



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



HELP
Heritage Education Learning Program

NAZIM HİKMET RAN





- Think about a child; a normal child that transformed one of the famous Turkish authors around the world. He changed the literary life in Turkey with his unique poems and novels.



His Childhood



- During his childhood and youth, he traveled with his father and grandfather, who was General(Pasha) in different parts of Empire. Later he spent time with his mother in Paris and Rome. His mother was taking art classes. She became an accomplished artist.
- Nazım Hikmet grew up with French culture. Frequently arranged cultural gatherings at his home, he was exposed to poetry and also met grandfathers friends who were part of the Ottoman administration.

Biography



- Nâzım Hikmet, the poet who brought a new concept into Turkish Poetry, was born in Selonika. He was educated at “Mekteb-i Sultani” (Galatasaray High School) “The Nişantaşı Numune Mektebi” and then “The Heybeliada Naval Academy.
- But he left The Naval Academy due to poor health in 1920. He published his first poems in this period . At the beginning of 1921, he went to Anatolia to take part in the war of independence.



- In 1938 Hikmet, who like a great many poets of his time (Pablo Neruda, for example) was a committed Marxist, was sentenced to 28 years in prison on charges of sedition for a long poem about a fifteenth-century rebellion against Ottoman rule.





- His long years in prison, and the experience of hardship, privation and even torture, seemed to have focussed Hikmet's attention on questions of life and death





- The last charges against him resulted in a 28 year prison sentence in 1938 for inciting mutiny in the navy. A campaign in support of Nâzım Hikmet's innocence started in 1949 in protest of his imprisonment and created significant reverberations abroad. With the passing of a general amnesty in 1950, Nâzım Hikmet was released from prison. Following his acquittal, Hikmet left the country because political pressure . He was extradited from Turkish citizenship in 1951.

The Love Life of Nazım Hikmet



- Her name was Vera. There was a 30-year age difference between Nazım and Vera. This relationship was a precursor of a tragic end from the beginning. Nazım Hikmet's heart attack, and his disease were further reinforced by the feeling that he had little time to live and to love.





- Nazım Hikmet told about Vera that: "I spent a serious period of my life in prison. I've visualized a female image for seventeen years. It was a way of consoling my heart. What else can a person do in jail? I was constantly dreaming, visualizing a woman in my mind. And here it was, suddenly she came across to me."





- Besides these, Vera knew that Nazım was very often falling in love. Therewithal, she was married and had a daughter. But despite all this, Vera married Nazım and served as a very happy source of life in the author's life. She inspired him with her love.





- Nazim was writing poems for Vera, dedicating his poems to Vera. Vera was 31 years old when she lost him, the man who dreamed of her for seventeen years. She was visiting his tomb almost every day to ease the pain of losing him, and mentally talking to him about the unforgettable years they spent together. As just she said, "We started these conversations about two or three weeks after he left us."





- That little child died because of a heart attack in 1969 when he was 61 years old .



(Moscow,
Russia)