Thanksgiving

As the first day of November approaches, we prepare for the season of thanksgiving. This holiday, celebrated in the United States and Canada, offers us an opportunity to reflect on the blessings we have received and to express gratitude for them.

The origins of Thanksgiving Day can be traced back to the 17th century, when a group of 38 English settlers arrived at the Berkeley Plantation, on the James river near what is now Charles City, Virginia. The settlers, who came to America for religious freedom, had lost about half of their members during their first winter in Massachusetts. But this hope arose in the summer of 1621. The settlers expected a good corn harvest, despite poor crops of peas, wheat and barley. Thus, in early autumn, Governor William Bradford arranged a harvest festival to give thanks to God for the progress the colony had made.

The custom of Thanksgiving Day spread from Plymouth to other New England colonies. During the Revolutionary war, eight special days of thanks were observed. In 1789, President George Washington, issued a general proclamation naming November 26 a day of national thanksgiving. This Thanksgiving Proclamation is quoted below in its entirety.

George Washington's Proclamation:

"Whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint committee, recommended to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

"Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the twenty-sixth of November next to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all that good was, that is, or will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our service and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquillity, union and peace, with which we have been blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge: and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us."

...continued in the last page...
And your Lord inspired the bee: build homes in mountains and trees, and in (the hive) they build for you. [16:68]

Then eat from all the fruits of the design of your Lord, precisely. From their bellies comes a drink of different colors, wherein is healing for the people. This should be (suitable) proof for people who reflect. [16:69]

The italicized phrase in the verse, reads also enables them to fly the distance. Both aspects of the dance have a remarkable degree of accuracy.

The life of M. Kemal Ataturk, the founder of the Republic of Turkey, has been encoded with the number 19. Believers who have "seen blessed with the knowledge of the role of the number 19 in the Quran can easily understand the divine message behind this awesome phenomenon.

The manifestation of number 19 throughout the life of Ataturk is an example of God's promise in the Quran: We will show them our signs in the horizons, and within themselves, until they realize that this is the truth. Is your Lord not sufficient? He witnesses all things (41:55). The Quran teaches us that the worst people in the world are those who fabricate lies and attribute them to God (18:15; 29:68; 31:6; 42:21).

According to this Quranic criterion, some of the Muslim clergymen (Ulama) of the Ottoman Empire were among the worst people. They "taught superstitions and baseless prohibitions and presented them as God's religion. They isolated religious decrees on demand, justifying sultans' killing of innocent people. They did not allow the printing machine in the country for about 300 years, declaring that it was a satanic invention. They treated women as slaves. The sultans (who were also caliphs) and leaders of the Ottomans were the continuation of the satanic kingdoms (caliphatns) of the Ummayyads and the Abbasids. The Almighty God stopped this kingdom, which gradually became corrupt, by supporting Ataturk.

It is a matter of historical fact that Ataturk was granted victory over the powerful rulers of the Ottoman empire. Given the great number of ways in which the number 19 figured in Ataturk's life, we come to an understanding of how God, through Ataturk, brought about the defeat of those sultans and States who ruled, they claimed, in the name of God, who both in fact spread evil and lies about the religion of submission to God alone and oppressed their subjects.

Ataturk Was Supported By God Against the Corrupt Caliphs

Edip Yüksel

The table below is some of historical facts which can be verified in encyclopedias and history books:

1) Giving the participants the chance to present God's message to other groups, at least in an indirect way. For example, all attendees were good listeners to verses of the Quran recited to them. Also, they have heard about the mathematical miracle of the Quran.

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People of the Scripture: A Symposium

In an effort to promote understanding and dialogue among people of the scripture, ICS has sponsored a symposium in which representatives of the three major monotheistic religions of the world (Jews, Christians, Muslims) gathered to discuss various topics. Participants, about 100 people from each group, met in a four-hour session twice on two consecutive Sunday afternoons (Oct. 31, Nov. 7). Topics covered were:

Session I Parenthood, women, homosexuality, divorce, aggregation and family

Session II Worship practices, hereafter, monotheism and religion of the future