



TURKISH-AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

TÜRK AMERİKAN TOPLUMU MERKEZİ

229 Route 33 East ▪ Manalapan ▪ New Jersey 07726

HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE TURKISH-AMERICAN COMMUNITY

The Turkish American Community Center, founded in 1986 in New Jersey as a secular association based on Atatürk's principles and in accordance with American laws, has been serving our community in this region with Turkish language and culture education, social gatherings, and celebrations of national and religious holidays at our building, which includes the Mustafa Kemal Atatürk School, since its establishment.

In honor of the 100th anniversary of Atatürk's landing in Samsun in 2019, our association plans to unveil the statue depicted in the attached image on the 101st anniversary of the establishment of our Republic (**October 29, 2024**). As depicted in the illustrative image on our publication's cover, a 1-acre section of our property will be named "ATATÜRK PARK," where it was decided to erect a bronze statue of Atatürk.

However, due to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic that shook the whole world, we were forced to suspend this project for a while. Today, with the onset of a new normalization phase and the arrival of a new Board of Directors, we have resumed this project and begun the necessary work.

Firstly, we have reached an agreement with the late Prof. Tankut Öktem's workshop, who has the most experience in Atatürk statues, through various contacts made in both America and Turkey. As you can see in the attached image, based on Atatürk's image saluting the people in civilian clothing and with a fedora hat in hand, a statue of approximately 4 meters in height, with its pedestal, is planned to be ready for unveiling on **October 29, 2024**, if fate permits.

According to the agreement signed on March 28, 2024, 40% of the agreement amount has been paid on the same day. The second 40% payment will be made upon the recognition and approval of Atatürk's facial expression by us, and the final 20% will be paid upon the delivery of the statue to our Association in America.

In the Atatürk Park to be established, we aim to hold meetings on our national days such as April 23rd, May 19th, August 30th, and October 29th, to enlighten the American public with informative messages. This will only be possible with your valuable contributions, big or small, without distinction.

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