

CAMPUS TIMES

MUSTAFA KEMAL ATATÜRK

INDEPENDENCE MEANS THAT THE TURKISH
NATION WILL LIVE AS AN HONORABLE NATION.
THAT IS THE BASIS FOR EVERYTHING

29TH OF OCTOBER EDITION



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1-2

Campus Times
From the editors-in-chief

3-4

Editorial Board
Our Team

5-6

Zeynep Dilber
A Turning Point for Türkiye and the World

7

Bade Özkan
Republic Of Türkiye
October 29th

8-9

Ada Gölcük
Pride In the Sky:
Türk Yıldızları and SOLOTÜRK

10-11

Ada Karakuşçu
October 29th - A Nation that
Never Gave Up

12-13

Zeynep Sena Arkin
Time Remembers the Republic

14

Dilçem Yazar
Happy 29th of October Republic
Day!

15

Yağmur Karadaş
The Rights We Gained After Our
Independance





TABLE OF CONTENTS

15

Nehir Özlü

The Rebirth of a Nation

The Story of October 29 Republic Day

16-17

Derin Güngör

Sovereignty Belongs

Unconditionally to the Nation

18

Batı Taştabanoğlu

The Importance of October 29th

19

Dilçem Yazar

Happy 29th of October Republic Day!

20

Elif Topaç, Ece Onmuş

How We Celebrate At School

25

Elif Topaç, Ece Onmuş

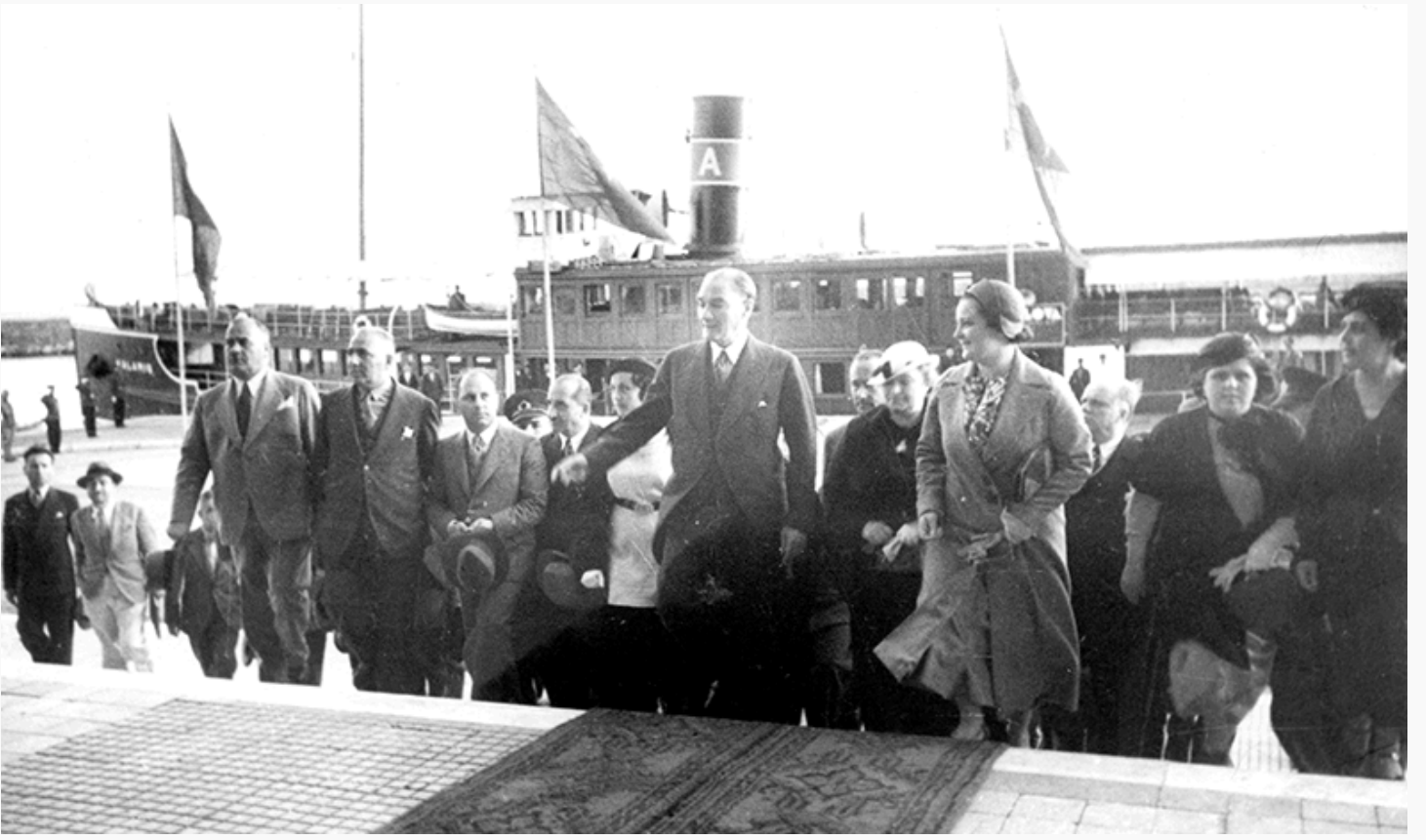
21-24

Duru Bayralı-Zeynep Sena Arkin-Sedef
Kerpişçi-Nehir Özlü

Artwork

25

References



CAMPUS TIMES

Campus Times is a quarterly literature and art magazine founded by a small editorial team in 2024 at METU DF Schools, İzmir. Our founding members include Elif Topaç, Ece Onmuş, Selen Uslu, Zeynep Kalfaoğlu, Mine Selek, Bade Ünlütürk, Nehir Çilengiroğlu, Ece Öztürk, Ada Altun and Yağmur Karadaş. Our name, Campus Times, was picked through a voting each student participated. This year, we grew bigger with a mixed editorial team. Serhat Yıldız and Yiğitcan Karagöz are our continuing editor-in-chief. Our current lead editor is Elif Topaç, joined by assistant lead editor Ece Onmuş. Our 12th-grade students are now section editors. They all have sections, such as sciences, literature or school life, that they proofread and give feedback on to help newer members get started.

Since the day we started, our goal has been to have a magazine that was created by students for students. Powered by this principle, we publish literature, book/movie reviews, school updates, sports articles and more. We are open to almost anything; it only takes one person to be interested in the topic. We hope students after us continue the legacy.

FROM THE EDITORS-IN-CHIEF



Editor-in-Chief

Serhat Yıldız

When Campus Times first came to life, it wasn't just a project; it was a dream — a dream to create a space where voices could meet, ideas could grow, and stories could truly matter.

When I decided to start a school magazine, I tried my best to give my students something special — something they could look back on at any moment in their lives to remind them of what they are truly capable of. I wanted it to be more than a magazine; a mirror of who we are as a community.

All the students worked tirelessly, day and night, to give Campus Times its own identity. What began a year and a half ago as a small initiative in İzmir has now grown into something bigger.

Each issue reflects the passion, curiosity, and courage of students who dare to express themselves. What started with a few pages and a shared belief has turned into a living story of creativity and collaboration — grounded in the idea that being a part of something special makes you special too. And just like the spirit of October 29, it reminds us that with unity, vision, and determination, we can build and celebrate something truly lasting — our own Republic of ideas and voices.

When words meet hearts, they cease to be mere letters; they become bridges between souls.

As someone who has walked hand in hand with literature for many years, I have always believed that every young voice deserves to be heard and every idea deserves a place to grow. After completing my undergraduate and graduate studies at Hacettepe University's Department of Turkish Language and Literature, I began my lifelong journey in education, which led me to spend many fulfilling years teaching at METU Schools.

Throughout my career, I have witnessed how the written word can transform both minds and communities. Having previously served as a magazine editor, I know how powerful it is when students come together to create something that reflects who they truly are. That same spirit is what inspired me to support the foundation of this very magazine, which is a space where creativity, intellect, and courage converge.

It has been an honour to guide and support our students as they built this project from the ground up, turning an idea into a living, breathing work of art. Their dedication reminds me that education is not just about instruction, but also about inspiring belief in what our students can become when they are trusted and encouraged. I would also like to thank our English teacher Yiğitcan Karagöz for his guidance and support during the process.



Editor-in-Chief

Yiğitcan Karagöz

EDITORIAL BOARD



Elif Topaç

Lead Editor

Science and design have always been my main interests, and the magazine allows me to combine them through creativity and collaboration. As the Lead Editor, I am responsible for overseeing the magazine and also serve as the editor for the science section. I've been the Lead Editor for a year now and have had the joy of publishing five magazines so far. I'm really looking forward to creating even more this year. I hope you enjoy this edition and the ones to come!

Ece Onmuş

Assistant Lead Editor

My name is Ece, and I am the assistant lead editor of the magazine Campus Times. Reading and writing have always been my greatest passions, and they are what inspired me to join the magazine in the first place. Campus Times means I get to share the joy I get from writing with others, and that is incredibly rewarding. Over the past year, I have had the utmost pleasure sharing this journey with you. Hope you enjoy this edition!



OUR TEAM

Editor-in-Chief
Serhat Yıldız
Yiğitcan Karagöz

Lead Editor
Elif Topaç

Assistant Lead Editor
Ece Onmuş

Head of Design
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Zeynep Sena Arkın

Dilçem Yazar

Yağmur Karadaş

Derin Güngör

Nehir Özlü

Batı Taştabanoğlu

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Artwork
Duru Bayralı
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Zeynep Sena Arkın
Nehir Özlü
Duru Yılmaz



OCTOBER 29: A TURNING POINT FOR Türkiye AND THE WORLD

by Zeynep Dilber

October 29, 1923, is very important for Turkish history because it is the day when the Republic of Türkiye was founded. But this day also has meaning for the world.

Inspiration for independence movements:

Many countries in Asia and Africa were still under colonial rule. When Türkiye became a republic after fighting for independence, it inspired nations like India, Egypt, and later many African countries. They saw that a nation could win freedom and build a modern state.

A new model in the Muslim world:

Türkiye was the first Muslim-majority country to create a secular republic. This was very different from traditional monarchies. Leaders in countries such as Iran and Egypt followed Türkiye's reforms closely.





OCTOBER 29: **A TURNING POINT FOR Türkiye AND** **THE WORLD**



Women's rights and equality:

In the 1930s, Turkish women gained political rights earlier than in many European countries. This was noticed around the world and showed that modern laws could change society quickly.

A respected international actor:

After the Republic was founded, Türkiye became an independent and equal member of the international community. This helped change the balance of power in the region

October 29, 1923, was not only a turning point for Türkiye, but also an example for other nations that wanted independence, equality and modern progress.



Republic Day, celebrated on **29th October**, is one of the most important national holidays in Türkiye. It marks the day in **1923** when **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk** officially declared **Türkiye a republic**. On this day, the **Ottoman Empire** ended, and the modern **Turkish** state was born.

After winning the **War of Independence**, Atatürk and his friends worked hard to create a new government based on the will of the people. On **October 29, 1923**, the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye announced the new system: **a republic**.

Atatürk became the first president of the Republic of Türkiye. Atatürk believed in the power of the people. He once said:

“Egemenlik, kayıtsız şartsız milletindir.”
“Sovereignty unconditionally belongs to the nation.”

REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE- OCTOBER 29TH

by **Bade Özkan**

Republic Day is celebrated all around Türkiye with **ceremonies, parades, concerts, and fireworks**. Schools organise events, students read poems, and people proudly wave Turkish flags. It is a day of national pride and unity.

Another famous quote by Atatürk is:

“Cumhuriyet fazilettir.”

“The Republic is virtue.”

This day reminds the Turkish people of their freedom and the value of democracy. Atatürk’s vision still guides the country today.



PRIDE IN THE SKY:

TÜRK YILDIZLARI AND SOLOTÜRK



“
TÜRK YILDIZLARI AND SOLOTÜRK
ARE LEGENDARY TEAMS THAT
SYMBOLIZE THE COURAGE,
DISCIPLINE, AND PASSION OF THE
TURKISH NATION FOR THE SKY.
THESE TWO TEAMS ARE THE LIVING
SYMBOLS OF THE TURKISH AIR
FORCE'S STRENGTH, AND THE PRIDE
AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE
TURKISH PEOPLE.
”

By Ada Gölcük

Türk Yıldızları, founded in 1992, hold a place in history as the only supersonic aerobatic team in the world. Flying their F-5 Freedom Fighter Jets, they create true works of art in the sky. Their performances are not merely technical feats; they are stories of determination, precision, and the unshakeable spirit of the Turkish nation. Performing all around the world, they have amazed millions and made the Turkish flag wave proudly in the highest skies.

On the other hand, there is SOLOTÜRK;

Established in 2010, this unique team showcases the incredible skills of a single pilot flying an F-16 jet with breathtaking manoeuvres. SOLOTÜRK is more than just an aerobatic demonstration; it is the symbol of Turkish engineering, bravery, and perfection. With every turn and climb, the pilot writes the words “Ne mutlu Türküm diyene!” across the sky. Every performance reflects the pride that beats in the heart of the Turkish nation.



**“ THE FUTURE IS IN
THE SKIES ”**

**-MUSTAFA KEMAL
ATATÜRK**



And among their many great achievements, one stands out:

Türk Yıldızları and SOLOTÜRK have made history by winning first place in the world’s “lowest flying jet” competition — a record that proves not only their unmatched skills but also their fearless mastery and confidence in the air.

Today, the roar of their engines is not just the sound of jets — it is the voice of our independence, honour, and national pride soaring through the skies. They inspire children, motivate the youth, and fill every Turkish heart with pride.

The sky is their home,
the crescent and star their guide.

And every time they take flight,
we watch with our heads held high and hearts full of pride.

Because they don’t just fly — they lift Türkiye into the heavens.



OCTOBER 29



A NATION THAT NEVER GAVE UP

By Ada Karakuşçu

Sometimes I find it hard to write what I feel, but when I think about October 29, it fills me with so much emotion. This is the day the Republic of Türkiye was born — and it didn't come easily. It came from the pain, the hope, and the courage of people who refused to give up on their homeland.

Turkish people fought with everything they had. They didn't have much, but they had strength in their hearts. They stood up against big armies, they walked for days, and they stayed strong even when they lost everything. It wasn't just soldiers — it was mothers, children, villagers, everyone. They believed in something bigger than themselves: freedom.

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk led with vision, but the people made it real. They built a country with their hands, their hearts, and their sacrifices. That's what makes this day so special — not just the victory, but what it took to get there.

I may not have all the right words, but I know this:

Our country was saved by people who never stopped fighting for it.

And that's something I will always respect and carry with me.

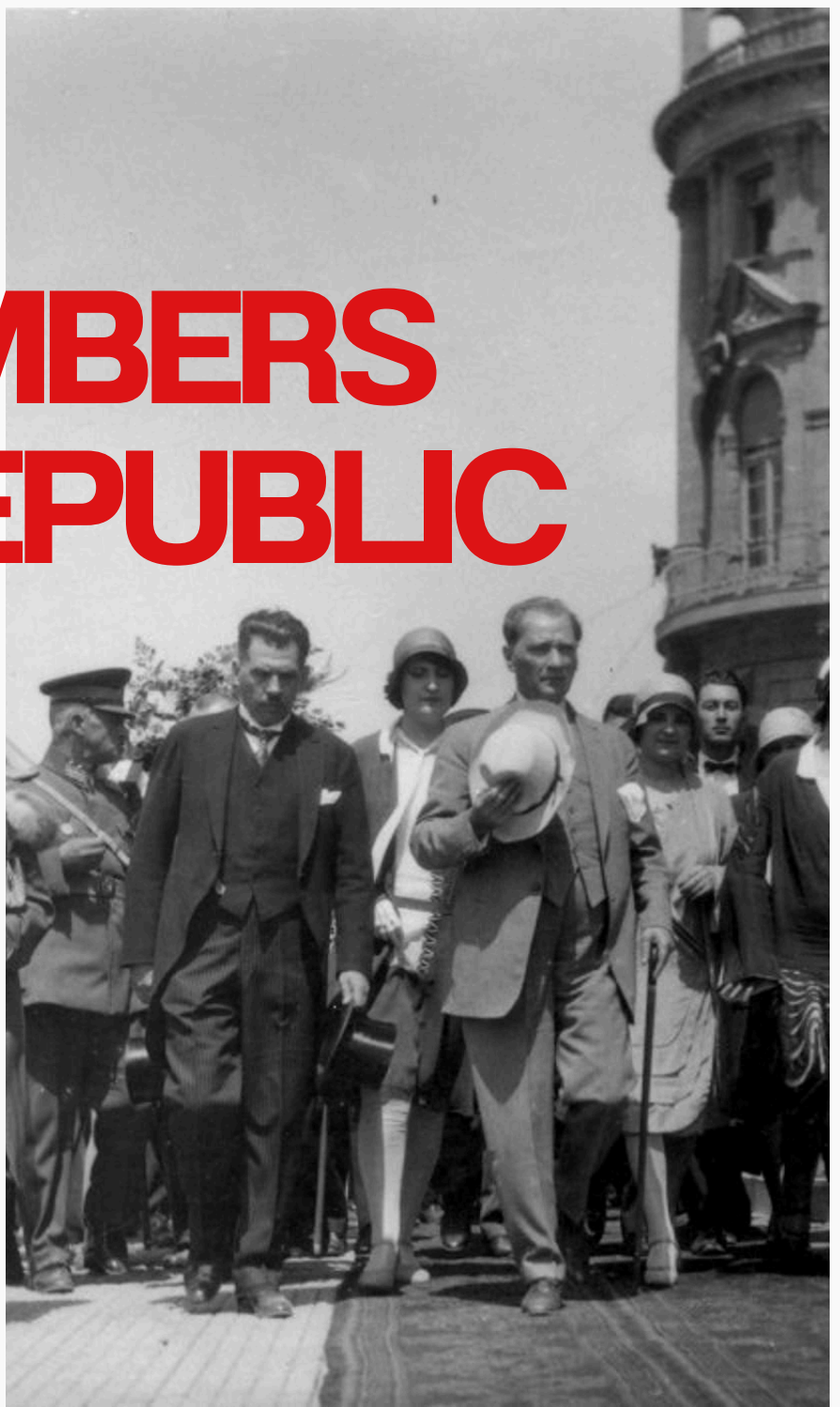
STATISM
REFORMISM
SECULARISM
NATIONALISM
-PRINCIPLES OF ATATÜRK



TIME REMEMBERS THE REPUBLIC

By Zeynep Sena Arkin

It was the morning of October 29th, Republic Day. The school was full of excitement. Teachers were hanging flags, students were practising songs, and the air smelled like new paint and fresh bread from the canteen. Everyone looked happy, waving small Turkish flags in their hands. But Efe, a fifteen-year-old student, didn't really care. He thought the ceremony was always the same every year. He decided to walk around before the celebration started. While exploring, he found a small history room that was usually locked. Inside, there were old photos, medals and dusty books. In the corner, on a wooden table, he noticed a strange clock.



Its hands stopped at 10.29, and it looked very old. Out of curiosity, Efe touched the clock. Suddenly, it started ticking again. The hands began to move fast, and a golden light came out from inside them. The air became windy, and Efe felt dizzy. He closed his eyes for a second. When he opened them, he was no longer in his school. The walls were gone. Around him, he saw old streets, people wearing clothes from another time, and soldiers marching proudly. A small flag seller shouted, "Long live the Republic!"

Efe looked around in shock. “This can’t be real...” he whispered. But it was. Then he saw a tall man in a grey coat walking calmly between the people. His face looked strong but kind. Efe recognised him immediately. It was Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

Efe froze. He wanted to say something, but he couldn’t move. Atatürk turned to him, as if he already knew he was there, and smiled. “You are from another time,” he said quietly. “But remember this day. The Republic is not only about the past, it is a promise to the future.”

Efe wanted to ask more, but before he could, the golden light returned. The clock’s sound echoed in his ears, tick... tick... tick...

He blinked, and suddenly, he was back in the history room. Everything was silent again. The clock had stopped once more, its hands frozen at 10.29.



Outside, he could hear the sound of the national anthem. Efe looked at the clock for a long time, thinking about what he had seen. He smiled softly. He didn’t tell anyone about his strange trip. No one would ever believe him anyway. But from that day on, every year when the clock showed 10.29, Efe whispered to himself:

“
**TIME
REMEMBERS
THE
REPUBLIC**
”





HAPPY 29TH OF OCTOBER REPUBLIC DAY!

By Dilçem Yazar

Happy 29th of October, Republic Day. This date is very important for us because this date is the declaration of the republic in our country. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk has a very important place in our history, and the republic is the biggest achievement of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

REPUBLIC AND REVOLUTIONS

The Republic came with a ton of progress. For example, the people started to express their opinions, and they began to govern themselves. Girls and boys started to be educated together. Also, the new Turkish alphabet was adopted, and they made many innovations like this. In short, we should continue to add to these innovations, and we must keep our republic alive



OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

Right to live

Personal inviolability

Liberty and security of the person

Privacy and protection of private life

Freedom of residence and movement

Freedom of religion and conscience

Freedom of thought and opinion

Freedom of science and the arts

THE RIGHTS THAT WE GAINED AFTER DECLARING OUR INDEPENDENCE

By Yağmur Karadaş

CAMPUS TIMES



THE REBIRTH OF A NATION



THE STORY OF OCTOBER 29 REPUBLIC DAY

The day a nation was reborn. With the declaration of the Republic, a brand-new country was established. Our country has struggled with many difficulties during this process. So, what paths did our leader, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, go through during the process of accepting the republic? Here is the history of our Republic Day, which has had a great impact all over the world!

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE REPUBLIC

The Declaration of the Republic can be considered the best example of the Turkish nation's passion for independence and freedom. Atatürk brought both the right to self-determination and a democratic form of government to the Turkish nation. Every October 29th, we experience the joy of the republic together and proudly wave our flag. As the Turkish nation, we come together and protect the independence and unity of our country.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE REPUBLIC

After we were defeated in WW1, our lands began to be shared among the Allied Powers. Seeing this, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk went to Samsun on May 19, 1919. Here, he gave signals of the National Struggle and began to organise the people. He objected to the occupations by saying, "Sovereignty unconditionally belongs to the nation!" For this reason, his arrival in Samsun is accepted as the starting date of the War of Independence.

The National Struggle led by Atatürk resulted in the victory of the national forces in 1923. The "Grand National Assembly" on April 23, 1920, accepted the law called the Teşkilat-ı Esasiye Kanunu on January 20, 1921. This law also declared that sovereignty belonged to the Turkish nation. With the decision taken on November 1, 1922, the sultanate was abolished, and the country began to be governed by a parliamentary government.

The 29th of October holds a significant place in Türkiye's history. On this day in 1923, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founding father of modern Türkiye, ended the monarchy and created a new government based on democracy. This huge event not only redefined Türkiye's political structure but also symbolised the beginning of a modern, independent, and democratic state. Other than its political effects, socially, it gave people a sense of unity and national identity. It helped Türkiye to become modernised in education, law and all walks of life.

Economically, the new Republic encouraged growth and industry, which improved life for many people.



Other than its political effects, socially, it gave people a sense of unity and national identity. It helped Türkiye to become modernised in education, law and all walks of life. Economically, the new Republic encouraged growth and industry, which improved life for many people.

The 29th of October has also influenced Turkish literature. Writers, poets, and playwrights have often written about the Republic and Atatürk. They celebrate freedom, equality, and national pride in their works while mentioning the struggles. Republic Day is not only a political event but also a source of inspiration for art and culture in Türkiye.

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk is the central figure of Republic Day. In his speeches, he often talked about education, the responsibilities of citizens and national independence. Every year, people celebrate Republic Day with ceremonies, parades, and national pride while understanding Atatürk better.

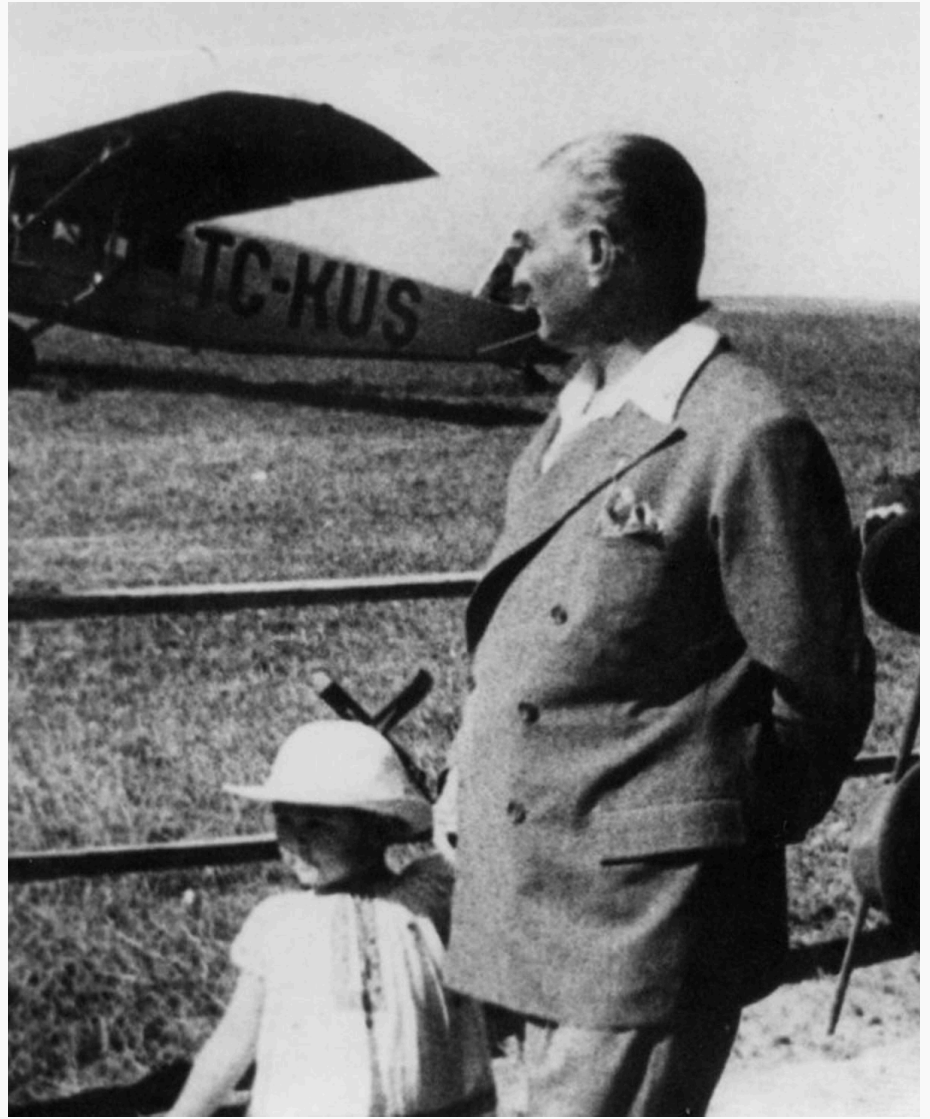


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SOVEREIGNTY BELONGS UNCONDITIONALLY TO THE NATION.

By Derin Güngör

”



“
29TH OF OCTOBER IS MORE THAN JUST A DATE ON THE CALENDAR, IT REPRESENTS THE BIRTH OF A NEW NATION AND THE VALUES IT STANDS FOR.

”

In conclusion, the 29th of October is more than just a date on the calendar, it represents the birth of a new nation and the values it stands for. It reminds Turkish people of their journey from an empire to a republic and of Atatürk's dream for a modern and free Türkiye. Every year, people celebrate Republic Day to honor their history and to keep the ideas of freedom and democracy alive for the future, the youth.

In my opinion, it is nearly impossible to actually understand Atatürk's thoughts and ideas in this century. Yet, the 29th of October is one of the most important days for Türkiye whilst it reminds everyone how the country became free and modern thanks to Atatürk's hard work and vision. I'd like to add one last thing, a saying from Atatürk which is also the title of my writing.

“Sovereignty belongs unconditionally to the nation.”

IMPORTANCE OF OCTOBER 29TH

By Batı Taştanoğlu

October 29, 1923, is the date when the Republic was officially proclaimed in Türkiye, and it was definitively established that national sovereignty belongs not to a dynasty, but to the people. After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, the start of the occupations and the harsh conditions of World War I, the War of Independence was launched under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. This struggle was not only a military resistance but also a process of laying the foundations of a new and independent state. With the opening of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye on April 23, 1920, the will of the people began to be represented, and with the abolition of the sultanate on November 1, 1922, the monarchical system officially came to an end; however, the name of the state, its form of government and the office of president had not yet been legally defined. On October 29, 1923, with the amendment made to the constitution, the article “The form of government of the Turkish State is the republic” was adopted, and on the same day, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk was unanimously elected as the first President.



This date is celebrated not only because it marks a change of regime, but because it institutionalised the people’s right to participate in governance, the principle of equality of citizenship, national independence and the goal of modernisation. With the republic, a solid foundation was established for a secular legal system, equal opportunities in education, women’s rights, social transformation, modernisation and national sovereignty. Starting from 1925, October 29 began to be celebrated as an official holiday, and each year through ceremonies, torchlight processions, anthems, visits, speeches and commemorative events, the values of the republic are remembered and passed on to future generations. For this reason, October 29 is not just the remembrance of a past victory, but is seen as a symbol of a nation’s will to determine its own future.

REPUBLIC POETRY

By Dilçem Yazar

29th of October
Starts our republic
They do innovations
Children have the same education
People govern themselves
Over the republic impresses



They work hardly
But they manage finally
Atatürk protects the country
We live peacefully
We celebrate ever year
As we gather all together



WOMEN IN WAR

By Ada Özgören- Nilgün Alya Gülsün

There was war in every part of my country. Men were fighting in a war, and they mostly weren't able to come back. There was a groom and a miss in the air. Women were trying to reach our soldiers with clean water, food, clothes, etc. Their husbands, fiancées, lovers and sons were in the war. The children were also affected by the war; they weren't able to receive a good education, and they were helping their mothers with the war.

However, there was a man... Atatürk... He had very different and bright opinions. He was like an alien from another planet. Atatürk was a sensible, smart and caring man. He was paying attention to others' opinions. I always believed that he would save us, but the majority of the population used to hate him.

My fiancée was a brother-in-arms with Atatürk. They have been close friends since the beginning. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to see him much because of the war. He was one of the best commanders in the army. I had been watching him before the war began. I used to wake up at 6 AM to see him while he was walking to war college. He was wearing a cool uniform. I waited for him to come from school, too. He used to leave school at 4 PM. Once I mustered my courage and I throw out my handkerchief out the window. That's how we met.

A couple of weeks later, I went to the base to give our great soldiers some clothes. I saw my fiancée there. He seemed miserable. He came and he kissed me on my forehead. He said, "I am a lucky man to meet you. After we win, you will have a bright future. I promise." And then he said goodbye, and he left. I was shocked. I had never seen him that sad before. I shouted after him with my might. He didn't answer. I began to cry after him. "Why did he say goodbye? We had a rule, we never say goodbye to each other" After the women came and tried to comfort me. I was so stressed and nervous.





**“TO SEE ME DOES
NOT NECESSARILY
MEAN TO SEE MY
FACE. TO
UNDERSTAND MY
THOUGHTS IS TO
HAVE SEEN ME”**



Days passed days but my sadness didn't go away. Suddenly, we began to hear the cries of victory. Our soldiers were singing songs. We won the war, and now I can see my fiancée. I went out and saw his best friend, Atatürk; he was also happy, but when he saw me, his face changed suddenly. He came to me and he held my hands. “You are a good Turkish woman. You worked hard for your country as your fiancée. He was a great commander. He died successfully. He was whispering your name, I heard it,” he said. I thanked him for the information. I closed the door and started to cry. They were not sad tears; they were happy tears. I felt lucky to be a Turkish woman, and I felt lucky to meet the best commander also we were in love with each other.

HOW WE CELEBRATE AT SCHOOL

By Ece Onmuş-Elif Topaç

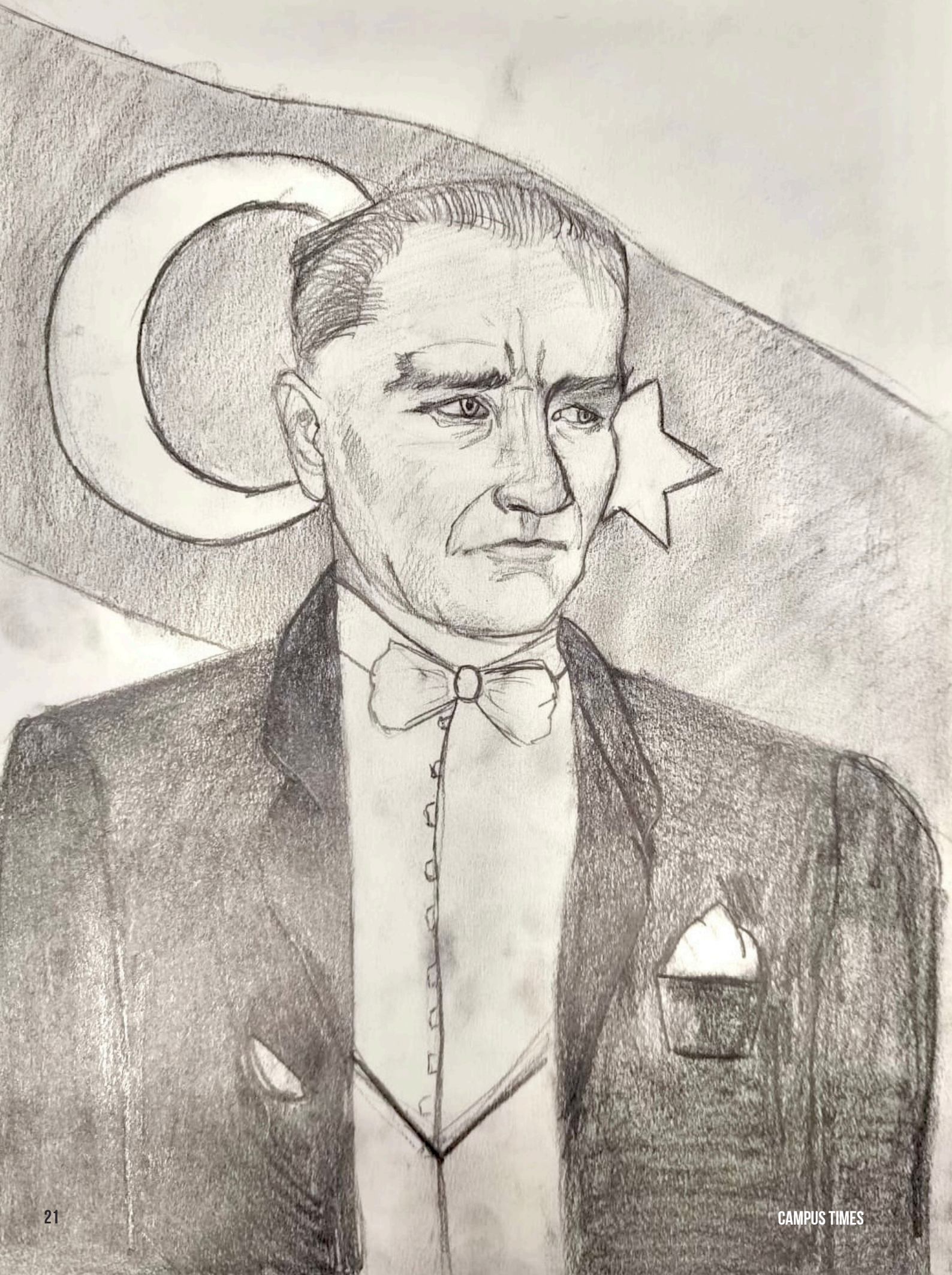
29th of October is one of the most important national holidays in Türkiye. Everyone comes together and celebrates the day our republic was found. Our school joins these celebrations as well. The most notable events include a ceremony and a torchlight procession.

The ceremony is created by literature teachers and students from primary, middle and high school. Dance and choir performances are very common. Atatürk was an enjoyer of walt. That is why it is very common to perform them.

Torchlight procession is an important tradition as well. Students, teachers and parents gather and walk together with torchlights and flags. It brings everyone together. Walking amongst others to celebrate the republic is something we all cherish.

Overall, 29th of October is an important day with incredible meaning. Our celebrations are to honor the founders of this nation and the path they paved for us. A republic is only sustained by its people. All celebrations reminded us exactly that.











REFERENCES

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METU Development Foundation

İzmir Schools High School, October 2025

G zelbah e / İzmir

**“THERE ARE TWO MUSTAFA KEMALS.
ONE THE FLESH-AND-BLOOD
MUSTAFA KEMAL WHO NOW STANDS
BEFORE YOU AND WHO WILL PASS
AWAY. THE OTHER IS YOU, ALL OF
YOU HERE WHO WILL GO TO THE FAR
CORNERS OF OUR LAND TO SPREAD
THE IDEALS WHICH MUST BE
DEFENDED WITH YOUR LIVES IF
NECESSARY. I STAND FOR THE
NATION'S DREAMS, AND MY LIFE'S
WORK IS TO MAKE THEM COME
TRUE.”**

— MUSTAFA KEMAL ATAT RK

