

French support for the house of Togarmah

Nigel Bernard

A recent vote in the French parliament has highlighted the close links between Gomer and Togarmah. It has caused friction between France and Turkey, a power which will be separate from the European beast at Armageddon.

IN EZEKIEL 38:6 it is written, "Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee". Gomer refers to the ancient peoples known as the Celts or Gauls. These inhabited western and central Europe. France is one of the countries which corresponds to Gomer in the time of the end. Togarmah corresponds to modern Armenia.*

It is perhaps significant that these two countries are listed together in Ezekiel 38, for there are close ties between the two peoples in these last days. These close ties have been manifested

recently by a parliamentary vote in France on 12 October 2006. The parliament voted to make it a crime to deny that the Turks carried out an act of genocide against the Armenians during the First World War.

The vote was proposed by French opposition politicians and was not supported by the French government. However, the government allowed its deputies a free vote, many of whom in fact abstained. To become law, approval is needed by the Senate and president, and it is thought unlikely that this will occur. Nevertheless, the vote in itself has already led to significant repercussions.

Over a million Armenians were killed by Turks from 1915 onwards. This was in reprisal for many Armenians in eastern Turkey choosing to side with Russia during the War. Many Armenians were forced to march from their homelands

* According to Genesis 10:3, Togarmah was the son of Gomer—T.B.



Turkey, with Armenia outlined in black to the east

toward Syria and Mesopotamia (modern Iraq). That Armenians were killed is not denied; it is the charge that genocide was carried out that is denied. Genocide is where a systematic attempt is made to wipe out a people. Turkey fiercely denies that it carried out genocide against the Armenians. There is a direct parallel with denying the Nazi Holocaust. In French law, a one-year jail sentence and a fine of €45,000 is given to those who deny the Holocaust. If the vote on the alleged Turkish genocide of Armenians becomes law the punishment will be the same.

The Turkish foreign ministry reacted with anger to the vote with the following statement:

“Turkish-French relations, which have been meticulously developed over the centuries, took a severe blow today through the irresponsible initiatives of some short-sighted French politicians, based on unfounded allegations”.¹

Turkey has said it may impose sanctions. The European Union (EU) has also criticised the French. But why should the French have made such a vote in the first place? The answer lies in the presence of over 500,000 people of Armenian descent who live in France. France in fact has one of the largest Armenian populations in Europe. Some see the vote as a cynical ploy to gain support from this group in view of presidential elections to be held in France next year. Others see the vote as a protest against the proposed entry of Turkey into the EU.

The sensitivity in Turkey relating to the alleged genocide is shown by the experience of the Turkish writer Orhan Pamuk, the winner of this year’s Nobel Prize in Literature. Last year he faced criminal charges in Turkey for daring to talk about the massacre of Armenians, and also Kurds, by Turkey. The charges made against him were



Orhan Pamuk

subsequently dropped on a technicality.

The significance of the vote with regard to Bible prophecy is twofold. Firstly, as seen at the beginning of the article, France and Armenia are shown by Ezekiel to be allies at the time of the end when the invasion of Israel takes place. The concern which is shown by the French for the Armenians, whatever the underlying political motives, reflects the way they are mentioned side by side by Ezekiel.

Secondly, the vote has once more highlighted the difference between Europe, or at least France, and Turkey. Turkey is to be finally dried up at the time of the end as it comes to be dominated by the Russian dragon (Rev. 16:12,13). It will not be part of the European beast. Indeed, as Togarmah sides with Magog at the time of the end, the alleged genocide may well act as a motivating factor which will only serve to hasten the final drying up of the Euphrates.

1. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/6045838.stm>.

The Testimony on DVD

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