

The Crime Committed by the Greeks Against Humanity in Anatolia

COULD THE OCCUPIER BE CONSIDERED AS VICTIM ?

The Silent Truth: Crimes of Greece in Anatolia

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It is a historical fact that Greece systematically destroyed Turks and Muslims in the Balkans region and Anatolia during and after its independence from the Ottoman Empire. The philhellenes of Western countries have always tried to ignore this fact. One of the bloodiest examples of this systematic extermination is the 1821 Tripolitsa massacre against the Turks in the Peloponnese Peninsula when Greece gained independence from the Ottoman Empire. Tens of thousands of Turks and Muslims were brutally murdered in this massacre, and western countries remained silent about this barbaric act. Nevertheless, although their numbers were limited, soldiers and academics from western countries opposed this brutal massacre. One of those who succinctly expressed this opposition is the British Anthropologist and traveler Ms. Mary Edith Durham. She mentioned the following in 1905: “When a Muslim kills a Muslim, it does not count. When a Christian kills a Muslim, it is a righteous act; when a Christian kills a Christian, it is an error of judgment better not talked about; it is only when a Muslim kills a Christian that we arrive at a full-blown atrocity”. The massacres committed by Greece when it tried to seize Anatolia and attempted to exterminate the Turks were not much different from the 1821 Tripolitsa massacre. In that respect, Arnold Toynbee is another British scholar who loudly expressed the truth on Greek atrocities. According to Toynbee, these massacres disturbed even the Greek authorities, and they tried to punish those responsible for the massacres. There are also reports prepared by the Red Cross officials regarding the massacres carried out by the members of the Greek Army in the Yalova-Gemlik regions to exterminate the Muslim population. One of the issues mentioned in this context is Article 59 of the Lausanne Peace Treaty. According to this article, Greece accepted the obligation to compensate for the damage caused in Anatolia by the “acts contrary to the laws of war” of the Greek army or administration. However, Turkey, in consideration of the financial situation of Greece resulting from the prolongation of the war and its consequences, renounced all claims for reparation against the Greek Government. Even this article of the Lausanne Peace Treaty alone acknowledges and proves the war crimes committed by Greece in Anatolia.