

Dec. 22, 1992

Dear sister Wilma Mankiller,

I take the liberty of calling you 'sister' even though you don't know me. My name is Nur H. Kiser. I am a Turkish-American woman. I came to the US for a college education in 1961, and have been here ever since.

Years ago, I had noticed the similarities of Turkish and the Native American art works, especially in jewelry and weaving. Also the similarities in character were undeniably similar; such as your honesty, pride, bravery, allegiance to your word, & most of all your basic friendliness and kindness. Believe it or not, these are typical Turkish characteristics also, even though Westerners never portrayed us as such.

Ever since I was a little girl I always loved and admired American Indians (I really don't like to use that name because it was given in error to you by people who had no right to name you). Now that I realize we had common ancestors a long long time ago, I feel an even stronger love & kinship.

When I read an article about you in our local paper, I was very happy to hear about your admirable works to help and lead your people. That was about a year ago, when I tried to call you on the phone, through a number I got from information. I was able to talk with one of your brothers, who told me you were attending a wedding out of town, but gave me information on the Cherokee Advocate. I have been subscribing to it since then and enjoy reading about your activities. It makes me very happy to see the achievements and progress of the Cherokee people, especially the young.

At this time I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I am sending you a copy of the Holy Koran, as a Christmas present. You might think this a bit unusual. But in the Koran I read about a very ancient prophet, in Sura 18:83-98, who probably was one of prophet Noah's sons, most likely Shems. The Koran mentions him simply as the 'Two Horned One'. Apparently he traveled all across the world before the earth had parted into separate continents. Archeologists have recently found evidence that the first inhabitants of the American continent are related to people from Central Asia. They found masks, rock drawings, etc. on both continents which show that these people had a prophet whom they revered, whom they portrayed as having antlers on his head. I think Western scholars are interpreting these findings erroneously, by saying that the people worshipped this part-animal, part-human character as a God. I believe this must have been the prophet 'Zul Carnaigh' - the Two Horned One, the Koran mentions. He was given great power and wisdom by God. He taught the people many things, about right and wrong, and about the One and Only Invisable God, Who sat on the Throne in the highest Heaven, Who was Almighty and Who had created everything. Again Western archeologists interpret erroneously, the fact that the ancient Turks believed in a Sky God, as if the sky itself was God. Actually, having learned from 'Zul Carnaigh' about God who was in heaven and yet was ever present everywhere and invisible like the air, it makes perfect sense that they