



ANATOLIA MANIFESTO

Anatolia is not just the name of a piece of land, a geographical region or a culture; it means more than all of that. When Anatolia is mentioned, it would be appropriate to refer a 'cultural' geography (a) rather than a political or national geography. The cultural geography of Anatolia, in the broadest sense, corresponds to the landmass also called Asia Minor, yet it may be said to include parts of the Balkans, the Caucasus, and the Middle East as well. For thousands of years this area has been a geography¹ where dozens of civilizations were established, settled, passed through, and migrated; where many cultures, beliefs, and schools of philosophy have flourished, come to life, influenced and been influenced, encountered one another, and blended together.

Anatolia is a whole that contains so much diversity that it cannot be defined or limited by any single period, belief, culture or civilization. It is a living space where people mix and mingle, combining differences as richness and turning them into an alloy that integrates. It connects and reconciles beliefs, ideologies, colors, lives, past and future, mind and heart that are elements that might otherwise be thought unable to coexist. In Anatolia, cultures have lived and still live in peace, "next to each other" rather than "side by side" or one after another. Just like beliefs.

Anatolia is a magnificent tree of values. Some values have made Anatolia what it is; and Anatolia has enabled certain values to find meaning and life. Anatolia has achieved—and continues to achieve—its social integration, the harmonious coexistence of its diversity and differences, and the ease of living together through the values that create bonds and unity such as acceptance-harmony-flexibility, patience-tolerance-respect, humility, cooperation-solidarity-sharing, humanness-hospitality, mercy-compassion-love, justice-fairness, freedom and independence². In Anatolia, values are not conceptual, but actional and experiential. They are not learned mentally, but are known from the hear, directly. Anatolia's values, like itself, are whole and act as a whole. They are nourished from the same source.

Societies do not experience what they live through only for themselves and do not produce the cultural products they develop solely for their own sake. These are for all of humanity. In this context, it is obvious that in addition to creating and preserving its own unity, the experience of being an alloy that unites and 'integrates' the differences of Anatolia is for the added value it offers to the family of humanity. It's almost as if Anatolia has lived through all its experiences and hardships for this reason.

When we look at the entire known history of Anatolia, it would not be wrong to say that it has matured to fulfill some duties or responsibilities, has been shaped and 'fermented' for something. Anatolia has been kneaded and tired a lot, but it is now mature. For approximately 12,000 years, she has guided human history with its past and present, by offering civilization recommendation, has wisely benefited from multiculturalism, and has become an example of culture-rich 'integrity'.

"Some periods in the world are truly difficult periods. In such times, humanity makes big decisions and decides to use its own will. The most important thing is that humanity can choose what is necessary for itself with its own will. These collective choices are just like individual ones. Even if humanity may not be aware of it, it thinks and decides as a whole in these choices."³

¹ Here, the word "geography" is used instead of the concept of "space" in geography. Space is a three-dimensional space perceived and evaluated by those living in it. Space does not only refer to a physical nature. Space is also a concept related to psychological, social, economic, political dimensions, power and values in the area. Space has an identity, and space is associated with the value and power in that area.

² These values are from the 'Binding and Uniting Values of Anatolia' study, which is one of the products of the Universal Aspect of Anatolia Project.

³ From the book 'Purified Being Human', a joint product of the Sun of Wisdom Foundation and the Sun of Humanity Foundation



In this challenging yet new and change oriented period that our world is passing through—one in which humanity must think and act as a whole—Anatolia, which has hosted many civilizations and always preserved its integrity throughout history, is ready for the responsibilities it will assume in the comprehensive change and transformation that appears on the horizon, and for its contribution to humanity and the whole. The primary duty of the Anatolian people, and especially the true intellectuals, is to be the implementers and reminders of integrity during this transition period and afterward.

“Humanity has now come to the brink of a new era. This is the period of knowing oneself, being oneself and realizing oneself as much as one can. This period is not a period that introduces a new doctrine, new rules, norms or conditionings. On the contrary, it is the period which inner freedoms can be perceived to the greatest extent.⁴”

The ideologies, approaches, and forms of belief that motivated societies and individuals in ancient times can no longer serve the progress and development of humanity. Individuals question the nature of life and societies question the nature of existing values. Along with these, the education system, economic system and many similar systems are in search of new approaches for change and transformation. It is stated that change and transformation should not only remain at the individual, social and cultural level, but also the systems and social structures should be restructured. Humanity is looking for a way out of the vicious circle it has entered within the framework of current understandings. Developing a new understanding and values has now become inevitable.

There is no doubt that a 'NEW UNDERSTANDING OF HUMANITY' is emerging.

Anatolia, which is the pioneer, cradle and memory of civilization with its feature of reconciling the local and the universal, helped humanity find its way out with its rich accumulation; she has the experience to lead people to discover new values and the most appropriate meanings of values for human.

Anatolia, an alchemical geography where joy, longing, pain are transformed into art and wisdom, values are transformed into life, and all contradictions are transformed into harmony, is a strong candidate to become both hope for humanity and the hope of humanity. The culture and wisdom of this geography has the power and competence to illuminate the way back to its essence in order to reach the new holistic meaning of the understanding of 'human', which has been polarized and fragmented by many beliefs, thoughts and ideologies.

Anatolia, with its social structure, culture, a new synthesis of core values and experiences, is in a position and quality that can be an example of this emerging new understanding of humanity. At this point, it is up to the Anatolian people, true intellectuals and political actors, by benefiting from all this experience, consciousness and wisdom, to pave the way to create 'exemplary institutions' and 'exemplary society' that can inspire the world.

Anatolia has the position and competence to open space for the truth of human to come to life on earth.

Seeing all humanity as a single 'family', Anatolia is now ready to serve humanity, not with the awareness that it is a part of the WHOLE, but with the understanding of acting with the CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE WHOLENESS within the PART.

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Sun of Wisdom Association (1990)– Sun of Humanity Foundation (1999)*

⁴ Same as above