

Professor Ayse Ayata

Ayşe Ayata is a professor of political and social science at Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara. She has taught at METU since 1981. She earned her Ph.D. in Sociology and Social Anthropology at the University of Kent at Canterbury in 1984 where her thesis dealt with political parties in Turkey. In 1993, she was a visiting scholar and fellow at the Harvard University Center for Middle Eastern Studies. In recent years, her research has focused on the revival of Islam in Turkey (1988-89); political participation of women in Turkey (1990); changes in the traditions and modernization of networks in squatter housing families (1991); migration and urban ethnicity in Ankara (1992); neighbourhood, community relations and urban culture (1993); and gender discrimination in secondary education (1995). Professor Ayata is a prolific writer. She has completed one book in Turkish, and edited two others in English, Women in Turkey (1993) and Democracy, Civil Society and Clientelism (1993). She has also published two reviews and numerous articles. Her most recent awards include a Fulbright award (1993), a MEA award for research (1992), and a Middle East Research Council award (1988). She is a member of the Association of Social Anthropologists (U.K.), the Turkish Social Science Association, the Programme Committee of First European Sociology Conference and is a Founding Member and General Secretary of the Turkish Sociological Association.