

decades, or to one they have just discovered. Nonetheless, among those who surmise that they might have an Armenian grandparent, there is a new trend to search for their true ethnic identity. There is also a reawakening among hidden Armenians, whereby those who know and acknowledge their Armenian ancestry, are now coming forth and claiming their identity.

Çetin has declared her book to be a challenge to the Muslim identity of the Turkish nation. She and thousands of others like her with Armenian ancestry need to rehash the elements and make-up of their identity and reformulate it through personal choices and calculations. Will today's Turkish societal and political atmosphere allow that to happen? Hrant Dink was assassinated for his campaign encouraging Turks to discover their Armenian ancestry. He believed that while there are about 70,000 Turkish citizens who identify themselves as Armenians, there are more than a million others with Armenian roots, an Armenian grandparent or great-grandparent. This was a challenge to the supposedly homogenous make-up of Turkish society that could not be tolerated. If numbers count in voicing the multiplicity of ethnic identities and cultural diversities in Turkey, if, as Fatma Müge Göçek puts it, "the challenge Turkish-Armenians could provide the Turkish nation-state has decreased because of the small number of Armenians residing in Turkey,"³⁴ the revived and growing interest in discovering and returning to one's roots may drastically change the current picture of homogeneity.

³⁴ Göçek, "Silences in the Turkish Republican Past" (n.d.).