

# King Abdullah I's Visits To Türkiye In The Light Of Press And Archival Documents: Türkiye - The Hashemite Kingdom Of Jordan Friendship Relations

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## Abstract

This study provides an academic exploration of the diplomatic relations between the Republic of Türkiye and the Emirate of Transjordan, with a particular focus on the official visits of King Abdullah I to Türkiye in 1937, 1947, and 1951. These visits are analyzed as pivotal moments in the evolution of bilateral ties, culminating in the signing of the "Friendship and Cooperation Treaty" on January 11, 1947. This treaty marked a critical milestone in Turkish-Jordanian relations, symbolizing a shared commitment to peace, cooperation, and mutual development. The study situates these events within the broader historical and geopolitical context, including the strategic importance of the Hatay issue and the League of Nations' role in mediating regional disputes.

Through an examination of King Abdullah's diplomatic initiatives, this research highlights his profound respect for Türkiye's leadership and his broader vision for regional diplomacy in the Middle East. The study delves into how these visits, documented in archival records, newspapers, and films, contributed to the strengthening of ties between the two nations. Additionally, it assesses the treaty's long-term impact on bilateral agreements in critical areas such as trade, culture, and transportation, which were formalized in the decades following its signing. Special attention is given to King Abdullah's relationships with prominent Turkish leaders, including Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and İsmet İnönü, and how these connections influenced the enduring partnership between the two nations.

The research employs a multidisciplinary approach, drawing on archival documents, contemporary newspaper accounts, and interviews with key figures, to offer a comprehensive analysis of the evolving diplomatic dynamics between Türkiye and Transjordan. By tracing the legacy of King Abdullah's visits and the 1947 treaty, the study underscores their enduring influence on Turkish-Jordanian relations, shaping their trajectory well into the late 20th century and beyond. This analysis contributes to the understanding of how strategic diplomacy and personal leadership can lay the foundation for lasting bilateral cooperation.

**Keywords:** King Abdullah, Republic of Türkiye, Visits, Friendship Relations, Kingdom of Jordan.

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## الملخص

يستعرض هذا البحث العلاقات الدبلوماسية بين جمهورية تركيا وإمارة شرق الأردن، مع التركيز على الزيارات الرسمية التي أجراها الملك عبد الله الأول إلى تركيا في الأعوام 1937، 1947، و1951. تُحلّل هذه الزيارات بوصفها محطات مفصلية في تطور العلاقات الثنائية، وقد توجت بتوقيع "معاهدة الصداقة والتعاون" في 11 يناير 1947. وصفت هذه المعاهدة بأنها علامة فارقة في العلاقات التركية-الأردنية؛ إذ جسدت التزاماً مشتركاً بالسلام والتعاون والتنمية المتبادلة.

يضع البحث هذه الأحداث في سياقها التاريخي والجغوسياسي الأوسع، بما في ذلك الأهمية الاستراتيجية لقضية لواء الإسكندرون ودور عصبة الأمم في حل النزاعات الإقليمية. ومن خلال دراسة مبادرات الملك عبد الله الدبلوماسية، يبرز البحث احترامه العميق لقيادة تركيا ورؤيته الأوسع للدبلوماسية الإقليمية في الشرق الأوسط.

يتناول البحث كيفية إسهام هذه الزيارات، الموثقة في السجلات الأرشيفية والصحف والأفلام، في تعزيز الروابط بين الدولتين. كذلك يُقيم التأثير طويل الأمد للمعاهدة على الاتفاقيات الثنائية في مجالات حيوية مثل التجارة والثقافة والنقل، التي أضفي الطابع الرسمي عليها في العقود التي تلت توقيع المعاهدة. ويسلط الضوء خصوصاً على علاقات الملك عبد الله مع القادة الأتراك البارزين، بما في ذلك مصطفى كمال أتاتورك وإسميت إينونو، وكيف أثرت هذه العلاقات على الشراكة الدائمة بين البلدين.

يعتمد البحث على منهجية متعددة التخصصات، تجمع بين الوثائق الأرشيفية والمقالات الصحفية المعاصرة والمقابلات مع شخصيات رئيسة، لتقديم تحليل شامل للديناميكيات الدبلوماسية المتطورة بين تركيا وشرق الأردن. ومن خلال تتبع إرث زيارات الملك عبد الله ومعاهدة 1947، يبرز البحث تأثيرهما الدائم على العلاقات التركية-الأردنية، وكيف شكّلت هذه العلاقات مسارها حتى أواخر القرن العشرين وما بعده. يسهم هذا التحليل في فهم كيفية قدرة الدبلوماسية الاستراتيجية والقيادة الشخصية على تأسيس تعاون ثنائي مستدام.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** الملك عبد الله الأول، جمهورية تركيا، الزيارات، علاقات الصداقة، الأردن.

## Introduction

Before explaining King Abdullah's visits to the Republic of Türkiye in 1937, 1947, and 1951, it is important to discuss the stages of Jordan's independence movements.

Jordan came under Ottoman rule in 1516 during Yavuz Sultan Selim's campaign to Egypt. From 1516 to the early 20th century, Jordan underwent various political and demographic changes. In 1918, Jordan participated in a revolutionary movement against the Ottoman Empire, culminating in its separation from Ottoman control (Tomar, 2012: 355-356). Following this revolution, Jordan became part of the Kingdom of Greater Syria, ruled by Sharif Hussein's son, Faisal. However, when Faisal was expelled from Syria by the French, the First Jordanian Government was formed in 1921 under the leadership of Sharif Hussein's younger son, Abdullah. This new Jordanian administration was established within the framework of British policies emphasizing "divide and rule." (Armaoğlu, 2021: 159).

Operating under British support, Jordan lacked formal status until 1928. An agreement signed with Britain in 1928 formalized Jordan's political recognition in the Middle East (Uçarol, 2019: 140). Following this, a new alliance treaty was signed with Britain on March 22, 1946, which resulted in Jordan gaining its independence and transitioning from the Emirate of Jordan to the Kingdom of Jordan. However, public dissatisfaction with the terms of this treaty led to its replacement with another alliance treaty on March 15, 1948. This subsequent treaty formally established the nation's title as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. (Armaoğlu, 2021: 159).

Both before and after Jordan's independence struggle, King Abdullah conducted numerous diplomatic visits to various countries. Among these visits, he placed special emphasis on the Republic of Türkiye, demonstrating his close interest through three separate visits in the years 1937, 1947, and 1951<sup>(1)</sup>.

(1) King Abdullah's deep affection and interest in the Republic of Türkiye were reflected in numerous newspaper reports from the periods of his visits. For example, during his 1947 visit, King Abdullah expressed the following in an interview with the press: "I am extremely happy and honored to visit your country and your esteemed leader. They have graciously arranged a visit to your beautiful city, Istanbul, knowing how much I love it. Therefore, I am deeply grateful. I spent some of my happiest days in your city and am almost one of your compatriots. My great grandfather is also buried there. God willing, I will be fortunate to visit his grave. Please convey my respects to the family of the newspaper that has kindly sent you." (See Kral Abdullahtan Türk Milletine Selâm, Bugün, January 8, 1947: 2). In another interview with Vakıf newspaper, King Abdullah conveyed his respect for Türkiye and emphasized the brotherhood between the two nations, stating: "I am very happy to be in this beloved brotherly country. I have come with the aim of establishing strong bonds of love based on solid foundations between our two brotherly and friendly nations." (See Ürdün Kırılı, Vakıf, January 8, 1947: 5).

## 1. King Abdullah's Visit to the Republic of Türkiye in 1937

According to memoirs and interviews published in newspapers, King Abdullah spent a significant part of his youth in Istanbul, the capital of the Ottoman Empire. His experiences in Istanbul instilled in him a deep connection with Türkiye, which is evident in his lifelong interest in the country. On May 30, 1937, approximately fourteen years after the founding of the Republic of Türkiye, King Abdullah visited the country. This visit marked an important milestone in bilateral relations (الأردن، 1937، ص 2)..

Archival records, including correspondence between the Turkish Embassy in Baghdad and Türkiye's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reveal that King Abdullah initially intended to visit Ankara in 1934 to meet Mustafa Kemal Atatürk after a trip to London. (Şimşir, 2001: 227). However, these discussions indicated that Mustafa Kemal Atatürk was unavailable at the time, resulting in the postponement of the visit. Efforts to facilitate the meeting continued, including a diplomatic exchange between King Abdullah and the Turkish Consulate in Jerusalem. These exchanges highlight Abdullah's expressed admiration for Türkiye's rapid modernization and his desire to witness its transformation firsthand. (Şimşir, 2001: 229-230).

In May 1937, diplomatic negotiations culminated in King Abdullah's official visit to Türkiye. On May 30, he arrived in Istanbul accompanied by a delegation that included Chief of Staff B. Sami Rufai, Doctor Cemil Pasha Tütün, Major B. Norfeld, and chamberlain Sheikh Mehmet. (TAN, 1937: 1). At Sirkeci Station, King Abdullah was formally welcomed by a high-profile delegation, including Governor Muhiddin Üstündağ, Security Director Salih Kılıç, and other dignitaries. (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 1-5). The ceremonial reception, featuring national anthems and military honors, underscored the importance of this diplomatic engagement.

After settling at the Pera Palace Hotel, King Abdullah gave an interview to the Tan newspaper, where he stated:

"... The Prince, who spent his youth in Istanbul and speaks Turkish fluently enough to be indistinguishable from us, expressed his admiration for our country, which he considers his second homeland, and for the tremendous changes and accomplishments that have been achieved within just eleven years under the guidance and leadership of the great savior of our nation. After speaking at length about his admiration and endless love for Atatürk, his respect for İsmet İnönü, and his esteem for all our leaders, the Prince mentioned his longstanding desire to visit our country, to see these changes firsthand, and to meet with our leaders. However, he had hesitated because he was unsure of how his visit would be received. Nevertheless, if fate allows, he expressed his wish to make the trip in April or May of this year." (Şimşir, 2001: 229-230).

In response to this telegram from the Consulate in Jerusalem, it was stated that hosting King Abdullah would be a great honor. However, since it was unclear where Mustafa Kemal Atatürk would be during King Abdullah's visit, it was not possible to set a precise time and place in advance (Şimşir, 2001: 230). Consequently, the diplomatic efforts between the two countries were delayed for about two years, and finally, in May 1937, King Abdullah decided to make an official visit to Türkiye.

On May 30, 1937, King Abdullah I of Transjordan, accompanied by his Chief of Staff B. Sami Rufai, personal physician Dr. Cemil Pasha Tütüncü, Major B. Norfeld, and chamberlain Sheikh Mehmet, arrived in Türkiye from London (TAN, 1937: 1). At Sirkeci Station in Istanbul, King Abdullah was greeted by several officials, including Istanbul Governor Muhiddin Üstündağ, Security Director Salih Kılıç, Deputy Mayor Ekrem, Deputy Governor Hüdai Karabatan, Commander of the War Academy General Ali Fuad, British Embassy Secretary Skriven, and Iraqi Consul General Kamil Geylani (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 1-5). As the express train arrived at Sirkeci, the Presidential Band first played a welcoming tune, followed by the national anthems of Türkiye and Transjordan. After disembarking from the train, King Abdullah addressed the welcoming officials in fluent Turkish, expressing his gratitude and greeting the crowd that had enthusiastically gathered to welcome him. This ceremonial welcome reflected the diplomatic significance of the visit. Following this formal reception, King Abdullah was accompanied by Governor Muhiddin Üstündağ to his accommodation at the Pera Palace Hotel (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 5).

After a short rest at the Pera Palace, he granted an interview to a journalist from the Tan newspaper and made statements on various topics, especially political events of the time. In his initial remarks, King Abdullah clarified the non-political nature of his visit and emphasized its personal and cultural motives. He explained the purpose of his visit to Türkiye:

“My visit to Türkiye is not of a political nature. I have a deep affection for your country. While in London, I told your esteemed Prime Minister İsmet İnönü that I wanted to come to Türkiye to renew old friendships and to discover new ones. He warmly welcomed my wish. Now, I am happy to be in Türkiye, among the Turkish people, whom I love. I have been following with great pleasure Türkiye's successes in every field. I sincerely wish for the continued success of these brilliant achievements.” (TAN, 1937: 10).

In his further statements to Tan, King Abdullah expressed his deep respect for Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and emphasized that Arab countries would also develop as rapidly as the Republic of Türkiye. He also commented on the Hatay issue<sup>(2)</sup>, a significant domestic and foreign policy matter for Türkiye at the time, stating:

“I do not see this issue as one that will cause much fear and anxiety. It is a matter between two brotherly nations, and justice will prevail. The elder brother, Türkiye, has always acted as an elder brother to the younger, and this is exactly what one would expect from Türkiye...” (TAN, 1937: 10).

In addition to his comments on Turkish policies, King Abdullah shared his views on Transjordan's foreign policy, especially highlighting the importance of the Palestine issue. He mentioned that the decision on this long-standing issue in Arab politics was in the hands of the commission sent by the British government, but no resolution had yet been reached. He also made it clear that neither Arabs nor Jews were in favor of the partition of Palestine (TAN, 1937: 10).

(2) The Hatay issue held significant importance in the domestic and foreign policy of the Republic of Türkiye. Notable progress had been made on this matter prior to king Abdullah's first official visit to Türkiye. A resolution was reached within the framework of the League of Nations, resulting in the signing of the 1937 Agreement, which officially recognized Hatay as a “distinct entity.” This agreement also granted Türkiye the status of a guarantor state in ensuring the territorial integrity of Hatay. Therefore, the 1937 Agreement is considered a pivotal milestone in resolving the Hatay issue. For the stages of the Hatay issue, see F. Atabey (2015). Hatay'ın Anavatana Katılma Süreci. AVRASYA Uluslararası Araştırmalar Dergisi, Vol. 4, Issue 7: 192-209.

After the king's long interview with Tan newspaper reporters at the Pera Palace, he left the hotel at 3:00 PM to lay a wreath at the Taksim Monument. Later, he took a leisurely drive to Büyükdere in the vehicle assigned to him, and by the evening, he departed from Haydarpaşa Station to head for Ankara. His private carriage was connected to a separate locomotive at the Çiftlik Station, and he arrived in Ankara on the morning of May 31, 1937 (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 5).

His Royal Highness, King Abdullah of Transjordan, was received with a highly ceremonial welcome at the Ankara Station. Representing the Republic of Türkiye, Prime Minister İsmet İnönü, Acting Foreign Minister Şükrü Saraçoğlu, Ankara Governor and Mayor Nevzat Tandoğan, along with numerous other state officials, greeted King Abdullah (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 1). Following the formal salute by the band and honor guard, both countries' national anthems were played. During this official reception, King Abdullah, who had received special attention from İsmet İnönü, personally informed the Prime Minister that his journey had been comfortable and pleasant. As he left the station with İsmet İnönü, King Abdullah was greatly impressed by the greenery of Ankara, expressing his admiration for the city's landscape, calling it "a very refreshing scene" (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 6).

Prime Minister İnönü personally welcomed King Abdullah I and accompanied him to the Ankara Palas Hotel. After settling into his residence at Ankara Palas, King Abdullah, joined by his aide, interpreter, and ceremonial officer Sheikh Mahmud, arranged meetings with various officials of the Republic of Türkiye. The highlight of these engagements was his first official meeting with Mustafa Kemal Atatürk at the Çankaya Mansion. (Kocatürk, 1988: 602).

Following this meeting, King Abdullah visited Acting Foreign Minister Şükrü Saraçoğlu at 11:30 AM and then met with the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly, Abdülhalik Renda, at 12:00 PM. In a gesture of diplomatic courtesy, Turkish officials paid return visits to King Abdullah at Ankara Palas at 12:30 PM and 12:45 PM. Additionally, at 7:00 PM, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk paid a personal visit to King Abdullah at Ankara Palas (Kocatürk, 1999: 551).

After these reciprocal visits, King Abdullah attended a soirée held in his honor. The event was attended by prominent figures, including Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, Prime Minister İsmet İnönü, ministers, and members of the diplomatic corps. The soirée provided an opportunity for informal discussions and social bonding, reflecting the cordial atmosphere of the visit. The evening concluded with a festive and enjoyable ambiance, further strengthening bilateral ties between the two nations (الأردن، 1937، ص 2).

On June 2, 1937, after a three-day stay in Ankara, King Abdullah I departed the city to return to Istanbul. Following the conclusion of his official engagements in Ankara, the King shifted his focus from diplomatic meetings to a period of rest and relaxation. Overjoyed to once again stay in Istanbul, a city where he had spent his youth, he took the opportunity to reconnect with its cultural and historical ambiance.

On June 4, 1937, a tour was arranged to allow King Abdullah to further experience the city's atmosphere. The day's program began at 9:00 AM when King Abdullah departed Beylerbeyi Palace to visit the Kandilli Observatory. After touring the observatory and receiving detailed briefings about its operations, he returned to Beylerbeyi Palace. Upon his return, Istanbul Governor and Mayor Muhiddin Üstündağ joined him at the palace. Together, they embarked on a journey by boat to Tophane Pier, followed by a drive to Büyükdere Bentleri.

At Büyükdere Bentleri, a banquet was held in King Abdullah's honor. The menu included traditional dishes such as "roast lamb, pilaf, olive oil artichokes, dessert, fruit, and orange sherbet," reflecting the region's rich culinary heritage. (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 2). During the banquet, King Abdullah shared his reflections on Türkiye's transformation under Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in a conversation with the chief reporter of Cumhuriyet newspaper.

"I intended to keep my feelings about him to myself. But since you ask, let me briefly express them: I met with Atatürk three times during my stay in Ankara. Before that, I had only seen pictures of him. Even those images conveyed his strength, showing that he was a man capable of revitalizing a weary nation. During our recent meetings, I saw a man who dedicates all his intellect, love, and strength to the welfare of his people. His gaze seems to say, 'Do not imagine things about me without truly understanding me.' Anyone who sees him will surely believe in him. There is an indescribable power in his eyes that conveys his will to his audience. I admired him from the bottom of my heart. As for Türkiye, my affection and love for it is already heartfelt." (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 7).

In his interview with the chief reporter of Cumhuriyet, King Abdullah also shared his views on Ankara and Istanbul. He described Ankara as a magnificent city located in the heart of Asia and expressed confidence that it would continue to develop alongside Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. While commenting on Istanbul, the King said he was deeply impressed by the city's grandeur as he watched the panoramic view of the Bosphorus from the Kandilli Observatory, though he mentioned he did not care for the tall buildings in Galata and Beyoğlu. He openly admitted that he had always missed this ancient city and even shed tears when leaving Istanbul to return to Hejaz (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 7). In addition, the King made remarks about the schools in Türkiye, stating:

"... What particularly caught my attention in Türkiye are the schools. Yes, especially those excellent schools and the children who attend them, with the passion for knowledge and science gleaming in their eyes... I must admit that this is a point that pleased me immensely. I can say that I have never seen such a profound thirst for knowledge anywhere else." (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 7).

After the banquet at Büyükdere Bentleri, King Abdullah continued his rest in Istanbul. As his stay in Istanbul continued, progress was made regarding the Hatay issue, prompting Mustafa Kemal Atatürk to depart from Ankara on June 5, 1937, to visit Istanbul and share his feelings with the public. King Abdullah was among those waiting at Haydarpaşa Station to greet Atatürk, joining the Turkish people in celebrating the progress made on the Hatay issue. Upon the arrival of the special train from Ankara at Haydarpaşa Station, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk met with King Abdullah, and together they boarded the yacht Ertuğrul to greet the people of Istanbul (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 8). A day after this celebration and greeting ceremony, on June 6, 1937, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk visited King Abdullah at Beylerbeyi Palace (Kocatürk, 1988: 603). On the same day, King Abdullah toured Göksu, Çamlıca, and Suadiye. Finally, on June 8, 1937, he departed Istanbul aboard the Romanian-flagged ship Dacia, bound for Haifa (Cumhuriyet, 1937: 1).

After returning to Transjordan, King Abdullah continued his political relations with the Republic of Türkiye uninterrupted. In this context, a letter written by King Abdullah on June 20, 1937, holds great significance for the relations between the two friendly nations, although the exact content of the letter is not fully known. From Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's reply, it is understood that King Abdullah emphasized Türkiye's hospitality, the friendship between the two countries, and his affection for Atatürk's adopted daughter, Ülkü. To understand King Abdullah's lost letter dated June 20, 1937, it is essential to examine Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's response dated July 3, 1937. The letter reads:

"My dear and esteemed friend, His Highness Prince,

I received your letter dated June 20 with great pleasure. The affection you have expressed toward me in such an eloquent manner is highly valuable to me. I especially thank Your Highness for this. You can be assured that the memories you left behind have further strengthened our feelings of friendship and brotherhood toward you. I do not feel the need to confirm that your son, His Highness the Prince, will be received with utmost respect here. I am sure you would anticipate this. Ülkü was delighted to receive greetings from His Highness, whom she holds in great affection. I take this opportunity to reaffirm my sincere friendship toward Your Esteemed Highness." (Atatürk'ün Milli Dış Politikası (Cumhuriyet Dönemine Ait 100 Belge), 1923-1938, 1981: 357).

In addition to the personal correspondence between King Abdullah I and Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, many events further strengthened the friendship between the two states. King Abdullah consistently worked to deepen relations with the Republic of Türkiye, notably through diplomatic interactions facilitated by the Turkish Consulate in Jerusalem. Following his visit to Türkiye from May 31 to June 8, 1937, one of King Abdullah's first post-visit initiatives occurred on August 8, 1937, when he invited F. Tunalı, Deputy of the Turkish Consulate in Jerusalem, to Amman. At this meeting, King Abdullah hosted a dinner in F. Tunalı's honor.

During the dinner, King Abdullah fondly reminisced about his time in Istanbul and Ankara, expressing his gratitude for the hospitality he had received during his visit. As a gesture of appreciation, he announced his intention to send a collection of valuable gifts to Türkiye. These gifts included two prayer rugs, a gold goblet and tray made in England for Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, a gold bird-shaped box for Atatürk's adopted daughter Ülkü, and a horse and mare for İsmet İnönü (Şimşir, 2001: 233).

However, due to delays in the production of the gold goblet and tray in London, the gift ceremony was postponed. Once the items were ready, the delegation tasked with delivering the gifts departed from Beirut on the ship Lamartine on September 13, 1937, bound for Istanbul. The delegation first arrived in İzmir on September 17, 1937, where they toured the İzmir Fair, before continuing to Istanbul, arriving on September 18, 1937. Upon their arrival, King Abdullah's gifts were officially presented to their intended recipients, marking a further consolidation of the warm diplomatic ties between the two nations. (Şimşir, 2001: 234).

Following the gift ceremony initiated by King Abdullah, relations between the two countries significantly improved. The diplomatic relations between the Emirate of Transjordan and the Republic of Türkiye were also reflected in the exchange of telegrams between King Abdullah and Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. These exchanges were mostly congratulatory, condolence, and commemorative in nature, and they demonstrated the friendly gestures shown between the two nations. In this regard, the first telegram exchange between Transjordan and Türkiye following the gift ceremony took place on October 29, 1937. King Abdullah, in a telegram sent to commemorate the anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Türkiye, wrote:

"On the occasion of the anniversary of the great Turkish Republic, I extend my sincere congratulations to Your Excellency and convey my heartfelt wishes for the prosperity and success of great Türkiye, along with my respects." (Ayn Tarihi, 1937: 112).

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk responded to King Abdullah's telegram by saying,

"I offer my sincere thanks for the kind telegram you sent on the occasion of the anniversary of the Republic, and I gratefully accept Your Highness's heartfelt wishes for the happiness and prosperity of our country." (Ayn Tarihi, 1937: 112) .

Another important telegram exchange took place after the earthquake in Kırşehir on April 19, 1938. King Abdullah sent his condolences in a telegram that read: "I offer my deepest sympathies for the earthquake and pray to God for the safety and well-being of Your Highness and the beloved people of Türkiye." (Ayn Tarihi, 1938: 15). Mustafa Kemal Atatürk responded to King Abdullah with a telegram expressing his gratitude.

A particularly significant telegram sent by King Abdullah was the condolence message following the death of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk on November 10, 1938. Addressed to the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly and Acting President Abdülhalik Renda, the telegram expressed King Abdullah's grief: "I offer my deepest condolences to the Great National Assembly, to Your Excellency, and to the noble Turkish nation for the sorrowful loss of the President." (Şimşir, 2001: 237). Abdülhalik Renda responded with the following message: "On behalf of the Great National Assembly and myself, I extend my heartfelt thanks for the sincere sentiments expressed regarding the sorrowful loss of our Great Leader, Kemal Atatürk." (Şimşir, 2001: 237).

Unable to attend Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's funeral and mourning ceremony, King Abdullah conveyed his profound sorrow in a telegram sent to the new President of Türkiye, İsmet İnönü, on November 20, 1938. In the same message, he congratulated İnönü on his new position, stating:

"...My love and respect for your esteemed predecessor, as well as my affection and reverence for Your Honorable Excellency, compel me to express my condolences and sorrow. As I join in the great pain of the beloved Turkish nation, I offer my heartfelt wishes for the continued progress and success of your great country, and for Your Excellency's health and happiness." (Şimşir, 2001: 237).

President İsmet İnönü replied to King Abdullah's telegram with the following words: "...The sincere sentiments you expressed upon the passing of the Great Atatürk reflect the noble spirit of Your Excellency. I especially thank you for these deep feelings and for your kind wishes toward me. I sincerely wish for Your Excellency's good health and for the prosperity of Transjordan." (Şimşir, 2001: 238). With this response, İsmet İnönü not only thanked King Abdullah but also signaled that relations between the Emirate of Transjordan and the Republic of Türkiye would continue with the same sincerity as during the time of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

King Abdullah I's visit to Türkiye in 1937 exemplifies a pivotal moment in the evolving diplomatic relations between the Emirate of Transjordan and the Republic of Türkiye. Beyond the ceremonial receptions and formal exchanges, the visit highlighted King Abdullah's personal connection to Türkiye, stemming from his youth spent in Istanbul, and his admiration for the reforms introduced by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. This personal affinity translated into a strategic effort to bridge bilateral relations during a period when both nations were navigating post-imperial identities and modern statehood. The elaborate diplomatic arrangements, including the high-profile welcome and the reciprocal visits with Türkiye's political leaders, emphasized the importance both sides placed on strengthening ties. Such efforts underscored a shared understanding of the role of soft diplomacy, leveraging historical and cultural connections to build a partnership rooted in mutual respect. The public acknowledgment of Türkiye's rapid modernization during King Abdullah's interviews further cemented the symbolic value of his visit, portraying Türkiye as a model for progress in the Arab world.

## 2. King Abdullah's Second Visit to the Republic of Türkiye in 1947

Following the death of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, İsmet İnönü, the new president of the Republic of Türkiye, spent much of his tenure during the difficult years of World War II. During this eight-year period, diplomatic relations between countries were disrupted, and significant progress was not made. As a result, King Abdullah's second planned diplomatic visit to Türkiye was delayed by about ten years and only took place in 1947, after peace had been restored following the end of World War II.

To reinforce this peace, İsmet İnönü extended a special invitation to King Abdullah of Jordan to visit the Republic of Türkiye. Believing that the invitation would contribute directly to the development of relations between the two countries, King Abdullah decided to make his second visit to Türkiye. After diplomatic discussions, it was agreed that the visit would take place in January 1947. Accordingly, on the morning of January 7, 1947, King Abdullah departed from Amman for Haifa, where a formal ceremony was held at the port. Afterward, he and his delegation boarded the yacht Savarona, provided by the Republic of Türkiye, and set sail for Iskenderun (Demokrat, 1947: 3). After a short journey, Savarona arrived at Iskenderun at 8:30 AM, and docked at 9:15 AM. Once the yacht anchored, King Abdullah and his delegation were first visited by Hatay Governor Nizamettin Ataker, the area commander, and various journalists, representing the Republic of Türkiye. After the welcoming ceremony, King Abdullah disembarked and arrived at the train station at 10:00 AM. Responding to journalists' questions at the station, King Abdullah declined to comment on the Syrian issue, stating, "I will not say anything about Syria. You are neighbors. Both sides understand each other better. We want unity" (Yeni Adana, 1947: 1). After the greeting ceremony at the station, the train that would take King Abdullah to Ankara departed, and he was sent off from Iskenderun with love and respect (الدفاع، 1947، ص 2).

The special train carrying King Abdullah I to Ankara made its first stop in Adana around 2:00 PM, where it paused for about twenty minutes. At Adana Station, King Abdullah was greeted by a large, enthusiastic crowd, reflecting the public interest in his visit and the symbolic importance of this diplomatic engagement. Disembarking with his delegation, King Abdullah greeted the gathered public and inspected the military unit that had come to welcome him. This ceremonial reception, complete with a military inspection, highlights the emphasis placed by Türkiye on creating a formal and respectful atmosphere for its distinguished guest.

Following the inspection ceremony, King Abdullah engaged with local press members, providing insights into the broader purpose of his visit. Hosting the journalists in his carriage, he expressed that his visit aimed not only to convey his admiration for a beloved brotherly country but also to establish a solid and deep bond of friendship between the two nations. His remarks reveal a deliberate effort to frame the visit as a cornerstone for stronger bilateral relations, emphasizing the shared values and mutual respect between Transjordan and Türkiye. When asked by journalists whether a formal friendship agreement would be signed, King Abdullah responded, "God willing, it will happen," suggesting optimism about future cooperation (Yeni Adana, 1947: 1). This interaction demonstrates King Abdullah's strategic use of media to project the visit's significance, while his cautious phrasing underscores his diplomatic tact in managing expectations. After this brief yet meaningful stop, King Abdullah resumed his journey to Ankara.

On the morning of January 8, 1947, King Abdullah and his delegation arrived in Ankara for his second visit to the Republic of Türkiye. The welcoming ceremony at Ankara Train Station was attended by President İsmet İnönü, Prime Minister Recep Peker, Foreign Minister Hasan Saka, and several other state officials (İnönü, 2020: 327). After introducing the government officials to King Abdullah, President İnönü escorted the distinguished guest to the Presidential lounge at the station. Once both state leaders were seated in the lounge, King Abdullah introduced his delegation to İsmet İnönü. Following this mutual introduction, President İnönü took King Abdullah to his residence at Ankara Palas Hotel, where they held a brief meeting (Vakit, 1947: 5). After resting briefly in his suite at Ankara Palas, King Abdullah had a private lunch. At around 5:00 PM, he left the hotel and went to the Çankaya Mansion, where he had a meeting with President İsmet İnönü (İnönü, 2020: 347). During this meeting at Çankaya Mansion, President İnönü introduced his wife, Mevhibe İnönü, to King Abdullah. Later, President İnönü and his wife hosted a soiree in honor of their distinguished guest at 8:30 PM.

The soiree hosted by President İsmet İnönü and his wife Mevhibe İnönü on January 8, 1947, in honor of King Abdullah, was a significant event in the diplomatic relations between the Republic of Türkiye and the Emirate of Transjordan. The soiree was attended by King Abdullah and his delegation representing the Emirate of Transjordan. On the Turkish side, the guests included Prime Minister Recep Peker, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly Kazım Karabekir, Chief of the General Staff General Salih Omurtak, Republican People's Party Deputy Chairman Şükrü Saraçoğlu, Democratic Party Chairman Celal Bayar, Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Ambassador Feridun Cemal Erkin, Presidential Secretary-General Kemal Gedeleş, the Iraqi Ambassador, and all the ministers, accompanied by their spouses (Vakit, 1947: 1).

During the soirée at Çankaya Mansion, held in honor of King Abdullah, President İsmet İnönü delivered a speech emphasizing the importance of friendship between the two countries, the development of this friendship, and the significance of working together to strengthen peace in the world. His speech was as follows:

“Your Majesty, we are extremely delighted to see the noble friend of our country, the much-loved sovereign of the Hashemite State of Transjordan, among us in our country. It is an honor for me to express the joy we feel from Your Majesty's visit, which is an expression of the sincere friendship that Your Majesty harbors for our country. I take great pride in once again extending our heartfelt congratulations, which we previously conveyed through the Foreign Ministry's Secretary-General, Ambassador Feridun Cemal Erkin. Your Majesty, your visit to our country not only strengthens the ties and mutual feelings of affection between two ancient cradles of civilization but also carries great significance in contributing to the realization of the United Nations' ideal, as was the case with our dear and close neighbors, Iraq and Lebanon. Our aim is to strengthen our friendship and, with utmost goodwill and self-sacrifice, to lead our countries and nations to prosperity in peace and security. The joint efforts we make on this path will undoubtedly be very fruitful and beneficial for the establishment and development of peace in the region. Given the current world conditions, the Turkish Republic's government, dedicated to increasing the country's welfare, is deeply convinced that national prosperity can only be achieved through the general welfare of all nations. With great pleasure and satisfaction, we witness that under the leadership of its experienced and wise ruler, the Hashemite State of Transjordan, with its strong national character, is emerging as an important factor of peace and prosperity in the Near East. Your Majesty, on the occasion of your fortunate visit, I reiterate our most respectful and sincere feelings of friendship toward you and extend my best wishes for your personal well-being, as well as for the ever-increasing prosperity of your noble nation and beautiful country.” (İsmet İnönü Konuşma, Demeç, Makale, Mesaj ve Söyleşiler 1944-1950, 2003: 163).

Following İsmet İnönü's lengthy speech, in which he emphasized the friendship between the Republic of Türkiye and the Emirate of Transjordan and the goal of maintaining world peace, King Abdullah gave his own address. King Abdullah's speech was as follows:

"Your Excellency, it is an honor for me to respond to your most gracious invitation, which stems from tried and true affection and deep love, and to have the privilege of being welcomed in your country with such brotherly hospitality. The congratulations, first expressed by your Ambassador Feridun Cemal Erkin during our country's independence celebrations and now graciously repeated by Your Excellency, will remain a deeply cherished memory in my heart and in the soul of my country. Your Excellency, we are further delighted that you have pointed to the close cooperation among our nations, reaffirming the close bond between the East and the West, the unity of thought among the peoples of the East, and the cooperation of nations in preserving human civilization and establishing universal peace through the ideals of the United Nations. The noble goals expressed by Your Excellency on behalf of the Republic of Türkiye reaffirm the feelings I have always held and the necessity for mutual cooperation between our two countries, which share the same international vision. This cooperation will strengthen the role and efforts of both the East and the West in the path of civilization, contributing to the understanding of a common human goal by all nations and helping to realize justice and equality among states. I feel joy and pride from your sincere affection and the warm welcome extended by the noble Turkish nation.

I conclude my words by thanking Your Excellency and offering my heartfelt wishes for your personal happiness and for the prosperity and success of Türkiye." (Vakit, 1947: 5).

The soirée, hosted at Çankaya Mansion by President İsmet İnönü in honor of King Abdullah, significantly strengthened the bonds of friendship between the two countries. The diplomatic representatives of both nations also enjoyed a pleasant evening. After the soirée, on January 9, 1947, King Abdullah visited Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's temporary tomb at the Ethnography Museum, where he laid a wreath in honor of the great leader. Later, at 10:30 AM, accompanied by Minister of Agriculture Faik Kurdoğlu, King Abdullah visited the Higher Agricultural Institute, where he was greeted by around 1,000 students with applause. Among the students were Iraqi and Syrian students, whose efforts King Abdullah appreciated, offering them encouraging words of praise. At the welcoming ceremony, Arab student Rüştü Bahra, who was studying at the institute, expressed his pleasure with King Abdullah's visit, saying:

"This very ground would rise and speak, welcoming you, the noble descendant of the Prophet, the great leader of the Arabs, and the King of the Hashemite family. In the name of my Turkish and Arab brothers, I say: You have humbly joined us as one of our own. Welcome! It is a great honor to stand before such a distinguished Arab figure. The light and greatness on Earth are a reflection of your noble lineage. Your presence at our institute has filled our hearts with joy and bestowed upon us a great honor. Standing before you at this historic moment, we take this opportunity to express the sincere feelings in our hearts. The feelings I experience standing before such a great hero will forever be etched in my heart. This scientific institution, recognized worldwide for its scientific scholars, is proud of its work in advancing humanity and civilization. We are honored to be a part of this institution. During our time here, the affection and attention we have received from our esteemed professors and the sincere friendship of our noble Turkish peers make us feel as though we are in our own homeland among our own family. We are confident that you, our esteemed leader, share the same feelings. We, the Arab youth, believe that your visit will pave the way for even greater progress in the relations between these two friendly and noble nations. Our final wish is that your visit be filled with joy and happiness. Long live King Abdullah, to whom we would willingly give our lives, and long live President İnönü. Long live the friendship between the Turkish and Arab nations!" (Ulus, 1947: 3).

Following the welcoming ceremony at the Higher Agricultural Institute, King Abdullah toured the library, museum, and various departments, including the fruit growing, health preservation, and parasitology sections. During this visit, he showed particular interest in horses and horse diseases. King Abdullah also received information from experts about the epidemic diseases prevalent in some countries at the time. At around 12:00 PM, King Abdullah concluded his visit after receiving a set of institute books, tied with ribbons in the colors of the Jordanian and Turkish flags, from two female students. He expressed his thoughts about the visit to the Minister of Agriculture, stating: "I see that it would be appropriate to dedicate at least one day to each of these institutes. It is both beneficial and a great pleasure to witness the work of such an advanced brotherly nation. I leave the institutes with deep feelings of love and appreciation" (Ulus, 1947: 1-3).

After visiting the Higher Agricultural Institute, King Abdullah participated in a series of official engagements. First, he attended a banquet at Ankara Palas, hosted by Foreign Minister Hasan Saka and his wife. Later, at 5:00 PM, he moved to the Iraqi Embassy for a reception held in his honor, where President İsmet İnönü and his wife, Mevhibe İnönü, were also in attendance (İnönü, 2020: 328). After the reception, at 9:30 PM, King Abdullah attended a soirée at Prime Minister Recep Peker's residence in Çankaya Mansion. In a warm, brotherly atmosphere, King Abdullah and the representatives of both countries enjoyed a pleasant evening that lasted late into the night (Ulus, 1947: 3).

The following day, on January 10, 1947, King Abdullah and his entourage attended Friday prayers at Hacı Bayram Veli Mosque. Upon leaving the mosque, he was greeted with enthusiastic cheers from the people of Ankara, who filled the streets and squares. He reciprocated their warm welcome with equal sincerity. In the evening, he attended a private dinner hosted by Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Feridun Cemal Erkin at Marmara Mansion, where he was once again greeted with great respect and affection (Ulus, 1947: 1).

As notable as King Abdullah's visits on January 10 were his statements to the local and international press on the same day, which drew significant attention. In these interviews, he addressed various topics, including Turkish foreign policy, the stance of the Emirate of Transjordan, Turkish-Arab cooperation and rapprochement, and steps to strengthen world peace. When asked about Syria's position on the Hatay issue and the state of Turkish-Arab relations, he emphasized that Jordan, located south of Syria, considered the Hatay issue to be entirely Syria's responsibility. When questioned about the inclusion of Iran in Turkish-Arab cooperation, he expressed that not only Iran but also Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the states of North Africa should join this friendship and cooperation. Regarding the Palestinian issue and the comments of some Arab diplomats in Türkiye, who advocated for the defense of the Arab cause and believed that resolving the Hatay issue would accelerate Turkish-Arab rapprochement, King Abdullah replied, "Palestine is the only conflict between the two great Western democracies and the Arab world within the existing harmony and logical relations. Any state that supports the Arabs in the Palestine issue would be providing great service and friendship to the Arab world" (Vakit, 1947: 1).

After a four-day stay, King Abdullah decided to travel to Istanbul on January 11, 1947. Before his departure, at 10:00 AM, he visited the İsmetpaşa Girls' Institute, where he was accompanied by Minister of National Education Reşit Şemsettin Sırer and ministry officials. During his half-hour visit, King Abdullah toured all the institute's departments in detail. Then, at 11:00 AM, he visited the War Academy, escorted by Chief of the General Staff Salih Omurtak and other commanders. At the academy, King Abdullah observed a combat lesson, toured the uniform display rooms, and watched student demonstrations in the physical education hall. He received detailed information from the School Commander, General Vedat Garan, and was presented with a book on the history of the academy, published to mark its centennial. In honor of King Abdullah, General Salih Omurtak hosted a lunch at the War Academy, attended by Prime Minister Recep Peker and all the ministers.

Following the lunch at the War Academy, King Abdullah returned to Ankara Palas Hotel, where he rested for a few hours<sup>(3)</sup>. Later, President İsmet İnönü accompanied King Abdullah to the train station. Upon their arrival, both leaders were saluted by the military unit, and the national anthems of Jordan and Türkiye were played. After the farewell ceremony, King Abdullah boarded the special train arranged for him and departed from Ankara for Istanbul at 8:00 PM (Vakit, 1947: 5).

(3) One of the "150ers," the philosopher Rıza Tevfik, spent much of his life in Transjordan after leaving the Republic of Türkiye in 1922.

During his stay, he played an active role in education and cultural fields, and developed close friendships with intellectual circles in Jordan, particularly with King Abdullah. For more on Rıza Tevfik's activities in the Emirate of Transjordan and his friendship with King Abdullah, see Y. Beyaz (2016). Osmanlı Bakıyesinde Bir Osmanlı Aydını: Rıza Tevfik Ürdün'de. *Divân: Disiplinlerarası Çalışmalar Dergisi*, Vol. 21, Issue 75: 27-62.

During King Abdullah's second visit to the Republic of Türkiye in 1947, while residing in Istanbul, Rıza Tevfik had the honor of frequently visiting His Majesty. During these visits, Akşam reporter Cemaleddin Bildik caught up with Rıza Tevfik as he was leaving Dolmabahçe Palace and conducted various interviews with him. In these interviews, Rıza Tevfik shared memories of meeting King Abdullah in Egypt, their days together in Mecca, and the experience of cleaning the Kaaba. For details, see C. Bildik (1947). *Dolmabahçe Sarayından Kâbe Yoluna*. Akşam, January 15, 1947: 5-6.

The special train bringing King Abdullah from Ankara to Istanbul arrived at Haydarpaşa Station at 10:30 AM on January 12, 1947. At the station, the King was greeted by Istanbul Governor and Mayor Dr. Lütfi Kırdar, Martial Law Commander Lieutenant General Asım Tınaztepe, Police Chief Ahmet DPrince, Jordanian consulate officials, Jordanians residing in Istanbul, and members of the press. Among those present was King Abdullah's close friend, Rıza Tevfik, nicknamed "the Philosopher." Upon seeing Rıza Tevfik after disembarking the train, King Abdullah embraced him with great joy and kissed him on both cheeks. During the welcoming ceremony, the Military Band played the Jordanian national anthem, and King Abdullah saluted the flag as he inspected the troops. He warmly addressed the soldiers, saying, "Well done! You are the lions, sons of lions," as a gesture of his admiration for the Turkish military (Vakit, 1947: 5). Following this, King Abdullah reciprocated the affection shown by the welcoming crowd and then boarded the boat Acar, heading toward Dolmabahçe Palace. The boat arrived at Dolmabahçe Palace at 11:15 AM, where the King rested for half an hour before receiving members of the press in the reception hall. In a statement delivered in Turkish, King Abdullah expressed his joy at being in Istanbul:

"I am delighted to have arrived in your beautiful city. I visited your esteemed President in Ankara. This visit was originally planned before the war, but due to the circumstances of the war, it has only now come to fruition. We signed the well-known treaty of friendship and brotherhood, and I feel great happiness and pride because of it. I kindly ask you to once again convey my sincere respect and love to the beloved Turkish nation." (Vakit, 1947: 5).

On the second day of his stay in Istanbul, January 13, 1947, King Abdullah began his morning at 9:00 AM by visiting the tomb of his grandfather, Sharif Ali Pasha, located in Sultan Mahmud's mausoleum. After spending some time there, he visited Süleymaniye Mosque and the tomb of Mimar Sinan. Following these morning visits, King Abdullah returned to Dolmabahçe Palace for a brief rest. In the afternoon, he traveled to Princegan to visit the wife of his late uncle, Sharif Abdülilâh Pasha (Akşam, 1947: 1). Preparations for this visit had been made days in advance. In a January 12, 1947 article, Akşam newspaper correspondent Cemaleddin Bildik detailed the preparations at Princegan Mansion and conducted interviews with the sculptor Mahir Tomruk, who was well-acquainted with both Sharif Abdülilâh Pasha's wife and King Abdullah.

In the interviews, King Abdullah's aunt communicated through her attendants, and her responses revealed that King Abdullah had been married at the Princegan Mansion and had spent much of his time at the mansion in İstinye. Sculptor Mahir Tomruk answered questions about King Abdullah's character, noting that, unlike his late brother King Faisal, King Abdullah was not fond of hunting but had a great interest in science. He also remarked on King Abdullah's educational background and personal qualities, describing him as well-mannered, highly intelligent, and having received private lessons from tutors. Furthermore, Mahir Tomruk emphasized that King Abdullah and his family had grown up immersed in Turkish culture, showing respect for their elders and sharing the same sentiments as the Turkish people (Akşam, 1947: 5).

During his stay in Istanbul, King Abdullah also held a series of meetings with officials from the Republic of Türkiye. On January 14, 1947, he visited Istanbul City Hall and had a half-hour meeting with Governor and Mayor Dr. Lütfi Kırdar. After leaving City Hall, he was greeted by an enthusiastic crowd gathered in the square, and he proceeded to visit Topkapı Palace. Following the Topkapı visit, King Abdullah arrived at Dr. Lütfi Kırdar's residence in Nişantaşı, where he attended a luncheon held in his honor (Vakit, 1947: 1).

The next day, January 15, 1947, King Abdullah spent the morning resting at Dolmabahçe Palace. In the afternoon, he toured Yıldız Park. At 4:00 PM, he returned to Dolmabahçe Palace and later received the chief reporters of the Istanbul press, delivering several statements. First, King Abdullah noted the number of journalists present and said, "The press is a necessary force for a nation to live securely and with a firm foundation in the world of civilization," emphasizing the importance of the press in a country's domestic and foreign policy. As he spoke, he gazed at the beautiful view of Istanbul and nostalgically referred to the longing of his youth, saying, "I would like to stay outside the bounds of official duties and hospitality: if I could have a mansion on the Bosphorus and a small boat, I would refresh the memories of my earlier days and be greatly pleased." Regarding Jordan, he commented, "I hear and see that many members of the press pass by Jordan without stopping; if they visit our country, they will be pleased to see the great progress our people have made in an atmosphere of complete peace and tranquility." King Abdullah also expressed his satisfaction with Turkish-Arab unity and emphasized that the Eastern states would play an influential role in securing and maintaining world peace through their cooperation. Speaking about Atatürk, King Abdullah recalled the brotherly words and wishes Atatürk had expressed to him 11 years earlier, stating, "He was a unique person; his death was truly a great loss for me. How fortunate it is that your great leader [İsmet İnönü] continues to walk in the same path, demonstrating his loyalty both to his friend and his nation" (Us, 1947: 1-5).

After a four-day stay in Istanbul, King Abdullah departed from Haydarpaşa Station at 11:00 AM on January 16, 1947, aboard a special train. Following the Konya-Adana route, he arrived in Adana on January 17, 1947, where he was greeted by a crowd of enthusiastic well-wishers, just as he had been upon his arrival. In response to a journalist's question about how he felt upon leaving Türkiye, King Abdullah humorously replied, "My Foreign Minister will be displeased with this question because we are not leaving this country; we are merely returning home. Nevertheless, I feel as though I am leaving my own home when I depart from this brotherly nation" (Bugün, 1947: 1-3). Regarding the future of Palestine, he stated, "God knows the future of Palestine, but we hope for a peaceful outcome" (Bugün, 1947: 3). The train carrying King Abdullah to Iskenderun resumed its journey at 6:46 PM, arriving in Iskenderun on the morning of January 18, 1947. From there, King Abdullah departed Türkiye aboard the yacht Savarona and set sail for Haifa, thus concluding his second official visit to the Republic of Türkiye<sup>(4)</sup>.

King Abdullah's second official visit to Türkiye in 1947 reflects the strategic recalibration of bilateral relations in the aftermath of World War II. The decade-long delay in his visit, primarily due to wartime disruptions, highlights the challenges that international diplomacy faced during periods of global conflict. However, İsmet İnönü's invitation to King Abdullah was a calculated diplomatic gesture aimed at solidifying peace and fostering regional alliances in a rapidly changing geopolitical landscape. The meticulous planning of the visit, including ceremonial receptions at Iskenderun and Ankara, demonstrated Türkiye's intent to project itself as a key regional power and a reliable partner in promoting stability and cooperation in the Middle East. King Abdullah's emphasis on fostering unity and mutual respect during his interactions with journalists and officials further reinforced the visit's role as a cornerstone for strengthening Jordanian-Turkish relations. This visit also underlined the broader importance of soft diplomacy in aligning the interests of newly independent or reforming states during the mid-20th century.

(4) King Abdullah's second visit to the Republic of Türkiye in 1947 was notably documented on film by the Ministry of Culture of that time. These two-part film recordings are of great significance for visually evaluating the events described in the second section of this article. For the film recordings of King Abdullah's second official visit to Türkiye, see the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Türkiye: <https://filmmirasim.ktb.gov.tr/tr/film/sark-ul-urdun-krali-majeste-abdullah-hazretlerinin-memleketimizi-ziyareti> (Accessed August 25, 2024) and "<https://filmmirasim.ktb.gov.tr/tr/film/sark-ul-urdun-krali-majeste-abdullah-hazretleri-nin-memleketimizi-ziyareti>" (Accessed August 25, 2024).

### 3. The Friendship and Cooperation Treaty Between Türkiye and Jordan, Dated January 11, 1947

On January 11, 1947, during King Abdullah's visit to Ankara, a significant development occurred in the relations between the Republic of Türkiye and Jordan. This date marked the signing of a Friendship and Cooperation Treaty, highlighting the growing closeness between the two nations and their commitment to peace, friendship, and cooperation in the Middle East. During the negotiations, it became evident that both countries were in harmony with their ideals of peace and solidarity. As a result, on January 11, 1947, the Republic of Türkiye and Jordan agreed to sign a friendship treaty. The authority to sign the documents on behalf of the Republic of Türkiye was given to Foreign Minister Hasan Saka and Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Feridun Cemal Erkin, while on behalf of Jordan, Foreign Minister Mohammed Ash-Shuqairi Pasha was given this responsibility (BCA, 1947, File No: 76, Folder No: 85). Following brief negotiations, the friendship treaty between the two countries was officially signed. Subsequently, the Turkish government drafted a bill on January 22, 1947 (BCA, 1947, File No: 71, Folder No: 89). This bill was brought before the Turkish Grand National Assembly on February 14, 1947.

Before the vote in the assembly, Foreign Minister Hasan Saka made the following remarks, outlining the friendship treaty and its significance for regional peace:

"The treaty was made on the occasion of the visit of His Majesty, King of Transjordan, and as a document marking this visit. It is a great political opportunity to establish such a treaty with a state that has now gained its full independence through its recognition as a kingdom, and to initiate political relations with a neighboring and friendly nation. Unfortunately, in recent days, certain foreign press outlets and radio broadcasts have subjected this treaty to some negative interpretations, which the parties involved in the treaty could never have imagined or expected. I believe it is my duty to state before you that there is nothing in the text or the intent of this treaty that would warrant such negative interpretations. It is a pleasure for me to express here that our Republic's government is prepared not only to make friendship treaties with neighboring countries but also to establish similar friendship treaties with all countries that seek peace and security for one another. We have no ulterior motives, and this friendship treaty, made during this auspicious visit, is fully deserving of your approval. I request its acceptance." (T.B.M.M. Tutanak Dergisi, 1947: 172).

Following this speech by Foreign Minister Hasan Saka, the Friendship Treaty between the Republic of Türkiye and the Kingdom of Transjordan, dated January 11, 1947, was put to a vote in the Turkish Grand National Assembly and was approved. The treaty was officially published in the Turkish Official Gazette on February 19, 1947, and entered into force. It consists of eight articles, and the text of the treaty as published in the T.C. Resmî Gazete is as follows:

**Article 1:** There will be an unbreakable peace and sincere friendship between the Republic of Türkiye and the Hashemite Kingdom of Transjordan, and between the two nations.

**Article 2:** The contracting parties agree to establish diplomatic relations between the two states in accordance with the principles of international law and accept that each party's political representatives in the other's territory will enjoy the privileges recognized under international law.

**Article 3:** The contracting parties agree to conclude a separate agreement in the future regarding judicial affairs, trade, consular matters, residence, and travel, in accordance with the principles of international law and based on reciprocity.

**Article 4:** The contracting parties will endeavor to resolve any disputes between them through peaceful means, in accordance with Article 33 of the United Nations Charter.

**Article 5:** The two High Parties agree that nothing in this treaty shall impair the rights and obligations assigned to them or that may be assigned to them under the United Nations Charter.

## 4. Relations After the January 11, 1947 Friendship and Cooperation Treaty Between Türkiye and the Kingdom of Transjordan

Following the signing of the “Friendship and Cooperation Treaty” on January 11, 1947, between the Republic of Türkiye and the Kingdom of Transjordan, relations between the two nations developed rapidly. In this context, Celal Bayar, who served as the President of Türkiye between 1950 and 1960, extended an invitation to King Abdullah for another visit in 1951, to further demonstrate the friendship between the two countries. Four years after his last visit, King Abdullah returned to Türkiye for an official visit. Although this visit was shorter than his previous ones, it further strengthened the objectives outlined in the 1947 treaty, enhancing cooperation between the two nations.

After King Abdullah's assassination on July 20, 1951, the Kingdom of Transjordan, which later became the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, was governed by leaders who were as experienced as the late king. These leaders remained fully committed to the terms of the 1947 “Friendship and Cooperation Treaty,” and several bilateral agreements were signed during this period. Notably, agreements signed between 1965 and 1970 were aligned with the objectives outlined in Article 3 of the 1947 treaty. In this context, a tourism cooperation agreement was signed on July 21, 1966, between the Republic of Türkiye and the Kingdom of Jordan (BCA, 1966, File No: 107), followed by a transit transport agreement on July 6, 1968 (BCA, 1968, File No: 66-17), and a cultural agreement on June 5, 1969 (BCA, 1969, File No: 107-90). These agreements ensured the continuity of relations between the two countries, and the bonds of friendship have remained strong to this day.

The “Friendship and Cooperation Treaty” of 1947 served as a cornerstone for the enduring diplomatic relationship between the Republic of Türkiye and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The invitation extended by President Celal Bayar in 1951, leading to King Abdullah's third visit, symbolized the continuity of the treaty's objectives and reaffirmed mutual commitment to fostering peace and cooperation. Although the visit was brief, its significance lay in its reinforcement of the treaty's principles, demonstrating that Türkiye and Jordan viewed their alliance as a strategic and durable partnership. The consistent alignment of both nations' policies following King Abdullah's assassination in 1951 further illustrates the institutionalization of their relationship. Subsequent Jordanian leaders upheld the treaty's ideals, ensuring that bilateral relations did not waver, even amidst leadership transitions. This continuity highlights the treaty's role as a stabilizing factor in regional diplomacy, fostering sustained collaboration between the two nations.

## Conclusion

Following the signing of the “Friendship and Cooperation Treaty” on January 11, 1947, between the Republic of Türkiye and the Kingdom of Transjordan, relations between the two nations developed rapidly. In this context, Celal Bayar, who served as the President of Türkiye between 1950 and 1960, extended an invitation to King Abdullah for another visit in 1951, to further demonstrate the friendship between the two countries. Four years after his last visit, King Abdullah returned to Türkiye for an official visit. Although this visit was shorter than his previous ones, it further strengthened the objectives outlined in the 1947 treaty, enhancing cooperation between the two nations.

After King Abdullah's assassination on July 20, 1951, the Kingdom of Transjordan, which later became the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, was governed by leaders who were as experienced as the late king. These leaders remained fully committed to the terms of the 1947 “Friendship and Cooperation Treaty,” and several bilateral agreements were signed during this period. Notably, agreements signed between 1965 and 1970 were aligned with the objectives outlined in Article 3 of the 1947 treaty. In this context, a tourism cooperation agreement was signed on July 21, 1966, between the Republic of Türkiye and the Kingdom of Jordan (BCA, 1966, File No: 107), followed by a transit transport agreement on July 6, 1968 (BCA, 1968, File No: 66-17), and a cultural agreement on June 5, 1969 (BCA, 1969, File No: 107-90). These agreements ensured the continuity of relations between the two countries, and the bonds of friendship have remained strong to this day.

The “Friendship and Cooperation Treaty” of 1947 served as a cornerstone for the enduring diplomatic relationship between the Republic of Türkiye and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The invitation extended by President Celal Bayar in 1951, leading to King Abdullah's third visit, symbolized the continuity of the treaty's objectives and reaffirmed mutual commitment to fostering peace and cooperation. Although the visit was brief, its significance lay in its reinforcement of the treaty's principles, demonstrating that Türkiye and Jordan viewed their alliance as a strategic and durable partnership. The consistent alignment of both nations' policies following King Abdullah's assassination in 1951 further illustrates the institutionalization of their relationship. Subsequent Jordanian leaders upheld the treaty's ideals, ensuring that bilateral relations did not waver, even amidst leadership transitions. This continuity highlights the treaty's role as a stabilizing factor in regional diplomacy, fostering sustained collaboration between the two nations.

King Abdullah's second official visit to Türkiye occurred in 1947, during İsmet İnönü's presidency, after the end of World War II. This visit was initiated by an invitation from Türkiye to maintain peace within the existing world order. From January 7 to 18, 1947, King Abdullah visited Ankara and Istanbul, where he was warmly received by Turkish officials in a friendly and respectful manner. On the last day of his stay in Ankara, January 11, 1947, representatives of both countries met, sharing a common vision for peace and cooperation between their nations. This meeting resulted in the signing of the "Friendship and Cooperation Treaty" between the Republic of Türkiye and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Consisting of eight articles, this treaty elevated relations between the two countries to new heights and significantly contributed to strengthening Turkish-Arab unity. Furthermore, this unity played a direct role in maintaining peace in the Eastern world. After the treaty's signing, King Abdullah continued his visit in Istanbul, focusing on relaxation and cultural tours, as well as meeting with acquaintances living in the city.

After the signing of the "Friendship and Cooperation Treaty" on January 11, 1947, King Abdullah visited Türkiye once again in 1951, at the invitation of President Celal Bayar during Türkiye's NATO accession process. Although shorter than his visits in 1937 and 1947, the 1951 visit also took place in a friendly atmosphere and symbolized the continuation of the strong relations between the two countries.

Following King Abdullah's assassination in Jerusalem on July 20, 1951, the leaders who succeeded him in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan remained committed to the terms of the January 11, 1947, "Friendship and Cooperation Treaty." The provisions emphasized in the treaty continued to be valid, and new agreements were signed between the two countries. Thanks to these agreements, significant progress was made in areas such as trade, culture, and education, ensuring that the bonds of friendship between Türkiye and Jordan have remained uninterrupted and strong to this day.

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## Appendices



Appendix 1: (1937, May 31). King Abdullah in Istanbul. (Ulus: 1)



Appendix 2: (1937, June 1). His Highness King Abdullah of Transjordan Has Arrived. (Ulus: 1)



Appendix 3: (1937, June 3). King Abdullah Is Coming to Istanbul. (Cumhuriyet: 1)



Appendix 4: (1937, June 7). Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and King Abdullah Greet the Public from Ertuğrul Yacht. (Ulus: 1)



Appendix 5: (1937, June 7). Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and King Abdullah Pass Between the Fleet Anchored at Haydarpaşa on the Ertuğrul Yacht. (Ulus: 1)



Appendix 6: (1947, January 10). President İnönü Attends the Reception at the Iraqi Embassy with King Abdullah. (Ulus: 1)



Appendix 7: (1947, January 10). King Abdullah Meets with Speaker of the Assembly Kazım Karabekir and Prime Minister Recep Peker. (Ulus: 1)



Appendix 8: (1947, January 10). King Abdullah's Visits. (Ulus: 3)



Appendix 9: (1947, January 11). President İsmet İnönü and King Abdullah. (Ulus: 1)



Appendix 10: (1947, January 12). King Abdullah at the Chess Board. (Akşam: 1)