

I have just returned from the wonderful trip to Turkey sponsored by the Niagara Foundation and wish to express my deep appreciation to you for developing an outstanding visit. Although I am not a member of the faculty of John Carroll University (I teach Social Work Administration at Cleveland State University), I was able to accompany the group, led by Zeki Saritoprak, a professor from John Carroll University.

As I expressed in my remarks at the closing dinner in Istanbul, I have traveled to some 40 countries and Turkey ranks as one of the most outstanding places to visit. Not only did we see splendid sights of grand mosques and Roman ruins, but more importantly we had ample opportunity to converse with people-businessmen, educators, physicians, and journalists. We were thus able to come away with a profound sense of the country's values, history, and customs.

Zeki did an outstanding job of orienting us non-Muslims to the traditions of the religion. We especially developed a deep appreciation of the impact Gulin has had on providing young people with the educational tools that they need in our modern world while still preserving important moral traditions. Truly, Turkey should be a model for all Islamic countries.

At Cleveland State University I will continue to work with the Islamic Discussion Group, led by mostly graduate students from Turkey. You will be pleased to know that they are doing an outstanding job of orienting the university to the contributions of Islam.

For your information, I have conducted pro bono workshops in 8 countries in the past 10 years on nongovernmental organizational (NGO) administration and community development (strategic planning, fund raising, and collaboration) and would be happy to consider doing so in Turkey. My book, *Effectively Managing Human Service Organizations*, published by Sage Publications (2005), is used in over 40 US universities and abroad.

Sincerely,

Ralph Brody, Ph.D.
Cleveland State University