Fear of the Grey Wolf

Bozkurt is our national symbol. Turks believed that they were descended from a Bozkurt in ancient times, in the totem age. Thus, the Gok Turks were considered to be the descendants of the female Bozkurt, the Nine Oghuz-On Uyghurs were considered to be the descendants of the male Bozkurt, and the Kun, or Oghuz, were guided by the Bozkurt in great marches.

Totem and nominal ancestors exist in every nation, clan and tribe. These are embedded in the conscience of the nation, and although it is accepted that it is impossible for humans to descend from wolves in the face of today's advances in science, the Bozkurt continues to be the national symbol.

"What the hell is a grey wolf? After all, it's an animal." Then nothing in the world has any spiritual value. A handle is attached to every being that is recognised, loved and respected:

"Mother" is a female who finally gives birth to a child. "Flag" is a colourful piece of cloth. "Head of State" is any man. "Constitution" is just a list of articles. "Morality" is a lie concocted by the greedy to fleece the gullible, "family" and "discipline" are useless things that do nothing but cause trouble to people.

If the nation in one of the two neighbouring states of equal strength accepts the above-mentioned definitions, and the second one believes in holy principles and beings, the second one will definitely defeat the other one one one day, or even wipe it off the map.

Believing in eternal peace is ignorance, folly and betrayal. The recent Pakistan-India conflict is the best example of the fact that eternal peace will never come, and that the wrestling between nations and states will continue until the end. The Indians, the most miserable and lowly nation in the world, seized the opportunity and succeeded in tearing East Pakistan away from Pakistan to be swallowed up in the future.

Living in a dangerous region in terms of its geography and history, Turkey is obliged to be strong. One of the conditions of being strong is to be strong in the spiritual sphere, to be attached to principles, symbols and personalities that will unite the members of the nation.

When Turkism and communism clash in Turkey, the government cannot look at both sides with the same eyes.

It is madness to equate two ideas, one of which is to enlarge the homeland and the other of which is to dismember it and bind it to other states.

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In the 7 January 1972 issue of the Konya daily "Yeni Meram", the events at the Selçuk Institute of Education are mentioned. Because a group of more than 300 students had come to school wearing a Bozkurt badge, the school principal "Yusuf Ziya Beyzadeoğlu" sentenced them to the Disciplinary Board. It was decided that they would not be admitted to school if they came to school with a Bozkurt badge.

The badge with the Grey Wolf is a national-historical symbol. To punish those who wear this badge in a school of the Turkish State is an act that cannot be accepted by reason, understanding, national honour and national feeling.

According to "Yeni Meram" newspaper, the director explained this action as follows:

On 30 December, nearly 300 students came to school wearing Bozkurt badges. This caused unrest and stirring among the students. We informed our students that wearing a badge was not forbidden, but entering the institute with a Bozkurt badge was strictly forbidden. Students who did not comply with this decision were not allowed to enter the classroom.

The director explains the reason for this decision in the events of last year, saying:

Some of our students wore Mao hats and raised their left fist. Some came to school wearing a kalpak. He saluted with his right fist. Conflicts broke out one after another. We decided to take some measures to prevent this and to erase this atmosphere.

So the director tried to cure malaria with a mosquito net. First of all, to equate Maoists and Turkists with hearts is to be ignorant of the world. The Maoist's duty and thought is to destroy Turkey, whereas the Turkists, whom he calls heart-hearted, are to keep it alive. If the principal has not completely expelled the traitors he calls Maoists, he has not done his duty. Tomorrow they will poison Turkish children as teachers, and the sin of this will be on Beyzadeoğllu with a strange name. Also, the statement about the heart-clad people saluting is a mere assertion of the director. Turkists do not salute by raising their fists, they salute like men.

If there are those who are uneasy about the Grey Wolf badge, they are enemies of nationalism. They must be brought to their senses. The 12 March Memorandum was not against those who wore the Bozkurt badge, but against those who greeted with a left fist.

I draw the attention of the Minister of National Education: I urge him to take this matter into his own hands and clarify the situation.

I can't help feeling pity for the teachers at the Konya Institute of Education. So there was no one among them who knew what a Grey Wolf was. And what do they know?

Not Atatürk? They don't know that either. If they did, they would know that a book called "Bozkurt" was written about Atatürk in English.

Why this fear of Bozkurt?

Or does Beyzadeoğlu think he's a lamb?