

word, the Bektašis who were side by side many living in Anatolia since the beginning of the Ottoman rule. The Bektašis are indeed the most liberal dervishes, among all other esoteric sects, which are considered with many other (tarīqat)s, as the most as the utterly nonconformist (tarīqat) (way, viz: sect) with the sunnites (the orthodox State Religion). This confraternity has really lots of adherents among the illiterate common people of Anatolia, as well as many enlightened and cultured personalities in Stamboul and other great centers; these are apparently shiites in their creed, but in reality even the majority of the (Baba = father) viz: the Bektaši Scheikhs are ignorant men, but in Stamboul and other centers great, there are very many high ranked personalities, poets, and enlightened people, cultured people who were members of the Bektaši confraternity. I know personally two Scheikh-ul-Islām who were Bektašis, and one, was a master free-macon at the same time; being successively <sup>he was</sup> members of the Cabinet under during the leadership of Talaat pasha, the well known president of the Union & progress Committee, who was like me, a Bektaši and a master macon at the same time.

Consequently, I may say - without being rebuked for exaggeration - that the Bektašis, as a whole community had already quite a good disposition of mind to welcome any politico-social revolution favouring liberty of creed and action. It is an evident historical fact that the Janissaries, <sup>a much tolerable administration</sup> since they were organized, were belonging to the Bektaši order and officially recognized as such, until they were totally annihilated in a general massacre organized and executed by order of Sultan Mahmood II, because their fierce and stubborn resistance against any reform. Yet Turkey is full of Bektašis still. I know personally Ambassadors, Field Marshals, vizirs, judges etc belonging to this sect.

accordingly, every Bektaši as a member of the U. and progress, has - I am sure - tried to help faithfully, the Committee to succeed in his aims, but, I do not know if the Bektaši community as a whole, has played a peculiar rôle in this turmoil, except that they welcome, like the majority of the Nation, the establishment of the new Regime.

بَلَّا سُلَامٌ مُصْبَرٌ  
أَمْرِيَّاتِي لَكَ بَارِصَه  
أَوْلَادِيْنِ مُلْتَوِيْنِ

كِرْ طَارِحِ

لَدَنْ لَوْصِيْلَه Selma  
بَارِزِيْلَه

TDV İSAM  
Kütüphanesi Arşivi  
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