

DIGORONIAN

21 February International Mother Language Day

I sincerely wish that the peoples, of whose native languages and cultures -thereby their names are on the verge of getting extinct; let them be saved and live with their identities, thanks to special days like today!

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In order to make this wish come true, we have the responsibility to realize the importance of this day and work to keep our mother tongues alive and develop. Mother tongue means identity!

Our mother tongue (Digoronian) is our culture and the keystone of our identity like all the other societies. If a society would lose its language what would be left from its culture? Would we be able to laugh to a “translated” joke like we do it in its own language? Would anyone understand the meanings of these words if translated as they are used in their Turkish meaning: *kaynayasın* (*let you boil/May it be easy!*), *iyicene kaynayasın* (*let you boil more/Thank you!*), *sağcagel* (*come alive/Welcome!*), *cansağlam ol* (*you be alive/thank you*), *kalpkaynar ol* (I can’t find the Turkish definition)? Even only this proves how mother tongue and culture are so inherently connected to each other.

Another way of looking at it is to look at the nature: The nature of the world is so diverse and has different species. Do you think the world is better with this or would it be better when all the species were of the same color and same shape? Just like the diversity of the nature is the beauty of the world, different societies with their languages and cultures are the beauties and wealth of the humanity.

Let us not forget!

No society is superior to others,

Let us not forget!

No society is superior to others,

No society's value is lower or higher than the others

In the eye of the nature an God.

Let the young and the old

Keep their identity alive,

Together