THE LOCATION OF WOMEN IN TURKISH SOCIETY

(SOCIAL RIGHTS, POLITICAL RIGHTS)

   Women have a respectable place in Turkish society. In the first Turkish states established in Central Asia, men and women had equal rights. In the state administration, besides the hakan, their spouses called Hatun also had a say. The women would ride horses, shoot arrows, play ball, do heavy sports like wrestling, and participate in battles. In society, adherence to the principle of monogamy was considered as the common property of the spouses. Great importance was attached to honor and chastity.

   There was a decline in women's rights during the Ottoman State. Women lost many rights in marriage, divorce, inheritance and education. However, women living in villages and towns supported their spouses in all areas. During the War of Independence, the Turkish woman, whose man went to the front, raised his child and made a living in his house. He even participated in the war by carrying weapons and ammunition. With this behavior, the Turkish Woman once again proved her important place in the Turkish society.

   Atatürk believed that our women should have their civil, political and social rights. Ataturk expresses this situation of the Turkish woman in the best way: "... The woman of any nation in the world, I could not say that I worked more than the Anatolian woman, took my nation to liberation and victory, and worked as hard as the Anatolian Woman".

   In Turkish society, the place and importance of the family and the woman in the family are very important.

family in accordance with the contemporary understanding of law has been established in Turkey according to civil law principles. Men and women have equal rights. Ensuring equality between women and men is one of the most important conditions of social reconciliation.

   Atatürk explains the place and importance of the family in society with the following words: "The basis of civilization, the basis of progress and strength is in family life. Corruption in this life definitely causes social, economic and political disruption.

Women's Social and Political Rights

   Ataturk adopted and defended the view that women study with men and take part in social, cultural and economic life with them. During the Atatürk Period, Turkish women gained social rights such as the right and freedom to found a family, to train and choose the profession they wanted.

   With the adoption of the Turkish Civil Code, which reorganized the foundation of the Turkish family, equality between men and women was achieved in social and economic life. The political rights of women were not mentioned here. In order for democracy to settle with all institutions and rules, our women had to be given political rights. The Turkish woman, who had done her duty to win the War of Independence, should have joined the country administration.

   After the rights acquired by the civil law, the political rights that enabled the Turkish woman to take part in the administration started in 1930. First, in 1930, women were given the right to participate in municipal elections. The Turkish woman gained the right to participate in the mukhtar elections in 1933. With the constitutional amendment made in 1934, the Turkish woman gained the right to elect and be elected as a deputy before many of the European countries.

   In a speech of Atatürk; "The Turkish woman must be the world's brightest, most virtuous and heaviest woman." He said. Ataturk said, "Our religion has never demanded that women be left behind. What God commands is that men and women acquire knowledge and knowledge together." stated the importance of women in social life.

   Thus, the Turkish woman took precisely her place in the modern Turkish society.