

**THE CONFERENCE ON THE REFLECTIONS OF 15 JULY COUP ATTEMPT IN ISLAMIC
GEOGRAPHY**

24-26 August 2016

Kütahya

gesam.dpu.edu.tr

**HUMAN TYPOLOGIES OF FETÖ ORGANIZATION, WHICH WAS BEHIND THE
ATTEMPTED COUP ON 15 JULY, AND THE FACTORS THAT MOTIVATED THE
TURKISH PEOPLE WHO RESISTED THE COUP**

Assistant Prof. Dr. Mustafa Selim YILMAZ¹

On the night of 15 July 2016 Turkey faced the gravest and the most brutal revolt of its history by a group established in the military. The organization (Gülenist Terrorist Organization- FETÖ) supported by the outside forces, whose aim was to permutate the sons and the values of our country, put its bloodthirsty plan into practice to be able to accomplish its cruel aims. However, there was a fact that was blinked by this parallel structure with a vanity intensified by ‘God complex’: the Turkish Nation, who, as the founder of the Islamic Civilization, which vitalizes humanity, bravely exhibited its genetic codes, so to speak, and shielded with its own body against the tanks and bullets. The Turkish people were martyred and became veterans for Islam, but never besmirched. They reclaimed to be the owner of their state thought of as being ‘unclaimed’ and showed the world the determination of the Turkish people who rallied for their leader and defended democracy.

¹ Karabük University, Faculty of Theology.

By the way, I would like to memorialize our martyrs and wish our injured veterans a quick recovery. That night, this nation witnessed a spectacular example of our national poet Mehmet Akif's greeting of the Martyrs of Dardanelles in his words "The lions of Badr were only as great as these". The aim of my study is to scrutinize the genetic codes, that is, the factors that motivated our nation who fought for independence and resisted the coup, and to analyze the characteristics of FETÖ's human organization which unscrupulously assaulted these codes to achieve their goals.

Let me start with the human typologies of terror organization in question. As far as it has been resolved, there are three human typologies within the organization in question that accomplished to infiltrate key government institutions esoterically and illegitimately during the past half-century:

1. The typology that regards absolute obedience as the peak of piety and that considers everything allowable to reach their ultimate goals

To discuss the origins of such a typology, 'Kalam', 'Islamic scholastic theology', which is the basis of all sciences, is the best resource. Here it is necessary to remember the ways of getting knowledge. All Islamic reference books distinguish three basic sources of knowledge: the five senses, reason and 'Haber-i Sadık' (Hadith). These three are the unique sources of knowledge. As the first two sources of knowledge are quite clear let me explain the third source of knowledge.

'Haber-i Sadık' is divided into two: *Haber-i Mutawatir* and *Haber-i Resul*. *Haber-i Mutawatir* (Mutawatir Hadith) is a type of knowledge that is clear for everyone and that cannot be rejected. For instance, it is impossible to deny the existence of a city called Istanbul because the existence of Istanbul is clearly and openly experienced by people. *Haber-i Resul* is the revelation sent by God (*Allah*) through the angel Gabriel to the prophets. The ultimate

expression of *Haber-i Resul* is the Holy Quran, that is, the only source of knowledge sent by *Allah*, who revealed His Messenger (the prophet) the principles that will carry humanity to the salvation. This source of knowledge is precious because it can only be verified by wisdom and the knowledge given by the prophet is preferable to the *Mutawatir Hadith*. Consequently, dignitaries like Fetullah Gülen, who has an illusion that he gives notice of the Unknown and who struggles desperately in a God complex, are not of any value because it is impossible to verify the knowledge given by them. However, chronic manic depressive people like Fetullah Gülen use the terminology of the concept of ‘*ilham*’ (inspiration), which is never accepted as a source of knowledge in ‘*Kalam*’, and, asserting that they directly speak with the Holy Prophet, Muhammed, and even with Allah, they claim legislative immunity in the eyes of people who were deceived by them. So, it is easy to understand how a general, a general director, or any authorized person can unquestioningly get orders from such a person waving aside the hierarchical structure of the state mechanism. As a result, we can consider such members of the FETÖ group, including the sympathizers and high-ranking staff, intellectually and morally blinded type that regards questioning humiliating.

2. The ‘unscrupulous’ typology that adopted the aim of getting rich dishonestly and quickly as a life philosophy:

The fact remains obvious that the terror organization in question exploits the sources of this land from education to media. This structure, which has gained a certain power exploiting the sources of the country, has been an appealing subcontractor for global powers skilled in getting high profits without making war and has been loutishly used by these powers to increase their effect on various countries. The opportunities offered by such a gigantic crime network has charmed the unscrupulous human type and provided the growth of the organization through the recruitment of people from many different sectors.

3. The typology enthralled by the terror organization which has discovered and abused their weak points.

The Gülenist Terrorist Organization has tried to recruit people of key importance. The weaknesses of these high-ranked staff members were discovered and used against them. If these members don't have any weak points, the network cultivate them in various inauspicious ways. Some members could not bear this treacherous network anymore and they surrendered. However, some patriots with strong personality could resist its conspiracy. These patriots have also played a great role not only on the eve of 15 July but also after this date. Some of them were martyred, and some became veterans for Islam.

As it is seen, the resistance of the Turkish nation against such a cryptic, intricate and complex international crime network on the eve of 15 July is an epic hard to tell. Now, let us explain the factors that motivated the Turkish people who resisted the coup.

First of all, the concept to focus on is to be the 'Millet' ('nation'). The 'Millet' is a vital concept engraved into our consciousness by Islam, as it occurs in all Muslim nations. However, the 'Millet' has a wide range of meanings far beyond the word 'nation' which is used to refer to the concept of 'race' in many of the Western languages. The concept of 'Millet', beyond the meaning of race, has some cultural and more importantly religious ingredients which make people join together with the flavor of human values. The concept 'Ulus' was coined in the context of the deterioration of the Ottoman Empire and the formation of Muslim nations in the western sense. However, this concept was not in accord with the genetic codes of the Muslims.

Selahaddin Eyyubi is a good example in both Western and Eastern imagination. Eyyubi, the Conqueror of Jerusalem, was of Kurdish origin, culturally a Turk and linguistically an Arab. So, it is hard to determine to which 'nation' he belonged considering

from the Western viewpoint of ‘nationalism’. Another example is Volga Bulgarians, collectively known as the first Muslim Turks. Ibn Fadlan, a noted historian and a member of the delegation sent by the Abbasid Palace, is known to have noted that Turks consider those who speak their language as themselves, but an Oriental who can speak English, French or any other European language perfectly aren’t regarded so. As a result, there are three basic foundational factors in the concept of ‘Millet’ constituted by Islam:

- 1. Millet-i Ibrahim (The Nation of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham)):** ‘Millet’ means coming together accepting collective conscience and common sense as unifying forces within society. Hz. Ibrahim is the symbolic person in the tradition of prophecy. For this reason, the concept of Millet is mentioned together with the Prophet Ibrahim in the Holy Quran². In a sense, this can be described as the codes of conscience and common sense.
- 2. Hanif:** Hanif means submission to one’s *fitrat* (nature) and rejection of all that is contrary to *fitrat* consciously determining the right and the wrong³. In this concept, “*la-ilahe*” has been the basic principle for the rejection of the wrong and then, “*il’l-Allah*” for the submission to Allah. For this reason, Islam defines itself as “*dinen hanifen*”⁴. In this sense, the rhetoric of “Obey and be saved”, which is imposed upon the FETÖ members, proves to be a discourse wholly contrary to *Fitrat* and divine inspiration.
- 3. Hz. Muhammed (The Prophet Muhammed):** Hz. Muhammed proves the codes of common sense and conscience can be concrete and tangible; that is, the unbelievers in Mecca asked for an angel prophet instead of Hz. Muhammed and a magnificent reply

² See Bakara 2/135 and so on.

³ See Al-i İmran 3/67-68 and so on.

⁴ See Nisa 4/125 and so on.

from God was that “if such a prophet had come, angels would have been walking in the streets of Mecca instead of those unbelievers”⁵. This means that a man can lead an exemplary life using the skills bestowed to him by Allah. That is why the Holy Quran was revealed piece by piece over a period of 23 years. During this period of time a Muslim society that became an example for the future generations was constituted around The Prophet Muhammed.

The soul which finds its best expression in these constitutive concepts started to be constructed in Mecca and was crowned in Medina. Referring to the city Medina, the message of Islam for the whole world was constructed as “medeniyet” (civilization). What makes us who we are is the soul constituted by means of these constitutive concepts. Each member of our nation is brought up with this soul enriched by the concepts of religion, homeland, flag, and honor and the codes of this soul turn out to be a citizen’s genetic codes. Therefore, it is this soul that motivated the Turkish nation who resisted the treacherous coup, who died or became veterans of Islam and who defended his state on the eve of 15 July.

Let us remember that ominous night at which the Turkish people exhibited an epic struggle. Accompanied by the *Salas*, each member of our nation, although they are from different sections, left their homes as if they were going to a wedding, and rushed into the streets, squares, airports, bridges, state institutions, and some critical places to confront the soldiers and to die if necessary. To defend and save their honor, each one of them walked against the heavy tanks and the tyrants as if they were walking with Sütçü İmam, Nene Hatun, Karayılan and Kara Fatma. Although they do not know each other, they behaved as if they had been very close friends for forty years. They showed the world that they can also exist together despite their differences. They were full of the soul and spirit of social solidarity. This was what the tyrants were afraid of. They attacked full strength to destroy this. However,

⁵ See Mü’minun 23/24 and so on.

it was impossible to stand against such chests full of faith. This is the most precious value the Islam civilization granted to humanity. The attackers shot their bullets in vain to destroy it. This was the soul attacking the Islam world especially after 9/11. The main objective was to stir differences to set us against one another. The Islam world suffered a lot this sick understanding. Millions of hearts were sacrificed in such troubled times. May be these were our shortcomings. As a matter of fact, we had experienced such times in history. Our worst neglect was Andalusia. In these lands, we were so careless and our negligence was the Crusaders. But we remembered our soul again and pulled ourselves together. Sometimes it was the Moghul invasion and another time it was a World War, but we made it again and again. We narrowly skipped the edge of the cliff at the Dardanelles. And finally there came July 15. We had martyrs and veterans, but our prayers saved us as well as the prayers of the oppressed Syrians, Iraqis and others we embraced. We were the voice of the innocent from Africa to Asia and to the four corners of the world. This is the very soul and the spirit that we will always try to strengthen. This is the very soul and the spirit that will be the best remedy for the catastrophes of our country and the world. The only solution is to survive this solidarity combining our differences in our melting pot.

All in all, I would like to remind you that Our God has chosen the name “Muslim” for us. Then, our holy duty is to be proud of this name⁶.

⁶ See Hac 22/78 and so on.