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Made Possible by Our Students

THE VOICE OF YASAMFEN

Vol II

**Natural Disasters, Science,
Career Interviews**



EARTH AND BEYOND

EDITOR'S NOTE

We aim to broaden your horizons
with content prepared for our readers.
Hope you enjoy reading this edition
as much as we enjoyed it!

THE GLOBAL WATER CRISIS

Water scarcity is a situation where the amount of water required for people living in a region, agriculture, industry or other economic activities cannot be met by existing water resources. It is usually examined in two titles:



Physical Water Scarcity: It is when there isn't enough water in the true sense. It is specifically seen in the dry or semi-dry regions. Factors like low rainfall, running out of groundwater, and climate change can trigger this situation.

Economic Water Scarcity: It is when there is enough water in reality but cannot be reached due to a lack of infrastructure for accessing these resources or poor governance. This is usually seen in the countries that are still developing.

REASONS

Even though there are too many reasons for water scarcity to happen, these are the most important reasons:



1. Climate Change: Change of the rainfall scheme and rise of the temperature cause the water sources to decrease.

2. Overpopulation: Increasing population increases the need for the water along with it.

3. Industrialization and Agricultural Activities: Especially using the water unconsciously in agriculture and pollutant industrial activities, uses up and pollutes the water sources.

CONSEQUENCES

There are consequences for overusing water of course, and they aren't the most pleasant

1. Inefficient Nutrient:

Because of the decrease of water efficiency falls along with it in agriculture.





2.Health Issues: Decrease of the access for the clean drinking water can cause contagious sicknesses to spread

3.Immigrations and Collisions: Insufficiency of water resources can cause collisions between people and imperative immigrations.

4.Economic Decline: Water-related sectors being affected negatively can cause economic crises

SOLUTIONS

Although we used water mindlessly in the past and still do there is still hope for the future.And here is what we can do.

1.Sustainable Water Method: The planned and conscious use of water resources

2.Water Saving: The avoidance of water wastage at both the individual and societal levels

3.Technological Investment: Technologies that provides efficient water usage like water treatment plant,drip irrigation systems

4.Environmental Awareness: Raising public awareness about water sources' value



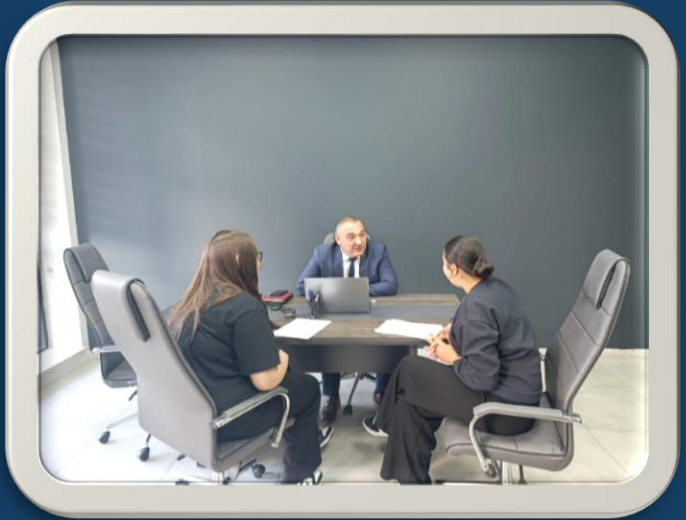
AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. SERKAN BARDAK, ONE OF OUR SCHOOL'S FOUNDERS

Can you tell us about yourself? When did you decide to be a teacher?

Mr. Serkan Bardak: My name is Serkan Bardak. I am 49 years old. I became a teacher in 1994. My exam score was good. Going to a city far away was a big chance for me.

Is choosing your subject important? What must you think about?

Mr. Serkan Bardak: Subject choice is very important. You need your talent. You need passion for your subject. If you cannot explain it easy, you do not know it well. You need talent and knowledge for this.



Technology is growing. What is its job in school?

Mr. Serkan Bardak: Technology makes finding information easy now. The teacher's job is now different. The teacher does not just give information. The teacher is an example. The teacher helps the student find their talent.

Why did you want to open a school?

Mr. Serkan Bardak: I wanted to open a school for many years. I want to use a good education system. This was my first step.

What makes you happy in your job?

Mr. Serkan Bardak: My students' success makes me happy. Their success in school and their happiness give me motivation.

What do you do so students do not fear math?

Mr. Serkan Bardak: The teacher must be fair. The teacher must be tolerant. The teacher must smile. If the student likes the teacher, the student likes the lesson. Then the student does not fear it.

Is it harder to make students love math or to teach math?

Mr. Serkan Bardak: If the student loves math, they learn it. They do not understand math, so they do not love it. This is true for many things.

Interviewers: Ecem Su Kaymak, Beren Kara 9/A

INTERVIEW WITH A POLICE OFFICER, MR. ALPER

Can you introduce yourself?

Mr. ALPER: Of course. My name is **Aykut Alper**. I was born in **Bafra** in **1971**. I spent my childhood and all my school years there. After finishing high school, I took the **Police Academy entrance exam** in **1990**, passed it successfully, and started my duty as a **deputy commissioner** in **1994**. Since then, I have proudly served in the police force.

Could you tell us about your career in the police force?

Mr. ALPER: Police officers are responsible for maintaining **public safety, enforcing the law, and protecting citizens**. We work to prevent crime, catch offenders, and respond quickly to emergencies. It is a demanding profession that requires discipline, courage, and dedication, but it is also a very honorable and rewarding career.

How did you decide to become a police officer, and what challenges did you face along the way?

Mr. ALPER: Since my childhood, I have admired the police uniform and wanted to serve my country. My biggest goal was to wear that **police vest and uniform** one day. The process was not easy — the exams, training, and physical challenges were tough — but I stayed determined, worked hard, and finally achieved my dream.

Do you have any unforgettable memories in your career?

Mr. ALPER: Yes, I have many, but one of the most unforgettable moments was **on the night of the coup attempt on July 15th**. It was a very dangerous and emotional night for all of us. Despite the risks, we stood together, fulfilled our duty, and protected our country. I will never forget that day.

What motivates you the most in your profession?

Mr. ALPER: My biggest motivation is the desire to **serve my nation and protect innocent people**. Also, working hard to one day **become a commissioner** keeps me motivated to do my best every single day.



INTERVIEW WITH A POLICE OFFICER, MR. ALPER

What kind of training did you undergo to become a police officer?

To become a police officer, you must complete different training programs depending on your education level and career goals.

In Turkey, the main institutions that provide police training are:

- **Police Vocational School (PMYO):** For high school or equivalent graduates.
 - **Application:** Candidates must obtain the required base score in the **Basic Proficiency Test (TYT)**, which is part of the **Higher Education Institutions Exam (YKS)** conducted by ÖSYM.
 - **Training Duration:** 2 years of intensive academic and physical education.
 - **Outcome:** Graduates who successfully complete the program are appointed as police officers.
- **Police Training Centers (POMEM):** For university graduates who wish to join the police force after completing their degree.

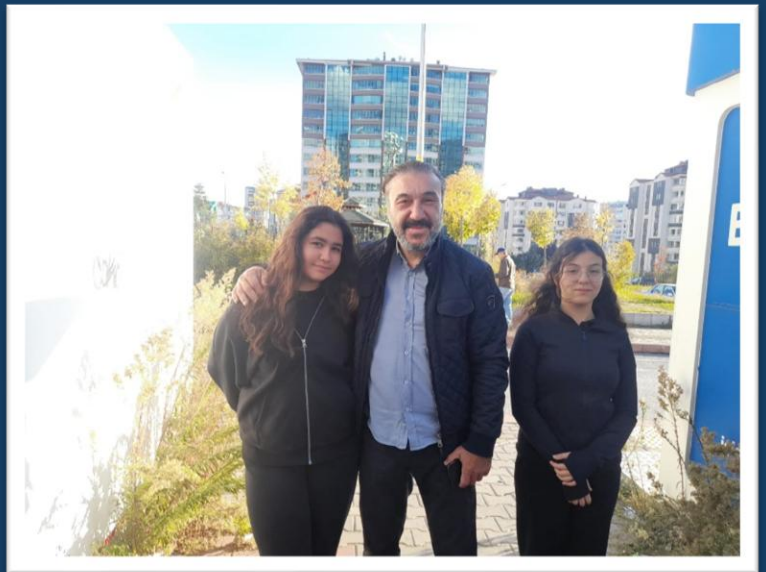
These programs include academic studies, law enforcement techniques, physical training, and firearms practice.

How did you prepare for the PÖH exam?

I focused on **sports, physical conditioning, and obstacle course training**. Consistent exercise and discipline were key factors in improving my endurance and strength for the exam.

Would you recommend your job to young people?

Yes, definitely. Although it is a **challenging and demanding** profession, it is also **very meaningful**. You get the chance to help others, protect your community, and make a real difference in people's lives. It's a hard but beautiful job — so, why not?



Do you have any advice for young people who want to become police officers?

They should **study hard**, stay **physically fit**, and be **mentally strong**. Good **discipline, determination, and teamwork** are essential. They should also receive proper **firearms training** and prepare well for the **obstacle course**. Most importantly, they must never give up on their goals.

Interviewers: Aydan Deniz Alper, Masal Gökcek 9/A

INTERVIEW WITH A LAW STUDENT, MRS. CAKAR

Is memorization more important, or logic?

Mrs. Cakar: When studying for exams, memorization is indeed necessary. However, in order to succeed in professional life, it is very important not to rely solely on memorization but to understand the topics logically.

How are exams in law school? Are they usually written or oral?

Mrs. Cakar: Exams are generally written, and oral exams are quite rare. In most written exams, there are between five and ten questions, and we are expected to answer them in a detailed, well-organized, and legally sound manner.

What do you do in internship and practice classes?

Mrs. Cakar: We have two practice classes per week. In these classes, we usually conduct **mock** trials, where each student takes on a specific role such as a lawyer, judge, or client. We prepare legal arguments, present evidence, and try to resolve the case using the knowledge and reasoning we've learned so far. These classes are very helpful in improving our practical skills and understanding how real courtrooms work.



Is internship mandatory in law school?

Mrs. Cakar: Yes, there is a one-year mandatory internship after completing the **four-year** undergraduate program. During this internship, law graduates work under the supervision of experienced lawyers or judges to gain practical experience before they can officially become attorneys.

What is the most challenging part of being a law student?

Mrs. Cakar: The most challenging part is the intensity of the coursework. Law courses are interconnected, so if you fail to understand one topic properly, it becomes much harder to follow the next ones. Consistent study and discipline are essential; otherwise, you may quickly fall behind. Managing the heavy reading load can also be difficult, especially during exam periods.

How many years do you study at the Faculty of Law?

Mrs. Cakar: The undergraduate law program lasts four years, consisting of eight semesters filled with both theoretical and practical courses.

Is the Faculty of Law considered numerical, verbal, or equal-weight?

Mrs. Cakar: Law is in the equal-weight (EA – In Turkish Education System) field, as it requires both strong verbal and analytical thinking skills. Students must be good at reasoning, writing, and understanding complex legal texts.

Interviewers: Sena Cakar, Selcen Aydın 9/A

INTERVIEW WITH MR. ÖZDİL, ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF OUR SCHOOL'S FOUNDERS

Education is one of the most important elements that shape the future of a country. Among those who build this future are visionary educators, innovative teachers, and most importantly, founders who are devoted to the field of education.

Today, we are with our esteemed teacher Mehmet Özdil, one of the visionary names. With your permission, we will have a pleasant conversation with you, my esteemed teacher, about not only academic success but also gaining values, self-confidence, and life development.

Dear teacher, you provide a pioneering and high-quality education service in your sector. How did you achieve this success?

Mr. Özdil: First of all, thank you for your question. I always believe that the important thing is not to work hard but to work consistently, and most importantly, not to give up. It is not about working hard but about daily, planned self-study.



Dear teacher, what are the goals of our school for the next five years?

Mr. Özdil: Our school's primary goal for the next five years is to foster an educational environment that promotes the social, emotional, and cognitive development of our students while fostering academic success.

We aim to expand technology-integrated, innovative teaching methods, prioritize teacher training, and ensure our graduates are competitive both nationally and internationally.

What kind of system do you implement to increase the academic success of your students?

Mr. Özdil: We implement a systematic monitoring and support model to enhance our students' academic success.

We consider each student's individual differences, identify areas of weakness, and develop personal development plans.

We closely monitor our students' academic performance and motivation through regular assessments and guidance.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. ÖZDİL, ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF OUR SCHOOL

What advice would you give to young education entrepreneurs or teachers?

Mr. Özdil: I would advise young educators and education entrepreneurs to never lose their passion for learning. Education is not only about teaching others but also about constantly improving oneself. Stay curious, keep updating your knowledge, and be open to innovation.

Remember that success in education does not come overnight it comes through patience, consistency, and genuine care for students. If you love what you do and believe in your mission, your impact will last for generations.

Teaching is more of a dedication than a profession. We must convey education with love. Dedication, devotion, and love.



Finally, is there a message you would like to give to your students and parents?

Mr. Özdil: Education is teamwork. Parents should support us as a team. We need to support each other in helping students unlock their potential. Of course, I have a message for our students: “We love you and we will always be with you.”

Dear Mr.ÖZDİL, your efforts and vision for future generations continue to be a source of inspiration. Thank you once again for your contributions and heartfelt sharing. We wish you continued success in this journey dedicated to education.

Interviewers: Beren Yamaner 7/A

SANTORINI VOLCANO

The Santorini Volcano is an active volcano located on the island of Santorini in the Aegean Sea, Greece. It is known as one of the world's most famous volcanoes. Throughout history, its massive eruptions have changed the island's shape and influenced surrounding civilizations.



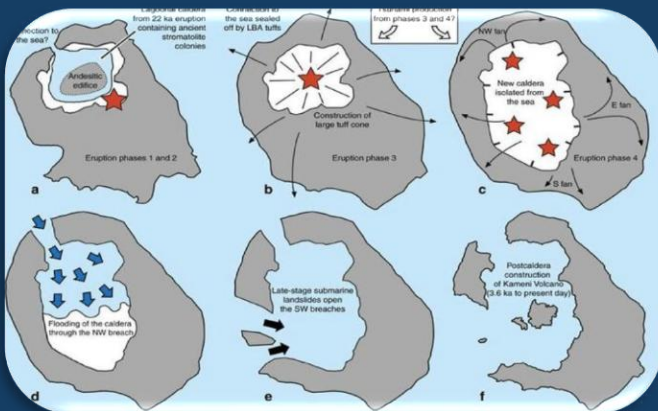
Around 1600 BC, the Thera Eruption occurred one of the most powerful volcanic events in human history. As a result of this massive explosion, the island's center collapsed, forming the crescent-shaped Santorini Island seen today. The eruption caused enormous tsunamis, ash rains, and climate changes, leading to the collapse of the Minoan Civilization on the island of Crete. Some

researchers believe that this disaster may have inspired the legend of Atlantis.

The volcanism of Santorini originates from the Hellenic subduction zone southwest of Crete. The oceanic crust of the African Plate is subducting beneath the continental crust of Greece and the Aegean Sea. This subduction gives rise to the Hellenic Arc, which includes other volcanic centers such as Methana, Nisyros, and Milos in addition to Santorini.



Traces of Santorini's volcanic ash (tephra) have been



detected in Turkey. While deposits are found on nearby islands, they also appear in sediments of distant lakes and seas. The widespread volcanic material in the atmosphere caused a global cooling effect, which has been confirmed by studies of tree rings from that period.

Volcanic eruptions are generally associated with large earthquakes. However, such activity primarily affects Santorini and its nearby settlements. More distant areas, such as most parts of Turkey, are unlikely to be significantly affected. Therefore, any potential tsunami in the Aegean Sea would likely remain regional in impact.

The tsunami risk in the Aegean region correlates with major earthquakes that have occurred in the past. After a 7.5 magnitude earthquake in 1956, tsunamis up to 1–2 meters high were observed around Bodrum and nearby coasts. Similar waves could occur again following a Santorini eruption. However, it is noted that such events would have little large-scale impact on Turkey, mainly affecting Crete and coastal regions of Greece near the Aegean Sea.

Writers: Umut Bulut, Melis Ekiz, Deha Yılmaz 7/A

A SHORT TRIP TO THE ALI KUSCU ASTRONOMY CENTER

About Ali Kuscü

Ali Kuscü (1403-1474) Lived in the time of Ottoman Empire and The Timuri State, He is one of the best scientists in the fields of mathematics and astronomy. He studied under the famous astronomer Ulugh Beg in Samarkand and achieved great success in astronomy and mathematics. He got invited to Ottomans then came to the Istanbul then taught in madrasas (schools), He made important contributions to the Ottoman scientific world with his observatory studies.

He isn't just a scientist. He is someone who cares about knowledge and a teacher. His astronomical observations, calendar arrangements, and mathematical works illuminated scientific developments during his time and beyond. Today, science centers and astronomical activities bearing his name continue to uphold his legacy.



About The Astronomy Center

The Ali Kuscü Astronomy Center, located in the Misket neighborhood of Ankara's Mamak district, is a science center offering education and entertainment in astronomy and space science.

Opened in 2017, this center aims to present scientific discoveries in an entertaining way, especially for children and young people.



Center Features:

The Ali Kuscü Astronomy Center is equipped with various interactive areas and technological equipment. The main sections of the center are:

Planetarium Hall: Displays are presented on the sky and astronomy. **Exhibition Areas:** Various exhibitions related to astronomy and space science are displayed.



Simulators: Simulation rooms offering different experiences are available.

Exhibition Areas: Various exhibitions related to astronomy and space sciences are available.

Workshop Areas: Various educational areas, including robotics, coding, STEM, Maker, and

carpentry workshops, are available.

A SHORT TRIP TO THE ALI KUSCU ASTRONOMY CENTER

Observation Deck and Outdoor Areas: Suitable areas for outdoor activities and observations are provided.

The center is particularly popular with student groups, and scientific discoveries are made through field trips organized by various schools. For example, approximately 800 students from schools in the Mamak district visited the center and participated in workshops.

About Our School Trip

On October 3th, our school visited the Ali Kuscu Astronomy Center. we felt as if we were on a journey through the depths of space. As a whole class, we watched a fascinating show about space and astronomy. The center also featured 3D toys and experimental areas. These areas not only provided us with fun but also provided us with the opportunity to learn scientific principles hands-on. This trip not only provided us with a fun time, but also gave us the opportunity to observe science and technology up close and see how much we can apply what we learn in our daily lives.

Here are the photos we took that day!



Writers: Yusuf Talha Barış, Çınar Karaman, Toprak Su Gedik, Emre Dinçer 7/A

😊 DID YOU KNOW THAT 😊



Masal The Blind Fighter:

Did you know that some English words come from Turkish?

Examples: *yogurt*, *kiosk*, *coffee* (through Turkish *kahve*). ☺



Beray The Faceless Ninja:

Did you know that "alphabet" comes from Greek words "alpha" and "beta"?



Affan and Tuna, Protectors of Batikent:

Did you know that English is not the official language of the UK?



Anıl, Sena and Ecem, The Triangular council of Yasamfen:

Did you know that "bookkeeper" and "bookkeeping" are the only words with three double letters in a row?



Ecem and Sena : Did you know that

some Turkish idioms don't have a direct English translation?

For example, "Göz var izan var"

CARING FOR OUR STREET FRIENDS 🐾

A Small Project, A Big Heart

This month, our students took part in a meaningful project to help our furry friends, the street cats and dogs living in our neighborhoods. We wanted to do something simple yet powerful: to make food and water containers for them using plastic bottles and other recyclable materials.

Instead of buying new bowls, we decided to reuse what we already had.

Old plastic bottles, empty yogurt containers, and even broken buckets

turned into colorful and creative feeding stations. Each student designed their own version and decorated it with love.

The main goal of this project was not only to help animals but also to raise awareness about kindness, empathy, and recycling. By working together, our students learned how small actions can make a big difference in the lives of others even in the lives of stray animals.



From Waste to Wonder

The process was both fun and educational.

First, students collected plastic bottles and cleaned them carefully. Then, with the help of their teachers, they cut and shaped the bottles into suitable containers. Some made double bowls, one side for food, the other for water. Others designed hanging feeders for cats or low bowls for street dogs.

After decorating them with paint and designs, we placed these handmade feeders around our school and nearby streets. The joy on our students' faces when they saw the animals eating from the bowls was priceless.





A Message to Everyone

This project taught us something important: We don't need to be rich or powerful to make the world a better place. All we need is a caring heart and a little creativity. By showing compassion and responsibility, we can protect the innocent creatures who share our streets and cities.

Let's continue feeding, helping, and loving them, because every life matters. ❤️ 🏠 🐾

Hope for the Future

We believe that projects like this plant seeds of kindness in young hearts. When

students learn to respect animals, they also learn to respect people and the environment. One kind act can inspire another, and together, they can grow into a culture of compassion.

Our hope is that more schools and communities will join us in protecting street animals. A simple bottle, a small bowl of food, or even a cup of water can **save a life**. Let's keep spreading love and empathy, one small act at a time.



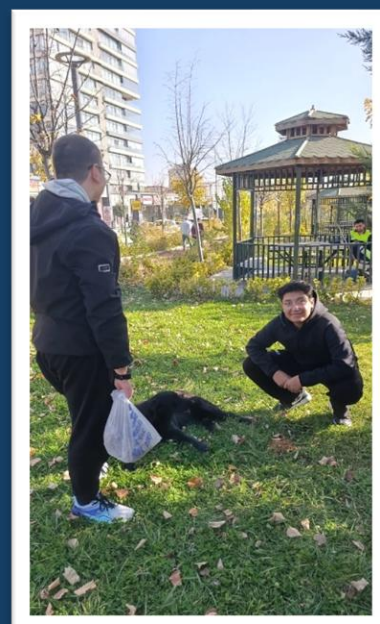
A Little Break on the Way of Return

After completing our mission, we took a short break at the park with our students.

We played games, shared snacks, and laughed together. It was a wonderful moment to relax after such a meaningful activity.

The students talked about their favorite parts of the project and how happy they felt helping the animals. Even though it was just a short time, it was full of joy, friendship, and positive energy.

It was truly a beautiful and beneficial day, one that reminded us how



kindness, teamwork, and fun can all come together to make the world a better place. 🌸 🐾



WORD SEARCH GAME



Look for words about the world around us in the word search.

- 1-) The invisible gas we breathe.
- 2-) A structure built to cross a river or road.
- 3-) A natural underground space.
- 4-) A very dry, sandy area with little rain.
- 5-) The planet we live on.
- 6-) Everything around us, including nature and humans.
- 7-) Flames that give heat and light.
- 8-) A large area covered with many trees.
- 9-) A raised area of land smaller than a mountain.
- 10-) A very large body of salt water.
- 11-) A large celestial body that orbits a star.
- 12-) A small body of still water.
- 13-) The area beyond Earth's atmosphere.
- 14-) A small rock.
- 15-) A small, narrow river.
- 16-) Material that comes from trees.

M	A	E	R	T	S	U	H	I	L	L
S	B	R	I	D	G	E	W	O	O	D
C	D	N	A	L	E	V	M	V	A	Q
A	K	R	I	U	O	A	Z	E	X	U
G	T	S	V	S	W	C	R	M	H	P
D	E	S	E	R	T	T	E	T	K	L
I	V	V	E	R	J	O	B	A	H	A
G	Z	B	G	R	I	Y	N	S	N	N
P	O	N	D	X	O	F	U	E	G	E
W	S	P	A	C	E	F	Y	N	T	T
E	N	V	I	R	O	N	M	E	N	T