**CRIMEAN TATAR**

# 21 February İnternational Mother Language Day

When they asked me to write in Circassian, they ended up being either too political or too sentimental. Then the famous Circassian poet Kuyeko Nalbi saved me

**Yücel ÜLÜĞ**

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I am a member of a family emigrated from Crimea. I was born in Eskişehir. I learned my mother tongue at home through practice. It makes me feel good to talk and hear my mother tongue.

In daily life I speak Tatar to a Crimean Turk, to the elderly in the family and to my family (of course with the ones who can speak). Tatar as identified by UNESCO Tatar is one of the endangered languages and I am very sad about it. Even my children can hardly communicate in Tatar, which is not enough for the language to survive.

Even, communicating with people from Crimea and Romania in Tatar and read books with Latin alphabet marks the importance of being able to speak Tatar. The melody and phonetics of my language is enough for me. My only wish is the survival of my language eternally however as UNESCO has indicated Tatar will become extinct.