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Excerpt from speech by Middle School Captain at AISM

Jack Castle-Burns

"...how honoured both Kaiting and I were to be invited to such an important event. We were both even more honoured when we found out that we would be helping in the laying of the wreaths during the service. I would like to thank Mr. Syme for arranging this for us.

The actual service began at about 6.30am and it was great to see a very large turnout from the AISM community. The special guests at the service were the New Zealand High Commissioner, an Australian High Commission representative, the British High Commissioner, the Turkish Deputy-Ambassador and a senior Malaysian Military Officer. It was great to see and hear all of these special guests at the service to commemorate the Australians and New Zealanders who have given their lives for us, in particular those who died during the fighting at Gallipoli.

The service was followed by a breakfast that all were invited to at the Australian High Commission. ..."

Excerpt from speech by Middle School Captain at AISM

Kaiting Yap

"... Commander Nick Hart was the master of ceremony, Reverend Dr. Andrew Chyeah gave the opening prayer and blessing. There were speeches by the New Zealand High Commissioner, the Australian High Commission representative, and the Turkish Deputy-Ambassador; all the speeches were very meaningful and informative.

I would now like to share a quote with you as it demonstrates the warmth and equality the Turkish people have for the Australian and New Zealand soldiers who died at Gallipoli.

"Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives; you are now living in a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us, where they lie side by side in this country of ours. You, the mothers who sent their sons from far away countries, wipe away your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well."

From Kemal Ataturk, the first president of the Turkish Republic..."