



ISTANBUL
GELISIM
UNIVERSITY

ATATURK'S PRINCIPLES AND HISTORY OF TURKISH REVOLUTION I

The Road to the National Assembly:

**Amasya Protocol, Last Ottoman Chamber of Deputies, National Pact
and Occupation of Istanbul**

WEEK 9

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The Ottoman Empire Dismembered





Amasya Protocol

- Sivas Congress and the resolutions adopted by the Nationalists resulted in more pressure from the Istanbul (Ottoman) Government.
- Mustafa Kemal responded this pressure by ceasing and banning all communication between Anatolia and Istanbul; ordered for the state institutions in Anatolia to communicate with the Representative Committee.
- This reaction caused the fall of the Damat Ferid (Istanbul) Government, who was a radical opponent to the Nationalist movement, and Ali Rıza Pasha was assigned to the post, creating a friendly atmosphere to the Nationalists.
- New Grand Vizier Ali Rıza Pasha started communicating with the Representative Committee (the nationalists) and assigned a representative, Salih Pasha, to further the meetings.
- The delegation of the Nationalist Movement was headed by Mustafa Kemal, and Rauf Bey and Bekir Sami Bey were the delegates.
- Istanbul Government sent Salih Pasha, the Minister of Navy, to Amasya to hold the meetings on October 20-22, 1919.



Damat Ferid Pasha

Because of his involvement in the Treaty of Sèvres and his collusion with the Allied powers, he became an unpopular figure in Turkey and emigrated to Europe.



Damat Ferid Pasha (*wearing the fez*) with the three other signatories of the Treaty of Sèvres; to his right, Rıza Tevfik, and to his left, the Ottoman minister of education Tevfik Pasha, and the ambassador Reşad Halis; on board an Allied warship taking them to the Paris Peace Conference. All four would be stripped of their citizenship by the Turkish Grand National Assembly during the week of the treaty's signature and would head the list of 150 persona non grata of Turkey after the Turkish War of Independence



Amasya Protocol

- Amasya meetings were the first official contact between Istanbul government and the Nationalists, and therefore, increased the credibility of the Nationalist Movement among the nation and gave rise to the support and participation from the people.
- In the meetings, the nationalist delegation demanded the reconvention of the Ottoman Parliament and recognition of the Association for the Defense of Rights of Anatolia and Rumelia.
- Istanbul Government accepted the reconvention of the Ottoman Parliament in Istanbul and started to organize the elections at once.
- After Amasya Protocol, Mustafa Kemal and the Representational Committee arrived in Ankara to manage the Independence War on December 27, 1920.
- After the elections, new deputies were called for the meeting to Istanbul.
- The Ottoman Parliament convened on January 12, 1920, in Istanbul for the last time in its history.
- There were many deputies, who were of the Nationalists in the new Parliament, i. e. Mustafa Kemal was elected as a deputy of Erzurum.
- Mustafa Kemal, who was in Ankara at that time, attained to establishment of a nationalist group of Felah-ı Vatan (the Liberation of the Country) thanks to Nationalists in the Parliament.



Ali Rıza Paşa



Hulusi Paşa

He was often charged with contacts with the rising Ankara government set up by Mustafa Kemal Paşa.

Last Ottoman Chamber of Deputies (Ottoman Parliament)

- Felah-ı Vatan Group struggled to create a public opinion against the Allied occupations in Anatolia and to create a support for the Nationalist Movement through the Parliament and the media.
- The most remarkable legislation of the last Ottoman Parliament was the Misak-ı Milli (National Pact) which was adopted on February 12, 1920.
- National Pact was authored by Mustafa Kemal and Rauf Bey and included the resolutions of the Erzurum and Sivas Congresses, which created a basis and goals for the Nationalist Movement.



The Ottoman Parliament



The National Pact (Misak-ı Milli)

- A resolution that stated the goal of political independence for Turkey.
- This resolution adopted by the Ottoman parliament in Istanbul on 17 February 1920, declared support for the demands of the nationalist movement led by Mustafa Kemal Pasha.
- This was essentially the program implemented in the wake of the defeat of the Greek army in western Anatolia and the withdrawal of British power from Istanbul and its environment in 1922.
- Functionally, the national pact served as a declaration of independence by nationalist Turkey.

National Pact or *National Oath*

- Six provisions passed by the (last) Ottoman Parliament.
- Parliament met on 28 January 1920 and made its decisions public on 12 February 1920.



Resolutions of the Turkish National Pact

- The future of the territories inhabited by an Arab majority at the time of the signing of the Armistice of Mudros will be determined by a referendum.
- On the other hand, the territories which were not occupied at that time and inhabited by a Turkish majority are the homeland of the Turkish nation.
- The status of Kars, Ardahan, Batum and Western Thrace may be determined by a referendum. The security of Istanbul and Marmara should be provided for.
- Transport and free-trade on the Straits of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles will be determined by Turkey and other concerned countries.
- The rights of minorities will be issued on condition that the rights of the Muslim minorities in neighboring countries are protected.
- In order to develop in every field, the country should be independent and free; all restrictions on political, judicial and financial development will be removed.

MAP OF NATIONAL PACT (MİSAK-I MİLLÎ)





Official Occupation of Istanbul by the Allied Powers

- The declaration of the National Pact raised the concerns of the British forces and therefore, the British started to prevent and disperse the nationalist movement.
- Therefore, the de facto occupation of the capital turned into de jure and the all government, communication and military buildings were occupied on March 16, 1920.
- Deputies of the Parliament, some of whom were the leaders of the Nationalist Movement, as Rauf Bey and Vasif bey were arrested and exiled to Malta by the British.
- The official occupation of Istanbul prompted a great reaction against the Allies through demonstrations and protesting telegrams.
- Upon the occupation, the Parliament repealed itself on March 18, 1920.
- After the occupation, the connection between Istanbul and the Nationalist Movement was lost and Istanbul was deserted by the deputies of the Parliament, army officers, government officials and others to join the Nationalists in Ankara.
- This increased the credibility and the power of the Nationalists and opened a new way for the organization of the new government in Ankara.



British troops march from Pera to Taksim



British Naval Demonstration in Istanbul



French Renault FT-17 tanks being offloaded at Sirkeci docks
Istanbul, March/April 1920.



Ottoman officials

- ❑ Concealed from the occupying authorities details of the developing **independence movement spreading throughout Anatolia**.
- ❑ Munitions initially seized by the Allies were secretly smuggled out of Istanbul into Central Anatolia.

The British

- ❑ The Ottoman government not doing what it could to suppress the nationalists.

March 1920

- ❑ **Turkish revolutionaries announced that the Turkish nation was establishing its own Parliament in Ankara** under the name Grand National Assembly (GNA).
- ❑ On April 23, the new Assembly summoned for the first time, making Mustafa Kemal its first president and Ismet Inonu chief of the General Staff.

He closed the parliament after the Occupation.

Mehmed VI: (1918-1922)

- served as the last Sultan of the Ottoman Empire from 1918 until his overthrow in 1922.
- Presided over the terminal decline of the Ottoman Empire.
- Parliament was dissolved on 21 December with Mehmed publicly affirming his determination to suppress nationalist ideologies of all colours.
- The nationalists nevertheless remained active in Anatolia. After prolonged negotiations they secured Mehmed's agreement to hold elections late in 1919.



