



## Turkey

### **“National Activity Excursion To Bursa”**

Nowadays globalisation is becoming an important value all over the world. By the way young people are not familiar with their own national values and sometimes do not respect their culture and tradition . Through this project we want to make young people become more familiar, interested and proud of the national and even global history. To reach this goal we use new innovative methods of education. Our intention is to bring students closer to the subject through excursions, exhibitions and seminars combined with usage of up to date modern digital technologies.

On May 18 2022 an excursion to Bursa with 45 students was organised with the scope of our Erasmus + Project. Our students took part in the guidance tour of Cumalıkızık which was listed in UNESCO world Heritage in 2013 , Aya Constantine Church and Grand Mosque.



Established in Bursa in the context of public endowment by Ottoman Empire founder Osman Gazi, Cumalıkızık is one of other seven villages that are located between the foots of Uludağ Mountain and valleys. The villages were named after “kızık”, which represents one of the clans of Oghuz Turks. Besides having a

strong cultural heritage and involving many natural beauties, Cumalıkızık is one of the most significant examples of Ottoman rural civil architecture. It still preserves its presence by carrying the past towards the future with its historical mosques and hamams, plane trees, organic street texture and characteristic houses. Made of rubble stone, wood and adobe, Cumalıkızık Houses are triplex buildings which involve iron-made doorknockers and handles on the street doors. The houses have different colours ranging from white, yellow, red to purple. There are narrow, stony streets with no pavements where corner walls of the streets are beveled suitably for organic settlement. So far these asymmetric walls have changed depending on the stylistic features of different periods. The most prominent architectural style of Turkish Houses, “Exhedras”, which were used as living room and had a great importance on Turkish life, also reflect the characteristic features of these traditional houses.

Constantin Church :It was established on the island of Mutlu Maonastery.It is predicted that it was constricted between ninth and tenth century and at the beginning of the eighteenth century it was mainly rebuilt .S. Gerlac, who visited the island in the 16 th century , reports that the church was dedicated to St. Constantine and 6- 7 people lived there .

It was known as Lake Aployant , is a large freshwater lake . The lake is very rich in terms of plankton and aquatik plants and bird population.

“Ulu Cami” (The Grand Mosque) was built by Yıldırım Bayezid between 1396 and 1399. After the victory at Nicopolis (Niğbolu) in 1396, Yıldırım Bayezid wanted to built 20 masjids in Bursa, but on suggestion of Emir Sultan, his son-in-law and one of the period’s important scholar men, he built only one, the “Ulu Cami”, or Grand Mosque, covering it with 20 domes.

This mosque became the largest example of multi-domed mosque architecture within Ottoman architecture. By the period’s scholar men, “Ulu Cami” is

recognized among the holy places within Islam as to be on the fifth place (after Mecca, Medina, Jerusalem and Damascus).

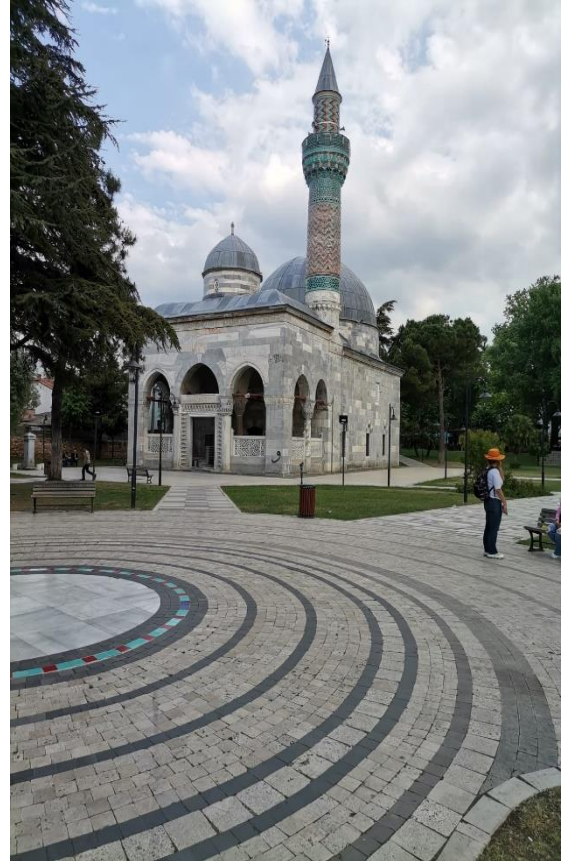
“Ulu Cami” is built with a rectangular plan. It has three doors, one each at its eastern, western, and northern façade. The crown door at the structure’s northern façade is more majestic compared to the other ones. This door is built of marble.



This mosque is covered with 20 domes with a diameter of 11 m each. They sit on arches and pendentives, which interconnect the twelve massive, square-plan pillars to the thick main walls. The dome at this mosque’s central section is covered with a glazing. Beneath it, there is a big ablution fountain with 16 corners.

This mosque’s interior is decorated with 129 writings, some of which being written by famous calligraphers such as Abdulfettah Efendi, Mustafa Izzet Efendi, Sami Efendi, and Shefik Efendi. These writings are presented as authentic examples of calligraphy. There are copies of Asma-ul Husna, the 99 names of Allah, written with “celi sulus” and “kufi” script all over these pillars. Furthermore, there is a caligraphic writing by Sultan Mahmud II.

This mosque's pulpit is made in "kunderkari" technique without using nails or any other joining elements. Therefore, it has the character of an artwork. It was built by Hadji Muhammed bin Abdulaziz bin Ibnu'd-Devaki. The reliefs at the pulpit's eastern and western side represent the solar system and the Milky Way galaxy, respectively. Furthermore, the epitaph board over the pulpit's door states that this mosque was completed in 1399, by the order of Yıldırım Bayezid.



Through this project activity teachers provide opportunity to learn in informal way, improve their social awareness of national cultural heritage. In addition to that, teachers encouraged pupils to achieve deeper and long-term knowledge of Turkish history and traditions. Students have opportunity to learn social friendly and warm atmosphere.