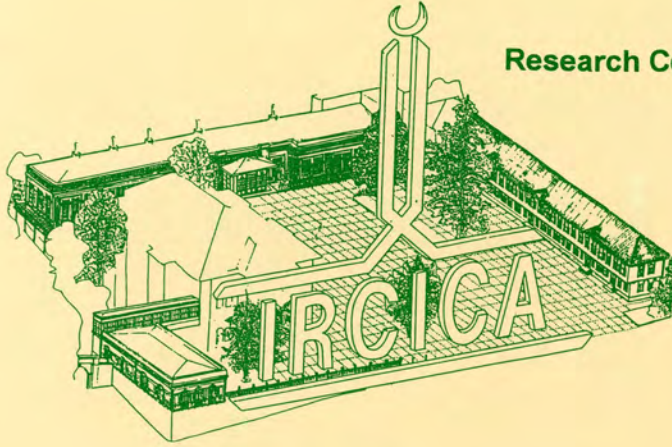


Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA)



IRCICA and the Bosnia and Hercegovina Connection



The Project for Rebuilding the Multicultural Bosnia and Hercegovina, established in 1992



IRCICA for Bosnia and Hercegovina

IRCICA's mission is to assist the Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina to achieve a higher economic and cultural level, and powerful security in the post-war reconstruction.

IRCICA in the field of its interest has the following goals:

- to contribute to the integration and coordination of internal and external activities on different topics related to Bosnia and Hercegovina;
- to collect, analyze, evaluate and disseminate information;
- to prepare proposals and feasibility studies for projects of critical and meaningful importance for the activities in Bosnia and Hercegovina;
- to promote projects;
- to support the Bosnian intellectuals living out of Bosnia and Hercegovina and incorporate them in actual rebuilding projects.

What IRCICA has done

Studies and publications on the history and culture of Bosnia and Hercegovina:

- ◇ *IRCICA Newsletter* 31/93, Special Issue on Bosnia
- ◇ *Population of Bosnia in the Ottoman Period*, 1993
- ◇ *Islamic Architecture in Bosnia and Hercegovina*, 1994
- ◇ *The Old Bridge in Mostar*, 1995
- ◇ *Studies on Bosnia*, 1995

26 exhibitions in cities such as Istanbul, Karachi,

Strasbourg, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Casablanca, Rome.

71 lectures in cities such as Istanbul, Konya, Bursa, New York, Philadelphia, Trondheim, Madrid, Rome, York, Stockholm, Salzburg.

Articles, more than hundred in number, about IRCICA activities, in daily newspapers and magazines such as Washington Post; International Herald Tribune; Al Ahram, Cairo; Boston Herald; Philadelphia Inquirer; Al Hayat, London; Türkiye and Milliyet from Istanbul; Oslobodjenje and Ljiljan, Sarajevo; Middle East Newspaper, London; Islamic News Agency, Jeddah; Al-Sharq Al Awsat, London.

Workshops MOSTAR 2004:

- ◇ The first phase was the Mostar 2004 Workshop organized in Istanbul between July 25-August 25, 1994, with 83 participants from 24 countries.
- ◇ The second phase was finalized through The Architectural Heritage Today Program, held between July 01 and August 17, 1995 in Istanbul, with 158 participants from 39 universities of 19 countries. During 44 working days, there were two workshops: Istanbul and Süleymaniye Area, and Mostar 2004. Participants had 64 lectures and 156 studio hours.
- ◇ The third phase, involving preparatory studio works at six universities during Spring semester of the 1995/96 academic year, and the main program, Mostar 2004 Workshop Three in Mostar, of 5 weeks duration, with over 100 participants.

Establishing an academic network involving more than 30 institutions such as UNESCO; the World Monument Fund, New York; The Aga Khan Trust for Culture, Geneva; Columbia University, New York; Yale University, New Haven; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge; Temple University, Philadelphia; Istanbul Technical University, Yıldız University and Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul.

IRCICA is developing

- **RESEARCH on Bosnian history, art and culture** through permanent work of two full-time scholars, three part-time scholars and three to six research assistants.
- **CONSULTANCY** for conservation, planning and educational activities.
- **PROMOTION** for the multicultural Bosnia and Hercegovina.
- **DOCUMENTATION** through collection and cataloging of books, archival documents, photographs, slides related to Bosnia and Hercegovina as a special program in IRCICA library.
- **THE MOSTAR 2004** ongoing project since 1992, as a case study for the rebuilding of Bosnian heritage and urban structures. The project involves the following components:
 - simultaneous planning from the regional to the architectural complex level,

- rebuilding and conservation of the building heritage,
- education both as special courses for the experts capable to run integrated implementation and the training for craftsmen.

and realizing these through

- **support of authorities** such as the government of Bosnia and Hercegovina and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.
- **office work of IRCICA unit for Bosnia and Hercegovina** was organized in 1992 with modern office facilities, with full support of all other IRCICA units and specially by the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH).
- **educational activities** through the network of academic institutions based on close collaboration with Yıldız Technical University, and other universities in Istanbul.

by

- **personal contacts;**
- **publishing** books, newsletters, brochures and the IRCICA press kits;
- **organizing** seminars, exhibitions, lectures, conferences, and
- **attending international meetings.**

in collaboration with

- Bosnian institutions,
- TIKA and other institutions,
- the O.I.C., UNESCO, UNDP, UNIDO,
- The World Economic Forum, The Getty Grant Program, The Aga Khan Trust for Culture, ARCH Foundation, World Monument Fund, Council of Europe-- Cultural Division,
- Commercial and industrial establishments,
- others.

IRCICA's ongoing activities related to the rebuilding project

In the first phase, activities focus on three aspects:

1. The preservation of cultural heritage, as an essence of Bosnian existence.

The preservation of cultural heritage has the following goals and objectives:

- ◊ Preservation of the thousand years-old building heritage of the multicultural Bosnia and Hercegovina.
- ◊ Development of an integrated process of urban preservation for Bosnia and Hercegovina through the formation of a practical system of education over the next decade.

◊ Establishment of an international network of prominent schools and cultural organizations for urban preservation to assist and support the rebuilding process.

2. The integrated computerized planning as an open framework for all rebuilding needs.

◊ In order to deal with these challenges facing the rebuilding of Bosnia and Hercegovina, a plan which attends to legal, urban, environmental and other considerations should be conceived.

This area is an integral part of the town or regional or state planning policy and must therefore come under the direction of the authority which exercises planning control.

Integrated planning aims to provide the concept and establish plan control and guidelines, financial and other incentives, and training programs for the planners, architects, urban administrators, and all others involved in the rebuilding activities.

3. Education. At the initial stage, the goal is to train experts who would be capable of working on real life problems. In addition, these experts might be involved in education, in preparing programs for the media, and in informing and involving citizens at all levels of life: from primary school education to the university level.

The program aims to integrate numerous allied fields in its mission in the most complete context possible: applied technology, architecture, economy, engineering, history, management, planning, restoration, and sociology.



The Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), a subsidiary of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), undertakes research, publishing, documentation and information activities to better make known the Islamic culture and civilisation and promote mutual understanding between Muslims and other communities of the world. The Centre's work covers various subject areas in Islamic history, culture, history of science, arts, history of arts, and cultural heritage.

IRCICA was established in 1980 as the first subsidiary of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, to work in the field of culture. IRCICA is also the first international organisation established in Istanbul.

The main functions of IRCICA are the following:

- * To act as a focal point and meeting place for scholars, researchers, historians, intellectuals and artists from all over the world in order to foster research on and promote a better understanding of Islam and its civilisation.
- * To create objective conditions for a close cooperation among researchers and research institutions working in this field.
- * To publish studies in the form of books and monographs in order to better make known and disseminate information on Islamic culture and civilisation in the world.
- * To organise conferences, symposia, exhibitions and other activities in various subject areas of Islamic culture and civilisation.
- * To establish and promote linkages, cooperation and exchange of knowledge and reference material on Islamic culture and civilisation, with and among institutions concerned in the world, by means of modern communication channels.
- * To take measures and establish incentive programs in order to promote excellence in research in the fields of Islamic culture and civilisation.
- * To render advice and conduct special studies required by the relevant bodies of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

The Centre became active in 1980. In addition to its own tasks, it also assumed the functions of the Secretariat and Executive Organ of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) upon the establishment of this Commission in 1983. In the name of ICPICH the Centre organized five international competitions: three on calligraphy, one on photography, and the King Fahd Awards Competition for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture.

IRCICA published, until the present, 45 books in various fields of research on Islamic history, art and culture. The Centre has a computer system used in research and other activities. IRCICA also established a printing house in 1989.

37 issues of IRCICA Newsletter were published until now, in the three official languages of the OIC - English, French, and Arabic and distributed to about 8000 addresses all over the world. The Centre published two illustrated brochures introducing its activities and three documentary films on Islamic arts.

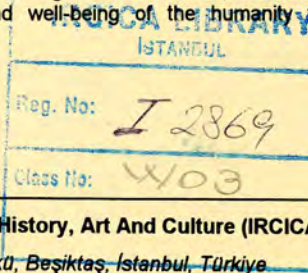
Out of the 95 exhibitions organized by the Centre, 24 were held in various Member States and three in other countries. The Centre participated in several important international book fairs. IRCICA organized, by itself and jointly with other institutions, over 30 conferences and seminars on a multinational level, eminent scholars and thinkers from all over the world gave lectures at the Centre, in addition to the bimonthly lectures organized for local interest.

The number of holdings of the Centre's Library reached 40.000 volumes in 54 languages and over 1000 periodicals. It has a rich audio-visual collection. The Library cooperates with 220 institutions and exchanges publications with 350 institutions all over the world.

The Centre's collection of historical photographs has over 60.000 photographs among which Yıldız Photograph Albums are most valuable.

The Centre also established an endowment named the Waqf for Research in Islamic History, Art, and Culture (ISAR) in 1990, to support its activities.

IRCICA continues to expand the coverage of its studies and to increase its cooperation with other institutions working in similar fields, in an effort to contribute to the global peace and well-being of the humanity through knowledge, art and culture.



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