Gallipoli, the Turkish Defence and Defending Gallipoli, the Turkish Story

Two books to mark the centenary of the Gallipoli Campaign in 2015 by Harvey Broadbent to be launched by former Governor of New South Wales, Professor Dame Marie Bashir, on 11 February 2015

Harvey Broadbent, Associate Professor and Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Modern History, Politics and International Relations at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia has made a career long study of the Gallipoli Campaign. Through his skills in Turkish language and history, he is a foremost authority on the Turkish defence at Gallipoli. Melbourne University Publishing (MUP) is publishing the books under their Miegunyah imprint to mark the Gallipoli centenary. They are the result of Harvey Broadbent’s work directing Macquarie University’s Gallipoli Centenary Research Project through several years of intensive research in the Turkish archives. The project identified original documents and other material related to the Turkish side of the campaign and produced over two and a half thousand pages of English translations.

Many of the documents appear in these books, which tell the story of Gallipoli comprehensively from the Turkish side only, for the first time. In so doing they help the reader understand how the Turks were successful, if at times only just so, in blocking the Anzacs, British and French and forcing their retreat.

Gallipoli, the Turkish Defence is the primary academic publication arising from the research. It serves as a very readable reference book for details of the Ottoman Turkish military operations and the personnel involved. It is also generously illustrated with maps, some of them original, archival photographs and quotations from historical documents, all of them with their citations.

Defending Gallipoli, the Turkish Story is a condensed version of the first book designed to appeal to the general reader interested in learning about the other side of Gallipoli. It relates the Turkish story at Gallipoli in a colourful and engaging style.

These books provide a factual account of events hitherto uncovered in extensive previous Gallipoli accounts and a more comprehensive understanding of how the Ottoman forces at Gallipoli affected the outcomes that led to the failure of the Allies. They show how the commanders and their troops responded to the invasion of their homeland and were able, albeit under great pressure, to resist, persevere and ultimately succeed.

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