



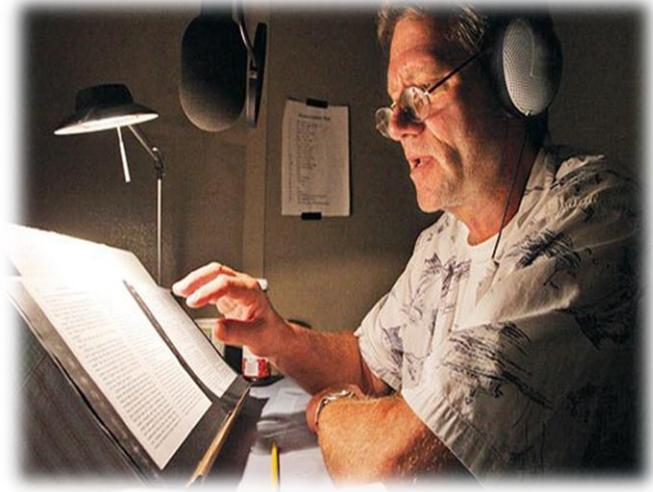
# An Opportunity to Illuminate Lives

Every morning, you leave your home and get on the bus to go to your school or job as you always do. There are so many people who are trying to get the places they are supposed to be just like you do. Therefore, you have to cope with not only the crowd on the bus but also slowness of the bus because of traffic jam. While the angry-looking old man sitting near you murmurs *'bloody rush hours'*, you find yourself wandering around the perilous swaps of Middle Earth, trying to warn Frodo and Sam about sneaky Gollum following them as soon as you open the book that you have taken out of your backpack. Yes, Middle Earth is still there, where you have left it before going to bed last night. Whereas you are accompanying your Hobbit fellows along their quest, you realize at the last moment that your bus has just arrived at your campus, which is fifteen bus stops away from your home, and you hurriedly get off.

Books can help you escape from hardships of real life and so they are irreplaceable to most of us. But, have you ever thought of how lucky you are because of your capability to read? Visually handicapped people have to deal with so much trouble to be able to enjoy books. They have no other option but to read Braille writings or listen to audio books. Unfortunately, they can't get enough help with this issue.



For this very reason, journalist Bensu Kaya has decided to start a project. She has been struggling for creating audio books with volunteers thanks to her project associated with GÖZDER (Association of the Visually Handicapped). Volunteers can get appointments from the studios of GÖZDER which is in Ataköy Training and Cultural Centre in İstanbul.



These recording studios have been built by professionals and all the materials used are supplied by people who support the project. There is even a signboard on the door of the studio which has the names of volunteers both in Braille and Turkish.

If you want to be one of the volunteers who help our visually handicapped friends to embark on different adventures and explore different worlds via books, all you need to do is making an appointment from GÖZDER.

You can make an appointment by calling the association between 09:00-18:00.