

HUMANITIES INSTITUTE  
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## **Forty Years Ago, Forty Years Later: Memoirs of Detention (1986)** Rifat Ilgaz (1911 – 1993)

### OVERVIEW

**Author and Work** Rifat Ilgaz is best known for his novel *The Chaos Class*, but he has written many poems, short stories, novels, plays, and memoirs. He began his literary career in 1926 with a poem published by a local magazine in Kastamonu. After his father's death, instead of continuing high school and university, he enrolled in a normal school and became a primary school teacher. However, in 1944, he was sentenced to 6 months in prison on the grounds that his poetry book, *Class* incited class hostility, and he could not continue his teaching career because he had a criminal record. As he earned his living as a journalist, his books were banned many times, his name was removed from the books, and he was sued many times because he was blacklisted. His most famous work, the novel *The Chaos Class*, was created by gathering the pieces he wrote in the humor magazine *Dolmuş* in the 1950s. *The Chaos Class* was adapted for both theater and cinema. However, since he was blacklisted, he was not involved in the film's creation process in any way. Moreover, he was not satisfied with the movie because the political criticisms in the novel were removed from the story by the screenwriter Umur Bugay. After retiring from journalism, he settled in his hometown of Cide in 1974. However, he could not avoid being targeted by the government even during his retirement days. After the military coup of September 12, 1980, his book *The Chaos Class* was banned and his name was removed from the end credits. In his memoir *Forty Years Ago, Forty Years Later: Memories of Detention* (1986), he recounted the unfair treatment he was subjected to by both the government and right-wing political groups. During his stay in Cide, a small district of Kastamonu, he was disturbed by the fact that the activities of religious orders were carried out with state permission. Some high schoolers interviewed him about laicism upon the request of their teacher before May 19 the Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day, and some organized theater performances at the People's Houses, community centers constructed by the government to decrease the influence of the conservative circles. Cide's leading right-wing figures, disturbed by this tendency among the youth, tried to have Rifat Ilgaz arrested on the grounds that he was encouraging the youth to engage in political activities. Ilgaz was detained in the last days of May 1981 while he was writing his novel *Yıldız Karayel* [*The Wind from North and Northwest*]. He was admitted to a sanatorium under the supervision of soldiers when his health deteriorated again due to the tuberculosis he had suffered during his youth. The detention order against him was lifted during the two months he spent in the sanatorium.

### CHARACTERS

|                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Fahir Onger</i>     | Critic                            |
| <i>Muammer Karayel</i> | Teacher                           |
| <i>Mustafa Yılmaz</i>  | Teacher, bookseller               |
| <i>Önder Cin</i>       | Teacher                           |
| <i>Pakize Yelen</i>    | Teacher                           |
| <i>Ramazan Tuğtepe</i> | Teacher, People's House President |
| <i>Sevil Yıldırım</i>  | Teacher                           |
| <i>Vasık Balkış</i>    | Lawyer                            |

### SYNOPSIS

Rifat Ilgaz was sentenced to 6 months in prison in 1944 on the grounds that he had propagated leftist ideas in his book, *Class*. He stated in his defense that since he was a teacher, the word "class" meant a school classroom and that the red cover of the book was because red was a noticeable color. But he could not convince the court. The court claimed that the first three chapters of the book, which consisted of nineteen parts, were about classrooms, but the other sixteen chapters dealt with the class distinction between the rich and the poor, and that the main purpose of the book was to eliminate the capitalists in the country. This was a crime according to Article 142 of the law. Thus, Ilgaz was sentenced to 6 months in prison. After this sentence, Ilgaz could not practice his profession as a teacher again because he had a criminal record and started to work as a journalist. After retiring, he settled in his hometown, Cide in 1974. In time, he noticed that the visibility of the members of various

religious orders increased. In 1980, a military coup took place. After a while, he was detained while writing his novel *Yıldız Karayel*. The soldiers examined all the newspapers, magazines, and books in the house and took him to the district gendarmerie command. Following a medical examination, he was locked up with other detainees. While waiting, he heard the sounds coming from the interrogation room. Then, he realized that the high schoolers who had interviewed him were also detained. However, he was not interrogated, he was blindfolded and taken outside. Despite being blindfolded, he could easily see the surroundings. He was put into a gendarmerie vehicle under the gaze of the notables of Cide. Thanks to the sympathy the sergeant and driver in the vehicle felt for him, he and his fellow travelers Mustafa Yılmaz and Ramazan Tuğtepe were able to eat. The vehicle left them in Kastamonu. Here, they were kept in a ward for a while and then taken for interrogation. As the questioner sought political reasons for his move to Cide, he told how much he loved his hometown. However, Ramazan Tuğtepe confessed that he had hidden the Kalashnikovs somewhere in Cide. Tuğtepe was then taken to Cide to show the place. Rifat Ilgaz was examined in Kastamonu as well. When the doctor stated that he was sick, he was admitted to a sanatorium under the supervision of soldiers. During his stay in the sanatorium, he understood that the soldiers were staying with him not as a precaution against his escape but to protect him from attacks from different political groups. After a while later, the detention order against him was lifted.

## EVENTS

### *Class*

In 1944, Rifat Ilgaz is sentenced to 6 months in prison because of his book, *Class*. The book cover is red, which reminds the officials of communism. In the poem called *Class*, whose name is given to the book, a rich boy from the Kadioğlu family curses his classmate Halil. But Halil does not respond to these curses, because his father is a worker at this Kadioğlu farm. The court claims that the poem violates Article 142 of the law by depicting the rich as evil-hearted people who bully the poor who are docile and patient people. According to Article 142, attempting to eliminate a social group is a crime and this poem targets capitalists. After being sentenced to 6 months, Ilgaz is banned from teaching and thus begins journalism.

### *Adembaba* [Father adam] and *Devam* [Continuation]

In the 1950s, 7 lawsuits are filed against the first issue of the humor magazine *Adembaba*, which he publishes alone. One of the articles in question depicts a drunk. This drunk is caught by the police while he is walking around Taksim, swearing at the people living in the apartments, those who get involved in haram transactions, and those who lie while speaking from the podiums. When he is accused of insulting the government at the police station, he says that he is angry at the people living in the apartments and those who lie in their public speeches. The police officer who catches him intervenes and adds that he also swears at the people getting involved in haram transactions. That is when he is told that he insulted the government. The drunk then claims that he did not say anything about this government, but was criticizing governments in other places. This time, the commissioner says that they know very well which government to insult.

Again, in the 1950s, his poetry book, *Devam* is accused of making communist propaganda and obscenity and is banned. A poem in the book describes two unemployed young men who attempt to undress a poor girl to rob her but cannot find either a bra or panties. When experts examine the book, they report that the book criticizes the rich, but that this cannot be communist propaganda, and that the young girl's situation points to the extent of poverty rather than arousing sexual feelings. Upon this report, the ban on the book is lifted.

### *Cide*

After retiring from journalism, he moves to a hotel in his hometown, Cide, in 1974. He has many friends in Cide, including the hotel manager, district attorney, district governor, and school principal. However, these people are replaced by religious people. Rifat Ilgaz feels that the new high school principal, known as the "Wolfman," which denotes the followers of the Nationalist Movement Party, avoids him. After a while, he moves from the hotel to the first-floor apartment of the building where the principal lives. His friends warn him against being shot by a passerby because he does not have curtains on his large windows. However, when the high school principal moves out of his fourth-floor apartment, Rifat Ilgaz moves to this apartment.

### *A Handgun*

One day, the district governor visits Rifat Ilgaz with the sergeant major to inform him that they give a handgun to all journalists. Rifat Ilgaz asks him jokingly who he wants him to shoot. The district governor states that he needs a handgun to defend himself. In order to criticize those who do not want roads and ports to be built in Cide, Rifat Ilgaz staged a play in which those who do not want roads cannot reach the hospital when they get sick and those who do not want ports have their marine engines broken down on the shore, and this particularly disturbed various religious sects that were active in Cide. Aware of this, Rifat Ilgaz says that he would use heavy machine guns in the army so he cannot use a handgun. He adds that he does not even lock his door and that if someone wants to kill him, he can kill him more easily during one of his morning walks along the seashore.

### *A Banner*

One morning in 1980, he notices that his neighbors are worried. Later, he learns that a banner was hung across the street from his building and that his neighbor's daughter-in-law tore it apart. The banner reads, "If Rifat Ilgaz is not removed from this building, the building will be blazed away on the 31st of August!" His son Aydın, unaware of what happened, comes from Istanbul to Cide to see him. Rifat Ilgaz does not want to upset his son and does not mention anything. Towards the evening, his apartment is the only apartment in the five-story building with lights on. While they enjoy the evening at the table on the balcony, the landlord arrives. However, Rifat Ilgaz sits up late at night chatting with his son.

### *Two Incidents and a Book Signing Event*

In Cide, where unusual events do not occur, one day a stick of dynamite explodes in front of a religious vocational high school. The administrators and regulars of the People's Houses are interrogated. After this incident, a truck full of bullets is seen in front of the district gendarmerie command. This truck is kept there for at least six months because it is said that the bullets are for use in village weddings not for smuggling purposes.

When Rifat Ilgaz organizes a book signing for his readers in the hotel hall, the commissioner shows up and takes one of each of his books to examine on the grounds that they may contain prohibited themes. Rifat Ilgaz complains that the truck full of bullets does not attract as much attention as his books.

### *High Schoolers*

One day, high school students, who are preparing for May 19 the Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day, are asked by their teacher, Önder Cin, to research laicism in Turkey. And they come to visit Rifat Ilgaz. Laicism is an important issue for him, as the religious orders in Cide increase their visibility.

### *The Chaos Class*

After some young people stage a few successful plays, everyone who has a connection with the People's Houses is interrogated. A book by Bertrand Russell and *The Chaos Class*, which are found in the house of Sevil Yıldırım, one of the board members of the People's Houses, are confiscated. *The Chaos Class* is a work whose author is forgotten when it is praised but remembered when it is blamed. Rifat Ilgaz always claims that "there are no bad students, there are bad teachers." However, in the movie adapted from the book, the principal of the boarding school blames the parents for the children's lack of education. And most of the students in his novel are orphans and he also enrolls in a normal school after his father's death. When the movie is broadcast on television, his name is removed from the end credits. Moreover, he cannot stand the actor Münir Özkul, who plays the part of the principal and boastfully tells how he creates the character Mahmut the Bald. He is upset that his novel is easily ignored.

### *Yıldız Karayel [The Wind from North and Northwest]*

Eight months after the military coup on September 12, 1980, Rifat Ilgaz is detained while writing his novel *Yıldız Karayel* at home. When soldiers come to the house and sort through the newspapers,

magazines, and books in the house, a sergeant wants to use his typewriter to make a list of them. While putting the drafts of the novel aside, he asks its name. Rifat Ilgaz explains that it is named after the wind blowing from the opposite coast. The sergeant then emphasizes that the wind is blowing from the north. Rifat Ilgaz, thinking that the sergeant is suspecting something, explains again that the wind is not blowing from the north but from the northwest. This distinction is important because Soviet Russia is in the north.

#### Detention under Eyes

Rifat Ilgaz leaves the house without any money, just putting on his clothes. The soldiers ask him if he locks the door, but he comfortably says that there is no lock on the door.

When he goes downstairs, he sees soldiers coming out of everywhere and the neighbors watching them from the windows. He thinks that even a truck full of bullets is not taken so seriously. When he arrives at the district gendarmerie command, he sees some of Cide's leading figures coming out of the building smiling and a colonel thanking them for the information they have given.

#### *Medical Examination*

As soon as he enters the building, he first learns that he is to be examined by a physician. Since moving to Cide, he has only been to a physician once because of his swollen leg. He is known by his circle as a 70-year-old man who does not take medications, and he does not even have a health record. The person to examine him is a young physician who is the son-in-law of one of his acquaintances. He puts the stethoscope on his back, listens to his breathing, and tells him that he is healthy.

#### *In the Ward*

After the examination, he is taken to a ward. Inside, he sees his friends Ramazan Tuğtepe and Muammer Karayel. They are standing with their eyes blindfolded and their hands leaning against the wall. A soldier blindfolds him and asks him to raise his arms and open his legs. When the soldier kicks him to open his legs even wider, Rifat Ilgaz gets angry, rips off the blindfold, and sits on the bunk. He is sure that if he stands up, his feet and legs will swell due to arteriosclerosis. The soldier calls a corporal. When the corporal comes, Rifat Ilgaz explains that he is older than the ones standing and cannot wait long in that state. Then, the corporal leaves without saying anything.

#### *Fatoş*

A few hours later, he starts hearing voices coming from the interrogation room. One of the people being interrogated is Fatoş, a high school student who came to visit him. Fatoş is asked how she met Rifat Ilgaz's books. Fatoş says that he is from Cide and therefore an author from Cide. Fatoş is a young girl who draws well. Her paintings are exhibited in several exhibitions. Since her mother is a cleaner, she does not take the university entrance exam after finishing high school. She does not have the financial means to study. She marries a villager who works in Germany. Three years after this incident, she sends Rifat Ilgaz a holiday greeting card from Germany showing her loyalty.

#### *Journey*

Towards the morning, as Rifat Ilgaz is leaving the toilet, he is blindfolded by a soldier and taken outside. Despite being blindfolded, he can see his surroundings easily. He is taken into one of the vehicles under the contemptuous gazes of the mayor and prominent figures of Cide. His friends in the ward, Ramazan Tuğtepe and Mustafa Yilmazer, are also in the vehicle. When Ramazan Tuğtepe says that they are being taken to Inebolu, Rifat Ilgaz asks the sergeant in the front seat if they can talk. The sergeant allows them to both talk and remove the blindfold from their eyes, saying that they come from Daday and are taking them to Kastamonu. The driver joins the conversation by telling Rifat Ilgaz that he has just finished reading his novel *Sarı Yazma* (The Yellow Scarf). A little later, as they pass by a village coffeehouse, the sergeant orders tea to the car. The corporal sitting next to Rifat Ilgaz says that he read *The Chaos Class* before his military service, that one of the girls he brought to the command post to interrogate at night had also read his books, and that she said this without fear during the interrogation. Since they haven't eaten anything since the evening, they want to buy cheese and bread. Since Rifat Ilgaz has no money, he borrows some from Mustafa Yilmazer and eats with his friends.

## *Kastamonu*

Rifat Ilgaz says that the most humiliating town to be from for a person from Kastamonu is Cide. But when a soldier asks him his place of birth, he tells him Cide without hesitation. When asked why he is arrested, he expresses his surprise at being asked this, because he does not know what crime he has committed. But the soldier insists that he says something, then, he replies that he is arrested because he is a socialist. A little later, he is put back in the same vehicle and taken to prison.

## *In the Prison*

Everyone brought by different vehicles is filled into a ward. When asked to stand with his eyes blindfolded, Rifat Ilgaz removes the blindfold and then says that he cannot stand because of his age. The guard allows him to sit. After sitting, he points to Mustafa Yılmaz, saying that he is an old man too. Then, the guard lets him sit as well. Upon learning that Rifat Ilgaz is a writer, the guard asks him why there is a military operation in Cide. Rifat Ilgaz finds the word "military operation" weird because he does not think Cide, which has always been a quiet town, with such terms.

## *In the Interrogation*

He hears screams as he is about to fall asleep. So, he cannot sleep. In the morning, he is interrogated too. The interrogator is the colonel he saw in Cide. He asks why he went to Moscow years ago and settled in Cide. Rifat Ilgaz explains how much he loves his hometown, praising its nature. The colonel asks why he has gathered the young people around him. Rifat Ilgaz says that the young people want to meet with him, that he teaches them folk songs, poems, and plays, and that he meets not only with the young people but also with older people who want him to read some old scripts like land registry records and sultans' decrees.

He is surprised to learn that his friend Ramazan Tuğtepe has confessed to hiding the Kalashnikovs in Cide. When he meets him a few months later, he asks why he lied. Ramazan Tuğtepe tells him that when hundreds of Kalashnikovs were not found in Cide, he was taken to Ankara. That was what he wanted because a judge capable of understanding that he was not someone who would get involved in what he was charged with could be in the capital city, not in a small town. As he expected, the judge hearing the case sent him back to Cide.

## *Illness*

The next day, while sitting in the ward with Mustafa Yılmaz, Rifat Ilgaz is called to be examined. This time, the physician says that he is sick and needs to be hospitalized. The commander informs him that if he is insured, they will put him in the sanatorium in Ballıdağ. As Rifat Ilgaz says that he has insurance, he is sent to the sanatorium. On the way, they stop by Daday to see the gendarmes who took him from Cide to Kastamonu.

## *At the Sanatorium*

They arrive at the sanatorium late at night. Yakup Bey, the only physician in the institution, reports to the commander that Rifat Ilgaz needs two months of treatment. Keeping watch in a sanatorium among pine trees makes the soldiers happy. During the change of watch, they ask Rifat Ilgaz what he wants. He says that he needs some tea, sugar, and daily newspapers. They say that they will bring the tea and sugar, but since newspapers are forbidden for him, they can get them from other patients. Rifat Ilgaz, looking for news about him in the newspapers, sees the news about his detainment on May 30 in the *Cumhuriyet* newspaper dated June 4.

One day, he finds his daughter Yıldız and his son Aydın at the door of his room. When his daughter Yıldız talks to the chief physician, the chief physician expresses his fear that some right-wing groups may attack Rifat Ilgaz. However, Rifat Ilgaz is not afraid of anything because he trusts the soldiers who protect him. One day, while the soldiers on duty are in the kitchen to prepare tea, a booming sound comes from the pine trees. A smell resembling gunpowder permeates the air. The soldiers rush into the room and immediately take their weapons and leave. A short while later, it is understood that lightning struck and burned the electrical cables. After this incident, Rifat Ilgaz understands that the soldiers on duty are not waiting to prevent him from escaping but to protect him.

## *Leaving the Sanatorium*

One day, a colonel from Kastamonu informs him that the detention order against him has been lifted and tells him that he can be transferred to Ankara if he wants. He decides to stay in the sanatorium because the chief physician recommends that he stay there. When he wants to leave the sanatorium after two months, he is faced with a huge debt. Although he says that he has insurance, he is forced to pay. He writes a petition as a receipt, but when he wants to sign the petition, he is asked to put his thumbprint on it like an illiterate person. Although he does not like it, he does it.

At that moment, his teacher friend Pakize Yelen calls him to say that she wants to visit him. She comes to the sanatorium with her former student Nihat Bey, a commander, and takes Rifat Ilgaz to her house. Rifat Ilgaz's son Aydın finds him at Pakize Hanım's house and takes him back to Cide.

### *Fahir Onger's Words*

Rifat Ilgaz includes Fahir Onger's words about him in his memoir as well. Fahir Onger divides Rifat Ilgaz's writings into two periods: before and after 1939. While his writings before 1939 focus on his private world, tuberculosis, low income, the social and economic depression caused by World War II, and the increasing problems of city life led him to write more about social issues.

### *In the Courtroom*

One day, while walking in Cağaloğlu in Istanbul, he encounters his lawyer friend Vasık Balkış. They decide to have a drink together on the condition that Vasık Balkış treats it to him. First, they stop by the printing house to deliver Rifat Ilgaz's articles, then they go to the courthouse so that Vasık Balkış can run some errands. While waiting for his friend, a list in front of a courtroom catches Rifat Ilgaz's eye. At that moment, the bailiff comes up to him to tell him that his case will be heard soon. Rifat Ilgaz is surprised that he has a hearing that day. The bailiff asks if he received the subpoena. A little later, he tells him that it is his turn. When Vasık Balkış comes back, Rifat Ilgaz tells him that he has a hearing and then enters the courtroom.

He realizes that it is a case of insult, and he is acquitted of the charge. However, the Supreme Court sees an insult to the president in his article. Rifat Ilgaz, after stating that he has no lawyer, explains that his article is not an insult but a serious criticism. While waiting for the verdict to be announced, his friend puts some money in his pocket saying that if he is released he will buy him a drink in the evening. Otherwise, he can keep the money to spend in the jail. In the end, Rifat Ilgaz is sentenced to one year in prison.

## THEMES

### JUSTICE

**Injustice** Rifat Ilgaz was sentenced to 6 months in prison in 1944 on the grounds that the depictions of wealthy and poor children in his poetry book called *Class*, which he wrote as a teacher, insulted capitalists and even aimed to destroy them with a communist agenda. After this incident, he was banned from teaching because he had a criminal record. His book *The Chaos Class*, which he wrote while working as a journalist, was first adapted into a play and then a film in the 1970s. However, during the adaptation process, Rifat Ilgaz's authorial presence was ignored by the scriptwriter, the director, and the actors. His name was even removed from the end credits as if the film was not an adaptation of a novel. Rifat Ilgaz had to deal with the injustices caused by this 6-month sentence until his death.

### POLITICS

**Conflict** Rifat Ilgaz was a journalist who has been sued many times because of his critical personality. After being sentenced in 1944, instead of remaining silent, he continued to write. He has been sued many times because of the columns he wrote in the newspaper, the humor magazine he published alone called *Adembaba*, and the poetry book he wrote in the same years called *Devam*. He did not hesitate to express the corruption of the government and the extent of the poverty the people lived in.

### RELATIONSHIP

**Loyalty** While being detained in Cide and kept in a ward with his friends, he heard voices coming from the interrogation room. When the high school students who had visited him were asked why they read his books, they said that they read them because Rifat Ilgaz is from Cide, because he was a friend of their fathers, because they knew and loved him. One of these young people, Fatoş, a daughter of a poor family, married an acquaintance who had immigrated to Germany because she could not continue her studies at university after high school. A few years after she left, she did not forget to send a holiday card to Rifat Ilgaz. Moreover, even though her surname changed after the marriage, she signed the card with her old surname to remind Rifat Ilgaz of herself.

**Kindness** When Rifat Ilgaz was taken to the sanatorium, the soldiers treated him kindly. They brought him some tea as he requested, prepared it in the kitchen, and spent time with him drinking tea. Since he was under arrest and forbidden from buying a newspaper, they collected the newspapers that other patients had read for him to read later.

## PSYCHOLOGY

**Humiliation** When Rifat Ilgaz was put in a military vehicle blindfolded, he looked around as far as he could see and noticed the prominent people of Cide standing happily among the crowd. He condemned the military for treating him as if he had committed a serious crime and these people for despising literary people of their own hometown. For they all enjoy seeing educated young people, their teachers, and himself being put in the vehicles in this way. Knowing that there were well-educated people among them was more upsetting for him.

When they arrived in Kastamonu, he remembered how humiliating it was for the people of Cide saying that they were from Cide, so they would say that they were from Sinop or Zonguldak. He felt that the soldier in Kastamonu who asked him where he was from was trying to make him confess that he was from Cide. That is why he repeated over and over that he was from Cide and that he was born in Cide.

**Nonchalance** Shortly before the September 12, 1980 coup, a banner was hung across the street from his building, and his neighbor's daughter-in-law tore it apart. The banner read, "If Rifat Ilgaz is not removed from this building, the building will be blazed away on the 31st of August!" Rifat Ilgaz, on the other hand, did not say anything to his son Aydin, who came to see him so as not to upset him and sat with him on the balcony till the late hours, enjoying the night.

**Solidarity** When Rifat Ilgaz was detained in Cide, he left home without any money. The next day, as he was put in a military vehicle with his friends, he was hungry for hours like his friends. When they wanted to eat something, he didn't hesitate to ask his friend Mustafa Yilmazer for a loan.

When he went to the courthouse with his lawyer friend Vasık Balkış and coincidentally learned that he had a hearing that day, his friend, Vasık Balkış gave him some money to spend in prison.

## HEALTH

**Disease** Rifat Ilgaz has understood the limits of his body very well with the tuberculosis he overcame at a very young age. Therefore, when he was detained in Cide at the age of 70, he immediately understood that he could not wait on his feet for hours in the ward like his friends did and disobeyed the orders, considering his health. Indeed, the physician who examined him in Kastamonu stated that he needed to be treated for tuberculosis. In this way, he waited for the decision about him in a sanatorium, not in prison.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Turkey has witnessed many changes from 1944, when Rifat Ilgaz first came under investigation as a teacher, to 1986, when he wrote this book as a retired journalist. For example, it has transitioned to a multi-party system and experienced two coups (1960 and 1980), the first of which resulted in a liberal constitution. In this context, what do Ilgaz's memoirs tell us about the state of freedom of expression in the country despite many changes?
2. We read what happened to Rifat Ilgaz not as a narrative of alienation that pushed him into social isolation but as the recollections of a challenging person. Can we think that his relationship with humor plays a role in this?

3. What does the criminalization of the ties Rifat Ilgaz established with the youth in his hometown, where he particularly stated that the activities of religious orders had increased, tell us about the youth policies of the government of the period?