



TRANSPRETING

Owner of the Online Bulletin on behalf of the Department:
Department Chair, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Selim Soner Sütçü
Online Bulletin is issued every semester.

Issue 3 / Spring 2024



THE DAY THAT WOMEN WON WITH A DISASTER: MARCH 8

We all celebrate the 8th of March as International Women's Day for a long time. Every year, women from all around the world come together and celebrate this day. But there is a tragic history behind it.

A group of female textile workers started a strike in 1857. They wished to voice their objections to unequal rights and unfair working conditions for women. The impact made a noise, and it was noticeable. The striking workers were consequently imprisoned within the factory and died in an unexpected fire. 129 people died in the fire, and most of them were women.

After 53 years, Clara Zetkin, from the Social Democratic Party, proposed at the International Conference on Socialist Women, which took place in Copenhagen on 26 August 1910, that the day of the incident took place as the March 8, International Women's Day. In the first years, the date of this day was uncertain. But later it became certain, and every country started to celebrate 8th March as International Women's Day.

Zeynep KÖROĞLU

WOMEN FROM AN UNCERTAIN PAST TO AN ENLIGHTENED FUTURE

Throughout history, women have made significant contributions to society, despite facing discrimination and being denied from basic human rights. Artists that many of us know from the society went through tough struggles. They have excelled in various fields, including politics, economics, ministry, and administration, leaving a positive and lasting impact on society. Many women have fought for their rights and freedom, often enduring great pain and hardship to achieve their goals. Today, we will talk about these important names that needs to be remembered. You know what they say: "Great art comes from great pain." (Zara, 2012)

Virginia Woolf, one of the successful female writers who left her mark on history with the book that written in 1929, emphasized the idea of feminism in the twentieth century by underlining the importance of women's financial independence and the mark they left on literature in her book "A Room of One's Own." She struggled with mental illness throughout her life and was hospitalized, but there was not any permanent solution for her condition. After a while, unable to write properly or express herself, she filled her pockets with stones, threw herself into the River Ouse, and committed suicide on March 28. She pioneered people with the books she wrote about how women are perceived in society and how they should actually be perceived, and her books defending the idea of feminism were translated into 50's of languages.

Sylvia Plath's dad passed away after years of struggling with one leg when she was 8. Her poems carried the marks of her loss. She married Ted Hughes, her first love, who repeatedly abused her and cheated on her, according to the reports that Sylvia sent to her therapist.

Continued on the next page...



After many unsuccessful attempts to commit suicide, on February 11, 1963, she left milk and cookies for her children sleeping in the room, taped the bottom of their door, and ended her life by sticking her head in the oven. It is known that Plath wrote a book about a marriage and a forbidden relationship. After her death, her husband published her new poems, but no new novels were published. Her sole book "The Bell Jar" is still one of the most popular books when it comes to the pressure that society puts on our shoulders about success, academic life, and personal relationships, reflecting writer's own life.

Anne Frank was a Jewish girl born in Germany who had to live in a secret compartment for 2 years. She wrote a diary in 1949 describing the times she and her family had to hide during the Nazi persecution when the Germans occupied the Netherlands. Their hiding place is referred to as the "Secret Annex." After their arrest in 1944, Anne and her sister were sent to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, where they lost their lives. This diary is now appreciated all around the world as it attracts readers with its poignant honesty and relevance beyond its time.

Despite having to face various difficulties, women all around the world did not hesitate to show the courage to take big steps and pave the way for an equal and independent life. They exceeded the limits that were set for them and rejected the lives written for them, moving forward with determination toward their goals. All their legacies must serve as a reminder of the importance of gender equality, emphasizing that no matter who, where, or why, women had a profound impact on justice, freedom, and equalization.

Öykü DURMAZ



HELLO LONELINESS...

Hello loneliness, my old friend,
I've come to be with you again.
In your silence where I found my voice
I feel my presence.
More than anywhere in this world
What a joyful time I spend
Just by myself
How comfortable to be
Alone, but not feeling lonely
In the mirror, I hide in your depths.
Dwells the friend I have.
The oldest and the best...
Hello loneliness, my dear friend,
I've come to be
Myself again...

Elif Şahika ARICI



ELECTRONIC RESOURCES:

Anne Frank. In Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne_Frank

Great art comes only from those willing to be vulnerable. Americans for the Arts. <https://blog.americansforthearts.org/2019/05/15/great-art-comes-only-from-those-willing-to-be-vulnerable#:~:text=%E2%80%9CGreat%20art%20comes%20from%20great%20pain.%E2%80%9D>

Rosemary Kennedy. In Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosemary_Kennedy

SparkNotes. A Room of One's Own: Section 7. SparkNotes. <https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/roomofonesown/section7/>

The tragic real-life story of Sylvia Plath. <https://www.grunge.com/212113/the-tragic-real-life-story-of-sylvia-plath/>

The truth about March 8th. <https://gendermuseum.com/expositions/the-truth-about-march-8th/>

The unknown history of the International Women's Day. <https://perapalace.com/en/the-unknown-history-of-the-international-womens-day>

80 years after Virginia Woolf's death, FSU English professor available to comment on Woolf's work, influence. <https://news.fsu.edu/news/expert-pitches/2021/03/22/80-years-after-virginia-woolfs-death-fsu-english-professor-available-to-comment-on-woolfs-work-influence/#:~:text=Troubled%20by%20mental%20illness%20throughout,Ouse%20on%20March%2028%2C%201941>

Contact Info: ssoner@baskent.edu.tr

Web: <https://mtb.baskent.edu.tr/kw/?dil=EN>

Contributors: Sevil Sıla Köralioğlu, Öykü Durmaz, Zeynep Köroğlu, Elif Şahika Arıcı

Editors: Ceylin Özen, Selen Bike Önder, Ayla Birant