

colleagues interacted with him, Andrew remained an avid walker. His notoriety made him formidable in the boardroom and conference session alike. However, Andrew never failed to stay down to earth with his choice in plain T-shirts.

Andrew Rippin is survived by his wife Beth, his daughter Courtney, his sons Lucas and Casey, and his sister Jill. ✕

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Emran El-Badawi

Mustafa Olpak **1953–2016**

Mustafa Olpak, author of *Kenya-Crete-Istanbul: Human Biographies from the Slave Coast*, a family history of African slaves in the Ottoman Empire and their descendants in the Turkish Republic, as well as founder of the Africans Culture and Solidarity Association, died of heart failure on 3 October 2016. He was 63 years old.

Mustafa was born the fifth child of Kemale and Mehmet in the Aegean town of Ayvalik. His first job following primary school was in a lathe workshop. Not long after, Mustafa also became involved in the labor movement.

In 1978 he married his first wife Sevgi and had two children, Özgür and Zeynep (he and Sevgi later divorced). Around the time of the coup d'état of 1980, Mustafa was arrested and imprisoned for a brief period. Following his release, Mustafa found employment as a marble worker.

What differentiates Mustafa from others with a similar trajectory is that, beginning in the 1990s, he put pen to paper to understand and explain his experiences. Mustafa began to follow the trail of stories his grandparents had told him. As he explored his family's history he discovered its connection to slavery.

In 2002 he published a volume entitled *Kemale*, which recounted his mother's life story. Following subsequent research, it evolved into his masterpiece, *Kenya-Crete-Istanbul: Human Biographies from the Slave Coast* in 2005 (in Turkish). In it, he provides a personal story of the relatively little understood history of African Slavery in the Ottoman Empire. As such, Mustafa single-handedly raised the profile of people of African descent in Turkey.

The success of this book enabled Mustafa to organize the Afro-Turk community. On 18 November 2006, the Afro-Turk Association held its inaugural meeting. The event was attended by the head of the UNESCO Slave Route Project as well as prominent academics and journalists.

The centerpiece of the organization is the Calf Festival, modeled on a festival that enslaved African communities celebrated in the Ottoman Empire in the late nineteenth-century. Olpak's new festival became an annual gathering place for people of African descent in Turkey and their allies.

In 2007, Turkish state television produced a documentary on his book entitled *Arap Kızı Camdan Bakıyor* (translated in English as *Baa Baa Black Girl*), featuring interviews with Olpak, and preeminent historians of slavery in the Ottoman Empire, Y. Hakan Erdem and Ehud R. Toledano.

On learning of Mustafa's passing, Toledano offered these words:

"It is on very rare occasions that historians get to have a real impact in the life of actual historical actors. The creative and inquisitive personality of Mustafa Olpak enabled Professor Hakan Erdem and myself, through our books on the enslavement of Africans in the Ottoman Empire, to touch his life and motivate him to explore his family roots. He thus became aware of the enslaved past of Afro-Turks, which then led to a lifetime of activism in support of his marginalized community, organizing, raising consciousness, and forging their group identity."

In 2008, Mustafa and the Turkish Historical Foundation undertook an oral history project to record the stories of Afro-Turks across Turkey. That same year, Mustafa met Güler who later become his second wife. Güler was his partner and ally, equally active in supporting the marginalized and oppressed.

2016 marked the tenth anniversary of the Calf Festival. It was in many ways a celebration of Mustafa himself who, had guided this movement for over 10 years. Sema Pekdaş, the mayor of Konak (Izmir) gave a speech supporting the Afro-Turk organization.

Reflecting on Mustafa's life, the mayor offered these words:

"...I know that those who follow will continue to build connections on the road that Mustafa opened. I know that the Association over which he presided will continue the struggle with the same beliefs moving forward. As Konak Municipality, we too will continue to celebrate the Calf Festival with great excitement and joy with our fellow citizens. With this occasion, we remember dear Mustafa Olpak once again with

mercy and gratitude. I offer my condolences to his friends and family in mourning.”

As Mustafa wrote: “The first generation experiences...The second generation denies... The third generation researches.” His efforts to bring the Afro-Turk community together and research the history of his ancestors continues on in the next generations. ✂

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Gustav Bayerle **1931–2016**

Gustav Bayerle died on 12 October 2016 in San Jose, California, at the age of 85. A refugee immigrant to the United States after the 1956 Hungarian revolution, Dr. Bayerle was a longtime faculty member and department chair at Indiana University. He was respected for his scholarship, his mentoring of students, and his leadership within the Turkish Studies Association of North America.

In the fall of 1956 Gustav’s studies in Finno-Ugrian philology at the Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest were interrupted by the Hungarian revolt against Soviet occupation. Gustav’s initial role in the rebellion was helping publish the revolutionary student newspaper, but a few days later he joined the Freedom Fighters and, when Soviet tanks and troops attacked he fought alongside others in the doomed battle to defend Budapest. After the fighting ended his unit threw down their arms in a church yard and disbanded. When one of their group disappeared overnight, Gustav and a friend fled across the Austrian border. He arrived in New York in December, and the following year was admitted to the University of Rochester. After receiving his B.A. in 1960, he entered Columbia University for doctoral study with Turkologist Tibor Halasi-Kun, himself an earlier Hungarian émigré.

After earning the Ph.D., now *Dr.* Bayerle was recruited in 1966 to join an impressive international team of scholars then being assembled in a