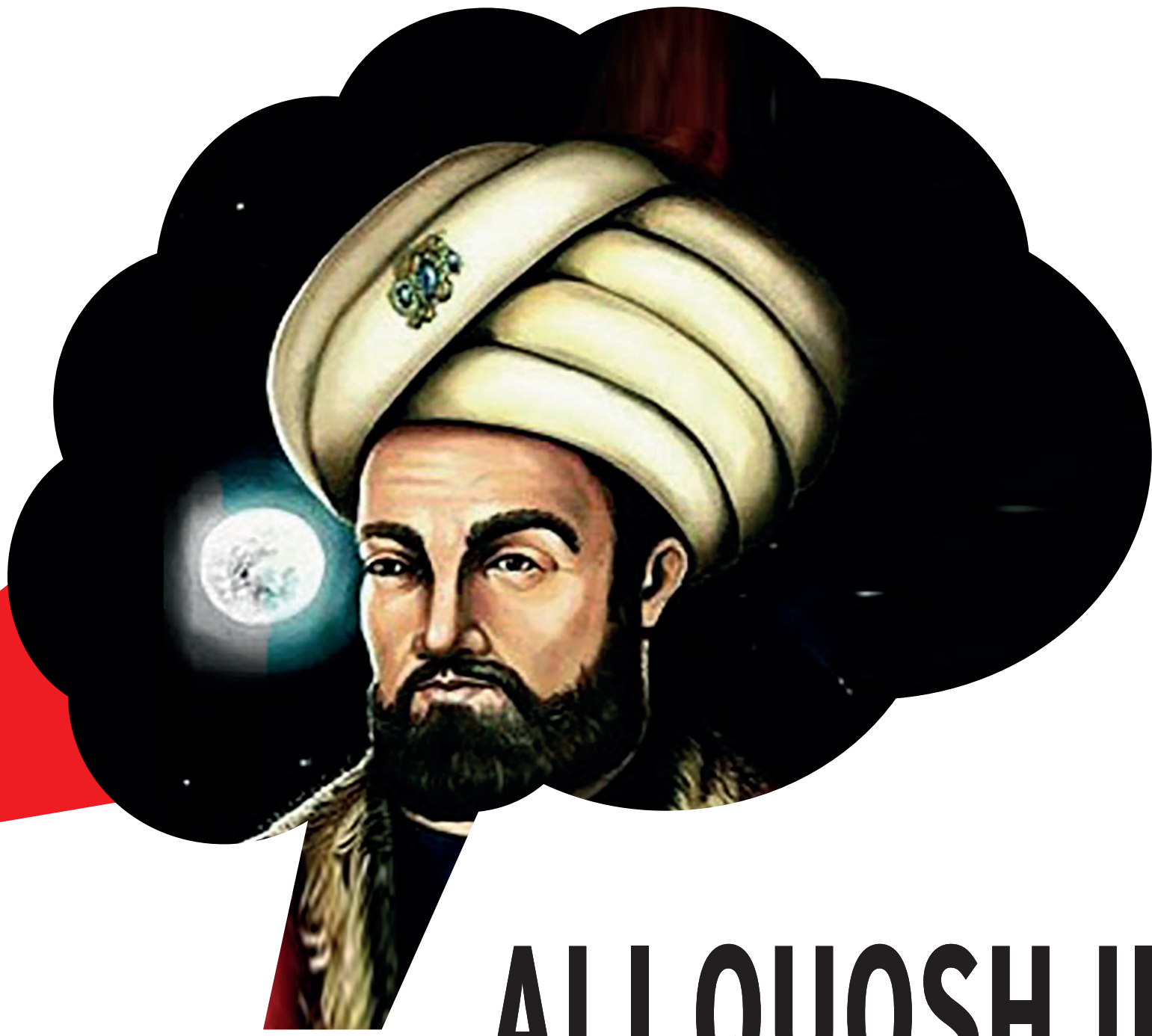


ANATOLIA "THE LAND WHERE SCIENCE WAS BORN AND FLOURISHED"



ALI QUOSHJI

Born & Died: 1403 - 1474

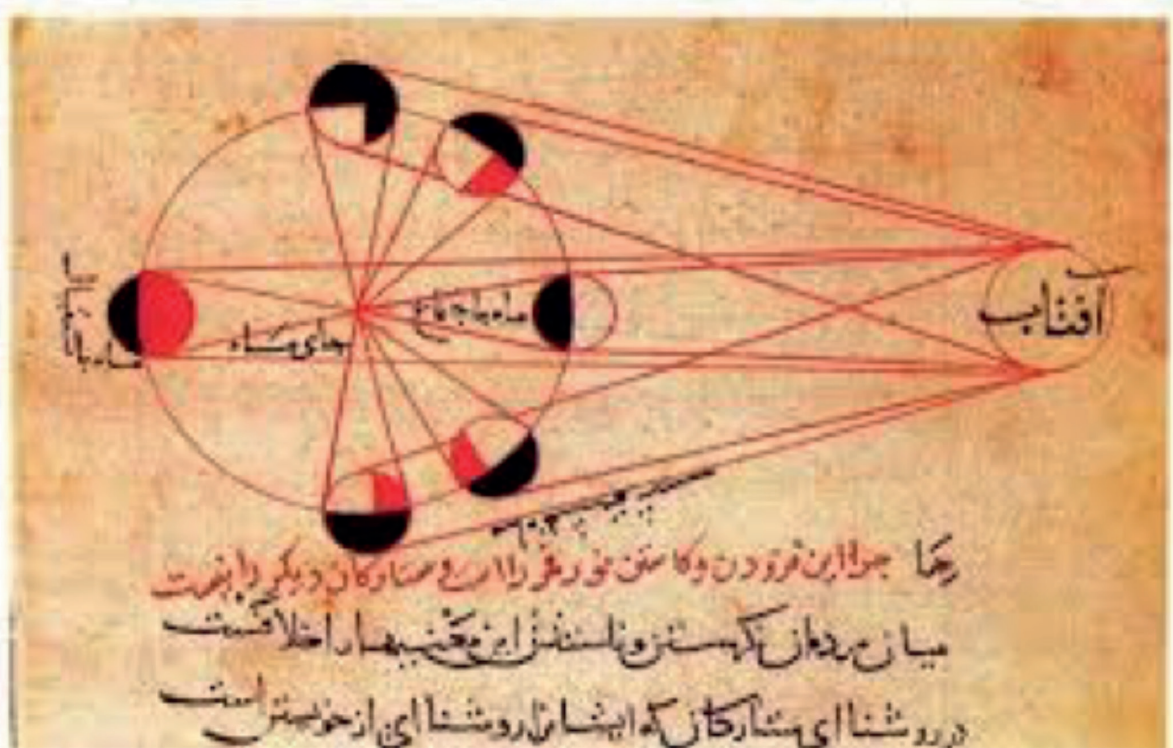
LIFE

Ali Kuşçu is one of the most noteworthy and important scientists in Turkish-Islamic world in the XVth century. He wrote invaluable works especially on astronomy and mathematics. He was a student and co-worker of the famous statesman and scientist Uluğ Bey. After Uluğ Bey's assassination Ali Kuşçu left Samarqand and went to Tabriz where he started to work for Uzun Hasan, the ruler of Akkoyunlu. While he had been working for Uzun Hasan, Ali Kuşçu was sent as a good-will ambassador to Mehmed II. Having completed his ambassadorial duty he went back to Tabriz. However, upon Mehmed II's invitation Ali Kuşçu returned to Istanbul and continued his studies and spent the last two years of his life in Istanbul working for the Ottoman Empire.

Mathematics, medicine and astronomy were the core disciplines of Islamic Science in the Ottoman Empire. There have been a number of works written on these subjects and Ali Kuşçu was the greatest astronomer-mathematician of the 15th century. He was born in Samarqand at the beginning of the 15th century and died in 1474 in Istanbul. His father was the falconer of the famous ruler and astronomer Uluğ Bey who was also Timur's grandson.

Ali Kuşçu himself was the student and co-worker of Uluğ Bey, apart from being a successful ruler, was deeply interested in science, mathematics and astronomy. He founded the Samarqand Observatory and invited famous scientists of his time to Samarqand.

With the assassination of Uluğ Bey by his own son in 1449, Ali Kuşçu stopped working for the Observatory because Uluğ Bey Ali Kuşçu had not only taken mathematics and astronomy lessons from him and but had examined Uluğ Bey's works for a long time, he had also attended Uluğ Bey's lectures and worked as his colleague.



LAGÂRİ HASAN ÇELEBİ

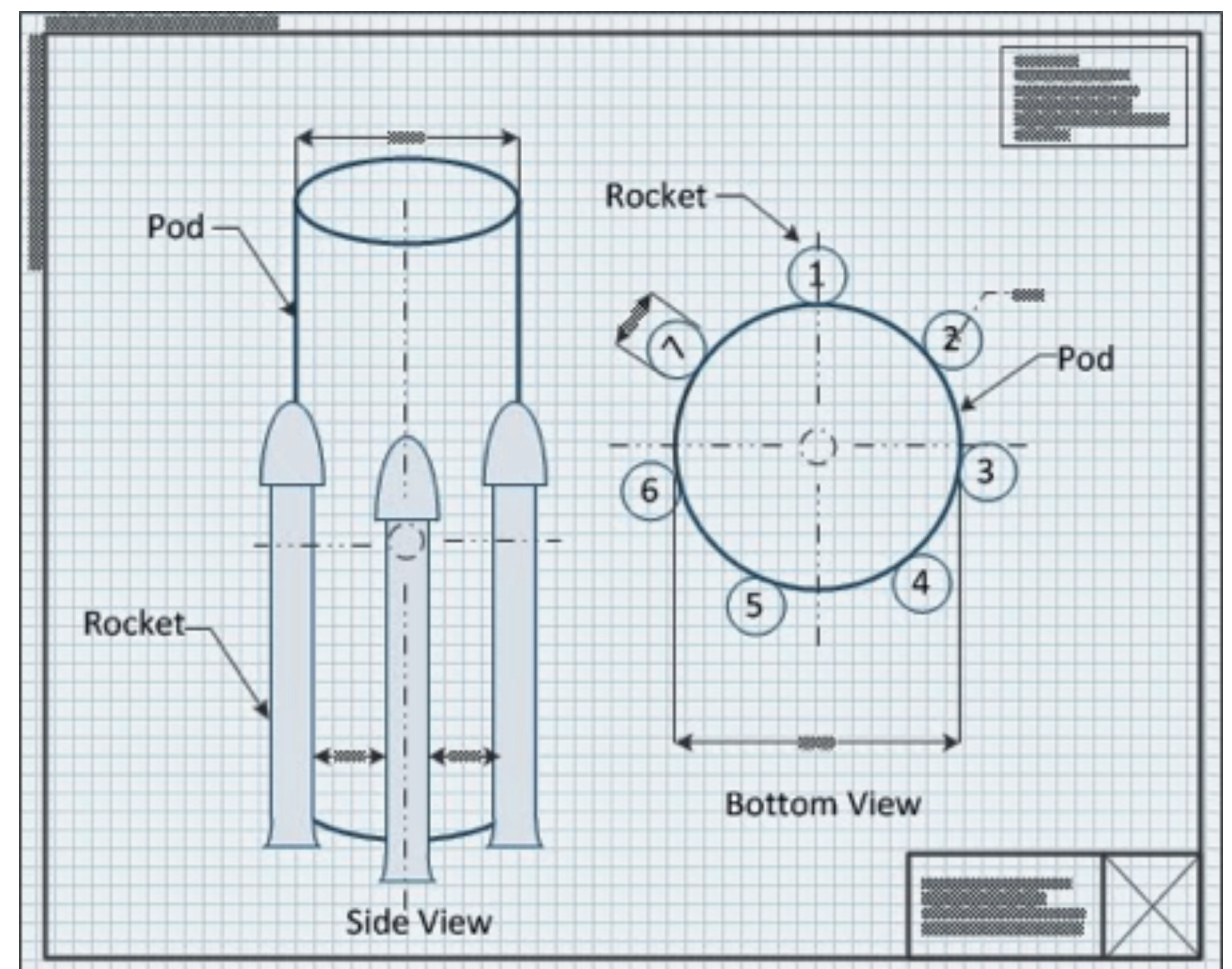
Born & Died: 1644-

LIFE

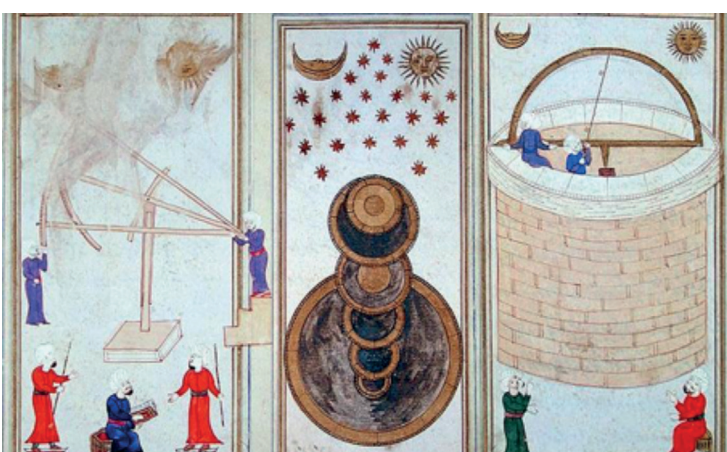
Lagari Hasan Çelebi was a legendary Ottoman aviator who, according to a sole account written by traveller Evliya Çelebi, made a successful manned rocket flight.

Evliya Çelebi purported that in 1633, Lagari Hasan Çelebi launched in a 7-winged rocket using 50 okka (140 lbs) of gunpowder from Sarayburnu, the point below Topkapı Palace in Istanbul. The flight was said to be undertaken at the time of the birth of Sultan Murad IV's daughter. As Evliya Çelebi wrote, Lagari proclaimed before launch "O my sultan! Be blessed, I am going to talk to Jesus!"; after ascending in the rocket, he landed in the sea, swimming ashore and joking "O my sultan! Jesus sends his regards to you!"; he was rewarded by the Sultan with silver and the rank of sipahi in the Ottoman army.

Evliya Çelebi also wrote of Lagari's brother, Hezarfen Ahmed Çelebi, making a flight by glider a year earlier.



Count Down to Lift Off



KORKMAZ YIGIT ANATOLIAN HIGH SCHOOL
Physics Teacher: **HATICE KIRMACI**

