



Newsletter



O.I.C. Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture
December 1998 No. 47

IN THIS ISSUE

OIC Secretary General H. E. Dr. Azeddine Laraki visited IRCICA

International symposium on *Islamic Civilisation in Caucasia*
held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan

The Second Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture,
Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco

The Fourteenth Session of IRCICA Governing Board held in Istanbul

International seminar on *Traditional Carpets and Kilims in the Muslim World*
to take place in Tunisia

Cultural events

Cultural data on OIC member countries
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – statistics, list of institutions

Institutions

* *Beyazit State Library, Istanbul*

IRCICA Activities

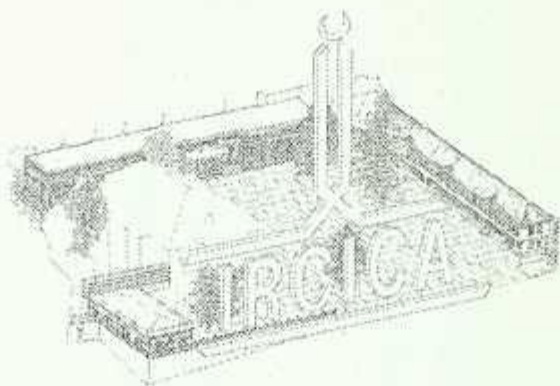
Book Survey

Activities of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH)

News of heritage preservation activities in the Member States

The Fourth International Baghdad Festival for Arabic Calligraphy
and the Islamic art of illumination

Lectures and exhibitions in Abu Dhabi and Sharjah, United Arab Emirates



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We were most honoured and pleased to receive OIC Secretary General His Excellency Dr. Azeddine Laraki on our premises in November 1998. We were given an excellent opportunity to present to H. E. the Secretary General first-hand information about IRCICA's activities. This issue of the Newsletter highlights the Secretary General's visit. It also includes an introductory article about the General Secretariat's new publication *Al-Mootamar*, an excellent medium of information about the activities of the OIC, the General Secretariat and H. E. the Secretary General, as well as on news concerning the Member States.

One of the main headings in this issue is the International Symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in Caucasia" which was held in Baku under the patronage and in the presence of His Excellency Heydar Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The first of its kind to be organised in Caucasia, the symposium was qualified by university circles as a major event in its field. It was extensively covered by the international press. Notably, H. E. President Aliyev's important patronage and close support of the symposium, as well as the valuable efforts of the national organising committee chaired by Deputy Prime Minister H. E. Dr. Elçin Efendiyev, the Azerbaijan Academy of Science and all other institutions that were involved, were significant manifestations of Azerbaijan Republic's interest in promoting Islamic studies and contributing to the cultural and scholarly activities of the OIC that IRCICA's mission encompasses. As regards IRCICA's work plans, the organisation of this symposium and the forthcoming publication of its proceedings are major advances in its wide-scale research project entitled "The History of Muslim Nations". Other regions of the Muslim world already covered within the framework of this project include South Asia, Southeast Asia, West Africa, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Governing Board of IRCICA, which met last November in Istanbul, took note of the progress achieved in this field and recommended that the Centre should continue to organise symposia, research and studies about Islamic civilisation in the above and other regions of the world.

Another source of honour and pleasure for IRCICA was the participation of the Minister of Culture of Turkey, H. E. Mr. İstemihan Talay, in the Governing Board meeting. The Minister's presence was gratefully acknowledged by the Board members and was taken as a confirmation of the interest shown by the Government of Turkey, particularly by the Ministry of Culture, to IRCICA and its activities. One of the most important, concrete results of H. E. the Minister's presence at the meeting was that the Minister took note of the Centre's need for additional library and archive spaces, a subject which was brought up during the sessions. With the Minister's initiative, the necessary official procedures were started soon after the meeting. I am pleased to announce that, as this issue goes to press, the said formalities are already completed and a four-room apartment within the Yıldız Palace complex is officially allocated for the Centre's use. We are grateful to the Government of the Republic of Turkey and H. E. the Minister for their valuable assistance. The apartment shall be fitted up with the necessary equipment and used as an extension of the library and archive.

Preparations for the international congress on "Learning and Education in the Ottoman World" speed up as 12 April approaches. The congress will take place under the patronage of H. E. Süleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey. Two hundred specialists and researchers in Ottoman history will participate in this congress. We enthusiastically look forward to give you a report in the next issue of the Newsletter.

I take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to our readers for Christmas, the New Year and the Eid al-Fitr.

Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu

OIC SECRETARY GENERAL H. E. DR. AZEDDINE LARAKI VISITED IRCICA

His Excellency Dr. Azeddine Laraki, Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, visited the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) on Monday, 2 November 1998. This was an excellent opportunity to present first-hand information to H. E. the Secretary General about the Centre's activities; its research projects and publications, its library and archives. H. E. Dr. Laraki was visiting Turkey officially to attend the Fourteenth Ministerial Session of the OIC's Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC), which is chaired by H. E. Süleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey.

At IRCICA's headquarters, H. E. Dr. Azeddine Laraki received information from the Director General of IRCICA about the Centre's past and

present activities, its work plans for the future, as well as on the guidelines and methodology adopted for their implementation in accordance with IRCICA's assigned mission and objectives. Then, the Director General guided H. E. Dr. Laraki to the research departments in the Yaveran building of Yıldız Palace, where the officials concerned presented information to H. E. the Secretary General about the various projects and activities they are conducting. Then, H. E. the Secretary General visited the library, at Çit Qasr. He received information about the collections of books and periodicals and the various library services offered to visiting researchers from around the world who undertake studies about the history, the arts and culture of Muslim nations. The Secretary General also saw an exhibition of calligraphic works which was on display in the exhibition hall.



H. E. the Secretary General examined samples of the library's book collection

During the welcoming ceremony held in the conference hall, IRCICA Director General said that His Excellency the Secretary General's visit was a source of honour, happiness and encouragement for the Centre. He expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the overall progress which has been achieved in the activities of the OIC and its subsidiaries since Dr. Azeddine Laraki's taking the office at the head of the Organisation, noting that Dr. Laraki's intellectual personality and experience in different fields of international cooperation had imbued the OIC's activities with a new impulse and enthusiasm. In consequence, said Prof. Ihsanoğlu, "there is an observable increase in the member countries' interest and involvement in the work of the OIC and its subsidiaries as well as in multilateral cooperation within the OIC framework."



H. E. Dr. Laraki expressed his appreciation of Mrs. Umran Tezcan's calligraphic works and her guiding philosophy

H. E. the Secretary General took the floor, expressing his pleasure to be visiting IRCICA. He said this visit had given him the opportunity to see the concrete outcomes of remarkable scholarly activities being carried out by the Centre. Then, His Excellency Dr. Laraki recorded his impressions on the Visitors' Book, as follows:

"I visited the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) today, on 2 November 1998. I am pleased to see the precise scholarly activities which are accomplished here and to meet the ladies and gentlemen who are working with great zeal and expertise. May Allah guide us within the framework of the OIC so that we have many such scholarly and artistic activities which contribute in highlighting the assets of the Islamic culture and civilisation and their contributions to world civilisation. I congratulate the Director General and all the staff: all the ladies, gentlemen and young functionaries."

Dr. Azeddine Laraki,
Secretary General,
Organisation of the Islamic Conference



Souvenir photo with the Centre's staff

**Under the patronage of H. E. Heydar ALIYEV,
President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON
ISLAMIC CIVILISATION IN CAUCASIA
held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan**

The international symposium on *Islamic Civilisation in Caucasia* took place in Baku, on 9-11 December 1998, under the patronage and in presence of H. E. Heydar Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The symposium was jointly organised by IRCICA and a national organising committee which was chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister H. E. Dr. Elçin Efendiyev. The Azerbaijan Academy of Science was in charge of the symposium's academic aspects. The Ministry of Waqfs of the State of Kuwait and the Commission for Asian Muslims of the Kuwait Charity Society extended their collaboration for the organisation of the symposium.

The event was received with interest in scholarly circles. Its proceedings, to be published, are expected to contribute in disseminating the studies related to the various aspects of Islamic civilisation in Caucasia and promoting academic interest in this field.

The idea of this symposium was put forward and agreed upon during President Aliyev's visit to IRCICA on 9 May 1997. Following the President's visit, cooperation between the Government and cultural institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan on one hand and IRCICA on the other, was given a new impulse. A national organising committee was set up

upon the President's instructions, comprised of: state advisors, counselors and high officials at the Presidency of the Republic, the Ministers of Culture, Finance, Transport, Publishing and Information, the Mayor of Baku, university presidents, deans of faculties, the President of the Academy of Science, the President of the State Radio and Television, and other dignitaries. This was followed by a series of preparatory meetings held in the presence of the Head and members of the organising committee, including Prof. Dr. Feramez Maksudov, President of the Academy of Science, Prof. Dr. Rafik Aliyev, Director of the Center for Islamic Studies (IRSHAD), and representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

President Heydar Aliyev delivered a comprehensive address at the inaugural ceremony which took place in the conference hall of the Azerbaijan Academy of Science. Addresses were also delivered by H. E. Dr. Elçin Efendiyev, Deputy Prime Minister; Dr. Allahshukur Pashazade, Sheikh ul-Islam of Azerbaijan and Head of the Religious Council of Caucasia; Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA. Prof. Dr. Cemil Guliyev, Vice-President of the Azerbaijan Academy of Science, represented the Academy at the inaugural ceremony.



H.E. President Aliyev delivered a comprehensive address



H.E. President Aliyev received Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu and Dr. Halit Eren for a meeting



IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu delivering his address at the inaugural session

In his address, President Aliyev expressed his happiness that the idea of the symposium, which was discussed and agreed upon with Prof. Ihsanoğlu at IRCICA last year, had materialised. The President traced the history and elaborated upon the expansion of Islamic civilisation in the region, its achievements and its contributions to world civilisation. He said that the people of Azerbaijan, with its history, its national and civilisational values and its mother tongue, is proud to belong to the Islamic religion, civilisation and moral system. Recalling the key role played by the people of Azerbaijan in the expansion of Islamic civilisation in the region, he said that among the peoples of Islamic faith who settled in Caucasia, around Caucasia and in Central Asia, the people of Azerbaijan gave the example of a people of modern vision whose own civilisation was enriched through inputs from universal human values and exchanges with other civilisations. President Aliyev said that the theme of the symposium

highlighted the position of Azerbaijan as a bridge linking Europe to Asia, the West to the East, not only geographically but also from the socio-economic, moral, cultural and political points of view. The President pointed to the research and studies that IRCICA in Istanbul, and similar institutions in the western world, are carrying out in the field of Islamic culture and civilisation. He emphasised the need to develop and expand these studies by launching projects within the framework of cultural and research institutions, and affirmed that he would always support such scholarly ventures. The President concluded his address by underscoring the importance of the symposium and wishing success to the participants.

Deputy Prime Minister H. E. Dr. Elçin Efendiyevev gave an address, in which he referred to the eternal values of Islam and described the place of Azerbaijan and its historical heritage within the framework of Islamic culture and civilisation. H. E. Dr. Efendiyevev also spoke of the active membership of Azerbaijan in the OIC, recalling the efforts made by President Aliyev to strengthen Azerbaijan's participation in the Organisation. Then, Dr. Allahshukur Pashazade pointed to the socio-cultural values and cultural heritage of the people of Azerbaijan which are an integral part of the Islamic civilisation. Referring to Azerbaijan's membership in the OIC, Dr. Pashazade recalled that the bases of cooperation between Azerbaijanian institutions and IRCICA were laid in the 1980s, even before Azerbaijan's membership in the OIC. He underlined, in this respect, that through this



The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan H. E. Mr. Teyfik Zulfikarov received Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu and Dr. Halit Eren in his office; a plaque bearing the Centre's motto was presented to H. E. the Minister

cooperation, IRCICA Director General Prof. Ihsanoğlu had contributed notably to the process of Azerbaijan's membership in the OIC.

IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Ihsanoğlu delivered an address, expressing his pleasure that the symposium convened in Baku, the most advanced city of Caucasia which represents the heritage of Islamic civilisation. Prof. Ihsanoğlu expressed his gratitude to H. E. President Aliyev for the patronage which was graciously extended to this event. Then, he described IRCICA's project to hold a scholarly symposium on this subject in Caucasia and the process which ultimately resulted in its convening in Baku. He recalled the relations which were established in the 1980s between IRCICA and the institutions of Azerbaijan, in particular the Academy of Science. He referred to his different visits to Azerbaijan on previous occasions, which were all fruitful, as well as to the lectures that two scholars from Azerbaijan, the late Professors Ziyaeddin Bunyatov and Cihangir Kahramanov - gave at IRCICA in 1990 upon the latter's invitation. The Director General also recalled the visit of the Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan

H. E. Mr. Polat Bülbüloğlu to IRCICA in 1996. He said this continually evolving process culminated in H. E. President Aliyev's visit to the Centre in 1997, which paved the way for this symposium. Prof. Ihsanoğlu briefed the audience about IRCICA's aims and activities, in particular its research project on the history of Muslim nations, which drew the framework of this symposium.



The symposium was attended by forty researchers from ten different countries. The Centre was represented at the symposium by Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Dr. Halit Eren, and Mrs. Nükhət Varlık.

Working sessions of the symposium were held in three sections, which were organised, respectively, at the Institute of Manuscripts named after Fuzuli, the Museum of Literature named after Nizami, and the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences. Paper presentations were followed by discussions. The session themes and papers presented were as follows:

First section: Establishment of Islamic Civilisation in Caucasia

Co-Chairmen: Dr. Allahshukur Pashazade (Azerbaijan), Prof. Dr. Mehmet Saray (Turkey), Dr. Jafari Subhani (Iran). Secretary: Akif Agayev

Papers:

First session

- The "science houses" and medreses as scientific centres during the Azerbaijanian renaissance, Haji Sabir Khasanly (Azerbaijan)
- The attitude of Russians towards Islam during the Tsarism period, Mehmet Saray (Turkey)
- The historic role of Islam in the development of the Azerbaijanian culture, Mamed Adilov (Azerbaijan)
- Research in Islamic studies at the Ziya Bunyatov Institute of Oriental Studies. Joukhar Bakhshalieva (Azerbaijan)
- Participation of Azerbaijanian intellectuals in the Congress of Russian Muslims in 1905-1917, Nadir Devlet (Turkey)
- *Surahs* of the Quran and Azerbaijanian literature. Mokhsun Nagisoylu. (Azerbaijan)

Second session

- Cultural and political relations between Ural and Caucasia, I. Türkoglu (Turkey)
- Translations from the Quran in dictionaries of the middle ages, Mukaddes Payizov (Azerbaijan)
- Islam and musical arts in Azerbaijan, Afsana Babayeva (Azerbaijan)
- The influence of Islam on the social structure of Caucasus people in the XIXth century, Ufuk Tavkul (Turkey)
- The problem of literary style in Azerbaijanian treatises of the middle ages, Rena Abdullayeva (Azerbaijan)
- Relations between Shaikhi Shamil and the Ottoman Empire according to Ottoman Sources, Mustafa Budak (Turkey)
- Observations on research of Arabic philology in Caucasia. Laura Orudjeva (Azerbaijan)

Third session

- The waqfs in Azerbaijan in the Ottoman period, Husemeddin Mamedov (Azerbaijan)
- Efforts towards eliminating religious-sectarian conflicts in Azerbaijan, Halil Bal (Turkey)
- From the history of learning in Tadjwid in Azerbaijan, Vuqar Garadagli (Azerbaijan)
- The position toward Islam in the policy of Tsarist Russia in Northern Azerbaijan, Rasul Huseynli (Azerbaijan)

Second section: Material – cultural Islamic monuments in Caucasia

Co-Chairmen: Prof. Dr. Vasim Mamedaliyev (Azerbaijan), Prof. Dr. Nadir Devlet (Turkey). Secretary: Nigar Mamedova

Papers:

First session

- Azerbaijanian scholars who wrote in Arabic in the middle ages, Vasim Mamedaliyev (Azerbaijan)
- Islamic law as a value of the Islamic culture, Prof. Agababa Rzayev (Azerbaijan)
- Imam Mansur in Ottoman documents, Ali Arslan (Turkey)
- Azerbaijanian poetry in the XIVth-XVIth centuries and *Surahs* of the Quran, Aida Kasimova (Azerbaijan)
- Words of Arabic origin introduced in the language of Azeri Turks as a result of the influence of Islamic civilisation, Esra Karabacak (Turkey)
- One page of history – Fathullahi Pirvani, Cemil Akpınar (Turkey)

Second session

- The Azerbaijanian culture in the context of Islamic Civilisation, Fuad Mamedov (Azerbaijan)
- Arab poets of the IXth century who wrote about Azerbaijan, Elkhan Azizov (Azerbaijan)
- From Quranic and Sufi studies to the learned and didactical mesnevi (according to Senai's work *Hadikat-ul hakaik* and Nizami's *Mahzen-ul esrar*, Azade Rustam (Azerbaijan)
- The role of Azerbaijan in the conquest of Caucasia and the spread of Islam in the region, Al-Shahat Ibrahim al-Sayyid (Egypt)
- Azerbaijan and Derbent: concerning religious relations in the middle ages, G. Seyidova (Daghestan)

Third session

- Data base about Quran manuscripts in the CIS, Efim Rezvan (Russia)
- Regional Islam as the reflection of religion in the mode of life, Stanislav Prozorov (Russia)
- Islamic architecture in Azerbaijan, Şamil Fatullayev (Azerbaijan)

Third section: Islamic Civilisation and Contemporaneity

Co-Chairmen: Prof. Dr. Rafik Aliyev (Azerbaijan), Prof. Dr. Leonid Medvedko (Russia). Secretary: Leyla Melikova

Papers:

First session

- General aspects of the development of Islamic civilisation in Central Asia and Caucasia, Eleonora Babayeva (Uzbekistan)
- Islam and post-Soviet reality in Chechnya and Daghestan, Abdul Kerim (England)
- The past and present of Islam among the Karachay-Balkar Turks, Ismail Doğan (Turkey)
- Caucasian synthesis of early Christian-Muslim conflicts, Henry R. Houtenbah (U.S.A.)

Second session

- An introduction to research about Muslim tombs in Azerbaijan, Jean-Louis Bacqué-Grammont (France)
- Perspectives of the Islamic law culture in Caucasia, Leonid Sukiyaynen (Russia)
- The Holy Quran and Islam's peace-building function (the example of Caucasia), Yohann Rau (Germany)

Third session

- The attitude of the Tsarist Government toward Muslim religious scholars according to Ottoman documents, Cezmi Eraslan (Turkey)
- Islamic values and the people's awareness, Imamverdi Hamidov (Azerbaijan)

At the closing session chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister, the participants adopted a set of recommendations aimed at promoting scholarly studies in the field of Islamic civilisation in Caucasia and fostering cooperation between universities, research institutions and researchers. In particular, they recommended that this symposium be organised periodically once every three years and that an international research institute for Islamic studies be set up in Baku. It was also recommended that IRCICA cooperates with institutions in Russia and in Europe which are engaged in this field. The symposium proceedings will be collected and edited by Prof. Dr. Rafik Aliyev, Director of the Center for Islamic Studies (IRSHAD), in order to be published by IRCICA.

On 11 December, after the closing session of the symposium, H. E. President Aliyev received all the participants at the Presidential Palace. The President congratulated and thanked the participants for their contributions to the symposium. Then, IRCICA Director General Prof. İhsanoğlu expressed his gratitude to the Republic of Azerbaijan and H. E. the President for hosting this important scholarly event in Baku and graciously extending their patronage to it. President Aliyev emphasised the important role played

by IRCICA and Director General Prof. İhsanoğlu in the realisation of this symposium. The President elaborated upon the theme of the symposium and also spoke of the existing issues and concerns related to Caucasia and the neighbouring regions. After the reception, President Aliyev gave an audience to Director General Prof. İhsanoğlu and Dr. Halit Eren to discuss future prospects of cooperation between Azerbaijan and IRCICA. It was agreed in principle that a second symposium be organised in the year 2000.

IRCICA Director General and Dr. Halit Eren were also received by H. E. Dr. Elçin Efendiyev, Deputy Prime Minister of Azerbaijan and Head of the national organising committee (10 December), H. E. Tevfik Zulfikarov, Minister of Foreign Affairs (11 December), Prof. Dr. Feramez Maksudov, President of the Azerbaijan Academy of Science, and Prof. Dr. Cemil Guliyev, Vice-President of the Academy (11 December). The symposium was followed with interest by the national and international media organs. Interviews were given by the organisers to various press and TV representatives.

It is hoped that this symposium and its follow-up activities will encourage further studies and scholarly activities relating to the history of Islamic civilisation in Caucasia and in other regions of the world.

THE SECOND ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE held in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, 12-14 November 1998

The Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers held its second session in Rabat, on 12-14 November 1998, under the high patronage of His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, and at the joint invitation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO, Rabat). The main purpose of this session was to examine and discuss possible mechanisms for the implementation of the "Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World", which was adopted by the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference (Dakar, Senegal, 1991).

The inaugural session heard the Message of H. M. King Hassan II which was read by H. E. Mr. Mohammed El Achaari, Minister of Cultural Affairs of Morocco. The Royal Message conveyed His Majesty's greetings to the participating Ministers of the Member States and expressed the happiness of His Majesty that Morocco should host their conference. The Royal Message also highlighted the paramount importance of the conference, the mission of culture and its role in today's world as well as in boosting development efforts in modern societies. Following the lecture of the Royal Message, H. E. Mr. Abdullah Eliman Kane, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Senegal and Chairman of the First Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, gave an address, recalling the efforts exerted by the President of Senegal H. E. Mr. Abdou Diouf in pursuance of the resolutions of the first conference, and highlighted the importance of cultural action within the framework of Islamic solidarity. The Minister called for further promoting cooperation among the OIC member countries in the cultural field particularly, and in all other fields at large.

H. E. Dr. Azeddine Laraki, Secretary General of the OIC, delivered an address in which he expressed his gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, for his patronage of the conference as well as his unflagging interest in the causes of the Muslim world and his steady efforts in defence of its sanctities and the unity and cohesion of its member countries. Dr. Laraki praised the action undertaken by the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs chaired by H. E. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, in conjunction with the OIC General Secretariat and ISESCO, to prepare the file of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World. The Secretary General of the OIC emphasised

the importance of highlighting the role of Islamic culture in building and enriching human civilisation, in contributing to shaping the contemporary world culture, and monitoring the interaction of the Muslim world with other cultures.

Then, H. E. Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of ISESCO, delivered an address in which he spoke of the factors that made the conference a real instrument of support to joint Islamic action in the cultural field. He also underlined the necessity of making further efforts with a view to providing the necessary means for implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World.

Addresses were delivered by the Ministers of the Member States and the representatives of Islamic and other international organisations. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA, gave an address at the inaugural session, in which he reviewed the activities undertaken by the Centre in various fields, in particular those related to fostering intellectual dialogue between peoples from different cultures in order to present a true image of Islamic civilisation, correct existing biases and misinterpretations about it, and highlight its contributions to world civilisation. IRCICA Director General also reviewed the Centre's contributions to the preparation of the Cultural Strategy document and its cooperation with the OIC's General Secretariat and affiliated organs to study the mechanisms for the Strategy's implementation. He affirmed the Centre's readiness to undertake the tasks it would be assigned in this field by drawing from its accumulated experience.

The conference discussed various items pertaining to the development of practical and flexible mechanisms for the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World in such a way as to achieve the objectives aspired and contribute efficiently to the cultural development of the Muslim world. The discussions took into consideration the cultural realities of Muslim countries as well as the requirements of the coming phases of general cultural action. They focused on the future prospects through a comprehensive exploration of the nature of cultural action and the social, economic and cultural realities in the Muslim world.

Recalling the importance of dialogue in the contemporary world and the prominent position it occupies in the Islamic civilisation, and in view of the fact that the initiative taken by Dr. Muhammad Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Chairman of the Eighth Islamic Summit, to proclaim the year 2001 as the Year of Dialogue among Civilisations has been fully endorsed and supported by the United Nations Organisation, the conference declared its full support and endorsement of that historic initiative. It declared, also, its adoption of that essential approach to interaction with different cultures world-wide, and voices its readiness to join the international community in the proclamation by the UN of the year 2001 as the Year of Dialogue among Civilisations.

The conference issued a resolution on the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, emphasising the follow-up work related to the mechanisms of its implementation in cooperation with the competent authorities of the Member States in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat. The conference also requested the pertinent OIC bodies and organs to seek funding sources in order to support the application of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World.

IRCICA was represented at the conference by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General, and Mr. Ahmed Lajimi, Director of the Cabinet. During the conference period, the Centre's delegation met with the Ministers of Culture and heads of delegations to review the state of cultural and academic cooperation between the Member States' institutions and IRCICA and explore ways of further promoting this cooperation. The Centre's delegation also visited the Ministry of

Trade, Industry and Handicrafts of the Kingdom of Morocco, where a meeting was held with H. E. Dr. Hassan Al-Maou'ni, Secretary of State in charge of handicrafts. The discussions revolved around the cooperation which exists in this field between the Ministry and IRCICA as well as its future prospects. During the meeting, and in presence of H. E. the Secretary of State and a great number of high officials of the Ministry, an Agreement for Cooperation between IRCICA and the International Centre for the Promotion of Crafts (CIPA, Fez) was signed by IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu and Mr. Omar Amine Benabdallah, Director of CIPA.

During the period of the conference, the Centre's delegation was received by H. E. Dr. Mohamed Guedira, Governor of Rabat; the discussions focused on the possibility of realising common projects. The delegation was also received by Mrs. Aicha Kabbage, Director for international organisations at the Ministry of External Affairs and Cooperation. This was an opportunity for IRCICA Director General to brief Mrs. Kabbage about the Centre's various activities and future projects; Mrs. Kabbage affirmed the Ministry's support of the Centre's activities in view of helping it achieve its assigned objectives.

During the conference, IRCICA Director General was given an excellent opportunity to meet with H. R. H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Head of the Delegation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Chairman of the OIC International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH). Discussions at this meeting were related primarily to developing the activities of the Commission and fixing dates for the Commission's forthcoming meeting.



Signing of the cooperation agreement between CIPA and IRCICA in the presence of H. E. Dr. Hassan Al-Maou'ni, Secretary of State in charge of Handicrafts. On the right of Dr. Al-Maou'ni is Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, and on his left, Dr. Omar Amine Benabdallah, Director of CIPA, and Mr. Ahmed Lajimi (IRCICA)

FOURTEENTH SESSION OF IRCICA GOVERNING BOARD IRCICA, Istanbul, 20-22 November 1998

The Governing Board of IRCICA held its Fourteenth Session at the Centre's headquarters in Yıldız Palace, Istanbul, on 20-22 November 1998. The session was inaugurated in the presence of H. E. Mr. Istemihan Talay, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Turkey. The following members of the Governing Board were present at the session: Princess Wijdan Ali (Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan); Raja Fuziah bte Raja Tun Uda (Malaysia); Sheikh Salman Al-Dawud Al-Salman Al-Sabah (State of Kuwait); Prof. Dr. Ihsan Doğramacı (Republic of Turkey); Ambassador Dr. Omar Jah, Chairman of the Board (Republic of Gambia); Dr. Abdullah Hasan Masry (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia); Ambassador Dr. Shahid Hossain (Islamic Republic of Pakistan); Prof. Dr. Abdul Hafidh Helmy Muhammed (Arab Republic of Egypt); Mr. Omar Amine Benabdallah (Kingdom of Morocco); Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA. Mr. Ahmed Tazi, Deputy Director of the Cabinet and representative of H. E. the Secretary General of OIC, and Ambassador Ahmed Ali Ghazali, Director of Cultural Affairs at the OIC General Secretariat, were present at the session. The following members of IRCICA Management Committee also attended the session: Dr. Hidayet Y. Nuhoglu, Ms. Zeynep Durukal, Mr. Ahmed Lajimi, Mr. Mohammed Tamimi, Mr. Nazih Maarouf, Dr. Halit Eren, Mr. Erol Öcalır, Ms. Turuncan Kevser and Dr. Yumna Özer.

IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu gave an opening address, expressing his gratitude to H. E. Mr. Istemihan Talay, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Turkey, for participating in the session. The Director General said that the continuous support being extended by the Ministry of Culture to the Centre was acknowledged with appreciation and gratitude by all OIC bodies. He welcomed the representatives of the OIC General Secretariat and thanked the Chairman and the members of the Governing Board for their invaluable contributions to the Centre's work. Prof. Ihsanoğlu expressed his deep appreciation to H. E. the Secretary General of the OIC for his constructive guidance of the Centre's activities as was manifested once again in the Secretary General's recent visit to the Centre. IRCICA Director General briefed the members about activities accomplished by the Centre which aimed at responding to the needs of the Islamic world and keeping abreast with international developments in the cultural arena. He recalled the appreciation expressed by various Islamic conferences for the Centre's activities. Prof. Ihsanoğlu also spoke of the IRCICA Award for Excellence in Research and the Centre's intention to distribute the third group of awards to prominent scholars who rendered notable services to Islamic culture and civilisation, in conformity with a previous decision of the Governing Board to the effect that the award be institutionalised as a periodical event.



H. E. Mr. Istemihan Talay, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Turkey, attended the session (third from the right)



The Minister of Culture H. E. Mr. İstemihan Talay received information on the Centre's activities

Then, Dr. Omar Jah, Chairman of the Board, conveyed his thanks, on behalf of IRCICA Governing Board and himself, to H. E. the Minister of Culture and the Government of the Republic of Turkey for their continuous support of the Centre since its establishment. In this context, he pointed out the vital role Turkey plays in international relations, in the Islamic world and within the framework of the OIC. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of the OIC General Secretariat and the two new members of the Board, Sheikh Salman Dawud Al Sabah and Prof. Dr. Abdul Hafidh Helmy Muhammed, who were attending the Board session for the first time.

H. E. Mr. İstemihan Talay, Minister of Culture of Turkey, delivered a speech in which he expressed his pleasure to be attending the Fourteenth Session of IRCICA Governing Board. He underlined that his presence reflected the Turkish Government's appreciation of the Centre's contributions to studies on Islamic history, art and culture. The Minister commended the important role IRCICA Director General plays with the help of his good network of relations in Turkey and other Muslim countries, and said that this places the Centre among the well-known institutions of the world. H. E. the Minister indicated that the Centre had been working successfully for eighteen years as an effective institution promising many achievements in future. He affirmed that the Government of Turkey would continue to support the Centre in all fields of its activities.

The Board discussed and approved the report presented by the Director General of IRCICA about the Centre's accomplishments, its work program for the current year, and its future projects. The Governing Board expressed its appreciation of activities undertaken by the Centre since the Thirteenth Session of the Board (Amman, November 1996), commending the progress made in research and publications, the holding of a number of symposia, cultural lectures and exhibitions at the Centre's headquarters and in the member states. The Board also observed with appreciation that many projects were realised by the Centre in cooperation with cultural and academic institutions in the member states and world-wide. In particular, the Board recommended that the Centre foster its activities aimed at supporting dialogue between people from different cultures.

One of the working sessions was devoted to the activities aimed at restoring and preserving the cultural and architectural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Arch. Dr. Amir Pasic, expert researcher at IRCICA and supervisor of the project entitled Mostar 2004, briefed the Board about progress achieved in the framework of this project during the last five years. The Board members made several recommendations to help ensure further success for the project in the next five years of its implementation.

The Board considered new project proposals related to IRCICA's research programs on the history of Muslim nations living in different parts of the world. It recommended that the possibility of their implementation be explored. The Board was informed of activities being carried out in the field of Islamic arts, in the context of the history of science project, within the crafts development program, and under other broad project titles. At the last working session, the Board elected Prof. Dr. Abdul Hafidh Helmy Muhammad (Egypt) as its Vice-Chairman. Finally, the Governing Board forwarded a cable of thanks to H. E. Süleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey, for the support and patronage extended to the Centre.



(From the right) Mr. Ahmed Tazi, Deputy Director of the Cabinet and representative of H. E. the Secretary General of OIC; Ambassador Omar Jah, Chairman of the Board; Prof. E. Ihsanoğlu, IRCICA Director General

As usual, the Governing Board meeting gave an opportunity for IRCICA Director General and his staff to consult with Board members and the representatives of the OIC General Secretariat on possible ways of further enhancing international cooperation and cultural dialogue within and outside the Muslim world.



THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON TRADITIONAL CARPETS AND KILIMS IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

to take place in Tunis, October 1999

In the framework of IRCICA's Crafts Development Program in the Muslim World, IRCICA and the Handicraft National Agency (O.N.A.) of the Ministry of Tourism and Handicraft, Tunis, are jointly organising the First International Seminar on "Traditional Carpets and Kilims in the Muslim World: Past, Present and Future Prospects for Developing this Heritage with the Continuous Changes in the Market, Design, Quality and Applied Techniques," in cooperation with MASHAREQ International Establishment, Jeddah, and in collaboration with the International Centre for the Promotion of Crafts (CIPA), Fez.

The seminar will take place in Tunis during the last week of October 1999. Under the general theme, it will address a wide spectrum of topics related to the artistic, practical and developmental aspects of the traditional carpets and kilims sector in different parts of the Muslim world. Thus, it will bring into focus such subjects as: methods and techniques implemented in carpet and kilim manufacturing, the various schools, styles and designs, inputs of raw materials, the present state and future prospects of carpets and kilims as heritage crafts, the influence of traditional Islamic carpets on European arts, as well as policy issues: various difficulties encountered in the development of this sector, the lack of qualified manpower, the need to preserve the authenticity of these crafts, among others.

This is the first international meeting devoted to the traditional carpets and kilims with such a broad scope as to cover all aspects of the sector and their bearings on cultural and economic life, as well as tourism, and heritage preservation in the OIC Member States. It will provide a forum for specialists, researchers, artisans, policy makers, planners and administrators from institutions concerned with the development of this art in the OIC Member States and around the world, to assess the present state of this sector, exchange information on the methods applied and measures taken in the respective countries, and discuss the ways and modalities of developing this craft through international cooperation in the coming decade.

Country presentations and specialised papers will highlight general and particular aspects of designs and methods, technical cooperation for developing skills, exchange of techniques for improving quality,

education and training to upgrade artisans' skills, finance, marketing and obstacles encountered, patronage and national policies, which play an important role in promoting traditional crafts. Problems and prospects to be pinpointed in paper presentations will be discussed and evaluated by the participants.

The Seminar aims to implement the following recommendations:

- * To prepare a colour catalogue of the most beautiful masterpieces of traditional carpets and kilims, to include photographs of new, creative and original products illustrating the styles and methods used. Such a catalogue will be the first documentary reference in this field and will fill a gap in library collections of most OIC countries;
- * To assess the present state of traditional carpets and kilims as part of crafts in the Muslim world and to determine the economic, social and cultural measures that need to be taken for the future development of this sector;
- * To discuss possible measures to guard against the loss of Islamic values and traditions which characterise traditional carpets and kilims and maintain the authenticity and uniqueness of the Islamic craft heritage;
- * The publication of the Seminar Report will be an immediate outcome of the seminar. It will include regional comparative overviews of the state of traditional carpets and kilims. The data and information, the issues, problems and prospects to be brought to the fore will provide the basis for developing programs of action and technical assistance and for determining a dynamic strategy for the rehabilitative commercialisation of the sector. This report will constitute a necessary tool for the concerned institutions of the OIC Member States and pave the way for future action to be undertaken by coming generations of policy-makers and specialists;
- * To develop a strategy for global cooperation in this field;
- * To organise competitions among the youth to encourage them, by means of awards and incentives, to produce new, innovative works of traditional carpets and kilims;

- * To set up a specialised library in Tunisia on traditional carpets and kilims by collecting the various publications which will be displayed in the accompanying book fairs as its nucleus;
- * To establish an international training centre in Tunisia to upgrade the skills and qualifications of craftspeople from the Member States in the field of traditional carpets and kilims and teach them the different styles and methods.

Subject areas and themes

IRCICA will provide a varied and comprehensive program focusing on 18 pertinent issues. Participants will find the opportunity to contribute new viewpoints and formulate a strategy for global cooperation.

The sub-themes will be as follows:

- 1 Traditional Carpets (Al-Zarbiya) and their development through history,
- 2 Kilims in the Member States and various schools - historical overview and development,
- 3 Successful spread of and publicity on traditional carpets and kilims in the world and their role in introducing images of the Islamic cultural heritage.

Traditional Carpets and Heritage

- 4- Designs and styles in carpets and kilims: Revival and re-use of the traditional patterns,
- 5- Revival and development of the craft of restoring old pieces of carpets and kilims,
- 6- Employment of modern technology in order to obtain a wide variety of designs and colors.

Situation of the Artisans and Development of Skills

- 7- Introducing artisans and the professional organizations,
- 8- Education, training, the role of technical cooperation and exchange of techniques applied in improving skills.

Raw Materials and Tools and their Effects on Product Quality

- 9- Materials used and their development through the ages: availability of raw materials and difficulties encountered at times and under certain circumstances,
- 10- Traditional tools used in carpets and kilims and their development.

Markets of Traditional Carpets and Kilims

- 11- Exploring new marketing opportunities: Providing the size of commercial exchange and of the labor force employed in this sector,
12. Quality and market demand: Attending to clients' tastes while keeping the spirit of tradition,
13. Negative influence of modern technology through the competition of mass industrial production with handicrafts,

14. Craft villages and experiences of the Member States.

Distribution Channels

- 15- Organising the relationship between the producer - artisan and the crafts institution - intermediary and the trader in a fair manner and the encouraging role of the promotional institutions.

Development and Promotion of the Product

- 16- Economic and financial factors involved in the development of carpets and kilims in the Muslim world and the role of Government and Patronage,
- 17- Availability and exchange of documentation on carpets and kilims in the Member States,
- 18- Study of the role of exhibitions on various levels, with a view to getting acquainted with the products of the member countries, and providing opportunities for exchange of expertise on materials, designs, techniques and cost rationalization.

Paper presentations will be followed by brief presentations by member countries and craft specialists, and then by a general discussion. The working languages of the seminar will be Arabic and English.

The participants will be: the representatives of OIC Member States, international organisations and institutions working in this field, policy makers, planners, crafts administrators, specialists and traders engaged in this field, artisans who will display their works.

Each participating country will nominate a craft specialist to present a country report on the present state of traditional carpets and kilims at the national level. Each country will also send handmade pieces of carpets and kilims and contribute colour slides, photographs, posters, brochures, books and other materials, to constitute the nucleus of an exhibition on traditional carpets and kilims.

The seminar will be accompanied by a series of attractive activities to include:

- 1- Parade of Folkloric Groups from Tunisia and other participating countries along with a group of intellectuals, writers, artists, artisans and delegates of participating countries which will carry the slogan "Revival and Preservation of Traditional Islamic Heritage". The procession to be organised under this slogan aims to create international awareness about the importance of this heritage, as well as on the dangers it faces which threaten its existence and necessitate collaboration towards taking urgent action and remedies to safeguard it.

- 2- The 17th Tunisian Salon of Creativity in Crafts: The Salon of Creativity in Traditional Crafts is considered as the most important event in this sector to be arranged in Tunis and shall also be one of the most important activities of this event. Two hundred and fifty exhibitors and creators will be participating from different Tunisian districts. Nearly fifty thousand visitors will be visiting the stands of this Salon. The various activities of the Salon aim at developing all the traditional products of the districts. This annual Salon of Creativity in Traditional Crafts is a unique event within the Tunisian economy and cultural life. It is a meeting place of creators, craftspeople and customers. It is also considered as one of the most important options which the Handicraft National Agency (O.N.A.) pays attention to in supporting the craft sector. The Salon activities include the following: A competition in creativity in the field of traditional crafts among craftspeople and creators; Display and sale of traditional crafts, made in Tunisia; Official participation from Mediterranean countries, displaying samples of their traditional crafts.
- 3- International Exhibition of Traditional Carpet and Kilim Masterpieces: An exhibition of masterpieces in traditional carpets and kilims will be displayed, presenting the different types, designs and styles applied in various regions of OIC countries, which will also include workshops for craftspeople to display their works in specially designed exhibition pavilions at work.
- 4- Site Visits to see the Workshops of Traditional Carpet and Kilim Artisans: The program will include site visits to see master artisans of traditional carpets and kilims displaying their skills, applied techniques and products.
- 5- Exhibition of Cultural Publications and Materials: Displays of cultural products, audio and video films, and publications from the member states, on arts, folklore, crafts and local culture.
- 6- Folkloric Performances and Popular live concerts from Tunisia and other OIC Countries will include attractive performances, showing different traditional characteristics of these groups.
- 7- A Program of Cultural Tours: The Ministry of Tourism and Handicraft, Tunisia, will organise trips to the most important historical places in the host country, to work sites of craftspeople, and some other sites.

Applications and Deadline:

Each completed registration form must reach the International Coordinator by the end of April 1999 at the latest. Additional information on travel, accommodation and local transport can be obtained from the International Coordinator.

Seminar coordinators:

International Coordinator:

Mr. Nazih Maarouf,
Head, Crafts Development Program,
IRCICA, Yıldız Palace, P.O. Box 24,
80692 Beşiktaş, Istanbul, Turkey,
Tel: (00-90-212) 2591742 Ext. 115, Fax: (00-90-212) 258 4365

National Coordinator:

Mrs. Manjia Mahjoubi,
President and Director General, Handicraft National Agency (O.N.A.),
Den den 2011, Tunis, Tunisia,
Tel: 216 -1 610919.

International Colloquium on "Arab Jerusalem's Future" to take place in Casablanca

The Euro-Arab Centre for Studies (Paris) will devote its seventh international Fax: 216 -1 610 922, Telex: 15.238colloquium to the theme "Arab Jerusalem's Future". The international colloquium will take place under the high patronage of His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco and Chairman of the OIC's Al-Quds Committee, in Casablanca, Morocco, on 23-25 February 1999. The Euro-Arab Centre for Studies will organise it with the cooperation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the European Commission, the League of Arab States, the Islamic Development Bank, and the World Muslim League. The colloquium addresses to all those who belong to the fields of private or public committees, organisations and administrations, regional and international financial institutions, as well as academics, researchers, experts and journalists from around the world. Almost all the speakers are from among those who closely followed the development of the Jerusalem conflict and participated in it in different ways. The inaugural session will hear the Royal Address by H. M. King Hassan II, followed by the addresses of the President of Palestine H. E. Mr. Yasser Arafat, OIC Secretary General H. E. Dr. Azeddine Laraki, the Secretary General of the League of Arab States H. E. Dr. Ahmad Ismat Abdel Maguid, the Secretary General of the French-Speaking Countries Organisation H. E. Dr. Boutros Boutros Ghali, and the President of the Euro-Arab Centre for Studies Dr. Saleh B. Al-Tayar. The session topics will be as follows: Jerusalem's status within monotheistic religions; Jerusalem throughout Muslim and Arab future visions; Jerusalem from the standpoint of international legislation and agreements; Jerusalem's future within international diplomacy; Jerusalem's future within Middle East diplomacy; Jerusalem within the media context; Role for investments and development for the safeguard of Jerusalem. H. E. Dr. Idriss Al-Dhahak, Chairman of the Supreme Court of Morocco and President of the Consultative

Council of Human Rights in Morocco, will address the closing session and read the final communique and recommendations. More information can be obtained from the Euro-Arab Centre for Studies, Paris, France, fax: 0153574331; <http://www.ceea.com>.

Kyrgyz novelist Cengiz Aytmatov on his 70th anniversary: an international symposium held in Ankara

An international symposium was organised by the Atatürk Cultural Centre under the high patronage of the President of the Republic of Turkey to celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the world-famous Kyrgyz novelist Cengiz Aytmatov. The symposium took place in Ankara, on 8-10 December 1998. Twenty-nine papers were presented by scholars and researchers from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey and Uzbekistan. These studies highlighted many aspects of Aytmatov's works: their importance in world culture, their conformity with scenario techniques, their reflection of the Turkic peoples' cultures, his various novels and analysis of their main characters, his political views and writings, nature and environment as reflected in his novels, allegoric and mythological elements in his works.

Aytmatov was born in the Şeker Kirovski village of Kyrgyzstan in 1928. He wrote and published his first works while he was a student at the Agricultural Institute from where he graduated in 1953. Then, he studied at the Gorki Institute in Moscow to upgrade his skills and techniques in authorship. In 1957, he was admitted to the Union of Soviet Writers. Later, he became the Secretary General of that Union, and also President of the Union of Kyrgyz Film Producers. Aytmatov wrote his works in his native language and in Russian. He became well-known shortly after his first long story *Cemile*, published in 1958, was translated into world languages. His novels tell a lot about the lives of ordinary people, hardships of the World War II period, the meaning of life, with an extensive usage of allegoric elements.

International symposium: Ibn Rushd (Averrhoes) commemorated on the 800th anniversary of his death

In the framework of the celebration programs of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Republic of Turkey, an international symposium was organised in Istanbul to commemorate the illustrious philosopher Ibn Rushd on the occasion of the eight-hundredth anniversary of his death. The symposium took place on 11-13 December. It was jointly organised by the University of Marmara (Istanbul), the Centre for Islamic Studies of the Turkish Religious Waqf, the German Cultural Institute (Goethe Institut), Orient Institut (Istanbul) of the German Oriental Society, and the French Institute in Istanbul. Thirty scholars and researchers participated in the symposium, from Egypt, France, Germany, Lebanon, United Kingdom, U.S.A. and Turkey. The papers presented at the symposium addressed various topics highlighting the life, the works, the contributions and the influence of Ibn Rushd, who is known as "the thinker who enlightened the West". The inaugural session heard addresses by the President of Marmara University Prof. Dr. Ömer Faruk Batırel, the Dean of the Faculty of Theology of Marmara University Prof. Dr. Mustafa Fayda, the Director of Orient Institut Dr. Angelika Neuwirth, the Director of the French Institute Mr. Philippe Pialoux, the Head of Marmara University's Department of Philosophy and Religious Sciences Prof. Dr. Bekir Karlıağa, and the Head of the Centre for Islamic Studies Dr. Azmi Özcan. The session topics were as follows: "The thought of Ibn Rushd", "The background of Ibn Rushd's thought", "The philosophy of Ibn Rushd", "Ibn Rushd's critics", "Ibn Rushd in jurisprudence", and "Ibn Rushd in our time". The keynote address at the inaugural session was delivered by Prof. Seyyid Hussain Nasr from George Washington University,

U.S.A., and the concluding address, by Prof. Dr. Mehmet Aydın, Dean of the Faculty of Theology of 9 Eylül University (Izmir).

Ibn Rushd, known in the Western world as Averrhoes, was born in Cordoba, the capital city of Andalusia, in 1126. He studied medicine and philosophy. He was introduced by the well-known Andalusian philosopher Ibn Tufeyl to the sovereign of the time, Abu Ya'kub Yusuf. With his encouragement, Ibn Rushd studied the works of Aristotle for a period of about ten years and wrote treatises explaining them. He authored many medical works himself, and wrote explanations for more than ten treatises by the famous medical scientist Galenos. Ibn Rushd also wrote over eighty ground-breaking treatises on religion, logic, philosophy, jurisprudence, Arabic language and literature. Among his most well-known works are *Tahafut al-Tahafut* (The incoherence of the incoherence), which he wrote as a response to Imam Ghazali's *Tahafut al-Falasifa*, *Fasl al-Makal fi ma beyn al-Shariati wa'l-Hikmat min al-Ittisal* (Decisive word on the relation between religion and science), and *Al-Kashfu an Menahi'l al-delil* (Explanation on the methods of providing evidence), which reflect his approaches to fundamental problems of Islamic thought such as the relationship between the revelation and the intellect, religion and science, belief and philosophy, perception of reality, immortality of the soul, eternity of the universe and continuity of the creation. Ibn Rushd died in Marakesh in 1198. His works, which were translated into Latin and Hebrew twenty years after his death, were highly influential in Europe starting from mid-thirteenth century and generated a current of thought which came to be known as "Averrhoism". Among those scientists who were inspired by Ibn Rushd are Tycho Brahe, Copernicus and Galileo; the German Emperor Frederick II was influenced by his ideas about medicine and philosophy. This current of thought retained its importance until the Renaissance and even until the beginning of the eighteenth century.

Conference on Islam and Human Rights in Post-Communist Europe to take place in Sofia

The Center for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University, the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, the New University of Bulgaria, and the International Center for Minority Studies and Intercultural Relations will jointly sponsor an international conference on "Islam and Human Rights in Post-Communist Europe" to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 15-17 March 1999. Papers to be presented at the conference will address the following issues:

- political, social and legal perspectives: Islam and pluralism, Islam and the state, Islam and rights theory;
- the contemporary situation: Christianity, Islam, ethnicity and rights in Western and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, including such topics as: European countries with new Muslim minorities, i.e. Western Europe; European countries traditionally having Muslim minorities, i.e. Russia, the Balkan countries; non-Muslim minorities in countries with Muslim majorities, i.e. Central Asia, Azerbaijan, Turkey;
- diversity within Islam: tradition and new Islamic movements;
- religion, rights and new conflicts in post-communist Eastern Europe, with special attention to Chechnia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo;
- religious freedom and tolerance: theological perspectives from the Abrahamic faiths, i.e. Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Part of the papers will be in the form of country-specific case studies. The international coordinator for the conference is Dr. Elizabeth Cole, Center for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University, Fax: 212.854 6785, and the European Coordinator, Ms. Desislava Simeonova, Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, Sofia, Fax: 3592.51 6289.

International Seminar on "The Place of Cyprus within world cultural structure and changing balances" organised by the European University of Lefke

An international scholarly seminar on "The Place of Cyprus within world cultural structure and changing balances" was organised by the European University of Lefke, Cyprus Science Foundation, in Lefke, on 14-16 December. More than thirty scholars and media representatives from Egypt, France, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, The Netherlands, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus attended the seminar. The papers presented at the seminar were related to the following topics: "The strategic importance of Cyprus in terms of history, religion and politics", "The reflection of political developments in Cyprus and a possible solution for the region", "The importance and contributions of the confederation proposal by President Denktas on the efforts to find a just and lasting solution to the Cyprus problem", "The importance of Cyprus before and after a solution", "The civilisations which passed through Cyprus, their effects and traces", "Islamic existence on the island, its history and traces", "The place of Cyprus and its strategic importance in the Islamic and Arab world", "The realities of the Cyprus problem and the possibilities for a solution within the world's changing balances", "Perception of the Cyprus problem by the Islamic and the Arab worlds and their solidarity with the Turkish Cypriot people". His Excellency President Rauf Denktas, addressed the inaugural session, emphasising that the Muslim community of Northern Cyprus continues to struggle for its causes, among which is the preservation of the 400 years-old presence of the Islamic culture and heritage in the island. President Denktas said that if the equilibrium which was set in Cyprus by the 1960 Constitution had not been destroyed, it would

have been possible to ensure peaceful coexistence and Cyprus would have already assumed an important role in the progress of world culture. H. E. Denktaş said that they wish Cyprus become a bridge of peace, culture and stability between the Christian and Muslim worlds. The inaugural ceremony also heard the addresses of Prof. Dr. Mesut Ayan, President of the European University of Lefke, Mr. Tahsin Ertuğruloğlu, Advisor to the Prime Ministry, who spoke on behalf of Prime Minister H. E. Mr. Derviş Eroğlu, and Dr. Halit Eren, Head of the Library and Archive Department of IRCICA. Dr. Eren briefed the audience about the Centre's activities aimed at assessing Islamic cultural heritage assets everywhere in the world and contributing to their preservation. He said that a number of such projects had already been completed by the Centre and that one of them was the *Catalogue of Islamic Manuscripts in Cyprus* published in 1995. The seminar was attended by a great number of researchers and press representatives. The address for correspondence: European University of Lefke, Fax: 90.392.2284847, 90.392.2287641.

Nineteenth International Congress of Historical Sciences at the University of Oslo, in August 2000

The University of Oslo will host the Nineteenth International Congress of Historical Sciences in Oslo, capital city of Norway, on 6-13 August 2000. The congress is organised by the International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS) which has its headquarters in Lausanne and secretariat in Paris, and at the national level, by a Norwegian Organising Committee, whose

members are drawn from major academic institutions of Norway. The ICHS, which was officially established in 1926, brings together historians representing all branches of specialisation within the field and seeks to develop the knowledge and practice of historical sciences through international cooperation. ICHS is composed of national committees (fifty-six as of today), affiliated international organisations, and internal commissions. The program of the Nineteenth International Congress of Historical Sciences will consist of forty-eight sessions, three major themes, twenty special sessions, and twenty-five round-table sessions. The first of the three major themes is: "Perspectives on global history: concepts and methodology". It will cover the following topics: "Is universal history possible?" and "Cultural encounters between continents over the centuries". The second major theme is: "Millennium, time and history", to address "The construction and division of time: periodisation and chronology" and "Eschatology, millenarian movements and visions of the future". As to the third theme, it is: "The uses and misuses of history and the responsibility of the historians, past and present". On the other hand, the themes of specialised sessions will include an assessment of XXth-century historiography, scientific discoveries, Muslim societies over the centuries, Christian missions, religion and gender, minority cultures, religions and regionalisation. As to round tables, they are envisaged to cover topics such as the media and historical research, broadcasts as sources for history, the teaching of history, historical writings on the Cold War period, historical journals between generalist approach and specialisation, tourism and history, among others. It is noteworthy that this large-scale scholarly event will coincide with the 1000th anniversary of the city of Oslo.

CULTURAL DATA ON OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES

This section presents summary information reflecting some aspects of cultural life in the OIC member countries. Sets of information drawn from the Centre's data files of statistical indicators and directories of cultural institutions are published here as brief country surveys. The purpose is to disseminate part of the data that is being collected in the framework of the Centre's projects entitled International Directory of Islamic Cultural Institutions and Studies on the Cultural Dimensions of Development in the OIC Member States, and to invite the concerned countries to assist the Centre in updating the information published here. Below are summary statistics concerning the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and a list of the cultural institutions.

SAUDI ARABIA

Summary information*

Area	2,149,690 sq. km.
Population (1996)	18,840,000
Av. annual pop. growth	3.2%
Share of urban population	83 %
Population density	8.7 inhabitants per sq. km.
Share of Muslim population	95 %
Capital city	Riyadh (pop.: 2,500,000 inhabitants)
Major cities	Jeddah, Mecca, Medina, Taif, Dammam, Dhahran
Adult literacy rate (1995)	62.85%
School enrolment ratios (1994)	First level: Gross: Male 78%, Average 75%; Net: Male 65%, Average 61% Second level: Gross: Male 54%, Average 49% Net: Male 38%, Average 34% Third level: Gross: Male 14.1, Average 13.7%
Student/teacher ratios	First level: 13.3 (1995), Second level: 13 (1995)
Number of periodical publications	Newspapers: 8 in Arabic, 3 in English Other periodicals: around one hundred magazines of different frequencies
Libraries	National Library, Riyadh; 8 university libraries; 6 specialised libraries of institutions; 4 public libraries

Cultural institutions

Learned Societies and Institutions

Arab Bureau of Education
for the Gulf States
POB 3908, Riyadh 11481

Association of Arab Universities
POB 2873, Riyadh

Centre for Research in
Arabic Language
Umm al-Qura University (IRRIH)
POB 1034, Makkah al-Mukarramah

Centre for Research in
Islamic Education
Umm Al-Qura University
POB 1034, Makkah Al-Mukarramah

Centre for Research in
Islamic Studies
Umm Al-Qura University
POB 1034, Makkah Al-Mukarramah

Centre for Research in
Social Sciences
Umm Al-Qura University
POB 1034, Makkah Al-Mukarramah

Dhahran Ahliyya Schools
Dammam 31422
P.O.Box 5162

Department of Libraries
POB 170, Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

Department of Research
and Programs
Ministry of Education, Riyadh

Forum for Social Studies
POB 19400,
Jeddah 21435

Encyclopaedia of Makkah and Madinah
Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation
P.O.Box 14431
Jeddah 21424

General Secretariat for
Da'wa and Irshad
Riyadh

* Sources: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Ministry of Information, Foreign Information, *The March of Nation Building*, Riyadh, 1997; UNESCO; IRCICA; *World Guide to Libraries*, K. G. Saur, Munich, 1995

Umm Al-Qura University, POB 6287
Makkah al-Mukarramah

Higher Council for Promotion
of Arts and Letters
Riyadh

Institute of Public Administration
POB 205, Riyadh

Islamic University of Imam
Muhammad Ibn Saud, The
Research Centre
Al-Shemeisi, POB 18011, Riyadh 11451

Islamic Studies and Research Centre
Ministry of Islamic Affairs
Endowments Da'wah and Guidance
P.O.Box 61843
Riyadh 11575

King Abdul Aziz Research Centre
(Darat al-Malik Abdul Aziz)
POB 2945, Al-Nasiriyya, Riyadh 11461

King Abdul Aziz University
Institute of Muslim Minority Affairs
POB 8856, Jeddah

The King Faisal Center for
Research and Islamic Studies
Periodical Dept.
Al-Khayriya Complex, POB 51049
Riyadh 11543

King Faisal Foundation
80th Street Oleriya, POB 352, Riyadh

Literature and Educational
Holy Mecca Club (Makkah Al-
Mukarramah Cultural Club)
Al-Aziziyah, North of Al-Said,
Before King Abdul Aziz Bridge,
Makkah Al-Mukarramah

Organisation of Islamic
Capitals and Cities
POB 13621, Jeddah 21414

Organisation of the
Islamic Conference (OIC)
POB 178, Jeddah

Research Centre, College of Arts
King Saud University, POB 2456
Riyadh

Saudi Arabia Culture and Art Society
(Djamiyyat al-Thaqafah Wal-Funun)
POB 3659, Riyadh

World Assembly of Muslim
Youth (WAMY)
Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz Rd,
Ulaiya, POB 10845, Riyadh 11443

World Federation of Arabic
Islamic International Schools
POB 3446, Jeddah

World Federation of Arabic
Islamic International Schools
POB 3835, Riyadh

World Muslim League
(Rabitat al-'Alam al-Islami)
RABITAT
P.O.Box 537
Makkah al-Mukarramah

Libraries and Archives

National Library
(Dar al-Kutub al-Wataniyyah)
King Faisal St., Riyadh

Abbas Kattan Library
Makkah al-Mukarramah

Arif Hikmat Library
Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

Educational Library
General Directorate of Broadcasting,
Press and Publications, Jeddah

The Holy Qur'an Library
Al-Medina al-Munawwarah

Islamic University, Library
POB 170, Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

Islamic University of Al-Imam
Muhammad Ibn Saud Library
(Maktab Jamiat Al-Imam Muhammad
B. Suud Al-Islamiyyah)
Al Nasiriyya, POB 4124, Riyadh 11491

King Abdul Aziz Library
Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

King Abdul Aziz Public Library
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King Abdul Aziz University
Central Library
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POB 1540, Jeddah

King Fahd Library
POB 7572, Riyadh 11472

King Saud University, Libraries
POB 2454, Riyadh 11451

Library of Al Haram
Al-Makky Al-Cherif
Al Tayssair St., POB 3432
Makkah Al-Mukarramah

Library of Al-Haram
Al-Nabawi Al-Cherif
Al Medina Al-Munawwara

Madrasat Ahl Al Hadith Library
Makkah al-Mukarramah

Al-Mahmudiyyah Library
Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah
Maktabat Al-Houda' Ad-Diniyah

(Al-Huda Religious Library)
Masjid Faqih, Al-Aziziyah, POB 2179
Makkah al-Mukarramah

Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah
Awqaf Libraries
Al-Medina al-Munawwarah

Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah
General Library
Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

The Saudi Library
Riyadh

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Central Library
POB 1629, Makkah al-Mukarramah

Umm Al-Qura University
(Taif Campus) Central Library
Ruddaf Rd., Taif

University of King Saud
Library
PB 2454, Riyadh 11451

Museums

Department of Antiquities and Museums,
Shara Assarat Shumisi,
POB 3734, Riyadh

Masmak Museum
P.O.Box 22028
Riyadh 11495

Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography
Riyadh

Universities and Educational Institutions

Islamic University of Al-Imam
Muhammad Ibn Saud (Jami'a Al-Imam
Muhammad B. Suud Al-Islamiyya)
(Idarart Al-Jamia), Al-Nasiriyya
POB 17999, Riyadh 11494

Islamic University of Imam
Muhammad Ibn Saud, Faculty
of Arabic Language
POB 17999, Riyadh 11494

Islamic University of Imam
Muhammad Ibn Saud, Faculty
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in Abha, POB 1183, Abha

Islamic University of Imam
Muhammad Ibn Saud, Faculty
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in Qaseem, POB 1196, Qaseem

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POB 17999, Riyadh 11494

CULTURAL DATA ON OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES

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Abha
POB 1183, Abha

Islamic University of Imam
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Faculty of Sharia and Fundamentals
of Religion in Qaseem
POB 1196, Qaseem

Islamic University of Imam
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Faculty of Sharia and
Islamic Studies in Al-Ihsa
POB 1730, Al-Ihsa

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Muhammad Ibn Saud
Faculty of Sharia
POB 17999, Riyadh 11494

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Faculty of Social Sciences
Al-Malaz, Al-Zahran st.,
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POB 17999,
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Islamic University of Imam
Muhammad Ibn Saud, Higher
Institute of Islamic Da'wa in
Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah
Airport way, Near New Establishment of
Monetary,
al-Medina Al- Munawwarah

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Muhammad Ibn Saud
Higher Institute of Islamic Da'wa
POB 17999, Riyadh 11494

Islamic University of Imam
Muhammad Ibn Saud
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Islamic University at Al-Medina
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POB 170, Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

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Language and Arts
POB 170, Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

Islamic University at Al-Medina
Al-Munawwarah, Faculty of Da'wa
and Usul Al-Deen
POB 170, Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

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Cherif and Islamic Studies
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Islamic University at Al-Medina
Al-Munawwarah, Faculty of Holy
Quran and Islamic Studies
POB 170, Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

Islamic University at Al-Medina
Al-Munawwarah, Faculty of Sharia
POB 170, Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

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POB 9032, Jeddah 21413

King Abdul Aziz University
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POB 9032, Jeddah 21413

King Abdul Aziz University
Faculty of Education
Makkah Al-Mukarramah

King Abdul Aziz University
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in Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah
Al-Medina Al-Munawwarah

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POB 715, Makkah Al-Mukarramah

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Faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies
POB 715, Makkah Al-Mukarramah

Umm Al-Qura University
Taif Campus, Faculty of Education
Al-Saddad Rd., Shihar, Taif

Umm Al-Qura University
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Library Studies
Al-Saddad Rd., Shihar, Taif

Umm Al-Qura University
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Revival of Islamic Heritage
POB 1034, Makkah Al-Mukarramah

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POB 2458, Riyadh 11451

University of King Saud
Faculty of Education at Abha
Research Centre, POB 157, Abha

University of King Saud
Faculty of Arts
POB 2454, Riyadh 11451

University of King Saud
Faculty of Education
POB 2454, Riyadh 11451

University of King Saud
Institute of Arabic Language
POB 2454, Riyadh 11451

Below is introductory information about an important historical library of the Muslim world, the Beyazit Public Library in Istanbul. IRCICA expresses its thanks and appreciation to Mr. Şerafettin Kocaman, Director of Beyazit Public Library, for supplying the necessary information. The Editorial Board also thanks Mr. Mustafa Şahidi Örnek, researcher, IRCICA, for his collaboration for this section.

BEYAZIT PUBLIC LIBRARY ISTANBUL

Beyazit Public Library is located in two historical buildings surrounded by the University of Istanbul, the Beyazit Mosque and bookshops in the old part of Istanbul. It is open everyday from 8 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. except on Sunday. It serves not only as a major source of materials and documents for researchers in any field of history, culture, politics, economics and arts, but also as a venue for various cultural activities.

Beyazit Public Library is affiliated to the Ministry of Culture of Turkey. It is the first to have been set up by the state. Previously, libraries and archival institutions were established by charitable foundations. Following the establishment of the Ministry of Education in 1896, administration of these institutions was transferred from the Ministry of Waqfs to the Ministry of Education. In a first comprehensive application of the new system, Beyazit Public Library was founded in order to collect the books which were kept at some far places, mosques, tombs and suburbs, where they were threatened by loss and damage, and to render them available to those who could read and use them. But the main motive was, according to historical sources, the Palace's wish to set up a national library in Istanbul. It is also said that Sultan Abdulhamid II took personal interest in the establishment of the library. Grand Vizier Said Pasha and Minister of Education Mustafa Pasha obtained the necessary governmental decree in 1882 in order to start restorations in the public kitchen part of the Beyazit Mosque complex, which was built during 1501-1506. During the restorations, the oldest part of the library, which is used today as a reading hall, was richly decorated with artistic motifs reflecting the tastes of the time. The library was opened for use on 24 June 1884, with the name "Kütüphane-i Umumî-i Osmanî". It was reorganised and given its present name in 1962.

The library's collection was gradually enlarged and the number of users increased continuously. In order to meet its growing needs, the other buildings of the Beyazit Mosque complex were allocated to it, in 1948 and 1953 respectively; later, the Dentistry School building adjacent to the library was restored and added to its premises in 1988.

Search for books and documents can be done on computer or the cards catalogue. There are four reading halls, devoted, respectively, to rare books and documents, periodicals, newspapers, and books. The library has a complete collection of the major newspapers published in Turkey since the beginning of the century.

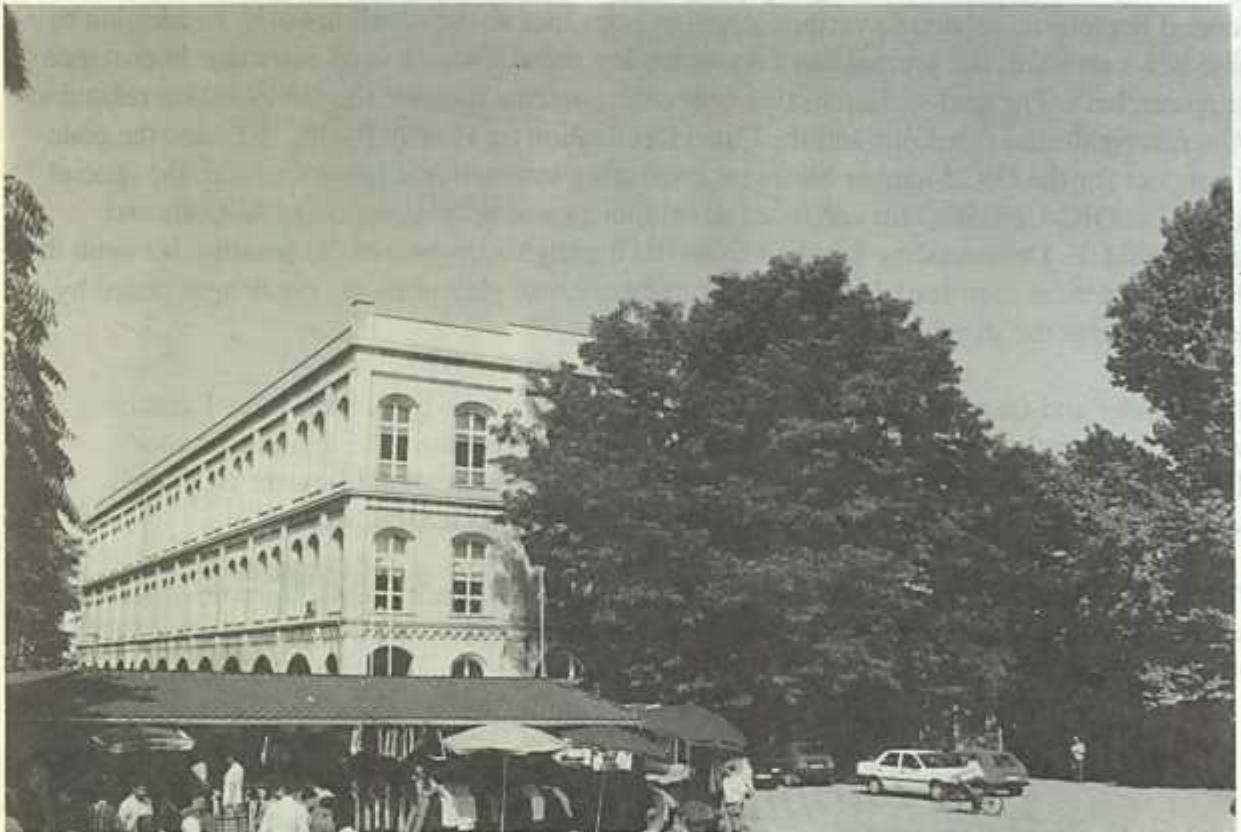
The library also has a special section for the blind and laboratories for the study of its collections of banknotes, stamps, photographs and maps.

The average annual number of researchers and readers visiting the library is fifty thousand. In addition to that, a great number of requests are received by mail, fax and telephone, and met by sending photocopies and microfiches of the needed materials. The technical services section ensures the registration, cataloguing, classification and computerised listing of new acquisitions. Another major section of the library is the binding workshop for the newspapers, books and periodicals.

INSTITUTIONS

The library organises various cultural activities such as lectures, panel discussions, concerts, courses and film presentations. Upon request, it also provides training in library techniques and administration to institutions and personalities.

The computer system in use at the library is upgraded whenever need arises; the special section for blind readers is endowed with television, radio, video and music sets, a sound-recording studio, and a personal computer set with a scanner and Braille printer.



As of the end of 1977, the total number of books at Beyazıt Public Library was 441.050, distributed as follows: 11.120 manuscript works, 27.357 books in Turkish printed in Arabic characters, and 53.266 books in languages other than Turkish.

The library's holdings also include 22.920 titles of periodicals, 1.909 stamps, 161 samples of banknotes, 32.990 postcards, 33 video cassettes and 9.710 sound recordings. The Director of Beyazıt Library is Mr. Şerafettin Kocaman.

Address: Beyazıt Devlet Kütüphanesi, Turan Emeksiz Sk. No. 2-4, 34450 Beyazıt, Istanbul, Turkey; telephone: 90.212.5222751, 5222488; fax: 90.212.5261133.

An effective medium for overall information about the Muslim world: AL-MOOTAMAR

The periodical publication of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference

The General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference has launched its journal *Al-Mootamar*, which is published twice a year in the three official languages of the OIC (English, French and Arabic issues in one) and widely distributed around the world.

As reflected by the contents of Number 1 dated January-June 1998 reproduced on this page, the journal extensively reviews the events and developments taking place the world over and concerning the Member States. It also gives information about the activities of the OIC General Secretariat related to various issues of relevance to the Muslim world. In addition to these news sections, the journal has a documentary section, which is of particular importance for researchers. The said section of this first issue contains files on: the OIC's action related to universal rights and freedoms and the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam; the code of conduct for the OIC Member States on combating international terrorism; and, the special agreement OIC-UNESCO for enhanced development and reconstruction in Al Quds and Palestine. H. E. Dr. Azeddine Laraki's Editorial highlights the role of cooperation between the Member states, as manifested in the OIC framework, can play in facing challenges posed by globalisation at the threshold of the 21st century.

The Founder and General Administrator of *Al-Mootamar* is H. E. Dr. Azeddine Laraki, Secretary General of the OIC; the Deputy General Administrator is H. E. Ambassador Mohamed Salah Zaimi, Director of the Cabinet, and the Publication Manager is Mr. Ali Belarbi, Director of the Information Department at the OIC General Secretariat.

With its well-chosen topics, professional style and tri-lingual edition, *Al-Mootamar* is an excellent medium of information addressed to a wide readership within and outside of the OIC Member States.

The Islamic Ummah... ...and Globalization



By: Dr. Azeddine Laraki

Over the past four decades, the world

bear, watch and read countless doses of information which are administered to him in all areas of daily life, regardless of his relationship to the material imposed on him on the air, and of its relevance to his culture, religion, individual or collective aspirations, or indeed to his values and ideals.

Against this dramatic backdrop, the Islamic Ummah, a non negligible part of the world, is trying to live through this global gestation, seeking for itself a place that should befit its vast population, its intellectual and cultural heritage and its vital interests.

In this arena, it seems obvious that the Islamic Ummah should enter the new "workshop" for reshaping the world, equipped with all the theoretical, historical, civilizational, economic and scientific keys it needs in order

uncertainties of the future, the right approach to this historic obligation is still organized cooperation among Islamic countries in the economic field with all its aspects, as a basis for all other fields of cooperation. Indeed, contemporary logic has made the economy the cornerstone of all human activities. No activity or idea can be successful unless the Ummah has reached a degree of economic progress and welfare that enables it to interact harmoniously with the global economic process. In this context we may indicate that the Organization of the Islamic Conference has provided the legal and institutional framework for inter-Islamic cooperation in the fields of trade, industry, finance and technology. These recognized international agencies, if used properly, would constitute a ticket for the entry of the entire Ummah - and from a position of strength - into the arena of



AL-MOOTAMAR

Issued by the Organization
of the Islamic conference.

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Dr. Azeddine Laraki

Secretary General of the Organi-
zation of the Islamic Conference.

Deputy General Administrator
Ambassador Mohamed Salah Zairi
Director of cabinet of the secretary general.

Publication's manager

Ali Belarbi
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Archive & Distribution

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Contents:

Page

• The Ummah and Globalization by Dr. Azeddine Laraki	2
• Kingdom projects a pioneering example of the vitality of islam and its assimilation of modern development.	4-5
• The event: The twenty fifth Islamic Conference of foreign Ministers	6
• Iraq - UN crises	10
• Cairo symposium on the twenty first century's challenges.	12
• Afghanistan: Islamabad talks consecrate the O.I.C.'s role in the service of peace.	13
• Information: Kuwait hosts the meeting of IINA's executive council	14
• 21st session of the Islamic commission for the ec- onomic, cultural and social affairs	15
• The Secretary General Reviews the Summit reso- lutions with the Iranian President.	16
• Brussels: conference in support of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights	18
• Sao Paulo seminar on Islam in Latin America	22
• The OIC and implementation of the security coun- cil's resolution no. 425	23

Documents:

A Cairo Declaration on human rights in Islam	24-25
A Anti-international terrorism code of ethics	26
A OIC - UNESCO in support of Palestine & Al-Quds	27

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IRCICA ACTIVITIES

Lecture by Prof. Dr. Annemarie Schimmel and exhibition of calligraphy/graphics by Ümran Tezcan Schelling



Prof. Annemarie Schimmel

The well-known German scholar Prof. Dr. Annemarie Schimmel came to Istanbul for the opening of Ümran Tezcan Schelling's exhibit "Projections: calligraphy/graphics" at IRCICA on 23 October 1998. The next day, 24 October, Prof. Schimmel gave a lecture in the same hall, at IRCICA's Çit Qasr, about "The art of calligraphy in the Muslim world". In her lecture Prof. Schimmel spoke of the history of development of the art of calligraphy, its philosophy, its place in Sufi thought, its importance in the Islamic culture, its various schools and their main principles.

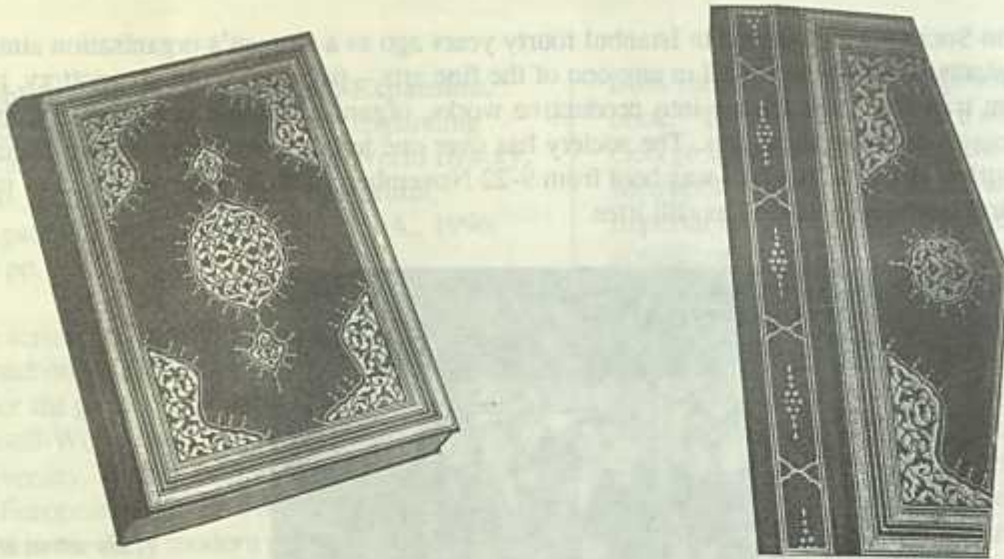


Mrs. Ümran Tezcan Schelling with her works

Mrs. Ümran Tezcan Schelling, a Turkish artist who lives in Switzerland, has displayed sixty-six of her calligraphic-graphic compositions which constitute, as she explains it, "the graphical interpretations of the form and the meaning of the script". Her exhibition continued for two weeks. The lecture by Prof. Annemarie Schimmel and the exhibition by Mrs. Tezcan Schelling were received with great interest in artistic and cultural circles.

Exhibition of bookbindings and conference by Dr. Kazım Hacımeyliç

Dr. Kazım Hacımeyliç, Bosnian artist and member of Mimar Sinan University's Department of Turkish and Islamic Arts, exhibited his beautiful bookbindings at IRCICA's hall from 18 September to 2nd October 1998. The exhibition, entitled "Samples of classical bookbindings", comprised more than forty book covers and close to twenty plates of reproductions of motifs on leather with golden ornaments. The magnificent exhibition drew a great number of visitors.



Following the opening of his exhibition, Dr. Hacimeylioğlu gave a lecture about "The rare bookbindings of Gazi Husrev Bey Library in Sarajevo" which was accompanied by a slides show. He spoke about the history, the holdings and the importance of Gazi Husrev Bey Library which is the only library still active after the war. The library and its complex were established in 1517 upon the orders of Gazi Husrev Bey (d. 1541), *sanjakkbeyi* of Bosnia during the period of Sultan Süleyman the Lawgiver. Born in 1964 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazım Hacimeylioğlu graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts of Mimar Sinan University in 1987. He completed his PhD thesis entitled "The place, the importance, and conservation of the rare works in Gazi Husrev Bey Library in Sarajevo" at the same university in 1997. He is currently a member of the Bookbindings Section of the Department of Turkish and Islamic Arts. In recent years, he worked in the restoration of rare books in public and private collections in various countries: Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Germany, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Turkey and the U.S.A.



Dr. Kazım Hacimeylioğlu (on the left) and Dep. Director General of IRCICA Dr. H. Y. Nisioğlu during the lecture

Painting exhibition of the Recreation Society

The Recreation Society was founded in Istanbul forty years ago as a women's organisation aiming to upgrade the talents of those interested in any one of the fine arts – painting, sculpture, pottery, music, etc., help them translate their talents into productive works, organise training programs, exhibitions and conferences to promote these arts. The society has over one hundred members today. Their joint painting exhibition at IRCICA's hall was held from 9-22 November 1998. It was comprised of natural and architectural landscapes as well as still lifes.



The artists in the exhibition hall

Public lectures

IRCICA's public lectures program continued with the following:

- Prof. Necdet Yaşar (musicologist and *tambur* player), "Composer Sultans and selections from their pieces" (3 Oct. 1998)
- Mr. Hasan Ali Göksoy (specialist of photography and graphic design), "The settlement of Turks in Anatolia, slide show" (17 Oct. 1998)



Mr. Hasan Ali Göksoy

- Prof. Dr. Hüsrev Hatemi (M.D., specialist of culture), "The Ottomans and Istanbul" (7 Nov. 1998)
- Assoc. Prof. Çiçek Derman (professor of gilding), "The Ottoman art of gilding" (21 Nov. 1998)
- Prof. Dr. Ramazan Şeşen (Head of the Bibliographies and Manuscripts Department, IRCICA), "Scientific activities in the Tulip period" (5 Dec. 1998)
- Prof. Uğur Derman (advisor in calligraphy, IRCICA), "Commemoration of two masters of calligraphy: Hafız Osman and Yesari Esat" (19 Dec. 1998).

Scientific Aspects of European Expansion, edited by William K. Storey, *An Expanding World. The European Impact on World History, 1450-1800 Series, Volume 6*, Varorium, Ashgate Publishing Ltd., U.K., U.S.A., 1996, 339 pp.

The series *An Expanding World. The European Impact on World History, 1450-1800*, published under the general editorship of Prof. A. J. R. Russell-Wood from The Johns Hopkins University, aims to examine important facets of the European presence overseas on a global scale in the early modern period, its interaction with non-European peoples, and experiences of the latter in relation to Europe and the Europeans. Each volume in the series is devoted to a specific aspect of this historical process. Thus, the first five volumes, which came under the general theme "Expansion, Interaction, Encounters", were entitled, respectively, "The Global Opportunity" (ed. Felipe Fernández-Armesto), "The European Opportunity" (ed. Felipe Fernández-Armesto), "The Globe Encircled and the World Revealed" (ed. Ursula Lamb), "Europeans in Africa and Asia" (ed. Anthony Disney), and "The Colonial Americas" (ed. Amy Turner Bushnell). The present sixth, and the seventh - "Technology and European Overseas Enterprise" (ed. Michael Adas) - volumes come under the broad theme "Technology and Science". The editors' introductions draw the framework of each volume by informing the reader of the state of research in that field and the ensuing criteria for selection of the articles they contain.

As the editor points out in the Introduction, historical research on the role of science and technology in cross-cultural interactions has focused mainly on the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The present volume focuses on the exchanges of knowledge and techniques which took place in different fields during an earlier and longer period, 1450 to 1800, and which were influential in setting the background for later cultural and scientific interactions. The following articles, selected

from various sources, are reproduced in this book: "The spread of Western science" by George Basalla, "On visiting the 'Moving Metropolis': reflections on the architecture of imperial science" by Roy MacLeod, "Viajes, comisiones y expediciones científicas españolas a ultramar durante el siglo XVIII" by Francisco de Solano, "Science for political purposes: European explorations of the Pacific Ocean, 1764-1806" by Alan Frost, "Seapower and science: the motives for Pacific exploration" by Daniel A. Baugh, "Anthropological analysis of exploration texts: cultural discourse and ethnological import of Fray Marcos de Niza's journey to Cibola" by Daniel T. Reff, "Silences and secrets: the hidden agenda of cartography in early modern Europe" by J. B. Harley, "English charting of the River Amazon c. 1595 - c. 1630" by Sarah Tyacke, "The influence of Father Ricci on Far Eastern cartography" by Helen Wallis, "Amerindian contributions to the mapping of North America: a preliminary view" by Louis De Vorsey, "Indicators of unacknowledged assimilations from Amerindian maps on Euro-American maps of North America: some general principles arising from the study of La Vérendrye's composite map, 1728-29" by G. Malcolm Lewis, "Ayurvedic medicine in Goa according to the European sources in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries" by John M. de Figueiredo, "The pre-history of modern science in Japan: the importation of Western science during the Tokugawa period" by Yabuuti Kiyosi, "Chinese astronomy and the Jesuit mission: an encounter of cultures" by Joseph Needham, "Western mathematics in China, seventeenth century and nineteenth century" by Catherine Jami, and "Ottomans and European science" by Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu. The volume has an index of names and terms. Other volumes in the series will deal with the following broad themes: "Trade and Commodities", "Exploitation", "Government and Empire", "Society and Culture", "The world and Europe". An informative and attractive reference book.

Abdul-Rahim Abu Husayn and Saleh Sa'dawi, trans. and eds., **Al-Kana'is al-'Arabiyya fi-l Sijil al-Kanasi al-'Uthmani 1869-1922** (The Arab Churches in the Church Register of the Ottoman State, 1869-1922), published by the Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies (RIIFS), Amman, 1997, 392 pp. (in Arabic)

A scholarly survey of the Ottoman Church registers (*Kilise Defterleri*) kept in the Ottoman Archives of the Turkish Prime Ministry in Istanbul. The book is the first of its kind to reproduce this previously unpublished material relating to churches and other non-Muslim institutions in some Arab provinces. The material published makes clear the procedure for the establishment of the churches, hospitals, schools and other institutions which were set up by non-Muslim communities in the Ottoman provinces of Bilad al-Sham and Iraq during the 1869-1922 period. Professor Abdul-Rahim Abu Husayn, Chairman of the Department of History and Archaeology, American University of Beirut, and Dr. Salih Sadawi from IRCICA, have collected, translated and examined the authorisation documents relating to such establishments. These authorisations were issued to Christian and Jewish communities, foreign missions, missionary societies, as well as individuals, upon their requests to build or restore churches, schools, *madrasas*, hospitals, orphanages or shelters for the destitute. The authors explain that such requests could be made by a group of citizens, their spiritual head, an embassy, a society or even a single citizen, and that the State conducted official inquiries at the localities concerned before the decision-making processes leading to the Sultan's approval could start. The authors note that the registers reviewed did not contain any case of the State's refusal of such requests, and that furthermore, churches and other institutions which were built without prior permission or left uncompleted were authorised retroactively upon request. There was, however, no question of neglect or *laissez-faire* on the part of the State on these matters. Rather, the policy reflected the State's tolerance vis-a-vis non-Muslim communities which enabled the latter to preserve their cultural and religious identity. The book contains a great deal of information about these and other aspects of the administrative policies which concerned Christian and other non-Muslim communities, as well as on the establishment of certain specific institutions and censuses of the

non-Muslim population in Ottoman provinces during the late period of the Ottoman State. A solid research and an excellent sourcebook for both the professional and the general reader.

Osman Bakar, **Islam and Civilisational Dialogue. The quest for a truly universal civilisation**, Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, 1997. This is a collection of eleven essays written over the last five years by Prof. Dato' Dr. Osman Bakar, holder of the Chair of Philosophy of Science at the Faculty of Science and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), University of Malaya. The essays deal with various aspects of Islam's dialogue with other cultures and civilisations, past, present, and future. It highlights the many achievements Islamic civilisation has made on this score and which qualify it as a truly universal civilisation. The author points out in the Introduction that on basis of its past achievements, Islam possesses "both the necessary sense of civilisational mission and sufficient spiritual and intellectual means to conduct a world-wide conversation" with all religions, in the pursuit of a universal civilisation and global ethics. The essays recapitulate past and present cultural exchanges between Islam and other religions and draw indications as to the dynamism of Islamic civilisation as a potential active contributor to future dialogue. The book is divided into three main parts. The first part, entitled "Islam's Encounter with Other Civilizations", comprises four chapters on the encounters between Islam and other religions and civilisations, including Buddhism, Confucianism, and the modern West. The second part, entitled "Islam, Asian Values and Asian Renaissance" has two chapters. As to the third part, entitled "Civilizational Dialogue in Various Domains of Human Life and Thought: Islam's Role and Contributions" is comprised of five chapters dealing with civilisational dialogues in specific areas such as science and technology, philosophy of medicine (traditional), cosmology, the role of values in science education, the arts, and the role of artists. The essays illustrate the applicability of civilisational dialogue to all spheres of life at all times and provide examples of its relevance to contemporary situations. Anyone interested in inter-cultural dialogue and related subjects will find this book inspiring.

Dr. Youssuf Ziedan, **Catalogue of Manuscripts in Rashid (Rosetta) - Damanhour, El Bohira, Egypt**. Catalogues of Islamic Manuscripts Series: no. 23, Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, London, 1998, 324 pp. (in Arabic)

By Dr. Tahsin Ö. Tahaoglu

This is another valuable publication by Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation which comes under its wide-scale activities to locate, compile, study and make known the collections of Islamic manuscripts found around the world. This catalogue prepared by Dr. Youssuf Ziedan has a Preface by the Foundation's Chairman, Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani. The Preface gives information on the preparatory work carried out in the framework of the Foundation's activities for publication of this catalogue. It underlines the important features of the collections of manuscripts located in the cities of Rashid and Damanhour in Egypt and their particularities as Islamic heritage assets. Then comes Dr. Ziedan's Introduction, which reviews the history of the cities of Rashid and Damanhour, describes their geographical location and sites in the region of al-Buhira, and points to the relevance of the collections of manuscripts they possess. The author also traces the history of the manuscripts which used to be found in the Rawda Hayri garden in the same region on basis of the information contained in Zarkali's encyclopedia of scientists, as that collection cannot be located anymore. The Damanhour collection is preserved at the Municipality of Damanhour, while the Rashid collection is kept in the mosque of Rashid. The author pinpoints some important copies of manuscripts contained in these two collections, which he divides into three groups, whereby the first group comprises the rare manuscripts, the second, the manuscripts which were copied during the lifetime of their authors, and the third, the oldest manuscripts of the two collections, some of which are more than six centuries old. The author also explains the cataloguing system he used and which is in conformity with the system adopted by the Foundation for all its cataloguing and classification work related to Islamic manuscripts. After the Introduction, the reader will find a 16-page section featuring reproductions of some manuscripts, followed by a list of fifteen copies of the Qur'an arranged according to the dates of copying. Then comes the

main catalogue part, which comprises three hundred and forty bibliographic entries. The manuscripts are about a variety of subjects, including jurisprudence, *hadiths*, the *Seerah* (the life of Prophet Muhammad), sufism, religious sciences, theology, literature, poetry, mathematics, natural sciences, philology, logic, and general culture. The entries are arranged alphabetically according to the titles of manuscripts. The registration number of each manuscript in the collections of Damanhour or Rashid is indicated. The catalogue has an index of authors and an index of subjects.

Islamic Culture, Editor: Shahid Ali Abbasi, Honorary Editor: S. Vahiduddin, published in Hyderabad, quarterly

Islamic Culture is a quarterly journal in English published in Hyderabad, India. It was established by Muhammad Marmaduke Pickthall under the auspices of the late Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan in 1927. *Islamic Culture* aims to reflect the history and culture of the peoples in and around the Islamic lands including their mores, customs and religions, thus building bridges of understanding between them. The journal features scholarly articles in various fields such as: Indian history (under such titles as Safavi princes in Mughal service, Parsis in the Hyderabad administration), language, literature and arts (e.g. English and Arabic, Iqbal and the Third World), people, history and popular culture (e.g. population in Nigeria, the Ottomans, cooking and cuisine, the spread of European manners in Hyderabad). Authors from various universities in many countries and different backgrounds, among them academicians and diplomats, give the journal a cosmopolitan character. Because it seeks out selected authors, and sometimes relies on destiny to provide, the journal has an unpredictable flavour from issue to issue.

Islamic Culture is distributed to readers in all continents. It represents ideas and original research on any subject from history, Islam and art to society, people and cultural interaction. Writers are invited to contribute by sending previously unpublished articles. The journal will consider literary articles if they illuminate an aspect of a society's life.

Topics covered in Volume LXXII, no. 1 of January 1998 would provide an example of the Journal's contents. "Shibli on Politics" by Muhammad Ahmadullah highlights the works of Shibli Nu'mani, who was one of the distinguished figures of Indian Muslim thought in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Although he was renowned mainly for his religious thought, he also took a keen interest in political developments both in the world and in India particularly on issues related to Muslims. Although he expressed most of his thoughts as a poet, he also wrote a few articles and made periodic comments in his correspondence. "A Perspective on the Muslim Population of Nigeria" by Musa Ali Ajetunmobi, who discusses the controversial issues of population and proportion in Nigeria. The author questions the validity of recent census data and attempts to calculate the numbers and proportions for the three main religious communities of Nigeria, i.e. the Muslims, Christians and Animists. "Change and Changing: The Social Influence of the Hyderabad Residency" by H. Ronken Lynton describes how the élite of Hyderabad accepted Western styles and customs, such as the design of furniture, dress and automobiles, in the context of relations between the Nizam's government and the British residency. "Safavis in Mughal Service: The Mirzas of Qandahar" by Mohammad Afzal Khan is a detailed research on the Mirzas of Qandahar, who were part of the family of the Safavi rulers of Iran. The author explains the ranks and positions given to a Qandahari branch of the Safavi House and traces how the family was absorbed into the social and political structure of the subcontinent. "Şurub, Şerbet, Sorbet and Ottoman Cuisine" by Raphaela Lewis describes the Ottoman culinary art, including topics such as the palace kitchen, the provision of food for Istanbul and the other large cities, the state's regulation and control of all stages of production and sale, etc. The journal contains book reviews in addition to its analytical and stimulating articles on a wide range of topics. *Islamic Culture* is a journal of high academic value, to appeal both to researchers and interested readers. The annual subscription rate is US\$ 40 or £ 25; payments should be made in favour of The Academic and Cultural Publications Charitable

Trust, and sent to The Organising Manager, P. O. Box 35, Banjara Hills Post Office, Hyderabad – 500 034, India. All correspondence can be addressed to The Editor at the same address.

Murat Bardakçı, **Şahbaba. Osmanoğulları'nın son hükümdarı VI. Mehmed Vahideddin'in hayatı, hatıraları ve özel mektupları** (The life, memoirs and private letters of Mehmed Vahideddin VI, the last sovereign of the Ottomans), Pan Yayıncılık, İstanbul, 1998, 680 pp. + 48 pp. photograph album (in Turkish)

This book resulted from the author's years-long research based on hitherto unpublished first-hand documents about the last Ottoman Sultan Mehmed Vahideddin (1861-1926, reign 1918-1922) and his family. It recounts Vahideddin's life story by reproducing his own letters and memoirs and many other excerpts from his personal archive as well as from those of his daughter Princess Sabiha Osmanoglu. The first four chapters relate facts and events about Vahideddin's childhood starting from his birth, including his youth and the period until his accession. Then comes the section which contains thirty-seven major documents, among them Sultan Vahideddin's memoirs, his declaration of Mecca, his correspondence with his daughters, notes and memoirs of his relatives, and letters by Mustafa Kemal Pasha. The last part of the book is devoted to the documents related to Mustafa Kemal's trip to Samsun in 1919, representing the beginning of the Independence War; it contains the reproductions of the originals, and the texts in Latin alphabet, of highly important correspondence, as well as of sixteen documents belonging to British occupation forces. In his fluent and transparent text Bardakçı had seldom recourse to footnotes; instead, he added a lengthy section of detailed notes which would satisfy the reader who is curious to know more and reach further sources on the subject. The book can be requested from the following address: Pan Yayıncılık Ltd. Şti., Barbaros Bulvarı, 74/4, Beşiktaş, 80700 İstanbul, Turkey, telephone: 90.212.2275675; fax: 90.212.2275674.



INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICPICH)



Heritage preservation activities in the Member States

The Fourth International Baghdad Festival for Arabic Calligraphy and the Islamic Art of Illumination

The Fourth International Baghdad Festival for Arabic Calligraphy and the Islamic Art of Illumination was organised by the Association of Iraqi Calligraphers, with the sponsorship of the Ministry of Culture and Information. The festival took place on 15-19 October 1998, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth death anniversary of the famous Iraqi calligrapher Hashim Mohammed Baghdadi. The theme chosen for the festival was "Arabic calligraphy in the service of world culture". A great number of Iraqi calligraphers and students of calligraphy participated in the festival together with some calligraphers and art researchers from abroad. Its program comprised a large-scale exhibition of calligraphy in the classical and modern styles, as well as of calligraphy applied on wood, leather and metal. Another major event in the framework of the festival was a symposium, which had the following principal themes: the role of Baghdad in the development and establishment of the school of Arabic calligraphy and its influences on the schools of calligraphy of other Islamic countries; the aesthetics of Arabic calligraphy and the Islamic art of illumination and their applications on Arab-Islamic art works; and, commemoration of calligrapher Hashim Baghdadi on the twenty-fifth year of his death, to which a special session was devoted.

This festival has been organised once every three years on international level and every year on national level since 1988.

Lectures and exhibitions in Abu Dhabi and Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Abu Dhabi Cultural Foundation has hosted a calligraphy and gilding exhibition comprising the works of the Turkish calligraphers Mehmet and Osman Özçay, their sister, gilder Fatma Özçay, and a well-known calligrapher from the United Arab Emirates, Mr. Hussain Ali Al-Sirri al-Hashimi. The exhibition took place from 12-21 December 1998. It included calligraphic works in various styles, as well as Mr. al-Hashimi's collection of materials used in calligraphy such as the reed pen, the special paper, the ink pot, the reed sharpener, etc. The exhibition was opened by H. H. Sheikh Mubarak bin Mohammed Al-Nahayan, in the presence of: H. E. Mr. Ahmed Khalifa al-Suwaidi, representative of H. H. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahayan, Head of State of the United Arab Emirates; H. H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahayan, Minister of Culture and Information, H. E. Dr. Ma'ani Sa'id Al-Oteyba, Special Advisor to H. H. the Head of State, H. H. Sheikh Nahayan bin Mubarak, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, H. E. Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Suwaidi, Secretary General of the Cultural Foundation, and Mr. Khalfan Musabbeh, Director of Arts and Culture at the Foundation.

The Cultural Foundation also hosted Prof. h.c., Dr. Uğur Derman, IRCICA's advisor for Islamic arts, and Mr. Mohammed Tamimi from the Secretariat of ICPICH, for a series of lectures by Dr. Uğur Derman entitled "The development of the art of calligraphy and

contributions of the Ottoman school". The lectures took place on 14 and 15 December 1998 and were accompanied by a presentation of three hundred slides showing samples of calligraphy from different period of history as well as copies of the Holy Quran selected from world museums. Dr. Derman traced the history of this art starting from the Nabati script in the pre-Islamic period until the present. He spoke of the various styles and schools which appeared in different parts of the Muslim world and the copies of the Quran produced over the centuries. These lectures and slide presentations aroused appreciation among artists, art lovers and all those interested in Islamic cultural heritage.

The public lecture was renewed in the Art Museum in Sharjah, which is known as the "cultural capital" of the U. A. E., on 16 December, under the high patronage of H. H. Sultan bin Mohammed Al-Qasimi, Member of the Supreme council of the U. A. E. and Emir of Sharjah. The calligraphy exhibition too was moved to the Art Museum for a period of one week. H. H. Sultan bin Mohammed Al-Qasimi and many high officials from his entourage visited the exhibition and acquired some plates of calligraphy for their personal collections, which was a manifestation of their patronage and support of this art.



Left to right: H. E. Ahmad Suwaidi, H. H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed, H. H. Sheikh Mubarak bin Mohammed, and H. H. Nahayan bin Mubarak at the exhibition, examining calligraphic works published by IRCICA, the Commission's Secretariat

IRCICA PUBLICATION

History of the Ottoman State and Civilisation, vol. 2, edited with an introduction by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, IRCICA, Istanbul, 1998, xxxvi+849 pp.

Price: US\$ 60,- post included

The first volume of the *History of the Ottoman State and Civilisation* was received with great interest in academic circles and among the public at large when it was published in 1994. In fact, the book became a standard textbook in various universities. The first volume focused on the following subjects: Ottoman political history, Ottoman state administration during the classical period, administrative organisation during and after the Tanzimat period, Ottoman military organisation, Ottoman legal system, Ottoman society, Ottoman economy. Rather than enumerating the historical facts in a chronological order, the objective of the first volume has been to treat the subjects as a whole in an analytical way by attempting to detect the relations between events and to reach a synthesis.

The second volume, which follows the method of the first, is in four parts and twelve chapters. The articles in this volume, written by specialists in their fields, are the product of original research. Part I is entitled "Language and Literature". Chapter I, "Ottoman Turkish" by Prof. Dr. Nuri Yüce deals with the general structure of Turkish as well as the emergence and characteristics of Ottoman Turkish within this framework. It examines the stages through which Ottoman Turkish underwent, and the relations of this language with other languages. Literature is examined in three chapters: Chapter II, "Turkish Literature in Anatolia" by Prof. Dr. Günay Kut examines subjects such as the development of Turkish as an official and literary language in Anatolia, the sources, contents and genres of *divan* literature between the 13th-19th centuries as well as the various periods of Turkish literature in Anatolia. Chapter III entitled "Turkish Literature during the period of Westernisation" by Prof. Dr. Orhan Okay deals with the literature which started with the proclamation of the Tanzimat (1839) and developed with the publication of works and translations. This chapter also deals with the development of literary schools and groups as well as the emergence of literary genres. Chapter IV entitled "Literature of the Muslim Peoples in Europe during the Ottoman Period" by Prof. Dr. Nimetullah Hafız focuses on the rich folk literature of Muslims as well as the literature of Muslims in eastern languages (Turkish, Arabic and Persian), and the Aljamiado literature (the literary works written in native languages but in Arabic characters), which is presented to the readers for the first time in this work. A fifth chapter, about "Intellectual life in Arab provinces during the Ottoman period", by Prof. Dr. Leila Sabbagh, will be included in the second edition in Turkish as well as in the English and Arabic editions of this volume.

In the second part of the book, entitled "Religion and Thought", the first chapter is on "Religion", where Prof. Dr. Ahmet Yaşar Ocak examines the different dimensions of the interpretation of Islam ("State Islam", "Folk Islam", "Medrese Islam" and "Tekke Islam") under the heading of "Ottoman Empire and Islam". Other main topics of this chapter are Muslim peoples, non-Muslim peoples and religious groups, Ottoman sufism and its historical infrastructure, the first sufi circles in Ottoman lands, development of Ottoman sufism, the first religious-social movements in Ottoman lands, the rise of Alevî thought, puritan movements such as the *Kadızâdelis*. Chapter II entitled "Intellectual Life" by the same author examines the historical infrastructure of Ottoman intellectual life, Ottoman political thought, its foundations and problems, Ottoman philosophical, religious and mystic thought and the representatives of such schools of thought. Chapter III entitled "A Study on Intellectual Life during the Period of Westernisation" by Prof. Dr. Orhan Okay mainly deals with topics such as the limits of westernisation, democracy and freedom, civilisation, the position of the Ottoman intellectual vis-à-vis Western intellectual trends, rationalism, positivism, materialism and the intellectual trends during the 20th century.

The author of the third part, entitled "Education and Science" is Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu who is also the editor of the book. Chapter I, "Ottoman Educational and Scientific Institutions", begins with an examination of the scholarly activities during the period of the Anatolian Seljuks and treats in depth

several educational institutions during the Ottoman period such as the *sıbyan* schools, *medreses*, *enderun*, dervish lodges and convents. The author reviews the development of Ottoman scientific institutions during the classical period as well as the educational and scientific institutions such as the *mühendishanes* and the *hendesehane* during the modernisation period. Scholarly activities and institutions during the Tanzimat period and during the imperial edict of 1856, the establishment of the first university (*Darülfünun*), Ottoman learned and professional associations, new institutions related to science such as the observatory, and the education of non-Muslims are also examined in this chapter. In Chapter II, entitled "Ottoman Scientific Literature", the author examines the development of Ottoman scientific literature in a historical perspective during the establishment of the Ottoman State, in Mehmed II's period and its aftermath, and until the end of the 16th century, which witnessed the inception of the modern scientific tradition and activities of translation of scientific literature from Western languages.

The fourth part of the book is entitled "Art and Architecture". Chapter I entitled "Ottoman Art and Architecture" by Dr. Esin Atıl examines the development of various aspects of Ottoman art and architecture in a historical perspective starting from the fourteenth century until the proclamation of the Turkish Republic. In chapters II and III entitled "The art of calligraphy among the Ottomans" and "The art of illumination among the Ottomans", respectively, by Prof. h.c. Dr. M. Uğur Derman and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çiçek Derman examine the development and characteristics of the art of calligraphy and illumination starting from the beginning until the present day. In Chapter IV entitled "Ottoman Music", master Cinuçen Tanrıkorur examines the characteristics and historical development of Ottoman music, its relationship with Turkish music and various kinds of Islamic music, educational institutions such as the *mehterhane*, *mevlevihane*, and the *enderun*, forms and instruments of Ottoman music. The article also deals with musicology and gives a bibliography.



The work includes 250 photographs, a glossary, a chronology, a bibliography and a detailed index. It is expected to serve as a source of reference both for historians and for interested readers.

ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION IN THE MALAY WORLD

Islamic Civilization in the Malay World, Edited by Mohd. Taib Osman; Foreword by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim; Prefaces by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General, IRCICA and Haji A. Aziz Deraman, Director General, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Malaysia, published jointly by IRCICA and Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, 1997, xli+406 p.
Price: US\$ 100.- postage included

This comprehensive book about the fascinating history of the spread and development of Islamic civilisation in the Malay world resulted from a joint international scholarly project of the Governments of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia, with IRCICA as the coordinating body. It is a highly informative, reliable and objective source for students of the subject and all interested readers. It reflects an indigenous intellectual and scholarly exercise by historians of the region to reappraise and reinterpret the history of the spread of Islam and its historical interplay with the distinct features of Malay culture. The Foreword is by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, former Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, who extended his personal support to the project from its beginning, when he was the Minister of Education of Malaysia, and throughout its implementation. There are two Prefaces, by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA and Regional Project Director, and Haji A. Aziz Deraman, Director General of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Malaysia and National Project Director.

The idea of the project which bore fruit in this publication was conceived in the early years of IRCICA's activities in the framework of the Centre's objective to create grounds and provide initiatives for the publication of reference works on the history of Muslim nations to be written by their own historians. The idea produced concrete cooperation between the countries concerned and IRCICA. The project's guidelines were agreed upon in 1985; Raja Fuziah Raja Tun Uda from Malaysia was appointed the Project Coordinator; the Regional Secretariat in Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka was carried out by Ms. Rohani Rustam (Head), Aizan Mohd. Ali and Zanariah Abdullah. Despite the challenges involved in the implementation of a project of such scale and stature, the commitment and efforts invested by all parties made it progress steadily. Three Regional Workshops were held from 1987 to 1990, followed by three Writers' Consultation meetings in 1993 and 1994. After the completion of the drafts the book was put together and finalised thanks to the valuable efforts of the Editor, Prof. Mohd. Taib Osman from Malaysia.

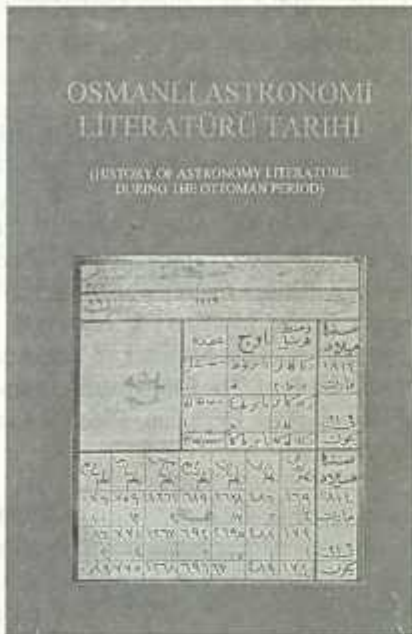
The Introduction by Prof. Mohd. Taib Osman defines the area known as the Malay world on basis of its geographical, linguistic, religious and other features and describes the process of the introduction and spread of Islam in the region. Though it was not a uniform or homogenous one, that process nevertheless involved features and tendencies which were commonly observed throughout the region. There are eight chapters in the book, written by Hussin Mutalib on "Islamic Malay Polity in Southeast Asia", Zainal Kling on "Social Structure: The Practices of Malay Religiosity", Shaharil Ta'olib and Mohammad Raduan on "Economic Life: From Ruling the Waves to Toiling the Land", Azyumardi Azra on "Education, Law, Mysticism: Constructing Social Realities", Ismail Hamid on "Kitab Jawi: Intellectualizing Literary Tradition", Kamaruddin Mohd. Ali on "Architecture: Unity of the Sacred and the Profane", Raja Fuziah Raja Tun Uda and Abdul Rahman Al-Ahmadi on "Malay Arts and Crafts: Islamic Inspiration in Creativity", and Nasir Tamara on "The Ummah: Rising to the Challenges with Special Reference to Indonesia". The book contains fifty-one colour plates, ten maps, a glossary, a bibliography and an index. This high-quality publication is proudly presented to the world of learning and to interested readers world-wide.



*A mosque in Central Sumatra
(illustration from Dr. Kamaruddin Mohd.
Ali's chapter)*

History of Astronomy Literature during the Ottoman period. prepared by E. İhsanoğlu, Ramazan Şeşen, Cevat İzgi, Cemil Akpınar, İhsan Fazlıoğlu, edited by E. İhsanoğlu, Series on History of Ottoman Scientific Literature no. 1, 2 vols., Istanbul, 1997 (in Turkish, foreword also in English)

Price: US\$ 100.- post included



This publication resulted from more than a decade's research in the framework of IRCICA's broad-scale project on the History of Science in the Muslim World. By this project, the Centre aims to record and highlight the contributions made by Muslim scientists to the progress of sciences in the past centuries. The project covers all the disciplines of mathematical and natural sciences as extensively as possible and yields a series of bio-bibliographic compendia pertaining to the scientific literature produced in each discipline. The first stage of the project, now completed, dealt with the corpus of astronomical literature which was produced during the Ottoman period (1299-1922) and throughout its territory. The resulting compendium is published in two volumes.

The introduction to the book describes the scientific and cultural environment which prevailed under the Seljuks of Anatolia and the Beyliks (emirates); the activities of medreses and hospitals; statesmen's interest in science; the state of astronomical sciences and the works of some astronomers of the period; the influence of the Meragha school of astronomy on the Seljukids and the Ottomans; the contributions of astronomers who lived before or during the Ottoman era but outside Ottoman territory and influenced Ottoman astronomers' works; and, the astronomical institutions of the Ottoman period. The main part of the book is divided into two sections. The first section cites the works whose authors are known according to their dates of publication, starting from the oldest. It includes the biographies of 582 authors. As to the second section, it covers the works the authors of which are not known. The total number of works on astronomy cited in the book is 2438. It is complemented with ten different indices and a bibliography. The main text is in the first volume, while the second volume contains the bibliography and the indices. This publication is expected to fill a lacunae in studies on the history of science and culture.

Selected Rare Arabic Manuscripts in the Libraries of Turkey, prepared by Ramazan Şeşen, foreword by E. İhsanoğlu, published by the Waqf for Research in Islamic History, Art and Culture (ISAR), Istanbul, 1997 (in Arabic, foreword also in Turkish)

Price: US\$ 80.- post included

This is an enlarged and revised edition of the book entitled *Rare Arabic Manuscripts in the Libraries of Turkey* which was published a few years ago by Prof. Ramazan Şeşen, Head of the Department of Bibliographies and Manuscripts at IRCICA. A great number of manuscripts, copies of manuscripts and authors have been added to this new enlarged edition, and some corrections have been made. Thus, the number of manuscripts included in the book rose to 3561, that of copies of manuscripts to 4962, and that of authors to 1610. The author also added various indices to the book, including indices of the manuscripts arranged according to their subjects and to their titles. This book of xxiv+1147 pages containing 11 photographs of sample manuscripts, is produced in high-quality printing and beautifully bound.

IRCICA PUBLICATION

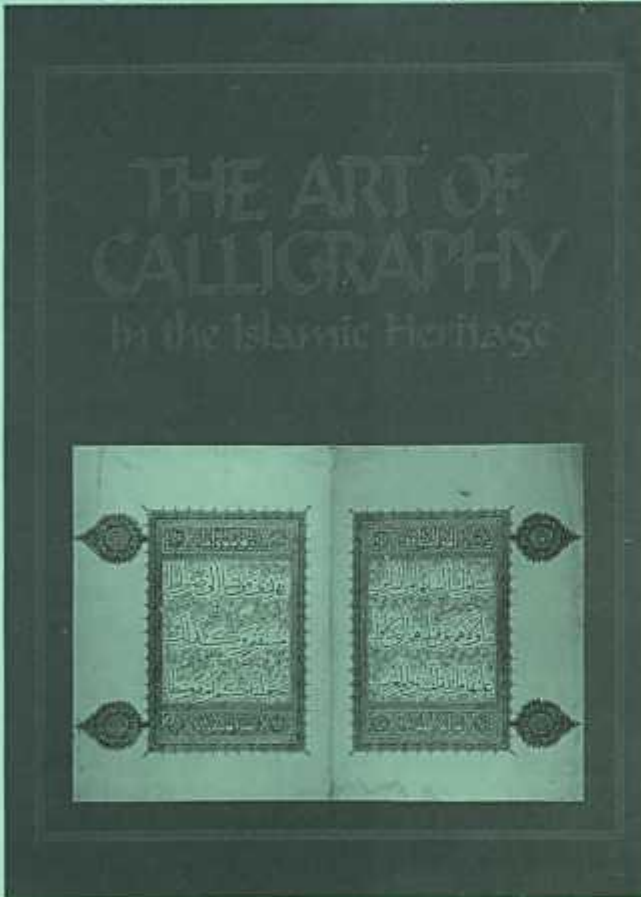
THE ART OF CALLIGRAPHY IN THE ISLAMIC HERITAGE

A new reference book and a unique gift of art by IRCICA

The Art of Calligraphy in the Islamic Heritage, written by M. Uğur Derman and Nihad M. Çetin, translated by Mohamed Zakariya and Mohamed Asfour, edited with foreword by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Istanbul, 1998, English edition

Price: US\$ 195,- post included

IRCICA is pleased to present the English edition of the scholarly and artistic publication *The Art of Calligraphy in the Islamic Heritage* following the Arabic, the Turkish and the Japanese editions.



For Muslims, calligraphy is a clear manifestation of artistic creativity and a unique characteristic of their civilisation. Since fourteen centuries, calligraphy has conveyed meaning by enhancing the beauty of words with eloquent forms. Calligraphy expresses the esthetic values of an art, at the same time, it unites the material and the spiritual within itself and transfers it to the people with an artistic style. As the beauty of the word's form merges with its spiritual depth, the beholder feels the pleasure of seeing the unity of art and culture.

This book is the product of long endeavours conducted by a group of researchers under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA, a patron and promoter of this art and editor of this book. The specimens of calligraphy that are presented in the book were selected from all over the world. The book was prepared for publication by Prof. h.c. M. Uğur Derman, art consultant at IRCICA, who wrote a major part of the text. Part I on the rise and development of Islamic calligraphy was written by the late Prof. Dr. Nihad M. Çetin (1924-1991), an authority in Islamic cultural studies.

The Art of Calligraphy in the Islamic Heritage includes Parts I and II on the emergence of the works of Ibn Muqlah, Ibn al-Bawwab and Yaqut al-Musta'simi, the establishment of the Ottoman school, how the *aqlam-i sittah* (the six pens) became widespread at the hands of calligraphers such as Hafiz Osman, Yesari Mehmed Es'ad and Kadiasker Mustafa İzzet as well as the rise and development of Arabic script until Hamid Aytac, the last of these great masters. The following section contains 192 specimens of calligraphy. Next comes the catalogue section where there is information about the kind of the script, the name and biography of the calligrapher and the present specimens. The book also includes a bibliography, a glossary, an index of personal names including the calligraphers as well as a general index of personal names, states, nations and cities.

This book is the product of a cooperation of efforts by a team of specialists, scholars, artists and printing technicians. It is an indispensable scholarly work on art for researchers, calligraphers and art-lovers.

The Art of Calligraphy in the Islamic Heritage is published in big size (42x31 cm.), consisting of 282 pages, printed with a special technique on de luxe paper.