



TURKISH EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 391165 Mountain View, CA 94039

www.tef-usa.org

"Hayatta en hakiki mürşit ilimdir" Mustafa Kemal Atatürk



Spring 2013

23 Nisan Çocuk ve Egemenlik Bayramınız Kutlu Olsun

On April 23rd, Children's Day will be celebrated in Turkey. As proclaimed by the United Nations, the purpose of this day is to promote the welfare of children everywhere in the world, and in particular, to allow all children access to education.

In most parts of Turkey, on April 23 as on every other day, young children will be walking to school. School is a distant destination, to be reached after long walks across dirt roads, but it is well worth the tiring walks, because it is a chance to escape poverty and to achieve one's potential; it is the promise of a new life and a brighter future for these children.

There are both societal and economic barriers to attending school, especially for girls. Poverty often frustrates the dreams of children to continue their education. A small amount of money—a few hundred dollars a year—often makes the difference between attending school and going to work at an early age. TEF's purpose is to provide the financial assistance that makes this difference and keep children in school, not at home or in the work place.

We collaborate with various organizations in Turkey to try and reach out to bright children in villages and in impoverished areas who cannot attend secondary schools without financial help. The help we give is very modest by American standards, averaging to little over \$30 a month, but it is the margin that enables these children to attend school. With the funds we received from you, last year we awarded over \$226,000 in scholarships to children through eight different organizations in Turkey. We asked for and received reports on these children; we monitored their academic progress.

Our overhead is very low, typically about 2%. This low overhead is possible because TEF is a totally volunteer organization; no trustee or officer ever receives compensation. Your donations go to children.

The children are bright, they want to learn, and when given a chance, many shine. When we read reports about our students who have earned awards and certificates of achievement, or who have gained acceptance to prestigious universities, we feel a measure of satisfaction that we contributed in some way. We wish to share their accomplishments with you, the generous donors who helped them follow their dreams, and to thank you on their behalf.

TEF's goal is to enable bright children from low-income families to complete their secondary education. The need remains huge, but every \$400 that we send to Turkey means that one more child is given the chance to go to school. As we celebrate Children's Day, we ask you to join in this endeavor by sponsoring a talented and needy child. We invite you to light a candle in a far-off corner of Turkey, to give a young child the gift of hope, the gift of education. Please help send a child to school.

Duygu Demirlioğlu

President

p.s. We just received word that one of our sponsored children received a score of 96% in the 2013 university entrance examinations and placed in the top 1000 nationwide. This is a very bright girl who, without your financial support, might have had to drop out of school long ago. Your donations enable many students like her to excel, to change their lives and contribute to society. Give them this chance.



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.
- | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bir Mum | (One Candle) | \$400 | will support one student. |
| About \$1 a day covers the educational expenses of a student for a year. | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yeni Ay | (New Moon) | \$ 2,000 | will support 5 students. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ay Yıldız | (Moon and Star) | \$ 4,000 | will support 10 students. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dolunay | (Full Moon) | \$ 8,000 | will support 20 students. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Güneş | (Sun) | \$20,000 | will support 50 students. |

NAME _____

Street Address _____ CITY _____ STATE/ZIP _____

e-mail Address _____ Phone Number _____

Please make 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

This Year TEF Scholarships Reached \$226,000

This figure is more than double the amount the year before, and was made possible by your donations, a bequest by a longtime TEF member, **Velid Dağ**, whose passing we deeply mourn, and by two directed donations. The students received their scholarships via our sister organizations: Çağdaş Yaşamı Destekleme Derneği (\$82,000), Anadolu Çağdaş Eğitim Vakfı (\$40,000), Türk Eğitim Derneği (\$20,000), Kadın Sorunları Araştırma Derneği (\$12,000), Gündoğdu Vakfı, İzmir (\$12,000), Darüşşafaka (\$50,000, directed donation) and Nesin Vakfı (\$10,000, directed donation).



Board of Trustees

Murat Alaybeyi, Sumru Aral, İnci Aybar, Aytek Çelik, Duygu Demirlioğlu, Kutay Üstüner, Dilek Güven Zafar.

A Call for Volunteers

TEF is looking for volunteers to serve as officers and Board members. If you live in the San Francisco Bay Area join us. Contact us at ustuner@pacbell.net

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