
THE ASSASSINATION AND EXECUTION OF THE TWO WORLD LEADERS

Hyreme Gurra

State University of Tetova, English Language Department, Macedonia, hyreme@yahoo.com

Fatmire Isaku

State University of Tetova, English Language Department, Macedonia,

Abstract: This research paper is revealing and comparing two political leaders' assassination and execution. The subject of the study are; Kennedy's assassination and Menderes's execution both cases will be shown in details. There also will be mentioned some key outcomes which happened during their presidency, why and how these events occurred and the manner these leaders dealt with the surrounding circumstances. Kennedy became the second youngest President of the United States, that was assassinated after Abraham Lincoln. There were many occurrences which would come for him during his rule. He was pressured to approve Eisenhower's intervene plan to take down Fidel Castro in Cuba. Later it turned a failure for him to manage. In the Missile Crises Kennedy became the edge of the war against the USSR. Adnan Menderes was chosen as Prime Minister in the first free election in Turkey. But during his rule He did several things which could not be accredited by people. The discontentment of people was manifested with protests at the universities, martyrs in Korean War, the events of September 6-7 took Turkey in a chaotic environment. The inference of this this chaos lead him to death. His destiny defining an execution was the worst scenario and portrayed severe images for a Prime Minister that ruled a country. The research methods that are used in this paper are comparative and historical.

Keywords: Assassination, execution, John F. Kennedy, chaotic, Adnan Menderes

1. INTRODUCTION

The assassinations are caused by reasons related to the revolution, economic depressions, ideological different views, psychological reasons, personal reasons, money and benefits.

The most well-known assassination is the one that led to the death of **John F. Kennedy**, the 35th President of the United States, on Friday, November 22, 1963. Kennedy, who had participated in a tour in Dallas with his open top limousine for the election campaign, died on the way to Parkland Hospital as a result of wounds to his neck and head.

The death penalty is that a state puts an end to the life of a prisoner in return for the crime. **The execution** of the sentence of the person sentenced to death is called execution.

Republic of Turkey's 9th Prime Minister **Adnan Menderes**'s mission, ended with the military coup that took place in May 27, 1960. He was found guilty in 12 of the 13 cases against which Menderes was carrying out his political duties. He was executed by hanging on September 17, 1961.¹¹⁷

2. ADNAN MENDERES'S LIFE

Turkish politician, born in Aydin in 1899 and died in the Imrali island on September 17, 1961, who was Prime Minister of Turkey between 1950 and 1960. He was the son of a wealthy farm owner. He studied at the American School of Izmir and in the Faculty of law of the University of Ankara. As a youngster he joined the troops of liberation of Kemal Atatürk. He fought against the invading allied army during the War of Independence between 1920-1923, after World War I. After obtaining his degree he sold or distributed most of their possessions to smallholders, just kept in his possession a farm, which sought to apply the methods of modern agriculture. He failed in his attempt to create a liberal and, after his failed attempt to match, he joined in 1930 the Republican people's Party, founded by the father of modern Turkey, Kemal Atatürk. In this political formation he was elected Deputy for the first time that same year, and from his seat sought to improve the living conditions of the Turkish peasantry.¹¹⁸

3. MENDERES'S POLITICAL AFFILIATION

In 1946 he formed the Democratic party (DP) together with Mr. Celal Bayar, one of the first legal opposition parties in Turkey, after Atatürk's party CHP. He became the deputy of Kutahya province and served for four years. When his party came to power in 1950 during the first free elections in Turkish history, Menderes

¹¹⁷ https://www.sabah.com.tr/galeri/dunya/suikastten_yirtanlar (accessed 16.09.2018)

¹¹⁸ <http://thebiography.us/en/menderes-adnan> (accessed 27.09.2018)

became the Premier. In 1955 he also assumed the duties of foreign minister at the same time. Menderes also won the 1954 and 1957 elections, thus serving as prime minister for 10 years. During his terms, he followed liberal economic rules, allowing more private enterprises, and hold good relations with both East and West. Also, he miraculously survived a plane crash in 1959 when he and other government officials were flying from Istanbul to London. He became very popular amongst the public during those years, but at the same time he censored the newspapers and arrested journalists in order to oppress the opposing political parties, therefore he wasn't liked much by the intellectuals.

On 27th of May 1960 an army coup under General Cemal Gürsel toppled the government and Menderes was arrested. He was charged with violating the Constitution and trialed in a prison on Yassiada, a small island in the Princess Islands archipelago off Istanbul. He was found guilty by the military court and sentenced to death by hanging on the Imrali island at the Sea of Marmara on 17th of September 1961, along with two other cabinet members who were Mr. Fatin Rustu Zorlu, Foreign Affairs Minister, and Mr. Hasan Polatkan, Finance Minister. (Sartas, 2013, pp 24-27)

3. TURKEY IS IN KOREAN WAR

Turkey, sent troops to Korean War without Parliamentary approval. The biggest factor in this decision was the opportunity of the Democratic Party government to join NATO against the threat of the Soviet Union.

Under the command of Brigadier General Tahsin Yazıcı, consisting of 259 officers, 18 military officers, 4 civil servants, 395 non-commissioned officers and 4 thousand 414 soldier. On the 17th of September 1950, they departed from Iskenderun port of Hatay and on 12 October 1950 the first team arrived at Pusan Port. On 17 October 1950 the main team reached the port. On 17th of October 1950, the entire troop left Turkey and they reached Taegu on 20th of October 1950. The 1st Turkish Brigade was equipped with US equipment in Taegu and began to take part in the war. The Turkish forces fought against the communist guerrillas for a while and then joined the UN armies. On November 10, 1950, the Turkish forces left Taegu and arrived in Kunuri on November 21, 1950, deploying in the right wing of the US 9th Corps.

On November 24, 1950, the Turkish forces were ordered to move towards the Chinese border, but Chinese soldiers began to infiltrate behind the front. The US and South Korean troops noticed the situation and were ordered to retreat, but this order was transmitted too late to the Turkish forces. The 1st Battalion was surrounded and got into a clash. 3rd Battalion 9th Division were defeated and the rest of the Turkish forces retreated along the Chongchon River. The Turkish Regiment that achieved great successes in the battles they participated in, gave 721 martyr and 2000 soldiers were wounded. (Sartas, 2013, pp 62-68)

4. TURKEY AS A NATO MEMBER

Despite the Brest Litovsk Peace Treaty signed with the Soviet Union and Lenin in time, and the Treaty of Moscow and the Treaty of Kars, Soviet Union demanded on Turkey's territory from Hitler and from the US. Thus Turkey got close relations with the Western alliance and NATO. In 1950, during the Adnan Menderes government, troops were sent to fight in the Korean War under the command of the United Nations alongside the United States and South Korea, so the government showed its intention to join NATO on the international arena. The martyrs given in the Korean War were named as concessions for NATO membership by opposition leader İsmet İnönü and his party CHP.

Turkey's and Greece's membership were approved On 17th of October 1951 at a Nato Meeting in London. Turkey again on February 18, 1952 during the government of Adnan Menderes, officially became a member of NATO. (Sartas, 2013, pp 62-68)

5. EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 6-7

The incident which was named as the events of 6-7 September in the Turkish history that carried out against minorities, was considered as one of the most important process in Menderes's wear. On the night of September 6, 1955, when some newspapers in Istanbul wrote that a bomb was thrown at Atatürk's house, especially in the incidents against the Greeks, 73 churches, 8 holy manners, 1 synagogue, 2 monasteries, 4 thousand. 340 shops, 110 hotels and restaurants, 21 factories and 3 thousand 600 houses were attacked, 1 pastor was killed during the events. Due to these events, the TBMM (TGNA) held an extraordinary meeting. Speaking on behalf of the government, Deputy Prime Minister Fuad Köprülü declared that the government was aware of the events, but that the day and time were not specific.

After the incident, thousands of Greeks living in Turkey were forced to emigrate from Turkey. One of the aims was realized and the place of the Greeks in the country's economy weakened.(Sartas,2013,pp 106-111)

6. MENDERES'S EXECUTION



At 04:36 in the morning, an announcement from Ankara Radio excited the people holding their breath. The announcement was like "Today, our democracy fell into the crisis and due to recent events and in order to avoid the challenge of brotherhood, the Turkish Armed Forces, has taken over the control of the country," and the Turkish people for the first time met with the coup. President Celal Bayar was detained at the Çankaya Presidential Palace; and the Prime Minister Adnan Menderes was detained in Kütahya.

The Supreme Court of Justice, which was the court of special authority of the junta who made the coup of 27 May, tried Menderes and the accompanying politicians for 9 months and 27 days. At the end of the trial, 14 people were ordered to be executed and 31 were

sentenced to life imprisonment.

President of the United States Kennedy, French President Charles De Gaulle, Queen of the United Kingdom II. Elizabeth, the German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, repeatedly called for the National Unity Committee, which was led by Cemal Gürsel, to stop the executions. However, the National Unity Committee, headed by Cemal Gürsel forgave the executions except of those; Celal Bayar, Adnan Menderes, Hasan Polatkan and Fatin Rüştü Zorlu. Celal Bayar's death penalty was converted to life imprisonment due to age limit.

Menderes was executed on Imralı island in 17th of September 1961.

His last words were: I am not offended to anyone, I have no offence. I'm about to say goodbye to my state and my nation and I wish eternal happiness. At this moment, I remember my wife and my children with love.(Sartas,2013,pp 152-157)

• **The charges towards Adnan Menderes**

- Not to interfere with the events of September 6-7 even though he already knew
- Using an established organization (Homeland Front) as a mean of pressure on another class.
- Raiding the university against the law and opening fire to the people.
- Restricting the freedom of travel of some opposition deputies and the opposition leaders
- Violation of the Foreign Exchange Law.
- Using the state radio for his political interests.
- Violation of the independence of the judiciary
- Changing the date of 1957 elections, unlawfully.
- Violation of the Constitution.

In 1990, after 29 years of his death, the Parliament cleared of any misconduct of Adnan Menderes and pardoned him. Today, his mausoleum is located next to Turgut Ozal(Turkey's former president)'s mausoleum in Istanbul.(Sartas,2013,pp 150)

7. JOHN F.KENNEDY'S LIFE

John F. Kennedy was born into a rich, politically connected Boston family of Irish-Catholics. He and his eight siblings enjoyed a privileged childhood of elite private schools, sailboats, servants, and summer homes. During his childhood and youth, "Jack" Kennedy suffered frequent serious illnesses. Nevertheless, he strove to make his own way, writing a best-selling book while still in college at Harvard University and volunteering for hazardous combat duty in the Pacific during World War II. Kennedy's wartime service made him a hero. After a short stint as a journalist, Kennedy entered politics, serving in the US House of Representatives from 1947 to 1953 and the US Senate from 1953 to 1961.

Kennedy was the youngest presidential candidate in the history of presidency elected US president and the first Roman Catholic to serve in States office. For many analysts, critics and observers, his presidency came to represent the stream of superiority of youthful idealism after the decades of World War II. The promise of this energetic and telegenic leader was not to be fulfilled, as he was assassinated near the end of his third year in office. For many Americans, the public murder of President Kennedy remains one of the most traumatic events in memory;

many Americans can remember exactly where they were when they heard that President Kennedy had been shot. His shocking death stood at the forefront of a period of political and social instability in the country and the world.¹¹⁹

8. KENNEDY'S LEAD TO THE PRESIDENCY

In 1952 he competed with Henry Cabot Lodge, a long-time friend of the 26th president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, and joined the Senate elections. The campaign, supported by her family, attracted lots of attention with the volunteer participants. And Kennedy became the senator of Massachusetts.

During his time as a senator, the politician who was sensitive about listening to the needs and wishes of the population gained appreciation of the people with this characteristic. In addition, he strengthened the office by being very close and keeping it always open to the public. He also gained popularity by supporting the opening of St. Lawrence Waterway, being the only senator to approve bilateral trade agreements of US President Eisenhower, getting attraction by not standing on Joseph R. McCarthy's side made him more populous.

During the same period, he could not attend the voting for McCarthy's conviction and he could not give the positive approval he was expected to give due to his waistline discomfort. Because of his discomfort, he had surgery and had to rest for months. During this time, he stayed in the house of his father in Palm Beach, where he spent six months relaxing and wrote a book called Profiles in Courage. In 1957, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for his book.

After his return to work, Kennedy continued to work where he left off, and he gained more and more strength. When he was about to be elected as president in 1956, he appeared on a program that was followed by millions of people and announced his withdrawal. And with this speech, he became one of the country's most famous political figures. In time he started to appear in newspapers and magazines with his wife and increased his popularity for presidential elections which he would participate in in the future. In January 1960, he announced his participation in the presidential elections. And on November 8, 1960, he became the youngest and at the same time the first Catholic president of US history at the age of 43 (after Theodore Roosevelt, who was elected as president at 42) by receiving more votes than Richard M. Nixon. (Escalante, 2017, pp 40-47)

9. BAY OF PIGS

After Fidel Castro and his friends overthrew Batista's government in 1959, US president Dwight D. Eisenhower launched a violent economic boycott against Cuba. So Cuba impeded the Soviet Union ideology by all means politically and economically. Later The US policy feared that its security in Central America got in peril.

In January 1961, diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States were tainted. The American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) started work on a year earlier to intervene Cuba, and for this purpose, the new anti-regime Cubans living in the United States subjected military training. John F. Kennedy, the US president after Eisenhower, approved the intervene plan.

On 17th of April, 1961, approximately 1300 counter-revolutionary Cuban, armed with American weapons and directed by the CIA, dug out to Bahía de Cochinos (Bay of Pigs) on the southern coast of Cuba. The CIA was not planning the counterrevolution of the rebels, but the turmoil in Havana and the assassination of Castro during the turmoil. This way, the ghost government would be immediately recognized by the US, and the US army would overwhelm the turndown government.

But the forces that carried out the extraction encountered an unexpected resistance by the Cubans. After a two-day clash, they had to surrender and more than 1,000 counter-revolutionaries were captured. Prisoners were tried and sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment for treason. Later, as a result of the negotiations with the United States, the prisoners were returned to the United States in exchange for \$ 53 million of medicines and food.

These developments led to a loss of prestige in the international public opinion of the United States. (Escalante, 2017, pp 47-79)

10. THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

The Cuban missile crisis or October Missile Crisis, is the process that began with the placement of nuclear missiles in Cuba by USSR and in Turkey by the USA. This crisis is a crisis that confronted the two superpowers of

¹¹⁹ <https://millercenter.org/president/kennedy/life-in-brief> (accessed 21.09.2018)

the period for the first time and left the world under the threat of nuclear war in October 1962. These two superpowers threatened each other by placing nuclear-propelled missiles at each other's borders.

The basis of this process was to overthrow of the Fidel Castro government by the US, after the revolution in Cuba. The two superpowers of the world, the Soviet Union and America, had confronted directly for the first time in the peak of Cold War crisis. This meant the almost launching basis of another World War. In the crisis of the October missiles, where the Cold War reached its peak, the USSR benefited from the failure of the USA in the Operation of the Bay of Pigs and gave material and moral support to Cuba. The USSR had taken a large part of Cuba's sugar exports to provide financial support, although it was no need for it, and had secured Cuba against any possible American intervention. Soviet president Nikita Khrushchev wrote a letter to Kennedy, he wanted him to remove the missiles from Turkey and to give assurances that Cuba would not be invaded. In these cases they would respect Turkey's territorial integrity and independence, and they would not interfere in internal affairs.

President Kennedy responded to the letter on the same day and stated that if the missiles in Cuba were dismantled, the blockade against Cuba would be terminated and that they would not invade Cuba.

On 28 October 1962, in a Nato meeting it was said that if the USA invaded Cuba, The USSR would invade Turkey and Nato would might get involve in War.

On October 28, 1962, the crisis was finished, NATO was relieved and missiles were removed. After the cold war had reached its peak with this incident, the period of softening had started. (Escalante, 2017, pp 193-209)

11. KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION

John F. Kennedy was assassinated on 22nd of November 1963, during a visit to Dallas in USA. Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested for the assassination attempt on the same day. But two days later, Oswald himself was shot dead in the basement of a Dallas police station by a man named Jack Ruby.

The cause and the death of Kennedy still remains as a mystery. There are dozens of conspiracy theories written and spoken about it.



(Photo Of Kennedy's Assassination)

The assassination was screened by a 8-mm Bell & Howell camera by a person named Zapruder. These footages were the basis of the main sources of all investigations. The Italian made Manlicher Carcano rifle was used in the assassination.

It was the time when Kennedy greeting the public with an open top car ,the first bullet came through his neck and got out of the tie knot,the second bullet wounded the Dallas Governor ,Connally, heavy in the back.,the third and fatal blow tore Kennedy's head from the top. There was approximately 5,6 seconds between the first shot and the last shot. (Escalante, 2017, pp 253-305)

Interesting coincidences between Lincoln nad Kennedy's Assassination

- a. Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress in 1846.
- b. John F. Kennedy was elected to Congress in 1946.
Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860.
John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960.
- c. c)The names Lincoln and Kennedy each contain seven letters.
Both were particularly concerned with civil rights.
- d. Both wives lost their children while living in the White House.
- e. Both Presidents were shot on a Friday.
Both were shot in the head. Both were assassinated by Southerners.
- f. Both were succeeded by Southerners.
Both successors were named Johnson.
- g. Andrew Johnson, who succeeded Lincoln, was born in 1808.

Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy, was born in 1908.

- h. Both assassins were known by their three names.(John Wilkes Booth, Lee Harvey Oswald)
Both names are comprised of fifteen letters.
- i. Booth and Oswald were assassinated before their trials.¹²⁰

12. CONCLUSION

Both leaders that were mentioned so far were among the greatest politicians of their country's history. They always thought what was best for their country. They tried to exalt up their country both economically and socially. And doing so they triggered some of extremist hatred. As comparing these 2 assassinations there can be drawn out similarities.

The biggest similarity is both leaders, Menderes and Kennedy wanted to make all people equal living in their countries. Yet the difference is that Kennedy was '*assassinated*' and Menderes was '*executed*'.

In Kennedy's time he wanted to free America from the control of some big lobbies in the US. He did not want to get the US into anymore wars and it was a big failure for his political carrier to fail in Bay of Pigs and to retreat later. This drove people crazy who made money from amunitions and wars. Although his assassination's reason is still a mystery, it is thought that the reason had a place in his death.

Adnan Menderes also did great things for Turkey. He opened many factories all around the state and contributed with many things to Turkey's development.

But his compromise in Korean War to be a member of Nato was not accepted by opposing leaders and there were several turmoils in Turkey such as: events of September 6-7 and the students' protests at universities. Opposing leaders exploited and used this chaotic environment and made pressure on military to take the control of the country. As a result of this chaos and incitement the military did a coup and expelled Menderes and his cabinet from the politics and imprisoned them. This coup brought Adnan Menderes a tragic death and he was executed by the military authority.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- [1] Yasar Sahin Anil, 'Abraham Lincoln' Biyografi 2010 Kastas Publishing
- [2] Fabian Escalante, 'Kennedy Cinayeti' 2017 (Translator: Celil Denktas) Yazilama Publishing
- [3] Tugrul Saritas, 'Adnan Menderes' 2013 Kultur Ajans Tanitim Publishing

Webpages:

- [4] https://www.sabah.com.tr/galeri/dunya/suikastten_yirtanlar(accessed 16.09.2018)
- [5] <http://www.internethaber.com/idam-edilen-liderler-foto-galerisi-1171006.htm>(accessed 16.09.2018)
- [6] <https://greatamericanhistory.net/lincolnbibliography.htm>(accessed 18.09.2018)
- [7] <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part4/4h1549.html>(accessed 19.09.2018)
- [8] <https://millercenter.org/president/kennedy/life-in-brief>(accessed 21.09.2018)
- [9] <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/linkin-kennedy/>(accessed 24.09.2018)
- [10] <http://thebiography.us/en/menderes-adnan>(accessed 27.09.2018)

¹²⁰ <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/linkin-kennedy/>(accessed 24.09.2018)