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Sunday, July 25, 1999

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## ARTS & CULTURE

Turkish Prob

# Aydın Türkgücü's 'Books of Records'!

NAZLI KARAMUSTAFAOĞLU

Writer Aydın Türkgücü, in his quest for the unknown, the unapproachable and the unattainable, takes a long journey to find answers, supported by theories and scientific studies by himself and others, as he believes that every question has an answer.

"Questions for which no answers have been found are not unsolvable questions, they are just questions that haven't been asked yet," said Türkgücü.

In his first book of essays, Türkgücü discusses social issues from a different perspective. Interestingly, his first book is a book with no title, but with plenty of titles all the same. When Türkgücü completed his book, he decided not to give it a title, thinking this would complicate things less. Instead, at the end of the book he inserted a form for his readers, asking them to suggest and send him suitable titles for his book. As a result, he received 172 titles for his book with no name, including "Aydın's World," "The Design of the Future," "The Book of Knowledge" and "The Things We Lived." As well as lacking a title, Türkgücü's book also lacked a price, as he wanted something where money was not involved.

After 1,000 copies of the book were published, a light bulb went off in the author's head. Since his book was the first with no title and with plenty of titles at the same time, this was definitely a record, he thought. So he wrote to the Guinness Book of Records. So far, he hasn't received any firm answer from them, but he hasn't given up hope!

Türkgücü's second book could also be a nominee for the Guinness Book of Records, as it has the longest name to a book, a poem called "Ben Hazırım Başlasın" (I'm Ready, Let it Begin) which is like a model showing goals for the virtual world in the 21st century.

Moreover, this is probably the first book in the entire world that insures its readers. Yes, you heard right — readers are insured by the

Universal Insurance Company for three months for any effects that the book might have on them.

"It was again difficult to limit my second book to a single title. For this reason, the title of my book is a poem. This is the first book that has a poem for its title as well as the Guinness Book of Records. Again, the response from them was not clear. They are probably ignoring our applications because I am a Turk. I am frustrated by this negligence!" Türkgücü said.

After carefully studying the Bible, the Koran and the Torah, along with Stephen Hawking's theories, Türkgücü

discusses how a virtual world would be in the 21st century. He thinks that the vagueness of God has never been questioned by scientists or the clergy.

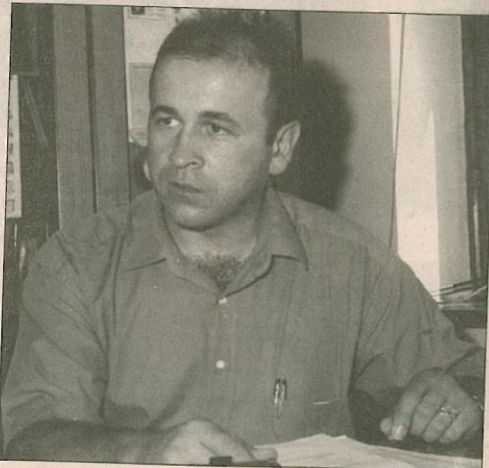
"God can be solved. Nothing has been questioned about God. This book maintains that God can be solved. It also attributes a human vagueness to god. It is the first book that describes the Koran, the Torah and the Bible in the virtual world. These holy books have been previously discussed in terms of the superiority of one book over another."

Determined to be included in the Guinness Book of Records, Türkgücü is now working on three books that he plans to publish all at the same time. "Since I am publishing three books at the same time, I will apply to the Guinness Book of Records once again," the author explained.

The first of Türkgücü's new books discusses politicians, political campaigns, political party newsletters and political speeches. The second one is on the media, analyzing newspapers and television programs, the slogans they use and their effects on the public. "For example a newspaper launches a cellular phone campaign with the slogan 'A Campaign You Couldn't Even Dream Of,' which is a direct insult to me. Another example can be taken from a television channel featuring news with the slogan 'Get The News From Us,' which violates the viewers' right to choice. A music channel organizes a music competition. The results are not determined through our selections, the music channel selects their own winners from among our choices," Türkgücü stressed.

In his third new book, the writer talks about male-female relationships. Türkgücü thinks that this issue needs to be discussed. "People are encouraged to run after love that is impossible to occur in daily life. When these people can't find the kind of love they read about in books or see in the movies, they become desperate."

Türkgücü does not intend to be a writer but a philosopher, because he believes that Turkey needs philosophers more than it needs writers.



Aydın Türkgücü.

