

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES AND RESEARCH  
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AND THE ARARAT-ESKIJIAN MUSEUM

PRESENT

# TALAT PASHA'S GENOCIDE TECHNOCRAT: A BIOGRAPHY OF MUSTAFA REŞAT MIMAROĞLU

**A Webinar with Dr. Ümit Kurt**

**Assistant Professor in the School of Humanities,  
University of Newcastle, New South Wales**

**Tuesday, December 13, 2022**

**7:30 p.m. (Eastern) / 4:30 p.m. (Pacific)**

Zoom Registration Link:

<https://bit.ly/NAASR-Kurt>

NAASR YouTube Channel Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/ArmenianStudies>



As a young technocrat working in the Political Unit (Kısmı Siyasi) of the Ministry of Interior under the jurisdiction of Talat Pasha, Mustafa Reşat Mimaroglu played a pivotal role in planning, organizing and executing the political arrests of Armenian intellectuals and political elites in Istanbul on April 24, 1915. Mustafa Reşat made the execution of genocidal policies and violence easier, more effective, and smooth for Talat Pasha by clearing bureaucratic and administrative hurdles. As a genocide perpetrator, Mustafa Reşat Mimaroglu then attained influential positions in post-genocide Turkey.

In this talk, Dr. Ümit Kurt will explore Mimaroglu's biography including his relationship with the Armenian journalist and professor Diran Kelekian, who was arrested by his former student Mimaroglu in April 1915 and killed; examine the continuation of a genocidal regime in the modern Turkish Republic and how genocidairees such as Mimaroglu constituted core elements of the new state; and explore what kinds of administrative/bureaucratic mechanisms made the Armenian Genocide possible and how technocrats like Mustafa Reşat, taking charge of these mechanisms, facilitated the genocide for political decision-makers.

Ümit Kurt is a historian of the modern Middle East, with a research focus on the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. He specializes in the late Ottoman socio-economic history, Armenian genocide, mass/collective violence and interethnic conflicts. His broader training also includes the comparative empires, population movements, history of the Ottoman urban and local elites, wealth transfer, and nationalism. He is the author of *The Armenians of Aintab: The Economics of Genocide in an Ottoman Province* (Harvard University Press, 2021) and co-author with Taner Akçam of *The Spirit of the Laws: The Plunder of Wealth in the Armenian Genocide* (Berghahn Books, 2017).

**Photo: Mustafa Reşat Mimaroglu with his son Sadi in Erzincan in 1910.**

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