

**THE
ARMENIAN
QUESTION
in
TURKEY**

NEŞİDE KEREM DEMİR

HISTORY'S REVELATIONS TO

THE MOTHER OF A MURTRY

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P R E F A C E

I am the mother of the Los Angeles vice consul Bahadır Demir; my only son was shot to death by an Armenian by the name of Mıgırdıç Yanıkyan. He invited my young and innocent son to the Santa Barbara Biltmore Hotel for some business and then shot him and Consul Mehmet Baydar. Although six years have passed, my grief and sorrow have not abated. Since that day I have been intending to write this small book to investigate into the roots of this brutal murder and the reason behind the killing bullets, not only because the victims are Turks, but especially to investigate the political profits, party passions, racial hatred and incitations.

It is impossible to bring the truth to people who have been conditioned to Armenian propoganda and outcry, without explaining the reasons, results, and continuation of the Turkish-Armenian conflict which has been going on for centuries. I believe that I have fulfilled a humanitarian duty as well as doing a conscientious job by devoting my years, investigating seriously and objectively the truths which have been incorrectly interpreted to the world.

If I had immediately wanted to write about the incident of my son's murder the reasons of which are known to me but unknown to the world, I would not have cared to look into historical realities with this book which have not been proven through investigation and thus I would have deviated from a subjective reference point.

Therefore, I would like to start my book first trying not to be sentimental about my effort, and second with the determination of not doing any injustice to history and humanity.

Also, if I had not cared about world opinion, and as a disheartened mother who sees nothing other than her son, I would not have attempted the effort of explaining the truths to the people who are misinformed about these truths, and I could have killed two innocent Armenian Youths.

Although judicial laws would arrest me for my action, I would be innocent in the view of not only my people but also of the Whole World and I would become a hero.

But first of all I am a Moslem Turkish Woman. In our religion vendetta, despotic murder and revenge are forbidden. Also as a Turkish Moslem it is an honorable duty to put the truths before the world and to come with an honest, clean and pure heart.

Thus I will uncover the historical drama which has been unfolding on the scene for centuries and will show the truth. This is a humanitarian as well as a binding duty.

As we remain silent a campaign of slander and deceit is rolling and growing like an avalanche. As these mistaken ideas about the Turks, who do not even find it necessary to defend their right cause, continue, the other side has never remained silent. For example, lately an American writer named Michael Arlen, the son of an Armenian who has lost his culture, named Dikran Kuyumcuyan, went to Soviet Armenia to write his book named "A Journey to Ararat" and with documents and figures given to him felt it necessary to write book similar to the others written against the Turks. (1)

In fact he has even shown places where Turks have never been, as a genocide field, and has presented an erroneous book to the world. But, although we are very late, we Turks also have evident truths to place before public opinion. Thus, I would once again like to state that I am writing this book to enlighten these facts.

(1) Criticism of this book was made by Peter S. Prescott in NEWSWEEK Magazine dated August 18, 1975. The Critic confirms our opinion when he states that Arlen, together with his wife and a number of history books had made a puzzling Journey to Soviet Armenia without knowing what he was trying to find and, or defend.