

Atime-testedpartnership

The ties between the people of land and naval warfare capabilities. Bangladesh and Turkey are rooted in history that dates back to even before the two countries emerged as modern nation-states. The rebel poet of Bengal Kazi Nazrul Islam, for example, wrote in praise of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk's bravery in the Turkish War of Independence: "To chase out the invading aggressor/ We need, indeed, a fearless Kemal/ Kemal, what a wonder you've worked!/ Ho Ho Kemal, what a wonder you've worked!" (Kemal Pasha, 1921).

After Bangladesh secured independence, relations between the two countries flourished following Turkey's recognition of the country as a new independent state in 1974. Over the years, their partnership has strengthened and now Bangladesh and Turkey cooperate in many areas including trade, defence, foreign investment and education

The current two-way annual trade between Turkey and Bangladesh stands at \$1 billion. The two countries aim to double this value within the next five years through increased cooperation among economic actors, simplification of trade rules, and diversification of trade products.

Turkish companies are keen on investing in and collaborating with their Bangladeshi counterparts in numerous sectors such as jute, light engineering, pharmaceuticals, ICT, shipbuilding, energy, and household appliances.

There are also wide-ranging opportunities for Bangladesh nationals to invest in Turkey.

The two countries are also stepping up their defence ties and in June this year, contractor. According to local experts, relationship.

urkey has been a longstanding and these products will equip the Bangladesh time-tested partner for Bangladesh. Armed Forces with NATO standard air,

> The mark of a true ally can be seen during crisis moments and this has been reflected in Turkey's unconditional support to Bangladesh on the Rohingva issue at various multilateral fora such as the UN, ICJ, G20, and OIC. Turkey has also been providing humanitarian aid, particularly in the field of health, education and rehabilitation, to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.

> While both Bangladesh and Turkey are Muslim majority countries, their ties run deeper. People of both nations follow Sufism and there is a wide appreciation of the works of famous Turkish poet and Sufi mystic Mawlana Jelaleddin Rumi among Bangladeshis.

> Turkish television programmes are also very popular in Bangladesh. Popular Turkish historical dramas such as "Dirilis Ertugrul" (Resurrection Ertugrul) and "Muhtesem Yuzyıl" (Magnificent Century) have even been dubbed in the local language for Bangladeshi audiences.

> Turkey is a popular tourist destination for the people of Bangladesh with around 18,000 Bangladeshi nationals having visited Turkey in 2018 alone.

> Currently, around 600 Bangladeshis are studying in different Turkish universities. The government of Turkey regularly provides scholarships to Bangladeshi students to study in their most prestigious universities.

There is the potential to take bilateral relations between Turkey and Bangladesh to even greater levels. So, new avenues of cooperation should be explored to deepen the ties between the government Bangladesh signed a defence purchase and private sector of both countries. The agreement with Turkey for importing people-to-people contact between the various equipment from Roketsan, a two nations also needs to be promoted to Turkish military hardware company and consolidate the gains from the improved

Bengal'scontributionto Turkish independence

achievement of Turkish nation's unprecedented struggle of life and death, under the leadership of Great Leader Gazi Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, who is wellknown to all Bangladeshi brothers and sisters. After World War I, Turkish nation, with its members of all ages united and

"Brother Kemal, the des-

perate son of a frenzied

Has gone furious; so the

devils' dens are full of hue

Looking for self-protection

Kemal, what a wonder

Ho Ho Kemal, what a

wonder you've worked!"

mother

and cry

everywhere;

vou've worked!

"Ey kahırlı ananın yiğit

Kararlıydı, kararlı ve

Düşman siperlerinde bir

Harikalar yarattın sen

Harikalar yarattın sen

Hey! Hey!....(Ho! Ho!)

Kemal Kardeş, harikalar

Canını kurtarmak beyhude †nv †nv Kvqvj!

Kemal Kardeş!

telaş bir bozgun

Kemal, harikalar

oğlu

kızgın,

oyun

The Republic of Turkey is the became of one heart during the War of Turkish War of Independence. Independence which led to the foundation of our Republic.

> During this struggle, Turkish nation remembers with gratitude the support received from the Muslims of South Asia including the Bengalis. People all over from Bangladesh sent their support for the

> > †Q‡j Kvgvj fvB

Amyi-cy‡i†kviD‡V‡Q†Rvi†m

Kvgvj!Zz+bKvgvjwKqvfvB!

Zz †b Kvgvj wKqv fvB!

mvgvj-mvgvj ZvB!

The respect and appreciation for Turkey, Turkish Nation and for Mustafa Kemal Ataturk is reflected in the epic poem "Kemal Pasha," written by Kazi Nazrul Islam, national poet of Bangladesh, in 1921. Kazi Nazrul Islam was the one and only foreign poet who praised Ataturk and Turkish War of Independence with an epic poem at the time. He received the news of the Turkish victory in Sakarya against Greek forces when he was twenty-two years old in India and brought a victory song into life, which resonates in Bengali culture to this day.

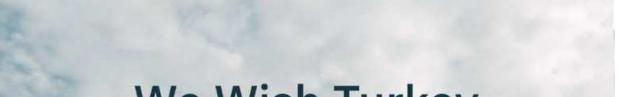
Apart from Kazi Nazrul Islam, rebellious poets and writers Kazi Abdul Wadud, Ismail Hossain Siraji, Kazi Motahar Husain and Abul Fazal also supported Ataturk's reformist revolution. Bangladeshi national artist Sheikh Afzal painted a beautiful Ataturk portrait, which is on display in the National Museum. Principal of Dhaka

College, Ibrahim Khan wrote a theatrical H†ÿ‡c‡QcvMjxgv‡qi`vgvj play named "Kemal Pasha" in 1925 that gained huge success and contributed to the love and respect of the Bengali people toward the Turkish nation and its independence movement led by Ataturk.

Another sign of appreciation for Ataturk and the Republic of Turkey was that 54 days after Ataturk's demise on November 10, 1938, on January 6, 1939, "Ataturk Model High School" was inaugurated in Feni.

Ambassador Mustafa Osman Turan met the current Principal and some teachers of the school in early March this year. They still keep alive the memory and the achievements of Ataturk with much pride.

HAPPY REPUBLIC DAY OF TURKEY!





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We Wish Turkey **Peace & Prosperity** on the 98th Republic Day

