

## Debunking the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Propaganda



1. *Turkey does not deny the suffering of Armenians, including the loss of many innocent lives, during the First World War. However, greater numbers of Turks died or were killed in the years leading to and during the War.*

Turks were not killed in the millions by their own nation – as police, criminals armed by the state and Kurds did, murdering unarmed Armenian civilians. That is against the Geneva Convention and a war crime. Taken together as acts orchestrated and supported by the State, it is genocide. The Turkish losses were war-related, a war which the Ottoman Empire did not need to enter, but chose to do so with a cowardly unheralded attack on Russia.

2. *In response [to Armenian revolutionary activity], the Ottoman Government ordered in 1915 the Armenian population residing in or near the war zone to be relocated to the southern Ottoman provinces away from the supply routes and army transport lines on the way of the advancing Russian army.*

Almost all Armenians were 'deported' from places nowhere near conflict zones. A State is responsible for the safety of its citizens - instead there were death marches and death camps. Indicating intent, the property of those 'deported' was stolen by the State and not returned after the war (in effect, the theft meant Armenians paid for the cost of their own extermination). As for 'revolutionary activity', that doesn't justify the 'deportation' of the aged, women and children who posed no threat, or the killing of unarmed men in captivity.

3. *Ottoman Government took a number of measures for safe transfer during the relocation. However, under war-time conditions exacerbated by internal strife... all combined to produce what became a tragedy.*

The brutal acts used to kill Armenians such as beheading, drowning, crucifixion, burning alive and death camps over years by government controlled operatives clearly indicates what a lie this is. One wonders what the 'measures' were, when Enver Pasha was constantly informed how the extermination campaign was progressing (% of Armenians that were left).

4. *No authentic evidence exists to support the claim that there was a premeditated plan by the Ottoman Government to kill off Armenians.*

There was no single order by Hitler to exterminate Jews, yet the world knows by the actions of the Nazis what their intent was, just as we know what the actions of the Ottoman leaders were for years before, during and after WWI. The destruction of thousands of churches and elimination of Armenian place names after WWI show true intent to wipe out memory of a people who lived there for thousands of years before the Turks invaded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century.

5. *Other common 'excuses' include: there were 'only' half a million killed...*

It is still genocide regardless of the numbers, and independent German/US witnesses noted more than a million died. In Srebrenica, Bosnia 'only' 8,000 died but it is still called genocide.

6. *It was done in response to the invading Allies...*

The Hamidian Massacres (1894-1896) were one of many before WWI, and a government supported Jihad was issued to kill Christians (Germans excepted) in 1914 before the Allied invasion, but there is zero excuse for killing your own unarmed citizens, no matter what.

7. *It cannot be genocide, as it took place before the 1948 UN Convention...*

If this is the case, then the Holocaust was not genocide. Of course it was, and so was the Armenian Genocide.

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