

Müfide Ferid TEK Scholarship

Short Biography

Müfide Ferid TEK (29 April 1892- 24 March 1971)

Müfide Ferid Tek had her childhood spent in Tripoli during the last years of the Ottoman Empire. Having her father a lieutenant colonel, in her own words Mrs. Tek mentioned “We lived in a fearful, gloomy atmosphere but our home was a place of happiness, bright with advanced ideas.” She had learnt the alphabet when she was only three years old, at seven she went to a religious sisters school - St. Joseph, learning French and Italian, also being home tutored on Turkish and Science. When her father fell ill, he rushed her to education, trying to make her a woman doctor so that she can be a cure for village women whom refused to see male doctors. So she was secretly sent to France to join Lycée de Versailles, although at those times sending girls to Europe was forbidden, she was one of the rare Turkish woman to study abroad. Her fathers illness got worse and they lost her father which ended their dreams of her being educated and becoming a doctor.

During the armistice years, she was writing articles to the newspaper “National Sovereignty”, which were reproduced by the army and circulated among soldiers. One of those articles named “Antep, The Veteran” written after French forces evacuated Antep, was approved by the National Assembly and the city was named “Antep, The Veteran” (Gaziantep in Turkish).

Having an ambassador husband, she travelled a lot, starting with Paris in 1921, she enrolled at the Sorbonne, following Oriental Literature classes, then in 1926 when she was in London, she joined the School of Political Sciences in Paris and graduated with a very good mention. She was the first Turkish woman who graduated from this school and she has never stopped writing for educating people. Also she had the title of being the first Turkish Ambassadors both in Paris and London. She gave some Political Lectures during her time in Paris. Since her husband was transferred to Warsaw, she lived there seven years being the diplomatic corps for six years. Again being transferred, this time to Japan, she lived there for four years and when she returned back to Turkey she have founded the first Soroptimist Club in Turkey.

The Müfide Ferid TEK Scholarship

In awareness of Turkish women’s values and qualities on the global scale, Müfide Ferit Tek, the author of various poems, novels and articles, devoted her life to enable Turkish women to understand and utilize their own capacity and skills. The Soroptimist of Turkey, in commemoration of Müfide Ferit Tek, has offered this year the Müfide Ferit Tek Scholarship to its European Soroptimist sisters with a view to present and to promote Turkish culture and traditional arts.

Application Deadline: 15 September 2010

Subject:

1. Pursuing studies/trainings in Turkish Handicrafts (For example, Turkish calligraphy, marbling, miniature painting, tile, etc.).
2. Pursuing studies/trainings in classical Turkish musical instruments (For example, Turkish reed flute, oud, etc.).
3. Pursuing studies/trainings on Turkish language.

Amount of scholarship: 2500 €

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