



Armenian Genocide

How and why did the Ottoman Empire massacre 1.5 million Armenians?



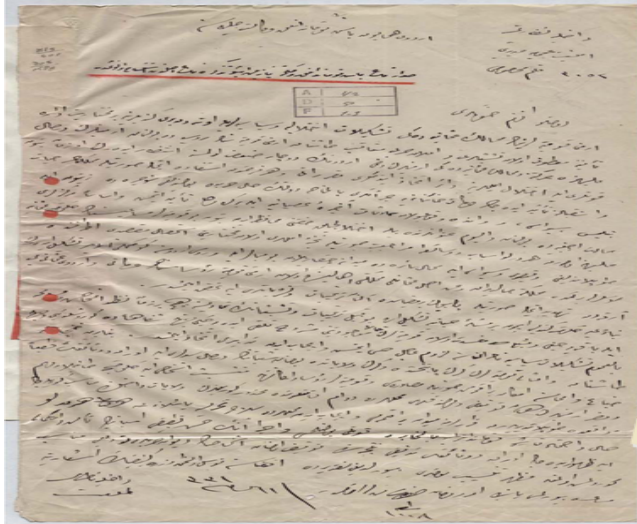
The Ottoman Empire was governed according to Islamic law. This meant that non-Muslims were of second class status. They were denied basic civil rights and forced to pay extra taxes. The Armenians were absorbed into the Ottoman Empire in the 16th century and have been second class ever since.



In 1908 the Committee of Union and Progress (CUP) or Young Turks came into power. Their main goal was to "turkify" the empire. This meant that the Armenians were in danger.



At the start of WWI, the Armenians were accused of working with the Russians to defeat the Ottoman Empire. As the war intensified, the government ordered the "removal" of Armenians along war zones.



On April 24, 1915 the Armenian women, children and the elderly were collected from their homes and forced to march through the Syrian desert. This death march was over one hundred miles and they had no food or water. Almost everyone died. The survivors were then transferred to extermination camps.



The Armenian men were then killed in mass burnings, drownings, hangings and poisonings in extermination camps.

APRIL 24, 1915
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE
1.5 MILLION

An estimated 1.5 million people died in this genocide. In 2004, Turkey passed a law making it illegal to discuss the Armenian genocide and they claim it never happened.

Follow the link to watch a video of a survivors story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gE-XI6bIXB0>

Love Thy Neighbor
By: Emily Grant

Religion tells me "love is the answer"
So why does everyone hate?
The hate between religions is astounding
We hate anyone who is different than us
This hate has caused wars
These wars have killed countless people all because of hate
So love thy neighbor and respect people's views
After all, it doesn't matter what god you believe in because we all come from the same one

Citations:

"Armenian National Institute." *Armenian National Institute*. N.p., n.d. Web. 25 Apr. 2014.

"United Human Rights Council." *United Human Rights Council*. N.p., n.d. Web. 24 Apr. 2014.

"Armenian Genocide." *History.com*. A&E Television Networks, n.d. Web. 25 Apr. 2014.