



Gezi Park, Taksim Square, Istanbul- May-June 2013. Images and news spread round the world, images of violent police repression, tear gas, 'the woman in the red dress', water cannon, against an amazingly diverse array of peaceful protesters. The protests were unprecedented in scope in Turkey. "The attack is disproportionate, we need your help!" Many of us rushed to Gezi Park on 31st May 2013 responding to phone calls, to social media, to our friends' calls for help. Others, especially the members of the loosely connected platform, Taksim Solidarity were already there as early bearers of the revolutionary spirit. Gezi Resistance was preceded by the Gezi Park Festival on 13th April 2013 where protest music groups performed for free to address all who appreciate the significance of green areas in cities and who are not willing to bow into submission, when a sultan, a government, a Prime Minister Erdogan issues a decree. The growth of the resistance movement- which spread across Turkey- was gradual, it developed, strengthening with each government and police provocation. Some of the audience were the seasoned politicians of the streets and squares, some of them were the 'retired generals' of the older generation who suffered under Fascism/ the military dictatorship in Turkey of 1980-83 and had lost hope in any sort of social change; while others were of the much admired current wave of protesters, born in the 1990s. Some of us rushed to protect the trees in Gezi Park, a symbol of public space, of 'the public', threatened with destruction in the name and pursuit of the glorification of consumption. Some of us were angered by police violence, and yet some others saw this as a sort of socially-rooted festival. We set up our tents and built up a miniature society we have dreamt of for long, with its 'revolution market', 'museum', 'wish tree', 'infirmary', 'organic garden', 'library', 'school', 'public university', 'hairstylist', 'TV channel (Chapul TV)', 'radio broadcasts' so and so forth.

In this collection of essays and reflection, we present a detailed portrait of Gezi not only as an act of resistance but as an intentional community that will serve as a beacon for generations in Turkey to come- and, globally, more widely- as examples of resistance to neoliberal and neoconservative and Fascist assault, through chapters by local and international left politicians, activists and academics, providing a deeper insight to Gezi and social movements. As "this is just the beginning", as we "continue the struggle"; this book is also a beginning, an open text that will never be concluded until the demise of the societies of inequality and injustice

Ulaş Başar Gezgin



Kemal İnal



Dave Hill



CONTENTS

Preface	<i>Ulas Basar Gezgin, Kemal Inal and Dave Hill</i>
Preface (2013)	<i>Kemal Inal</i>
PART 1. THE GEZI RESISTANCE & THE LEFT	
Gezi: Definition, Agents and Roles	<i>Kemal Inal</i>
The "Gezi" Experience and Nonconventional Opposition	<i>Melih Pekdemir</i>
This is the Beginning, the Struggle Continues	<i>Selma Gürkan</i>
The June Revolt, 2013: In the Streets, By the People	<i>Oya Ersoy</i>
The Gezi Uprising: Rebellion Replaces Submission	<i>Nejla Kurul</i>
Gezi Has Opened a New Path	<i>Alper Taş</i>
PART 2. THE GEZI RESISTANCE & THE ACADEMIA	
The June Resistance: Appearance vs. Content	<i>Nuray Sancar</i>
Why The Anger, Why The Rage? (Or Who Is The "Bogyman?")	<i>Sibel Özbudun</i>
11 Notes for Gezi/ Kızılay/ Gündoğdu (and so on)	<i>Temel Demirer</i>
Gezi Revolt and Education: What Have We Learned From Gezi and What Else Can We Learn From Now On?	<i>Ulaş Başar Gezgin</i>
The Political Psychology of the Gezi Resistance: From the Political Psychology of the Oppressor to the Political Psychology of the Oppressed	<i>Ulaş Başar Gezgin</i>
Wikipedization of the Gezi Park Resistance and the Rashomon Effect: When an Intifada Gets Mummified as an Encyclopedia Entry	<i>Ulaş Başar Gezgin</i>
PART 3. GEZI TESTIMONIES AND BEYOND	
Scenes from Ankara Gezi (Resistance)	<i>Ali Çetin</i>
I am a Woman. I Resist.	<i>Seda Başer</i>
The Gezi Resistance: Massification One By One On the Planet	<i>Selim Yalçiner</i>
Forums After Gezi Resistance: Achievements, Failures, Hopes	<i>Özden Aras & Ozan Kaya</i>
Resistance is the Cure	<i>Derya Ünlü</i>
PART 4. GEZI & INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY	
Gezi: Reflections and Reactions	<i>Dave Hill</i>
Turkey at the Crossroads	<i>Peter McLaren</i>
After the Taksim Revolt: A Balance Sheet	<i>Kostas Skordoulis</i>
Conservative-Neoliberal Alliance and Popular Resistance in Turkey: The Uprising in Turkey	<i>Peter Mayo</i>
The New 'Age Of Insurrections' And The Challenges For the Left: (Thoughts On The Aftermath Of The Turkish Revolt)	<i>Panagiotis Sotiris</i>
PART 5. GEZI INTERVIEWS	
A Matured Class Based Contumacy...	<i>Korkut Boratav</i>
On Why Struggles over Urban Space Matter	<i>David Harvey</i>
The Gezi Park Protests and the Future of Turkish Politics	<i>Seyla Ben Habib</i>
Flames of Resistance and Hope in Turkey	<i>Tariq Ali</i>
My Blood Type is Written On my Arm	<i>Makbule Cengiz</i>
Soccers Fan Groups React Against the Political Cheering Ban	<i>Soccer Fan Groups</i>
We Don't Need To Wait the Transformation of the Factories	<i>Kemal Inal</i>
Welcome To The World of Struggles	<i>Ulaş Başar Gezgin</i>
Biographies of the Contributors	