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## Weather

**TODAY**



Partly cloudy  
Max 18 Min 6

**TOMORROW**



Partly cloudy  
Max 20 Min 8

**MONDAY**



Partly cloudy  
Max 18 Min 8

**TUESDAY**



Partly cloudy  
Max 19 Min 5

**WEDNESDAY**



Cloudy  
Max 18 Min 11

**THURSDAY**



Cloudy  
Max 15 Min 9

**FRIDAY**



Cloudy  
Max 16 Min 9

## Something to say?

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# ATA commemorates martyrs with tree planting ceremony



MEMBERS of the Anglo-Turkish Association of Northern Cyprus (ATA) visited the Muratağa-Sandallar Martyrs Cemetery to participate in a tree-planting ceremony aimed at providing shade for future visitors.

The event, which took place on Thursday last week, followed a request from the local muhtar Olsan Karabardak, who sought the ATA's support to help beautify the cemetery and enhance the space for those who come to pay their respects, during a visit by the ATA's members to the Muratağa, Sandallar and Atlılar Martyrs Cemeteries last November.

The initiative, which was supported by the Lefkoşa Forestry Department and led by ATA tour guide and former chair Gültür Kuran, saw the planting of saplings at the Muratağa-Sandallar Martyrs Cemetery.

ATA committee members Tim Morgan, İsmet Ramiz and Hatice Salih Kerimgil, along with other ATA members, joined the ceremony.

Upon arrival, the group was welcomed by Karabardak and Ahmet Aşır, head of the Muratağa, Sandallar and Atlılar Martyrs Association.

Karabardak explained that on August 14, 1974, the villages of Muratağa, Sandallar, and Atlılar were the sites of a horrific massacre.

He noted that the youngest victim was just 14 days old, and many women, children and elderly people were murdered by members of the Greek Cypriot Eoka organisation.

The Muratağa Sandallar Martyrs Cemetery now serves as the final resting place for 89 people, with an additional 37 martyrs in Atlılar.

Karabardak expressed his deep gratitude to the ATA for their assistance in acquiring and planting the trees on behalf of the martyrs' families.

"It is thanks to our martyrs that we are able to travel freely and live in peace in these lands today," he said.

"Our aim in organising such events is to keep their memories alive," he stated.

Ahmet Aşır spoke about the ongoing efforts to renovate the



Photos courtesy of Hatice Salih Kerimgil

Atlılar Martyrs Cemetery and museum. He invited the ATA to participate in the annual remembrance ceremony scheduled for August 14, 2025, and to also plant trees there as part of the commemoration.

Tim Morgan, speaking on behalf of the ATA, expressed his "honour and pleasure" in being part of "such an important event".

He emphasised the ATA's commitment to supporting initiatives that benefit the Turkish Cypriot people and its dedication to supporting good causes across the TRNC.

The ceremony concluded with the planting of the saplings.



Local muhtar Olsan Karabardak with ATA committee member Hatice Salih Kerimgil