

WEDDING CEREMONY

For

Şerif Faruk Arınç and Emel Tarkan

Friends; we have gathered here this day to join with Faruk And Emel in the celebration of their marriage. They have asked you to be present at this joyous and solemn occasion to give them your blessings and good will as they enter into this the holliest of all human contracts. We witness by our joy that the happiness and peace which these two find in one another is unique. And yet it is no more than the happiness and peace which all men might, if they but tried, find in one another.

Marriage is more than a social institution; it is the personal and intimate covenant made between two individuals. I believe we all recognize the fact that no minister nor megistrate of the law can really marry two souls. For marriage is an agreement, a recognition that has taken place within the hearths of a couple. And having recognized and affirmed this covenant among themselves, Faruk and Emel now wish to make a public acknowledgement of their commitment and to join with each other, before you their friends and in the presence of God.

No other human ties are more intimate or tender, no other vows more sacred than those you now assume. If these solemn vows which you are about to make be kept inviolate and if steadfastly you endeavor to do the will of God, your life will be full of joy and the home which you are now establishing will abide in peace.

As you grow with each other in the months and years ahead, I charge you to let honesty and openness with each other be your guiding principles. If love is genuine, honesty is always present. I think it is also important to recognize that marriage is a relationship of two persons who are not always at their best. So, I hope you will seek to understand each other's faults and weaknesses. As it has been said very simply; "Be kind to one another." In marriage, above all human relationships, you must forgive each other over and over, every day of your lives. Only in this way can your relationship find strength and renewal.

I charge you to practice the spiritual values of Faith, of Hope, of Mercy, of a sense of humor, and above all genuine understanding, compassion and respect.

I charge you both to make your love for each other a growing part of your lives, feeding it from the very best resources of your living. You must grow to the point where each gains major satisfaction in giving happiness to the other. Give of yourself to the other, deeply, freely, and generously, ever recalling the words of the poet who has said:

"Love ever gives, forgives, outlives;
And ever stands with open hands.
And while it lives, it gives,
For this is love's prerogative:
To give – and give – and give."

Faruk, will you have Emel to be your wife, to live together as friend and mate? Will you love her and respect her, sharing joy as well as sorrow, triumph as well as defeat, hopes as well as fears? And will you promise to work with her for as long as you both shall live in building a world of peace, a community of brotherhood and a home of love?

Says, I will.

Emel, will you have Faruk to be your husband, to live together as friend and mate? Will you love her and respect her, sharing joy as well as sorrow, triumph as well as defeat, hopes as well as fears? And will you promise to work with her for as long as you both shall live in building a world of peace, a community of brotherhood and a home of love?

Says, I will.

Then the chaplain shall say: Who gives this woman to this man?

If a brother or father or friend has come for this office, he at this moment will reply "I do." Then they shall give their pledge to each other in this manner: The chaplain receiving the woman at her father's or friends's hand, shall cause the man with his right hand to take the woman by her right hand and say after him as follows:

I, Faruk, take you Emel to be my wife; to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, and thereto I pledge you my faith.

Then shall they loose their hands, and the woman with her right hand taking the man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the chaplain:

I, Emel, take you Faruk to be my husband; to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, and thereto I pledge you my faith.

