

HUMANITIES INSTITUTE
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THE TURKISH ORDEAL: MEMOIRS OF HALIDE EDIB

HALİDE EDİB ADIVAR

Important Terms

Efe	The leader of Turkish irregular soldiers and guerillas known as <i>zeybek</i> from the Aegean Region of Turkey
Bey	an honorific for men, equals to Mr. in English.
Hanım	an honorific for women, equals to Ms. in English.
Pasha	The title of a Turkish officer of high rank

People

Izzet Pasha	Soldier and statesman
Rauf Orbay	Soldier and statesman
Somerset Arthur Gough-Calthorpe	British fleet admiral in the Mediterranean
Tevfik Pasha	The last Ottoman grand vizier
Mustafa Kemal Pasha	Soldier, statesman, first president of the Republic of Turkey
Kazım Karabekir Pasha	Soldier and statesman
Kara Vasıf Bey	Soldier and statesman
Kemaleddin Sami Pasha	Soldier and statesman
Ferid Pasha	Diplomat and statesman
Ali Fuad Pasha	Soldier and statesman
Refet Pasha	Soldier and statesman
Colonel Arif	Soldier and statesman
Suleyman Nazif Bey	Poet, writer and bureaucrat
Said Molla	Statesman and founding chairman of the Association of the Friends of the British in Turkey
Mehmet Rıza Bey	Member of Parliament
Yunus Nadi	Journalist and politician
Refik Saydam	Physician and politician
Colonel Ismet	Soldier and the second president of the Republic of Turkey
Hamdullah Suphi	Writer, teacher, politician
Husrev Gerede	Soldier, politician and diplomat
Adnan Adıvar	Physician, politician, writer and historian
Mehmet Nâzım	Soldier
Yusuf Akçura	Writer and politician
Ruşen Eşref	Writer, journalist and politician
Nureddin Pasha	Soldier

Events

In this work, Halide Edib recounts her memories of the Independence War between 1918 and 1923.

Armistice of Mudros

The Grand Vizier Izzet Pasha and the Minister of the Navy Rauf Bey sign the Armistice of Mudros with Admiral Calthorpe on 30 October 1918. Thereupon, the Allied Forces settle in Istanbul, and the houses are occupied. Turks are arbitrarily arrested and sometimes tortured in the Allied headquarters. In this process, that minorities work as translators for the Allied Forces arouses hostility toward them.

Since the press is under censorship by the Allied Forces, these events are rarely reported, and therefore exaggerated rumors arise. For example, there are rumors that Senegalese soldiers bite Turkish women in the streets and slaughter and eat Turkish children.

Colonel Heatcote Smythe

One day, Colonel Smythe, the most powerful name of the British General Headquarters, inspects the prisons in Istanbul. Since political offenders are always sentenced to death, most detainees are convicted of crimes like manslaughter. He releases all criminals of minority groups. Among those released, an Armenian man killed two family members, and a Greek man killed Hayri Pasha's son in front of the Tokatlıyan Hotel.

On the Ferry and Tram

One day, on the ferry, the conductor tells a woman that her ticket is second class and asks her to move to the second class. But the woman cries that she is under the auspices of the British and the French armies and then tries to spit in the conductor's face. As she hits the conductor's head, he forcefully pulls her out. After a short time, she returns with a police officer and an inspector and asks the passengers to confirm that the conductor beat her. As everyone says she beat the conductor, the inspector pulls her out. However, she comes back and starts cursing in Greek. A quarrel ensues when a Greek-speaking Cretan woman responds to her. Halide Edib goes out to call the inspector back. This time, the inspector forces the woman out. An older woman faints because the woman curses religion heavily while leaving. As Halide Edib helps the woman who fainted, the woman cries, saying that her son is a liaison officer to the French, and he always says that they are very kind people.

Halide Edib begins to sit on the deck with the second-class passengers not to witness such events again. Working women in chadors sit here mostly, but they do not seem very interested in the country's situation. One day, while passing by the British navy anchored in the Bosphorus, Halide Edib's face falls, and one of them holds her hand and says, "This also will pass."

Another day, while the conductor on the tram, who Halide Edib thinks is from the minorities, ignoring the queue, pushes the Turkish women out and takes the minorities in the tram, Halide Edib takes an older woman in and gives up her seat for her. Then, the conductor starts to curse her. Just then, the curtain separating the men's and women's sections is lifted, and a man yells at the conductor, "Stop swearing at that woman, or I'll shoot you!" Halide Edib looks at the man with his hand in his pocket and figures that he is a Turkish officer. The conductor gets scared, and the quarrel ends. As Halide Edib gets off the tram, her knees are still shaking.

Closure of the Parliament

When Izzet Pasha's government falls, and Tevfik Pasha's government takes over, terminating the assembly begins to be discussed, and finally, Tevfik Pasha closes the parliament. But before that, Mustafa Kemal Pasha goes to the parliament and advises the deputies not to give a vote of confidence to Tevfik Pasha, but the deputies do not follow his advice. On the same day, Mustafa Kemal Pasha also speaks to the sultan. When the parliament is closed, rumors spread that the pasha informed the sultan that the army would support it if the parliament were closed.

The East

Since Kazım Karabekir Pasha is arming the people against the Allied Forces' prospect of establishing a country for Armenians in Eastern Anatolia, the sultan is intimidated by this activity. Thus, he appoints Mustafa Kemal Pasha as the general inspector of the Eastern Forces.

Wilson's Principles' Society

Wilson Principles Society is established in Istanbul by well-known writers and lawyers. Newspaper representatives send a memorandum to Wilson in Paris to provide peace and economic support. However, the society is dissolved after two months.

In Erzurum, in 1919, Armenian General Antranik of the Russians carries out massacres forcing people to migrate. Still, America only takes into account the massacres committed by the Turks, so Eastern Anatolia finds America dangerous. Accordingly, at the Erzurum Congress, although Mustafa Kemal Pasha refers to the necessity of economic and political assistance of a powerful country that is not interested in Turkish lands, he does not specify to which country he refers.

The Karakol

While various parts of the country are occupied by British, French, and Italian soldiers, many societies are established in Istanbul. The most valuable of these is a secret unit called *Karakol*, the Guard. Its president is a man named Kara Vasif. When Halide Edib visits this society, she meets District Governor Kemaleddin Sami Pasha, who secretly sends weapons to Anatolia.

The Occupation of Izmir

On May 16, 1919, Miss Dodd, Halide Edib's former teacher, calls her to say that Izmir is occupied. Halide Edib immediately calls her friends to learn the details and finds out that the Greek army officers forced the officers, including the governor, to cry, "Zito Venizelos!" meaning "Long live Venizelos," and beat those who opposed it.

Halide Edib finds it astonishing that all this happened in front of the Allied Navy and states that the soldiers sent by the British statesman Lloyd George to civilize the Turks started their work like this.

After this event, she stops living as an individual and feels that she is part of national insanity. Two days after the occupation, she gives a speech at the Girls' College in Uskudar, as per her previous promise. Since the speech is about education, she never mentions the occupation, although there are also British and French soldiers in the hall. In this impromptu speech, she emphasizes that education is useless unless it leads people to humane feelings and behaviors.

Rallies

The Turkish Hearth prepares a rally to protest the occupation. Because none volunteers to make the speech, Halide Edib steps forward. When she finds herself on the balcony of Fatih Municipality, a large crowd looks at her. Her first sentence is, "Daylight is closest when the night seems darkest and eternal." While British planes are hovering above them during the conversation, a man begins to tear his cloth saying, "Allah! Allah!" The crowd disperses and then gathers again.

Law Professor Selahaddin Bey summarizes the speech and proposes going to the sultan to request him to support the nation. Halide Edib goes to the palace with two students, but the sultan's attendant informs them that he cannot accept them because he is sick, but that he will take into account his children's wishes.

On the following Friday, Medical students in Haydarpaşa and Kadıkoy residents ask her to give a speech. Although it is a rainy day, people listen to her speech from the town hall's balcony for nearly three hours. On June 6, 1919, in Sultanahmet, she goes up to the rostrum with an inscription representing Wilson's 12th principle in front of it. This time almost two hundred thousand people listen to her. From this speech, the following sentence remains most in people's minds: "People are our friends, governments are our enemies."

At the end of the speech, when she asks for an oath to remain loyal to humanity and justice and not to submit to any power, the crowd cries in unison, "We swear." Then the crowd starts to move. Feride, the daughter of Halide Edib's older sister, suddenly takes off her shoes and starts running. Halide Edib mingles with the running crowd. Feride exclaims, "Aunt, he has come, he has come!" When Halide Edib asks who has come, she replies, "The Sultan!" Then Halide Edib stops and leans against a tree and watches people. On the other side of the tree is a naval officer. When he smiles, Halide Edib asks him where the sultan is. The officer says that when people saw the Minister of War, Şevket Turgut Pasha, they thought he was the sultan. After a while, the crowd cries, "not him!"

Facing Colonel Smythe

When Halide Edib comes home, her sister Mahmure says that Colonel Smythe came to see her. The colonel comes back around midnight. When he arrives, Dr. Adnan is on the phone explaining to the students who heard that Halide Edib is arrested that she is not arrested. As the colonel was once a student of Tevfik Fikret, he first starts speaking Turkish but then switches to English. He tells her that the British will support a national government because Halide Edib is in the National Union, which works to persuade the sultan to repeat elections and reopen the parliament. Halide Edib then reminds him that the English exiled nationalist people to Malta. The colonel replies that the exiles were Unionists. Then she says that some used to be Unionists and now dissidents and asks why people think she is arrested. When the colonel states that they gave up on this idea, Halide Edib wonders if

this is a threat. Finally, the colonel recommends that they continue to organize rallies forcing the sultan to open the parliament.

As Halide Edib shares this conversation with her friends later, one of them says that when the British suggest something, it is plausible to do the opposite and advise her not to make a speech if such a rally occurs. Upon that, she calls the leader of the medical students, Dr. Reşit Galib, to inform him that rallies lead to more exiles. However, in order not to stay inactive, Dr. Reşit Galib secretly hangs flyers demanding that the sultan make an election before the Paris Peace Conference.

Turning Points

When the sultan and Ferid Pasha send Mustafa Kemal Pasha to the east, Refet Pasha and Colonel Arif accompany him, and he agrees with Ali Fuad Pasha in Ankara, Kazım Karabekir Pasha in Erzurum and Rauf Bey. A protocol is prepared in Amasya with the signatures of Mustafa Kemal Pasha, Ali Fuad Pasha, Colonel Refet, and Rauf Bey.

Halide Edib quotes some points from Colonel Arif's writings. Accordingly, Colonel Arif receives one of Mustafa Kemal Pasha's letters recommending that the central government be sovereign and each national organization in the country be united. In addition, if necessary, Ali Fuad Pasha will be able to take over the military and civil administration in Central and Western Anatolia. Kazım Karabekir Pasha and Cemal Reşit Pasha approve these points by telegram.

After the protocol is signed in Amasya, unreliable people are appointed to the governorships. Thus, Ali Fuad Pasha takes over the telegraph centers and civil administration in Central Anatolia. Since Kazım Karabekir Pasha has wide public support in Erzurum, Erzurum is chosen as the congress center to prevent the Allied Forces from establishing a country for Armenians in the east. When the congress convenes, the Minister of War orders Kazım Karabekir Pasha to end it, arrest Mustafa Kemal Pasha, and assume the inspector's duty in the eastern provinces. But Kazım Karabekir does not obey this order. Afterward, Mustafa Kemal Pasha resigns from the army. In congress, they decide to work for the integrity and independence of the country, prepare for the defense of Anatolia, and form a new government if necessary.

Frightened by what happened, the government in Istanbul sends French soldiers to Sivas, the next congress center, threatening Governor Reşit Pasha to invade Sivas. British soldiers advance toward Samsun. Colonel Refet Bey goes to Samsun with the regular army and asks the British to withdraw the soldiers, and they comply with this request. After this incident, Colonel Selahaddin is appointed to replace Colonel Refet, but he also promises to fight for the national aims. When the Sivas Congress convenes, the government orders Malatya Governor Ali Galib Bey to arrest the representatives. As soon as people in Sivas learn about this, the nationalists of Malatya scare him away.

Elections are finally made. Although the constitution states that all twenty-year-old Turkish men can be elected, 20 of the 22 votes in Beypazarı are given to Halide Edib. She also gets eight votes from Giresun. Since Halide Edib does not want to be involved in politics and women do not have the right to be elected, she does not step into political life.

After the elections, it is discussed whether the center of government will be in Istanbul or Anatolia. In the end, Istanbul is chosen to show the value they give to the city.

A Little Arab Girl

When Halide Edib visits Adnan's brother-in-law, Ali Rıza Bey, Ali Rıza Bey asks a favor of her. His relative, Şerif Nâsır Bey, adopted a little Arab orphan girl, but the Armenians took the girl from them, stating that she was Armenian because she was a brunette. Ali Rıza Bey asks her to tell the British that the girl is a Muslim child and has an identity card issued in Medina. Although Halide Edib does not want to deal with the British, she goes to the house where Colonel Smythe stays the next day. When she tells him about Armenian and Turkish orphans, the colonel, putting his fingers into each other, says, "The Armenian and the Turkish children are like this. We cannot separate them without cutting straight through the middle. Of course, it will hurt now, but it will be better in the future." Halide Edib leaves without saying anything about the little girl.

The King-Crane Commission

In September 1919, the King-Crane Commission is in Istanbul to examine the situation on behalf of America. Since they can convey the complaints at the Paris Peace Conference, the representatives of Thrace ask Halide Edib to be their interpreter. The commission asks them whether they prefer the Bulgarians to the Greeks. They say they prefer neither.

When the meeting is over, Suleyman Nazif Bey, who comes with the representatives of Central Anatolia, holds Halide Edib's hand and says, "Do mother us too, take us up and translate for us." Before the commission, when they say that they do not want Armenia in Eastern Anatolia, one commission member reminds them of the atrocities that Armenians experienced. Suleyman Nazif Bey replies that everything is mutual. When they walk out of the room, his face is pale.

Mr. Crane shows friendship outside the commission, sending the correspondent of *Chicago Daily News*, Mr. Brown, to Sivas to get the opinions of the Turks.

Bandits

The bandits join the Greeks because of their hatred of the Ottomans and their desire to plunder. But some go back to the mountains. For example, Gokce Efe, Demirci Efe, Halil Efe, and Edhem the Circassian clash with the Greek soldiers.

Reports Brought by Kemaleddin Sami

Kemaleddin Sami comes to Halide Edib's house after midnight and brings crucial documents about the political moves of the British in Istanbul. One of these nights, he brings some reports stating that Said Molla's men are going to Anatolia to mobilize the Circassians against the National Movement. When Halide Edib asks where he got these reports, he says he got them from a relative who is Said Molla's clerk. Although Halide Edib does not rely on these documents at first, she later changes her mind.

One of these reports appears in *Chicago Tribune* and some French newspapers. One of the reports is a copy of an agreement between an Englishman named Forester and Ferid Pasha stating that Turkey is to enter into British domination like Egypt.

A Difficult Night

On March 15, 1920, Halide Edib sends her two sons to Robert College as boarders. When Adnan comes home in the evening, she informs him that they will spend the night at her sister, Nigar's house. But Adnan says that the British will stage a coup that night, so he will stay at home and go to the parliament at night. Halide Edib collects Mustafa Kemal Pasha's letters, delivers them to her older sister Mahmure and puts on her chador and coat. Adnan objects to her, telling her that he promised his friends. In the end, Halide Edib persuades him to go to Nigar's house.

In the morning, she opens her eyes to find Mahmure in front of her. She tells Halide that one of the janitors of the Red Crescent, Halis, came home and informed that Istanbul was placed under the authority of the Allied Forces at two o'clock at night. According to Halis's account, a military unit consisting of thirty soldiers occupied the Red Crescent, smashed the phones, shredded the papers, put a gun to the heads of the sleeping janitors, and asked where Dr. Adnan was. They beat Hamid, an orphan Balkan immigrant and a protégé of Adnan, to make him talk, but he did not say a word and told Halis that he would never speak.

They also called the house twice and asked Mahmure the whereabouts of Adnan and Halide Edib, and then they kept the house under surveillance. Before coming to Nigar's house, Mahmure wandered around a bit and saw Turkish soldiers, who were shot by the British entering the Ministry of War, being carried on stretchers.

When Nigar's husband, Saib, who works as a clerk in the Red Crescent, comes home for lunch, he tells that another clerk from Uskudar saw Esat Pasha and Cevat Pasha in their nightclothes on board a British launch. There are armed soldiers and captive Turks everywhere, and tanks roam the streets.

In the Lodge

Dr. Adnan disguises as a hodja, and Halide Edib wears an old chador as the hodja's wife to go to Uskudar. When Halide Edib's friend Nakiye Hanım says that her manicured hands may give her away,

she immediately cuts her fingernails. They arrive at the Uzbeks' Dervish Lodge opposite Halide Edib's father's house in Uskudar without anyone noticing. When asked who they are, they say the password: "Jesus has sent us," and the lodge's door is opened.

The next day, posters in English and Turkish are hung all over the city, announcing that anyone who helps any nationalist will be sentenced to death. However, Circassian Edhem's brother, Major Reşit, deputy Rıza Bey from the Keskin region near Kayseri, and Nevres Bey, who are rumored to be a British agent, join them. Nevres Bey is not welcomed because of the rumors, so much so that Rıza Bey and Reşit Bey do not shake hands with him. As Halide Edib feels how much this affected Nevres Bey, she extends her hand.

She cannot sleep at night and sees the light on the deserted street while looking out the window. A few minutes later, she figures that a man is walking with a flashlight. At that moment, she ponders whether Nevres Bey turned them in or not. She waits. The man finally enters the garden of the big house next to the lodge. Later on, she learns that the man was Salih Zeki, her first husband.

For Those Who Want to Go to Anatolia

In the morning, she goes to Nigar's house, again in disguise, to contact those who want to go to Anatolia. However, she finds no one other than Cami Bey. She returns to Uskudar at night. The other day, rolling a cigarette by impersonating a lower-class woman on the ferry, she realizes that a young girl is staring at her. The girl is one of her students at the university. She is nervous when she figures that she is recognized but still ignores the girl. When the cigarette ends, she begins to crack nuts and spit their shells on the ground. Then the girl concludes that she is not Halide Edib and turns her head back to the sea.

Rıfki Bey, whom she meets, asks her to follow him from afar and enter through the door that he stops by to wipe the dust off his feet and go up to the third floor. Halide Edib does what he says and meets with Cami Bey. The next day, after preparing the travel plan to Anatolia with Cami Bey, she meets Rıfki Bey again and starts walking. As they take a carriage, they notice two British police and a civil officer examining them. Upon that, Halide Edib says, "I have wanted to come and see his eminence." Rıfki Bey replies, "I will not neglect to pay my respects soon."

Departure

The same day she goes to Mahmure's house. Mahmure lights the lamp after hanging blankets over her windows because her neighbors believe she is in Halide Edib's house. Nakiye Hanım comes with her older son. Halide Edib, after dinner, writes a letter to Mr. Crane asking him to help her sons if they need to go to America while she is in Anatolia. Since she has a fever and is dizzy, she lies down.

When she wakes up at 6 in the morning, she still has a fever and a headache. After Nakiye Hanım and her son leave the house, Mahmure advises her to pretend to be her orphan maid, Ayşe. They go out together, and as Halide Edib walks ahead with a bundle like a maid, Mahmure follows her.

When they approach the dervish lodge, the sheik's brother comes running to them and informs them that the police come at night and everyone fled. As all carriages are examined, Dr. Adnan and Cami Bey went to Yalnızselvi on foot. Thinking that Halide Edib is more likely to survive as a woman, they wanted her to catch the carriage waiting for them in Bulbul Deresi. The gendarme will join her there.

Former Gendarmerie Commander Remzi Bey convinces a black coach who is sentenced to six years in prison that he will be released if he carries Halide Edib in his carriage. As they pass unnoticed by the British soldiers, a sudden storm breaks out. They wait as the British soldiers walk up and down the road. The gendarme that they expect to join them never comes. Finally, a man comes running and jumps into the carriage. He tells that Dudullu, which comes before Samandıra, where they plan to spend the night, is occupied, the British examine those who come and go, and they learned of this through a secret telephone system.

When they arrive in Yalnızselvi, consisting of three coffeehouses and a few houses, the gendarmerie looks for Adnan and Cami Bey in the coffeehouses but cannot find them. Halide Edib remembers that Cami Bey's brother lives in there with Painter Nazmi Ziya as they are about to leave. At the very

moment, another gendarme, Cami Bey, his brother, and Dr. Adnan show up. As Halide Edib convinces the scared coachman to carry her in his carriage to Dudullu, they continue on foot.

When they reach Dudullu, Halide Edib has to convince the coachman to continue to Samandıra this time. When they arrive in Samandıra with a gendarme, they go straight to the gendarmerie station. Because she did not eat anything all day, she wants something to eat. Everyone offers her their bread, but she only asks for a slice. As she realizes that the bread is too hard to swallow, she appreciates the gendarmes for dedicating themselves to a service that gives nothing but such bread.

The commander takes a paper out of his pocket and hands it to her, saying that *Sunday Times* covered Enver Pasha's struggle with the British in India. Halide Edib later learns that it was fake news and used to motivate the soldiers.

Macedonians and Anatolians

The gendarmes, all Macedonian, begin to talk about how the sultan betrays his country. They say that Bulgarians never succumb to tyranny; they have to be like them. One of them tells how great a soldier Mustafa Kemal Pasha is. At nine o'clock, they take Halide Edib to the house of Mukhtar Resul Agha. The mukhtar's wife tells Halide Edib that the gang under the British command killed three people the previous month and that no one can go out alone anymore. However, she does not know that the woman she is talking to is Halide Edib. As the mukhtar comes in, Halide Edib examines him and thinks that she figures the difference between Anatolians and Macedonians now. The mukhtar does not seem interested in the achievements of Enver Pasha or Mustafa Kemal Pasha. He seems aware of the sultan's betrayal but never speaks ill of him. He has a suspicion about nationalists but still helps them.

A Suspicious Man

The mukhtar's wife tells Halide Edib that a man wants to see her, and someone comes in. The man says she knows him, but Halide Edib cannot recognize him. Later, she gets furious when she finds out that the man told the mukhtar's wife that he is her husband to enter the house. When Sergeant Şemsi enters the room, he asks the man if he informed the station that he arrived. The man says he did not but that he is a friend of Cami Bey. Halide Edib gets nervous when the sergeant starts listening to the man holding his gun. After a while, Dr. Adnan and Cami Bey come.

Halide Edib silently asks Cami Bey if he knows the man, and when he says he doesn't, they send the sergeant to the station to investigate the man. While they are eating, the sergeant comes back and informs the man that he can go to Anatolia too, which means he is harmless. When Cami Bey lights a cigarette after dinner, he looks carefully at the man's face and remembers that he met him before. When Halide Edib hears this, she condemns Cami Bey for not saying this before.

A Dangerous Road

At a quarter to midnight, they put Halide Edib on an ox-wagon. There are three sacks of straw on it, and she sits on one of them. Because it is raining, the mukhtar's wife covered her with two sacks, but it is freezing. She calls to Sergeant Mehmed, who guides them, and asks what Twenty, which she heard from the gendarme when they arrived at the station is. Sergeant Mehmed says that it is a gang of Christians in Bakkalkoy, and there are other such gangs protected by the British.

As he speaks, suddenly, a searchlight shines on the hills to their left. Sergeant Mehmed says the British help Christian gangs find them. This time, Halide Edib asks him how he smuggled weapons to Anatolia. The sergeant tells it many times because he enjoys it so much. At one point, one of them yells that they lost the way, and there is a well in front of them. Since their matches are wet, Halide Edib takes out the flashlight she took with her and walks, pulling the ox-wagon with the others.

A House

At dawn, they take shelter in a village house. While Halide Edib is warming up in front of the fire, she meets Lieutenant Bekir and Captain Esat. Lieutenant Bekir puts a mattress for her on the ground of a place partitioned off from the rest of the room and gives her a dirty bag as a pillow. While leaving, he says that he listened to all her speeches. However, Halide Edib cannot sleep because of the

mattress's smell. When she hears Dr. Adnan chatting, she gets up to talk to Major Şükrü. Major Şükrü says that they will leave right after having a meal. As they leave, a merchant named Ahmed Halim shows up, takes off his raincoat, and wraps it around Halide Edib climbing on the sacks of straw.

Koseler

After hours of travel, they go to the house of a man named Uncle Mesut in Koseler in the evening and have some yogurt and eggs there. When they try to find their route on Cami Bey's map, Lieutenant Bekir and Captain Esat bring telegrams to Major Şükrü. Telegrams are to report that the British blocked all roads. A little later, another person named Captain Aslan comes in, and after listening to them, he states that they should thank the British for what they do. When Halide Edib asks the reason for this, he says that if the British behave a little better, because they are soft-hearted people, they will believe them and perhaps lose their homeland. He also says that he has a cave and can hide them if needed. He tells about the clashes he had with the Christian gangs since there is nothing else to do for the rest of the night.

The next day, Major Husrev, his brother Major Besalet, Colonel Kazım, and Major Cevat join them. Halide Edib thinks about the great contrasts between these well-dressed, polite people and Captain Aslan.

A Soldier's Request

The following day, before leaving the house, a soldier wants to talk to her. He is the sixth son of his family, and all of his brothers died in the war. He wants to see his mother before joining the fight and give the money in his pocket to her. Major Şükrü Bey allows this but prevents him from taking his rifle. He asks her to request on his behalf. Without his rifle, he can get his money stolen. As they travel by horse, this time, she tells Major Şükrü that the soldier is to hold her horse's head so he should take his rifle with him.

The Village of Çal

When they depart, the snow reaches almost a meter, but they pass through valleys and rocky terrains. One of them with a frozen mustache and eyelashes faints on the way. They entrust him to one of the horsemen and continue on their way. They buy bread and cheese from a village at noon, eat it on horses, and then proceed toward the village until evening.

They stay in a house in the village. While Halide Edib is dozing in front of the fire, the village's women come and ask questions about the war. Eventually, they leave her alone to sleep. In the morning, it is decided that Colonel Kazım is to lead the convoy but is not supposed to interfere with the men of Captain Aslan.

On the Way Again

In the afternoon, one of Captain Aslan's men says that the British cavalry is five minutes ahead of them and is trying to get information about them in the vicinity. So, Colonel Kazım decides to stay there for a while. After eating yogurt and eggs in a nearby village, they move again.

In the afternoon, a gunshot comes from a village. When they hear the second shot, Colonel Kazım orders Lieutenant Bekir to go to the village where the sound came from and shoot three times if there is danger. When Lieutenant Bekir returns, he says that the commander of Izmit sent ten mounted soldiers to assist them, and they fired to get their attention.

They ride all day. When they come to Küçük Kaymaz, Colonel Kazım arranges accommodation. But Halide Edib suddenly falls due to exhaustion. An older woman helps her. She bathes her face and feeds her with a spoon like a baby. She is the mother-in-law of the imam of the village. When the imam heard that they were coming, he fled because he was afraid of the British. The woman shows a paper stating that those who aid the nationalists will be sentenced to death. However, she does not seem fearful.

In the morning, they set off. This time the icy road shines under the sun. As they cross the border of an Armenian village, they realize that someone is watching them. Captain Aslan asks the man who he is

and what the name of the village is. His name is "Artin," and the village is called Ermishe. Captain Aslan orders the man not to move for an hour.

Exhaustion

Everyone is exhausted and sullen because of the cold. When they get close to a village, the mounted soldiers stop. Major Husrev and Dr. Adnan say they cannot go any further. Upon that, Colonel Kazım asks Halide Edib for her opinion. But Halide Edib says they have to continue. Then two of them continue to move forward, telling the others that they can follow them if they want.

Near Adapazarı, as Halide Edib is about to faint from exhaustion, they go to a village's coffeehouse. She can't move when Colonel Kazım announces that he arranged a house for everyone. She gets up, leaning against Dr. Adnan. In the house, as she lies in front of the fire, she feels pain each time she moves her body. Since she is feverish, she loses consciousness from time to time and comforts herself, repeating, "If my body goes on like this, I will change it and get another one."

Adapazarı

As they approach Adapazarı, a few cavalymen come to meet them. One of them is the former governor. He wants to go to Ankara with them and join the national struggle. When they find a shelter, Governor Tahir Bey visits them to inform them that Adapazarı is very dangerous. All ethnic groups, Circassians, Lazes, Albanians, and Turks, have their nationalists and anti-nationalists.

On their way to Hendek, they hear music on the road and see a Circassian wedding. The two horsemen approach their carriage and ask Halide Edib if she would like to be a guest in the bridal carriage. As they are so eager, she can't stand it and goes up to them. Near Hendek, she leaves them. Two men meet them. One of them is Laz Rauf Bey, the head of the Anatolian and Rumelian National Defense Association in Hendek. On the eighth day of their travel, Halide Edib finally takes a bath and sleeps in a comfortable bed.

In the morning, they receive a telegram from Mustafa Kemal Pasha informing them that Ali Fuad Pasha drove the British from Eskişehir and that they can continue by train. Since this means returning to Adapazarı, they decide to go back at midnight and take the train in the morning. Halide Edib and Dr. Adnan stay at Fuad Bey's house, and in the morning, they go to the house where the others are waiting. There the governor informs them that he received a telegram from the British asking who the "suspicious guests" are in Adapazarı. They are afraid that the British may come any moment, but the carriages that are supposed to take them to the new headquarters in Doğançay are yet to arrive. They leave Adapazarı in fear. Until Doğançay, their carriages get stuck in the mud many times. But in Doğançay, they are welcomed by a hundred nationalists sent by Colonel Mahmut.

A New Government

Mustafa Kemal Pasha sends a circular note to elect two deputies from each region of Anatolia. Since they do not know how many deputies are willing to come to Ankara from the closed parliament in Istanbul, it is thought that it is necessary to elect as many deputies as possible from the independent regions of the country.

The Pacifying Committee

In Geyve, they meet with the members of the *Heyet-i Nâsiha*, the pacifying committee that is established to convey Vahdettin's message to the public and appease Anatolia. Although Husrev Bey and Dr. Adnan try to convince them about the necessity of the national struggle, they are not convinced.

Mustafa Kemal Pasha's Trick

The following day, Halide Edib talks to Yunus Nadi Bey, the owner of *Yeni Gün* newspaper published in Istanbul. After he joins them, they all set off for Eskişehir by train, but the train stops near Eskişehir. Typically, passengers wait for six hours for repair, but they leave in two minutes. Later, Halide Edib understands that this was a game of Mustafa Kemal Pasha. He aimed to see the reaction of the deputies in Istanbul when the train stopped.

Ankara

As the train approaches Ankara, Yunus Nadi asks Halide Edib if she can give a speech to the crowd waiting at the station on their behalf. Halide Edib gladly accepts this. When the door of the train opens, Mustafa Kemal Pasha helps her get off and introduces her to the governor of Ankara. Didar, the daughter of Mahmure's sister-in-law and the wife of Colonel Emin Bey, catches the eye of Halide Edib. They go to her house through pitch-black roads. Taking a bath in the evening, seeing the flames in the stove and the white curtains of the house gives Halide Edib peace. Mustafa Kemal Pasha and Adnan Bey arrive, but after staying for a short time, the pasha leaves, telling her to come to the Agricultural School, which is used as headquarters.

Didar's Maids

The next day, when Didar's maids catch Halide Edib alone, they ask why Ankara entered the war because Istanbul is under occupation. For them, each region must fight for its own sake. Halide Edib criticizes this regionalism and thinks that the idea that we can live in peace and tranquility while our neighbors live in misery is the old world's view. But she only tells the women that the war will be brutal, but they will win.

To Create Public Opinion

When she arrives at the Agriculture School, Mustafa Kemal Pasha is in a meeting with Dr. Adnan and Cami Bey. As she enters, the pasha gets up, kisses her hand, and asks about her impressions about the travel. Halide Edib says that she and Yunus Nadi are planning to establish an agency to explain their national struggle to the world. They think of hanging flyers on the walls of mosques in places where there is no telegraph office. She also states that it is necessary to bring some English and French newspapers on time to follow the world. Agreed on these points, Mustafa Kemal Pasha wants to help with the newspaper *Hâkimiyet-i Milliye*, which Yunus Nadi started to publish there. So, Halide Edib says that a typewriter is needed, then the pasha suggests getting it from the Ottoman Bank.

A Migrant Girl

Together with Dr. Adnan, they settle in a room in the Sample Farm. A young girl she sees among female servants attracts her attention. This girl, whom her friends call Fatış, is an orphaned immigrant under fifteen. Halide Edib takes her after that day, and Fatış and a soldier named Süleyman start to run errands for them.

Dr. Refik

Refik Bey, who lives in the headquarters, is very successful in creating a good family environment. His room is always tidy. He is always selfless for the people he cares about. He also loves his yellow cat named Lady Kadife so much that he offers sherbet to everyone whenever she has kittens.

Halide Edib's Duty

Halide Edib translates the political parts of English newspapers, cuts out the certain parts for Anatolian Agency and *Hâkimiyet-i Milliye* from the telegrams brought by Hayati Bey, the clerk of Mustafa Kemal Pasha, and deals with other correspondences of the pasha. She is assisted by an Afghan youth named Abdurrahman, who became a Turkish citizen after fighting in the Balkan Wars. Working with this young Pan-Islamist, Halide Edib apprehends the psychology of evaluating everything in the name of Islam.

The Routine in Ankara

After lunch, Mustafa Kemal Pasha, Dr. Adnan, Cami Bey, and Colonel Ismet Bey work on the preparation of the new assembly. Evening meals take longer. Mustafa Kemal Pasha talks about his old days at length and criticizes everyone. However, Colonel Ismet Bey subtly defends those he criticizes. After the meal, they gather in the great hall and talk about the projects.

Konya

In Konya, Colonel Fahreddin Bey is indecisive between Istanbul and Ankara. Bolu, Adapazarı, and Izmit are at war. In April 1920, as the situation gets worse, Refet Bey goes to Konya with his aide. He returns with Fahreddin Bey and all the notables of Konya. When they get on the train to meet with Refet Bey, the train immediately departs and brings them to Ankara. In the end, they all decide to support Ankara. With this change of mind in Konya, Rıza Nur, and Yusuf Kemal Bey from *Heyet-i Nâsiha*, the pacifying committee, begin to support Ankara.

The New Assembly

After the British dissolve the assembly in Istanbul in March, the efforts to establish the parliament in Ankara accelerate. There are serious discussions about what kind of assembly it should be. Finally, it is decided that the assembly takes over the legislative and executive functions and determines the cabinet members. In this case, the cabinet will be responsible to the parliament.

Some News

When Saffet, who smuggles weapons from Istanbul to Anatolia, comes to Ankara, he informs them that Mustafa Kemal Pasha, Bekir Sami Bey, Dr. Adnan, Ali Fuad, Ahmed Rustem, Kara Vasıf, and Halide Edib are sentenced to death. The news disturbs Mustafa Kemal Pasha and Dr. Adnan, but Halide Edib objects to them, saying that this will increase their fame. Yet Colonel İsmet states that it will have a deterrent effect on their potential supporters.

Opening the New Assembly

They decide to name the new assembly the Grand National Assembly after lengthy discussions. On April 23, 1920, it is opened by Mustafa Kemal Pasha's speech. In the following days, the new cabinet is formed.

One evening, while reading the newspapers, Hamdullah Suphi sees that Halide Edib is the minister of education. Hearing this, Halide Edib starts to laugh. At that moment, Mustafa Kemal Pasha says, "Why not?" with a smile.

A Letter

A letter from Mahmure informs Halide Edib that their house in Istanbul is occupied. Among those who come to the house, a man from the Sharia Courts making a list of the belongings sees the pictures of Gustave Doré and says, "No wonder she is condemned to death, no punishment is too bad for her." However, while Mahmure is in the kitchen, one of the policemen goes up to her to say that he can help her if there is a book she would rather keep.

"Big Stick Policy"

When Halide Edib reads the British statesmen's speech on the Big Stick Policy for the East, she gets furious and translates it for Mustafa Kemal Pasha. The pasha is moved by the assumed superiority of the West to the East and expresses his rage in a long speech: "They will know that we are as good as they are! They will treat us as their equal! Never will we bow our heads to them! To our last man, we will stand against them till we break their civilization on their heads!" Halide Edib asserts that every outrage is forgotten but the assumption of superiority.

Internal Conflict

Although the destination of the struggle is unknown, everyone does their best with all their heart. In the first days of their settlement in Ankara, a Circassian named Ahmet Anzavur, who is made pasha by the sultan, wages war against them. The caliphate's supporters in Bursa and Izmit are suppressed by Ali Fuad Pasha and the gang leader, Circassian Ephem. However, the Circassian chiefs in Bolu and Düzce, the Turks in Gerede take action on behalf of the caliphate. Their forces come as near as twenty-eight kilometers from Ankara in a few days.

Major Husrev and Osman Bey, the deputies, go to Gerede to prevent the Turks from joining the caliphate's supporters. When Major Husrev arrives there with twenty mounted soldiers, he sees people waving flags and calling to him at the end of the bridge. Considering the demonstration a sign of sympathy, he goes up to them. However, as soon as he finds himself among them, people start

lynching him. At some point, an older man in the crowd throws himself on him, begging people not to kill a brave and beautiful man like him. Upon that, his and Osman Bey's hands are chained to their necks and they are taken to the town prison. The people continue to attack them in jail, but a Circassian chief named Sefer helps them escape.

Halide Edib states that soldiers are more liked because they are more humane than civilian forces; they do not kill outside of war. People like Colonel Mahmud for this reason. He goes to Bolu from Hendek with his soldiers. But men call to them from the minarets, "How will you be able to shoot at your brothers?" Colonel Mahmud is killed in the conflict. After that, everything becomes more difficult as nonmilitary units that are fond of money and looting outnumber the regular troops.

Death Sentences

One evening, a telegram comes from Circassian Edhem in Bolu, asking Mustafa Kemal Pasha to approve the list of people he sentenced to death. The list includes Sefer and his friends, who saved Major Husrev and Osman Bey. Although Mustafa Kemal Pasha asks Halide Edib for her opinions many times, Halide Edib generally does not participate in the discussions. This time, however, she openly defends her ideas. She says that it is not appropriate for a newly formed government to renege on its promise since Ankara announced that it forgave these men. On the other hand, Mustafa Kemal Pasha states that it is a weakness for people in their position to show mercy. At that time, Halide Edib's eyes meet Ismet Pasha's. Ismet Pasha gets up from his seat, comes across Mustafa Kemal Pasha, and leaning on his desk, starts to speak. He explains at length that a government must always keep its promises, and only in this way can it gain trust. He speaks so gently that Halide Edib admires him. However, a long debate ensues. They leave the decision to the next day, and in the end, Mustafa Kemal Pasha writes a letter stating that Sefer and his friends are to be forgiven. The following day, while Halide Edib is working in her room, Mustafa Kemal Pasha's clerk, Hayati Bey, brings the papers he prepared for the Anatolian Agency. When she asks him about the news, she learns that everyone is executed before the pasha's letter reaches Circassian Edhem.

For Precaution

They have many horses brought, in case they leave Ankara. When Dr. Adnan tells Halide Edib that Mustafa Kemal Pasha is thinking of getting a carriage for her, she says that she does not want a carriage and she would rather die by taking poison than be lynched by people. Dr. Adnan also carries poison on him, just in case.

One morning, Major Şükrü and Lieutenant Bekir come to Halide Edib's room, and Major Şükrü asks her if she has a gun. When Halide Edib says that she is afraid of its sound, he gives her a gun and then starts teaching her how to shoot. He attaches a five-cent coin on the door, and she shoots at it. Later on, she and Cami Bey argue about the strategic points of the place, where they stay, and how they will respond in a possible attack.

Zeybeks

Colonel Refet comes from Izmir with three hundred *zeybeks*, but women complain to Halide Edib about them because they watch women washing clothes in the river. As Halide Edib conveys this to Colonel Refet, Hayati Bey comes in and informs that all the wires are cut. Colonel Refet continues to smoke without saying anything. Halide Edib leaves the room slowly and sees the soldiers making preparations for defense. She hears someone on the phone saying that the *zeybeks* should not fire guns and scare people. The next day they discuss whether to leave Ankara or not and the next day, Colonel Refet leaves with the *zeybeks*.

Circassian Edhem

When Circassian Edhem comes to Ankara with his armed forces, he is met with great interest. Mustafa Kemal Pasha allocates his automobile, the only automobile in Ankara, to him. When he enters the parliament, he is applauded fiercely. Halide Edib sees him for the first time at the headquarters. When she comes in, he stands up and kisses her hand. He is a tall, thin, blond man, making Halide Edib think that he outshines all the other men around him.

Mustafa Kemal Pasha

Mustafa Kemal Pasha lives like a priest. Some nights he stays in another house, sometimes happily recounts how he defeated a hodja in a debate about religion. Halide Edib does not see him drinking during the time she works with him and describes him as a person who does not take anything on faith. He knows how to take advantage of devoted people and is good at making fun of shams. However, she also states that this is paradoxical, because, in order to achieve his goal, he resorts to many opposing ideals. He values omens and dreams. In the morning, he asks those around him whether they had dreams that night and tries to make sense of them. Behind the desk hangs an Arabic prayer sent by a hodja.

Western and Eastern Ideals

In the Grand National Assembly, two ideals are in conflict. Although those who support Western principles are successful in shaping the Assembly, they do not act completely Western in economic, social, and educational issues. Adhering to Western ideals, they tend to the East, to Soviet Russia. In particular, Hakkı Behiç is against wealth and religion. Under his leadership, some irregular units form the Green Army and start to publish a newspaper called *Yeni Dünya*, The New World. However, since Mustafa Kemal Pasha is disturbed by this, they are ended.

The clericals, on the other hand, intend to build an Islamic democracy. For this reason, Mustafa Kemal Pasha is interested in both the history of Islam and the Soviets. At his request, the Communist Party is established. The presidency of it is offered to Dr. Adnan, but he does not accept it because he is committed to Western principles.

A man named Mustafa Suphi is the head of the Communist Party in Baku. Hakkı Behiç comes to the fore in Ankara. A few people who call themselves Bolsheviks come and go from Moscow to Ankara. One of them, Ukrainian Verloff draws Halide Edib's attention. This man brings an interpreter with him every time he comes to see Halide Edib, but while talking, Halide Edib pays attention to him not to what he says. She considers his belief that this new system will save humanity, naivety. When she reminds him of the murders committed by the Bolsheviks, he does not deny them but does not make any other comments. After a while, she learns that he is killed. But Verloff is not an official representative. The first official representative is Upmal. This simple and clean-looking man also visits Halide Edib with his translator. Halide Edib finds it strange that these people don't speak a foreign language and are uneducated, but their commitment impresses her. One of the other visitors says he knows her from Madame Tirkova's book *La Jeune Turquie*. This woman is one of the Russian immigrants in Istanbul and mentions Halide Edib in her book.

Power Plays

Although everyone trusts Mustafa Kemal Pasha, they want to prevent him from acting against the constitution. The deputies representing the notables of Ankara form an oppositional unit called the Second Group in the parliament. Apart from them, there are also the Independents. Mustafa Kemal Pasha, on the other hand, begins to sacrifice those who always support him in order to maintain his power. Although Cami Bey always supports Mustafa Kemal Pasha as the Minister of Interior, when the parliament strongly criticizes him, Mustafa Kemal Pasha does not support him, and Cami Bey resigns. After this incident, an argument breaks out between Hamdullah Suphi and Mustafa Kemal Pasha, and Mustafa Kemal Pasha calls Hamdullah Suphi a liar. Hamdullah Suphi asks him to take his word back, and he does it but does not change his attitude toward him.

Obedience

One evening, while chatting, Mustafa Kemal Pasha asks Halide Edib to sit on the chair next to him. She does what he asks, then Mustafa Kemal Pasha says that he doesn't want to hear opinions or criticism from anyone; he expects to be obeyed. When Halide Edib asks if he expects this from her, too, he says he does. Halide Edib replies that she will obey him as long as he serves the national cause. This time, Mustafa Kemal Pasha says that he expects her to obey under any circumstances. Halide Edib asks if this is a threat. Then pasha apologizes and adds that he would never threaten her.

A Horse and a Dog

Cami Bey and Hamdullah Suphi teach her to ride a horse. So, she wanders around the villages with her horse. Because she likes Major Salih Bey's beautiful horse very much, she takes it. Lieutenant Abdurrahman brings her a puppy he found. She adopts this puppy and calls it Jinn.

Father and Sister

At the end of June 1920, many places in the Marmara Region are occupied. Halide Edib's father and sister Nilufer take shelter in an empty school in Eskişehir, the city the invading forces are advancing on. Halide Edib and Dr. Adnan go to Eskişehir and send them to Antalya by train.

Women in the Village

Halide Edib and Dr. Adnan settle in a small village house, and people start to visit them to be examined by Dr. Adnan. Thus, Halide Edib gets to know the women in the village better. Especially, a story of a woman interests her. A young widow is about to marry a young man from Erzurum named Hasan, who works on a farm in the village. A year ago someone was shot, and two men tried to kill Hasan because of the woman. Finally, they get married. A week after their wedding, Halide Edib attends another wedding in the village. Women gather in Hasan's wife's spacious room to wait for a dancer who only performs for men, but men send her to the women's room to entertain Halide Edib. When the dancer comes in, Halide Edib advises her to warm up in front of the fire. But the dancer, in an unfriendly manner, says that she is there to dance. Then, Halide Edib gets up and tells them that she has to go. Upon that, the dancer leaves in anger. Halide Edib thinks that this woman does not like people, so she cannot tolerate any kindly behavior that would change her mind.

Two weeks after the wedding, she sees a woman from the village in their barn and asks what she is looking for. The woman says that Hasan beat his wife to death out of jealousy and left the house, but his wife keeps calling his name. Women in the village now support the woman they used to gossip about before marrying Hasan.

New Dogs

When Jinn is paralyzed, it is shot to end its suffering. After its death, Circassian Edhem sends a new dog to Halide Edib. Halide Edib names it Yoldaş, meaning comrade. Ten days after its arrival, Hakkı Behiç also sends her another dog. She names her Sevda, meaning love. These two dogs love each other so much that Yoldaş mourns for six months after Sevda is stolen.

Mehmed the Mad

One day, a beautiful woman examined by Dr. Adnan attracts Halide Edib's attention. When she asks their assistant, Emine Hanım who she is, she learns her whole story. A man, known as Mehmed the Mad, marries a woman twenty years older than him twenty years ago and seven years before to fourteen-year-old Halime. When he marries the third woman a year ago, problems arise at home, and when his first wife dies, Halime begins to be treated as a maid at home.

Later, Halide Edib asks the village children to take her to Halime's house and finds herself in a hut. She washes Halime's daughter's face and combs her hair. And after taking care of Halime, she leaves the girl in charge of her mother.

After Halime recovers, Emine Hanım tells Halide Edib that she is not wanted in the village because she is a filthy thief. Mehmed the Mad asks Halide Edib to persuade his other wife to let Halime return home, but Halide Edib does not do this because she does not want to interfere in family affairs.

Military Conditions

Many irregular forces join the newly formed army, but some remain loyal to the Circassian Edhem. Some of the soldiers in the army join his troops, as they receive a monthly salary. Circassian Edhem does not recognize Colonel İsmet's orders, saying that he depends on the Grand National Assembly in Ankara. Thereupon, a delegation headed by Colonel Kazım Köprülü is assigned to reconcile with him.

Meanwhile, the Istanbul Government takes a step toward an agreement with Ankara, and Interior Minister İzzet Pasha and Naval Forces Commander Salih Pasha from Tevfik Pasha's cabinet come to

Ankara. But they cannot reach a compromise because they demand submission to the sultan and agreement with the Allied Forces.

The next day, Izzet Pasha visits Halide Edib at her home. He presents her with biscuits, chocolate, and cologne that he brought from Istanbul. When Halide Edib feels pity in his voice, she tells him not to pity her because this life is her choice. Even if everyone wants Izzet Pasha to support Ankara, he does not.

After a while, Circassian Edhem sends an ultimatum to the Grand National Assembly stating that the country is tired of war and needs peace. Then the army takes action against Circassian Edhem's troops. Meanwhile, the Greek armies also head toward Bursa. Colonel Refet forces Circassian Edhem's troops to retreat. One reason for this is those who change their side because Circassian Edhem gives weapons to the Greeks. The first significant response to the Greek army comes from the unit led by Colonel Ismet. Thereupon, he and Colonel Refet become pasha.

On the Front

Halide Edib goes to the front with Yoldaş and Fatiş to take the gifts sent by Kızılay to the soldiers. There, they stay in a hotel run by a Czech woman named Madame Tadia. There are three tables in Madame Tadia's dining room. One of them has Major Tevfik, Major Şemseddin and Salih Bey. They sit on the other. As they sit down, a Caucasian group comes in, and Bekir Sami Bey and another man follow them. Bekir Sami Bey is one of those sent to Moscow for Turkish-Russian friendship. Major Tevfik whispers right by Halide Edib's ear that the man next to Bekir Sami Bey is the Menshevik Georgian ambassador. Other men are the clerks of the Georgian embassy, and one is the Georgian prince.

After a while, when Major Tevfik wants to show Halide Edib his gun, Halide Edib discharges the bullets and raises the gun toward the light. At that moment, she catches the Menshevik ambassador's eyes. The ambassador immediately turns to Bekir Sami Bey and asks if she is Bolshevik. All of a sudden, everyone frowns, and Bekir Sami Bey explains reality to them in Russian.

The next day, she visits the Red Crescent's hospital. In the evening, Bekir Sami Bey comes to see her. When she asks Bekir Sami Bey about Russia, he states that he is disillusioned by it, which is under the rule of an autocratic minority, and that they should now turn to Western ideals.

The London Conference

When she returns to Ankara, Dr. Adnan informs her that Ankara is also invited to a conference in London. A delegation under the leadership of Tevfik Pasha from Istanbul and a delegation under the leadership of Bekir Sami Bey from Ankara go to London. Autonomy for Izmir and neutrality in the Turkish-Greek war are put on the table. However, it soon turns out to be a hoax; as the delegation is on the way back, the Greeks attack again. The unit under the command of Ismet Pasha defeats them for the second time.

Women from Istanbul versus Women in Ankara

As the war continues, people in the villages need more help, but there is only the Red Crescent to help, and this is not enough. The women want to re-establish the women's branch of the Red Crescent and propose Halide Edib to be its head, but she does not accept this, preferring to work as a member. In this process, she notices the difference between women from Istanbul and women in Ankara. Women from Istanbul are generally well-educated and sociable wives of civil servants or deputies, while women in Ankara are low-educated and shy.

One morning, a woman from Istanbul comes to Halide Edib's house early to inform her that the women from Ankara left the meeting and do not want to work together. They thought of organizing a congress and inviting women in Ankara to it. However, while women from Istanbul found it appropriate to make this invitation through a newspaper advertisement, women from Ankara suggested that the guard of each quarter should announce it in the way other events are announced because women are mostly illiterate. Upon that, one of the women from Istanbul said that she does not want to work with women who cannot read. Then, the women from Ankara left the meeting. Halide Edib finds the offer of women from Ankara more logical. She meets with the women and convinces them that patriotism requires

working together, and an executive committee of 12 people, six from Istanbul and six from Ankara, is established.

Fikriye Hanım

As the committee chair, Halide Edib requests money from well-off women by letter, and a meeting is held in Ankara for this purpose. That evening, Halide Edib is informed that a woman wants to see her. The woman is Fikriye Hanım, the distant relative of Mustafa Kemal Pasha, who keeps the house for him. She asks if there is anything she can do for the meeting. Halide Edib has a little chat with her, and she is very impressed by her voice and the meaning in her eyes. She thinks that Fikriye Hanım is the only person, other than his mother, who loves Mustafa Kemal Pasha regardless of his genius and position. However, she comments that Fikriye Hanım is not shrewd enough to convince Mustafa Kemal Pasha to marry her.

The Meeting

Halide Edib explains what is going on in the country as plainly as possible in her speech. At the end of her speech, a woman approaches her and says that she thinks she understood what she heard. She adds that she is a washerwoman, her son died in the war, but her daughter is studying at the Normal School and will be a person who can speak well like her in the future. Then, she takes out a lira. At the end of the day, one thousand liras are collected from all participating women.

The Shirt of Flame

Yakup Kadri becomes the guest of Halide Edib and Dr. Adnan in Ankara. When Halide Edib asks him what he is writing in his room, he says that he is writing an Anatolian novel called *The Shirt of Flame*. Halide Edib, believing that she is to write an Anatolian novel, teases him, saying that she will finish the novel before him.

Against the Villagers

One morning, Fatış comes to her room and notifies her that Mehmed the Mad is the army, that his third wife broke her mother-in-law's arm, and that the villagers want to kill her. When Halide Edib wants to know the real reason behind her excitement, she realizes that Fatış is hiding the woman in the barn. Although she is wearing a dressing gown, she covers her head and goes out to the veranda. The village children wait for what she will say with sticks in their hands. Halide Edib first asks what they want and then fires them, saying what a shame it is to kill a woman whose husband is not in the village. After they leave, Fatış brings the woman home, and the woman says that Halime is provoking the villagers against her and wants to work for her. But Halide Edib states that this is not possible and helps her escape from the village.

An Inspiration and the News

Halide Edib goes to Eskişehir to volunteer at the Red Crescent Hospital. At the hospital, a nurse impresses her very much, and she tells Chief Physician Şemseddin that she will make that nurse the heroine of her novel and that her name will be Ayşe. As soon as she gets to Madam Tadia's hotel, she starts writing.

One day, when she goes to the doctor's room to drink tea at the hospital, she sees one of the newspapers from Istanbul. It reads, "Death of a Savant." When she examines it, she realizes that the deceased is Salih Zeki Bey, her first husband. She feels like going to his children, whom, she knows, were sent to America, and saying, "I'm still alive..."

Lieutenant Colonel Nâzım

While the number of patients in the hospital increases and despair spreads to everyone, the news of Lieutenant Colonel Nâzım's death arrives. Yusuf Akçura and Ruşen Eşref come to the hotel to say that Ismet Pasha is disappointed, and it would be appropriate to visit him. Thereupon, Halide Edib visits him at the headquarters. There, Major Tevfik welcomes her and then tells how Nâzım died. Nâzım died fighting among the privates. Halide Edib then goes up to Ismet Pasha and finds him very upset that he ordered a retreat. She returns after dinner with him.

The following day, the physician of the Military Hospital asks her if she wants to say goodbye to Nâzım and walks toward a partition at the end of the landing. Halide Edib follows him. He enters first Halide Edib waits at the door. When he comes out, she enters. After some hesitation, she raises the flag on the body. Nâzım is sleeping in his uniform. She first looks at his hands on his chest, thinking that they are no longer to pull triggers, and their peace comforts her. She says goodbye to him by placing her hand on his and then covers the body with the flag again.

The Retreat

When she goes out, she sees soldiers, women pulling oxcarts full of goods, children looking with fearful eyes. The order to withdraw from Eskişehir is in effect. When she goes to the hotel, she learns that Mustafa Kemal Pasha reserved a compartment for her in his train. Madame Tadia also reports that a bomb fell behind the back of her house. Halide Edib begins to feel the pain of defeat deeply. Those injured in the airstrike are brought to the hospital, some of them children. People who can move are taken to the train, while those who cannot are left with a Jewish doctor. When Dr. Murat says that there is nothing left to do and that they have to eat, she walks out with him to the table set in the garden. However, none wants to eat anything as the moonlight falls on the dead's feet sticking out of the tent. When she returns to the hospital, she sees a sobbing man who wants to go to his village in Ankara. When she finds out that a boy lying on a stretcher is looking for his father, she tells the head nurse to take care of him until his father is found. As she finally gets on the train, she feels that the curtain fell on another act in Anatolia.

Joining the Army

When she returns to Ankara, she finds everyone pessimistic except Fevzi Pasha. In the evening, two days after her return, while searching for Dr. Adnan at the headquarters to return home, she hears him talking to Mustafa Kemal Pasha in a room. The pasha seems worried. When she goes up to them, Mustafa Kemal Pasha tells her to wait for the news from Eskişehir. Until the morning, the pasha's aide brings news, and each time the pasha gets angry. In the morning, the pasha, after saying that Ismet Pasha lost the war, proposes to have a cup of coffee. For a moment, Dr. Adnan leaves the room and then comes back with a happy expression on his face. When the pasha asks him where he was, Dr. Adnan says he talked to Fevzi Pasha, and he is very optimistic. The pasha mocks Fevzi Pasha a lot but still seems pleased.

Two gruesome weeks pass. The villagers constantly ask Halide Edib about the course of events. She begins to spend sleepless nights when Yusuf Akçura comes for a few days on leave and says that a literate person is needed in the headquarters on the front. On August 5, 1921, Mustafa Kemal Pasha is elected as the Commander-in-Chief for three months by the Grand National Assembly. He establishes a military cabinet. However, when he falls from his horse, he is brought back to Ankara. Twenty-four hours later, as his wound is minor, he returns to the front.

This time, the villagers ask Halide Edib when they should leave Ankara, but she tells them it will never happen. In the meantime, the Greek army of one hundred thousand people is advancing toward Ankara, and the Turkish forces consist of twenty-five thousand people. Knowing that this is their last chance, she wires to Mustafa Kemal Pasha to volunteer. Then, the pasha appoints her to the western front.

Sakarya

Since there is no coal, the trains are now used only for military purposes, and the wood is transported to the stations with great effort. The trains are all third class, the seats are wooden, the compartments are full of bugs, and the windows are broken. When Halide Edib gets off at Mallı, a young lieutenant takes her to the headquarters. At the headquarters, Ismet Pasha tells her that she is now a soldier in his army and asks if she visited the commander-in-chief. When he finds out that she did not, he tells her that he will appoint her to her post after visiting the commander-in-chief.

As Mustafa Kemal Pasha sees her, he gets up from his seat with difficulty because his ribs still hurt. Halide Edib kisses his hand, and he introduces her to Colonel Arif next to him. Although Colonel Arif seems kind, Halide Edib feels that he is uncomfortable with her presence there. When she sits down, Mustafa Kemal Pasha explains the situation to her on the map. While looking at the map, Halide Edib imagines the Greek army approaching Ankara like a monster. When asked what will happen if they

enter Ankara, the pasha replies, "I say *bon voyage messieurs*, I will attack them behind, and they will perish in the wilds."

When she returns, Ismet Pasha appoints her to the First Section to work under Major Kemal. Major Kemal is an anti-militarist, has nine wounds on his body, and is always in and out of wars. He orders Halide Edib to keep a daily report of people, ammunition, and weapons. Major Kemal or Halide Edib presents these reports to Mustafa Kemal Pasha every evening. One evening, when Mustafa Kemal Pasha notices an error in a number, Major Kemal admits to his mistake. Halide Edib is very impressed by the pasha's mastery of details.

After meals, they chat about various topics. Mustafa Kemal Pasha sometimes states that if they are defeated, they will retreat to Sivas. Colonel Arif always complains that human life is worthless in this country and that there is always someone to send to death. Halide Edib feels Colonel Arif's emotional side when he talks about her maid Ayşe and his bear. He and his bear get along so well that they wrestle at every opportunity. When Halide Edib sees this bear a few months later, she finds it scary, but she does not hesitate to offer him pears.

Shortly after the war starts, Mount Çal, an important point, falls. While Mustafa Kemal Pasha is undecided whether to order retreat or not, a phone call comes from Fevzi Pasha at two in the night, and they learn that the Greek army is about to retreat. One of the Greek prisoners, whom Halide Edib has the opportunity to talk to, later on, tells that every time they attacked a mountain, they were told that Ankara was behind that mountain, but they never saw Ankara.

Headquarters is moved to the point, where the battle takes place. There, Colonel Asım makes Halide Edib a corporal. Together with Major Muharrem, they go to the place where the artillery units are. They are ordered to walk on their faces, and as they walk on all fours, Halide Edib feels ridiculous. Finally, Duatepe is taken, and Halide Edib's last vision of it is with a single Turkish soldier standing against the sun.

The Greeks leave the east of Sakarya. Mustafa Kemal Pasha is happy like a child. One day, while having lunch, he extends his hand to Colonel Arif and asks him to read his fortune. Colonel Arif says that light comes through his fingers and that he never hides what he thinks. The pasha laughs and states that there is no need to look at his hand to say this.

One evening, Yusuf Akçura and Dr. Murat visit Halide Edib. Dr. Murat tells her that they climbed to the top of Karadağ, saw three wounded Turkish soldiers there. But a Greek doctor bandaged their wounds and left them with bread and water. However, the scene that impresses him more was a Turkish and a Greek lying dead in each other's arms.

When they settle in Polatlı, they start to hear about the atrocities caused by the Greeks in the Sakarya villages. Thus, Halide Edib presents a report on this issue to Ismet Pasha, and Ismet Pasha orders her to examine and report all the crimes of the Greeks in that region without exaggeration.

Checking the villages, Halide Edib, Yakup Kadri, Yusuf Akçura, a lieutenant and a photographer, learn that the Greeks killed animals and burned people alive. As Halide Edib hears about what women went through, she suggests that they do not include the women's names in the report, and her suggestion is accepted.

With Yusuf Akçura

When Halide Edib says that they will start the investigations for the report at ten in the morning and finish at four in the afternoon, Yusuf Akçura objects to her because he does not like to work between certain hours. He gets bored when there is no excitement of war and wants to return to Ankara as soon as possible because he is newly married. On the contrary, Yakup Kadri is very calm. He reports to Halide Edib what is going on in the room where he stays together with Yusuf Akçura; when Yusuf Akçura wakes up in the morning, he swears at Halide Edib and says: "She is a sorceress." Yakup Kadri jeers at him because he believes in what he says. Yusuf Akçura can't stand the conditions and leaves. Later on, Yakup Kadri leaves because due to his health condition.

A Tatar Village

Halide Edib stays in a Tatar village for about a week. The Greeks did nothing to the villagers because they considered them Russians. The village is very clean. Women are not tired, and children are literate. The school has teachers. They are in a better situation than other villagers.

Since the country has a population problem, Halide Edib proposes Ismet Pasha to bring immigrants from Crimea. Ismet Pasha, looking at an old Mongolian woman with protruding cheekbones carrying water in his garden, says, "They would alter the looks of the Turkish race. I don't want us to look like that."

Tahsin, Son Tahsin

In response to Halide Edib's telegraph, the Red Crescent sends a representative to determine the primary needs of the region. Miss Allen and Miss Billing, representatives of America's Near East Relief Organization, are also summoned because they are suspicious of the reports submitted. One night, while on the way to the place where they will spend the night, they come across a woman. As the woman cries, "Tahsin, son Tahsin," Major Tahsin stops his horse. The woman asks him where he got the uniform from, how he got the mustache. When Major Tahsin says that he is not her son, the woman continues to look for her son, calling his name again.

Mehmed the Circassian

While Halide Edib presents her reports to Ismet Pasha, the pasha tells her that he will go to Bolvadin at night, spend the night in Aziziye and that she can join him if she wants. Half an hour later, they leave with the pasha's car. On their arrival, Izzeddin Pasha gives them a feast and introduces them to the former district governor of Aziziye, Nuri Bey. Halide Edib cannot remember this man, who looks familiar to her. When Ismet Pasha decides to sleep at the headquarters and leaves the place prepared for him in Nuri Bey's house to Halide Edib, Nuri Bey reminds her of himself. Halide Edib figures that he is Mehmed the Circassian, who worked in their house when she was a child. While talking to him, she forgets to take her belt and gun and goes to his house.

A Man

Halide Edib wakes up at night hearing a noise, runs to the window, and seeing a man she thinks that someone who does not know that she stays there came to assassinate Ismet Pasha. Then they find a ladder leaning against the house. After doing some research, they find out that a stranger asked around about them. Hearing the incident, Ismet Pasha asks Halide Edib whether she is afraid or not. Halide Edib says that she does not prefer to be stabbed. Then, Ismet Pasha asks if she would shoot the man if she had her gun with her. Halide Edib, who has never thought of this before, thinks of the possibility of being a murderer and feels glad that she forgot her gun.

Sergeant Fatma

As the number of reports to be published increases, Halide Edib wants to return to Ankara with a twenty-day leave. She goes with Major Tevfik to Beylikkopru as he wants to visit his family in Nallihan. While on the road, Major Tevfik tells her that the commander in Beylikkopru is very harsh and that many soldiers flee because of him. When Halide Edib enters the commander's tent in Beylikkopru, the commander introduces her to another female soldier. The female soldier is Sergeant Fatma, a tall, gray-haired woman. The commander says that two journalists took a picture of Sergeant Fatma with a rifle that morning and asks Halide Edib to write an article about her. When he gets out of the tent, Sergeant Fatma sits on a chair, puts her head in her hands, and tells Halide Edib that she is afraid of the rifle. The commander shows her to every passerby, her knees shake up when he speaks, his assistant beats the fugitive soldiers badly, and she is there to help the soldiers.

Soldiers and Oxen

After the commander returns to the tent, a young military doctor enters and informs him that they cannot carry out the order to transfer the patients. As the commander is enraged, the doctor claims that it would be dangerous to transport the soldiers with weak chests because the cold is seventeen below zero. The doctor resists a little longer, but the commander repeats his order and dismisses him. After the doctor leaves, he turns to Halide Edib to tell that hundreds of oxen die of hunger and exhaustion, that oxen can only graze in the countryside around Beylikkopru, and that he wants them to

work at night and graze in the daytime. Halide Edib, on the other hand, gets angry that oxen are more valuable than humans for the commander but does not say anything.

The Commander's Son

The little son of the commander enters Halide Edib's tent. When he reaches for her gun, Halide Edib scolds him. After saying that his mother and sister are afraid of guns, he asks permission to sit on a chair. As he starts to tell that he does whatever he wants to do to the soldiers and gives orders to his mother and sister at home just like his father, Halide Edib orders him to be quiet. As soon as he hears some footsteps, he leaves in fear.

The Show of the Commander

After a while, some voices come from outside the tent. The commander insults the fugitive soldiers with a loud cry and orders the soldier next to him to hit them. "You have allowed the enemy to trample on your homeland. They raped your women. This country has never seen so dishonorable as you. Strike!" Halide Edib questions why this beating show is held near her tent and concludes that the commander wants to show her his power.

Şebben

After receiving a telegram from Antalya Health Director Hasan Ferit that her father had a stroke, Halide Edib sets off with the Red Crescent delegation to establish a hospital in Isparta. After a long journey, she meets three women in a village house where she stays. One of them is Şebben, a woman with large hips and broad shoulders. When she lies in front of the fire, Şebben tells her all about the village. After a while, all the women of the village fill the room. When one of them asks when the war will end, the room is filled with grief. Şebben says that she misses her husband, Kara Huseyin, who has been in the army for two years. When Halide Edib later tells the story of Şebben to Ismet Pasha, he writes the permission slip for Kara Huseyin himself. Halide Edib writes the story named *Şebben's Kara Huseyin* upon Ismet Pasha's suggestion. After the story comes out, he says, "I didn't know that every one of the hundred thousand soldiers I commanded in the army had Şebbens in their homes. They seemed like human bundles to me going on donkeys."

Haji Murad

Halide Edib gives the opening speech of the hospital established by the Red Crescent. Afterward, she finally sees her father in Antalya. As he starts to recover, Hasan Ferit and Rana Hanım, a deceased doctor's wife, join Halide Edib to go to Ankara. While staying at Kirkgoz Inn, they hear scary stories about bandits. In particular, they hear that the bandit called Haji Murad kills people by pouring boiling olive oil over people.

On the way, they feel relieved when they pass the slope that Haji Murad often keeps. But suddenly, eight people appear in front of them. Their chiefs wear a military overcoat. They later learn that he acquired it during a robbery. After looking at them without showing fear, the bandits all turn their backs and leave.

The Daughter of the Commander in Beylikkopru

One morning, at the headquarters in Akşehir, she sees Captain Cemil talking to Major Tahsin. When she goes up to them, Captain Cemil tells Halide Edib that he is now married to the daughter of the commander in Beylikkopru. When he was the commander's neighbor, the commander's daughter showed herself to him from the window, and he wrote a letter asking her to meet with him secretly. The girl openly said that she wanted to marry him to escape from her family. The captain agreed and married her. Now his room is spotless, thanks to her. Moreover, the girl learned photography and became a female photographer in Akşehir. When Halide Edib remembers the commander and his little son, she agrees with the girl.

Love

When she goes to Ankara on a month's leave, a private informs her that a woman wants to see her. The woman is there on behalf of the imam's sister. The imam's sister is in love with Sergeant Sadeddin and wants to marry him, but the commander does not allow the sergeant to marry. They ask

her to mediate. After telling this, she says that she also wants to marry Corporal Mustafa. Halide Edib asks if the corporal is married. At first, the woman states that she doesn't care about it, and then that he is single, that Seyyid Agha wants to take her as his fourth wife, but that she will never marry a married man. At that instant, the doctor comes in, the woman leaves.

Returnees from Malta

The deportees by the English come back from Malta. Ziya Gökalp is among them. He often meets Halide Edib and talks to her. At every opportunity, he argues that Turks should adhere to Western principles.

Return to the Front

Halide Edib completes her work, *The Shirt of Flame*, and returns to the front. She visits the schools around Akşehir to investigate. One day, when Ismet Pasha says that she can join him to meet a guest from Ankara, they go to the station together. Since the weather is cold, Ismet Pasha's cloak is on Halide Edib. When Dr. Adnan gets off the train, Halide Edib runs toward him and asks if he recognized her. Dr. Adnan replies, "No, we were wondering who was the young general without a mustache."

Orphanage

Halide Edib takes a leave for a while and goes to Ankara. However, since the Americans and Turks plan to open an orphanage in Kayseri, she goes to Kayseri for examination. While she is working there, Mustafa Kemal Pasha sends a telegram ordering her to return to the army. So, she sets off to the front via Konya.

Colonel Kâmil

The limping of Colonel Kâmil, who provides Halide Edib with a vehicle near Afyonkarahisar, attracts Halide Edib's attention. When she asks why he limps, Colonel Kâmil says that he fell into the hands of the anti-revolutionaries in Konya. They beat him on the first day, extracted the nails of his toes on the second day, and tied his naked body to a horse on the third day.

In Afyon

When she reaches the headquarters in Afyon, she finds Mustafa Kemal Pasha and Fevzi Pasha working with a map. So, she tells Mustafa Kemal Pasha, "After you take Izmir, pasha, you will rest, you have struggled so hard." But Mustafa Kemal Pasha opposes her, "Rest; what rest? After the Greeks, we will fight each other. We will eat each other." When they sit down to eat, he tells her that they need to find another exciting job after the fight is over.

Dumlupınar

Halide Edib goes to Dumlupınar with Dr. Murat. She finds Mustafa Kemal Pasha in Nureddin Pasha's house. After telling her how the women lynched a Greek man, Mustafa Kemal Pasha turns to Nureddin Pasha and orders him to take Halide Edib to Kızılcadere. Halide Edib sees abandoned rifles, dead people, and animals there. On the way back, they see Greek prisoners in a burned village. In another village, they come across a captain looking for the body of his twin brother and help him find and bury the body.

Uşak

They go to Uşak and stay there for three days. General Tricopis and General Dionis surrender to the Turks. While the uniforms of Mustafa Kemal Pasha, Fevzi Pasha, and Ismet Pasha are as plain as those of the privates, their uniforms are too showy. Fevzi Pasha and Ismet Pasha do not extend their hands, but Mustafa Kemal Pasha grips General Tricopis's hand and holds it longer than for an ordinary handshake. The general theatrically tells him, "I didn't know you were such a young man." After that, they sit down and start talking. Since the Turks cut off their communication, different parts of the Greek army could not communicate with each other. In addition, the Venizelists and Constantinists conflicted with each other, damaging the army's cohesion. When the meeting is over, Mustafa Kemal Pasha asks them what he can do for them. General Tricopis wants his wife in Istanbul to be informed of his condition. Mustafa Kemal Pasha shakes the general's hand again and says, "War is a game of

chance, general. The very best is sometimes worst. You have done your best as a soldier and an honorable man; the responsibility rests with a chance. Do not be distressed." General Tricopis reproaches himself, implying that he could not dare to commit suicide.

Akşehir, Salihli and Nif

They transfer the headquarters to the few remaining buildings in Akşehir. While the smell of burned human flesh is all over the place, Halide Edib reflects on how people can become monsters and thinks of committing suicide. When she remembers Nâzım's death, she gives up on this idea. While she is in a thoughtful state, a young soldier stands in front of her, telling her that he is preparing the promotion list and she is a sergeant now. She does not seem interested in the news. As she enters the room reserved for her, she lies on the bed with her dog but cannot sleep until morning.

The following day, while they are riding their horses toward Salihli, they come across a car. The person in the car is Kemaleddin Sami Pasha, who proposes Halide Edib to take her to Salihli. When they reach Salihli square, the pasha collects the rifles and ammunition on the ground. At that moment, bullets begin to fall like rain through the trees. The pasha orders stopping the fire, and they learn that the reason for the fire is two Greek planes over the city.

Again, they see that almost everything is burned and destroyed. Of the 8,000 buildings, only a few hundred remain. When Halide Edib settles in the room where she will spend the night, the women around her bring her back to the reality of daily life. One of them says that she did not hear from her son, who joined the army, and asks her to investigate. Another woman tells that her little eight-year-old daughter was shot in the heart by Greek soldiers while she was holding up a white handkerchief.

In the morning, while the pashas are talking about preparations to enter Izmir at the headquarters, the news arrives that the foreign consuls are set to hand over the city to the Turkish army. Then Mustafa Kemal Pasha says, "Whose city are they giving to whom?" slamming his fist on the table. Afterward, they decide to go to Nif instead of spending the night there. Halide Edib sends a note for some bread to Kemaleddin Sami Pasha, who is in town because they cannot find anything to eat. After receiving the note, the pasha comes in his car with only a loaf of bread, two boxes of sardines, and some cheese. He proposes to go to Manisa by car, but Halide Edib declines his offer, saying she will go by horse. While some of them plan to set out in the morning, Major Tahsin, Captain Cemil, and Halide Edib set off on their horses in the evening. When they arrive in Nif at four in the morning, Halide Edib collapses in front of a house. Someone wakes her up to tell her that he can find a place for her. Then Halide Edib finds herself in a small room and falls asleep in her riding boots. During the breakfast in the morning, when Mustafa Kemal Pasha says that they will enter Izmir, Halide Edib replies, "I'd rather not go in a procession of triumph. I thank you very much, pasha, but, honestly, I prefer to go afterward quietly." But the pasha orders, "You will come with us, madam." At noon, they set off for Izmir in five cars decorated with olive branches.

In Izmir

While Mustafa Kemal Pasha and Nureddin Pasha are discussing military issues, a sword lays on the table. Since different troops entered Izmir simultaneously, many people claim to this sword, which is sent from the eastern provinces to be given to the first to enter the city. However, Captain Şerafeddin, the first cavalry commander to arrive at the dock, is entitled to it. This little man with bandaged head and arm recounts his experience. When he arrived, the dock was empty. The first person they saw was a French admiral. When the admiral began to advise him to treat Christians well, he told him that the dock was not safe for him. Right after that, a bomb was thrown out of a window, and gunshots followed it. He was injured while trying to save the admiral.

After that, they go to Karşıyaka and choose two houses there as headquarters. The next day, Mustafa Kemal Pasha is thrilled to meet a young woman named Latife. He tells Halide Edib that this young woman mentions her as a teacher and then whispers into her ear that she keeps his picture in a small locket. In fact, many young women carry the picture of Mustafa Kemal Pasha in a locket in those days.

On the morning of September 12, someone from the headquarters wakes Halide Edib to inform her that there is a document to be translated. The British demand that Mustafa Kemal Pasha confirms that he declared that the Turks were at war with the British. When she goes to the headquarters, Mustafa Kemal Pasha tells her that if the Greek soldiers were not enabled by the British, they could not attack Izmir and that there is no venture in the Near East without the British's involvement.

Meanwhile, the fire begins in Armenian quarters. Ismet Pasha says that the Greeks did everything to burn the city and that the fire pipes were deliberately broken. The fire gets bigger when the dynamite placed by the Greeks under the churches of Aya Triada and Foti and some houses explode.

They move the headquarters to Bornova because of the fire. Mustafa Kemal Pasha stays at Latife Hanım's house because it is far from the fire. Halide Edib asks Ismet Pasha for support to show the journalists the battlefield and prepare her final report.

Latife Hanım hosts Ismet Pasha, Halide Edib, and journalists at her home on September 18. That night, Mustafa Kemal Pasha drinks raki for the first time before Halide Edib, and for the first time, he does not condemn anyone while speaking.

Being a Sergeant Major

While having dinner with Fevzi Pasha one evening, he tells Halide Edib that he appointed her a sergeant major. Halide Edib thanks him, but states that her favorite rank is corporal.

From Izmir to Bursa

Before leaving Izmir, a young captain grabs Halide Edib's arm to tell her that he joined the army after listening to her speech in Sultanahmet. Reminding her that she said, "Governments are our enemies, people are our friends," asks her to talk to Mustafa Kemal Pasha to protect the Greeks.

A woman in Manisa tells her that when the army entered Izmir, she returned to her house, which is still intact, but that she found two dead women, one of whom was pregnant, in her garden, but that she cannot tolerate the lynching of the Greeks.

In Alaşehir, a young female teacher reports to Halide Edib that the Greeks raped Turkish girls. Yet two other Greek soldiers opened fire on them so that she could defend herself.

When they stop by a village two hours away from Uşak, the village imam says that there is no point in writing the past and that they are waiting for Ismet Pasha's help: "We are looking forward, not backward, we want to forget the past. We will live."

The Imam sends them a twelve-year-old boy as a guide. While chatting with Halide Edib, the boy tells her about his life. As an orphan at seven, this boy's inheritance consisted of a pair of oxen, a hut, a grandmother, and an older sister. He worked for three years and bought two buffaloes, but the Greeks took them away. When Halide Edib asks what he wants to do now, he says he will work for three years and buy a pair of buffaloes. His answer feeds Halide Edib's hope for the future of life in Anatolia increases.

When they approach Bursa, they encounter an elderly couple who want to walk around because they were locked in their homes for a year due to the war. In Bursa, too, people sit in front of their houses until midnight because they are tired of staying at home.

Seeing Fikriye Hanım for the Last Time

While Halide Edib is leaving Bursa, the train stops because of engine trouble, and they get off. While waiting, a passing car stops. Mustafa Kemal Pasha gets out of it and introduces her to Kazım Karabekir Pasha. Then he says that he sends Fikriye Hanım to the sanatorium. After noticing Fikriye Hanım in the car, Halide Edib wants to say goodbye to her. Fikriye Hanım seems sick and miserable. She tells Halide Edib that she is going on the insistence of Mustafa Kemal Pasha, that she will stay in Istanbul for a few days first, and that she will settle in the sanatorium after having her dress made in Paris. Halide Edib feels sorry for her, thinking that she is trying to restore Mustafa Kemal Pasha's interest with some Parisian dress.

Later, it reaches her ear that when Fikriye Hanım learned in the sanatorium in Munich that Mustafa Kemal Pasha and Latife Hanım got married, she cried a lot. She left before ending her treatment. And in 1923, she reads the official sources declaring that a woman named Fikriye Hanım, a distant relative of Mustafa Kemal Pasha, killed herself near the pasha's house, as she could not reach him.

Dr. Adnan

Dr. Adnan resigns from his duty as vice-president of the Grand National Assembly, acting on behalf of Mustafa Kemal Pasha during the war, because he is exhausted.

Kazım Karabekir Pasha and Children

While Halide Edib is in Ankara, she sees children dressed as soldiers on the street, but they are not mechanically walking like soldiers. As she mentions them, she learns from Dr. Adnan that Kazım Karabekir Pasha adopted about two thousand children whose parents died in Erzurum and Erzincan. He does not give military training to them. Together with a Russian woman, he teaches them music. He tries to get them to have a job. He talks to them instead of punishing them when they make mistakes. He teaches them the essentials of hygiene so firmly that children teach what they learned to their surviving relatives when visiting them. One of these children tells Halide Edib, "I really made my people understand the mischief of microbes. You see, I told them that they were like the evil djinns which they know from the Koran."

Ankara against Istanbul

After the Mudanya Armistice is signed on 29 September, 1922, both the governments of Istanbul and Ankara are invited to the Lausanne Conference. Thus, in a session chaired by Dr. Adnan, the Assembly separates the sultanate from the caliphate and abolishes the former.

That evening, Dr. Adnan calls Halide Edib to inform her of the situation and that they will celebrate it in Çankaya and he will be late at night. When he comes home at four in the morning, he wakes her up to tell her that he talked to Mustafa Kemal Pasha about the sycophants around him who denigrate Ali Fuad Pasha and Rauf Bey, and that the pasha assured him that he never allows anyone to get between him and his real comrades.

Back to Istanbul

As Dr. Adnan is proposed to represent Ankara against foreigners in Istanbul, they eventually return to Istanbul. As Halide Edib enters the city, she thinks about how they left it two years ago. When they are at Mahmure's house, she remembers the blankets over the windows hiding the wanted woman. Thinking that those days are behind now, she hugs her sister.

Themes

Chaos and order Halide Edib's memoirs recount the period of the National Struggle between 1918 and 1922 with its daily reality. Both the invasion of foreign powers and the civil war create a chaotic situation in the country, but people continue to maintain order in their daily lives. The Circassians' wedding Halide Edib and her companions come across on their way to Anatolia is the first sign of it. The complex human relations into which Halide Edib is drawn in the villages where they settle indicate that order exists together with the chaos. Hasan and his wife, the conflict between Mehmed the Mad's three wives, the imam's daughter who is in love with Sergeant Sadeddin, and the woman who wants to marry Corporal Mustafa show that the war cannot destroy some parts of daily life. That Halide Edib and her friends do not refrain from fostering animals in the headquarters - Doctor Refik has cats, Halide Edib has dogs, and Colonel Arif has a bear - exhibits it, too. People continue to love people and animals, fall in love, marry, clash, and compete with each other in the chaotic state of the country.

Patriotism Halide Edib joins the National Struggle after the occupation of Izmir. For this cause, she leaves her children and goes to Anatolia by taking all kinds of risks. During the struggle, she hears people complain about the war many times, and she is asked why the occupation of one region concerns other regions. From the beginning to the end of the movement, she does not support this idea of regionalism and does her best to defend the whole country.

Criticism During the National Struggle, Halide Edib does not hesitate to oppose things that her mind and conscience do not accept. When necessary, she objects to Mustafa Kemal Pasha, whom she considers a leader, and does not cover up the contradictions she sees in him. For example, when Mustafa Kemal Pasha wants to approve the execution list sent by Circassian Edhem, she argues that Ankara should keep its promise and not send those whom it has forgiven to death. Again, when Mustafa Kemal Pasha states that he always expects obedience from everyone, Halide Edib informs him that she will obey him as long as he remains loyal to the national cause. She also states

that Mustafa Kemal Pasha pursues opposite ideals to reach his goal. However, she admits that all the features he possesses contribute to his success.

National Self-Esteem Although the occupation of Izmir is what pushes Halide Edib to the ranks of the National Struggle, what shocks her more than that is the British statesmen's statement about the East and the "big stick policy." When she notifies Mustafa Kemal Pasha about this, she is equally impressed by what Pasha says while objecting to it as a representative of the East. That day, she believes that even if all the wrongs between people are forgotten, the claim of superiority will never fade away.

Empowerment Despite all the dangers, the National Struggle is an empowering experience for Halide Edib. In this process, she turns into an influential public figure mobilizing people speaking in rallies, and even though women do not have the right to be elected, people vote for her.