



TURKISH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 391165 Mountain View, CA 94039

www.tef-usa.org

"Hayatta en hakiki mürşit ilimdir" Mustafa Kemal Atatürk



Fall 2008

29 Ekim Cumhuriyet Bayramınız Kutlu Olsun!

Bu anlamlı bayramı TEF'in Ay Yıldız üyeliğine katılarak kutlayın.

Back to School

Aytek Çelik

TEF Trustee

Autumn is here: Schools are open. Many of our family and friends are observing Ramazan. And October brings us the 85th anniversary of the Turkish Republic.

Three weeks ago my young son went back to school, eager to see his friends and ready to learn and grow. On the weekend, I took him for the first time to the local Turkish community school where girls and boys come to practice speaking Turkish and learn more about their heritage.

I write this personal note to remark how blessed and fortunate we are that our children have such opportunities.

We have all heard of young Mehmet being pulled out of school because he needs to help his father earn a living; Or young Ayşe, who is kept home from school because there is only enough money to buy school supplies for her brother.

I wish these stories were no longer true. It is all the more heart-breaking to know that there are still too many children - today - whose families have to choose between putting food on the table or sending their children to school.

Roughly ten years ago, I was introduced to the Turkish Educational Foundation. **TEF's mission is to help bootstrap talented students who wish to continue their education, but are prevented by poverty.** I found out that TEF had made a difference in thousands of children's lives by providing them scholarships that allowed them to continue their schooling when poverty would likely have stopped them in their tracks.

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, these children completed high school; some went on to university, and all were better prepared to earn a living in the modern world and contribute to the well-being of their families and communities.

Today, many children like Mehmet or Ayşe are still living in poverty and are unable to continue their schooling.

Last fall we launched an ambitious TEF campaign - **Aydın Bir Türkiye İçin Elele, or Hand-in-Hand for an Enlightened Turkey** - to bring hope and education to these children.

We are asking you now to help educate these children by providing them with scholarships to continue their education.

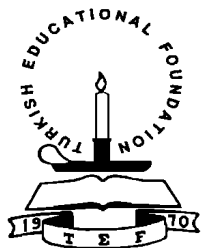
With the help of local organizations in Turkey like the Anadolu Çağdaş Eğitim Vakfı, our TEF volunteers make sure that your generous donations go directly to these talented and deserving students.

What's your inspiration for donating to the Turkish Education Foundation today?

- * Patriotism and Atatürk's ideals for education
- * Faith and charity during Ramadan and beyond
- * Your own child, grandchild, niece or nephew going to school
- * The memory of your parents or grandparents
- * Or simply wanting to build a better world

We sincerely thank you for any amount you can give. Let there be light to reach every needy child.

Share this newsletter with a friend. Help expand the family of TEF.



TURKISH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

- I/We would like to join TEF.
- \$30 Individual \$50 Family Other _____
- Yes, I/We support the **Aydın Bir Türkiye İçin Elele** campaign.
- Bir Mum** (One Candle) \$300 will support **one student**.
Less than a \$ a day covers educational expenses of a student for a year.
- Yeni Ay** (New Moon) \$ 1,500 will support **5 students**.
- Ay Yıldız** (Moon and Star) \$ 3,000 will support **10 students**.
- Dolunay** (Full Moon) \$ 6,000 will support **20 students**.
- Güneş** (Sun) \$15,000 will support **50 students**.

NAME _____
Street Address _____ CITY _____ STATE/ZIP _____
e-mail Address _____ Phone Number _____

Checks payable to: Turkish Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 391165, Mountain View, CA 94039

All donations & membership dues are tax deductible. *IRS TIN: 23-7050060; CA Franchise Tax Board ID: D 0595318*

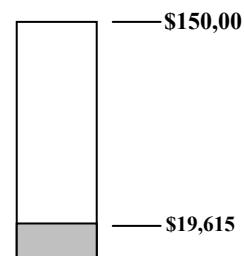
Campaign Update

Last year we launched a new campaign – **Aydın Bir Türkiye İçin Elele**, or **Hand in Hand for an Enlightened Turkey** – that aims to significantly increase the number of students we support through scholarships. We set an ambitious goal of raising \$130,000 for 2007-2008. Your response was heart warming and inspiring. **Thanks to your generous donations, we raised a record amount: \$125,818.** Of this amount, \$40,000 in donations were allocated to the Endowed Scholarship Fund. The interest income from the endowment will help us support students for years to come. The remaining \$85,818 will support the operating budget for the 2008-2009 scholarship fund, a 30% increase over the previous year. We at TEF thank you very much on behalf of all the children!

Our goal for 2008-2009 is to raise \$150,000 by next May.

We have just begun – having raised only \$19,615 so far.

Support a one-year student scholarship with a \$300 donation, or join our Ay-Yıldız Club and support ten students for a full year with a \$3,000 donation. We ask you to become a TEF member at any level you can, and thank you for your ongoing support.



Expenses Were Only 2.5% of Income

Expenses for 2007-2008 were \$3,182, just 2.5% of the budget (mainly mailing & printing). TEF is committed to providing scholarships to as many children as possible thanks to your donations.

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