

NEWS BULLETIN

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AKP FINDS ESCAPE IN THE *POLICE-STATE*

AKP government loses its legitimacy in Turkey, day by day. The government chooses to enforce “*police-state*” practices to crush the intense protests in Taksim. Violent government practices aren't just targeting the uprising at the Taksim Square in Istanbul and Kugulu Park in Ankara. They've targeted the lawyers who protest police violence and the oppositional press as well.

New cracks and resignations have started to occur within the government front regarding the attacks.

Attack on Taksim



The attack on Taksim began early in the morning. The governor assured the public that there wouldn't be an attack towards the park where the civilians are and that the police would only “clean-up” the banners at the Square.

But the fight between the police and the groups lasted throughout the day. Groups that the police clashed with are strongly believed to be provokers.

Yet the police forces continued the attack of intense tear gas and water cannons during the public statement of

the Taksim Solidarity Platform. The declaration had to be done by four different people due to the intensity of gas used at the Square.

Besiktas-Kadikoy boats, which connect the European and the Anatolian sides of Istanbul were cancelled along the day.

Tear gas to 150 thousand people

150 thousand people that gathered at the Square were subject to the police attack in the evening. Police forces took the advantage of a small fight at a corner of the Square and smothered the whole area in tear gas repeatedly, causing an enormous panic among the people. The clashes stretched in to the late night.

Over two thousand policemen were called on duty for the attack and 30 armed panzers were used at the Square.



More police attacks are on the way today against the tents set at Kugulu Park, Ankara.

Another violent attack took place against the lawyers who protested the police attack to the Square, at the Caglayan Court House. 50 lawyers were taken in custody. Led by the Ankara Bar, 4 thousand lawyers marched towards downtown Ankara, today.

ULUSAL KANAL, a leading television channel of the oppositional press was sentenced to pay a fine. *Turkish state agency for monitoring media, RTUK*, punished *ULUSAL KANAL* for broadcasting the *Taksim Resistance* and “*Government Resign!*” protests at the whole country. The channel is due to pay a penalty of 10 thousand TL. The fine was explained to be for “*broadcasting violent content*”.



Erdogan: “I won't change”

Prime Minister Erdogan said; “*Taksim stinks with filth*”. In regards to being criticized for the harsh manners of the government he added; “*What else would you have me do? Bow down? No offense! But this is me, Erdogan won't change!*”

Cracks at the AKP Front

You'll read the daily *Aydınlık* article regarding the cracks on the government front at this bulletin.

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*A summary of a news article published in the daily newspaper **Aydınlık** on the 12th of June 2013*

AN OPENLY RIOT AGAINST ERDOGAN HAS BEGUN WITHIN THE AKP

Some other MP's of the AKP joined the former Minister of Culture Ertugrul Gunay, opposing the policies of PM Tayyip Erdogan since the day the Gezi Park incidents had begun. AKP Izmir MP Erdal Kalkan, known to be close to Gunay, used the social media to put his revolt into words with the phrase "enough, the youth has the saying". AKP Istanbul MP Ibrahim Yigit criticized the tough stance of PM Erdogan towards the Gezi Park incidents, as well.

Enough! The Youth has the saying

Izmir MP Erdal Kalkan published via his twitter account these messages:

- No one is indispensable. Everyone and everything, except divine, can be criticised. Human first...
- ENOUGH! The youth has the saying.

From the MP to Erdogan: Are you going to start a civil war?

The Chair of the Committee for Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Affairs of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, AKP Istanbul MP Ibrahim Yigit, is one of the MP's rioting against Erdogan. In a statement made to the Posta 212 newspaper, published in New York USA, he criticized the tough stance of Erdogan towards the Gezi Park incidents. "The PM gets angry in the face of events and criticism. He says that he is holding back the 50%. Are you going to start a civil war, are people going to kill each other?"

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Gunay: The Barracks are an imposition of rent lobby

Ertugrul Gunay, preventing the Gezi Park from being zoned for construction while performing his task as Minister of Culture, targeted two days ago Erdogan, as well. Gunay published this message via twitter: "What ideological malicious intend can the preservation of the last green field in Beyoglu have? On the opposite, the insistence on construction is an imposition of unjust profit seekers."

A resignation in Cankırı

The member of the Provincial Assembly central Anatolian city of Cankırı and member of AKP, Ali Dogan, resigned from his party. Stating that there is a great reaction against the AKP and its MP's in Cankırı, Dogan said "The last implementations of the government were the last straw. We are people determined to struggle against every kind of threat aiming to disrupt the national unity. We will not be part of this nonrecoverable game."

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UPRISING IN TURKEY AND THE PKK / BDP

Inspired by the famous comic book Asterix, it could be said, “Whole Turkey is rising up but a small village does not participate in the uprising”. But not a single village, an entire region is in question.

The south-eastern region, where predominantly citizens of Kurdish origin are living, stood out of the rebellion.

While the south-east remains silent, the BDP (Peace and Democracy Party) purporting to be representative of the Kurds, is carrying out a switchback policy in western cities and in its general policies. On the one hand, it tries to impose itself to the resistance; on the other hand it tries to temper the demands of the resistance.

“The problem of the Turks”: Outside of the developments

During the clashes in the first three days, the attitude of BDP was that “this is a problem between the Turks and their government” and supporters of the BDP joined the resistance only on an individual level. Moreover, the Deputy Prime Minister Bulent Arınç who was also the official representative of Tayyip Erdogan meanwhile the Primeminister was on a visit to Tunisia, congratulated the BDP for its “judiciously attitude”.

But after the escalating of the events and their spread across the country, PKK leader Ocalan greeted the resistance in Gezi Park and gave the instruction “not to leave the squares to the patriots”.

Tent in the Square and tensions with the protesters

Upon this instruction, BDP established a tent on the fourth day in Taksim Square the focal point of the resistance in Istanbul. But the Party, which is able to mobilize broad masses, came only with about 100 members. BDP co-chair Selahattin Demirtaş announced that the resistance is legitimate.

With the tent established, BDP has also flouted the decision of the Organizing Committee in Taksim. The committee forbid the establishment of tents with flags of political parties. Despite coming with a small group, BDP established a tent in the centre of the Square.

But tensions began with the overwhelming majority of the resisters. As the media reflected, it was the attack of the government to the republic in general and especially to the secular social order, which set the resisters in motion in Istanbul as well as in Turkey. Its symbol was the abbreviation “T.C.” of “Türkiye Cumhuriyeti” (Turkish Republic), had been eliminated from several official buildings by the government. The resisters wrote this abbreviation during the clashes on the police vehicles. It was inevitable that the slogan “Kurdistan will cause great distress to the T.C.” chanted by supporters of BDP would cause a reaction.

The flags of the BDP supporters drew reaction, as well. The Ocalan posters that were tried to be hanged on the first day, were taken down after the objection of the Organizing Committee. But the day after, the flags were hanged again on the highest shafts.

Placards with the quotations of Ocalan followed the flags which had been hanged on a side not offending the eye- after two days. The resisters, who came to the square with Turkish Flags, the symbol of the resistance, entered the Park by walking under the placard and posters of Ocalan. The decrease in the number of visitors was inevitable. As a matter of fact, in the big public meeting on Sunday the front of the platform was surrounded by BDP supporters. Many people who came to participate left the Square after they saw this.

The contrast of “Tayyip Resign”

The conflict is not only about gaining space on the square, but also about characterizing the nature of the resistance. BDP MP Sirri Sureya Onder denied in an interview he gave to daily newspaper Hurriyet that the resistance has a Kemalist character. According to Onder, “AKP is the last (neo) Kemalist in Turkey”.

Another point which separates BDP and the public meetings are the demands of the resistance. The main slogan of the broad masses is “Tayyip Resign”. The Erdogan government is blaming the protests for targeting the government, as well. The news agency ANF, close to the armed movement PKK in south-eastern Turkey, writes that the demand of the resignation of the government is not the demand of the Kurds.

The co-chair of BDP, Selahattin Demirtas, called the government to apologize from the protesters in a press statement, but he did not support the demand of the resignation of the government.

The conclusion is weird. The protestors in the public meetings chant the slogan “Tayyip Resign” as soon as BDP supporters show themselves. It seems like the covert AKP-PKK coalition thesis, put forward by some media organs, is being adopted by the majority of the people in the meetings.

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