



TAA Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 8

August 2013

Dear Friends,

Since some of you may probably assume that August was a slow month due to Ramadan ending, both Senate and House being out of session, and DC looking empty all around until Labor Day, I am pleased to say otherwise. Throughout this perfect vocational period of the year, Turkic American Alliance and our Member Federations always try to keep ourselves busy. With that being said, we will go through the most important events and highlights of the past month.

On the first week of August, we were still observing Ramadan and hosted our last couple of Iftar Dinners for our honorable and distinguished guests who have participated in our various programs in past years along with community leaders who have been with us since we established our organization back in May of 2010. Cynthia Brock-Smith, Secretary of the District of Columbia, Reta Jo Lewis, former special representative for intergovernmental affairs, Ambassadors Gilbert Galanxhi, and Toquir Hussain, are a few of those guests who attended our last Iftar Dinner at the TAA headquarters.

Then, we, as part of the Turkic American community nationwide celebrated one of the most joyous days in the Muslim calendar, Eid al-Fitr, which is known as a celebration that symbolizes the end of Ramadan at various venues for Eid prayers and following feasts organized by our member organizations from Seattle to Miami. For this momentous occasion, more than 300 people attended a prayer in Fairfax, VA and celebrated this sacred holiday with their family, relatives, and friends.

We continued our Turkey trip programs during the summer months for Federal and State officials. Joining us for one of those trips, we were delighted to have Honorable Mike Honda, US Representative from California. Members of West America Turkic Council were very glad to have that opportunity to spend their vacation time in Turkey with the Congressman. Many local legislatures from various states also were part of several delegations such as Maine State Senator Roger J. Katz and Representative Dennis Lee Keschl. They visited Turkey together with the President of Turkish Cultural Center of Maine.

I also would like to congratulate Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan who are celebrating their 22nd Anniversary of Independence Day.

Now, we are looking forward to the month of September which is full of programs and activities that will keep us busy.

Hope you all had a great Labor Day weekend!

Faruk Taban, Ph.D.
President

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Congressman Honda meets with President Gül



Aug 27, 2013

Mike Honda, member of the US House of Representatives from California, was on a short trip to Turkey last week. He attended meetings with high officials and visited institutions such as the Medikal Park Goztepe Hospital Center in Istanbul, Turkey. Rep. Honda, who is on the Committee on Health and Human Services and a leading supporter of the Affordable Care Act, paid a special tribute to visit

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TAA and RI attend Peace Island Institute workshop



Aug 25, 2013

Annual workshop organized by Peace Islands Institute was held last week on August 23-25 in Morristown, NJ. More than 200 people attended this three-day event at the Hyatt Morristown at Headquarters Plaza. Guest speakers from various states participated in this program. President of Turkic American Alliance Dr. Faruk Taban and Executive Director of the Rethink Institute Dr. Fevzi

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Maine and New Hampshire Legislators Visit Turkey



Aug 25, 2013

Turkish Cultural Center of Maine in collaboration with the Council of Turkic American Associations organized an intercultural trip to Turkey for State Legislators from Maine.

Maine State Senator Roger Katz, State Representatives Karen Kusiak, and Dennis Lee Keschl were in Turkey for an unofficial visit. During their trip to Turkey, they visited Istanbul, Ankara,

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Legislative Friendship Dinner in Sacramento



Aug 19, 2013

Annual Turkish American Legislative Friendship Dinner in Sacramento was held in the walking distance to the Capitol Building.

Thanks to the proximity, braving the intense summer heat and humidity in the capital city of California was not a huge challenge for the legislators, three current members of the Turkish parliament and one former member along with the

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TAFM at the Illinois State Fair



Aug 9, 2013

On August 9th, Turkish American Federation of Midwest President, Vice President, and members of the Chicago Turkish American Chamber of Commerce participated in the annual Illinois State Fair in its state capital, Springfield.

The Annual Illinois State Fair celebrations started on August 9 and continued for 11 days; thus, gathering the highest attendance of the decade. More than

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Eid al-Fitr News Report



Aug 8, 2013

In Turkish-American communities across the United States, August 8th marked the culmination of the Holy Month of Ramadan. The last meal to break fast was eaten at sundown the previous day, and a special Eid al-Fitr prayer was offered early the following morning. Whether in Madison, Wisconsin, Mount Prospect, Illinois, or Newcastle, Washington, many of TAA's component organizations celebrated

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TAA Hosts its Final Iftar in 2013



Aug 2, 2013

More than 60 people, including the Secretary of the District of Columbia, current and former ambassadors, attended Turkic American Alliance's last Iftar Dinner of this year's Ramadan at TAA's Corporate Headquarters on Friday, August 2nd. TAA hosted the Iftar Dinner for community leaders and distinguished participants of the 2013 Turkic American Convention that occurred earlier in March.

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TACTIC & ATFA Annual Networking Dinner



July 31, 2013

On July 31th, Turkish American Chamber of Trade Industry and Commerce (TACTIC) with American Turkish Friendship Association (ATFA) organized the Annual Networking Iftar Dinner. This year's Iftar Dinner had the best participation by distinguished guests by far. There was a new twist on this year's Iftar Dinner with a two-part program. The first half was for a Business Exhibit and the second half was

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