

Anadolu
Öğrenme Kahvesi
bir fincan kahvenin 40 yıl hatırı var!



Anatolian
Learning Café
the sake of a cup of coffee lasts for forty years!



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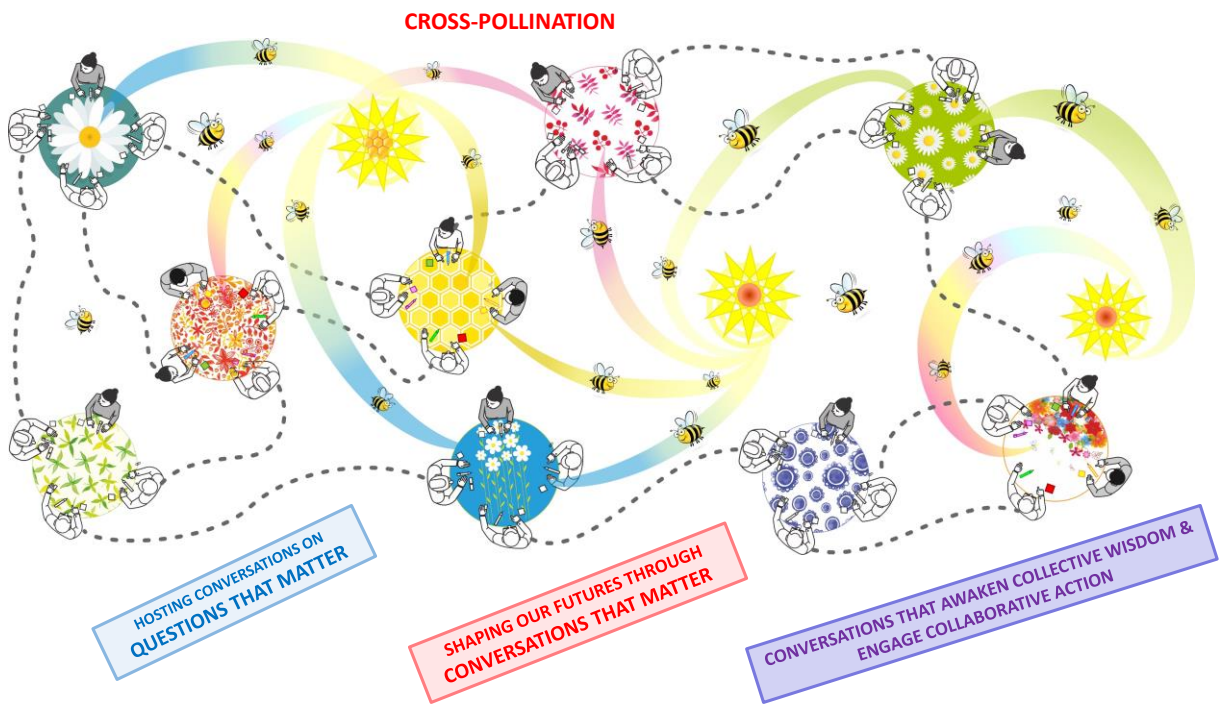
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Inspired by the World Cafe, a small group of intellectuals came together on 2 October 2013 and created a forum of dialogue: Anatolian Learning Café (ALC). ALC is a platform and fun workshop for people who want to think together, learn together and create together.

ALC is a dialogue platform focusing on humanitarian, natural and global questions and aims to create an environment for thinking and learning together with individual and collective awareness and also contribute nourishing a culture of action.

After, carefully examining the basic principles of the World Cafe from the reference books and relevant website materials the core group completed the translation into Turkish and immediately started implementation by creating dialogues around interesting questions.



The initial cafe organizations were mostly for close network circles and rather experimental:

- Theme: Re-discovering the authentic dynamics of conversation culture in Anatolia
 - Participation/Client: Anatolian Learning Cafe (ALC) core group
 - Actions/Impact: Defined and shared some key methods to unlock communication and conversation barriers, re-discovered authentic/original dialogue nourishing habitat tips from Anatolia, used these in subsequent cafe organizations
- Theme: Facing and understanding our pre-judgements
 - Participation/Client: Sun of Humanity Foundation and ALC
 - Actions/Impact: Classified pre-judgements by their origin and strength, highlighted effect of pre-judgements on daily life and communication, created awareness and suggested practical approaches to understand and manage pre-judgements
- Theme: Volunteering activities in Turkey
 - Participation/Client: Sun of Humanity Foundation and ALC
 - Actions/Impact: Analyzed whys and why nots of volunteering, elaborated influence of culture and education, barriers and promoting factors. Defined ideas for actions to promote volunteering through social media, education/seminar programs for younger audience.
- Theme: Journey of self-discovery
 - Participation/Client: Sun of Humanity Foundation and ALC
 - Actions/Impact: Defined dynamics of self realization as a journey, exchanged individual experiences and elaborated similarities between well known mystics. Dialogue and learning together were defined as the stimulating and enhancing factors for self-discovery. Created ideas to promote dialogue in the society and organizations.

With the accumulated experience and lessons learned the successive cafe organizations were more efficient and effective:

- Theme: Alignment and cooperation among generations
 - Participation/Client: A software development company
 - Actions/Impact: Defined the core areas for cross generation differences and key impact drivers to remove barriers and enhance communication. Created ideas to improve productivity and efficiency in the professional environment by enhanced communication, sharing, creating space and opportunity for expression. Followed up performance of a number of innovative processes with positive results within the company.
- Theme: Creating space for collective genius
 - Participation/Client: Sun of Humanity Foundation and ALC
 - Actions/Impact: Highlighted peace and joy as the source and defined internal and external dynamics of collective genius. Created ideas to create a social climate and physical environment nourishing and promoting collective genius.

- Theme: Learning centered education
 - Participation/Client: Education faculty of a state university in Ankara
 - Actions/Impact: Highlighted the effectiveness of learning centered approach in education systems. Analyzed the current system and created ideas to lead towards a more learning centered education not only for education institutions but also in daily life. The faculty members completed several projects within the university inspired by the ideas.
- Theme: Awakening the hope: Seeds of hope for future
 - Participation/Client: Students of a high school in Ankara
 - Actions/Impact: Defined hope and impact of it on evolution of life. Students questioned their status and exchanged views on how to bring joy and hope in all aspects of their life. Implemented ideas to increase awareness and trigger positivism to create space for hope to emerge such as social media accounts disseminating relevant messages. Organized art workshops and exhibitions, seminars etc.

Currently still working on the results and outcome of the following cafe organizations. ALC members are mentoring and supporting Sun of Humanity Foundation to come up with project plans for selected project ideas for relevant themes below:

- Theme: Reflecting the Anatolian values and cultural components towards universal domain
 - Participation/Client: Sun of Humanity Foundation and ALC
 - Actions/Impact: Created ideas for project/activity candidates to effectively support the theme. Focused on a number of ideas after prioritization. Currently working on two project plans.
- Theme: How to increase citizenship awareness and consciousness ?
 - Participation/Client: Sun of Humanity Foundation and ALC
 - Actions/Impact: Created ideas for project/activity candidates to effectively support the theme. Focused on a number of ideas after prioritization. Currently working on a project plan.

There are several requests from a number of NGOs, public and academic institutions from ALC demanding cafe organizations to focus on their relevant areas of interest.

ALC is discussing internally on its status, vision and options for evolutionary paths. Dialogue with World Cafe and other relevant similar organizations is very important to shape the future of ALC.

