award

TACA-Chicago

FTAA

ATA-SC

ANADOLU CLUB

***TACA's Special Award to Honor Turkish Consul General for Chicago,
Naci Koru***

What Has Been Accomplished

Responding to inaccurate representations of Turkey. ATAA worked with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) to remedy slanderous depictions of Turkey and Turkish citizens on programs aired on NBC and FOX Television stations. FOX sent a response and an apology, while NBC required follow-up to elicit a response. ATAA is currently attempting to form an internal committee to monitor and combat such disparaging and erroneous portrayals.

The Congressional Internship Program. The ATAA is successfully continuing its Congressional Internship Program. This summer, we were able to secure 3 times more internships than last year.

ATAA Headquarters Interns. This summer, ATAA was fortunate to have three intelligent, hard-working and dedicated interns helping out in the office. Ayse Toker, Serkan Ozdemir and Aylin Kumcu were an amazing support system to the office staff during the busy summer months. The three interns fulfilled a wide variety of responsibilities including administrative tasks, database management, and research oriented duties. Each intern was a true delight to have in the office and their hard work certainly did not go unnoticed. At the end of the summer, ATAA hosted a reception for all ATAA-affiliated interns to mingle and meet with each other and ATAA Staff.

The Turkish American Magazine. The content and design of the former *Turkish World* magazine was revamped and re-released under the new title: *The Turkish American*. The Summer and Fall issues of the magazine have been distributed not to only our membership lists but also to the political decision-making institutions in Washington, D.C.

Grassroots campaign. ATAA created an extensive database to match each one of our independent individual members with their Congressional Representatives and Senators. From this database, ATAA staff prepared almost 3000 personalized letters on behalf of the members to educate Congressional Representatives, Senators, and the President of the United States on the position of Turkish Americans on Armenian allegations of genocide.

Capitol Hill Lecture. ATAA coordinated and sponsored a lecture on Capitol Hill by Turkaya Ataov, Professor Emeritus of Ankara University in Turkey, on the subject of the legacy of the Ottoman Empire. This lecture was a strategic step in educating members of the US Congress from a scholarly perspective on the much debated Ottoman Armenian issue. The lecture was repeated in three other US states: North Carolina, Minnesota and Indiana.

Annual Delegation Trip. ATAA members took part in the annual delegation trip in June to Ankara, Istanbul, and Berlin to meet with high-level government officials and NGOs. During the meetings in Turkey, agreements were made with Bosphorus University to prepare student camps in Istanbul; with Turkish Press and Media Administration to take American journalists to Turkey; and with the Turkish Historical Society to print more English books on historic subjects. In addition to many other positive engagements throughout the trip, the meetings in Berlin resulted in a cooperation agreement with Euro-Turkish NGOs. The meetings in Berlin raised ATAA's profile in Europe, leading an interview with ATAA Executive Director, Nargiz Abbaszade by German National Television Network on the topic of the upcoming elections in Germany. Such opportunities increase the international visibility of the work of our organization.

Connecting with Euro-Turks and European NGO's. ATAA's president and president-elect made a trip to Germany, Holland and Belgium at their own expenses to begin a new era of cooperation with Euro-Turkish organizations. The response from European side was excellent and many projects as student programs and a cultural event exchange have been initiated. ATAA's last delegation also visited Berlin to connect with Turkish NGO's in this city. Following the trip, Berliner Turks had their first ever demonstration against the Armenian genocide allegations.

Disaster Relief. ATAA started its campaign to help victims of natural disasters by setting up a disaster relief fund for the victims of the Asian Tsunami in January, 2005 that raised over \$11,000. The money will be donated to disaster relief organizations functioning in Sri Lanka and will be used to build a pre-school and/or community center in the south and/or the east of Sri Lanka, with a plaque declaring that the project was a gift of the Turkish-American community and ATAA. In August 2005 another disaster struck much

closer to home. Hurricane Katrina swept across Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. ATAA and its component organizations responded promptly by initiating donation drives to help Turkish families and all other victims of this disaster. The total relief effort by ATAA and its component organizations totaled over \$10,000. Similar fundraising efforts were initiated for those affected by Hurricane Rita. ATAA Executive Board decided to allocate \$3,000 to be donated to the Red Cross for the relief efforts for these two disasters. Most recently, ATAA started another donation drive to help the victims of the earthquake in Pakistan.

OSCE-PA Reception. During the annual OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) Parliamentary Assembly meetings, which were held in July in Washington, DC, ATAA hosted a reception to honor parliamentary delegates attending the reception from the US, Turkey, the Netherlands, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Monaco, Macedonia, Sweden, Finland, Moldova and Algeria. Among the delegates that spoke at the luncheon were: Turkish Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency O. Faruk Logoglu; OSCE President Alcee Hastings; OSCE Vice Presidents Nevzat Yalcintas and Nebahat Albayrak; and Turkish-Swedish Parliamentarian Sermin Ozurkut. ATAA organized the event when it learned that the Armenian delegation to the OSCE PA contacted all OSCE PA delegations encouraging their support for the inclusion of a paragraph in the official declaration of the Parliamentary assembly condemning the so-called Armenian Genocide. ATAA immediately activated its membership to write to American delegates of the OSCE PA, urging them to oppose such a paragraph. ATAA President Cengiz also personally contacted OSCE PA President Alcee Hastings to emphasize that the Annual Session of the OSCE was not an appropriate forum to debate Ottoman history. Ultimately, the paragraph was not included. Mobilization of our membership and the meetings with the delegations was crucial to prevent the OSCE PA from accepting such a paragraph in its official declaration.

Peace in the World Project. In May, the “Peace in the World” project was launched in Michigan to cultivate Ataturk’s principle of “Peace at Home, Peace in the World.” The goal of the project is to promote understanding and acceptance for differences in religions and cultures, as well as world-

wide peace. ATAA is planning multi-cultural events such as musical performances from Holland and Turkey, and Modern Art Museum exhibitions from Istanbul under this project. In particular, ATAA plans to bring the “Sufi to Flamenco” music and dance show to the United States. ATAA is accepting applications from component organizations to cooperate in this particular project. Additionally, as part of ATAA’s “Peace in the World” Project, a campaign has begun to assist the Ahiska (Meskhetian) Turks adjust culturally, mentally and financially to life in the United States. The Ahiska Turks are an ethnically Turkish group of people who have been displaced twice in the past 60 years. “Peace in the World” has collected funds from generous individuals that will be devoted to purchasing food, welfare enrollment, job searches, transportation to health check-ups, school registration for children, mentoring and much more. So far, the “Peace in the World” Project of Michigan gathered the Meskhetian Turks for a barbeque with other Turkish Americans at the home of ATAA President Elect Nurten Ural. In addition, the Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan (TACAM) welcomed the Meskhetian Turks at their Zafer Bayrami picnic.

Supporting Turkish-Cypriots in D.C.: ATAA has increased its efforts to stop the isolation of the Northern Cyprus. The summer issue of the Turkish American featured an article covering Northern Cyprus as a fascinating tourist destination. ATAA visited the State Department twice to show our community’s support for the Turkish-Cypriots who voted “yes” for the Annan Plan. ATAA stated that the embargo against the Turkish side of the island should be ended and the US should do more to reward the positive attitude by Turkish-Cypriots. ATAA also prepared thank you letters for the members of the Congressional Delegation that visited Northern Cyprus in May of 2005, and ATAA Executive Director Nargiz Abbaszade, with Assistant Director of Media Relations Allison Block, personally delivered the letters to commend them for participating in the delegation. The Fall issue of the Turkish American includes an article by Congressman Whitfield regarding his experiences during the Congressional Delegation visit.

Annual Convention. In cooperation with our Illinois component association, ATAA is organizing the 26th annual convention, which will be held November 17-19 in Chicago. The three-day event includes social and political panels as well as the first ever youth component of the convention, organized with the Intercollegiate Turkish Student Association (ITSS). Also a smaller convention in Florida in February 2006 is on the schedule.

Another grassroots campaign. This year, as usual, the Armenian Diaspora has made attempts to pass a resolution in the United States Congress acknowledging its allegations against the Turkish people as truth. Two bills were sponsored for this purpose, H. Res. 316, "Affirmation of the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide," and H.Con.Res 195, the concurrent resolution that were presented for the markup by the House Committee on International Relations. Before the markup, ATAA initiated a mailing campaign, sending letters to all ATAA members who live in the districts of members of the International Relations Committee, asking them to send the pre-written letter to their congressman that explain why this legislation is inappropriate, inaccurate and damaging to the US-Turkey relationship. The letter was prepared to be faxed or mailed, including an addressed envelope—all that was required was a stamp and the signature of the ATAA member. Additionally, ATAA President Vural Cengiz wrote a letter to the chair of the committee, Congressman Henry Hyde (R-IL) on behalf of ATAA and its members opposing the hearing on the two bills. ATAA staff met with Congressman Hyde's Legislative Director to express ATAA's opposition to the attempts by the Armenian Diaspora to legislate history. A separate letter by Vural Cengiz was mailed to Speaker of the United States House of Representatives Congressman Dennis Hastert (R-IL) urging him to oppose discussion of the bills on the House floor. ATAA staff also met with some members of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations to reinforce its case. All members of the International Relations Committee (IRC) also received a letter from President Cengiz urging them to vote against the two resolutions during the IRC mark-up of the bill. Despite the opposition letter submitted by the State Department and ATAA efforts to prevent the resolutions from passing the vote in IRC, the bills passed. ATAA staff and Board of Directors members attended the hearing and briefed ATAA members on all that transpired, urging

them to thank those Congressmen opposing resolutions and to express disappointment with the Congressmen who voted for the resolutions. ATAA President Vural Cengiz sent a letter to the United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice thanking her for the State Department's opposition to the two bills. President Cengiz also sent letters expressing his disappointment on behalf of ATAA and its members to those who congressmen who choose to sacrifice United States' interest under pressure from the Armenian lobbying groups.

Inter-Ethnic Committee. ATAA Executive Board voted to create a Committee on Inter-Ethnic Relations in order to address ethnic issues related to Turkey in an organized manner, taking a pro-active approach. The first committee meeting was held in October.

Turk Evi Lecture Series. ATAA kicked off a new lecture series held at the ATAA Headquarters. The purpose of the lecture series is to educate Turkish Americans on issues that are of concern to them as a community and to collectively discuss these issues with leading academics. ATAA has hosted the following three lectures: on August 31, 2005 by Professor Nursen Mazici: "Armenian Problem: Genocide Allegations and The Reasons Behind"; on September 15, 2005 by Dr. Faruk Sen: "The Integration of the Turkish Minority in Europe"; and September 21, 2005 by Ambassador Gunduz Aktan: "The Impact of Armenian Resolutions on Sustainable Peace with Turkey." ATAA plans to host such lectures on a wide variety of subjects regularly in the future.

Making Connections. ATAA Executives and staff had meetings with organizations such as the American Turkish Council (ATC), Institute of Turkish Studies, the Global Uzbek Council and others to build strong and valuable relationships with other Turkish-American and Turkic organizations.

Sufi Nights at ATAA. The Sufi-Socrates Café is a forum in which members of the community can come together to “expand our knowledge of ourselves and each other and how we relate to the greater world existence.” The group has been meeting every third Thursday of the month since February 2005 at the Café founder’s home. In October, ATAA hosted the gathering at its headquarters. Attendees discussed the recent start of European Union accession negotiations from the Turkish perspective.

Sponsorship of ATAA component organizations events. ATAA was proud to donate to the 3rd Annual ATA-DC Turkish Festival, which was held in October in Washington, DC. Also, ATAA showed its support for the Fourth Boston Turkish Film Festival in April at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

Meetings with Congressmen and Congressional Staff. ATAA Executive Director Narguiz Abbaszade and Assistant Director of Media Relations Allison Block visited Congressmen and their staffers on Capitol Hill several times during the past three months. ATAA has also met with several congressional representatives to communicate ATAA’s membership’s position on issues such as political declarations on the Ottoman Armenian issue. Additionally, ATAA President Vural Cengiz and Anadolu Club president Tayfun Selen attended a breakfast with Rep. Pascarell in New Jersey. Recognizing the significance of positive relationships with members of Congress, ATAA has plans to schedule meetings with Congressmen and their staffers on a more regular basis. The primary purpose of the visits is to introduce ATAA to Congressmen and their staffers and to explain the mission of ATAA. The meetings also serve to inform the ATAA staff how our members can more effectively communicate with their congressional representatives and become politically active Turkish-American citizens. In the near future, ATAA hopes to formally educate their membership on how to organize on the grassroots level and how to have successful communication with members of the US Congress, Senate and Administration.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Increasing component organization activity. We have created small circles to increase local organizations’ activities in 45 states, which will carry out public advocacy work. ATAA’s vice-presidents and other community leaders are working closely to achieve better representation of the community and Republic of Turkey on the local level.

First ever Turkish World Youth Assembly. In June 2006, ATAA, with the cooperation of European Turks, is planning to organize the first ever Turkish World Youth Assembly in Brussels.

Working with Turkish children and youth. ATAA is formulating plans to cooperate with the following universities on the following projects for the summer of 2006: a Turkish Youth Camp with Bogazici University; a Turkish Children’s Camp with Akdeniz University; and a Turkish-American Political School with Bahcesehir University.

Building a future for our children. The new ATAA administration has been focusing on public advocacy work and projects for our youth. We are aware that we need to do more for our children in order to build a bright future for coming generations. The year 2006 will be the “Year of Children and Youth” with many associated projects.

Convention Program

Thursday, November 17, 2005

- 10:00-12:00 AM** **Arrival, Registration and Welcome**
Location: 6th Floor Registration Area
-
- 1:00-3:00 PM** **Developments in Turkish-US Relations**
Panelist: Umut Arik, Former Turkish Ambassador to Japan and Italy
Panelist: Steven Cook, Douglas Dillon Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations
Panelist: Osman Y. Bekaroglu, Undersecretariat for Foreign Trade, Directorate of Agreements
Location: Adams Ballroom
-
- 3:00-3:15 PM** **Break**
-
- 3:15-3:45 PM** **Film Screening**
Emre Sahin's "Canta"
Location: Adams Ballroom
-
- 3:45-4:00 PM** **Break**
-
- 4:00-6:00 PM** **Turkey and the Media**
Panelist: Hugh Pope, Author and Journalist, Wall Street Journal
Panelist: Stephen Kinzer, Author and Journalist, New York Times
Panelist: Emre Kongar, Journalist, Cumhuriyet
Panelist: Nuri Colakoglu, General Director, CNN Turk
Location: Adams Ballroom
-
- 6:30-7:30 PM** **Preview of "Armenian Revolt" film**
Q&A with Marty Callaghan, Executive Producer, Third Coast Films
Introduction by Gunay Evinch, Grant Administrator, Consortium for Eurasian Humanitarian Studies, and U.S. Fulbright Scholar, Sasakawa Peace Foundation Scholar, International Law and the Armenian Case
Location: Adams Ballroom

Friday, November 18, 2005

- All Day** **Art Exhibit by Gizem Saka**
Location: Adams Foyer
-
- 8:30 AM** **Registration**
Location: 6th Floor Registration Area
-
- 9:00-10:45 AM** **Foreign Investment Opportunities in Turkey**
Speaker: Ambassador James Holmes, President, ATC
Speaker: Tamer Taskin, TOBB
Location: Adams Ballroom
-
- 10:45-11:00 AM** **Break**
-
- 11:00 AM-12:30 AM** **The Anatomy of Turkey's Accession to the European Union**
Speaker: Omer Taspinar, Research Fellow, Brookings Institute
Speaker: Amb. Stuart Holliday, Quinn, Gillespie & Associates
Location: Adams Ballroom
-
- 12:45-2:30 PM** **Luncheon with Ambassador O. Faruk Logoglu**
Location: Monroe Ballroom
-
- 2:30-3:00 PM** **Break**
-
- 3:00-4:45 PM** **Women's Political Rights in Turkey**
Moderator: Nargiz Abbaszade, Executive Director, ATAA
Speaker: Sule Kilicarslan, Chairperson of the Board, Eurasia Cultural and Social Development Organization
Speaker: Ahmet Tan, Vice President, Democratic Left Party (DSP)
Location: Adams Ballroom
-
- 5:30-7:30 PM** **Reception Hosted by Chicago Consul General Naci Koru**
Honored Guests: HE Faruk Logoglu
Naci Koru, Turkish Consul General-Chicago
Omer Onhon, Turkish Consul General-New York
Engin Ansay, Turkish Consul General-Los Angeles
Atilla Uzer, Turkish Consul General-Houston
Location: Women's Athletic Club of Chicago
626 N Michigan Avenue, 2nd Floor Drawing Room

Convention Program

Saturday, November 19, 2005

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| All Day | Art Exhibit by Gizem Saka
Location: Adams Foyer (9:00 AM -1:30 PM);
State Ballroom (1:30 PM - 5:00 PM) |
| 8:30 AM | Registration
Location: 6th Floor Registration Area |
| 9:00-11:45 AM | Workshop: The Role of Turkish-American Associations in Promoting Turkey and Improving US-Turkish Relations
Speaker: Elif Lee, Financial Advisor, Merrill Lynch
Speaker: Nurten Ural, President Elect, ATAA
Speaker: Lydia Borland, Washington Representative, U.S. Turkish Business Council, (TAIK) of DEIK, Consultant, Livingston Group
Location: Adams Ballroom |
| 12:00-1:30 PM | Luncheon
Location: Monroe Ballroom |
| 1:30-2:30 PM | Break |
| 2:30-3:30 PM | Iraqi Turkmen: Finding a Place in the Iraqi Constitution
Speaker: Orhan Ketene, Former US Representative of the Iraqi Turkmen Front
Speaker: Yucel Guclu, First Counselor, Embassy of Turkey
Speaker: Scott Taylor, Editor of Esprit de Corps
Location: State Ballroom |
| 3:30-3:45 PM | Break |
| 6:30-7:30 PM | Cocktail Reception
Location: State Ballroom |
| 7:30-11:30 PM | ATAA Awards Banquet and Annual Ball
Entertainment by Nukhet Duru and Cenk Eren
Location: Grand Ballroom |

Youth Seminar

Saturday, November 19, 2005

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 8:00-9:00 AM | Arrival, Registration and Welcome
Location: 5th Floor Foyer |
| 9:00-9:15 AM | Opening and Welcome Remarks
Speaker: ATAA President Vural Cengiz
Location: PDR 17 |
| 9:15-10:00 AM | Interactive Introduction
Location: PDR 17 |
| 10:00-11:00 AM | Turkish-American Student Organizations: How to Build One on Your Campus
Speaker: Yagiz Ozguven, President, Intercollegiate Turkish Student Society (ITSS)
Speaker: Levent Yanik, Executive Director, Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA)
Location: PDR 17 |
| 11:00-11:15 AM | Break |
| 11:15 AM -12:00 | Turkish-American Youth Political Activism
Speaker: Osman Bengur, Candidate for US Congress, Maryland's 3rd District
Location: PDR 17 |
| 12:00-1:30 PM | Luncheon
Location: Monroe Ballroom |
| 1:45-3:00 PM | Resume Building and Interview Skills Workshop
Speaker: TBA Location: PDR 17 |
| 3:00-3:15 PM | Break |
| 3:15-4:30 PM | Combating Negative Images of Turkey
Speaker: Gunay Evinch, Principal, Saltzman & Evinch, PC
Speaker: Lydia Borland, Executive Director, Caspian Group
Location: PDR 17 |
| 6:30-7:30 PM | Cocktail Reception
Location: Grand Ballroom |
| 7:30-11:30 PM | ATAA Awards Banquet and Annual Ball
Entertainment by Nukhet Duru and Cenk Eren
Location: Grand Ballroom |

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AHMET TAN

Ahmet Tan was born in Istanbul, Turkey in 1949. He has graduated from Ankara University with B.A. Degree in Political Science. He continued his higher education in London and attended London City University to major in Media Studies.

He worked as a journalist for Aksam and Sabah newspapers. He also was the London and Ankara representative for Cumhuriyet newspaper.

Tan served as the State Minister of Istanbul and Minister of Culture and Tourism. Currently he is the vice-president of the Democratic Left Party (DSP).

ELIF LEE

Elif Lee is a Financial Advisor and a Certified Financial Manager who works with families and non-profit organizations to help them manage their assets with a planning based approach. She was born and raised in Turkey, attended school in France and completed her education in International Finance and Economics, Magna Cum Laude, in the United States.

Elif is involved in the community supporting women, minorities, and children through the Soroptimist International, Anchorage Literacy Project, Mercer Island Women's Club, Junior Achievement, Habitat for Humanity, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). She also appeared as a speaker for Microsoft Annual Women's Conference, Alaska Pacific University MBA program, University of Alaska Anchorage Small Business Administration Development Center on Financial Planning and Portfolio Management.

The extensive training and resources that Merrill Lynch provides, Elif and her team's expertise and along with experience aid her clearly describing appropriate investment alternatives and helping her clients make informed decisions.

EMRE KONGAR

Emre Kongar was born in 1941 in Istanbul, Turkey. He graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences, Ankara University in 1963, majoring in economics; and received his M.S.W. from School of Social Work, University of Michigan in 1966. In 1969, Kongar earned his PH.D. in Sociology from Hacettepe University, with his thesis on Urban Family Structure in Izmir.

Kongar has published more than fifty academic papers, and

more than hundred popular articles, mostly, in Turkish. He has written more than 30 books. He has been awarded by the Turkish Language Association in 1977 for his book *The Social Structure of Turkey*. In 1979, his book *The Theories of Social Change and Turkish Reality* has been selected for the Social Science Award by Sedat Simavi Foundation. Along with several additional awards he received for his writings was the Best Book Award, which was presented to him by the Faculty of Communications for his book "*Letters to My Daughter*."

He was the Founder and Director of School of Social Work, Hacettepe in 1968; Advisor to the Ministry of Tourism from 1976 to 1979; Member of the High Council for Culture in the Ministry of Culture from 1978 to 1979; Advisor to the Ministry of Youth and Sports from 1978 to 1979; Founder and Chairman of the Board, KAMAR, Public Opinion Research Firm from 1987 to 1991; Undersecretary for the Ministry of Culture, 1992-1995; and Professor of Sociology at Yildiz Technical University.

He worked for Hürriyet between 1983 and 1987 as the advisor and administrator. Since 1996, he has been a columnist in Cumhuriyet.

FARUK LOGOGLU

Ambassador Logoglu arrived in Washington, D.C. on September 23, and formally assumed his duties following the presentation of his credentials to President George W. Bush on October 10, 2001. He previously served as the Turkish Ambassador to Copenhagen, Denmark, from 1993 to 1996, and to Baku, Azerbaijan, from 1996 to 1998. He was the Undersecretary of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) from 2000 to until his current assignment to the U.S. capital.

Ambassador Logoglu joined the MFA in 1971 and has been involved in the major areas of Turkey's external relations. Earlier in his career, he worked on the Middle East and European matters at the MFA, served as First Secretary at the European Union (then EEC) from 1973 to 1976, and in Dhaka, Bangladesh, between 1976 and 1978. During the 1980s, Ambassador Logoglu, as Head of MFA Department, focused mostly on bilateral political affairs, and Cyprus and Greece issues, serving as a Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations in New York from 1980 to 1984, and Consul General in Hamburg, Germany, from 1986 to 1989. He was appointed as Deputy Undersecretary subsequent to his return from Baku in 1998.

Ambassador Logoglu was born in Ankara in 1941. He

attended Brandeis University (Boston) where he majored in Political Science receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1963. Ambassador Logoglu then received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Princeton University in 1969.

Ambassador Logoglu was a lecturer in Political Science at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, 1969-1970. He is the author of *Ismet Inonu and the Making of Modern Turkey*, a book about the times and life of the second President of the Turkish Republic. He is married to Mevhibe (Mimi) Logoglu.

GUNAY EVINCH

Günay Evinch (Övünç) was born in Chicago in 1963 and raised in San Francisco. Günay has been an ATAA volunteer since 1989, served as ATAA Secretary 1998-2000, and is the current ATAA Vice President for the Capital Region. Between 1991-93, Günay researched the Ottoman Armenian tragedy at the Ankara University Human Rights Center, with grants from the U.S.

Fulbright Commission and Sasakawa Peace Foundation. Günay received his Juris Doctor from Washington & Lee University (W&L) School of Law, Virginia (1991), completed an EU Legal Studies Program at the University of Madrid (1989), and double majored in Economics and Political Science-Public Service at the University of California, Davis (UCD) (1986). He interned with the San Francisco District Attorney, Sacramento Federal Public Defender, and San Mateo office of Congressman Tom Lantos. Günay served as President of his law school, President of the American International Law Society W&L Chapter, and Chairman of the Student Programs Board of his college. At UCD, he served as advisor to international and upper-division students, for which he received the UC Regents Outstanding Senior Award.

A former striker for the California U-14 and U-16 teams, Günay continued his interest in sports, writing the "Sports News" in the ATAA Turkish Times (1993-1998) and founding the Turkish American local soccer teams network, www.AnatoliaFC.com. He practices international law at Saltzman & Evinch, www.Turklaw.Net, and founded www.TurkishLawProject.org and www.EthnicTerror.org. Günay and his wife, Senem, have a baby daughter, Lara, and two golden retrievers, Plato and Luna.

HUGH POPE

Hugh Pope has reported from Turkey, the Middle East and Central Asia for more than two decades. He is currently lives in Turkey, on sabbatical as a staff correspondent of The Wall Street Journal and is preparing a new book on the Middle East. Born in South Africa in 1959, Pope was educated in Britain and received a BA in Oriental Studies (Persian and Arabic) from Oxford University in 1982.

Hugh Pope is the co-author with his first wife Nicole of Turkey

Unveiled: A History of Modern Turkey, selected as a New York Times 'notable book' in 2000. His book *Sons of the Conquerors: the Rise of the Turkic World*, an account of travels among Turkic peoples and communities from China to America, was published in New York, London and Istanbul in 2005. His work has also appeared in the Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, the London Independent and the Georgetown Journal of International Affairs.

JAMES H. HOLMES

Ambassador James Holmes (Ret.) is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the American-Turkish Council, a bilateral, non-profit organization dedicated to the strengthening of U.S.-Turkish trade, investment and cultural relations, and to the promotion of awareness and understanding of U.S.-Turkish issues.

Ambassador Holmes was elected to the Board of Directors of the American-Turkish Council, and subsequently as President of the ATC, in April 2005. The ATC, complemented by its companion cultural organization the American Friends of Turkey, has approximately 222 corporate and individual Members in Turkey and the United States. It is the foremost organization for the promotion of commerce, cultural awareness and public-private understanding between Turkey and the United States.

Ambassador Holmes is a 37-year veteran of the United States Foreign Service with overseas experience in Latvia, Turkey, Norway, New Zealand and Pakistan. He was Deputy Chief of Mission at the American Embassy in Ankara, Turkey from 1992-1995. Subsequently, he was the President's Coordinator for Assistance to Central and Eastern Europe, Ambassador to Latvia, Special Envoy for the Balkans, founder of the Department of State's Office of eDiplomacy, and the Department's Chief Knowledge Officer and Deputy Chief Information Officer.

Ambassador Holmes was born in Upstate New York. He

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was educated at Colgate University, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, and the National Defense University. He is married to Constance Cooper Holmes. They have two married daughters, and to their great delight, three grandsons.

LEVENT YANIK

Mr. Yanik is the Founder and President of e-Devlet Technologies, a Washington, D.C. based company specializing in e-government and information technology services.

Prior to founding of e-Devlet Technologies, Mr. Yanik worked at the World Bank Group as an information technology consultant, focusing on e-government strategies for developing countries. He also worked as a research fellow at the U.S. Department of Energy's Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, and the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Mr. Yanik, a native of Turkey, received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from the Cukurova University. In addition to his responsibilities at e-Devlet Technologies, Mr. Yanik is currently a candidate of Doctor of Science at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the George Washington University, where he received his Master of Arts in Physics. He is a founding member and executive director of the Turkish-American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA). He is also currently a member of the American-Turkish Business Council, where he is the chair of the Information and Communication Technology Committee.

He was also the President of the Turkish Student Association at the George Washington University from 1996 to 1998 and founding member and president of the Assembly of the Turkish Student Associations in Washington, DC (ATSA-DC) from 1997 to 2000.

LYDIA BORLAND

Lydia Borland has over 17 years of public and private sector experience in international business development and government relations. She provides strategic and content counseling to The Livingston Group on the Turkish Government Account and other international business issues. Lydia has successfully created and managed campaigns to secure financial assistance and favorable legislation for U.S. and non-U.S. clients. She also has significant experience in trade promotion and market development, helping businesses identify and partner with international companies. She helps U.S. compa-

nies develop business, especially in Turkey and Azerbaijan, and non-U.S. companies develop business in the U.S. Ms. Borland is the Washington Representative of the Turkish-U.S. Business Council, an association of 100 Turkish companies which seeks to improve bilateral trade and industrial cooperation between Turkey and the United States. She is also Deputy Executive Director of the U.S.-Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce, and an Executive Committee Member of the American Turkish Council. Fluent in Spanish, Turkish, Azerbaijani, Italian and French.

MARTY CALLAGHAN

Marty Callaghan, a Chicago native, is executive producer for his own independent production company, Third Coast Films. He has been producing documentaries since 1996, focusing on topics of military or political history. Over the past two years, he has traveled to Turkiye, Northern Cyprus, and Europe to tape interviews and location footage for several documentary projects. His latest program, "The Armenian Revolt: 1894-1920" was completed in July.

Marty's work has been recognized by the International Documentary Association in Los Angeles and by the Philadelphia Film Festival. His previous work includes programs on the assassination of President Kennedy, on King Hussein of Jordan, and on the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor. He earned a B.A. in history from Valparaiso University, and an M.A. in English from New Mexico State University. He currently lives in the Pittsburgh area.

MEHMET AYDIN

Mehmet Aydin is the AKP State Minister from the Justice and Development Party (AKP). He was born in in Elazig in 1943. He started his higher education in Ankara University and earned his doctorate degree in Philosophy from Edinburgh University. Mehmet Aydin held positions as professor and dean at Dokuz Eylul University.

NACI KORU

Consul General Naci Kuru was born in Izmir, Turkey. He earned his BA in International Relations from the Faculty of Political Sciences at Ankara University. He began his career in the Turkish Foreign Service in 1981 and his postings have included: Second Secretary—Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Vice Consul—Bregenz, Austria; First Secretary, Counsellor—Bonn,

Germany; Counsellor at the Turkish Permanent Representation to the FAO—Rome, Italy; Consul General—Mainz, Germany. He currently serves as the Turkish Consul General in Chicago. He speaks English and German. He married with two children.

NARGUIZ ABBASZADE

An attorney by trade, Narguiz graduated with distinction from the Georgetown University Law Center with a Master of Laws degree. She also holds a Juris Doctor degree, Cum Laude, from Wayne State University Law School, and a Bachelor of Arts with Highest Distinction from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Prior to joining ATAA, Narguiz practiced at Perles Law Firm in Washington, D.C. where she specialized in international civil litigation and served as the firm's liaison with foreign governments and government representatives. Narguiz became involved with the Turkish community while in college—she was a member of the Turkish Student Association and Vice-President of Azeri Student Association at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Narguiz is married and lives in Alexandria, Virginia, with her husband, Ulrik.

NURI COLAKOGLU

Born in 1943; completed high school at Robert College, Istanbul, Turkey; got his BA degree in International Relations at Faculty of Political Sciences of Ankara University; has been working as a professional journalist and broadcaster since 1965.

Started at the public broadcaster TRT's newsroom and went on to work as foreign editor of a local news agency. He served as a stringer to the German news agency DPA, Swedish Television and German radio WDR. He worked in London at the BBC World Service between 1980 – 1986 and then was appointed as the news editor of leading Turkish daily Milliyet.

Since 1989 Mr. Çolakoglu has been involved solely with television. He was appointed as number of two to TRT (Turkish Radio Television), the public broadcaster. He launched Show TV, the second private television station in Turkey (1992), then launched Cine 5, the only pay-TV in Turkey (1993). He also was a moderator to political debate shows. Additionally, he is credited with the start of NTV in 1997, serving as its CEO until the summer of 2000.

Since July 2000, Mr. Çolakoglu has been Chairman and CEO of the NMC New Media Company TV & Advertisement

Co., based in Istanbul, Turkey. Currently, Mr. Çolakoglu has been appointed as the general director of CNN-TURK based in Istanbul, Turkey (October 2001).

NURTEN URAL

Nurten Ural is currently the Assembly of Turkish American Associations' President Elect and an Honorary Consul of the Republic of Turkey for Michigan. She has a 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—both from Michigan State University. Nurten is the owner of Ural Interiors, Inc., an interior design firm in Farmington Hills, MI. 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, 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, as well as ATAA Vice-President of the Midcentral Region.

OMER TASPINAR

Dr. Omer Taspinar is the Co-Director of the US-Turkey project at the Brookings Institution and an adjunct professor at the Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). He completed his doctorate studies on Political Islam and Kurdish nationalism in Turkey at the European Studies Department of SAIS, Johns Hopkins University in 2001.

The courses he has been teaching at SAIS include: "Islam and Europe"; "Turkish Domestic and Foreign Policy"; "Western European Political Economy"; "French Domestic and Foreign Policy" and "International Political Economy". Prior to his teaching and research career, he worked as a consultant, at the Strategic Planning Unit of TOFAS- FIAT from 1996-1997 in Istanbul.

His recent publications include: "Europe's Muslim Street" Foreign Policy (March-April 2003); "An Uneven Fit: The Turkish Model and the Arab World" (Brookings Analysis Paper, August 2003); "Fighting Radicalism with Human

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Development” (Brookings Press, forthcoming 2005); “Political Islam and Kurdish Nationalism in Turkey,” (Routledge, 2004).

Dr. Taspinar speaks Turkish (native), French, English, and Italian.

ORHAN KETENE

Orhan Ketene was born in Kerkuk, Iraq, on March 17, 1953. He graduated as an Aerospace Engineer from the Technical University of Istanbul, 1977. He migrated to Canada in 1981 and later to the United States in 1997.

Ketene has been involved in the Turkmen nationalist movement since 1969. He established a Turkmen nationalist organization that was active in all Turkmen areas from Telafer-Mosul in the north in Kerkuk, Tuz and Baghdad. He took part in various activities to promote identity awareness and national revival among the Turkmen youth. Between the years of 1971-1977, he participated in the cultural activities of the Iraqi Turks Culture and Solidarity Association in Istanbul, Turkey. In 1997, he established the Iraqi Turkmen Organization to promote and introduce the Turkmen cause to the western world (U.S., Canada, Australia, and Western Europe).

Orhan Ketene was appointed as the U.S. representative for the Iraqi Turkmen Front (ITF) on October 29, 2001 and opened a representative office for ITF in Washington, D.C. on April 2002.

His professional background includes that of being a Project Engineer at the Turkish Aircraft Industries, participating in the establishment of the Turkish military aircraft industry; working as a Designer, Process Engineer, and Project Engineer at General Motors Diesel Division, Canada.

OSMAN “OZ” BENGUR

Oz Bengur has a wide range of experience that encompasses a thirty-five year career as a successful businessman and entrepreneur, and leadership roles in state government, community affairs and politics.

Mr. Bengur is a candidate for the United States House of Representatives in 2006 from Maryland’s 3rd Congressional District.

He is investment banker with a firm he co-founded, Bengur Bryan & Co. that raises capital and provides financial and strategic advice to mid-size companies. Previously, he was a senior public finance and corporate investment banker with

Alex. Brown & Sons Incorporated (now Deutsche Banc). Mr. Bengur has been active in the Baltimore, Maryland community where he has served on several not-for-profit boards. He is currently Treasurer of the Maryland Democratic Party and a Trustee of the Baltimore County Public Library.

Before starting his business career, Mr. Bengur was a special assistant to the Governor of Maine and worked in Massachusetts and Illinois state government in the areas of juvenile justice and children and family services.

In 2002, Mr. Bengur was the first Turkish-American to be a candidate for the U.S. Congress. His activities in the Turkish-American community include having served on the board of the Turkish-American Business Forum in New York. In 2002, He received the *Turkish-American of the Year Award* from the Federation of Turkish-American Associations in New York and the ATAA.

He was born and raised in the Washington DC area where he attended public schools. He is a graduate of Princeton University and holds a graduate degree from Cambridge University, England.

Mr. Bengur is a proud father of three children: Noah, a Captain and jet pilot in the U.S. Marine Corps who is currently deployed in Iraq, Dinah, a senior at Colby College and Nicholas, a sophomore at Towson High School.

SCOTT TAYLOR

Scott Taylor, a former professional soldier, has been editor and publisher of *Esprit de Corps*, an Ottawa-based magazine celebrated for its unflinching scrutiny of the Canadian military, since 1998.

Throughout the mid-1990s, this little independent magazine embarked on a campaign to expose crime and corruption in the upper echelons of the Canadian Forces. After exposing a top-level cover-ups and scandals while defending the rights of the rank and file soldiers, Taylor was dubbed the “Voice of the Grunts” by the *Globe and Mail*, a “Bone in the Brass Throats” by the *Toronto Star*, and a “One Man Army” by the *Toronto Sun*.

In 2001, much to his mother’s delight, Taylor was also named one of the *Homemaker Magazine’s* Top 60 Men We Love” in Canada.

During the past 16 years, Taylor has logged over one million air miles as a war correspondent reporting from such global hot spots as the Persian Gulf, Cambodia, Western Sahara, Croatia, Bosnia, and most recently from Iraq, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Kosovo, and Macedonia. Since August 2000,

Taylor has made a total of 20 trips into Iraq to report on the effects of the UN sanctions, the ravages of depleted uranium following the 1991 Gulf War, and the heightening tensions with the U.S.

In March 2003, during his last trip prior to the United States' intervention, Scott Taylor was asked to leave Iraq for fear of his being a spy for the Israeli Mossad. Following the swift U.S. victory, Taylor has returned frequently to Iraq to view first-hand the ongoing humanitarian crisis plaguing this still embattled country.

Scott Taylor regularly appears in the Canadian media as a military analyst, and is the recipient of the 1996 Quill Award for outstanding work in the field of Canadian communications. That same year, he also won the Alexander MacKanzie Award for journalistic excellence.

A weekly columnist for the Halifax Herald and Windsor Star, Taylor is also the columnist for the Osprey newspaper chain and has contributed to the Ottawa Citizen, McLean's, the Globe and Mail, Toronto Sun, Reader's Digest, and Canwest-Global television network.

Taylor is also the author of five bestsellers- *Tarnished Brass: Crime and Corruption in the Canadian Military* and *Tested Mettle: Canada's peacekeepers at War* (both with Brian Nolan), *Inat: Images of Serbia, the Kosovo Conflict and Diary of an Uncivil War: The Violent Aftermath of the Kosovo Conflict* and *Spinning on the Axis of Evil: America's War Against Iraq*.

Scott Taylor has just released his sixth book dealing with his experiences in northern Iraq called "Among the 'Others': The Forgotten Turkmen of Iraq", which was first published in October 2004 by Esprit de Corps Books.

STEPHEN KINZER

Stephen Kinzer is a veteran New York Times correspondent who has reported from more than fifty countries on four continents. During the 1980s he covered revolution and social upheaval in Central America. In 1990 he was named chief of the Times bureau in Berlin, and spent the next six years covering the emergence of post-Communist Europe. Later Kinzer became the first Times bureau chief in Istanbul. He is co-author of *Bitter Fruit: The Story of the American Coup in Guatemala* and author of *Blood of Brothers: Life and War in Nicaragua* and *Crescent and Star: Turkey Between Two Worlds*. Kinzer is currently a New York Times correspondent based in Chicago.

STEVEN A. COOK

Steven A. Cook is the Douglas Dillon Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. He is an expert on Arab and Turkish politics as well as U.S.-Middle East policy.

Prior to joining the Council, Steven was a Research Fellow at the Brookings Institution (2001-2002) and a Soref Research Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy (1995-1996). Steven has published in *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *Weekly Standard*, *New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *Salon*, *Slate*, *Arab Reform Bulletin*, *Middle East Quarterly*, *Middle East Insight*, *Insight Turkey*, *Washington Times*, *ZAMAN*, *Ha'aretz*, *The Encyclopedia of U.S. Foreign Relations*, *SAIS Review*, *Arab World Geographer*, *Millennium*, and the *Christian Science Monitor*. His media experience includes interviews on ABC, NBC, CBS, BBC World, CNN, CBC, CNN International, NPR, C-SPAN, VOA, WCBS (New York), WNBC (New York), Cox Television, and Hearst-Argyle Television.

Steven holds a B.A. in International Studies from Vassar College, an M.A. in international relations from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, and both an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Pennsylvania. He speaks Arabic as well as Turkish and reads French.

Steven has traveled throughout the Middle East and he has lived in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Cairo, Damascus, Ankara, and Istanbul.

SULE KILICARSLAN

Sule Kilicarslan was born in Istanbul and graduated from the Sociology Department of the Faculty of Literature of Istanbul University. She received her MBA with two degrees in Marketing Management and E-Business from Yeditepe University. She was elected one of the "10 Most Outstanding Young People in Turkey."

She organized the first Turkish-Armenian joint celebration of International Women's Day in history and is the publisher of *WM - Turkish & Armenian Women's Magazine*, which is the first joint Turkish-Armenian women's magazine.

She has been a consultant to leaders and MPs in the Anavatan (Motherland) and Adalet ve Kalkinma (Justice and Development) parties, as well as holding leadership positions herself.

She currently holds the following offices: Chairperson of the Board of the Eurasia Cultural and Social Development

Speakers

Association, Chairperson of NGO's and Turkish Grand National Assembly Communication Platform, Founding Member of the Eurasia Advanced Medical Researches Institute, member of the Liberal Democracy Institute, the Turkey-Turkmenistan Solidarity and Mutual Aid Foundation, the Propeller Club Port of Turkey, and the Business Administration and Economics Institute Alumni. She is currently acting as General Manager and Partner of the company Form Strategic Communications Consulting & Advertising, Ltd., and is involved in advertising and political consulting.

TAMER TASKIN

Tamer Taskin was born in Istanbul. He is chairman of Istas, a commercial heat treatment industry and trading company, and founding partner and chairman of Petrofer Industrial Oil Company. He is a member of EGIAD (Aegean Young Businessmen's Association), ESIAD (Aegean Industrialists and Businessmen's Association), AIESEC (Izmir Consultants High Council Member). He has also served in the following capacities: KALDER (Turkish Society for Quality, Izmir Branch) Member of the Board; Cesme Sailing Club President; the Izmir Rotary Club World Society Service Committee President; and TAYSAD (Association of Automotive Parts and Components Manufacturers) Member of the Board. Mr. Taskin is the Former South African Honorary Consul General in Izmir. He is currently Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Aegean Region Chamber of Industry and a Member of the Executive Board of the Unity of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey.

UMUT ARIK

Umut Arik was born in Eskisehir, Turkey in 1938. He is the Foreign Relations Vice President in Right Path Party (DYP). He attended the London School of Economics and earned a degree in Political Science. He has held several positions in the Turkish Republic's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He worked in the Turkish Embassy in London, England (1965-1968). He served as ambassador in Halep (1968-1970), in Tokyo (1987-1992), and in Rome (1996-1998). He was also the de facto ambassador to Taiwan.

He has written *The World Bank-IMF System, European Integration, International Companies, The Century of Turkish-Japanese Relations, and Turkey; the Crescent and Star Country.*

VURAL CENGIZ

Vural Cengiz graduated from Ankara University's School of Political Sciences (SBF) in 1980 with a BA degree. He has an MA degree from Cukurova University in Turkey. He received his MBA from State University of West Georgia in 1989. He has served in the following capacities: a member of the Turkish American Cultural Association of Georgia since 1986; President of TACA-GA from 1994-1997; Vice President of ATAA from 1996-2000; Executive Board member and treasurer of ATAA since 2000. He has received the following awards: 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 Florida Investments and Developments, Inc., and is married to Sabina with no children.

YAGIZ OZGUVEN

Yagiz Ozguven was born in Istanbul, Turkey on 27th of July 1983. He graduated from the German High School of Istanbul, where he received his German and Turkish High School diplomas. He has served on the board of German High School Student Council and represented the Senior Class in his graduation year. During high school he worked as a volunteer at the Turkish Educational Volunteers Foundation, Turk Egitim Gonulleri Vakfi. He has also taken part in the Mathematics and Chemistry Olympics by TUBITAK, where he represented the German High School of Istanbul. He also played the bass guitar for the school rock band, where the band qualified for the famous Milliyet newspaper Music Performance Competition, where the band qualified to the top 10 out of 300. He has also been playing the piano for 15 years now. He became the president of ITSS last May, and served on the ITSS board as the treasurer for the last year. He is continuing his education in Industrial Engineering with a minor in Economics at Columbia University in the city of New York.

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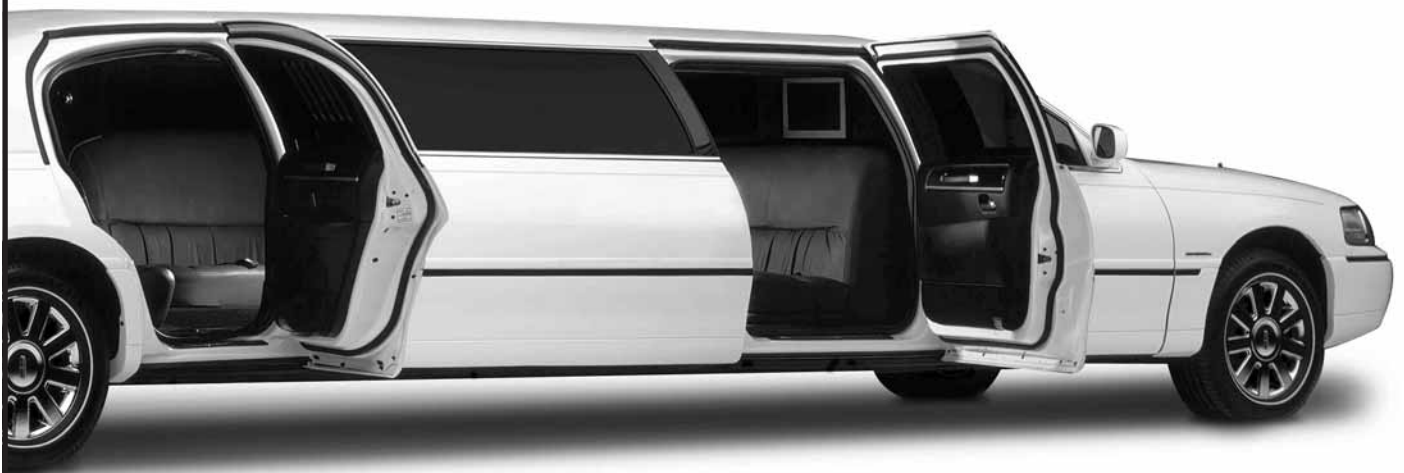
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