

Studied Data: **Turkish Grand National Assembly 25th Term 2nd Legislative Year Opening Speech (01/10/2015)**

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**(1)** Mr. Speaker,

Distinguished Members of the Parliament,

I would like to once again remind the significance of a matter that I insistently note at this rostrum and other platforms.

**(5)** This glorious Parliament was established 95 years ago on April 23, 1920, with an understanding embracing all colors of Turkey. Today, every single Turkish citizen of 78 million citizens equally owns this Assembly, this state and naturally this homeland and is a first class citizen.

It is an undeniable truth that pressure was put on some different ethnic backgrounds, beliefs and sects in certain periods during this 95- year-long period. In this sense, injustice was done to believers, those who had **(10)** different opinions, Kurds and other segments and this injustice even turned to oppression from time to time.

We are people who have personally experienced this injustice since our youth and personally witnessed it.

The fact that instead of ignoring this injustice we have stated it loudly is mentioned in historical records. Neither throughout my political career nor today I have been after any personal gain, title or position.

**(15)** My nation has deemed me worthy of the highest title; the position of the President of the Republic of Turkey. I am struggling for a Great Turkey, New Turkey, Powerful Turkey and a Turkey where 78 million are united and brothers.

I particularly want to call out to my Kurdish brothers from here: We have always spoken with our Kurdish brothers through our heart. Today, we still speak through our heart. We want that the bridge of heart between **(20)** us is maintained tomorrow, the day after and forever. Every Kurdish brother of mine should put his hand on his heart and see great strides made by Turkey. In fact, we both are the target of efforts made to separate us from each other and the game to make us each other's enemies. That is why I am saying that Kurds are different and terrorists are different. The terror organization is not the representative of my Kurdish brothers. Belief, values, ethics and honor of my Kurdish brothers are not suitable to walk the same path with such an **(25)** organization. Our struggle is not against an ethnic background; I emphasize, it is against terror, the terror organization and terrorists. Our Kurdish brothers are the ones that are damaged by the terrorist organization the most. This mentality that has massacred Elif Şimşek, Yasin Börü and Fırat Simpil and moreover despitely conducts perception operations over dead bodies of children can have nothing in common with my Kurdish brothers. We will continue to speak with our Kurdish brothers through our heart. **(30)** Today we are carrying out a bitter struggle against terror. However, we are acting extremely sensitively not to destroy a thousand-year-old brotherhood and not to make concessions on freedoms. The Solution Process was the last stage to establish brotherhood of 78 million citizens. We knew that this was difficult but

we had to try and struggle in order to be successful. Arms had to be laid down for brotherhood, peace and New and Great Turkey as the last stage in this process. Unfortunately, the organization that acted as a **(35)** subcontractor for powers that are Turkey's enemies did not do this.

The terror organization restarted its despicable and felonious attacks. The Republic of Turkey replies to the terror organization in a language that it understands and will continue to do so. This struggle will continue until this organization is no longer a threat to our country and nation; until arms are buried and concrete is poured over them. Although some politicians, some media organizations, some traitorous and foreign circles **(40)** support the terror organization, Turkey will absolutely not make any concessions on its struggle for freedom and future. Our nation sees who really fights against terror, who stands by terror, supports terror and veils terror. Making soldiers, policemen and guards of the Republic of Turkey look like soldiers, policemen and guards of person A and person B is openly protecting terrorists. As terrorists attack our security forces every day, accusing those fighting against them is providing support for terror.

**(45)** Expecting political gain from terror is, likewise, supporting terror.

Consenting to the terror organization establishing tutelage over politics is the biggest weakness in fight against terror. If political parties do not band together in the face of terror, they will be embarrassed before the glorious memory of our martyrs and the nation. I also call on countries supporting terror and terror organizations. We know very well what you are doing and are following you very closely.

**(50)** One day tongs that you are holding will burn your hands too.

DEAŞ, PKK, DHKP-C... Whatever their names are, those supporting terror organizations just because they damage Turkey should know that a day will come when these guns will be pointed at them too. Because this is the character of terror: sooner or later it stings those carrying it like a scorpion. Therefore, we expect all countries directly or indirectly supporting terror organizations to give up this attitude.

**(55)** Mr. Speaker,

Distinguished Members of the Parliament,

Fight against terrorists is important but not sufficient.

What matters is to fight against terror, to get to the core of the problem; in other words, to dry up a swamp.

Based on this understanding, on the one hand, we are taking steps to resolve the underdevelopment issue of **(60)** the region that is continuously a subject of exploitation and on the other hand, we have materialized reforms to broaden rights and freedoms.

We have turned the first steps that we have taken as Democratic Drive to a National Unity and Brotherhood Project and launched the Solution Process to obtain the final result.

Our objective is to eliminate terror in all its dimensions and put a complete end to terrorists' activities in our **(65)** country.

We have struggled so that not a single soldier, policeman, guard and citizen is harmed, their blood is not shed, their families do not lament their death, children are not left orphans and parents are not sad.

Our nation that has seen our sincerity has supported and encouraged us in this process.

Incidents on October 6, 7 and 8 were our first important experience regarding new methods and the new face **(70)** of terror.

We have seen that this structure that killed scores of innocent people without blinking an eye for the sake of their own objectives, still insists on the same methods and we shivered.

We have witnessed that as we were trying to put an end to bloodshed, some people were growing impatient to shed blood and rubbed their hands.

**(75)** I personally determined in provinces that I visited plots made by those trying to put a leash on the national will with threat, pressure and violence ahead of June 7 elections.

Despite this, we have tried to maintain our belief in the fact that the process would continue within the boundaries of democracy, law, conscience, ethics and consideration.

However, the terror organization did not hesitate to activate its weapons, bombs and traps at the first **(80)** opportunity.

It was also engaged in propaganda that “the incidents were launched by myself and the government” and made efforts to hide the truth and mislead.

Unfortunately, we see that the same propaganda is supported by various sectors particularly the media.

We have been struggling for a thousand years to make these lands our homeland.

**(85)** If we will continue to live in this geographical area...And we are naturally going to live here as we have no other homeland to go... This means that we will continue our thousand-year-old struggle today and tomorrow as well.

I wish all the best to all security officers and other civil servants who have been assigned to fight against terror.

**(90)** May Allah rest the souls of our martyrs and I wish a speedy recovery to the wounded.

I extend my sincere condolences to the families and friends of martyrs.

Our objective is to absolutely make this struggle successful and make sure that even a single drop of blood shed by our martyrs does not go to waste.

Fight against terror is the common task of the Parliament, the President, the Government and all state

**(95)** institutions concerned as well as political parties represented here.

We should stand united, in solidarity and cooperate in the face of terror by leaving aside all our differences.

We should not allow the slightest weakness on this side.

This is the issue that we need most for our local and national stand.

We must be strong-willed and band together in the face of ongoing change in the global system and turmoil **(100)** in our region.

This is the only way that will enable us to leave a safe, peaceful and prosperous future for our children.

And for this we say ONE NATION, ONE FLAG, ONE HOMELAND and ONE STATE.

We must build Turkey’s future on these four pillars.

No one should be disturbed by these four pillars.

**(105)** These four pillars are the ones that bring together 78 million under the same roof.

As the grandchildren of the Seljuk Sultan Nurettin Zengi and Eyyubi Sultan Selahattin Eyyubi, we have built these four pillars together over centuries and will take them to the future together.

Let us make good use of this opportunity when the global system is active and going through a process of restructuring.

**(110)** Let us protect Turkey's gains and objectives together.

As we regret opportunities that were wasted when we look at the past, let us not allow next generations to remember us with similar feelings.

Let us build the Powerful, Great and New Turkey together and leave a trace in history that we will remember with gratitude.

**(115)** We could not seize this opportunity in the 25th Term Parliament.

I believe that the 26th Term Parliament to be elected in November 1 elections will make good use of this historical opportunity.

With these thoughts in mind, I once again congratulate the distinguished members of the 25th term Parliament thanks to whom our country has gained significant experience.

**(120)** I wish October 1 will lead to better days for our country, nation, all political parties, all members of parliament and candidates.

I salute you all with love and respect. May the peace, mercy, and blessings of Allah be upon you.