

The Murder Mystery of the Assassination of Sakine Cansiz

Part 1: The Crime, the Victims, the Accused

February 1, 2013 by Amy L. Beam, Ed.D.

The Victims: Sakine Cansiz, Fidan Doğan and Leyla Söylemez



On Jan 21, 2013, French police charged a Turkish man named Ömer Güney of assassinating Kurdish activists Sakine Cansiz, Leyla Söylemez and Fidan Doğan, who were all shot in the head execution-style inside the Kurdistan Information Center, Paris office on Jan. 9, 2013. Cansiz (code name "Sara") was a founding member, along with Abdulla Ocalan, of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in Turkey. Police found a suitcase in the office between two of the victims. It is rumored that Cansiz was due to travel in three days.

Early police reports stated there was no forced entry. By Jan 24, reports stated they were shot *outside* the office on the first floor, not *inside*. A photo appeared online, without description, showing a bloody landing on the staircase. Statements of "fact" should be treated with caution and speculation.

Sakine Cansiz was identified as a PKK/KGK "financier and weapons and tactical strategist" in Europe According to a 2007 [US embassy cable 07ANKARA2917](#), sent from Ankara to Washington, DC, released by Wikileaks in 2010. She was targeted by the US to be incarcerated in order to block money flows to the PKK in northern Iraq. In 2007, she was arrested in Germany and held for 40 days before being released for lack of evidence of a specific crime. Germany refused Turkey's request to extradite her.

The Accused: Ömer Güney

Paris police showed a photo of an Ömer Güney, copied from the FaceBook page of Omerr Günayy at www.facebook.com/okyay.gunay.3. It has been reported he went to the Gölbaşı district of Ankara on 24 August, 2012, and changed his passport with a new one with a chip. A person changes his passport either because it is expired, because he wants to hide his previous travel record, or because he has filled up the pages. Police state the accused was originally from Sivas, Turkey. Media has reported his age as both 20 and 30.



www.facebook.com/okvay.gunay.3 www.facebook.com/okvay.guney Omer Guney, age 30 Photo: Turkish media

Ömer Güney is a common name, like John Smith in the west. It has various spellings including letters not on a western keyboard. To understand who Ömer Güney is, whose three FaceBook pages are analyzed in Part 4 of this story, one must investigate the assassination in the broader context of geopolitics, culture, and history. It is imperative to search for the motive, not just the murderer.

First reports state police believe they were killed at around 3 p.m. on January 9, but their bodies were not found until after midnight. Later press releases said they were killed in the early hours of Jan 10, coinciding when, according to police sources, Ömer Güney was seen on security cameras entering the building where the murders occurred. The video has not been shown. Later reports put death around 6 pm, Jan 9, according to the coroner. All the public knows is that there have been multiple press releases giving different times of death.

The suspect's [uncle Zekai Güney claimed](#) that Ömer had been accompanied by two other persons while entering the Kurdistan Information Office, where the three Kurdish politicians were killed. Uncle Güney said the image of these two people had been "removed" from the security footage that French police has seized in connection with the investigation into the executions.

Zekai Güney, who grounded the allegation on the statements of the suspect's father, said that; "My brother told me that according to the information he received from French prosecution office and lawyers, Ömer had denied committing the murders in his testimony. According to what he told me, Ömer alleged there had been two other people with him and that the footage had been falsified by removing these two persons' records. He must have mentioned the names of those two people who are however not seen in the footage held by the prosecutor now".

Remember the plane that flew into the Pentagon in the 9/11 attack? We were shown a hole not big enough for a plane, but the U.S. government refused to release the videos which they confiscated from neighboring sites with camera surveillance of the Pentagon. If Ömer Güney was captured on surveillance camera, then let's see it along with the coroner's report.

Could any assassin be so naïve as to believe he would not be caught on camera on a main street in Paris? Unless he was promised that the cameras would be turned off or the video evidence would disappear? Or did he leave the building for ten minutes precisely so that he could be shown *leaving*

prior to the time of the murder? Was the fact that he returned supposed to be obscured? Are there, in fact, surveillance videos? The over-night solving of this murder is so easy that one must consider if this story is fabricated.

Mr. Güney's uncle, Zekai Güney, said: "Neither he, nor any of us, have the slightest sympathy for (the PKK)... My nephew is sick, He has a tumor on the brain. He can't remember what he is doing from one hour to the next," he reportedly told the Turkish language version of CNN. If true, it is tragic. Let's hear verification from his doctors. if not true, will we be told in a few months that the assassin died of cancer . . . case closed?

If Güney was in the room at the time of the murders, but denies killing the women, we are left with a conundrum.

For most readers too young to remember about the 1968 assassination of U.S. Senator Robert Kennedy, the convicted gun man, Sirhan Sirhan, has always stated he has no memory of shooting Kennedy. Video footage shows he was tackled while standing directly *in front* of Kennedy, while the coroner's autopsy report states Kennedy was shot at point blank range from *behind* the right ear. Video that was uploaded to YouTube in 2008, 40 years after the assassination, shows Robert Kennedy was not shot from the front. His head is lying in a pool of blood. In spite of this contradiction, the condemned man is growing old in prison. Sirhan has always maintained, even under repeated hypnosis, that he has no memory of the crime."

According to the Hurriyet newspaper on its website, in recent years, Güney has entered Turkey more than 10 times. By Jan 25, this story has morphed to Güney entering Turkey more than 10 times *in 2012*. Where does this information come from? Can one believe it?

Police reported that Ömer Güney himself stated he was a member of the PKK. To admit to membership in an organization deemed to be an illegal terrorist organization is a curiosity, particularly when accused of murder. Güney's PKK membership was denied by PKK leader Murat Karayilan according to Firat news agency. Was Güney a plant? Was he being set-up to be the fall guy?

Mindful that everything reported in the media so far about Ömer Güney may be false, I did some detective work myself on FaceBook. There are dozens of FaceBook accounts that matched my search. I read a lot of them, but focused in on just three. Two of them are obviously of the same person because the photos on both are clearly of the same man with a mole on his left cheek near his eye. Police have stated that this is the man accused of "murder in association with a terrorist organization".

Going Viral and the Myth of Mainstream Media Fact-checking

Before discussing the suspicions raised by Ömer Güney FaceBook accounts, I will digress to 2009, when I was involved in helping Neda Soltani of Iran. Her FaceBook profile photo was mistakenly used and posted worldwide as the photo of Neda Agha-Soltan who was shot and bled to death on a street in Tehran, Iran, June 20, 2009, during student protests after the election results were announced. Many

believe that Ahmadinajad did not win fairly and they took to the streets. A video of her death was uploaded to YouTube and went viral within minutes.

In a show of defiance to the Iranian government, many people began changing their FaceBook name to Neda Soltani and posting her pretty photo wearing a flowered headscarf as their *own* profile photo. FaceBook was flooded with hundreds of Neda Soltani accounts with the slogan "We are all Neda Soltani." The real Neda Soltani removed her photo. It was all over for Truth within an hour.

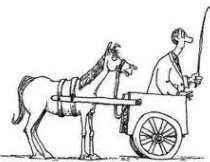
When I contacted websites and news outlets, many refused to believe the mistake, using the argument, "How can *CNN* and *The New York Times* be wrong?" Trust in a brand name was tantamount to truth. By now the MSM (mainstream media) has been exposed for its flagrant disregard for fact-checking and for publishing false stories planted by governments and corporations. Does anyone need reminding about Bush's Weapons of Mass Destruction lie that led to the illegal invasion and destruction of Iraq and over a million Iraqi deaths?

I contacted both CNN and the New York Times (actually, the *NYTimes* staff reporter called me) to inform them of the error the day *before* they ran the wrong photo of Neda. The *NYTimes* journalist was apologetic that her editors overruled her. Truth has nothing to do with readership statistics, and Neda's innocent Mona Lisa smile proved to be irresistible.

Fox news continued to run the wrong photo for at least 3 years. It is no wonder that in 2011, Canada banned Rupert Murdoch's Fox news because, unlike in America, Canada's Radio Act bans stations from broadcasting "false or misleading news."

In the end, Neda Soltani was forced to flee Iran ten days after the murder of Agha-Soltan when the authorities accused her of participating in a plot to foment revolution. She was eventually granted asylum by Germany.

Both Germany and France have demonstrated a welcoming immigration policy toward political refugees and activists. When Sakine Cansiz moved to Europe in the mid-1980s, she went first to Germany, then to France where she was granted asylum in 1998 after disagreeing with some senior PKK leaders, according to Wikipedia.



First Comes the Motive, Then Comes the Investigation ... what the?

On January 11, 2013, columnist [Abdullah Bozkurt wrote in *Today's Zaman*](#) the assassination in Paris "may have been related to intra-group [PKK] fighting or the result of a secret operation conducted by the intelligence service of one of the countries that has a vested interest in seeing the 30-year conflict go on."

The bodies of the three Kurdish women were discovered early on January 10. It would have taken a day for Bozkurt to write his story and for *Today's Zaman* to get it to press by the morning of January 11, about 24 hours after the murders were announced. Whether Bozkurt picked this story up from other media or whether he has some inside source is unclear. If he *does* have an inside track with Turkish government officials or Paris police, then how did *they* know the motive barely hours after the bodies were cold? Without a suspect, being told a motive within one day did not feel right in my gut.

It reminded me of the 9/11 attacks. As I watched the towers fall, I said to myself, "I have an enemy who hates me so much, yet I don't even *know* who my enemy is." Within hours on that same day, President George Bush told me who my enemy was, Osama Bin Laden, and [miraculously provided a list of 19 Arab terrorists](#) who had allegedly high-jacked planes (see 1:03:00). Soon after, at least six families claimed their "terrorist" sons were still alive, but the mainstream media (MSM) did not bother to report this. The story had already gone viral. On this triggering event, the United States launched its perpetual War on Terror that has devastated Iraq and Afghanistan with more countries yet to receive its flavor of "democracy and freedom".

I was always bothered over how the list of hijackers could have been compiled within one hour. I was particularly disturbed by the 9/11 Commission's report that someone found the terrorist pilot's passport on the sidewalk in New York city and kindly put it in the hand of a New York City police officer, then disappeared before he "could look up". So the jetliner went up in a red ball of flame, right through a steel and concrete building, but the [terrorist's passport](#) jumped out of his pocket, sailed out the window, and fluttered to the ground. *Right*. It was that little nugget that I choked on, that set me to searching for the truth myself. It took me many years to discover who my real enemy is.

Please continue to Part 2 of 5:

[The Murder Mystery of Sakine Cansiz Part 1: The Crime](#)

[The Murder Mystery of Sakine Cansiz Part 2: the Kurdish Issue and Free Speech](#)

[The Murder Mystery of Sakine Cansiz Part 3: US Vested Interests in Turkey](#)

[The Murder Mystery of Sakine Cansiz Part 4: Omer Guney, Accused Assassin](#)

[The Murder Mystery of Sakine Cansiz Part 5: Turkish MIT Accused](#)

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<http://climbingmountarat.blogspot.com> *Love and Betrayal in Kurdistan*