

istanbul in turkish language

****Istanbul in Turkish Language: A Cultural and Linguistic Exploration****

istanbul in turkish language is not just a phrase; it represents a gateway into one of the most vibrant, historically rich, and culturally diverse cities in the world. When you say "Istanbul" in Turkish, you are invoking a name that carries centuries of history, a melting pot of civilizations, and a unique linguistic identity that reflects the city's dynamic spirit. Understanding how Istanbul is perceived, spoken about, and expressed in Turkish offers fascinating insights into the city's soul.

What Does Istanbul Mean in Turkish?

The name "Istanbul" itself has an interesting linguistic background. In Turkish, "İstanbul" is pronounced as [is'tanbul], and the word's origin dates back to the Byzantine era. It is believed to derive from the Greek phrase "eis tin polin" (εἰς τὴν πόλιν), which means "to the city." Over time, this phrase was adapted into the vernacular of the region's inhabitants, eventually evolving into "Istanbul."

This etymology highlights the city's long-standing importance as the quintessential city, the heart of empires, and the crossroads of continents. In Turkish, Istanbul is more than a name; it embodies the idea of a central hub, a place everyone refers to simply as "the city."

The Linguistic Landscape of Istanbul

Istanbul's linguistic environment is as diverse as its population. While Turkish is the official and dominant language, the city has historically been home to speakers of Greek, Armenian, Ladino, Kurdish, Arabic, and many other languages. This multilingual heritage is echoed in the city's architecture, street names, cuisine, and everyday conversations.

Turkish Dialects and Istanbul

Turkish spoken in Istanbul is often considered the standard or prestige dialect. Unlike the various regional dialects found throughout Turkey, Istanbul Turkish is characterized by its relatively neutral accent and vocabulary, making it the model for Turkish language education and media.

However, because Istanbul is a magnet for internal migration, you'll hear many accents and dialects converging in the city. This linguistic blend enriches the Turkish spoken in Istanbul, making it dynamic and ever-evolving.

Influence of Other Languages

The city's long history as a trade and cultural center means that many words from Persian, Arabic, French, Italian, and Greek have seeped into Istanbul's

Turkish vocabulary. For instance, words like "kahve" (coffee, from Arabic), "bakkal" (grocer, from Italian), and "şoför" (chauffeur, from French) are commonly used in everyday speech.

This linguistic borrowing adds layers of meaning and cultural depth, reflecting the city's openness to diverse influences.

Exploring Istanbul through Language and Culture

Language is a key to understanding Istanbul's cultural fabric. When you learn how Istanbul is discussed in Turkish, you gain insight into the city's identity, traditions, and the way locals relate to their environment.

Common Expressions and Sayings About Istanbul

Istanbul holds a special place in Turkish hearts, and this affection is often expressed in proverbs and sayings. For example:

- "İstanbul bir şiiirdir" (Istanbul is a poem) - This phrase captures the poetic beauty and romantic aura the city inspires.
- "İstanbul'un taşı toprağı altın" (The stones and soil of Istanbul are gold) - Signifies the city's wealth and value, both material and cultural.
- "İstanbul'da her yer tarih kokar" (Everywhere in Istanbul smells of history) - Reflects the city's rich historical layers visible in its streets and monuments.

Such expressions reveal how intertwined the city's physical presence is with its emotional and cultural significance in the Turkish language.

Learning Turkish Through Istanbul's Lens

For language learners, Istanbul offers a vibrant classroom. The city's public spaces, markets, cafes, and cultural sites are lively environments to practice Turkish in real-life contexts. Engaging with locals, listening to street vendors, and exploring neighborhoods like Kadıköy or Sultanahmet can greatly enhance your understanding of Turkish as it is naturally spoken.

Moreover, Istanbul's museums and cultural centers often host language workshops and exhibitions that delve into the city's linguistic heritage, providing valuable resources for those eager to connect language learning with cultural immersion.

Turkish Language Tips for Visitors to Istanbul

If you're planning a trip to Istanbul and want to make the most of your experience through language, here are some practical tips:

- **Learn Basic Greetings and Phrases:** Simple words like "Merhaba" (Hello), "Teşekkür ederim" (Thank you), and "Lütfen" (Please) go a long way in

building rapport with locals.

- **Understand Common Street and Place Names:** Many Istanbul neighborhoods have names rooted in Turkish history or geography, such as “Taksim,” “Beşiktaş,” or “Üsküdar.” Recognizing these can help you navigate and appreciate the city better.
- **Be Open to Language Variations:** Don’t expect everyone to speak perfect, textbook Turkish. The city’s diverse population means you’ll encounter various accents and informal expressions.
- **Use Language Apps with Istanbul-Specific Content:** Apps like Duolingo, Memrise, or Tandem often include cultural notes and phrases specific to Istanbul, which can enhance your learning experience.

The Role of Istanbul in Modern Turkish Language and Media

Istanbul is the epicenter of Turkey’s media and publishing industries. Most Turkish TV shows, films, newspapers, and radio stations operate out of the city, shaping not only national but international perceptions of the Turkish language.

Istanbul as a Cultural and Linguistic Trendsetter

The city's influence extends to popular culture and language trends. New slang, expressions, and linguistic innovations often emerge from Istanbul’s youth and creative communities. Following Turkish social media accounts, music, and cinema originating from Istanbul can provide a window into the evolving nature of Turkish language and culture.

The Impact of Istanbul’s Historical Heritage on Language

Many historical sites around the city have plaques and informational signs in multiple languages, including Ottoman Turkish script, which differs significantly from modern Turkish. This juxtaposition offers a fascinating glimpse into the language’s evolution and Istanbul’s role as a bridge between the past and present.

Experiencing Istanbul Beyond Words

While language is a powerful tool to connect with Istanbul, the city offers sensory experiences that transcend words. The aroma of freshly brewed Turkish coffee in a street-side café, the call to prayer echoing from ancient mosques, and the vibrant chatter of bustling bazaars all contribute to the city’s unique ambiance.

Exploring Istanbul with an understanding of its language nuances adds depth to these moments, enriching your overall experience. Whether you're wandering through the historic Sultanahmet district or enjoying the modern vibes of Karaköy, the interplay of language and culture is palpable.

Istanbul in Turkish language is more than just a way to say a city's name—it's an invitation to explore a rich tapestry of history, culture, and communication. Each syllable echoes centuries of stories, and every conversation you have becomes a thread in the ongoing narrative of this magnificent city. Whether you are a traveler, a student of language, or simply curious, diving into Istanbul's linguistic world opens doors to deeper appreciation and unforgettable experiences.

Frequently Asked Questions

İstanbul nerede bulunmaktadır?

İstanbul, Türkiye'nin kuzeybatısında, Marmara Bölgesi'nde yer almaktadır.

İstanbul'un tarihi önemi nedir?

İstanbul, Roma, Bizans ve Osmanlı imparatorluklarına başkentlik yapmış, tarihi ve kültürel açıdan çok zengin bir şehirdir.

İstanbul'da gezilecek önemli turistik yerler nelerdir?

Ayasofya, Topkapı Sarayı, Sultanahmet Camii, Kapalıçarşı, Galata Kulesi ve Boğaziçi Köprüsü İstanbul'da gezilecek önemli yerlerdendir.

İstanbul'un nüfusu kaçtır?

2024 yılı itibarıyla İstanbul'un nüfusu yaklaşık 16 milyon civarındadır.

İstanbul'da en meşhur yemekler nelerdir?

İstanbul'da kebab, balık, börek, midye dolma ve çeşitli deniz mahsulleri oldukça meşhurdur.

İstanbul Boğazı'nın önemi nedir?

İstanbul Boğazı, Karadeniz ile Marmara Denizi'ni birbirine bağlayan stratejik bir su yolu olup, hem ticaret hem de turizm açısından büyük öneme sahiptir.

İstanbul'da toplu taşıma nasıl yapılır?

İstanbul'da metro, metrobüs, tramvay, otobüs ve deniz otobüsleri gibi çeşitli toplu taşıma araçlarıyla ulaşım sağlanmaktadır.

İstanbul'da hangi festivaller düzenlenmektedir?

İstanbul Film Festivali, İstanbul Caz Festivali, İstanbul Bienali ve İstanbul Kültür Sanat Festivali gibi birçok önemli etkinlik ve festival düzenlenmektedir.

Additional Resources

Istanbul in Turkish Language: A Deep Dive into Its Cultural and Linguistic Significance

istanbul in turkish language holds a unique place not only as the name of Turkey's largest city but also as a symbol rich with historical, cultural, and linguistic layers. Understanding how Istanbul is represented and perceived in Turkish offers insights into the city's identity, its evolution through time, and its role in contemporary Turkey. This article explores Istanbul in Turkish language context, analyzing its etymology, usage, and significance within both local and global spheres.

The Linguistic Roots of Istanbul in Turkish Language

The name "Istanbul" has an intriguing linguistic history that reflects the city's diverse past. In Turkish, the word "İstanbul" is more than just a geographical label; it embodies centuries of cultural exchange and transformation. The name is derived from the Greek phrase "eis tin polin" (εἰς τὴν πόλιν), meaning "to the city" or "in the city." This phrase was colloquially used by locals and travelers alike to refer to Constantinople, the city's name before the Ottoman era.

Over time, "eis tin polin" was phonetically adapted into the Turkish vernacular as "Istanbul." This transition illustrates how language evolves through contact and adaptation, particularly in regions with layered histories. Unlike the official name "Constantinople," which remained in use internationally for centuries, "Istanbul" became the everyday term within Turkish-speaking communities. This linguistic progression highlights the city's transformation from a Byzantine capital to the heart of the Ottoman Empire and modern Turkey.

Istanbul's Etymology and Historical Context

Tracing the etymology of Istanbul in Turkish language leads to broader historical narratives. The city's name reflects its role as a crossroads between East and West, Christianity and Islam, and antiquity and modernity. The official renaming to Istanbul was formalized in 1930, as part of Turkey's efforts to assert a national identity distinct from its Ottoman past and Western influences.

Before this, names such as "Constantinople" and "Byzantium" were prevalent. These names themselves carry historical significance: Byzantium stems from the ancient Greek colony founded on the site, while Constantinople was the name given by Emperor Constantine the Great in 330 AD. The shift to Istanbul

in Turkish language symbolizes a reclaiming of the city's identity aligned with the Turkish Republic's linguistic reforms.

The Role of Language Reforms in Popularizing Istanbul

The early 20th century saw profound language reforms under Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's leadership, aimed at modernizing the Turkish language and shedding Ottoman Turkish's Arabic and Persian influences. The adoption and official use of "Istanbul" instead of "Constantinople" was part of these reforms, promoting a unified national identity and simplifying communication.

Additionally, the Turkish Postal Service's 1930 directive requiring foreign countries to use "Istanbul" in official correspondence reinforced the name's international acceptance. This move was crucial in establishing Istanbul in Turkish language as the definitive name globally, facilitating clearer cultural and political messaging.

The Cultural Significance of Istanbul in Turkish Language

Beyond its linguistic roots, the name Istanbul in Turkish language conveys profound cultural resonance. It is frequently used in literature, music, and everyday speech to evoke the city's rich heritage and vibrant atmosphere. Istanbul represents a confluence of civilizations, reflected in its architecture, cuisine, and social fabric.

In Turkish poetry and prose, Istanbul often symbolizes both nostalgia and modernity. Writers use the city's name to evoke images of mosques, bazaars, and the Bosphorus, intertwining personal and collective memories. The term "İstanbul" carries emotional weight, bridging the gap between the past and the present in Turkish cultural consciousness.

Usage of Istanbul in Turkish Literature and Media

Turkish media frequently references Istanbul not only as a setting but also as a character in itself. News outlets, television dramas, and films use the city's name to anchor narratives that deal with social dynamics, economic development, and political issues.

Literary works often explore Istanbul's dual identity as both an ancient metropolis and a modern megacity. This duality is reflected in the language surrounding Istanbul, where the city's name conjures images of continuity and change. As a result, Istanbul in Turkish language is more than a place name—it is a metaphor for Turkey's ongoing journey.

Modern Implications and Global Recognition

Today, Istanbul is recognized worldwide, but its representation in Turkish language remains central to Turkey's cultural diplomacy and tourism strategies. The city's name is leveraged in branding campaigns to attract

visitors interested in history, culture, and urban experiences.

The pronunciation and spelling of İstanbul in Turkish language also highlight a notable linguistic feature: the dotted capital "İ" and dotless lowercase "ı," which are unique to Turkish orthography. This detail underscores the importance of preserving linguistic specificity even in global contexts.

Challenges and Opportunities in Promoting Istanbul Internationally

While Istanbul enjoys global recognition, the city's Turkish name sometimes faces mispronunciation or misspelling outside Turkey. This presents challenges in marketing and communication but also opportunities to educate international audiences about Turkish language nuances.

Moreover, Istanbul's diverse heritage requires careful framing to respect its multi-ethnic past while promoting a cohesive national image. The name Istanbul in Turkish language serves as a bridge in this endeavor, connecting local pride with international appeal.

- **Pros:** Strong cultural identity, historical depth, unique linguistic features.
- **Cons:** Potential confusion with former names, pronunciation challenges abroad.

The Future of Istanbul's Name in Turkish Language and Beyond

As Istanbul continues to evolve economically and culturally, the name's significance in Turkish language will likely deepen. Urban development, population growth, and technological advancements will shape how Istanbul is spoken about and understood within Turkey and internationally.

Language remains a living entity, and Istanbul's name will adapt to new contexts while preserving its historical essence. Scholars, policymakers, and cultural practitioners play pivotal roles in maintaining this balance, ensuring that Istanbul in Turkish language remains a vibrant symbol of Turkey's past, present, and future.

The exploration of Istanbul through the lens of Turkish language reveals a city that is not only a geographical landmark but also a linguistic and cultural emblem. Its name carries stories of transformation, resilience, and identity that continue to inspire and challenge both residents and observers worldwide.

Istanbul In Turkish Language

istanbul in turkish language: *Turkish Language, Literature, and History* Bill Hickman, Gary Leiser, 2015-10-14 The twenty two essays collected in *Turkish Language, Literature and History* offer insights into Turkish culture in the widest sense. Written by leaders in their fields from North America, Europe and Turkey, these essays cover a broad range of topics, focusing on various aspects of Turkish language, literature and history between the eighth century and the present. The chapters move between ancient and contemporary literature, exploring Sultan Selim's interest in dream interpretation, translating newly uncovered poetry and exploring the works of Orhan Pamuk. Linguistic complexities of the Turkish language and dialects are analysed, while new translations of 16th century decrees offer insight into Ottoman justice and power. This is a festschrift volume published for the leading scholar Bob Dankoff, and the diverse topics covered in these essays reflect Dankoff's valuable contributions to the study of Turkish language and literature. This cross-disciplinary book offers contributions from academics specialising in linguistics, history, literature and sociology, amongst others. As such, it is of key interest to scholars working in a variety of disciplines, with a focus on Turkish Studies.

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istanbul in turkish language: *Critical Intercultural Pedagogy for Difficult Times* Prue Holmes, John Corbett, 2022-07-21 This collection lends a critical decolonising lens to intercultural communication research, bringing together perspectives on how forms of education embedded in the arts and humanities can open up intercultural understanding among young people in conditions of conflict and protracted crises. The book draws on case studies from a range of educational contexts in the Global South which engage in creative arts methodologies to foreground decolonising approaches to intercultural communication in which researchers question their own power in the research process. The volume offers intercultural resources that can be used by researchers and community support groups to foster active intercultural communication, dialogue, participation, and responsibility among young people in these settings and those who may be marginalised from them. The collection also highlights the reflexive accounts of researchers working in a transnational, interdisciplinary, and multilingual research network and the subsequent opportunities and challenges of working in such networks. Advocating for intercultural understanding among young people in higher education and a greater focus on social justice in intercultural communication research, this book will be of interest to students and researchers in applied linguistics, language education, intercultural education, and multilingualism.

istanbul in turkish language: *The Routledge Handbook of Sociolinguistics Around the World*

Martin J. Ball, Rajend Mesthrie, Chiara Meluzzi, 2023-07-28 Drawing on examples from a wide range of languages and social settings, *The Routledge Handbook of Sociolinguistics Around the World* was originally the first single-volume collection surveying the current research trends in international sociolinguistics. This new edition has been comprehensively updated and significantly expanded, and now includes more than 50 chapters written by leading authorities and a brand-new substantial introduction by John Edwards. Coverage has been expanded regionally and there is a critical focus on Indigenous languages. This handbook remains a key tool to help widen the perspective on sociolinguistics to readers interested in the field. Divided into sections covering the Americas, Asia, Australasia, Africa, and Europe, the book provides readers with a solid, up-to-date appreciation of the interdisciplinary nature of the field of sociolinguistics in each area. It clearly explains the patterns and systematicity that underlie language variation in use, along with the ways in which alternations between different language varieties mark personal style, social power, and national identity. *The Routledge Handbook of Sociolinguistics Around the World* is the ideal resource for all students in undergraduate sociolinguistics courses and for researchers involved in the study of language, society, and power.

istanbul in turkish language: Sociolinguistic and Typological Perspectives on Language Variation Silvia Ballarè, Guglielmo Inglese, 2023-10-04 Linguistic variation, loosely defined as the wholesale processes whereby patterns of language structures exhibit divergent distributions within and across languages, has traditionally been the object of research of at least two branches of linguistics: variationist sociolinguistics and linguistic typology. In spite of their similar research agendas, the two approaches have only rarely converged in the description and interpretation of variation. While a number of studies attempting to address at least aspects of this relationship have appeared in recent years, a principled discussion on how the two disciplines may interact has not yet been carried out in a programmatic way. This volume aims to fill this gap and offers a cross-disciplinary venue for discussing the bridging between sociolinguistic and typological research from various angles, with the ultimate goal of laying out the methodological and conceptual foundations of an integrated research agenda for the study of linguistic variation.

istanbul in turkish language: *EDUCATION IN AN INNOVATIVE PERSPECTIVE* Gültekin Erdal, Dr. Sercan ALABAY, Prof.Dr. Kelime ;Erdal, Education, a word of Latin origin, is a term for desired personal development that includes the concepts of "Educare" and "Educate". "Educare" equips the learner with a specific skill and is more likely to be associated with a specific job or profession. Education carried out according to "Educere" means empowering, taking students out or further. It is a desired process that enables one to discover the world and know oneself. Educere, for a particular purpose that enables their ideas to be followed and their skills to develop, not entirely because of the value attributed to them it is considered as a process. Education enables the individual to stand on his own feet and adapt to every situation. have the ability to act appropriately, in other words, be successful in adapting to the change process makes it possible. TEducationere the definition of desired behEducationhanges in education comes from. Education is a process, it stems from the necessity that it must begin with the individual's birth. All kinds of materials are used in the educational process the fact that it can be used has necessitated education programs and principles. This obligation is children's book or books, living environment as culture, school process as knowledge, working life as experience puts it in the control process. This book, in memory of the 100th anniversary of our Republic, is prepared by academicians working in the universities of the Republic of Turkey. it covers education-related research. In our 100th year, we Education the understandability and implemenEducationocess of education will be successful.This book will shed light on students or instructors, including the individual development process and we believe that it will suit the 100th anniversary of our Republic. Education is available at all ages, in every environment, and every process. It is important for the formation of a contemporary-modern society to be done at the level of control and knowledge a scientific. Education will be the key to celebrating many more 100th years of our Republic. Our great leader, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk said, "Education is what makes a nation either live as a free, indep Educationlorious and high community or make it a

nation in captivity.”

istanbul in turkish language: Language and Identity in the Middle East and North Africa Yasir Suleiman, 1996 Introduction, Yasir Suleiman; Chapter 1 Divided Loyalties: Language and Ethnic Identity in the Arab World, Mike Holt; Chapter 2 Language and Identity in Egyptian Nationalism, Yasir Suleiman; Chapter 3 Language, Ethnicity and National Identity in the Tunisian Ethnic Joke, Ibrahim Muhawi; Chapter 4 Ethnolinguistic Communication in Tunisian Streets: Convergence and Divergence, Itesh Sachdev, Sarah Lawson-Sako; Chapter 5 The Construction of Identity in a Divided Palestinian Village: Sociolinguistic Evidence, Muhammad Amara, Bernard Spolsky; Chapter 6 Turkish as a Symbol of Survival and Identity in Bulgaria and Turkey, Cigdem Balim; Chapter 7 Turkish as a Marker of Ethnic Identity and Religious Affiliation, Farida Abu-Haidar; Chapter 8 Language and Ethnopolitics in the Ex-Soviet Muslim Republics, Jacob M. Landau; Chapter 9 Language and Ethnic Identity in Kurdistan: An Historical Overview, Joyce Blau, Yasir Suleiman; Chapter 10 Language and Identity: The Case of the Berbers, Mohamed Tilmatine, Yasir Suleiman; Chapter 11 Hebrew and Israeli Identity, Bernard Spolsky;

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refugees, Roma, Muslim minorities, and Pomaks as well as linguistic varieties and dialects; and how schools and the state have designed and implemented programmes to deal with the significant educational challenges posed by these culturally and linguistically diverse groups. In this regard, the book takes into account the nature and evolution of Greek society; Greece's traditional role as a labour-exporting country with a long history of migration to other countries; and major political, economic and social developments, such as the collapse of communism, the opening of borders in Eastern Europe, and the influx of immigrants from Muslim countries.

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istanbul in turkish language: Turkish Foundations in Rhodes and Kos Mustafa Kaymakçı, Cihan Özgün, Fırat Yıldız, 2019-10-02 Turks living in the Aegean islands of Rhodes and Kos under Greek sovereignty have a multitude of problems at present. These can be summarized under various headings such as Citizenship, the Right to Education in Turkish, Free Practice of Religion, Environment of Hatred and Oppression, Foundations (Waqfs) and Protection of Cultural Heritage Inherited from the Ottoman Turks. Greece has been implementing various policies for the cultural assimilation of Island Turks. Part of cultural assimilation policies adopted by Greece was its actions towards cutting off all ties between the Turkish foundations and island Turks, and consequently destroying architectural monuments inherited from the Ottomans. It is known that establishment of the foundations on the islands started with the Ottoman conquest of Rhodes and Kos in 1522. Over the centuries, foundations led to the development of a feeling of unity and solidarity among the island Turks. Foundations have provided opportunities for island Turks in important areas from worship services to education and has also contributed to the preservation of common traditions. After the end of the Second World War, the island was assigned to the sovereignty of Greece in 1947, Greece started launching a policy for the gradual destruction of Muslim Turkish foundations. Unlike other foundations in Greece, foundations in Rhodes and Kos are subject to heavy taxes in addition to the same property taxes as commercial institutions. On the other hand, the Greek governments compelled the foundations to sell part of their properties by continuously forcing the Foundation Administration to make huge payments. By dwindling the Turkish foundations, Greece has been trying to bring the Turkish presence in Rhodes and Kos to an end. In summary, the Turks living in Rhodes and Kos today are on the brink of losing their Turkishness let alone preserving their cultural identity, including foundations. An atmosphere of fear prevails among the island Turks and they feel intimidated. We wish that the book Turkish Foundations in Rhodes and Kos will be beneficial to researchers who will conduct studies on this subject and also raise awareness in the international arena on the assimilation policies implemented by Greece.

istanbul in turkish language: Constantinople Ken Dark, Ferudun Özgümüş, 2013-11-29 Istanbul, Europe's largest city, became an urban centre of exceptional size when it was chosen by Constantine the Great as a new Roman capital city. Named 'Constantinople' after him, the city has been studied through its rich textual sources and surviving buildings, but its archaeology remains relatively little known compared to other great urban centres of the ancient and medieval worlds. Constantinople: Archaeology of a Byzantine Megapolis is a major archaeological assessment of a key period in the development of this historic city. It uses material evidence, contemporary developments in urban archaeology and archaeological theory to explore over a thousand years of the city's development. Moving away from the scholarly emphasis on the monumental core or city defences, the volume investigates the inter-mural area between the fifth-century land walls and the Constantinian city wall - a zone which encompasses half of the walled area but which has received little archaeological attention. Utilizing data from a variety of sources, including the 'Istanbul

Rescue Archaeology Project' created to record material threatened with destruction, the analysis proposes a new model of Byzantine Constantinople. A range of themes are explored including the social, economic and cognitive development, Byzantine perceptions of the city, the consequences of imperial ideology and the impact of 'self-organization' brought about by many minor decisions. Constantinople casts new light on the transformation of an ancient Roman capital to an Orthodox Christian holy city and will be of great importance to archaeologists and historians.

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Soner Cagaptay, 2006-05-02 This book examines Turkish and Balkan nationalism, arguing that the legacy of the Ottoman millet system which divided the Ottoman population into religious compartments called millets, shaped Turkey's understanding of nationalism during the interwar period.

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