

# Professionals *Insight*

Issue 7



**Interview  
with Kerim  
Balci** p04



**Turkey and the  
EU: How big is  
the gap?** p06



**Celebrating  
Republic  
Day** p07

## Turkish Cypriot Businessman Receives Entrepreneur Of The Year Award

Ismail Atalay

**M**ustafa Kamil, The Managing Director of JJ Foodservices, earned top honours by receiving The Credit Suisse Entrepreneur of the Year Award at a gala ceremony at the Grosvenor House in London on Tuesday, 8th November. The award was presented by Charles Egerton-Warburton, Head of Onshore Private Banking UK Credit Suisse, before a gathering of over 1200 leading business people, and parliamentarians.

The category judges looked for an outstanding individual who could best demonstrate exceptional vision and leadership in the establishment and development of an owner-led business. Clear identification of a market opportunity, innovation, growth and evidence of strong financial performance in terms of sales and profit growth was essential

Their choice, Mustafa Kamil, as a highly successful business that operates within the catering sector supplying frozen, chilled and ambient foods along with a full range of catering disposables and cleaning materials - in essence a one-stop-shop.

Jeremy Marshall, CEO, CSUK said: "Credit Suisse ( UK ) is delighted to be in the position to support the National Business Awards and sponsor the Entrepreneur of the Year Award. We received many high quality submissions for this award and due to the stiff competition it was difficult to decide a winner. However, Mustafa Kamil demonstrated outstanding entrepreneurial ability, with the exceptional balance of being a strong leader and a good manager. On behalf of everyone at Credit Suisse ( UK ), I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mustafa on winning the Credit Suisse Entrepreneur of the Year Award."



Mustafa Kamil (right) receiving his award from Charles Egerton-Warburton, Head of Onshore Private Banking UK Credit Suisse

Vice-President of Orange that was the event sponsoring company also congratulated successful businessman by stating that all winners share prominent characteristics of positive look to the future and loyalty to their jobs.

Finalists in the category were James Murray Wells of Glassesdirect, Karan Billimoria of Cobra Beer, Mark Weir of Honister Slate Mine, Mike Newton of AD Group, Sam Colquhoun of Right Hand HR, Helen Colley of Farmhouse Fare, William Chase of Tyrrells Potato Chips, Julia Hands of Hand Picked Hotels and Allen Timpany of Vanco.

The Turkish Cypriot businessman was among the top category award winners, and was honoured for his courage, determination and belief in his operation by the judges of the prestigious award.

"It was a huge privilege just to be included amongst the finalists for this award," said Mr Kamil. "It is truly an honour to win."

Mustafa Kamil risked £11 million on a new warehouse for his Enfield based wholesale fast-food distribution company, after discovering a gap in the market for distribution services to small fast-food establishments. He said, "All the distribution companies were geared to receive[continued on page 2]

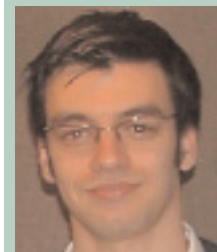
### In this issue...

#### Editorial

Homo Homini Lupus

p02

#### A Week in the Life of...



**Ozan  
Sakar:**  
Investment  
Banker

p03

#### Interview:

#### Kerim Balci

Chairman of Centre for Intercultural Dialogue Studies

p04

#### Introducing The Dialogue Society

p05

#### Turkey and the EU: How big is the gap?

p06

#### PCRF Organises Cancer Awareness Day Symposium

p06

#### Celebrating Republic Day

METU Alumni Association  
Young Turks Club

p07

#### News & Events

- Ersin Atli Makes His Directorial Debut
- Careers Evening by ATA
- TBA elects its new Executive Committee at AGM

p08

- "Ottoman Kaside in London"
- Ekonomi Magazine Wins The Hackney Enterprise Network Award

#### Calendar

p09

## Homo Homini Lupus

Some Turkish people, for all their pretensions, have a remarkable propensity for labelling individuals, organisations or even other societies within neatly labelled categories. Even the outrageous exceptions may be classified as outrageous exceptions.

Why is it that in our society when "the others" do something successful we must seek some other power or a magic wand behind "them"? Is it so difficult to believe that "our" own people, people with good intentions, can become successful and devote their efforts to good causes, just like "us"?

When I was a child, maybe it was just a cultural thing but at the time anything clever we had to associate it with the Japanese or anything that involved international effort CIA must have had been involved. Growing up hasn't changed much except to replace the Japanese and the CIA with a host of other organizations, anything, but "us".

We try to analyze and determine what is going on around us by reading newspapers but this is like trying to tell the time by watching the second hand of a clock. Even newspapers are "categorized". Perhaps we are not realising it but we are victims of our own prejudices - and these prejudices are part of what prevents our society to learn, advance and be free.

## Turkish Cypriot Businessman Receives Entrepreneur Of The Year Award (continued from page 1)

orders from the big fast food chains. None understood what small cafe owners wanted."

Having started his first business at 14, fixing transistor radios for friends, Mr Kamil studied engineering and joined the family restaurant business, opening his first burger bar in 1982 and expanding it to a chain. It was here that he realised the need for suppliers geared to small restaurant businesses, and decided to establish JJ Foods, which now has annual sales of £91 million, employs 650 staff and is opening depots in Bristol in a few months. With its newly planned depots in Bristol, the company aims to reach to all parts of United Kingdom.

It must be in our Anglo-Anatolian roots that when ever "we" are the subject to such prejudice, rather than approaching the situation professionally we deal with it in an emotional state and mention it in our editorial!

*For those that can feel with their eyes;* Professionals Insight is not a political magazine or aiming to become a political magazine or an organization that endorses or is associated with any political group. It is a platform where different societies and individuals can get their message to the professionals in the UK and we do not necessarily approve, agree with, and/or condone these opinions.

*For those that can see with their hearts;* Professionals Insight is a magazine which we can confidently give to our friends knowing that it's promoting good Turkish culture and modern society.

It is a challenge - to explain what Professionals Insight is using two words. If you wont consider it cheating maybe "love love, hate hate" will just about explain all that we are.

However, though it hurts to know this and that I would sacrifice many things to go back and change the title, but until we are no longer a victim of our own prejudices it should remain as it is..

Mustafa Kamil, in his special award interview with The Sunday Times said 'I never desired to work under someone else in any stage of my life" and explained that he worked on starting his own enterprise since he was 14 years old. Mr. Kamil also mentioned that 'Money alone is not a source of motivation for me anymore. What motivates me is to further my success and getting stronger"

As Professional Insight team, we also congratulate Mustafa Kamil for his achievements and for this prestigious award. We think his motivation and dedication should set an inspiring example for young Turkish entrepreneurs and innovators in UK.

### Insight Team

Asuman Ucar  
Mustafa Kurtuldu  
James Gillespie  
Dr. Evrin Erdem  
Fikret Cubuk  
Sule Cetin  
Ismail Atalay  
Ali Riza Arslan  
Ibrahim Altunkaya  
Cemil Alim

### Contributors

M Kemal Sahin  
Vice-president Turkish Bankers Assoc.  
Sabire Djamgoz  
Pro Cancer Research Fund  
Ozan Sakar  
Investment Banker  
Ersin Atli  
Music Video Director  
Tuba Altunkaya  
Designer

### Subscriptions & Comments

Your criticism, compliments or comments are of paramount importance to us and may get published on our Readers' Letters section in future issues.

**Any comments or suggestions?**  
comments@pro-insight.com  
**To subscribe visit:**  
www.pro-insight.com

### Contact & Editorial Enquires

\*Please note our new office address  
**Address:**  
Unit 3N  
Leroy House  
436 Essex Road  
Islington  
London  
N1 3QP

**Tel:** 020 7 359 7825  
**Fax:** 020 7 682 1868  
**Email:** info@pro-insight.com  
**Web:** http://www.pro-insight.com

### Disclaimer

Written and oral advice from Pro-Insight is given in good faith but no responsibility whatsoever is accepted by journalists for the accuracy of its advice nor shall Pro-Insight be held liable for the consequences of reliance upon such advice. The articles and items should not be used for specific advice. No responsibility for any loss or consequential loss to any person acting or refraining from acting as a result of any article can be accepted by the author of such articles or their firm or their company or Pro-Insight.

## Ozan Sakar: Investment Banker



### My Background

I have spent almost 8 years in Britain now. I started my IGCSE's in 1998, with a full scholarship given in the name of the President of the Republic of Turkey, at the Turkish International Lycee in Cambridge. After my IGCSE's, I transferred to St. Clare's College to study for my International Baccalaureate.

After I finished my IB diploma, I moved to the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) to study for my degree in Philosophy and Economics. My main interest area at university was the philosophy of economics; especially the insights into the Social Choice Theory. At the LSE, I was also the president of the Turkish Student Society, and with my friends and under the guidance of Dr. Muge Kinacioglu, we had hosted such distinguished guests as Ali Babacan, Ilber Ortayli, Nuray Mert and Abdullah Gul last year.

After graduating from the LSE with First Class Honors this summer, I joined the Deutsche Bank Corporate and Investment Banking division in London.

My personal interests are reading and writing poetry, philosophy, Ottoman history, classical music, Sherlock Holmes stories and tennis. It is also always a pleasure to have dinners and drinks with friends at one of the many restaurants or bars London has to offer.

### My Job

I work as an investment banker at the London Headquarters of the Deutsche Bank Global Banking Division. It is hard to say exactly what I do, since the range of products we offer is very extensive. However, in general, we provide corporate finance advisory services to large corporate clients.

Investment banking is a very fast-paced occupation. Opportunities are abundant and a fast career progression is available for those who are determined, committed and have a high degree of self-discipline.

### My Work Environment and Training

As the biggest corporate contemporary art collector in the world, the Deutsche Bank offices have more of a Tate Modern feeling than a standard office block. With paintings and sculptures in every direction, it is indeed a refreshing place. I sometimes see art society groups visiting the bank's premises to have a closer look at the collection.

We really have some very good people here. Beneath the highly formal surface of investment banking in pinstriped suits lays a certain degree of informality, especially among the peer groups and this is something that makes the long and high-pressure hours more easily digestible.

Deutsche Bank provides top-class training for its bankers and this is certainly a must, since the job requires top level of technical knowledge.

### Best Bits

With people from quite a few different countries, speaking many languages, employing a broad-skill set and having a variety of degrees, the work offers a very international and capable atmosphere. Also, the immediate access to the experience of senior bankers help the junior bankers to gain greater insight into the business world.

With covering all of Europe and many other countries, the London Office offers good travelling opportunities, which always adds colour.

I also enjoy the constant, non-stop flow of information. The job rarely gets mundane.

Another highly appreciated benefit should no doubt be the attention the deals we work on attract. With some deals worth several billions of pounds, you can read about what you have done in the newspapers.

### Worst Bits

As any young banker would probably agree, the long and highly unpredictable working hours put pressure on organising your social life and it can be hard to plan for personal time.

### Typical Week

#### Monday

I come to work slightly earlier than the 9am start to do a final check over a presentation we have been preparing over the weekend. Attention to detail is an important feature of the job. I keep gathering information for analysis until 1am, whilst checking the latest versions of some of the projects.

#### Tuesday

The project we had prepared goes off to the client for a preliminary discussion. I join a conference call with people from different countries before lunch to monitor our progress in an ongoing project.

#### Wednesday

I get staffed on another project. By the end of the day, I have received 200 e-mails, which needs to be sorted out! When I go back home, I write a poem that I have been thinking of for sometime. I finish it off and e-mail it to a friend for some comments.

#### Thursday

I am asked to do an update on some companies for comparable analysis. I am also asked to do some benchmarking. This should take me a couple of hours. Around 3pm, I receive an e-mail, asks me to go to a recruitment event at the LSE as a representative of Deutsche Bank.

#### Friday

I spend the day in more hectic meetings and some demanding cash flow modelling. I leave the office around 10pm to have some dinner with friends and our conversations about politics, economics, philosophy and poetry lasts into the early hours of the morning.

#### Weekends

I go to Regent's Park for a walk. It is a great place to welcome the autumn with the leaves falling down. Slightly melancholic, but definitely refreshing.

I attend a radio programme to discuss about universities in Britain and Turkey and also to give a perspective on life after university.

Sunday, I am off to catch my flight for a business trip. With that, the week ends.

# Kerim Balci: Building Dialogue & Tolerance Between Communities

James Gillespie

This month James met with Kerim Balci to talk about all that mattered for a Turkish Journalist & Intellectual and the the Chairman of Centre for Intercultural Dialogue Studies.



Kerim Balci - the Chairman of Centre for Intercultural Dialogue Studies.

— Can you tell us a bit about yourself?

I am a professional journalist writing columns for the second largest circulating daily newspaper in Turkey - Zaman. I also give comments to national TV programmes about Middle Eastern issues. I previously worked in Jerusalem for 8 years before I moved to London which was two years ago. I am also the head of Centre for Intercultural Dialogue Studies.

— What career path did you take to get where you are now?

I originally studied physics, but afterwards I moved into Political Science. I studied at the Bosphorus University in Turkey. The Political Science department was also shared with International Relations so I became involved in many fields of knowledge. I started working in advertising but later I was approached from Zaman to become a correspondent in Jerusalem, running around chasing the news. However later on I moved on and became a columnist and now they are running after me! My area of expertise circles around Israeli/Palestine relations and the Middle East issues. But in London, this takes up about 5% of my time.

— What are you doing in London now?

I am the head of Centre for Intercultural

Dialogue Studies. We are a small group of networks. We are networking with around 42 inter-faith dialogue organisations around Europe. We are promoting inter-faith dialogue and we are bringing organisations new ideas. One of these includes the Whirling Dervishes - Whispers of Love event organised by the Dialogue Society being shown at the Hackney Empire this month.

We also take out the bureaucratic issues so that the organisations only have to contend with reaching the public. It is an umbrella organisation working with a few smaller groups.

— Tell us a bit more about the Centre for Intercultural Dialogue Studies?

Last year I realised that several organisations need help engaging in interfaith dialogue and so I established the Centre for Intercultural Dialogue Studies as an umbrella organisation liaising with other charities, organisations and companies. My organisation works with the same philosophy as the Dialogue Society, the issue of engaging in interfaith intercultural dialogue is quite an old established tradition among the Turkish. The ottoman experi-

ence shows that even in the 16th century our ancestors established a country with a society of pluralism. Ottoman society was based on an understanding that your nationality, ethnicity and religiosity would not be an issue within the public state.

For example, during the Genocide of the Jewish within the Second World War there

were only two countries that were receptive of the fleeing, one was Turkey and the other was the United States. I am not saying that the Turkish people are genealogically good, but probably because of the fact that the Turkish were nomads they used to travel and so they need-

ed the mercy of the hosts of these countries so for them to be accepted as strangers was very important. So when they settled down they became more receptive to allow others to settle down in their lands. This is our tradition.

In Israel, I realised that Jews and Palestinians were not talking to each other. I had friends from Jerusalem on the Jewish side living 30 years in the country but never crossing to the Arab side, and vice versa. I noticed that the Arabs would like the cinema from the Jewish side and the Jewish would love the Humus from the Arabic

*“Ottoman society was based on an understanding that your nationality, ethnicity and religiosity would not be an issue within the public state.”*

side. I realised that I could bring those people together, to start talking, a dialogue, it took me about 8 years. I found that there were many people taking part within inter-faith dialogue. After the war I felt my work would be quite weak so I moved to Europe to carry out the same work.

— **When writing, where does your inspiration come from?**

Two things I write about, these are Israeli/Palestinian relations and Islam, the challenges in this modern world Islam faces. It remains within a political and philosophical level.

My inspiration comes with the fact that I like to mix art with politics. My writing style in Turkish I think gives me the love for writing. People in Turkey do not read a lot,

however if they do follow a columnist, they have built a sensual relationship or they must enjoy their style of writing.

People come together and read my column, they sometimes write back to me, where some haven't quite established my point and others who have understood me very well.

I usually write on things that people do not like to read. Things like Islam and violence, these are hard issues they are sensitive, even reading them, you will feel somehow dis-

turbed. It takes a lot of courage to write about these sorts of things, I am still young and will follow this until I am old and then I will say - I need a rest!

— **What do you think of the**

**“...the sentiment of the people to help continues for 3 months. After this, people forget about the calamity but the victims still need help for about 5 years on”**

**Pakistani situation right now and Turkey's effort towards the disastrous situation?**

One of my recent articles I wrote about Pakistan, it is titled "I am Pakistan". Most of the Turkish people may be happy that Turkey is doing quite a lot helping with the victims of the earthquake but I am unhappy with the results. But I am never happy with the results, of anything; I always think we can do better.

In most of these cases -we had the experience [of earthquakes] in 1999 - the sentiment of the people to help continues for 3 months. After this, people forget about the calamity but the victims still need help for about 5 years on. Children need psychological support for years to deal with the trauma of such disasters. I hope Turkish people will continue to help, not only financially but within their prayers too.

**More information about the CIDS can be found at [www.DialogueStudies.org](http://www.DialogueStudies.org)**

**DIALOGUE SOCIETY**

Address: 30 Drayton Park, London N5 1PB  
Tel: 020 7619 0561 Fax: 020 7619 0561

e-mail: [info@dialoguesociety.org](mailto:info@dialoguesociety.org)  
[www.DialogueSociety.org](http://www.DialogueSociety.org)

*“We envisage a world of peace, love and prosperity;  
where diversity is not shunned but celebrated;  
where communities understand and appreciate one another;  
where goodness is performed selflessly  
without expectation of reward;  
where people have the maturity and resolution  
to commit to intercultural, interfaith and  
intercommunal dialogue ...”*

**The Dialogue Society was established in 1999 by a group of Turkish-Muslim intellectuals, academics and volunteers as a not-for-profit charitable organisation. The objective of the Dialogue Society is to promote tolerance, understanding, mutual respect and acceptance of people as they are, between people from all walks of life. The Dialogue Society therefore actively encourages and nurtures dialogue between followers of different ideologies, different ethnic communities, adherents of different religions and members of society generally.**

The world has become a global village in the 21st century and there is no longer a local problem, conflict or war which will not in one way or another affect the world

at large. Problems facing humanity as a whole appear more extensive, complex and intractable than ever; rising ethnic and religious/communal tensions, proliferation of massively destructive weapons, growing numbers of refugees and mass migration, chronic environmental pollutions as well as natural disasters, terrorism, the threat of tensions between nuclear powers old and new, on-going wars, crushing burdens of debt, poverty and illiteracy.

For this reason the people of the world need to come together to find solutions suitable for and acceptable to all. This can only be achieved in so far as we are able to exhibit a maturity and temperament that can accept as they are, a commitment to try and learn about and from each others' cultures and ways of life, mutual respect

and a resolute determination to enter sincerely into dialogue. We believe that these virtues can only be found in an educated and civilised person. Hence the Dialogue Society is of the firm belief that in the quest for peace, education of the young must be given first priority.

In this quest for peace our greatest support is found in the love and compassion embedded in our nature and disposition as human beings. All religions preach and encourage love, compassion, forgiveness, understanding and care, not only for human beings but for all living beings and nature as a whole. These values must be allowed to prevail if we are to attain peace today and prevent the predicated 'clash of civilizations' tomorrow. Interfaith and intercommunal dialogue must be sustained in order to avoid this clash. Our differences are our source of richness, just as the beauty of the rainbow comes from the harmony of its diverse colours. Our only dogma and taboo at the Dialogue Society is to love, love and hate hatred and all those who share this outlook are welcome to join the Dialogue Society either as a member and/or volunteer.

**OUR NEXT EVENT**

**Whirling Dervishes & Sufi Music**  
22nd November-London, Hackney Empire  
27th November-Oxford, Sheldonian Theatre

*If you would like more information about the Whispers of Love event please visit the dialogue society web-site*

# Turkey and the EU: How big is the gap?

An independent think tank group Policy Exchange sought an answer to the question of "How big is the gap" between EU and Turkey at its Westminster event on 9th of November.

Nadine Mater, a distinguished Turkish journalist, John Peet, Europe Director of the Economist gave their opinions about the topic and answered a storm of questions. Speakers touched on broad range of subjects concerning Turkey and EU.

— Ibrahim Altunkaya

John Peet reminded the audience that Turkey was the first recognised candidate and made its first application some 40 years ago. Whilst mentioning the recent improvements in Turkey, he also talked about the country's size and said "many people says it too big, it is not a criteria of EU whether to be big or small country and in fact EU suffers from having too many small countries".

He addressed some Europe wide concerns about Turkey EU bid and said 'many people says its too poor, being poor is not a criteria and its richer than many other countries like Bulgaria.' Peet's talk and answers was bit like a snapshot of country's current position and included all hot topics such as Islam, Turkey's large army and human right concerns.

Nadine Matter's exploit of her thoughts about Turkey was rather colourful and she mentioned Turkey as 'land of contradic-

tion'. She pointed out about the attendance that this talk received from Turkish Embassy and she said that this is the first time she had a registered guest from Turkish Embassy attending. She also talked about the recent changes in Turkey and Turkish law and categorised these changes as a necessary changes that happened with EU concept. As well as talking about the positive improvements she also voiced human rights concerns on controversial topics such as ethnic and cultural rights.

The guests also had a significant input during the event and raised issues such as Cyprus. They also questioned the frequent mentioning of human rights when the debate was about the Turkey-EU application and they pointed some of the unfair approaches.



Europe Editor of the Economist, Mr John Peet, giving his views at the Policy Exchange event.

The event was organised in ten minute talk of each speakers followed by questions and answers. This very informative event received a high interest from variety of people and much welcomed by organisers.

This event was another step towards Turkey and EU integration.

## PCRF Organises Cancer Awareness Day Symposium for the Turkish Community

Pro Cancer Research Fund (PCRF) committee organized an awareness day symposium on Sunday 13th November for the Turkish Speaking Community at the Intimate theatre in Palmers Green Sponsored by London Turkish Radio.

Speakers at the event included the famous Professor Jane Plant, who was diagnosed with breast cancer and was given 3 months to live, but she decided to look into her disease herself.

She and her husband are both scientists and she began to read and think about the situation in china and breast cancer. She decided that it was due to the fact that they do not drink milk or eat dairy products. Despite the fact that they eat everything and throw nothing away they do not eat dairy. She cut out dairy and made some

other changes to her diet and the tumours shrank and then disappeared to the surprise of her doctors. That was over 18 years ago. She has written many books that are the bibles of many women who have breast cancer and she has been a real inspiration.

Professor Djamgoz who is also the chairman of PCRF gave a speech at the symposium. He has pioneered and opened a whole new line of investigation into prostate and breast cancer entitled 'Neuroscience Solutions to Cancer'.

He has developed new techniques that can accurately identify metastatic (spreading) and non-metastatic cancer cells in breast cancer. If this is proved accurate than this will have a major influence in the way that cancer is treated. Secondly he has pioneered a more targeted 'magic bullet' for treating



Organisers of the PCRF Symposium

the cancer. He is also working on non invasive diagnostic tools for both breast and prostate cancer. His work is at a pre clinical phase and with time and funds hopefully will have an impact on the diagnosis and treatment of both cancers in the near future.

PCRF aims to help anyone affected by cancer in the Turkish speaking community. More informatioc can be found at; [www.procanresfun.org](http://www.procanresfun.org)

# Young Turks Celebrate Republic Day

Sule Cetin

29 October, one of the most important turning points in near Turkish history and the 82nd anniversary of the establishment of the Turkish Republic by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk was celebrated with many different ways by different Turkish Organisations in UK.

'Young Turks Club' celebrated the Republic Day on the Queen Elizabeth Boat on the 29th of October 2005. On the night 157 people gathered to celebrate the event and the Queen Elizabeth Boat started its cruise just after 7.00pm. Republic Day celebrations began with an open buffet dinner for the guests. After buffet, Vice Consul Murat Kaya and Chairman of the Young Turks Club made their speeches on the meaning of the day. Within the framework of 82nd Republic Day celebrations at Queen Elizabeth, guests sang marches together with great enthusiasm and the night ended with traditional Turkish dance performance 'Halay' while young Turks waving and fluttering the Turkish Flag in the air.

Vice Consul Murat Kaya said these words to Professionals Insight: 'We gathered here today to celebrate the 82nd anniversary of



Vice Consul Murat Kaya giving his speech at the Young Turks event

the establishment of the Turkish Republic by great leader Ataturk and his battlefield friends. After the establishment of the Republic, Turkish civilization came to a point where it is today with the help of Ataturk's Reforms. Turkish public met with democracy and have performed so many reforms and came to a level where now Turkey can join the EU.'

82 great years of Republic of Turkey brought Turkey to a point today where Turkey can join EU, where EU can join Turkey, where there is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehments, as stated in the following quote by the great leader Ataturk regarding the Battle of Gallipoli in April 1915;

"Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives... you are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in



peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehments to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours... You the mothers who sent their sons from far away countries wipe away your tears. Your sons are now living in our lands and are in peace. Having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well."

# METU - UK Celebrations

Evrin Erdem

Middle-Eastern Technical University (METU-UK) Alumni Association celebrated 29th October Republic Day at Sofra Restaurant in Covent Garden. The turnout to the smart dress-code event was impressive. Some 70+ alumni of Middle East Technical University living in UK had gathered there, some having come from as far as York and Wales.

The president Dr. Umut Genc made a speech informing the guests of the activities of the association to date, in particular the METU-UK Hardship Fund. With donations from its members, the fund managed to provide scholarship to 5 underprivileged METU students last year; which has increased to 9 students this year. At the end of the evening, a charity box was



The management committee of METU

passed on along the tables for contributions to the Hardship Fund.

Although informally active before, METU Alumni Association was officially founded a year ago on 29th October 2004 so this evening was a double celebration for the association. Further information about the METU-UK and Hardship Fund can be found at [www.metu-uk.org](http://www.metu-uk.org).



# Ersin Atli Makes His Directorial Debut

In association with UMG Records, Ersin Atli directed and produced the music video entitled "Reminiscing" by the artist Leo. The production of the recording is now complete and is in the development of post production.

From the arts department to costume, assistant directors to runners a large crew worked in this project. The production crew formed of professional individuals whom have been established in the Film industry. D.O.P Gavin Fry was also involved in the project, and he is great when it comes to creating stunning lighting work. Gavin's credits involve big names such as gorillaz, Keane and Big Brovaz.



Picture: Ersin Atli (left) giving instructions to his filming crew.

The video has been shot on DV format using a 35 mm lens with different filters, so the overall look has a film approach. The music video has been a success and the music promo should easily reach the charts by Valentines day.

Ersin Atli commented "My aim is now to become established within this sector pos-

sibly working with major record companies. I have offers coming already which is great, this is my first professional approach and I am very happy with the out come of my Video. I would like to thank all my crew and friends for making this happen"

**The music video was Co-Directed and Produced by Ferris Ferhat.**

# Careers Evening by ATA

The careers evening organised by ATA in November was a very successful one bringing together many jobseekers among the Turkish community and informing them about 'How to write a CV, interviewing techniques, Certificate Programs and Work Principles'.

An informal after session was held at the Davy's Pub at St James after the careers presentation where attendees to the event had the opportunity to speak and ask direct questions to many of the professionals that volunteered to hep at the event.

Professionals were as eager as the new graduates and students to join the night, and gave useful ideas and spoke about their own unique experiences.

When all the new graduates and students left most of the professionals were still at the meeting place where they also had the chance to talk with each other and discuss about other subjects related to current issues in the Turkish Community.



Some of the speakers from the panel

The careers evening was efficient and one that was required in helping and guiding new graduates and students to learn about finding suitable vacancies and other career related issues.



Mustafa Kemal Sahin (right) receiving a plaque from Mr Acuner.

Turkish Bankers Association (TBA) held their Annual General Meeting at the halls of the British Bankers Association on Liverpool Street on 11th November.

# TBA elects its new Executive Committee

The AGM started with Sevki Acuner, the chairman of the association giving a speech about the projects they'd organised in the last term and other potential projects in the pipeline for TBA. The financial audit report for 2004-2005 was presented by Ozgur Altan from Turkish Is Bank and was accepted by majority vote.

Mr Acuner then presented Kemal Sahin, the vice president of the association, with a plaque for his exceptional effort and commitment to the TBA and wished him good luck with his new job at Deutsche Bank in Turkey.

The members of the association, which

aims to bring together Turkish professionals working in the financial sector, also elected its next Executive Committee.

The new board of directors of TBA consists of: Sevki Acuner (EBRD), Ozgur Altan (Isbank) , Tanju Yorulmazer (Bank of England) Sanem Teoman (Isbank), Nurhan Akyol (Bloomberg), Deniz Erzeybek (ABN Amro) and Haki Arslan (Turkish Central Bank). The two auditors elected are Cigdem Beykoylu (Turkish Bank) and Serkan Gunal (Ziraat Bank).

After the AGM all the members met at Sofra Restaurant for Kemal Sahins farewell dinner which was attended by vice-consul Sener Cebeci as well as other VIPs from the UK Turksih community.

## "Ottoman Kaside in London", unearthed by Emre Araci after 150 years



Sultan Abdulaziz was the first and only Ottoman King who visited England in 1867's summer as an official guest of Queen Victoria. To his honour, an English chorus with 1600 singers recited a Turkish "kaside" (a type of musical praise poem) in London's Crystal Palace. After a long and rigorous research, Emre Araci with Prag Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonic chorus, made a "premier" recording of this piece called "Inno Turco" that is com-

posed by Italian musician Luigi Arditi.

The composition which is essentially a tribute to Sultan Abdulaziz together with Hymne National by Angelo Mariani and symphony-fantasy "On the shores of Bosphorus" by August D'Adelburg are considered as important but forgotten components of choral and symphonic Ottoman music repertoire. After nearly 150 years, all these works are being unearthed once again thanks to this world premier recording. UK based Composer and Conductor Emre Araci's new CD "Istanbul to London" is out now.

## Ekonomi Magazine Wins H.E.N Award

Ekonomi magazine carries the economic news and views of the Turkish community in the UK. The Hackney Enterprise Network (HEN) Awards Panel judged that the Ekonomi team had developed a professional and polished niche publication which meets the needs of London's Turkish speaking community, whose economic impact is growing significantly in London and have awarded the magazine best ethnic minority business award.



[www.ekonomi.co.uk](http://www.ekonomi.co.uk)

## Calendar: November/December 2005

### Significant Dates

#### 10 November - Day of Remembrance of ATATURK

On 10 November 1938 at 9.05 in the morning, in Istanbul, Dolmabahce Palace, Ataturk, the national liberator and the father of modern Turkey, passed away of the liver ailment he was suffering from.

He was buried with a ceremonial funeral in a temporary place of rest at the Ethnographical Museum in Ankara on 21 November 1938. After building of Anitkabir (Atatürk Mausoleum) he was taken to his permanent rest place with a grand ceremony on 10 November 1953. He passed away in 1938 but his legacy to his people and to the world endures.

#### Whispers of Love The Whirling Dervishes 27th Nov

**Venue:** University of Oxford, Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3AZ

**Time:** 14:00

**Price:** £15, £10, £5

**Web:** [www.DialogueSociety.org](http://www.DialogueSociety.org)

#### Istanbul Bilgi University & LSE European Institute Seminar 1st Dec

Turkey-UK Relations and Cooperation at the EU Level.

**Speaker:** Dr. Akin Alptuna,

Turkey's Ambassador to the UK

**Venue:** LSE, Graham Wallas Room, 5th Floor, Old Building

**Time:** 18:00 - 19:00

**Contact:** N.Karra@lse.ac.uk

**Web:** [www.lse.ac.uk](http://www.lse.ac.uk)

#### SOAS The Greek-Turkish Encounters series 1st Dec

Greek and Turkish languages in contact: attitudes and ideologies

**Speaker:** Professor Peter Mackridge, St Cross College Oxford and King's College London and Dr Bengisu Rona

**Venue:** Khalilii Lecture Theatre, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG

**Time:** 18:00

**Contact:** br2@soas.ac.uk

**Web:** [www.soas.ac.uk](http://www.soas.ac.uk)

#### SOAS Seminars on Turkey 2nd Dec Modern Turkish Studies Programme

Turkey's Accession Process

**Speaker:** Michael Lake, Former EU Ambassador in Turkey (1991-98)

**Venue:** SOAS, Room 116, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG

**Time:** 12:00 - 14:00

**Contact:** Brita Pouget, bp@soas.ac.uk

**Web:** [www.soas.ac.uk](http://www.soas.ac.uk)

#### Gunduz Aktan Conference 3rd Dec

The Armenian Genocide Claims & Contestation

**Speaker:** Former Ambassador & Columnist Gunduz Aktan

**Venue:** British Bankers' Association Pinnars Hall 105-108 Old Broad Street London EC2N 1EX

**Time:** 16:00 - 18:00

**Contact:** [gunduzaktan\\_konferans@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gunduzaktan_konferans@yahoo.co.uk)

#### Reading Turkish Society 5th Dec Monthly Meeting

**Venue:** Pitcher & Piano Bar Friar Street, Reading.

**Time:** 19:00

**Contact:**

[nurelgallantry@readingturks.org.uk](mailto:nurelgallantry@readingturks.org.uk)

**Web:** [www.readingturks.org.uk](http://www.readingturks.org.uk)

#### Turkish Bankers Association Monthly Meeting 6th Dec

**Venue:** TBC

**Time:** 18:00-21:00

**Contact:**

[Cbeykoylu@turkishbank.co.uk](mailto:Cbeykoylu@turkishbank.co.uk)

**Web:** [www.turkishbankers.org](http://www.turkishbankers.org)

**Tel:** 0709 2308689

#### Can we afford NOT to have Turkey in the EU? 8th Dec

Do we want Turkey in the EU? Turkish Finance Minister and EU Negotiator to speak at Defence and Security Forum's Annual Dinner

**Speaker:** H.E Dr. Ali Babacan

**Venue:** Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, London EC2V 6BN.

**Time:** 16:00 - 18:00

**Price:** £95

**Contact:** [olga.maitland@virgin.net](mailto:olga.maitland@virgin.net)

**Tel:** 020 7837 9212

#### Turkish Enterprise Day 8th Dec

A celebration of Turkish enterprise across London

**Venue:** The Innovatory, 239 Old Street, London, EC1V 9EY

**Time:** 18:00 - 21:00

**Web:** [www.hackneyenterprise.net](http://www.hackneyenterprise.net)

**Contact:** [dal@theinnovatory.com](mailto:dal@theinnovatory.com)

**Tel:** 020 7553 4470

#### ATA Christmas & New Years Party 14th Dec

**Venue:** Ishtar Restaurant

10-12 Crawford Street London W1U 6AZ

**Time:** 19:00

**Price:** £23

**Contact:** [events@ata-uk.org.uk](mailto:events@ata-uk.org.uk)

**Tel:** Aykut - 07734 212 652

**Web:** [www.ata-uk.org.uk](http://www.ata-uk.org.uk)