Modern World History: Historical Trials

The purpose of this activity is to help you understand the positive and negative influences upon history of individuals AND to understand that what appears to be a clear-cut case of an historical “miscreant” is not always the case.

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| THE CASE |

MUSTAFA KEMAL (ATATÜRK)

President, Turkey, 1923-38

Charges:

1. Unnecessary brutality against Greeks, leading to long term enmity between Turkey and Greece, partition of Cyprus, etc.
2. Armenian genocide
3. Rejection of Turkish traditional culture through “westernization”
4. Brutal, despotic rule, including persecution of Turkish critics