

EDITORIAL

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Dear members of EURASIA family,

Today I had to learn with deep sorrow that the eminent mathematician and physicist professor Erdal İnönü passed away at the age of 81 on October 31st, 2007 at around GMT +2, 05:00 PM. For the last couple of years he was being treated for leukemia.

He was born in Ankara on June 6th, 1926. After having his bachelor's degree in physics from Ankara University he continued his graduate studies at Caltech where he earned his master's and PhD degrees. Between 1964 and 1974 he served at Middle East Technical University in Ankara as a professor of theoretical physics, department chair, dean, and rector. Then he moved to Istanbul to join the faculty of Boğaziçi University where he served as department chair and dean also. Additionally, he contributed to the foundation of The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey in 1963 and was honored the Science Award in 1974. He served as a member of both NATO Science Committee and the Executive Board of UNESCO.

Professor İnönü received the Wigner medal in 2004 and after late Feza Gürsey has become the second Turkish scientist to receive it. Lately he gave more emphasis on the history of science in Turkey during both the Republican era and the Ottoman period. He was affiliated with Sabancı University until today.

Professor İnönü had a unique sense of humor. It is told that when returning from movies a journalist comes across with him and tells him that they weren't able to see him at the movies in recent times. İnönü replies "indeed it is very much dark inside."

At this point I would like to extend our condolences and sympathies to his family, close friends, and students.

On a separate note, as you will probably recall in the last editorial I clued that there would be a new section in EURASIA starting with this very issue: **Conversation/Interview**. The first guest of this section is Professor Norman G. Lederman of Illinois Institute of Technology. I had a chat with him in Malmö, Sweden on August 25th, 2007 during the ESERA Conference. The title of our conversation is "*Norman G. Lederman and the Past, Present and Future of the Nature of Science Research*."

In the coming issues I am aiming to publish such conversations and/or interviews. Those who are planning to do anything of this kind should consult me first. The format does not necessarily have to follow a strictly limited and/or definite one. Creative ideas are always welcome. However, I need to emphasize that EURASIA is also going to publish the audio or whenever possible video file of the conversation/interview along with the transcription. Appropriate picture(s) to be taken during the interaction can be used to enrich the content.

In the coming issues/years I am aiming to utilize and give a way to the appropriate usage of the media files in regular research papers. I hope that EURASIA will play a pioneering role in that. I strongly believe that having the media files along with their transcription will definitely enhance the meaning of our texts. We are all familiar with the saying: "a picture is worth a thousand words." Hence, I am saying that one minute of a video clip is worth ten thousand words! So, why not utilize them?

Surely, I am aware of the legal issues surrounding using pictures/videos of pupils publicly in various countries/states. Therefore, I wanted to start with ourselves until a list of guidelines are set and becomes acceptable for internet publishing.

I will rely on your expertise and contributions in that endeavor. We can use EURASIA as a platform to discuss such matters in the coming months. So, if you have ideas please send them to us to be published in a column of "Letters to the Editor."

