

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIONAL HISTORY PERCEPTION TO CURRENT HISTORY EDUCATION

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Abstract

Marginalized attitudes performed towards Turkish people in Ottoman community had a great impact on the formation of Ataturk's national history perception. (the leader of national history development)

In the course of Ottoman Empire in the perception of recognized formal history, contributions displayed by Turkish people were ignored. Disregarding historical facts, the allied forces claimed on Anatolian territories European scientists claimed that Turks belong to yellow race. Turkish nation needed to ensure the maintenance of new Turkish state by being proud of their real history. All these reasons encouraged Mustafa Kemal Ataturk to investigate national history and provided Turkish Historical Society to be established. After foundation of Turkish History Society, they intensified both academic and institutional researches about Turkish history and revealed the glorious Turkish history dating from 2000 B.C. within the framework of these ideas, national history perception underlies current history education.

Keywords: National History, Turkish History Society, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.