

For Six Month Period Ending 9/17/08

(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant

Neusner Communications, LLC

(b) Registration No.

5883

(c) Business Address(es) of Registrant

7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Ste 255E
Bethesda, MD 20814

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following:

(a) If an individual:

(1) Residence address(es)

Yes ☐

No ☐

(2) Citizenship

Yes ☐

No ☐

(3) Occupation

Yes ☐

No ☐

(b) If an organization:

(1) Name

Yes ☐

No ☒

(2) Ownership or control

Yes ☐

No ☒

(3) Branch offices

Yes ☐

No ☒

(c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in items (a) and (b) above.

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IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4 AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (A waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530.)

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4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position	Date connection ended
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- (b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence address	Citizenship	Position	Date assumed
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5. (a) Has any person named in item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such person and describe his service.

- (b) Have any employees or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Position or connection	Date terminated
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- (c) During this 6 month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name	Residence address	Citizenship	Position	Date assumed
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6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(c) of the supplemental statement?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name of foreign principal

Date of termination

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal² during this 6 month reporting period?

Yes ☐

No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name and address of foreign principal

Date acquired

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principals² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

Embassy of the Republic of Turkey through DiNovo Strategies and Fleishman-Hillard

10. EXHIBITS A AND B

(a) Have you filed for each of the newly acquired foreign principals in Item 8 the following:

Exhibit A³

Yes ☐

No ☐

Exhibit B⁴

Yes ☐

No ☐

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

(b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during the 6 month period?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in Section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a) (9).) A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on Form NSD-3 (Formerly CRM-157), sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form NSD-4 (Formerly CRM-155), sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

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11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

Regular emails and phone calls to Jewish leaders highlighting Turkey's relationship with Israel and Jewish communities around the world; the promotion and planning of events (movies, speeches, cultural exhibitions) that highlight Turkey's historic relationship to the Jewish people and Israel; outreach to Jewish leaders with regard to Turkish-related events in the Middle East; and creation of working relationships between US-based Jewish and Turkish community groups.

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12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity⁵ as defined below? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, the relations, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates and places of delivery, names of speakers and subject matter.

Please see attached.

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13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits any or all of your foreign principals? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, describe fully.

⁵ The term "political activities" means any activity that the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) RECEIPTS - MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes ☒ No ☐

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies⁶.

Date	From whom	Purpose	Amount
4/3/08	Embassy of the Republic of Turkey	For services rendered	\$7,500.00
4/30/08	Same	Same	\$7,500.00
6/3/08	Same	Same	\$8,500.00
7/7/08	Same	Same	\$8,500.00
8/6/08	Same	Same	\$8,500.00
9/5/08	Same	Same	\$8,500.00

\$49,000.00

Total

(b) RECEIPTS - FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fund raising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D⁸ to your registration? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS - THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name of foreign principal	Date received	Description of thing of value	Purpose
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6, 7 A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, money, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fund raising campaign. (See Rule 201(e).)

8 An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fund raising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.

9 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

15. (a) DISBURSEMENTS – MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you

(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement? Yes ☐ No ☒

(2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

Any expenses incurred were de minimis (under \$10) for things like postage or taxis.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To whom	Purpose	Amount
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Total

(b) DISBURSEMENTS – THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, or 9 of this statement?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date disposed	Name of person to whom given	On behalf of what foreign principal	Description of thing of value	Purpose
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(c) DISBURSEMENTS – POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or thing of value	Name of political organization	Name of candidate
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^{10, 11} Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks" and the like.

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials¹²?
 Yes ☒ No ☐

IF YES, RESPOND TO THE REMAINING ITEMS IN SECTION V.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

Embassy of the Republic of Turkey

18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio or TV broadcasts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Magazine or newspaper articles | <input type="checkbox"/> Motion picture films | <input type="checkbox"/> Letters or telegrams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising campaigns | <input type="checkbox"/> Press releases | <input type="checkbox"/> Pamphlets or other publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Lectures or speeches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internet | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | | |

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public officials | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislators | <input type="checkbox"/> Editors | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational institutions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government agencies | <input type="checkbox"/> Civic groups or associations | <input type="checkbox"/> Nationality groups |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) <u>Jewish Leaders</u> | | |

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

- ☒ English ☐ Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes ☐ No ☒

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act? Yes ☐ No ☒

12 The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI – EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. §1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to the truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Type or print name under each signature¹³)

9/25/08


NOAM NEUSNER

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¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

Question 12**Name of Registered Individual: Shulamit Babitz****Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivlicim Kilic**

Contact	Type	Topic	Date
Al Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leader	Phone call	Assistance in staging synagogue photo exhibit	7/31/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Assistance in staging synagogue photo exhibit	7/31/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Assistance in staging synagogue photo exhibit	8/4/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	First draft press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/4/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Questions on synagogue photo exhibit	8/5/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Update to press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/5/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Update to press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/5/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Update to press release on synagogue photo exhibit and request for photos of the exhibit	8/6/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Final version of press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/6/08
Various Seattle press outlets and Jewish organizations (American Jewish Committee; UW Jewish Studies Department; Congregation Ezra Bessaroth; Sephardic Bikur Holim E-Laboz; Seattle Kollel; Seattle Va'ad; Seattle Jewish Federation; World Affairs Council; Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington; Jews for Turkey	Email	Press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/6/08

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Question 12**Name of Registered Individual: Shulamit Babitz****Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivlicim Kilic**

Facebook group; JT News Seattle (Seattle Jewish community newspaper)			
Martin Vallen, World Affairs Council	Email	Update on press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/6/08
Board of Turkish American Cultural Association of Washington	Email	Press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/6/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Confirm receipt of pictures of synagogue photo exhibit	8/6/08
Jack Haleva, editor of eLaboz	Email	Pictures of synagogue photo exhibit	8/6/08
Anson Laytner	Email	Explain that AJC was not left off the sponsor list	8/6/08
Martin Vallen, World Affairs Council	Email	Update on press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/11/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Details regarding press release on synagogue photo exhibit	8/12/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Details regarding press release on synagogue photo exhibit; request for identification of local leaders to invite	8/12/08
Al Maimon and Albert Maimon, Seattle Jewish Leaders	Email	Checking in on final details for synagogue photo exhibit event	8/20/08
NWCN (24/7 local news, sports, traffic & weather); KOMO 4 (ABC); KING (NBC); KIRO (CBS); KCPQ (FOX); Seattle Channel	Email	Request for coverage for synagogue photo exhibit event	8/20/08
NWCN (24/7 local news, sports, traffic &	Phone	Request for	8/20/08

Question 12

Name of Registered Individual: Shulamit Babitz

Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivlicim Kilic

[illegible]

Question 12**Name of Registered Individual: Shulamit Babitz****Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivlicim Kilic**

Contact	Type	Topic	Date
Jed Moskowitz, Chief of Staff, Rep. Ackerman	Phone	Ackerman's relationship with Arthur Flung	08/22/2008

Question 12**Name of Registered Individual: Noam Neusner****Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivilcim Kilic**

Joyce Keller, Ohio Jewish Federation	Email	Proposed op-ed based on Cleveland Jewish visit to Embassy	3/19/2008
Amy Kaplan, Ohio Jewish Federation	Email	Proposed op-ed based on Cleveland Jewish visit to Embassy	3/24/2008
Jonathan Katz, Rep. Wexler's office	Phone, email	Publicity among Turkey caucus for 4/2 Desperate Hours screening	3/26/2008
Various Jewish leaders in Washington DC	Email	Publicity for 4/2 Desperate Hours screening	3/26/2008
Hadar Susskind, JCPA	Email, Phone	JCRC resolution on Armenia	3/28/2008-4/1/2008
Michael Sallberg, ADL	Phone	ADL/TCAA copyright infringement issue	3/28/2008
Jonathan Katz, Rep. Wexler's office	Email	4/2 event, possible space for photographic exhibit	4/1/2008
Various Jewish leaders	Email	EU Ruling on PKK issue	4/4/2008
Barry Jacobs, Am Jewish Committee	Phone	Mtg w/Turkey No 2 in MFA	4/7/2008
Marilyn Owens, House Administrator Offices	Email	Possibility of photographic exhibit at House Office Building	4/7/2008
Various Jewish leaders (Malcolm Hoenlein, Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations; Barry Jacobs, AJCm't'ee ; Tom Neumann, Jewish Institute for National Security William Daroff, United Jewish Communities, Rabbi Levi Shemtov, American Friends of Lubavitch; Daniel Mariaschin, B'nai B'rith; Howard Kohr, AIPAC; Jess Hordes, Anti Defamation League; Rabbi David Saperstein, Religious Action Center; Nathan Diamant,	Email	Meeting invite for 4/16 mtg with Turkish MFA Official (Amb Apakan)	4/9/2008 (various followups, especially 4/18/2008 email regarding Turkey and Iran)

Question 12**Name of Registered Individual: Noam Neusner****Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivilcim Kilic**

Orthodox Union; Neil Goldsten, American Jewish Congress; Masha Levin, Hadassah; Gwen Zuares, American Sephardi Federation; Jason Isaacson, American Jewish Committee; Hadar Susskind, Jewish Council Public Affairs			
Various Jewish Leaders	Email	Turkish Daily News Story about Passover in Turkey	4/15/2008
Marilyn Owens, House Administrator Offices	Email	Possibility of photographic exhibit at House Office Building	5/8/2008
Various Jewish Leaders	Email	House Floor statement re: Israel and Turkey cooperation; Christian Science Monitor story re: Turkish efforts re: Israel & Syria; NYT story re: Turkish schools	5/9/2008
Jess Hordes	Email	Abe Foxman visit to Turkey	5/18/2008
Howard Kohr, AIPAC; Malcolm Hoenlein, Conf of Presidents; Barry Jacobs, Am Je Committee; Dan Mariaschin, B'nai B'rith;	Email	June 11 Babacan visit in NY	5/20/2008
Gary Rosenblatt, NY Jewish Week	Email	OpEd from Rep. Wexler re: Turkey & Israel	5/22/2008
Jonathan Katz, Rep. Wexler's office	Email	Response from Gary Rosenblatt re: Op-Ed	5/23/2008
Various Jewish leaders (Hordes, ADL; B Jacobs, AJC'm'tee; Hoenlein, Conf of Presidents; M Gilson, Hadassah; N Diamant, OU; D Saperstein, URJ; J Epstein, USCJ; G Zuares, ASephardi Federation; N Goldstein, AJCongress; Zweibel, Agudath; Daroff, UJC)	Email	Invitation to meet FM Babacan on 6/6/2008	6/3/2008
Amb Peter Rosenblatt (affiliated with AJCom'tee)	Email	Recommendations for Turkish Amb	6/20/2008
Jon Missner, Rafi Danziger, AIPAC	Meeting	Discussed Turkish	6/19/2008

Question 12**Name of Registered Individual: Noam Neusner****Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivilcim Kilic**

		concerns about Armenian issue; lack of support on the Hill from Jewish orgs	
Jon Missner	Email	Eurasianet piece on Turkey/Armenia border issue	6/20/2008
Betty Ehrenberg, World Jewish Congress	Phone	Turkey-Iran Issues	7/2/2008
Gwen Zuares, Am Sephardi Federation	Email	Attendance at Rep. Franks hearing on international religious freedom	7/7/2008
Various Jewish leaders (Kohr, AIPAC, Hoenlein, Conference of Prsidnets; Foxman, ADL; Gilson, Hadassah; Goldstein, AJCongress; Neumann, JINSA; D. Harris & B. Jacobs, AJC'm'tee; D Mariaschin, Bnai Brith)	Email	Invitation to meeting w/Turkey PM Babacan	7/22/2008
Various Jewish leaders	Email	News reports on Turkey court ruling on AKP	7/30/2008
David Bernstein, AJC'm'tee	Meeting	Turkey-related community program	8/4/2008
Abe Foxman & Jess Hordes, ADL; Howard Kohr & Marvin Feuer AIPAC; Hadar Susskind, JCPA; Marla Gilson, Hadassah; Tom Neumann JINSA; William Daroff, UJC; Barry Jacobs & David Harris, AJC'm'tee; Dan Mariashcin, B'nai B'rith	Email	Invitation to meet with Turkish MFA official re: Middle East issues	8/13/2008
Kari Alterman, Westchester County AJC'm'tee	Phone Call	Turkey-related community program	8/19/2008
Jill Friedman, Detroit AJC'm'tee	Phone Call	Turkey-related community program	8/19/2008
Danielle Levin, Palm Beach AJC'm'tee	Phone Call	Turkey-related community program	8/21/2008

Question 12**Name of Registered Individual: Noam Neusner****Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivilcim Kilic**

Jess Hordes, ADL; Rafi Danziger, AIPAC; Marvin Feuer AIPAC; Jared Feldman, JCPA; Sheila Lebibowitz, Hadassah; Tom Neumann & Yola Johnston, JINSA; William Daroff, UJC; Barry Jacobs, AJC'm'tee; David Fusfield, B'nai B'rith	Mtg w/Amb Husseyn Dirioz, MFA, Head of Middle East Office	General issues related to Turkey's role in the region; Turkey's relationship with the U.S. Jewish community	8/22/2008
Fred Zeidman, US Holocaust Museum	Phone call	Issues related to proposed NY Holocaust Museum and Armenian genocide	8/22/2008
D Bernstein, AJC'm'tee	Email	Turkey-related community program	8/24/2008
Danielle Levin, Palm Beach AJC'm'tee	Phone Call	Turkey-related community program	8/24/2008
Jess Hordes, ADL	Phone Call	ADL's position re: Armenia & genocide	08/25/2008
Judy Marx, American Jewish Committee, Atlanta	Email	Turkey-related community program	08/25/2008
Danielle Levin, AJC'm'tee, Palm Beach	Email	Turkey-related community program	8/26/2008
Danielle Levin, AJC'm'tee, Palm Beach; Jill Friedman, AJC Westchester; Kari Alterman AJC Detroit	Email	Turkey-related community program	9/4/2008
Jewish leaders list	Email	Articles about Turkey-Armenia soccer match	9/8/2008
Malcolm Hoenlein, Conf of Presidents	Phone	Set up 9/25 mtg w/President Gul	9/11/2008
William Daroff, UJC Washington Dir	Email	Set up lunch w/Murat Karagozs	9/15/2008
Judy Marx, Atlanta AJC Dir	Email	Turkey-related	9/15/2008

Question 12**Name of Registered Individual: Noam Neusner****Name of Foreign Principal: Embassy of Turkey; Kivilcim Kilic**

		program	
Judy Marx, Atlanta AJC Dir	Email	Turkey-related program	9/16/2008
Marvin Feur & Rafi Danziger AIPAC	Email	Set up lunch w/M Karagozs	9/16/2008
Malcolm Hoenlein, Conf of Presidents	Email	Further comms. Re: 9/25 mtg w/Gul	9/17/2008
Judy Marx, Atlanta AJC Dir	Phone	Turkey-related program	9/17/2008

Laurenza, Melissa

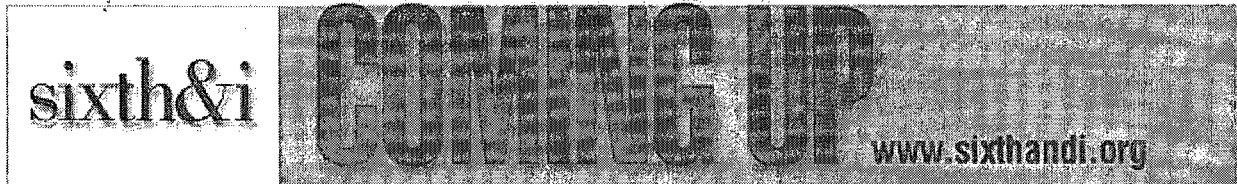
Subject: FW: DC-Screening: "Desperate Hours" -- The efforts by Turkey to save Jews during WWII.
Attachments: image002.jpg; image003.jpg; image004.jpg; image005.jpg

From: Noam Neusner
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2008 12:04 PM
To: Noam Neusner
Subject: DC-Screening: "Desperate Hours" -- The efforts by Turkey to save Jews during WWII.

Friends,

If you are in DC a week from today, I think you'd find this event interesting. I believe Ambassador Sensoy will be in attendance.

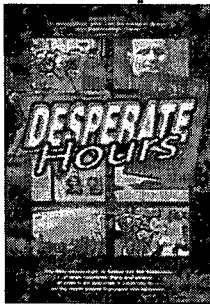
Noam



Desperate Hours Film Screening and Discussion:

An Evening with the Director

Wednesday, April 2 at 7:00 pm



Victoria Barrett's award-winning documentary depicts the little-known narrative of Turkish citizens, Muslim and Christian alike, who worked to save Jews from Hitler's



concentration camps. Following the screening, Barrett will answer questions and discuss the documentary. There is no charge for this event.

This program is associated with the Jewish Life in Turkey: Then and Now Exhibition

Cosponsored by Sixth & I Historic Synagogue and B'nai B'rith Klutznick National Jewish Museum

At Sixth & I Historic Synagogue

600 I Street NW

Washington DC 20001

Metro: Gallery Pl-Chinatown

For more information and to RSVP [click here](#) or call 202.857.6572.

We are grateful to the Ester A. Plihal Memorial Fund for making this event possible.

Noam Neusner
Neusner Communications LLC

PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS
7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 255
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

v 202 903 2463
c 202 674 0738
f 202 403 3003
www.neusner.com

Laurenza, Melissa

Subject: FW: The EU Court Decision on PKK: What does it mean?

From: Noam Neusner
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2008 2:25 PM
To: Noam Neusner
Subject: The EU Court Decision on PKK: What does it mean?

Friends,

Yesterday, you may have read about a ruling by the European Court of Justice regarding the PKK, which is considered a terrorist organization by the U.S. State Department. The question before the court was whether the EU, which also considers the PKK a terror organization, gave the PKK the chance to defend itself against the charges of conducting and supporting terror.

The court ruling and the EU's correct position are not at odds; the court ruling will merely require the EU to address the process by which it reached the conclusion that the PKK is a terror organization. It is largely a procedural question.

The standards of Western justice in dealing with terror organizations must remain above question, and sometimes those standards are quite exacting. All democracies, including Turkey, the United States, the EU, and Israel, constantly grapple with procedural fairness when dealing with terrorist entities. This is an example of such an effort. Nevertheless, one should not interpret this ruling as a change in the policy of the EU, the US, or Turkey with regard to the PKK.

To wit, Krisztina Nagy, the spokeswoman for the EU's enlargement commission, Olli Rehn, said the following in reaction to the court's ruling:

"The EU continues to consider PKK-Kongra Gel to be a terrorist organisation and this ruling does not change the composition of the list. The ruling of the European Court of first instance only refers to decisions dating from 2002 and 2004 which failed to meet some requirements of purely legal nature. The Council has since improved its listing procedures, taking into account the views of the Court in similar cases in the past, and made them more fair and transparent. Also, the EU list is reviewed every six months by the Council and following the latest revision made in December 2007, PKK and KONGRA/GEL remain on the list. **Once again, this judgement does not affect the decision currently in force."**

It should be noted that the PKK has waged a vicious campaign of terror against Turkey since 1984, with the external support of organizations operating under different guises throughout Europe, the Middle East and Russia. The PKK was identified as one of the 30 main terrorist organizations in the world by the US Secretary of State in October 1997, and it was also described in the same way in US State Department "Patterns of Global Terrorism" reports.

With Abdullah Ocalan, its leader, under Turkish custody since early 1999, the government has been reaching out to PKK supporters by offering amnesty and inviting PKK members to lay down their arms.

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9/24/2008

Laurenza, Melissa

Subject: FW: Pesach in Turkey: The Impact of Better Turkey-Israel Trade Relations

From: Noam Neusner

Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2008 5:55 PM

To: Noam Neusner

Subject: Pesach in Turkey: The Impact of Better Turkey-Israel Trade Relations

Friends,

I know that many of you have an interest in how Turkey and Israel's security cooperation benefits both nations uniquely; I wanted to draw your attention to this dispatch, which shows how economic cooperation, and in particular expanded trade, between the two countries helps Turkey's Jewish community celebrate Pesach with greater ease. Turkey and Israel signed a trade pact in 1996; since then, trade has expanded five-fold, to nearly \$3 billion a year. That figure will rise significantly more in coming years.

As you celebrate your S'darim this coming weekend, I wish you all a chag sameach; next year in Jerusalem!

Best,

Noam

Passover to be marked in style this year

Monday, April 14, 2008

The problems related to the oven of the only bakery that sells the necessary unleavened bread are solved this year with an increased import quota for the bread from Israel

ISTANBUL – TDN with wire dispatches

Passover for Turkish Jews will no longer be fraught with a scarcity of unleavened bread after the trade agreement with Israel was amended to accommodate increased imports of the special bread.

The import quota of unleavened bread from Israel – which was set at 15 tons – was to be increased to 45 tons as of April 8, according to the Anatolia news agency.

Passover (Pesach) is a Jewish holy day and festival commemorating the Exodus from Egypt and the liberation of the Israelites from slavery.

Passover will be marked this year from April 19-27. No leavened food is eaten during the week of Pesach, in commemoration of the fact that the Jews left Egypt so quickly that their bread did not have enough time to rise.

A 50-year-old oven in a bakery in Istanbul's Şişhane neighborhood is the only one producing the necessary unleavened bread during Passover, and its constant breakdowns were one of the issues discussed between trade delegations from Turkey and Israel last year.

According to the agreement, the import quota will be increased from 15 to 45 tons, with no taxes paid.

9/24/2008

The only problem lies in the fact that a limit of five tons is placed on each import shipment. Israeli officials said the bread needs to be consumed within eight to 10 days and that the limit caused problems before Passover.

Denet Gıda A.Ş., which was granted the authority to inspect kosher foodstuffs by the Turkish Office of the chief rabbi, said the community is forced to import unleavened bread and other unleavened foodstuffs during Passover because the oven, owned by the company, is constantly breaking down.

Since the trade agreement was signed between Turkey and Israel in 1996, trade between the two countries has increased fivefold to around \$2.7 billion in 2007.

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Laurenza, Melissa

Subject: FW: 3 articles/items of interest re: Turkey

From: Noam Neusner
Sent: Friday, May 09, 2008 1:57 PM
To: Noam Neusner
Subject: 3 articles/items of interest re: Turkey

Friends,

Heading into the weekend, I wanted to draw your attention to three items which appeared this week regarding Turkey. (Don't worry, I've summarize them...)

All reflect Turkey's expanding role as a catalyst for promoting security and tolerance in the Middle East and beyond.

The first highlights Turkey's long-standing friendship and recognition of Israel.

As a country with a predominantly Muslim population that is also a strong ally of Israel, Turkey plays a leading role in mediating between Israel and her neighbors, and in this case, Syria.

By establishing schools that teach a moderate view of Islam, Turkey is combating the rampant illiteracy and fanaticism that plagues many Muslim communities. These goals resonate deeply in our community, especially as we have just celebrated Israel's 60th birthday.

Shabbat shalom,

Noam

Here are the most salient quotes from each item. Full texts follow below.

1. From Rep. Steve Cohen's (D-TN) speech to Congress:

"In recent years, more than 60 agreements have been enacted between the State of Israel and the Republic of Turkey in the economic and military fields. These have not only bolstered the bilateral relationship between the United States and these two close friends and allies, but have also created a legal framework that serves to institutionalize the bonds we have collectively developed."

2. From Turkey aims for clout as regional mediator:

"Turkey has become one of the pollinators, one of the actors on the circuit. It's hard to think of anyone else who can visit the wide variety of countries, from Israel to Iran, that Turkey can," says Hugh Pope, Turkey analyst for the International Crisis Group, a Brussels-based policy and advocacy organization. "I don't think there are many diplomats visiting Tehran who have just visited Israel, and that's a valuable role."

3. From Turkish schools offer Pakistan a Gentler Vision of Islam:

"...a group of Turkish educators who have come to this battleground with an entirely different vision of Islam. Theirs is moderate and flexible, comfortably coexisting with the West while remaining distinct from it. Like Muslim Peace Corps volunteers, they promote this approach in schools, which are now established in more than 80 countries, Muslim and Christian."

1. ON THE OCCASION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY -- (Extensions of Remarks - May 06, 2008)

[Page: E831]

 SPEECH OF
HON. STEVE COHEN
 OF TENNESSEE
 IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9/24/2008

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008

- Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, as the State of Israel commemorates its 60th anniversary, I take this opportunity to recognize the longstanding friendship between the State of Israel and the Republic of Turkey.
- Turkey was the first country with a predominantly Muslim population to step forward and recognize the Jewish State in 1949. Moreover, for three decades the Republic of Turkey remained the only Muslim country to have full diplomatic representation in Israel. This historical fact alone speaks well for the solid, special, and valuable relationship between Turkey and Israel. It is no wonder this relationship stands on its uniquely own merits--unmatched in the entire Middle East. Historical facts and recollections in the collective memories of both Turkish and Israeli peoples testify this sense of togetherness, standing shoulder to shoulder in testing times.
- In recent years, more than 60 agreements have been enacted between the State of Israel and the Republic of Turkey in the economic and military fields. These have not only bolstered the bilateral relationship between the United States and these two close friends and allies, but have also created a legal framework that serves to institutionalize the bonds we have collectively developed. Since Turkey and Israel are the only two countries in the region that have embraced the principles of democracy and liberal market economy, it is easier to develop both the content and the depth of the bilateral relations in a multitude of different fronts.
- Also, through a large volume of tourism and cultural sharing, countless citizens of Turkey and Israel, not just the two governments, have developed strong bonds of benevolence, a sense of togetherness, collaboration, and mutual respect.
- At a time when dialogue between the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict is needed, Turkey is once again in the unique position of maintaining positive relations with all the parties to the conflict. This is undoubtedly an asset for the region, and a great contribution to the security of Israel. The Israeli President Shimon Peres and President of the Palestinian Authority Mahmoud Abbas have addressed the Turkish Parliament last year in November and praised Turkey as an important ally in the peace process. President Peres's speech was the first to a parliament by an Israeli head of state anywhere in a predominantly Muslim country.
- We also remember too well through what is known as The Ankara Forum, that Turkey has recently sustained Israeli and Palestinian joint efforts to provide support for economic development in the West Bank. Recent reports indicate that Turkey, investing on this ground of mutually earned respect, trust and confidence and taking steps at the request of both parties, has now embarked on facilitating dialogue between Syria and Israel.
- Most members of the international community share the goal of a peaceful and prosperous Middle East. The security of all the countries in the region, including Israel, is dependent on this. Turkey believes that dialogue and cooperation are essential tools in working to make this dream a reality, and it is well equipped to chart its course for the benefit of Israel and her Arab neighbors, all for a peaceful and prosperous neighborhood.
- On this note, the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel, I commend and encourage the strong relationship between our two allies, Turkey and Israel, which in fact stands stronger and more robust by each day offering hope for peace in the future.
END

2. Turkey aims for clout as regional mediator

Back-channel discussions between Syria and Israel are being facilitated by Turkey, which has close ties to Israel and growing ties to Syria. The United States is supportive of the effort.

By Yigal Schleifer | Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

from the May 6, 2008 edition

ISTANBUL, TURKEY - Drawing on its close ties with Israel and growing closeness to Syria, Turkey is working to position itself as a key regional mediator in the Middle East.

Last week, Israel and Syria revealed that Ankara had stepped in to fill a diplomatic vacuum by facilitating back-channel discussions between the two states.

9/24/2008

That effort received a boost Sunday from Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who said that the United States would back such a peace initiative. She qualified her support by stating that Damascus needed to rethink its policy toward Lebanon.

Turkey's bid, analysts say, is part of a larger plan to improve its relations with neighbors and take full advantage of its location and historical Ottoman ties to play a larger role than it has in previous decades. But many questions remain about its ability to establish itself as a heavyweight quite yet.

"Turkey has become one of the pollinators, one of the actors on the circuit. It's hard to think of anyone else who can visit the wide variety of countries, from Israel to Iran, that Turkey can," says Hugh Pope, Turkey analyst for the International Crisis Group, a Brussels-based policy and advocacy organization. "I don't think there are many diplomats visiting Tehran who have just visited Israel, and that's a valuable role."

In an April interview with Qatar's al-Watan newspaper, Syrian President Bashar Assad said an Israeli offer to withdraw from the Golan Heights in return for permanent peace was delivered to him through Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Israeli officials have confirmed Ankara's role in reaching out to President Assad.

"To a certain extent, [the Turks] have succeeded in increasing their visibility and importance in the region, and people have responded to that. They have achieved something," says Henri Barkey, an expert on Turkey at Pennsylvania's Lehigh University.

Facilitating between Syria and Israel "gives you an idea of how much the [Turkish government] wants to be a player in the region," he adds. "They do see themselves as a major part of the region. That is a big shift from previous governments, which wouldn't have bothered with this."

Long-time enemies Israel and Syria have not negotiated directly since US-brokered talks collapsed in 2000. Since then, US-Syrian relations have deteriorated steadily. Meanwhile, Ankara and Damascus have been improving their previously strained relationship.

Burak Ozugergin, a Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman, says Turkey can facilitate contact because of its close ties to both sides. "Things are progressing and Turkey will continue to be available as long as both sides want it," he says. "We have not interjected ourselves into the mix. Both sides were willing to go through Turkey."

Alon Liel, a former director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry who has conducted unofficial talks on an Israel-Syrian peace, said that Turkey first offered to serve as a go-between in early 2004. Then-Prime Minister Ariel Sharon turned Ankara down. Three years later, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, fearing talks with the Palestinians might fail, took Turkey up on its offer.

"There is an interest on Israel's part in keeping the peace momentum," Mr. Liel says. "If you cannot move on the West Bank, everybody is looking up to the Golan Heights and looking to see what can be up there."

Turkey had been criticized by some US officials for improving relations with Syria as the US was trying to isolate Damascus for its ties to Iran and Hizbullah.

Turkish officials have refused to give details about any future contacts between Syria and Israel, but Israeli press reports have suggested that Ankara might broker meetings between low-level officials.

Secretary Rice said last Friday that Washington had confidence in at least two of the participants in the process.

"In terms of the reports of Turkish mediation between Syria and Israel, we have confidence in Turkey, we have confidence in Israel," Rice told reporters en route to a London meeting. "I think it's quite clear that we don't have much confidence in Syria."

Most observers, while lauding Turkey's efforts, say that the country doesn't yet have the diplomatic expertise or weight to bring about a comprehensive settlement on its own. Rather, it represents another track, one that could help move any dialogue further along. The Erdogan government is also facing the possibility of being closed down by Turkey's top court, something that could further undercut Ankara's ability to sustain its new efforts.

"Obviously, Turkey is not the United States in this game," says Suat Kiniklioglu, a member of the governing Justice and Development Party (AKP) and spokesman of the parliament's foreign affairs committee.

"But our plan is to facilitate any contact or dialogue that will, hopefully, lead to a deal," he adds. "The prime minister doesn't think this is a waste of his time or energy. The thinking in Ankara is that the status quo in the Middle East is not sustainable, and we

want to prevent whatever damage we can."

- Josh Mitnick contributed to this report from Tel Aviv

3. Turkish Schools Offer Pakistan a Gentler Vision of Islam

New York Times

May 4, 2008

By **SABRINA TAVERNISE**

KARACHI, Pakistan — Praying in Pakistan has not been easy for Mesut Kacmaz, a Muslim teacher from Turkey.

He tried the mosque near his house, but it had Israeli and Danish flags painted on the floor for people to step on. The mosque near where he works warned him never to return wearing a tie. Pakistanis everywhere assume he is not Muslim because he has no beard.

"Kill, fight, shoot," Mr. Kacmaz said. "This is a misinterpretation of Islam."

But that view is common in Pakistan, a frontier land for the future of Islam, where schools, nourished by Saudi and American money dating back to the 1980s, have spread Islamic radicalism through the poorest parts of society. With a literacy rate of just 50 percent and a public school system near collapse, the country is particularly vulnerable.

Mr. Kacmaz (pronounced KATCH-maz) is part of a group of Turkish educators who have come to this battleground with an entirely different vision of Islam. Theirs is moderate and flexible, comfortably coexisting with the West while remaining distinct from it. Like Muslim Peace Corps volunteers, they promote this approach in schools, which are now established in more than 80 countries, Muslim and Christian.

Their efforts are important in Pakistan, a nuclear power whose stability and whose vulnerability to fundamentalism have become main preoccupations of American foreign policy. Its tribal areas have become a refuge to the Taliban and Al Qaeda, and the battle against fundamentalism rests squarely on young people and the education they get.

At present, that education is extremely weak. The poorest Pakistanis cannot afford to send their children to public schools, which are free but require fees for books and uniforms. Some choose to send their children to madrasas, or religious schools, which, like aid organizations, offer free food and clothing. Many simply teach, but some have radical agendas. At the same time, a growing middle class is rejecting public schools, which are chaotic and poorly financed, and choosing from a new array of private schools. The Turkish schools, which have expanded to seven cities in Pakistan since the first one opened a decade ago, cannot transform the country on their own. But they offer an alternative approach that could help reduce the influence of Islamic extremists.

They prescribe a strong Western curriculum, with courses, taught in English, from math and science to English literature and Shakespeare. They do not teach religion beyond the one class in Islamic studies that is required by the state. Unlike British-style private schools, however, they encourage Islam in their dormitories, where teachers set examples in lifestyle and prayer.

"Whatever the West has of science, let our kids have it," said Erkam Aytav, a Turk who works in the new schools. "But let our kids have their religion as well."

That approach appeals to parents in Pakistan, who want their children to be capable of competing with the West without losing their identities to it. Allahdad Niazi, a retired Urdu professor in Quetta, a frontier town near the Afghan border, took his son out of an elite military school, because it was too authoritarian and did not sufficiently encourage Islam, and put him in the Turkish school, called PakTurk.

"Private schools can't make our sons good Muslims," Mr. Niazi said, sitting on the floor in a Quetta house. "Religious schools can't

give them modern education. PakTurk does both.”

The model is the brainchild of a Turkish Islamic scholar, Fethullah Gulen. A preacher with millions of followers in Turkey, Mr. Gulen, 69, comes from a tradition of Sufism, an introspective, mystical strain of Islam. He has lived in exile in the United States since 2000, after getting in trouble with secular Turkish officials.

Mr. Gulen’s idea, Mr. Aytav said, is that “without science, religion turns to radicalism, and without religion, science is blind and brings the world to danger.”

The schools are putting into practice a Turkish Sufi philosophy that took its most modern form during the last century, after Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, Turkey’s founder, crushed the Islamic caliphate in the 1920s. Islamic thinkers responded by trying to bring Western science into the faith they were trying to defend. In the 1950s, while Arab Islamic intellectuals like Sayyid Qutub were firmly rejecting the West, Turkish ones like Said Nursi were seeking ways to coexist with it.

In Karachi, a sprawling city that has had its own struggles with radicalism — the American reporter Daniel Pearl was killed here, and the famed Binori madrasa here is said to have sheltered Osama bin Laden — the two approaches compete daily.

The Turkish school is in a poor neighborhood in the south of the city where residents are mostly Pashtun, a strongly tribal ethnic group whose poorer fringes have been among the most susceptible to radicalism. Mr. Kacmaz, who became principal 10 months ago, ran into trouble almost as soon as he began. The locals were suspicious of the Turks, who, with their ties and clean-shaven faces, looked like math teachers from Middle America.

“They asked me several times, ‘Are they Muslim? Do they pray? Are they drinking at night?’ ” said Ali Showkat, a vice principal of the school, who is Pakistani.

Goats nap by piles of rubbish near the school’s entrance, and Mr. Kacmaz asked a local religious leader to help get people to stop throwing their trash near the school, to no avail. Exasperated, he hung an Islamic saying on the outer wall of the school:

“Cleanliness is half of faith.” When he prayed at a mosque, two young men followed him out and told him not to return wearing a tie because it was un-Islamic.

“I said, ‘Show me a verse in the Koran where it was forbidden,’ ” Mr. Kacmaz said, steering his car through tangled rush-hour traffic. The two men were wearing glasses, and he told them that scripturally, there was no difference between a tie and glasses.

“Behind their words there was no Hadith,” he said, referring to a set of Islamic texts, “only misunderstanding.”

That misunderstanding, along with the radicalism that follows, stalks the poorest parts of Quetta. Abdul Bari, a 31-year-old teacher of Islam from a religious family, lives in a neighborhood without electricity or running water. Two brothers from his tribe were killed on a suicide mission, leaving their mother a beggar and angering Mr. Bari, who says a Muslim’s first duty is to his mother and his family.

“Our nation has no patience,” said Mr. Bari, who raised his seven younger siblings, after his father died suddenly a dozen years ago. He decided that one of his brothers should be educated, and enrolled him in the Turkish school.

The Turks put the focus on academics, which pleased Mr. Bari, who said his dream was for Saadudeen, his brother, to lift the family out of poverty and expand its horizons beyond religion. Mr. Bari’s title, hafiz, means he has memorized the entire Koran, though he has no formal education. Two other brothers have earned the same distinction. Their father was an imam.

His is a lonely mission in a neighborhood where nearly all the residents are illiterate and most disapprove of his choices, Mr. Bari said. He is constantly on guard against extremism. He once punished Saadudeen for flying kites with the wrong kind of boys. At the Turkish school, the teenager is supervised around the clock in a dormitory.

“They are totally against extremism,” Mr. Bari said of the Turks. “They are true Muslims. They will make my brother into a true Muslim. He’ll deal with people with justice and wisdom. Not with impatience.”

Illiteracy is one of the roots of problems dogging the Muslim world, said Matiullah Aail, a religious scholar in Quetta who graduated 9/24/2008

from Medina University in Saudi Arabia.

In Baluchistan, Quetta's sparsely populated province, the literacy rate is less than 10 percent, said Tariq Baluch, a government official in the Pasheen district. He estimated that about half of the district's children attended madrasas.

Mr. Ail said: "Doctors and lawyers have to show their degrees. But when it comes to mullahs, no one asks them for their qualifications. They don't have knowledge, but they are influential."

That leads to a skewed interpretation of Islam, even by those schooled in it, according to Mr. Gulen and his followers.

"They've memorized the entire holy book, but they don't understand its meaning," said Kamil Ture, a Turkish administrator.

Mr. Kacmaz chimed in: "How we interpret the Koran is totally dependent on our education."

In an interview in 2004, published in a book of his writings, Mr. Gulen put it like this: "In the countries where Muslims live, some religious leaders and immature Muslims have no other weapon in hand than their fundamental interpretation of Islam. They use this to engage people in struggles that serve their own purposes."

Moderate as that sounds, some Turks say Mr. Gulen uses the schools to advance his own political agenda. Murat Belge, a prominent Turkish intellectual who has experience with the movement, said that Mr. Gulen "sincerely believes that he has been chosen by God," and described Mr. Gulen's followers as "Muslim Jesuits" who are preparing elites to run the country.

Hakan Yavuz, a Turkish professor at the University of Utah who has had extensive experience with the Gulen movement, offered a darker assessment.

"The purpose here is very much power," Mr. Yavuz said. "The model of power is the Ottoman Empire and the idea that Turks should shape the Muslim world."

But while radical Islamists seek to re-establish a seventh-century Islamic caliphate, without nations or borders, and more moderate Islamists, like Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, use secular democracy to achieve the goal of an Islamic state, Mr. Gulen is a nationalist who says he wants no more than a secular democracy where citizens are free to worship, a claim secular Turks find highly suspect.

Still, his schools are richly supported by Turkish businessmen. M. Ihsan Kalkavan, a shipping magnate who has built hotels in Nigeria, helped finance Gulen schools there, which he said had attracted the children of the Nigerian elite.

"When we take our education experiment to other countries, we introduce ourselves. We say, 'See, we're not terrorists.' When people get to know us, things change," Mr. Kalkavan said in his office in Istanbul.

He estimated the number of Mr. Gulen's followers in Turkey at three million to five million. The network itself does not provide estimates, and Mr. Gulen declined to be interviewed.

The schools, which also operate in Christian countries like Russia, are not for Muslims alone, and one of their stated aims is to promote interfaith understanding. Mr. Gulen met the previous pope, as well as Jewish and Orthodox Christian leaders, and teachers in the schools say they stress multiculturalism and universal values.

"We are all humans," said Mr. Kacmaz, the principal. "In Islam, every human being is very important."

Pakistani society is changing fast, and more Pakistanis are realizing the importance of education, in part because they have more to lose, parents said. Abrar Awan, whose son is attending the Turkish school in Quetta, said he had grown tired of the attitude of the Islamic political parties he belonged to as a student. Now a government employee with a steady job, he sees real life as more complicated than black-and-white ideology.

"America or the West was always behind every fault, every problem," he said, at a gathering of fathers in April. "Now, in my practical life, I know the faults are within us."

Sebnem Arsu contributed reporting from Karachi and Quetta in Pakistan and from Istanbul.

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Laurenza, Melissa

Subject: FW: Turkey's top court warns AKP, but rules not to close the ruling party

-----Original Message-----

From: Noam Neusner

Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2008 12:05 PM

To: Hordes, Jess; Michael Salberg; Marvin Feuer; Charles Perkins; Harrisd@ajc.org; Barry Jacobs (jacobsb@ajc.org); 'Dan Mariaschin'; Malcolm Hoenlein; Marla Gilson; Gwen Zuares (gzuares@apgross.com); jinsa2@aol.com

Subject: FW: Turkey's top court warns AKP, but rules not to close the ruling party

Friends, this ruling was just issued... I knew you'd want info as soon as it was available.

See below:

Hurriyet English

<http://www.hurriyet.com.tr/english/home/9547882.asp?gid=244&sz=79865>

Turkey's Constitutional Court rejects demands to close the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) in its critical ruling released on Wednesday. Hasim Kilic, the court chairman, said the court was still sending the party a "serious warning" by cutting half of the treasury funds it was entitled to this year. (UPDATED)

Six members voted in favor of closing the party, the court chairman told at a press conference. Hasim Kilic said he voted against the closure, while the remaining four members of the court said the AKP has shown signs of being a focal point of anti-secular activities but not in an extent to deserve to be closed. At least seven members must vote in favor for a party closure.

"Six members of the Constitutional Court voted for closure of the political party while four others voted for depriving the party of the financial assistance of the Treasury instead of its dissolution. Accordingly, the AKP will be deprived of the financial assistance with an amount of half of the last assistance," he said.

Kilic said the court decided to cut financial aid to the party. He added "a serious warning" given to the AKP. He urged political parties to make the necessary legal arrangements to avoid any further party closure cases.

"I hope the party in question will evaluate this outcome very well and get the message it should get," Kilic said.

"It is not a decision to close down the party, but it is a serious warning," he added.

A closure case was filed against the ruling party in March on claims that it became the focal point of anti-secular activities.

AKP has become the 18th political party to avoid closure by the Constitutional Court in Turkey.

Faruk Celik, Labor Minister, said Turkish democracy has won, in reaction to the ruling.

This ruling raised the democracy bar to a higher level, Parliament Speaker Koksall Toptan told CNNTurk. "A serious sense of relief will be felt in Turkey," he added.

TV channels and news wires report the AKP ministers had gathered in the headquarters of the party in Ankara and Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan, who is recently at his official residence, is expected to come to the party building as well.

Laurenza, Melissa

Subject: FW: Turkey and Armenia, soccer diplomacy

-----Original Message-----

From: Noam Neusner
Sent: Monday, September 08, 2008 7:47 PM
To: Noam Neusner
Subject: Turkey and Armenia, soccer diplomacy

Friends,

Many of you have expressed hope that Turkey and Armenia would establish friendlier relations -- over the weekend, Turkey's soccer team traveled to Yerevan, Armenia, for a friendly soccer match. Turkey President Gul also attended the match, signaling a new level of relations between the two countries.

In the wake of the visit, several important announcements were made by both countries:

From a Bloomberg account: "Gul and Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan held talks in Yerevan on the sidelines of a soccer game between the two countries. Gul's trip to Armenia was the first by a Turkish head of state. 'Everything will move forward and normalize if this climate continues,' Gul said on his plane as he returned to the Turkish capital Ankara late yesterday, according to the state-run Anatolia news agency. 'I believe my visit has destroyed a psychological barrier in the Caucasus.'"

From Radio Free Europe: "The visit offered the rarest of opportunities for a review of bilateral ties, something that made it more than a symbolic gesture. The two states do not have diplomatic relations. Gul is the first Turkish head of state to visit Armenia since it became independent from the Soviet Union in 1991."

From Time magazine: "France, which holds the presidency of the European Union, is welcoming the visit as 'historic and highly symbolic,' and as a 'strong and encouraging sign' for relations between the two countries. Gul's office said in a statement that the visit 'will be an opportunity to overcome obstacles and prepare a new ground to bring the two people together.'"

I have also included a Boston Globe account of the visit:

Soccer diplomacy's goal
September 8, 2008

THE DECISION of Turkey's president, Abdullah Gul, to accept an invitation from Armenia to attend last Saturday's soccer game between the two national teams could open a welcome new chapter in relations between the historically hostile nations. For Turkey, a more normalized relationship with Armenia can only strengthen its bid to bring stability to a region unsettled by the Russia-Georgia conflict. For Armenia, better ties with its large neighbor to the west could improve dismal economic conditions in the landlocked former Soviet republic.

President Gul's acceptance of the invitation to Yerevan signals his government's confidence in taking on a diplomatic role in the region that befits its economic and strategic importance. Turkish officials have been serving as go-betweens for talks between Israel and Syria.

Turkey and Armenia have not had normal diplomatic relations since 1993 when Armenia occupied a largely Armenian part of Azerbaijan called Nagorno-Karabakh. Another sticking point is Armenia's insistence that Turkey acknowledge the genocide of about 1.5 million Armenian residents of Turkey during World War I. Turkey disputes the number and circumstances of the Armenian deaths.

Predictably, Turkish opposition parties, especially nationalists, criticized Gul's

decision. But even opponents of Gul and his moderate Islamic party will have to temper their views if the talks lead to a resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh deadlock. According to Turkey's prime minister, Tayyip Erdogan, Azerbaijan has no problems with the meeting between Gul and Armenia's president, Serzh Sargsyan. The real soccer winners could turn out to be advocates of reconciliation in this volatile corner of the globe.