

**Proposal To:**

**Ms. Dinah MORGAN, Director**  
Kew Gardens Community Center  
80-02 Kew Gardens Road, Ste 202  
Kew Gardens, NY, 11415

**Date:** June 27, 2011

**Project Title:**

**OPEN CLASS: "THE SPEECH"**

**Written by Mustafa Kemal ATATURK**

*(May 19, 1981 – November 10, 1938)*

*Founder and the 1<sup>st</sup> President of Republic of Turkey*

<http://www.lightmillennium.org/ataturk/list.html>

**Location:** Kew Gardens Community Center, Queens, New York.

**Languages:** English (primarily) & *(depending on potential demand, also)* Turkish

**Project Commencement Date:** Monday, September 12 2011.

This project has envisioned for 8 weeks *(potentially +1 for an open to public event.)*

**End Date:** On Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> 2011

**Duration:** Monday, Sept. 12, 2011 to October 31, 2011. **Time:** 6:30 to 9:00PM

**Concept by:** Bircan Unver

**Organization:** The Light Millennium (2001) – A Charitable Public Benefit and Culture Organization with the status= 501c3. Associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations (2005) - <http://www.lightmillennium.org>.

**E-mail:** [event@lightmillennium.org](mailto:event@lightmillennium.org) - **Tel:** 347-666-8658

**Project Overview:** On the subject of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk's 130<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations, both the Turkish and the English versions of "NUTUK" (THE SPEECH) will be read one after another at the Queens Community Center on Monday evenings. The Open-Class that will last 8 weeks, will allow those who are interested to come in for one week (or every week if they wish to continue) and to read from THE SPEECH. The readings will then be followed by discussions among writings/workshop based on what it is been read and discussed.

*(The Introduction of the book is available on the organization's web site:*

<http://www.lightmillennium.org/ataturk/list.html>)

**Project Calendar:** The Open-class session will take place at the Kew Gardens Community Center in Queens, NYC through the dates of September 12th – October 31st; we are hoping to have the program be 8 weeks long.

**"Associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations effective on December 12, 2005"**

The Light Millennium, is a 501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt and Public Benefit Organization and member of the Non-Profit Coordination Committee of New York

Mailing address: 87-82 115th Street, Richmond Hill, NY, 11418, USA E-mail: [contact@lightmillennium.org](mailto:contact@lightmillennium.org)

Web sites: <http://lightmillennium.org> - <http://isikhivili.org> - <http://turkishraaksunary.net>

**Last Session – Closing Date:** Monday October 31, 2011. There will be a special events, a reception, speakers, a film, a power-point presentation, sharing of segments from THE SPEECH, and music following the English and (depending on attendance also) Turkish presentations of the Book.

**Workshop Groups:** We suggest that those who is willing to attend to at least 6 to 7 sessions of the *Open Class*, to team up with each other for a writing workshop group during each session with an overall goal toward to organize a theatrical performance and/or one or two episode(s) television program for LMTV/QPTV that will reflect ideas of THE SPEECH in a creative way that also should be linked with the participant's thinking/understanding or with the present time. Further, original ideas and interpretations could/will be posted to the Lightmillennium.Org's website based on participant's willingness and permission.

**Book Supply: The Speech** is out of print and is not available. However, **The Light Millennium** will make "THE SPEECH" is available online (*both as "html" web page and "pdf" files, which already scanned from the book*) for those registered participants could request it via e-mail or download from the organization's website prior each session.

**Format:** The classes will consist of about 20 – 30 participants. In a classroom with a board/blackboard, they will sit in a circle to encourage heightened discussion and the free-exchange of ideas and/or comments. If there is a more demand for attendance, the organization will to its best to accommodate the rest up to 40-50 for each session.

***Sitting will be based on first come first seated.***

**Reading Format:** One person will not be reading through the duration of the meeting. Everyone should read a paragraph or page of the book! The SPEECH class mainly will be in English. However, since the original book is in Turkish, and it is available on-line. Therefore, depending on potential requests, Turkish reading will be considered to be incorporated within the same time slot as 45 minutes to 1hour for 8 weeks.

Once the major points of discussion are identified in the reading-phase, the sessions will be followed by an opportunity for conversing and asking questions.

Along with encouraging people to attend whichever séance they are most interested in (whether that be one session or a few weeks or for the entire duration of the program,) we are hoping to gain new participants each week; it is important to note that no one is required to attend to all the sessions.

**Target Group:** Anyone who has not read, read, wants to refresh his or her memory, and anyone who is interested is welcome from all communities.

**THE SPEECH:** To encourage Turks living in the NY/NJ area and Americans from outside the Turkish community to come learn about the book.

**Post-Program Goals:** 1) During the duration of the Open Class, excerpts from the book, comments, main points, etc. will be taken note of and at the end of the program, will be posted online for participants to look back on.

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With the permission of the authors of these works, they will be posted on [www.lightmillennium.org](http://www.lightmillennium.org); [www.isikbinyili.org](http://www.isikbinyili.org) (for Turkish postings)

2) Those people who will be working in the writing workshops will aim to produce a theatrical version of THE SPEECH. Then:

a) LMTV/QPTV will have a platform for turning THE SPEECH into minimum one or two episodes; and depending on the overall outcome, it might be produce as a mini-series;

b) WE also aim to produce a musical-theatrical-choreographic event as an outcome of the 8 weeks period that will also be open to general public, media, to all interested parties. This date might be the last session of the 8 weeks; or could be decided a new date depending on the majority of the participants preferences.

**Registration:** We suggest a \$1 online registration. That amount should be enough to cover our expenses of photocopying, communication-related tasks, etc. and we hope that once participants are registered, they attend the meetings they signed up for responsibly. The Light Millennium will send the people who sign up for the program on a certain date, class information about the following week's program every Sunday.

The \$1.00 donation will be made through NYChaities.org, and the registration information along with the program's flyer will be posted on that website. (For example, the information on the book Reset: Iran, Turkey, and America's future was uploaded on there as well.) Over 60,000 non-profit organizations are a member of NYCharities.com

For the LM Site: <http://www.nycharities.org/app/lightmillennium/>

Participants of all ages and backgrounds are welcome to participate in the open class THE SPEECH (or in Turkish, NUTUK), or Writing Workshops. These have been designed to take place in three blocks. We hope to have all attendees play an active role in the interactive open classes, presentations, and multi-media events.

If you are interested in taking part in the project write-up, creation, and presentation, or have any questions regarding the program, please feel free to contact us. Thank you.

**Contact:** Bircan Unver, The Light Millennium

**Websites:** <http://www.lightmillennium.org> - <http://www.isikbinyili.org>

**E-mail:** [event@lightmillennium.org](mailto:event@lightmillennium.org)

*Special thanks to Mr. Deputy Ambassador Fazli Corman for lending me his copy of THE SPEECH and therefore enabled me developing this project.*