

Dear readers,

We are deeply saddened by the loss of Prof Altan Onat, the founder and past editor-in-chief of our journal. He was a distinguished scientist, a real gentleman and an intellectual of Turkish Republic. Among his numerous scientific works, the Turkish Adults Risk Factors (TARF) study was undoubtedly the basis of his research. While no scientist in our country had the courage to undertake such an epidemiological study, he started the survey in year 1990, and continued regular surveys for a 30-year period with an unbelievable persistence, shedding light on our people's coronary heart disease problems. What an interesting coincidence that we bit him farewell on World Heart Day.

He left us hundreds of scholarly articles, thousands of students and scholars, but most importantly, the teaching that science is a lifetime passion and sacrifice. The fact that he continued to work with young people in his office in the Turkish Society of Cardiology until two weeks before his death and his curiosity about the results of the last survey of the TARF study in his sickbed, should be a last lesson for all of us on how a real scientist should be.

As the Editorial Board of the Turkish Society of Cardiology, we have spared this issue into the biggest passion of Prof Onat, coronary heart disease and appropriate health policies for our people. We are honored to publish one of his latest articles in our journal.

I am very glad to announce that Prof Mehmet Ozkan, another valuable scientist of our country and a close friend of Prof Onat started to prepare a special supplement for the December 2017 issue, of the Archives of the Turkish Society of Cardiology. In this special issue you will be able to find the life, memories of his close friends and private photographs of Prof Onat. Our special issue is open to all our colleagues who want to be present. If you have any memories or ideas you would like to share, please send your letters to the secretariat or myself no later than November 15, 2017. We are waiting for the contribution of the entire Turkish Society of Cardiology Society and colleagues in other branches to create a suitable supplementary issue for the memory of our mentor.

Throughout his life, Professor Onat has been the strongest advocate of scientific research based on hypotheses rather than coincidental relationships. It is our greatest wish that this scientific approach will be a role model for young people especially. Despite of our loss and grief, I believe we should also celebrate the valuable and exemplary life he lived with admiration.

I would like to express my sincere condolences to his family and to all the colleagues, students and members of the Turkish Society of Cardiology.

Dilek Ural, M.D.

*Editor*

