

Natural History Museum and Its Importance Kemaliye/Erzincan

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Natural history museums are institutions that aim to educate and inform society, fostering interest in natural sciences. Particularly for children, they organize activities beyond traditional educational methods, helping them establish a deeper connection with nature. In Turkey, natural history museums are typically limited in number and mostly found within universities, whereas in Europe, such museums exist in nearly every city. This highlights the need for more modern natural history museums in Turkey with advanced exhibition techniques.



In this context, the **Prof. Dr. Ali Demirsoy Natural History Museum**, located in the Kemaliye district of Erzincan, serves as an exemplary institution. The museum's objectives include:

- Introducing natural assets to the local community, students, and tourists,
- Raising public awareness about natural components and nature conservation,
- Pioneering the establishment of local natural history museums,
- Contributing to the identification of biodiversity in the region and Turkey,
- Providing a facility to preserve natural specimens,
- Establishing opportunities for scientific collaboration with other museums in Turkey and worldwide.

The museum consists of two main halls, A and B:

- **Hall A:** Exhibits volcanic, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks, precious stones, minerals, and fossils. These materials are presented with detailed information, including their scientific names, chemical compositions, and economic importance.
- **Hall B:** Displays a wide range of biological diversity, from algae to mammals. Various species, from lichens to flowering plants, are preserved and exhibited using scientific methods.



Additionally, the museum supports scientific research with its laboratory and microscope infrastructure. Operating for nearly a decade, the museum serves as a significant center for both education and tourism. Open to both local and international visitors, it sets an example in promoting biodiversity and raising awareness about nature.

P.S: The Natural History Museum, which does not receive any budget from the government, is sustained solely through the support of Prof. Ali Demirsoy and his colleagues. If you wish to contribute, you can transfer your support to the IBAN number below. Thank you in advance for your contribution. ***Kemaliye Ziraat Bankası Şubesi, Doğa Tarihi Müzesi, Ali İsmet Demirsoy& Şevket Gültekin***

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