

O. S. ARI – Some Anecdotes of Him –he was famous also for his wit and wisdom

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**By eoa uk**

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ANECDOTES OF THE LATE O. S. ARI

" ...Ari's voice, full of wit, filled the room... "  
(Mustafa Dogrusoz in 'Kibris' –5 February 1999)

" ...He always wore a smile... "  
(Harid Fedai in 'Halkin Sesi' –27 December 1992)

(In his newspaper columns [mostly between 1968–1992 in Cypriot `Halkin Sesi' –also `Birlik' etc.] often by a little story or joke did the hailed teacher–thinker–poet the late Orhan Seyfi Ari [1918– 1992] made or highlighted his points ~so also in his lectures, debates, discussions, teaching his school pupils. These simply put anecdotes are hoped briefly and miscellaneously to familiarise with his wit and a few of the less involved of the very many views he was also popular for...)

DIPLOMATIC COMMUNIQES, he thought, were rather like broadcasting live on the radio a match between two boxers called Abdi and Bandinelli, and announcing the winner as Abdinelli...

`NEVER TOO LATE to change one's mind or to make a start' was not of more use to one, sometimes, or to a nation, than it would be to the driver of a car rolling down a cliff to then decide to drive carefully...

IRRELEVANCY was a natural and common refuge of man ~"You have gone bald!" he joked with a friend who he had not seen for a long time -his friend looked at him, then responded, "Ha..! As if your son's got more hair than I..!"

THE TROUBLES OF THE WORLD had much to do with this, that some with breathing difficulties had become deep sea divers...

IGNORANT WE ALL ARE of many things, he thought -some of us, even of our ignorance...

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PERSEVERANCE it was an example of, the little delicate plant that shoots and grows through the concrete of the pavement ...

WHINING "O-oh!.." his friend explained, "I missed my train.. oh, I was twenty minutes late.. I am so sorry..." He replied: "Don't be -you would have missed it also if you were only twenty seconds late..!"

EVOLUTION.. "we were apes"... Now..?! Were we not, now, `man'!?!..

JUSTIFICATIONS of some reminded him of someone in his early teens to whom he had given leaflets, booklets, on how harmful smoking was -some months later the teenager came to him waving a newspaper which mentioned that an elderly person was a smoker...

RELATIONSHIPS had much to do with knowing that one could not stand before a mirror and make faces and expect to see a smiling image...

STRENGTH did not necessarily suffice ~"I am a wrestler!" threatened one -the other laughed: "But.. I am a runner..."

GOD "Perhaps does not exist;" he said "but, Sir, what if He does..!?"

POPULARITY it helped to wear a smile -the vinegar merchant who smiled had more customers than the honey merchant who did not...

Author's research unfortunately could not include all of the articles of the late thinker –his anecdotes above are not from those articles themselves

## **SUZAN ARI –In a Visionary Educator's Nationally Motivating Her Appreciable Role**

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### **SUZAN ARI –In a Visionary Educator's Nationally Motivating Her Appreciable Role by eoa uk**

Suzan Ari

A Great Helper to a Great Educator

(1927 – 2002)

"...loss of valued Suzan Ari we are grieving"

(Salih Cosar -Leader Democrat Party [Minister for Economy kktc] ~in 'Halkin Sesi' –26 Nov. 2002)

Premier of Nth. Cyprus attended her funeral.. from Canada university education staff to others in the USA & the UK who as `auntie' referred to her poured in messages, including from persons knighted by Britain to representing the nation in Europe, of commiseration...

Suzan Ari, in the cultural and social development of the Cypriot was a great helper in the efforts of her

late husband Orhan Seyfi Ari "whose mark on the nation's history of education is not a small one".

As the Greek and Turkish Cypriot pupils of her husband and many people of the British Colony of Cyprus Orhan Ari's efforts, so did many from the later Republic of and still later the Northern Republic of Cyprus remember and appreciate Suzan Ari's help in those efforts to educate, modernize, a society previously resisting or helpless in cultural progress.

She was born in Morphou -where after her compulsory education and training as dress-maker under the British system of apprenticeships and self-education in Turkish and Greek contemporary literature and with an avid interest in current affairs (perhaps resulting from her father Mr. Uney's social activities as a successful businessman and local community leader in central Nicosia -the capital) she was one of the very first to show with her husband (Mr. Ari –a young idealist teacher) in 1941 the courage of the conviction that, while there was nothing wrong with the Cypriot Turkish and Greek custom of dowries, marriage should be for love.

In Nicosia, during the intercommunal troubles, in the salaryless and food-rationless days from the 1960s, she fed many an immigrant villager guest of her husband's, stood by him unlike many not to emigrate...

There, peoples of e.g. the city of Paphos and the town of Loudrijina, still tell of Suzan Ari's, in the budgetless days after the Second World War in the 1940s & 1950s with young children sleepless nights to gratis make costumes for their secondary-school's first taste to them of their cultural heritage, in the latter with only oil-lamp light to gratis sew up national flags for the first celebrations of their national days which her husband was instilling awareness of in the people ~they still tell of her opening her home, as her husband was helping have roads and electricity and water and getting schools built for those whose illiteracy was to the extent of many's not even seeing how their sons and especially daughters could possibly benefit from education, to dentists to set up equipment in to treat people, to host artistes to put on cultural shows for them, to learn to gratis teach new skills to her husband's students. Mrs Ari, as regarded by her husband the 'Teacher of Teachers', was indeed 'The Great

Helper'...

Suzan Ari had been to prayers on the night of Wednesday 20 Nov. '02, had met and chatted and prayed with her dear neighbours and friends ~the following morning she was found to have peacefully passed away.

The following verses by her late husband Orhan Ari also apply to her...

The pure in heart truly die never  
Joyous be, in hearts they live forever

Tulips representing donations in her honour to the educational trust surrounded Mrs. Ari's coffin

The article is based on information available to its author –by various communicated or copied by postal an electronic means



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