

## **Communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya commemorated at his grave (ÇORUM )**

*Communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya was commemorated at his grave in the Sungurlu district of Çorum.*

Communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya was commemorated at his grave in the Sungurlu district of Çorum on the 53rd anniversary of his martyrdom in the Diyarbakır prisons. A crowd, including the DEM Party Yenimahalle District Organisation, the Revolutionary 78s Federation, the Ortakça Yaşam Collective, Partizan, New Democratic Youth (YDG) and villagers from Karakaya, gathered to commemorate the communist leader Kaypakkaya. In a statement delivered on behalf of the Ortakça Yaşam Collective, which spoke first, the following remarks were made: *“İbrahim Kaypakkaya, one of the original theorists of the Turkish revolutionary movement, drew a line of struggle that did not fit into the system’s moulds, using the metaphor of the ‘spear that does not fit into the sack’. The organisation he founded in Kürecik envisaged a people’s war strategy based on a worker-peasant alliance, spreading from the countryside to the cities. According to Kaypakkaya, in a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country, capitalism could not develop through its own internal dynamics because feudal production relations had not been abolished; consequently, the peasantry, constituting the majority of society, became the primary element of the revolution. With these observations, Kaypakkaya viewed the countryside as the ‘weak link’ and argued that the fire of the revolution would rise from these areas.”*

The statement also noted that whilst Kaypakkaya’s ideological line diverged from that of other revolutionary leaders of the period, it could not be assessed independently of the 1971 revolutionary upsurge, using the following words: *“Although Kaypakkaya’s ideological break signifies a divergence from the line of Mahir Çayan and Deniz Gezmiş, it is incorrect to consider this divergence independently of the revolutionary break of the 1971 generation. He has gone down in history as one of the most original and theoretically grounded voices of the revolutionary wave of that era.”* Following the Common Life Collective, Partizan and YDG took the floor and, in their statement, emphasised Kaypakkaya’s Marxism-Leninism-Maoism line: *“We are marking the 53rd anniversary of the murder of İbrahim Kaypakkaya, the communist face of the revolution, in the Amed prison. As one of the leading figures of the 1968 revolutionary youth movement, Kaypakkaya took the side of the oppressed wherever the oppressor-oppressed relationship existed. He played an active role in workers’ strikes, land occupations and street protests. In the 1971 revolutionary upsurge, he defined his line of struggle by grasping the Marxism-Leninism-Maoism perspective. This was the fundamental factor that distinguished Kaypakkaya from his contemporaries.”*

The statement noted that the recent increase in youth protests and workers’ resistance has heightened interest in Kaypakkaya’s ideas, adding the following:

*“The masses, whose conflict with the system is deepening, are turning to the ideas he put forward in their search for a way out. Kaypakkaya illuminates the struggle not only for his own era but also today through his stance against reformism, parliamentarism, ideological and practical liquidationism, and all forms of reaction.”*

Partizan and YDG concluded their statements with the following words:

*“We will not forget, nor will we allow others to forget, the communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya and 18 May, for the struggle he led and the resistance he demonstrated in the Amed prison.”*

## **“Karakaya village under attack”**

Following the statements, a resident of Karakaya village—which is set to be demolished to make way for a quarry—noted that the state is deliberately targeting the village, highlighting that the ideas of the communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya remain relevant today.

## **Once again, 18 May, once again cameras at the cemetery**

It has been observed that the Turkish state, which in previous years has sought to control visits to the grave of the communist leader Kaypakkaya, has once again this year installed cameras positioned to monitor the grave from all angles, just as it did last year.

## **İbrahim Kaypakkaya was commemorated at a central event held in Europe on the 53rd anniversary of his assassination**

Communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya was commemorated at a central event held in Ludwigshafen, Germany, on the 53rd anniversary of his assassination. The programme, organised by the Event Organising Committee, saw participation from numerous countries across Europe. At the commemoration, attended by thousands of people, stalls were set up featuring books, magazines, newspapers and other publications from numerous revolutionary and progressive organisations and publishing houses.

The commemoration programme began at 17:00 with a minute’s silence in memory of those lost in the struggle for revolution and communism and proceeded uninterrupted according to the scheduled programme.

First to take the stage was the Partizan People’s Choir, who performed marches. This was followed by the presentation of a joint statement prepared on behalf of the Night Organising Committee. The cultural and political programme continued with a folk-dance performance by Govenda Hêvîdar, followed by speeches delivered on behalf of Class Theory and Partizan.

During the evening, Umuda Haykırış, the Poetry Group, Group Munzur and Mehmet Atlı took to the stage to present music and poetry recitals. The evening concluded after Ruken took to the stage. Throughout the event, the crowd frequently chanted the slogans “Our Leader İbrahim, İbrahim Kaypakkaya!” and “Revolutionary Martyrs Are Immortal!”.

In a statement issued by the Organising Committee, it was emphasised that expanding resistance and organising in every sphere against the ruling classes’ attacks on the people is a pressing task. The statement emphasised that the unwavering stance displayed in the Diyarbakır prisons on 18 May 1973, despite severe torture, continues to serve as a guide, and that understanding Kaypakkaya requires establishing the unity of theory and practice. The statement noted that participants from across Europe had raised their voices against imperialist aggression, fascism, racism and reactionary forces, and reiterated the commitment to continue the struggle with a united force of resistance as a necessity of class struggle and internationalist solidarity, whilst remaining faithful to the memory of the revolutionary martyrs.

During the commemoration programme, excerpts were read from messages sent by organisations from the Turkish revolutionary movement and revolutionary parties in various countries. In its message, the Revolutionary Communists Party (DKP) paid tribute to those who have become immortal by living and dying for the cause, and to those who resist by dedicating their lives to the revolution. Messages sent by the TKİP Overseas Organisation,

the MLKP European Committee and the TİKB YDK emphasised Kaypakkaya's tradition of resistance under torture, his theoretical legacy and the '71 Revolutionism' line, which symbolises a definitive break with Kemalism and revisionism. The organisations that sent their greetings to the commemorative event stated that, under current conditions, the struggle against imperialism and liquidationism can only be waged by upholding Kaypakkaya's revolutionary legacy and creating new centres of resistance within the masses.

The Revolutionary Communist Party of Nepal (RCBN) stated in a message that Kaypakkaya is a symbol of liberation for the world proletariat and that his revolutionary ideas continue to inspire. The Bangladesh Purbo Bangla Proletarian Party (PBSP), meanwhile, highlighted Kaypakkaya's pioneering role in the global establishment of Maoism and hailed him as a leader of the world proletariat.

The Communist Party of Mexico (PCM), in a message it sent, announced that it enthusiastically saluted Kaypakkaya—whom it described as an exemplary communist—and his struggle, whilst the Maoist Party of Italy emphasised that he was the most conscious student of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in the world and that he had courageously defended these ideas in Turkey. The Central Committee of the Argentine Revolutionary Communist Party, in its message, conveyed its most heartfelt greetings to the commemoration event, drawing attention to Kaypakkaya's invaluable contributions to theoretical issues and, in particular, to the Kurdish national question. The Communist Party of Peru stated that, in this period when states are becoming reactionary, a strong unity must be established in line with Kaypakkaya's teachings, whilst the Revolutionary Workers' Party of Spain noted that he stood out like a beacon in the fog throughout his years of class struggle and that his teachings would live on forever. The Tunisian Patriotic Democratic Socialist Party (PPDS), in its message, noted that Kaypakkaya's legacy—having dedicated his life to the struggle against exploitation and fascism—continues to serve as a source of inspiration for progressive movements worldwide.

Meanwhile, the Maoist Communist Party – Italy, the Revolutionary Workers' Party (Spain) and the Central Committee of the Indonesian Communist Union, in the messages they conveyed, hailed İbrahim Kaypakkaya's contributions to the Marxism-Leninism-Maoism line, his definitive break with Kemalism and revisionism, and his embrace of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. International organisations, emphasising the need to forge a revolutionary focus at a global level against imperialist aggression and crises, stressed that Kaypakkaya's theoretical and practical legacy continues to serve as a beacon for the liberation struggles of all oppressed peoples across the world today.

## **A commemoration for Kaypakkaya was held in Istanbul despite all bans**

Communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya was commemorated in Istanbul on the 53rd anniversary of his assassination: "Kaypakkaya lives on in our struggle and will always live on."

The Federation of Socialist Assemblies (SMF), Partizan and Call for a New World (YDİ Çağrı) commemorated the communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya, who was murdered in the Diyarbakır torture chambers on 18 May 1973, on the 53rd anniversary of his murder in Kadıköy, despite all obstacles, bans and repression.

The commemoration was attended by the Revolutionary Liberation Platform, the Kaldıraç Movement, KÖZ, the DEM Party Kadıköy District Organisation, the Socialist Youth Movement (SGH), New Democratic Youth (YDG) and many others.

The event began with a protest against the Istanbul Governor's Office's ban on the event scheduled to take place at the Şişli Theatre. It was stated that they would continue to commemorate Communist Leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya despite all the pressure and obstacles. The event began with a moment of silence in honour of all the martyrs of the revolution and communism, represented by Kaypakkaya. Following the moment of silence, a joint statement by the organisations was read out.

### **“May is the month in which many revolutionaries fell to the ground”**

The joint statement emphasised that many communists and revolutionaries were murdered in May.

The statement included the following remarks:

*“May is a month filled not only with struggle but also with suffering in terms of the revolutionary struggle. The fascist state has taken dozens of communists and revolutionaries from our midst by murdering them during May. May is the month in which communist fighters such as Mehmet Kocadağ and Armenak Bakırcıyan were murdered; in which Deniz Gezmiş, Yusuf Aslan and Hüseyin İnan condemned fascism and shouted for the revolution from the gallows; and in which many revolutionaries such as Sinan Cemgil, Alpaslan Özdoğan and Kadir Manga fell to the ground as seeds in the revolutionary struggle. May is the month in which Haki Karer was murdered in Antep in 1977, and in which Ferhat Kurtay, Necmi Öner, Mahmut Zengin and Eşref Anyık fell to the ground after setting themselves alight in protest against the Diyarbakır prison atrocities in 1982.”*

### **“A communist fighter is a communist leader”**

The statement noted that those who murdered İbrahim Kaypakkaya still fear his ideas, and included the following assessment:

*“Those who murdered him are the living dead, the dishonourable defenders of a cause that is sinking, collapsing and rotting. Those cursed as İbrahim's murderers still fear him and his ideas. They continue to make a legal issue out of the display of his photographs and the publication of his writings and works. For us, İbrahim Kaypakkaya is a communist fighter and a communist leader who, in 1972, embraced the revolutionary essence of Marxism in our world and region, achieving immense gains. He was the founder of the party that represented communism in 1972. His assessments of Kemalism and the Kurdish national question—crucial issues of the revolution—marked a rebirth.”*

Following the joint statement, poems were read and a video presentation about İbrahim Kaypakkaya was shown. After the screening, the speakers took the floor.

### **“Kaypakkaya's ideas are not gathering dust on shelves, but are alive in life”**

In the speech delivered on behalf of Partizan, it was noted that the banning of the commemoration and the change of venue were linked to the fear of Kaypakkaya's ideas, and it was emphasised that his ideas “are not gathering dust on shelves, but are alive in the streets”.

It was stated that Kaypakkaya's theses, particularly those concerning Kurdistan, have become even more significant in today's climate where liquidationism is rife. The Partizan

representative said, *"We must act in accordance with Kaypakkaya's perspective throughout the entire year for these tasks"*.

The representative also highlighted that this year is a special one due to the NATO meetings, noting that Kaypakkaya's ideas hold significance for the anti-imperialist struggle. Pointing out what NATO's gathering in Turkey means for the working class and the oppressed, the representative stated that commemorating Kaypakkaya in such a period means putting his ideas into practice.

The speech also touched upon the arrests that took place during the 1 May period, stating that this was essentially an operation targeting Kaypakkaya's political line.

### **"We must update the revolutionary communist legacy"**

Following the Partizan representative, SMF Spokesperson Mahir Gürz spoke.

Gürz, *"I bow with respect before the Communist Leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya. The most revolutionary perspective on commemorating Kaypakkaya and those who have become immortal in the struggle for revolution and socialism is to represent and update the revolutionary communist legacy they left us, and to act with a perspective that correctly analyses the class struggle in accordance with today's concrete conditions,"* he said.

### **"Kaypakkaya is a turning point in the communist movement"**

A representative of the Call for a New World, meanwhile, stated that the best way to commemorate İbrahim Kaypakkaya is to continue and advance his struggle.

The representative used the following words in his speech:

*"Kaypakkaya packed a great deal into his 24-year life. He produced a communist manifesto that remains true to this day. It was Kaypakkaya who raised the red banner to the skies once again in Turkey and Northern Kurdistan after Suphi. He is a turning point in the communist movement. Although 53 years have passed, his theses still retain their validity. To be İbrahim means to devote one's entire being to the struggle. It means an uncompromising struggle against revisionism and erroneous views."*

The speech also noted that commemorations of Kaypakkaya are still banned, and that carrying his photographs or publishing his works is subject to prosecution, stating, *"The ruling classes continue to fear him, and let them continue to fear him"*.

The speech highlighted the responsibility to carry forward Kaypakkaya's struggle and political views despite all the repression, obstruction and arrests, using the words: *"İbrahim Kaypakkaya lived as a communist and died as a communist. We must all take him as an example."*

Following the speeches, the open forum saw contributions from the Revolutionary Liberation Platform, the Kaldıraç Movement, KÖZ, the DEM Party Kadıköy District Organisation, the Tree of Life, and numerous other organisations.

A common theme in the speeches was the emphasis placed on the significance of the scope covered by Kaypakkaya's theoretical analyses and political theses within the context of the 1971 revolutionary split.

## **A memorial event was held for the communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya (İzmir)**

On the 53rd anniversary of his martyrdom, the communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya was commemorated at an event organised by Partizan and the Federation of Socialist Assemblies.

The Socialist Party of the Oppressed, KÖZ, DKDER and Kaldıraç took part in the memorial event.

The event, held at Karşıyaka Boyoz Academy, began with a minute's silence in memory of all the martyrs of the revolution and communism, led by İbrahim Kaypakkaya.

Following this, messages from the participating organisations were read out and they were given the floor.

A panel discussion titled "Kaypakkaya in the Light of Current Developments in Our Country and the World" was organised during the event.

The representative from Partizan, speaking first, stated that whilst commemorating the communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya, they did not merely pay tribute but adopted his perspective as a guide, upholding the dialectical unity of his ideas.

Reference was also made to the ruling class's campaign of arrests and detentions targeting revolutionaries in Turkey; it was emphasised that the recent arrests on 1 May in Istanbul, in particular, were directed against circles aligned with Kaypakkaya's political ideas.

Whilst noting that this wave of attacks is part of a long-term process, attention was drawn to the fact that the ruling power, pursuing a policy of 'fortifying the internal front', had promised the imperialists a 'thornless rose garden' ahead of the NATO summit in Ankara.

It was stated that, at a time when the footsteps of the Third World War are growing louder, states—led by the imperialists—have entered an arms race, whilst it was emphasised that the peoples of the world and revolutionary organisations must expand their united fronts against this with an internationalist perspective.

Reference was made to the NATO and Anti-Imperialist War Alliance, noting its importance and the need to carry out work to further expand it.

The SMF representative who spoke subsequently stated that İbrahim Kaypakkaya was one of the leaders of the 1971 armed uprising and, alongside his analyses of Kemalism and his defence of the Kurdish nation's right to self-determination, distinguished himself as a communist leader from others.

It was noted that there is much to learn from the leaders of the 1971 revolutionary uprising, whilst particular emphasis was placed on the importance of updating and developing Kaypakkaya's ideas in accordance with the principle of the 'concrete analysis of concrete conditions'.

Reference was also made to the NATO summit and imperialist wars, and it was stated that the joint struggle of revolutionary democratic institutions and formations must be expanded.

Following the speeches, the event moved on to the Open Forum section, where participants contributed to the event by asking questions and sharing their own thoughts.

Finally, a group comprising members of Partizan and YDG performed a musical recital. During the recital, in which traditional folk songs were sung, the participants joined in unison.

## Commemoration in İzmir on 18 May

A demonstration was held in İzmir to mark the anniversary of the martyrdom of İbrahim Kaypakkaya, Haki Karer and the Four.

A march and press statement were organised by Youth Organisations, including New Democratic Youth, in honour of the communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya, Haki Karer and the Four.

The demonstration, which was also joined by Partizan, began with a march from the front of the ÖSYM building in Alsancak.

During the march along Cyprus Martyrs' Street, slogans such as *"Our leader İbrahim, İbrahim Kaypakkaya"*, *"The May martyrs are immortal"*, *"Kaypakkaya lives on, the struggle continues"*, and *"The martyrs are immortal"* were frequently chanted.

Following the march to the Türkan Saylan Cultural Centre, a minute's silence was observed in honour of the revolutionary martyrs.

A press statement was then read out on behalf of the Youth Organisations.

The statement emphasised that 18 May represents an unyielding will that could not be broken in torture chambers, an unsilenced ideology, and a revolutionary line that refused to bow to fascism.

The statement emphasised that the 90-day resistance of İbrahim Kaypakkaya and the flame of rebellion and resistance he ignited on this land 53 years ago still burns today. *"To commemorate him is not merely a retrospective act of remembrance; but a re-embracing of the questioning courage he represented, the political line that rejects surrender, and the revolutionary resolve to stand with the oppressed. With this consciousness, we commemorate İbrahim Kaypakkaya on the 53rd anniversary of his assassination with anger, loyalty and a determination to struggle"* it was stated.

In the statement, it was noted that the Communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya exposed the fascist nature of Kemalism—Turkey's official ideology—highlighted the existence of the Kurdish nation and its struggle for freedom, and refused to compromise with any system of exploitation and domination. It was emphasised that the key factor that made Kaypakkaya a leader and transformed him into the revolutionary face of the 1971 split was; the genuine bond he forged with the masses, the lessons he drew from their forms of struggle, his skilful integration of these into the revolutionary communist line, and his audacity to constantly push the struggle forward.

The statement noted that 18 May is also etched into the history of resistance as the day on which Haki Karer—murdered by the fascist Turkish state—and Ferhat Kurtay, Eşref Anyık, Necmi Öner and Mahmut Zengin, who amplified the resistance with their bodies in the Diyarbakır prisons, became immortalised. It was stated that Haki Karer, as a Turk from the Black Sea region, rejected the privileges of the oppressor nation and embraced the struggle of the Kurdish nation, sacrificing his life for the freedom of Kurdistan.

Finally, the statement called upon *"workers, peasants, students, oppressed peoples, women, LGBT+ individuals, in short, all the oppressed, to embrace the courage, revolutionary spirit"*

*and people-centred struggle of the leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya, in his own words, 'for a tighter, stronger and more determined struggle' to adopt his courage, revolutionary spirit and people-centred line of struggle, and to intensify the struggle against all forms of imperialist aggression, war, exploitation and reaction—particularly the NATO Summit taking place on 7–8 July—to organise and carry the revolutionary memory into the future."*

The demonstration concluded with slogans.

## **ANKARA**

### **Commemorations held in Ankara for communist leader Kaypakkaya and the martyrs of May**

The Anti-NATO and Anti-Imperialist War Alliance and the Anti-NATO and Anti-Imperialist War Youth Union gathered on Yüksel Street and issued a press statement.

ANKARA - A commemoration event was held on Yüksel Street by the NATO and Anti-Imperialist War Union (NESKB) and the NATO and Anti-Imperialist War Youth Union (NESKGB) – organisations of which Partizan and New Democratic Youth are also members – in memory of the communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya, the Four and Haki Karer.

During the event, where a banner reading "We will not forget the water he drank. Following in the footsteps of İbrahim Kaypakkaya, Haki Karer and the Four in the struggle against imperialism" was unfurled, the slogan "Revolutionary martyrs are immortal" was frequently chanted.

Following a minute's silence in memory of the martyrs of the revolution and communism, a joint press statement was read on behalf of NESKB and NESKGB.

The press statement noted that the Communist leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya, along with all revolutionaries, had charted the course of the struggle against imperialism and its local collaborators.

The statement argued that, in the name of preserving the current order, it is not only the bodies of revolutionary leaders but also their ideas that are sought to be eradicated; it was further stated that the state has consistently responded to the developing revolutionary struggle in Turkey and Turkish Kurdistan with political, ideological and practical attacks.

The text also emphasised that operations aimed at dismantling the structure that carries the legacy of those who lost their lives fighting for an equal and free future, and which persists on the revolutionary line, have been set in motion.

The press release included the following statements:

"We are in a process where the line represented by the Communist leader Kaypakkaya, Haki Karer and the Four must be reproduced and strengthened.

This line, embodied in Kaypakkaya, Haki Karer and the Four, represents a consistent and steadfast stance that insists on the truth, ranging from the actions against the 6th Fleet to the active ideological struggle against imperialism, its collaborators and occupation."

The press statement, which also commemorated the martyrs of May, concluded with the following words

"Our history is filled with the values that define us—struggles, honour, courage and revolutionary solidarity.

The revolutionary, principled lives of our martyrs serve as an example to us.

Turkey's future is being forged from steel. Steel will never forget the water it was tempered in!"

The event concluded amidst slogans.

## **Istanbul**

### **A tribute to Kaypakkaya and the martyrs of May!**

Following the banning of the event planned by the NATO and Anti-Imperialist War Youth Union at the Su Performance Centre, the event has been moved to the Istanbul HDK hall.

The NATO and Anti-Imperialist War Youth Union commemorated the revolutionary leader İbrahim Kaypakkaya, who lost his life on 18 May 1973, and the revolutionary leaders who became immortal in May, with an event held at the Istanbul building of the People's Democratic Congress.

The commemoration event was held in two sessions. The first part of the programme featured a video screening, whilst the second session comprised a panel discussion on the theme "In the footsteps of İbrahim Kaypakkaya and the May martyrs, against imperialism and local collaboration".

Speaking at the panel were Meryem Karınçu on behalf of New Democratic Youth (YDG), Adnan Özcan, a member of the Federation of Socialist Youth Associations (SGDF), and Merve Yeşilova, a representative of the Revolutionary Students' Union.

The discussions addressed NATO policies, imperialist power balances and historical processes, whilst Merve Yeşilova offered an analysis based on NATO's war strategies. Adnan Özcan, meanwhile, touched upon Turkey's security structures following its NATO membership and the effects of regional wars. Meryem Karınçu shared her views on the theoretical and historical foundations of political struggle.

The event continued with a question-and-answer session following the speeches. It concluded with a musical performance.