In the upper circle of perpetrators of the Armenian Genocide were decision-makers. They were responsible for the formulation of the ideology of the genocide (Ziya Gökalp, Yusuf Akçura), making the decisions on carrying out the genocide (Mehmet Talaat, Ismail Enver), and supervising the course of the massacres (Mehmed Nâzım, Behaeddin Şakir). Decision-makers sent hundreds of thousands of people to death, often times without participating in their killings personally. The perpetrators of this level were high ranking state officials, party elites, and a few influential individuals, who had a decisive role in masterminding the Armenian Genocide.

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