

Millet Yolu Gazetesi (Bursa)

Kaynak : British Public Record Office (Londra)
F.O. 371 / 5170 E 9649/262/44 15 July 1920

Bolshevik propoganda is now being carried on in Anatolia by means of articles in the Bursa paper "Millet Yolu" explaining what Bolshevism stands for, what it requires and what are its essential principles.

The writer argues that as the Bolshevik movement started in a neighbouring country and in an Empire containing millions of its co-religionists, Turkey must take a more prominent share in it than any other nation. The Ottoman Turks, who have fled to Russia, have formed themselves into a Turkish Communist Bolshevik party under the leadership of Mustafa Suphi who receives orders direct from the Bolshevik Eastern Department in Moscow and who is assisting Şerif Manatof in spreading Bolshevik propoganda in Anatolia.

F.O. 371 / 5170 E 10014 /262/44 22 July 1920

Further instalment of the articles on Bolshevism in "Millet Yolu" intended to appeal to the peasant class.

The articles state that under Bolshevik administration salaries are equal except where a man has a large family dependent upon him, and this system is also applied in private establishments. When the communist scheme is complete, however, money would disappear, for the Bolsheviks regard it as unnecessary and a medium for evil and oppression. By "community of work and unification of production" everything would be procurable without money. "If for instance, the Agha (local notable) of some village possesses 30 cows and 500 sheep, why should the poor of the village who bear the same toil and the same hardships possess none? It is unjust ... Now, however, the animals, fields, vineyards, gardens in the hands of the Aghas will become the common property not of individuals, but of the nation. But as the whole nation cannot go to this village, the same animals and the same fields are held through the intermediary of the people of the village. All supplies ... are divided up in equal shares among the inhabitants according to their needs for the year.

İslam Bolşevik Ceridesi

Kaynak : F.O. 371 / 5170 E 10707 / 262 / 44 29 July 1920

Bolshevik influence is becoming more and more apparent in Turkish Nationalist circles and a printed publication in Turkish entitled "İslam Bolşevik Ceridesi" is now being secretly circulated. It is very anti-British in tone and in a recent issue prophesied the complete destruction of British prestige by the Bolsheviks, whose conquering armies were proceeding to join the Muslims in their fight for the safety of the Khalifat.

İşçi Gazetesi (Eskişehir)

An announcement appeared in "İşçi" published in Eskişehir, dated 28 April 1920.

"Şerif Manatof, former member of the Islamic Commissariat of Moscow, will shortly give a lecture in Turkish upon the details of the great changes which have taken place in Russia and their significance. The time and place of this meeting will be announced in a further notice."

Manatof was reported as being in İstanbul in July 1919, when he was engaged in Bolshevik propoganda. He was recently arrived from Moscow and is evidently officially received by the Nationalists, who publish his activities in İşçi. The İşçi purports to be the organ which represents the interests of the peasant.

Kaynak: F.O. 371 / 5169 E 6955/262/44 3 June 1920

Şerif Manatof, in the course of the lecture, urged that for the safety of Turkey it was essential that the National Assembly should make an official declaration of adhesion to the principles of Bolshevism. He stated that he had been informed that the Russian Bolsheviks had joined hands with the Turkish Army Corps at Erzurum. The meeting thereupon drew up a telegram calling upon the National Assembly to make an official declaration of this nature. It is reported that the receipt of the telegram caused very stormy discussions in the Assembly.

Another Bolshevik propagandist in the person of Dr. Akif Ahmedof has recently been in Eskişehir, where he stated to an agent that the new Azerbaijan Cabinet was about to cooperate with the Turks.

Seyh Servet ve "A Leaf from the Golden Age" adlı kitabı

Kaynak: F.O. 371 / 5171 NO. 295 s. 217.-218.

The attitude of the Great National Assembly towards Bolshevism is illustrated by the official account of a debate which occurred on July 8 th, 1920 when a speech was made by Sheikh Servet Efendi, who, it will be remembered, was mentioned in the summary for August 19 th as one of the principal members of the Bolshevik "People's Party" in Anatolia and as the author of a book entitled "A leaf from the Golden Age". The debate appears to have opened with a discussion of the situation on the Eastern Front and, in the course of a bombastic speech, the Deputy for İzmit, Sirri Bey, stated that in spite of everything help would come from the East for the safeguarding of Turkish Independence. Servet Efendi took up this point and made a long speech which was probably identical in nature with the contents of his book. He started by trying to prove from the Koran that the Turks were justified in their resistance and said that a Cihad was necessary. He distinguished between the two kinds of Cihad (i) when a part of Islam was sufficient for the defence, and (ii) when that part of Islam which is attacked is unable to defend itself and the rest of the Islamic world must defend it. In the second case he stated men, women, children and old men must play their part and even the sick must rise from their beds and join in the defence. Coming to the question of Bolshevism, he said " Whether the principles of Bolshevism are just or otherwise is beside the point. What is certain is that if we are to maintain contact with the Muslims in the East, we must join with the Bolsheviks. Our political situation compels such a course." Without discussing the question of Bolshevik principles he stated that Islam contained two fundamental principles (i) to assist the poor, and (ii) to sacrifice one's possessions for the good of one's fellowmen. He then quoted examples from ~~the good of the poor~~ tradition to prove his point and added that if Bolshevism pursued the same principles, it was so far in harmony with Islam.

TÜRKİYE SOSYALİSTLERİNİN