

Irat, Ali Murat, Ankara University, Turkey

The PKK, the Alevis and the State in Turkey after the 1980 Military Coup

This study intends to determine how and why the ethno-religious Alevi community in Turkey started to reveal their identity clearly after 1980 military coup. Because of the rising of political Islam and the Kurdish ethno-nationalist movement, the modernist Kemalist regime has been subjected to criticism. In this period, one of the most important tools of legitimacy used by the state was the Alevi population, known by its dominant secular and Kemalist identity. For this reason, it can be proposed that the occurrence of the Alevi identity's revelation might have been supported or guarded by the Kemalist regime or state institutions.