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**“BEING A MAARIF MEMBER”  
ESSAY, TRAVEL WRITING, MEMOIR AND POEM CONTEST  
FOR TMF PERSONNEL  
TURKISH TEACHING DEPARTMENT**

14.01.2020

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**INTRODUCTION**

Turkish Maarif Foundation, created on June 6, 2016 by the Law Nr. 6721 with the aim of carrying out educational activities outside Turkey, is currently continuing its work in 42 countries with 324 educational establishments and 42 boarding schools. It provides education services to nearly 40,000 students in various geographies of the world and works in total with around 6,000 staff, 500 of whom are citizens from Turkey. Given this human plurality, the Foundation sets itself up as an international educational institution where diverse cultures meet and flourish together. This cultural wealth matches with the Foundation’s vision - to train virtuous people who will use their knowledge and wisdom to bring the world to peace and harmony, as well as its mission: to build on the common heritage of humanity and the Anatolian tradition of wisdom.

The meeting and gathering of people from different cultures and speaking different languages - around a common sensitivity, culture - under the roof of Maarif in order to train virtuous people also correspond to the conception of civilization bequeathed to the Anatolian man by some Muslim figures of Turkey such as Ahmet Yesevi, Yunus Emre, Sarı Saltuk, Gül Baba, Hacı Bayram Veli, Hacı Bektaş Veli. Today, Turkish Maarif Foundation does its utmost to widespread all around the World this conception of civilization and the training pattern based on virtuous people for the serenity of Humanity.

The said conception will come to life thanks to the “Maarif Being”, that is to say these men and women eager to learn, curious, researching, observing, discovering other cultures and civilizations, scholars and capable of transcribing this knowledge, culturally sensitive, knowing how to show empathy, driven by great ideals and, finally, smart to transform all these qualities into assets under the roof of Maarif.

Turkish Maarif Foundation organizes an essay, travel writing, memoir and poem contest - whose main theme is “Being a Maarif Member” and open to all its personnel - in order to make “Live and Act Together” a lasting model for future generations.

The contest is organized in coordination with the Turkish Teaching Department, the Social and Cultural Affairs Department and the Corporate Communication Department of the Foundation as well as its Representative Offices in the World.



## **ESSAY, TRAVEL WRITING, MEMOIR AND POEM CONTEST FOR TURKISH MAARIF FOUNDATION PERSONNEL**

### **CONTEST RULES**

#### **1- Subject:**

“Being a Maarif Member”

#### **2- Purpose:**

To strengthen, in the light of the common heritage of humanity and the long tradition of Anatolian wisdom, the concept of living and acting together in peace, to develop a model for the future generations and make it sustainable, to strengthen the communication and sharing of experiences - accumulated through reading, research and observations - between Turkish Maarif Foundation personnel in Turkey and in other countries.

#### **3- Scope:**

These rules include the conditions of participation in the contest of which the subject and the purpose are mentioned above, the composition of the committee and the Jury, the criteria for participation, the prices, the calendar of the contest and the covering of the contest expenditures.

#### **4- Conditions of Participation:**

Everyone working under the roof of Turkish Maarif Foundation is admissible in the contest.

#### **A- Organization and Duration of the Contest**

**1-** The contest is organized in coordination with the Turkish Teaching Department, the Social and Cultural Affairs Department and the Corporate Communication Department of the Turkish Maarif Foundation.

#### **2- Committee and Jury:**

##### **2.1. Country Committee for the Coordination of Works:**

In each TMF Country Directorate, a Country Committee for the Coordination of Works, consisting of one (1) Turkish and one (1) local personnel under the chairmanship of the Country Director, is established to collect the works realized by the personnel working in the country and to forward them to the Turkish Teaching Department via e-mail. Participants must send their works to the Committee for the Coordination of Works of the countries in which they work by e-mail and by filling in the participation form. The Country Committee will collect and send

by e-mail to the Turkish Teaching Department (**maarifliolmak@turkiyemaarif.org**) the works of the participants the day following the Registration Deadline (April 24, 2020), categorizing them under the headings “Turkish personnel” and “Local personnel”. Participants from the Headquarter must send their work to the Turkish Teaching Department via e-mail (**maarifliolmak@turkiyemaarif.org**) until the same deadline.

Each of the works transmitted to the Turkish Teaching Department is given a number to hide the author names; the original work is archived with the given number on the envelope. The anonymous and numbered version of the work is reproduced and submitted to the Jury.

## **2.2. Jury**

The Jury is composed of seven (7) members from Turkish Language and Literature Faculty, from Social Sciences Faculty and from Turkish Maarif Foundation. The Jury evaluates the works separately. The average of the seven (7) jury members is sorted. A total of thirteen (13) works, including the first high-ranked three (3) works, nine (9) works worthy of honorable mention and one (1) work awarded by a special jury award, are ranked starting from the highest score.

## **B- Criteria to fill for the Participation in the Contest**

1. The works can be written in Turkish or in the languages taught in the establishments of Turkish Maarif Foundation.
2. The theme of the contest is “Being a Maarif Member”.
3. Participants can enter the contest for each category (essay, travel writing, memoir and poem) with a maximum two works.
4. Works that have already been published or that have won a prize before this contest are excluded.
5. The works that are found to be published in any medium after being sent or submitted to the contest, or after the results are announced, will be eliminated directly from the contest and their awards will not be attributed even if they have won.
6. Works must be presented in Times New Roman font, body 12, line spacing 1,5 and on A4 sheets.
7. Works must not exceed 2,000 characters (without spaces).
8. Participants will refer to the rules of the TDK (Turkish Language Institution) Spelling Dictionary for texts written in Turkish.
9. By participating in the contest, candidates agree to have their works published. The published works will not receive royalties.
10. The copyright of all works participating in the contest belongs to Turkish Maarif Foundation.
11. Turkish Maarif Foundation has the right to collect the works in a book. The works thus collected are deemed free of royalties, regardless of whether they have been selected to win a prize or not.

12. Full legal responsibility for the submitted works belongs to their author.
13. Works, that do not comply with the contest criteria or are not submitted on time, will not be evaluated and returned.

### C- Calendar of the Contest:

Announcement of the Contest on the Turkish Maarif Foundation website and social networks: January 14, 2020

Registration deadline: April 23, 2020.

Submission of works collected by the Country Committee for the Coordination of Works to Turkish Teaching Department: April 24, 2020.

The announcement of the works rewarded by Turkish Maarif Foundation on the website [www.turkiyemaarif.org](http://www.turkiyemaarif.org): May 13, 2020 (The Regional Coordinatorships and Country Directorates where the personnel whose works are rewarded will be notified before the announcement of the prices on internet).

### D- Rewards:

#### 1- Prices

<b>ESSAY</b>	First	1	Online Language Teaching Application (1 year membership), E-Book Reading Device, Bluetooth Headset.
	Second	1	Online Language Teaching Application (1 year membership), E-Book Reading Device.
	Third	1	E-Book Reading Device.
	Mention	9	Audiobook Application. (1 year membership)
	Special Jury Award	1	Audiobook Application. (1 year membership)
<b>TRAVEL WRITING</b>	First	1	Online Language Teaching Application (1 year membership), E-Book Reading Device, Bluetooth Headset.
	Second	1	Online Language Teaching Application (1 year membership), E-Book Reading Device.
	Third	1	E-Book Reading Device.
	Mention	9	Audiobook Application. (1 year membership)
	Special Jury Award	1	Audiobook Application. (1 year membership)
<b>MEMOIR</b>	First	1	Online Language Teaching Application (1 year membership), E-Book Reading Device, Bluetooth Headset.
	Second	1	Online Language Teaching Application (1 year membership), E-Book Reading Device.
	Third	1	E-Book Reading Device.
	Mention	9	Audiobook Application. (1 year membership)
	Special Jury Award	1	Audiobook Application. (1 year membership)
<b>POEM</b>	First	1	Online Language Teaching Application (1 year membership), E-Book Reading Device, Bluetooth Headset.
	Second	1	Online Language Teaching Application (1 year membership), E-Book Reading Device.
	Third	1	E-Book Reading Device.
	Mention	9	Audiobook Application. (1 year membership)
	Special Jury Award	1	Audiobook Application. (1 year membership)

The book *Evliya Çelebi Seyahatnamesi* will be given as a gift to every person entering the contest.

**2- Certificate of Achievement:**

Certificate of Achievement is given to the personnel who are ranked.

**E- Covering of Contest Expenses:**

Contest expenses are borne by the Turkish Maarif Foundation.

**F- Information:**

Participants can send questions regarding the contest to below e-mail address:  
**[maarifliolmak@turkiyemaarif.org](mailto:maarifliolmak@turkiyemaarif.org)**

This rule is a total of four (5) pages.

