

DEFEAT

Turkish-Greek War (1919-1922)

Written by **Murat KÖYLÜ**



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PREFACE

I tried to write the most tragic process that the two ancient friendly nations encountered in a period of history (1919-1922) by benefiting from the precious works of Turkish and Greek historians written and published till this day. While you are reading the book you will see that the events that took place in a chronological discipline, and that it was written objectively by remaining faithful to those who made history. However, the most important difficulty I faced while writing the book was to feel the words that bear the weight of the stories full of pain and suffering in every historical detail written.

On the one hand, despite all the political, geographical, and military difficulties the Greek people find themselves in a war built on the destruction of another nation with which they lived together for four hundred centuries to realize the future and dreams with the political powers; on the other hand, the Turkish people struggling to exist in the ruins of a world empire that had been come to an end and who had been trying to be removed from the land they had been taken root for millennia ...

As long as they exist, every nation has political goals and objectives, an ideal and red apples to be achieved. Although this is not very noticeable in social life, political powers, on the one hand, maintain their service to the society, on the other hand, keep alive, nurture, and magnify these ideals they keep hidden in their secret agenda.

When Cretan Eleftherios Venizelos was still a law student, Kiepert Atlas which decorated the wall of the dormitory room where he was staying, had been begun to decorate not only his wall but also his ideals when he became prime minister at a time he never expected.

It was as if history offered him this opportunity on a golden tray.

In the ruins of the had been collapsed Ottoman Empire why not be Asia Minor, Istanbul, Thrace, Pontus, Cyprus for Greece? ... In short, could “Great Byzantine” exist again? Behind this great dream with having winner’s states of the world war, it seemed to come close enough to reach out.

So it happened.

However, there was a very important detail that Mr. Venizelos and those who think like him ignored or overlooked, which perhaps caused their dreams to be disappointed: ***“Turks can lose everything but never their freedom and homeland! ...”***

Describing a tragic period in the history of two ancient nations this book you will read has been written in chronological order in the light of the memories and thoughts of the Greek and Turkish commanders who witnessed the real events that took place on the battlefield of the period, the views of Greek and Turkish historians and were based on archives documents.

This book is dedicated to all heroic soldiers who defend their nation and homeland by sacrificing their lives for their duties. May their souls be blessed.

Murat KÖYLÜ
March 2023

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