



NEWSLETTER



August 1991

No:26



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RECENT IRCICA PUBLICATIONS

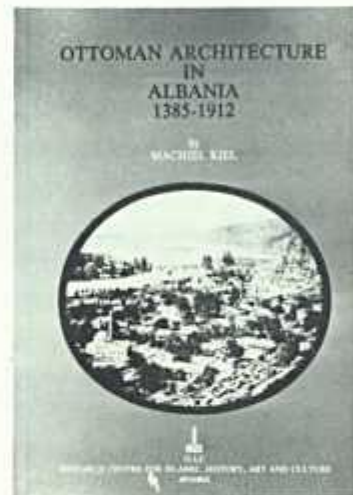


THE BOOK "KITAB AL-HIYAL" OF BANU MUSA BIN SHAKIR, Interpreted in the Sense of Modern Systems and Control Engineering, by A. Bir, Series of Studies and Sources on the History of Science no. 4, 1990; in English.

Banu Musa brothers were eminent men of science of the Abbasid period. "Kitab al-Hiyal" (the Book of Trickeries) comprises texts and drawings related to the mechanical devices they developed. This work is an extensive study of the tools from the viewpoint of modern engineering; it is also an appraisal of the scientific achievements of the period.

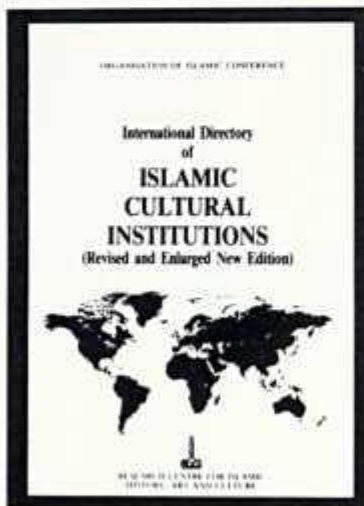
OTTOMAN ARCHITECTURE IN ALBANIA, by M. Kiel, published in cooperation with the Turkish Prime Ministry's Promotion Fund, 1990; in English

An extensive study of the numerous Islamic monuments in Albania. The author examined the historical context in which they were built, their characteristics and present state. Through this analysis, the work becomes much more than an architectural study; it reflects the Ottoman administrative system applied in the provinces, the social functions of the State, the structure of the society and its institutions.



INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS (Revised and Enlarged Edition), by A. Tanlak, A. Lajimi, 1989; in English.

Contains the addresses of 4371 institutions in 109 countries, including academies, learned societies, research centres, educational establishments, libraries, archives and museums.



OTTOMAN POSTAL STAMPS, by H.Y. Nuhoglu and T. Mert, 1990; in Turkish.

A catalogue containing over 2000 postal stamps most of which were utilised by the Ottoman Postal Administration between 1910 and 1918. The information on the stamps has been deciphered and presented systematically, providing a guide to the geographical and administrative division of the Ottoman territory. A toponymic index further enhances the value of this reference which will be useful to all those interested in the history of provincial administration, urban settlements, postal services as well as in philately.



EDITORIAL

The Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States came together in Istanbul for their twentieth conference. As in its previous annual sessions, the conference dealt with a number of issues which are of common interest for the Member States, either by the nature of the topic or because the subjects were brought to the fore by the countries, communities or parties concerned. Hence the conference agenda reflected the considerable range of the current -either new or awaiting solution since long - problems and concerns which are at stake for the Muslim world. While it gave opinion on recent developments regarding such issues as the Palestine cause, the situation in the Gulf, Muslim communities in non-member countries, disputes and conflicts prevailing in various parts of the world, the conference also evaluated the events of historic importance taking place on the global scene, especially in Eastern and Central Europe, as well as human rights questions, international security and solidarity. From political sections of the spectrum towards developmental issues, the same global outlook was kept, in determining the current economic problems and future prospects for the Muslim world, taking into consideration the new economic developments and the approaching single European market phenomenon.

Cultural subjects, another major subset of the developmental issues at hand, were also taken up with the same approach: advancement of culture and education, preservation of the Islamic identity, strengthening the cultural institutions in member countries and other topics on the cultural agenda were discussed with an underlying agreement on the need to foster interaction and dialogue, not only inter-Islamic but also on a global scale. In this context, a keen interest was shown by the Ministers towards the situation of Muslim communities in non-member countries and the preservation of their cultural and religious identity, as it transpired from discussions they held after having heard the representatives of Muslim communities in the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and Albania.

On the whole, the progress made in furthering cooperation in all areas was reflected in the background reports and proceedings of the sessions concerning the OIC's subsidiary and affiliated institutions. As it became evident through the results obtained from various multilateral agreements, joint projects and assistance programs among the Member States, the OIC's institutional structure, built stone by stone over the past two decades, has provided an appropriate set-up and task-sharing in implementing such cooperation. In this regard, the Ministers noted with appreciation the cooperation projects put into effect under the auspices of the Standing Committees for Information and Cultural Affairs, Economic and Commercial Cooperation, and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, respectively. From IRCICA's side, it was an encouragement that the Centre's activities were discussed in a constructive and appreciative atmosphere; furthermore, the holding of the conference in Istanbul enabled the Centre to give first-hand information on its activities to the ministerial delegations at the conference. We were honoured by their visit to our headquarters during the conference period.

In the coming months, we shall publish a series of studies prepared by different research groups at IRCICA, as mentioned in my brief overview of the Centre's activities at the plenary session of the Twentieth Islamic Conference. In a meaningful coincidence, this year's publications and conferences reflect, subject-wise, the diversity of the research areas the Centre is engaged in: 'the art of calligraphy', 'cultural dimensions of development', historical photographs of the Muslim world (album and catalogue under print), old manuscripts (Cyprus catalogue forthcoming). Another topic in the realm of arts is now added to the list: crafts. Preparations are under way for the seminar on 'Crafts: prospects of development' that we shall organise next October jointly with the Ribat al-Fath Association of Morocco and the Islamic Development Bank. Later at the end of October, the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs will meet in Dakar, Senegal in its fourth session. We shall be pleased to give you information on the proceedings and results of these meetings in our next Newsletter.

Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu



THE TWENTIETH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS Istanbul, Turkey, 4-8 August 1991



The Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey, between 4-8 August 1991. The Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the OIC is the highest decision-making body of the Organisation, following the Islamic Summit Conference. The Ministers meet each year in order to establish the general policies of the Organisation. Below is an outline of the proceedings of the Twentieth Islamic Conference and its decisions regarding the activities of IRCICA.

Following the reading of verses from the Holy Quran, the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers was opened by His Excellency Turgut Özal, President of the Republic of Turkey, who in his inaugural address, welcomed the participating delegations. Noting the pleasure of the Turkish Government in hosting the Conference of Foreign Ministers in Istanbul for the second time in the last two decades, he paid tribute to the remarkable progress achieved by the OIC in bringing the Islamic countries together and in promoting solidarity and cooperation among them.

President Özal observed that the OIC had successfully adapted itself to the changing conditions on the international scene and underlined the importance of the multi-dimensional nature acquired by the activities of the OIC as it evolved and matured. He said that however, some shortcomings of the Organisation must also be admitted and the responsibility of overcoming them be shouldered; he drew attention to the momentous challenges confronting the Islamic world at this particular junction of history. President Özal also underscored the crucial role which the OIC could play in achieving a just and durable peace through dialogue and cooperation, by identifying economic cooperation as the best and most effective method for achieving peace and stability. In this context he highlighted the contribution made by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation to increase and expand such relations among the Member States of the OIC. He said that the Islamic world stood to gain from the era of democratization and liberal economic policies dawning in Central and Eastern Europe. This era, he said, promised more freedom for the Islamic communities in these countries, better prospects for the preservation of their religious identity and a congenial atmosphere for their practice of the Islamic faith. He underlined the importance for the world community of remaining vigilant against dangers that could result from a rekindling, between Muslims and Christians, of ancient conflicts. To prevent such

a dangerous course, societies and individuals need to be more tolerant towards each other. President Özal underlined Turkey's will for increased cooperation with the Member States of the OIC and thanked the Secretary General of the OIC for his admirable performance and contributions in the service of the Organisation. Looking forward to the Sixth Islamic Summit to be held in Senegal, H.E. Turgut Özal expressed confidence that combined efforts embracing the ensemble of the Member States would ensure its success. He concluded his address by wishing success to the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers and expressing the hope that it would become a significant new milestone in the history of the OIC, reaffirming that the Islamic Ummah can, indeed must, meet the challenge of the new era lying ahead in the progress of mankind. On the proposal of H.E. Amr Moussa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Chairman of the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, the Conference decided to adopt the inaugural address of H.E. Turgut Özal as an official document of the Conference.

JST 1991, ISTANBUL



Following, the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Senegal, the State of Kuwait and the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the African, Arab and Asian Member States respectively expressed their profound gratitude and sincere thanks to President Turgut Özal for honouring the Conference with his presence and for the highly inspiring guidelines contained in his inaugural address. Their Excellencies the Foreign Ministers also thanked the Government of the Republic of Turkey for the excellent arrangements it had made for the Conference and the generous hospitality extended by it to all delegations.

H.E.Mr. Amr Moussa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Chairman of

the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers expressed the thanks of the Member States to Turkey for the constructive efforts it has exerted, under the leadership of President Turgut Özal, in hosting the present Conference and for the excellent preparations made in this respect. Referring to the many transformations taking place in the world, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt requested that the Organisation of the Islamic Conference keep abreast of these transformations. He referred to the adoption of the "Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam" by the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, which is considered an important achievement by which the Islamic States should be guided when making domestic legislations. He then stated the position of the Organisation on the various issues included in the agenda, in the implementation of the resolutions of the Nineteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

In his address to the inaugural ceremony, H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of the OIC, expressed to Turkey, its people and its Government, his fraternal esteem, distinct appreciation and deep gratitude for their constant support of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and their unfailing commitment to joint Islamic action. The Secretary General touched upon the various problems facing the Muslim world and the possible measures and lines of action needed to solve these problems. The Secretary General recalled the profound upheaval occurring on the international scene and asserted that "the new Islamic order must enable us to draw from our present sufferings and current difficulties the reasons underlying our hopes and determination, to conceive and edify together our future in order to avoid the obvious risk of marginalisation besetting our nations."

The conference thereafter unanimously elected H.E. Mr. Safa Giray, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey as the Chairman of the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers. After assuming the Chairmanship, H.E. Mr. Safa Giray delivered a statement in which he called upon the Foreign Ministers of the Member States to combine their efforts for the success of the Conference. Noting that the meeting was held at a critical juncture of international relations, he emphasized the need for a genuine display of resolute and coherent attitudes in facing the challenges that lie ahead. He also stressed the necessity of making the utmost of this Conference in order to strengthen Islamic solidarity and attune the progress of the Islamic Ummah with the new

direction towards multifold cooperation currently gaining momentum on the international scene, especially in the economic field.

Thereafter, the Conference elected the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Cameroon, the State of Kuwait and the State of Palestine as Vice Chairmen of the Conference. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt was elected as the Rapporteur-General.

The Conference decided to entitle this Session "Session for a just and durable peace through dialogue and cooperation among Member States and respect for international legitimacy." A great number of representatives of international organisations attended the conference as observers, among them, the United Nations Organisation, the non-Aligned movement and the Arab League.

The Director General of IRCICA, Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu made an address during the Plenary Session, in which he gave a brief history of the establishment of the Centre ten years ago, as the first cultural research institution created within the framework of the OIC; he highlighted the Centre's tasks and goals, consisting in shedding light on previously unexplored aspects of the culture and knowledge of great civilisations, studying subject areas and topics which previously were not or could not be looked into and disseminating the results of these researches to the concerned scholars, research and educational circles as widely and as readily as possible. He emphasized the success of the Centre during its first ten years and affirmed "we are happy to say that we were able to establish a tradition for this institution, as evoked by the name IRCICA". Touching on the efforts of the Centre in finding regular funding for the proper continuation of its projects and activities, he announced the establishment of a waqf to assist the Centre, and thanked the Member States, the OIC Secretary General and the various organisations and institutions which provided continuous support and assistance to the Centre.

The sessions were then continued in four separate Committees, each dealing with different groups of issues on the conference agenda: political affairs, economic affairs, cultural and social affairs, and administrative and financial affairs.

The report submitted by IRCICA, covering its activities since the 19th Islamic Conference as well as its work programme for 1991-1992 were examined and approved by the Cultural and Social

Affairs Committee. Furthermore, the Administrative and Financial Affairs Committee approved the budget for the 1991-1992 fiscal year.

The Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers took Resolution No. 13/20-C about IRCICA. In the operative paragraphs of the resolution, the Conference:

1. Congratulates the Centre on the occasion of its Tenth Anniversary and for its success in the realisation of the objectives assigned to the Centre, and expresses thanks to all member countries and all organisations which actively participated in the celebration of the Centre's Tenth Anniversary.
2. Commends the efforts of the Centre reflected in its pioneering accomplishments.
3. Approves the report on the activities and Plan of Action of the Centre.
4. Expresses its gratitude and appreciation to the host country (The Republic of Turkey) for the financial, material and moral support it has constantly extended to the Centre thus enabling it to carry out its functions in a satisfactory manner.
5. Recommends to the Member States to pay their contributions to the budget of the Centre on a regular basis and settle their arrears so that the Centre can implement its current and future plans of action.
6. Calls upon Member States, Islamic institutions and personalities, to extend moral, financial and material assistance to the Waqf established by the Centre to ensure the continuity and efficiency of its activities and conveys its thanks to the Governments of Turkey, Kuwait and Qatar for their contributions to this Waqf.

Activities of the Centre during the Conference:

During the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, the Centre took the opportunity to invite the participating delegations to its headquarters, in order to give them first-hand information about the Centre's activities. The Ministerial delegations met at IRCICA's conference hall in the morning of August 7. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre, in his welcoming speech, expressed his thanks for the privilege and honour given to the Centre by the visiting Ministers and delegations. He thanked the Member States and their institutions for their cooperation and assistance which had contributed to the Centre's progress and success in the first decade of its activities. H.E. Mr. Özdem Sanberk, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey made a speech, emphasizing the role that institutions such as IRCICA play and must play in strengthening cooperation and solidarity among Islamic countries, including the development of their cultural relations with other countries. H.E. Mr. Sanberk said that Turkey was proud to host a successful institution of the Muslim world as IRCICA and affirmed their support to this Centre in the future as in the present time. H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of the OIC expressed gratitude to the host country, the Republic of Turkey for having provided all the necessary patronage and assistance to the Centre since its establishment, which was another expression of Turkey's active support and involvement in the joint cooperation activities within the OIC. He said that the work undertaken by the Centre reflected the immensity of the tasks that the OIC had to accomplish in order to realise its objectives in the field of culture, to preserve its heritage and promote its cultural identity.



H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of the OIC addressed the Centre's ceremony. On his right is H.E. Mr. Özdem Sanberk, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey



The guests saw old photographs of Islamic cities on display at the Yıldız Palace courtyard

This was followed by the presentation of a documentary film entitled "IRCICA, 10 Years". The film provides an overview of the various activities undertaken by the Centre during its first ten years, including research projects, publications and promotional activities, and also contains footage of events and exhibitions organised by the Centre on the occasion of its 10th Anniversary which was celebrated in October 1990. After the film, the guests were invited to the Yıldız Palace courtyard where H.E.Mr. Özdem Sanberk, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey inaugurated an exhibition entitled "Islamic Cities One Hundred Years Ago" organised by the Centre. On display were historical photographs chosen from the Centre's archives, depicting cities and regions of the Islamic world. Were also shown photographs showing various aspects of daily life in the Muslim world in the beginning of the 20th century. The Centre then presented each guest with a historical photograph of the Ka'ba dating from the end of the 19th century, and a box of historical photographs in the form of greeting cards. The event was followed by the Turkish Radio and Television and by reporters from various Islamic countries.



CULTURAL EVENTS

Workshop on the OIC Information System Network held at the Islamic Research and Training Institute, Islamic Development Bank

A workshop on the OIC Information System Network (OICIS-NET) initiated by the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of the Islamic Development Bank was held in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 21-24 July 1991. Major objectives of the workshop included the exchange of experiences among national and regional institutions in the member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, relating to information systems and networks; the presentation of basic concepts, approaches, preliminary plans and progress for the development of the OICIS-NET; the definition of the system's role and functions and the evolution of cooperation and coordination among national and regional focal centres, in order to set up and implement the system.

The workshop included presentations by experts followed by group discussions on selected themes. Speakers and participants from all over the world and from a wide range of international and regional institutions attended the meeting.

The project initiated by IRTI's information Centre aims at developing an integrated system that will provide full information support to IRTI's research and training activities and for the development activities of the member countries of the IDB as a whole. Its functions include collecting and updating information in all related fields, classifying, processing and disseminating information to all interested and concerned parties. The activation of the system will facilitate the exchange of information among OIC member countries, their authorities and institutions, as well as Muslim communities in the world. The system requires the coordination of the participating countries' information sectors through the linkage of national, regional and sectoral focal points specializing in different subject areas. The type of information to be addressed is, subject-wise, data relevant for planning, decision-making, project design and implementation, and evaluation of various projects in the priority sectors of socio-economic development: scientific and technological development, food and agriculture, environment and health, industrial development, development of human resources, trade and commerce, and other areas of developmental interest to be included as necessity arises.

International Colloquium on "Maghreb in the Ottoman Era" in Rabat next year

The Department of History, Faculty of Letters, Mohammed V University in Rabat, Morocco is planning to hold a colloquium on "Maghreb in the Ottoman Era" between 16-18 April 1992. This academic meeting aims at giving an impulse for research in this field and encouraging communication and collaboration among the scholars and researchers concerned. It will also provide an opportunity for making an assessment of the current state of studies in the field. Specialists from the Maghreb countries, Turkey, Europe and America are expected to attend.

The History of Arabic Science Symposium to be held next year through Syrian-Spanish academic cooperation

The Institute for the History of Arabic Science in Aleppo, Syria will hold its *Fifth International Symposium on the History of Arabic Science; the Role of the Al-Andalus in the Progress and Development of Sciences* in cooperation with the "Instituto de Cooperacion con el Mundo Arabe" in Madrid, associated with the Spanish Foreign Ministry. The Symposium will take place in Granada, Spain, from 30th March to 4th April 1992. Paper presentations at the symposium will reflect the findings of recent research in the history of Arabic science, including medical and pharmaceutical sciences, basic sciences (chemistry, physics and mathematics), astronomy, agronomy, irrigation, engineering, geology, and technology.

The 'Sixth International Conference on the Economic and Social History of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey' to take place in France next year

IREMAM, The Institute of Research and Studies on the Arab and Muslim World, will organise the *Sixth International Conference on the Economic and Social History of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey (1326-1960)* in Aix-en-Provence, France, between 1st-4th July 1992.

The previous meetings in the series were held in Ankara, Turkey (1977), Strasbourg, France (1980), Princeton, U.S.A. (1983), Munich, Germany (1986) and Istanbul, Turkey (1989). The conference has

become an important scholarly forum for this field of research throughout the world. The theme encompasses a long period in history and a wide geography covering Anatolia, the Balkans and the Arab world. Among the subjects suggested for discussion are the historical references on economic and social life, economic life and the State (administration, fiscal practices, regulations, etc.), economic activity, practices and methods (production, means of transport, transactions, etc.), local and provincial communities, the family as a social unit, social mobility, and numerous other aspects of economic and social life in the Ottoman period, as well as the economic and social history of the Turkish Republic until 1960. The Conference organizer is Mr. Daniel Panzac, Director of Research at the 'Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique' (CNRS).

International Symposium on Mathematical Journalism: Centenary of "El Progreso Matematico"

This year is the centenary of the appearance of the first Spanish mathematical journal, 'El Progreso Matemático' (The Mathematical Progress), which was published by Zoel García de Galdeano (1846-1924). García de Galdeano, a professor at the University of Zaragoza, was a member of the 'Comité de Patronage' of the international journal 'L'Enseignement Mathématique' and of the 'Commission Permanente du Répertoire Bibliographique des Mathématiques' in Paris. He took active part both in the organisation of the Spanish national mathematical community and of the international community of mathematicians. On this occasion, the authorities of Zaragoza, the University of Zaragoza, and the Spanish Society for the History of Science and Technology are sponsoring an International Symposium on Mathematical Journalism to be held at Zaragoza University on 19-21 September 1991. The general theme is the mathematical journals published in the 19th and 20th centuries, in the context of the national and international mathematical communities.

The Symposium venue will be the Colegio Mayor Universitario 'Santa Isabel' at Zaragoza University in Zaragoza, Spain. Questions concerning registration and fees should be addressed to:

Mariano Hormigon, Departamento de Matematica Aplicada, Facultad de Ciencias (Matematicas), Ciudad Universitaria, 50009 Zaragoza, Spain.

Mediterranean Congress of Historical Ethnology in Lisbon

"Instituto Mediterraneo", the Mediterranean Institute in the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, New University of Lisbon, Portugal, is organising the *First Mediterranean Congress of Historical Ethnology*. The Congress will be held at the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon, on 4-8 November 1991, under the high patronage of the Secretariat of State for Foreign Relations and Cooperation.

The Congress is part of a joint cultural exchange program between the Arab Maghreb Union (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia) and Western European countries (France, Italy, Portugal and Spain). The purpose of this Congress will be to offer an opportunity for specialists from academic and research institutions of Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, to meet and discuss the results of their studies. The congress will address a variety of subjects in ethnology, archaeology, sociology and history, relating to the pre-classical era and Mediterranean identity. Exhibitions, mainly bibliographic, will also be held during the meeting period.

The Mediterranean Institute of the New University of Lisbon works for the promotion, expansion and dissemination of studies in sociology, ethnology, archaeology, history and languages in the Mediterranean region.

Comprehensive directory of ancient coins published in the United Arab Emirates

A coinage directory prepared by Mr. Abdullah Mohammed Jasim has been published in collaboration with the Information Committee of the Popular Heritage Revival Association in the United Arab Emirates. First of its kind in the country, the directory presents the author's own numismatic collection. Mr. Jasim spent eighteen years for research on the coins, to verify their authenticity and the periods when they were in use. The high-quality publication comprises forty-five colour illustrations. It is in three parts: the first is a general discussion of coins and their historical significance; the second part covers Islamic coins and reflects the results of studies on the coins which were in circulation at the time of Prophet Mohammed and later, in the periods of the four Caliphs, the Omeyyads and the Abbasids.

The third section covers the coins previously used in the region currently constituting the United Arab Emirates; it highlights the relations that were held between the communities of the region and the various African and Roman communities. In addition to presenting Mr. Jasim's precious collection of thousands of coins to the world, the publication is a highly valuable contribution to benefit studies in numismatics.

Reconstruction project at Saladdin Castle, Cairo

A project aiming at the reconstruction of the Bab al-'Azab at the Saladdin Castle in Cairo, to the original state it was in 750 years ago, is underway. Preliminary studies on the project were finalized and delivered to the Permanent Committee of Islamic Monuments for approval and carry-through.

The Bab al-'Azab project would include the establishment of schools for the restoration of monuments, the teaching of arts and crafts related to Egyptian and Islamic tradition and culture, and the construction of a new museum which is to house ancient Egyptian treasures.

The project also includes the construction of a handicrafts centre, a research centre, a conference hall and an international hotel with facilities for holding conferences and cultural events. This cultural and touristic centre will be located in the area of the Katkhuda Mosque, which is also to be restored along with other historical buildings at the site.

"Scientific Legacy of Andalusia" Exhibition in 1992

The city of Madrid will host an important cultural event in spring 1992: the exhibition "El Legado Científico de Al-Andalus", which will take place in the National Archaeological Museum. The General Directorate of Fine Arts and Archives of the Spanish Ministry of Culture and the 'Instituto de Cooperación con el Mundo Árabe', an organism of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will jointly hold this exhibition, which will be diffused worldwide.

The aim of the exhibition is to highlight the major scientific achievements which left their tracks in the history of Andalusia and to establish a better understanding and appreciation of this important period in Spanish history among scholars as well

as among a general audience. The exhibition will encompass the period between the first decades of the 8th century to the end of the 15th century and cover developments in astronomy, astrology, medicine, mathematics, agronomy and navigation.

Professors Juan Vernet and Julio Samsó from the Arabic and Islamic Studies Department of Barcelona University are Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner respectively, of the project. Professor Samsó's chronological classification of the exhibits includes five periods: the beginnings (the survival of Isidorian science from the year 711 until 822; the orientalising of Andalusian science from 822 until 1031; the Golden Century of science in Andalusia from 1031 to 1086; the "century of the philosophers" (12th century) and, science in the Kingdom of Granada (13th-15th centuries). Andalusian science as reflected in the field of navigation will constitute another important feature of the exhibition.

Professor Ahmad Al-Said Soliman, renowned scholar in Islamic studies passed away

Prof. Dr. Ahmad Al-Said Soliman, renowned scholar in Islamic and Middle Eastern studies, passed away in June 1991.



Born in Al-Mansura, Egypt in 1924, Ahmad Al-Said Soliman graduated in 1944 from the Faculty of Arabic Literature of King Fuad University (actually Cairo University). In 1947, he completed post-graduate studies at the Oriental Languages Institute, graduating with a high honour degree in Turkish literature. In 1950, he received a scholarship to pursue studies in Turcology in Paris. He worked in Turkey for two years in order to collect the references for his PhD thesis; he received the 'Doctorat d'Etat' in 1956, with the highest honour degree. After returning to Egypt, Mr. Soliman served as assistant, Assistant Professor, Professor and Head of the Oriental Languages Department at the Faculty of Literature of Cairo

University. He represented Cairo University at the Orientalist International which convened in Canberra, Australia in 1971. Prof. Soliman was also a member of the Arab Language Academy. In 1990, he was decorated with the Egyptian Order of Merit. His authorship was prolific in the fields of Sufism, history, linguistics and literature; he also translated some major classical works in these areas. Among his well-known books are those concerning the Mawlawi institution, its ethics and rituals and the principles of the Bektashi sect, which were published in French, his translation of "Defter-i El-Uşşak" by Kaygusuz Abdal, his translation from Turkish of Mehmet Fuat Köprülü's work "The Foundation of the Ottoman State" and Halil Edhem's book on Islamic States and dynasties. Professor Soliman served as expert in the Arab Language Academy until the end of his life. He will be remembered especially for his professional achievements in contributing Turkish and Persian classics to the Arabic literature.

Demise of Prof.Dr. Nihat Çetin distinguished scholar of Islamic literature

Literary and cultural circles deplore the demise of Prof.Dr. Nihat Çetin, a highly esteemed personality and eminent professor of literature. He passed away in June 1991. Born in Amasya, Turkey in 1924, Nihat Mazlum Çetin took interest in poetry at a very young age. He graduated from the Department of Turkish Language and Literature, Faculty of Letters, Istanbul University in 1948. He also obtained certificates from the Departments of Persian Language and Literature and French Language and Literature and followed Arabic courses. He started his professional career as a teacher, high school director, and writer of articles in various journals. At the same time, he wrote poems. Later, he returned to the University and obtained his Ph.D. from the Department of Arabic-Persian Language and Literature in 1958, with his thesis "Kitabu'l - Muzekker ve'l Mu'ennes by Abu Hatim es-Sijistani." He became assistant Professor in 1964 with his work on Abdelkani's "Hamasetu'z-Zurefa" and Professor in 1971 with his well-known work "Old Arabic Poetry." From 1965 to 1967, he was director of the High Islamic Institute in Istanbul.

From 1953 to 1986, he was on the Editorial Board of the Encyclopedia of Islam published by the Turkish Ministry of Education and wrote nearly 40 articles for this encyclopedia. Later, from the beginning of the preparations for the Encyclopedia of Islam published by the Religious Waaqf of Turkey, Prof.Dr. Nihat Çetin was a continuous

resource person who wrote several articles for this encyclopedia until his death. Professor Çetin was the Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies in Istanbul from 1953 until 1990, year of his retirement from the Faculty of Letters. He is the author of numerous articles on Arab, Persian and Turkish literature published in Turkish and foreign journals. His major books are: "Arabic Grammar" (together with Ahmet Ateş and Tahsin Yazici, 1964), "Old Arab Poetry" (1973), and "Arabic Texts I" (1977).

Prof.Dr. Nihat Çetin was an authority in the field of Islamic calligraphy and old manuscripts. His expertise is clearly understood from his article on the "Arab Script" published in the Encyclopedia of Islam by the Religious Waaqf of Turkey (vol. III, pp. 276-309). Furthermore, his study on the origins of the art of calligraphy and its development until the Ottoman school is contained in the work "The Art of Calligraphy in Islamic Heritage" published in Arabic by IRCICA (pp. 14-27). Prof.Dr. Nihat Çetin was known and appreciated by all those who knew him, for his contributions to studies in Arabic language and literature, and also for his earnestness and respectable personal characteristics.



Late Prof.Dr. Nihat Çetin giving a lecture at IRCICA

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Avicenna Latinus - Liber Quartus Naturalium: De Actionibus & Passionibus Qualitatum Primarium; Critical edition and lexicon by S. Van Riet, doctrinal introduction by G. Verbeke, Louvain-La-Neuve, E. Peeters - Leiden, E.J. Brill, 1989; 36+93+135 p. (Latin edition, annotations in French, Latin-Arabic and Arabic-Latin lexicon).

This is the seventh volume in the collection *Avicenna Latinus* critically edited by Simone Van Riet from the Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve. The meritorious academic work which leads to this series of publications comes under a project under the patronage of the International Academic Union, with the assistance of Unesco and the 'Fondation Universitaire de Belgique'. This volume represents the Fourth Book in the Natural Sciences - Physics section of Ibn Sina's great philosophical treatise *Al-Shifa*. Its contents are closely linked to those of the Third and Fifth Books, focusing on the study of the fundamental characteristics of the primary elements and the natural phenomena resulting from their behaviour.

This book is the first edition of the medieval Latin translation of *Liber quartus naturalium*, the Fourth Book on Physics. The manuscript of the original Latin translation made around the year 1280, is in Vatican. The doctrinal Introduction by Professor G. Verbeke, titled "A qualitative universe" is itself a valuable evaluation of Ibn Sina's Physics, philosophy and view of the universe. The volumes previously published in the series include the critical editions of the Latin translations of: *Liber de Anima seu Sextus de Naturalibus*, I-II-III (1972), *Liber de Anima seu Sextus de Naturalibus*, IV-V (1968), *Liber de Philosophia prima sive Scientia divina*, I-IV (1977), *Liber de Philosophia prima sive Scientia divina*, V-X (1980), *Liber de Philosophia prima sive Scientia divina*, I-X, Lexicon (1983) and *Liber tertius naturalium de generatione et corruptione* (1987) and the critical editions of *Libri Naturales*, I, II, V are in preparation.

18th Century Egypt: The Arabic Manuscript Sources, Daniel Crecelius (Ed.), California State University, Los Angeles, Regina Books, Claremont, California, 1990, 143 p. (in English)

This is an outstanding contribution to the historiography of eighteenth-century Egypt. The

book is a collection of the communications presented at an international conference on "Arabic Manuscripts Relating to the History of Eighteenth-Century Egypt" held on 8-9 March 1990 in California State University, Los Angeles. The conference brought together nine scholars who presented papers on the manuscript references concerning the Ottoman period in Egypt. As explained in the Introduction, there were four major objectives for the conference: to reconsider the work of 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Hasan al-Jabarti, whose writings dominated the historiography of Egypt for a long time; to bring to the attention of specialists the rich range of still unexploited manuscript sources; to examine the genealogical ties among these manuscript histories, and to look for links between Arabic and Turkish sources. A list is also given of fourteen major manuscript histories relating to the eighteenth century which still need to be studied; this indicates the extensive, unexploited material that is available on the subject. The book is dedicated to Professor Butrus Abd al-Malik, in appreciation for his outstanding teaching and scholarship in the Department of History, California State University, Los Angeles from 1969 until his retirement in 1990.

The first article by Jack A. Crabbs, Jr., sketches the political, social and cultural conditions in Egypt during the 18th century and offers an assessment of the historical literature that was produced as a result of those conditions. The other papers are "The Opusculum of Shaykh 'Ali al-Shadhili: a Source for the History of the 1711 Crisis in Cairo" by André Raymond, "Yusuf al-Mallawani's Tuhfat al-Ahbab and Ahmad Shalabi ibn 'Abd al-Ghani's Awdah al-Isharat" by 'Abd al-Rahim 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abd al-Rahim, "Sultans, Pashas, Taqwims, and Mühimmes: a Reconsideration of Chronicle-Writing in Eighteenth Century Ottoman Egypt" by Jane Hathaway, "Interrelationships among the Damurdashi Group of Manuscripts" by 'Abd al-Wahhab Bakr, "Ahmad Shalabi ibn 'Abd al-Ghani and Ahmad Katkhuda 'Azaban al-Damurdashi: Two Sources for al-Jabarti's 'Ajaib al-Athar Fi'l-Tarajim Wa'l-Akhbar" by Daniel Crecelius, "Syrian Manuscript Sources for the History of Eighteenth Century Ottoman Egypt" by Abdul-Karim Rafeq, "A Comparative Study of 'Abd al-Rahman al-Jabarti and Niqula al-Turk" by Afaf Lutfi al-Sayyid Marsot and "The French and the French Revolution in the Works of al-Jabarti" by Thomas Philipp.

Repertorio Bibliográfico de las Relaciones entre la Península Ibérica y el Norte de África (Siglos XV-XVI) (Bibliographical index of the relations between the Iberian Peninsula and North Africa - XVth-XVIth Centuries) by Mercedes García-Arenal, Miguel Angel de Bunes and Victoria Aguilar; *Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Instituto de Filología)*, Madrid, 1989, 303 p. (in Spanish)

This publication is a valuable contribution to research in the history of relations between the Iberian Peninsula and North Africa and culture, history, ethnography and politics in the latter region as referred to in the sources available in Spanish and Portuguese archival collections. It is an extensive bibliographic study which resulted from the collection and evaluation of over 700 index cards. The work itself is divided into two main parts: Sources, and the Bibliography. The first part gives an overview of the references on the subject, the objectives and the methodology of the study which led to this publication, and contains a list of books of Spanish, French and Portuguese which have been compiled according to the authors' names. These books reflect European opinions and attitudes towards North Africa, wars, the history and social life in general in that particular region, between the 15th and 16th centuries. The second section is a bibliography of 725 references arranged according to name of author; annotations with each entry briefly introduce the contents of the references.

The publication is one of the volumes which came out of the Research Project on "Relations of the Iberian Peninsula with North Africa in the XIIIth-XVIth Centuries" undertaken with the patronage of the 'Comisión Asesora para la Investigación Científica y Técnica' (C.I.C.Y.T.). - the Commission for Scientific and Technical Investigation.

Rawdat Al-Nisrin Fi Dawlat Bani Marin (The Garden of Flowers during the Reign of the Bani Marins) by Ibn Al-Ahmar, annotated translation by Miguel Angel Manzano with an Introduction, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Instituto de Filología), Madrid, 1989, 182 p., (in Spanish)

This publication is also the result of the Research Project on 'Relations of the Iberian Peninsula with North Africa in the XIIIth-XVIth Centuries' undertaken by the High Council of Scientific Investigation with the financial assistance of the 'Comisión Asesora para la Investigación Científica y Técnica' (C.I.C.Y.T.).

It is an annotated Spanish translation of the history of the reign of the Bani Marin dynasty, written in

Arabic by Ibn Al-Ahmar. The Introduction provides information on the life of the author, Abu'l-Walid Isma'il b. Yusuf b. al-Qaim bi-amr Allah Muhammad al-Jazrayi, known in the name of Ibn Al-Ahmar, the work itself and its different editions. Professor Manzano explains that he used the last version of the Rawdat published in 1962 by Abd al-Wahhab b. Mansur. He also used the prior translations for variation and in order to get the clearest possible translation of the text.

Ibn Al-Ahmar's work consists basically of two parts, the first part covering the reign of the Bani Marin (Marinid) dynasty which ruled for about two centuries, from 1270 A.D. to 1465 A.D. The main events relating to the period of each Sultan are described, as well as his life and personal characteristics. The second part covers the reign of the Abd al-Wadi dynasty; it is more detailed and provides information on battles and conquests. A total of forty-three governments are covered in the two parts. At the end of the book is a bibliography, along with a genealogical chart of the Bani Marin Dynasty.

Quest for Understanding: Arabic and Islamic Studies in Memory of Malcolm H. Kerr, S.M. Seikaly, R. Baalbaki and P. Dodd (Eds.), American University of Beirut, Beirut, 1991, XLI + 326 p. (in English)

The American University of Beirut has published a volume of essays in Middle Eastern studies dedicated to the memory of the late Malcolm Kerr (1931-1984), scholar and President of the University. The publication incorporates a rich collection of Arabic and Islamic studies and is the result of the collaboration among his colleagues and friends from different countries. Malcolm Kerr's parents were both members of The American University of Beirut. He himself was born in Beirut; he graduated from this University where he also held his first teaching post. Later he became a member of its Board of Trustees and served as its President from 1982 until his death in January 1984.

Malcolm Kerr's scholarly works were devoted to the politics of the Middle East, the history of Lebanon, and the history and philosophy of Islam. The topics of the essays in this volume are devoted to the same fields of interest. The book is divided into three parts with a Preface by Samir M. Seikaly, a Foreword by Peter Dodd, and two chapters on Malcolm Kerr's life and accomplishments. Part One deals with Lebanon: Past and Present, Part Two with The Politics of the Modern Middle East and Part Three, with Islamic Legacy. A few essay headings will give an idea as to the contents of the publication: "Lebanon in Ancient Texts" by Lamia Rustum Shehadeh; "Mount Lebanon under

the Mamluks" by Kamal Salibi; "The Feudal System of Mount Lebanon as Depicted by Nasif al-Yaziji" by Abdulrahim Abuhussain; "The Materialism of Shibli Shumayyil" by Majid Fakhry; "Ras-Beirut Adrift: An Endangered Liberal Community" by Samir Khalaf; "External Intervention in Lebanon: the Historical Dynamics" by Rashid Khalidi; "Nasser and the June 1967 War: Plan of Improvisation?" by L. Carl Brown; "the American Strategy in the Camp David Negotiations" by William B. Quandt; "Kerr's Egyptian Scenarios: A Re-Appraisal" by Mohamed Sid Ahmed; "Varieties of Religious Experience in the Quran" by Frederick M. Denny; "Sovereignty and Stratification in Islam" by Fuad I. Khuri; "An Astrological History Based on the Career of Genghis Khan" by Edward S. Kennedy; "Lunar Crescent Visibility Predictions in Medieval Islamic Ephemerides" by David A. King; "Early Lead-Glazed Wares in Egypt: an Imported Wrinkle" by George T. Scanlon; "Historical Evidence and the Archeology of Early Islam" by Lawrence I. Conrad; "William Henry Waddington: Orientalist and Diplomat (1826-1894)" by Henry I. Mac Adam. An index completes this valuable collection of studies.

Muhammad Aslam, Perspective on Development Planning in Pakistan, Bilal Books, Lahore, 1991, 378 p. (in English)

The researcher, the student and the general reader will find this study informative, instructive and interesting. Dr. Aslam gives the history of development planning in Pakistan; in doing so, he provides a whole review of Pakistan's economic and social development since 1947, date of foundation of the country. Based on extensive statistical data, he analyses the policies implemented with respect to various economic sectors; the process of industrialisation, land reforms, agricultural price policies and other sectoral developments in the planned period which started in 1955. He evaluates the success and failures of each five-year plan, from the first to the seventh (1955-60 to 1988-93). Particularly noteworthy are his analyses and observations regarding such issues of crucial importance as income distribution and regional disparities within the country. A meticulous and comprehensive study of development-planning and its impact on Pakistan's economy.

Sarzamine Ma Iran / Our Homeland Iran, photographs by Nasrollah Kasraian, text by Ziba Arshi, Sekkeh Press, 1991, 218 p. (in Persian and English)

This book is the result of many years of hard work on the part of Nasrollah Kasraian, who travelled

extensively through the country photographing mountains and villages, mosques, castles, ruins, carpet weaving, traditional ceremonies, and bazaars. It contains a Foreword by Mr. Kasraian followed by an essay by Ms. Ziba Arshi which, interspersed with poems by Hafiz, poetically describes Iran, the land and the people.

The main section of the book contains 167 pages of full-colour photographs with legends. In his quest to find photographs representative of the multi-faceted country that is Iran, Mr. Kasraian visited Kerman, Isfahan, Bandar Abbas, Mazandaran, Yazd, Mashad, Khorasan, Guilan, Kerman, Baluchestan, the Fars region and many other villages and cities including the capital, Tehran. He has also included a section containing the notes he took during his journey, providing additional details on some of the photographs, such as under what circumstances they were taken, and how long the photographer waited for the opportunity to present itself.

At the end of the book is a section containing the English translation of the photograph legends along with small black and white reproductions of the original photographs for easy identification. Also included is a map of Iran showing the route taken by Mr. Kasraian and the general order of presentation of the photographs in the book. This is a high quality artistic album and a reference of historic and cultural value.

La Casa Hispano-Musulmana: Aportaciones de la Arqueologia/La Maison Hispano-Musulmane: Apports de l'Archéologie (The Hispanic-Muslim house: contributions of archaeology), a joint publication of the *Patronato de la Alhambra y Generalife*, Granada, the *Casa de Velazquez* and the *Museo de Mallorca*, Granada, 1990, 376 p. (in Spanish and French)

This fascinating study will be of special interest to architects, archaeologists, sociologists, anthropologists, and those interested in the history and culture of Spain during the Muslim rule.

The book is a collection of communications from a colloquium which resulted from a collaboration effort between the 'Casa de Velazquez', the 'Museo Provincial de Palma de Mallorca' and the 'Patronato de la Alhambra del Generalife', aiming to examine the structure and characteristics of Muslim houses in the rural regions of Spain, especially in Eastern Andalusia. The colloquium was organised essentially by A. Bazzana and P. Cressier, with G. Rosselò-Bordroy and the Museum of Palma arranging an exhibition on the Spanish-Muslim house. The proceedings have been published by the 'Patronato de la Alhambra'.

The book comprises eighteen articles, seven in French and eleven in Spanish. At the end of each article is a summary in the other language. The methodology and approach adopted in the studies are explained in the introductory section. Also examined are the changes and transformations that have taken place in the architecture of Spain over the last four centuries. The book contains, at the end of each chapter, photographs, aerial views, detailed cross-sectional drawings, schemes and graphs of various village houses.

Function, form and style are discussed as well as the material used in construction. Some articles provide room by room descriptions of the houses and some reveal housing structures which have been discovered as a result of archaeological excavations. The studies also touch upon the finding of ceramic work and other artifacts.

One chapter is devoted to medieval houses in Sicily, where Muslims ruled for two centuries. At the end of the book are the proceedings of the Question and Answer sessions that took place during the colloquium.

Studies in History of Medicine and Science, An International Quarterly, Departments of History of Medicine and History of Science, Hamdard University, New Delhi

The Jamia Hamdard (Hamdard University), previously the Institute of History of Medicine and Medical Research, New Delhi, India, publishes a journal entitled 'Studies in History of Medicine and Science'. The journal is published quarterly, in March, June, September and December. Its Editor-in-Chief is Hakeem Abdul Hameed and in addition to its Editorial Board, it receives the advice and cooperation of reputed scholars from various countries who are on its Advisory Board.

The 'Studies in History of Medicine and Science' Journal was started in 1977 under the title 'Studies in History of Medicine' and was expanded in 1985 to cover the history of science. An international group of historians of medicine and science, such as A. Demirhan (Istanbul), Bruce Lawrence (N. Carolina), F.E. Peters (New York), V.P. Vizgin (Moscow), Sami K. Hamerneh (Irbid, Jordan) and N.H. Keswani (Bombay, New Delhi) are contributing to the journal.

The journal specialises in studies and researches in Africa and Asia with reference to the medieval period. Added emphasis is placed on the interaction

and transmission of scientific and medical ideas among the various countries. The Journal also publishes translations of papers from Russian, dealing with the history of sciences in the Central Asian Republics of the USSR, and prints facsimiles of primary texts in Arabic, Persian, Sanskrit etc. as a supplement readily available to scholars. Also published in special cases, are original research articles and papers on European medieval ages having a bearing on medicine and science in Africa and Asia.

Due to a backlog, a double volume issue of the Journal, covering 1986 and 1987, is published. A look at the contents would perhaps give the reader a better idea of some of the subjects dealt with by the Journal:

Medicine: 'Tibb-i Firoz Shahi by Shah Quli, Introduction and edited text' by S. Zillurrahman; 'Orientalists and the Islamic medicine' by Mohammad Said; 'Surgical Firsts in Arabic Medical Literature' by Farid Sami Haddad; 'Etiology of Diseases in Unani Medicine' by Altaf Ahmad Azmi; 'Physicians and Medical Sciences in Central Asia during 15-16th Centuries' by Mansura Haider; 'Unani Medicine during the Reign of Qutb Shahi Dynasty' by Abdul Bari.

Science: 'Rashiduddin Fadlullah, a Great Muslim Historian and Scientist of the Early 14th Century' by Nazir Ahmad; 'History of Astronomical Instruments of Delhi Sultanate and Mughal India' by Yukio Ohashi; 'On Some Zijes by Scholars of Near and the Middle East (translated from Russian)' by Abdullah Zade; 'A 19th century Persian Manuscript on Modern Astronomy' by M.N. Mathur; 'The Determination of Sine 1' in Zij-i Muhammad Shahi by Swai Jai Singh' (translated from Russian) by S. Sabirov; 'A Report on International Conferences held in Düsseldorf and Hamburg in 1986' by S.M.R. Ansari; 'A Handlist of Manuscripts on Mathematics and Astronomy in Indian Libraries' by S.M.R. Ansari and Zia Fatima. The journal also comprises book reviews and supplements.

The Journal welcomes articles based on primary source material and/or dealing with case histories and will also consider short reviews for publication. All correspondence regarding subscription and exchanges of the Journal should be addressed to: *A. Habib Khan, Distribution Secretary, Studies in History of Medicine and Science, Jamia Hamdard (Hamdard University), Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi - 110062, India.* Editorial correspondence should be addressed to the Associate Editor at the same address.

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

We are pleased to note that our featuring selected institutions of the world which deal with subjects related to Islamic culture has met interest. We present this time brief information about the Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and the Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation in London, England. A newsletter archive specialised in Asian studies in Maryland, U.S.A. is also introduced.

ISLAMIC RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE (IRTI), ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB) Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The Islamic Development Bank (IDB), a specialised institution established under the aegis of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, is responsible for undertaking research and training activities primarily in the areas of Islamic economics, banking and finance and other related fields which would further the development of the Bank's Member States. In order to carry out its research and training tasks, the IDB established the Islamic Research and Training Institute in 1981; the Institute became operational in 1982. Some information is provided here on the basis of the 1990-91 Prospectus of IRTI.

The purpose of the Institute is to undertake research that will enable economic, financial and banking activities in Muslim countries to conform to Islamic principles and extend facilities for personnel engaged in development activities in the Bank's member countries.

IRTI consists mainly of three technical divisions (Research, Training and Information) and a division of Administrative and Financial Services. Each division functions under a head of division supported by a team of professional and general staff.

The Research Division of IRTI aims at fulfilling several objectives: it conducts basic and applied research in the fields of economics, finance and banking and provides for the training and development of the capabilities of professional personnel in the fields of Islamic economics, in order to meet the needs of the authorities and research institutions concerned. Among this division's activities are the following:

- * Preparation of surveys of literature and books;
- * Collection of data and information;
- * Translation of works in Islamic economics;
- * Holding research and general seminars and organising workshops;
- * Publication and dissemination of information and research results;
- * Undertaking research work.

The division also implements the IDB Prize in Islamic Economics and Islamic Banking and the IRTI Assistance Program for Promotion of Research and Training; it organises a visiting scholars program.

The Training Division of IRTI is assigned the task of offering training facilities to develop the capabilities of professional personnel engaged in development activities in IDB member countries. The Division carries out its duties by organising seminars, workshops and courses on subjects relevant to the development requirements of member countries. These are often implemented in collaboration with other institutions and they offer opportunities for the exchange of ideas and experiences among the participating officials and technical staff. This year's program includes: training programs for the staff of the National Development Financing Institutions, on the subjects of project identification and appraisal and project implementation and supervision; seminars on debt management, to bring together the officials responsible for managing external debt in member countries; a seminar on public administration from Islamic perspective, aiming to familiarise the senior staff in government departments and in academic institutions in the member countries with the basic concepts and principles of Islamic administration. The proceedings of seminars and workshops are published.

IRTI's Information Centre is in charge of disseminating information to users in OIC and IDB member countries. Its activities include collecting, processing, storing and disseminating information to OIC and IDB member countries and to develop relevant data bases. Data processing work in the current year covers, subject-wise, the cement industry, the energy sector, trade statistics and trade regulations, and universities in the member countries. As to data base design and development, it is directed towards the construction of data bases on the fertilizer industry, the energy sector, trade information systems and an OIC universities data base. The division is currently working on planning, designing and implementing an OIC Information System Network, in cooperation with the OIC member countries and relevant regional and international organisations.

Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Ali, President of the IDB is also President of the Institute. Senior officials of IRTI include Mr. Abdurrahman Nur Hersi (Advisor to the IDB), Mr. Abdelhamid Hassan El-Ghazali, Director of IRTI, Dr. Mohammad Aslam Niaz (Officer-in-Charge, IRTI and Head, Training Division), Dr. Mohammad Fahim Khan (Acting Head, Research Division), Mr. Mohamed Benyoucef (Officer-in-Charge, Information Center), Mr. Mohamed Ali Musalli (Head, Administration and Financial Services) and Mr. Abdul Rahman Kamaruddin (Information Systems and Projects Advisor). The address of IRTI is *Islamic Research and Training Institute, Islamic Development Bank, P.O.Box 9201, Jeddah 21413, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Fax: 6366871; Telex: 601407-601137.*

**AL-FURQAN
ISLAMIC HERITAGE FOUNDATION
London, England**

Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation was established by the Yamani Cultural Foundation in 1988 primarily with the purpose of preserving the enormous treasury of Islamic manuscripts for posterity.

Main objectives and functions of the Foundation as indicated in its informative pamphlet, are:

- * to promote, sponsor and initiate research into the field of Islamic manuscripts;
- * to assist in the preservation and restoration of Islamic manuscripts;
- * to assist in cataloguing previously uncatalogued collections of Islamic manuscripts;
- * to establish a record of the manuscripts and build up a library of these records at the Foundation's premises;
- * to edit and publish Islamic manuscripts of particular significance;
- * to hold academic seminars, conferences and lectures in order to stimulate discussions and action in the field.

The Foundation undertakes a variety of research and cultural projects in line with its objectives. These activities include:

* **The Survey of Manuscript Collections:** This most extensive survey to date provides detailed information on catalogued and uncatalogued collections of Islamic manuscripts in eighty countries, in languages which include Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Urdu, Swahili, Bengali, Fulani, etc. The survey covers as many private collections as possible.

* **Cataloguing of Manuscripts:** Based on the results of the survey, the Foundation is establishing a priority list in order to catalogue certain uncatalogued collections of Islamic manuscripts. There are private collections, which are mostly uninvestigated, in African countries such as Kenya. The Foundation is preparing a handlist of these manuscripts.

* **Copying of Manuscripts:** The Foundation is in the preliminary stages of a feasibility study for this project which is expected to be ready for implementation towards the end of 1992.

* **Publication Programme:** The Foundation plans to publish the results of the Survey of Islamic Manuscripts in 1992. The results will be printed by E.J. Brill of Leiden in three volumes. Volume I is expected to come out in the first quarter of 1992. The Foundation also hopes to critically edit and publish a number of hitherto unpublished Islamic manuscripts.

The Foundation plans to organise one conference and one seminar a year on a subject related to Islamic manuscripts. The inaugural Conference is scheduled for November 1991 on "The Significance of Islamic Manuscripts." The Foundation also plans to organise an annual exhibition on Islamic manuscripts as well as to establish close cooperation with other academic institutions that share the same objectives.

The Foundation is chaired by Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani. The Board of Directors, the International Advisory Council and the Board of Experts include valuable scholars and distinguished personalities from the Islamic and the Western world.

The reference library of the Foundation contains 3660 titles in 4735 volumes in particular in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Urdu, Swahili and in Western languages. The library intends to assemble a collection of about 15000 volumes, including, particularly, printed catalogues of Islamic manuscripts as well as primary and secondary sources on subjects related to Islamic studies. The entire collection is classified according to the Library of Congress system. An automated catalogue, developed especially for the Foundation, displays all necessary bibliographical data in Arabic and Latin alphabets.

All correspondence with the Foundation should be addressed to : *The Secretary General, Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, Eagle House, High Street, Wimbledon, London SW19 5EF, England. Phone: (081) 944-1233, Fax: (081) 944-1633.*

ASIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES

Maryland, U.S.A.

An extensive collection of academic and cultural newsletters and association bulletins dealing with Asian studies and Asian affairs. The archives have been established by Mr. Frank Joseph Shulman in a personal endeavour, without external support. Mr. Shulman has continuously developed the archives since 1970 as a long-term service to researchers, students, librarians and the general public. This he has done with three major objectives in mind:

- * The creation of a centralised collection of newsletter-type material reflecting the state and development of Asian Studies including Asia-related organisations and the activities of various institutions and individuals.
- * The preservation of this material is for long-term scholarly use, especially as libraries and individual readers generally discard them on account of their perceived ephemeral nature.
- * The creation of a data base that serves in the preparation of a variety of bibliographies and reference tools, some of which are published.

More than 1000 titles from all over the world are currently on file; most of them are in English, French or German, but there are also various publications in Chinese, Japanese, Korean and other Asian languages. Many have had limited circulation; some appeared in mimeographed or photocopied form.

A guide to part of these publications, prepared by Frank Joseph Shulman, appeared in the 1974-75 and 1975-76 volumes of the *Asian Studies Professional Review*. A highly selective list of then currently published academic newsletters focusing on China appeared in the March 1980 issue of the Association for Asian Studies' *Asian Studies Newsletter* and in the June 1980 issue of the *Chinese Librarians Association Newsletter*. A detailed listing of titles relating to Southeast Asia, in turn, has appeared in *Southeast Asian Studies: Options for the Future*, edited by Ronald A. Morse (Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, 1984); and *Asian Studies in Southeast: A Twenty-Five Year Retrospect*, edited by Kenneth W. Berger (Columbia, South Carolina, 1987), contains a listing of newsletters on Asia published in the Southeastern part of the United States. Shulman is gradually preparing for publication a comprehensive, annotated guide to many past and current newsletters and association bulletins which relate to Asia, from the Middle East to Japan and the Philippines.

All files in the Asian Studies Newsletter Archives are open by appointment to people visiting the Washington D.C. area. Requests for a limited number of copies of individual issues of newsletters are filled at cost whenever possible. The Asian Studies Newsletter Archives appreciate the cooperation of newsletter and association bulletin editors, university centers, various organizations and associations, cultural institutions and individuals, and would be grateful to be added on a complimentary basis to mailing lists for appropriate newsletters and bulletins. Send all correspondence to: *Frank Joseph Shulman, Asian Studies Newsletter Archives, 9225 Limestone Place, College, Maryland 20740-3943, U.S.A.*

IRCICA ACTIVITIES

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON CRAFT: PROSPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT

23-25 October 1991

Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco

IRCICA, in cooperation with the Islamic Research and Training Institute of the Islamic Development Bank (Jeddah) and in collaboration with Ribat al-Fath Association (Rabat), is organising an International Seminar on Craft: Prospects for Development in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, on 23-25 October 1991. The seminar will be held under the High Patronage of His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco. A variety of topics will be on the agenda, such as the present state of traditional crafts, standards of design, material quality, presentation of products, promotion and marketing, in order to identify the pertinent issues, problems and prospects.

The objectives of the seminar are:

- To assess the present state of Crafts in the Muslim World.
- To determine and evaluate the prospects for the economic, social and cultural development of traditional crafts in the respective regions of the Islamic World.
- To address the issue and establish the level of understanding and appreciation of the contribution made by Islamic cultures and civilisations to crafts and craftsmanship as it is practiced today.
- To discuss measures that can be taken to guard against the loss of Islamic values and traditions with a view towards maintaining the uniqueness of Islamic craft heritage.
- To develop a strategy for global cooperation.

The Seminar will involve presentations by key speakers covering various aspects of the theme, discussions and summary presentations by the participants. The Seminar will engage in a wide range of issues concerning design, skill development, production quality, financing, marketing and patronage and will produce guidelines and proposals for global cooperation.

The topics for presentation are:

Keynote address:

Living Crafts in Islam: Past, Present and Future

Themes of the papers:

* Islamic Design Heritage: Revival and Re-use of Traditional Designs.

* Technical Cooperation in Skill Development and Transfer of Technology.

* Quality Craft Production: Problems and Prospects.

* Economic and Financial Aspects of Crafts Development.

* Exploring New Market Opportunities.

* Government and Patronage: Towards a Dynamic Growth and Preservation of Traditional Arts and Crafts.

Other sub-topics, related to the development of crafts, will be presented by specialised agencies and organisations, such as "Strategies for Marketing Islamic Crafts in the USA."

The seminar will be held at the Sherazade Hall at La Tour Hassan Hotel in Rabat.

Participants in the seminar are composed of eight scholars to present studies on specific themes, nineteen craft experts from different parts of the Islamic World to present papers highlighting craft in their respective countries with respect to the seminar topics, and policy-makers, craft administrators and experts from OIC Member States.

A great number of representatives of regional and international bodies and non-governmental organisations working or concerned with crafts will also be present.

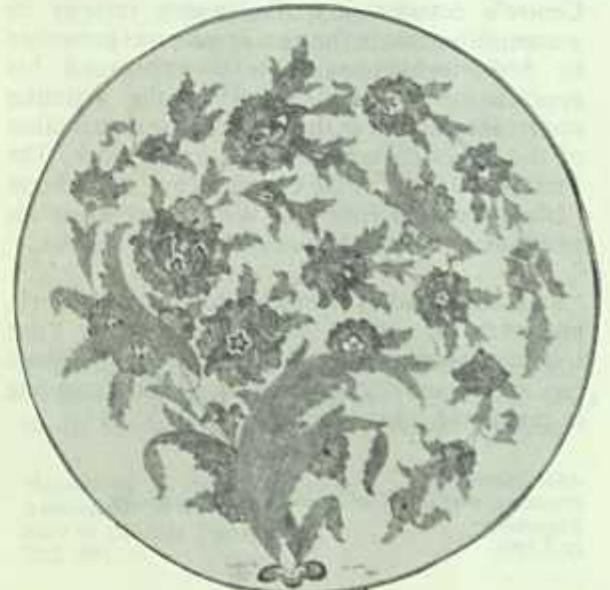
An Islamic Crafts Exhibition will take place during the seminar, in the Hall of Mohamad V theatre in Rabat. Each participating country will contribute at least three items which they consider most representative for display. Items to be exhibited include, in addition to handicraft items, publications concerning arts and crafts in the Islamic world.

Cultural activities to be held on the occasion of the seminar also include a three-day study of the historical cities of Fez and Marakesh. The tour will enable the participants to see the environment in which the Moroccan craftsmen's talent and creativity flourish. In addition to visits of monuments such as the Karaouyne University and Al-Bouanania School in Fez and Al-Bedii Palace and Al-Koutoubiya Mosque in Marrakesh, the excursion program includes on-the-spot studies in the areas where traditional crafts are practiced, such as the old city of Fez and the "Ensemble Artisanal" in Marrakesh.

Gilding exhibition at IRCICA

* On May 24, IRCICA welcomed gilding expert Çiçek Derman and her students at an exhibition. The event, which was supposed to be carried through till June 20, was prolonged by ten days due to the interest it met. On display were several works of gilding by Mrs. Derman and four of her students, Gülнар Duran, Ayten Tiryaki, Battal Etlik and Sadri Sayioğulları.

Çiçek Derman was born in Ankara in 1945, but moved to Istanbul where she completed high school and received her Bachelor's degree in the History of Art from Istanbul University. She later worked with many masters of gilding and illumination including Prof. Dr. Ahmet Süheyl Ünver, Muhsin Demironat, Necmeddin Okyay and Rikkat Kunt. It was from Rikkat Kunt that she received her diploma and began producing works in her own name as a gilder and illumination artist. Çiçek Derman has exhibited her works in many parts of the world including Switzerland, Italy and the U.S.A., as well as in Turkey. She currently teaches at the Faculty of Fine Arts of Marmara University in Istanbul.



Gilding: Çiçek Derman [Calligraphy: Nazif Bey (1846-1913)]

Distinguished visitors at IRCICA



H.E. Mr. Alija Izzetbegović and his daughter in the Centre's library

The Centre was honoured by the visit of H.E. Mr. *Alija Izzetbegović*, President of Bosnia and Hercegovina, Yugoslavia, on 17 July 1991. The President, who is in the same time a scholar and author in Islamic studies, showed a keen interest in the Centre's activities and publications. The Centre's documentary film which reviews its accomplishments in the past decade was presented to Mr. Izzetbegović, who expressed his appreciation of the variety of the activities undertaken as well as the subject-wise distribution of the topics covered in the research work. The President signed for the Centre a copy of his book "Islam Between East and West" and wrote his impressions on the Visitors' Book, as follows:

"I am impressed by the technology of your work, and with the results, which are evident. Your Institute contributes to better knowledge of Islamic civilisation and thereby to mutual understanding in the world. May Allah help you."

Alija Izzetbegović
President, Presidency of Bosnia and Hercegovina,
Yugoslavia
17.7.1991



IRCICA also welcomed Ministers and high officials of the Member States of the OIC. Their impressions about the Centre's work as recorded on the Visitors' Book are reproduced below:

* "I am very satisfied of my visit to the Centre. I was informed, on previous occasions, about some of IRCICA's activities; but this visit enabled me to closely observe the efforts being made here. These activities in the service of Islamic culture, civilisation and scholarship are remarkable, I wish that the OIC continuously support this Centre and attach a special importance to its activities ... I wish success to my brother and friend Dr. Ekmeleddin and a regular continuation of their valuable work..."

Tahir Al-Masry
Prime Minister of Jordan
(former Minister of Foreign Affairs)
24.5.1991



* I was happy to observe and learn about the remarkable work being conducted on these premises. Those who work here deserve all the appreciation and merit, since they meticulously and devotedly endeavour to build information and communication channels within the Muslim world, in full confidence of God's help..."

Ali M. Alshurafa
Director of the Presidential Court
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
28.6.1991

* "This is a noble heritage, rich in its meanings, its historical and moral values. This heritage deserves all possible attention. No doubt, those who undertake these studies make great efforts which will benefit the coming generations."

Faruq Al-Shara
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Syria
7.8.1991

*"I had the honour of visiting the Centre today. ... May God gave success to the Centre in its work in the service of the glorious Islamic heritage".

Mohammed Bin Rashid Al-Khalifa
Ambassador of the
State of Qatar in Turkey
30.7.1991

* "I express my sincere compliments and appreciation for the remarkable work that is being accomplished by IRCICA since more than a decade under the dynamic and competent leadership of Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, for the benefit of Islam, Muslims and mankind."

Ambassador Abdourahmane Hama
 Director of the Cabinet of
 H.E. the Secretary General of the OIC
 15.6.1991



H.E. Ambassador Abdourahmane Hama signs the Centre's book; on his left is Mr. Mamadou Alhaji Sosseh, Conferences Officer at the OIC General Secretariat

* "I visited the Centre on the occasion of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Istanbul and had the opportunity to come together with brother Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu and his colleagues, to see the work they perform in order to highlight the Islamic heritage and bring the common history, arts and culture into focus..."

Mohammed Faiz Al-Sharif
 Head of Islamic Affairs Department
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
 10.8.1991

* "I was happy to visit IRCICA for the first time. I had the opportunity to get acquainted with its various activities and to see its library which comprises most valuable references. I appreciate the contributions that are being made by the Centre and its members, under the direction of my brother Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, in the fields of Islamic culture and arts..."

Ambassador Mohammed Munir Zahran
 Director, International Organisations Department
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt
 6.6.1991

* "I am happy to visit this Centre as the representative of the Ribat Al-Fath Association, in order to discuss the preparations of the international seminar on Craft: Prospects of Development to be organised jointly by IRCICA, the Association and the Islamic Development Bank on 23-25 October 1991. After a week of serious work with the Centre, I am pleased to express my appreciation of the activities that are carried out here with the best methods and instruments and in order to highlight the true aspects of Islamic civilisation; this will be to the satisfaction of anyone who is interested in Islamic subjects."

Omar Amine Benabdallah
 Director of Crafts, Ministry of Crafts and
 Social Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco and
 Chairman of the Economic Development Commission,
 Ribat Al-Fath Association
 2.9.1991





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

The Commission represented at the 20th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers

The Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the OIC was held in Istanbul, Turkey on 4-8 August 1991. A summary of the program and proceedings of the conference is given in the first pages of this issue, together with a highlight of some IRCICA activities arranged on the occasion of the conference.

The International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH), subsidiary organ of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, was represented at the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, which examined and discussed the report submitted by the Commission about its activities and future work programs. H.E. Prof. Abdelhadi Boutaleb, Vice-Chairman of the Commission and Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary of the Commission, represented H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Commission at the Conference; Dr. Mohammed Saleh Gazdar, Director of the Liaison and Coordination Bureau of H.R.H. the Chairman of the Commission in Riyadh, submitted the Commission's activity report to the Cultural and Social Affairs Committee of the conference where it was adopted. On the other hand, the budget of the Commission for financial year 1991-92 was adopted by the Administrative and Financial Affairs Committee.

The Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers adopted the Resolution no. 14/20-C on the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH). In the operational paragraphs of the Resolution, the Conference

1. Approves the report of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage comprising its plan of action.

2. Invites Member States to continue to accord attention to Islamic heritage.

3. Appeals to the Member States to regularly pay their contributions and settle their arrears to the Commission's budget.

4. Extends its thanks to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz for patronizing and supporting the activities of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage.

5. Expresses its appreciation to the Chairman of the Commission, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz for the efforts he exerts to secure the objectives of the Commission.

6. Expresses its appreciation to the Government of Turkey and the Suleymaniye Library for their cooperation in organising a training course for restoring and preserving manuscripts.

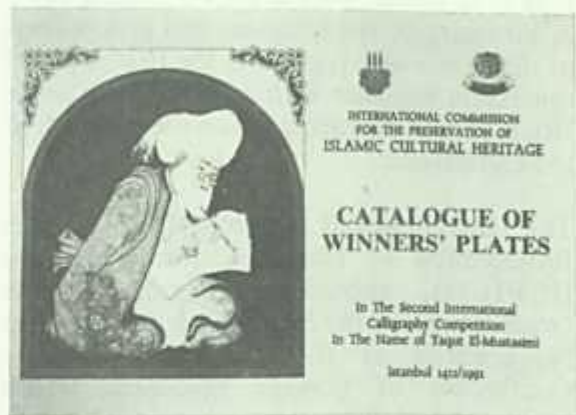
7. Decides, at the request of the Indonesian Government, to appoint Prof. Dr. Nourouzzaman Shiddiqi, Dean of the Faculty of Culture at the State Institute for Islamic Religion in Yogyakarta as member of the Commission in replacement of Prof. Hassan Jalil, the former member from Indonesia.

During the period of the conference, the Secretariat of the Commission (IRCICA) arranged an exhibition at the Hilton Convention Centre, nearby the hall where the plenary sessions of the conference were being held, where it displayed thirty-eight calligraphic works from nineteen countries, selected from among the winners' calligraphies at the First and Second International Calligraphy Competitions organised in 1986 and 1989. The exhibition held the interest of the delegations participating at the conference.

**Newly published: the Catalogue of
Winners' Plates at the Second International
Calligraphy Competition**

The *Catalogue of Winners' Plates in the Second International Calligraphy Competition in the name of Yaqut El-Mustasimi*, which was organised by the Commission in 1989 has appeared. The Preface of the catalogue is written by H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Commission; it is followed by an Introduction by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA and Secretary of ICPICH. Then come the reproductions of selected calligraphies of Yaqut El-Mustasimi, his biography, the list of Jury members of the competition, photographs depicting the Jury's working sessions, and the main part, the reproductions of the 50 works which were awarded at the competition. The works are by 31 artists from 11 countries and they are written in the various calligraphic styles known in the Islamic world, namely jaly thuluth, thuluth, naksh, jaly taliq, taliq, jaly diwani, diwani, kufi, muhaqqaq, reyhani, ijaza, riq'a, maghribi and shiqeste. At the end of the catalogue are given the photographs and

addresses of the winners, with the aim of introducing them and creating grounds of communication among those who are interested in this art. The catalogue has 78 pages in 32x25.5 cm. dimensions. It can be requested for US\$10.- from the Commission Secretariat at IRCICA's address.



Demise of Lebanese Calligrapher Kamil Albaba



The world of calligraphy lost one of its eminent representatives; Mr. Kamil Albaba was deceased in Riyadh in May 1991. He devoted his life to teaching and practicing this art.

Born in Tyr, Lebanon in 1905, Kamil Albaba moved to Beirut in his childhood, since his father Mr. Selim Albaba, who taught calligraphy at the Imperial College in the Ottoman period, was appointed as teacher of Arabic literature at the Teachers' School and the Islamic College in Beirut. Kamil Albaba learned calligraphy from his father. He also received training from calligrapher Najib Hawawini who served King Fuad of Egypt. In addition to producing outstanding calligraphic works and teaching this art, Kamil Albaba wrote several captions for books and journals published in Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and other Islamic countries. He taught calligraphy at the Sharia College in Beirut and the Fine Arts Institute of the University of Lebanon. Mr. Kamil Albaba's contributions in promoting general interest in calligraphy, his encouragement and assistance to professional and amateur calligraphers will always be remembered with appreciation. May God bless his soul.

Calligraphy by Kamil Albaba (from the cover of his book)

MUSEUM

The Decorative Arts Museum of Iran is one of the big museums located in Tehran and renown for their rich collections of art and handicraft items. These museums administered by the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, include the Iranian National Museum (a history and archaeology museum), the National Arts Museum, the Anthropological Museum, the Contemporary Arts Museum, the Carpet Museum, the Glass and Ceramics Museum, among others.

THE DECORATIVE ARTS MUSEUM Tehran, Iran



The Decorative Arts Museum of Iran was established in 1959 and officially inaugurated in 1961. It is located in a late 19th century building in downtown Tehran.

The collection forming the nucleus of the museum was gathered by the late Abdollah Rahimi and was acquired in 1957 by the former Ministry of Arts and Culture. During the three years between the acquisition of the collection and the inauguration of the Museum, other collections were brought and several donations made, enriching the museum immeasurably. While many of the museum's historical pieces are ancient, the majority were crafted in the 19th and the 20th centuries.

The museum consists of four floors and a basement. The introductory brochure kindly provided by the Museum gives detailed information on the holdings and how the various items are displayed:

In the ground floor are, on permanent exhibition, items from the Kakh-e Marmar (Marble Palace). Among them is a beautiful collection of incised and inlaid furniture. The first floor contains booths displaying various traditional Iranian textiles and clothing items, including plain, gold-threaded, linear-patterned and floral relief brocades, different kinds of velvet and "gelim" and "jajim" rugs.



Needlework items and artifacts can also be found, exhibiting techniques such as "naqsh", "selseleh-duzi", "sharqeh-duzi", "naqdeh-duzi" and many others. One of the remarkable items on this floor is a panel of the covering of the Holy Ka'ba, displaying examples of "golabetun-duzi" and "dah-yek-duzi" along with samples of the Thuluth script by Yaqut Mustasimi executed on black velvet.

The second floor of the museum is divided into five sections: The first section contains "Khatam-Kari" with various mirrorcases, book-racks for Quran, penboxes and postage stamps containers on display showing the art of "Khatam-Kari" and its variations, including "abri", "parvaneh", "shesh-gol", "hasht-gol", "torre'i", "nim-torreh", "gol-hashie'i" and "jenaqi". All these artefacts have been crafted by artists from Shiraz, Esfahan and Tehran. The second section contains wood-carvings. The various boxes, mirror-cases, combs, "kashkuls" and epigraphic panels on show here emphasize the perfection achieved in these arts during the 19th and 20th centuries. The third section displays lacquer work. A rare collection of lacquered pen-boxes, book-covers, mirror-cases, boxes and postage stamp containers, on which various subjects such as battle scenes, hunting scenes, entertainment scenes, and landscapes are depicted, can be seen here. The fourth section in the second floor contains metalwork with a section devoted to ornamental items from the 18th to the 20th century, and another to various weapons. The last section displays all kinds of glassware from pre-Islamic times to the present, facilitating study and research on the historic development of this craft in Iran.

On the third floor are various paintings and miniatures from the 14th to the 20th century, providing an overview of the successive schools for these arts, including those of Herat, Tabriz, Shiraz, Esfahan and Qazvin. Among the items on display here are pages from such books as Qazwini's "Ajayeb-al-Makhlukat" (Wonders of the Creation), Nezami's "Khosrow va Shirin", Ibn Hessam's "Khavaran-nameh" and Ferdowsi's "Shahnameh". Other paintings and miniatures on display include works by such masters as Kamal-ed-Din Behzad, Reza 'Abbasi, Aqa-Reza Heravi, Aqa-

Reza Kashi, Mo'in-Mossavver 'Ali-Naqi, Nadereh, Mohammad Ghaffari (Kamal-ol-Molk), Mahmood-khan Sharif, Malek-osh-Sho'ara, 'Ali-ebne-Mahmood, Hossein Behzad, among many others. It is also worth noting that the museum owns a large collection of calligraphic masterpieces and is thus able to provide facilities for research in this field. As to the basement floor of the museum, it is allocated to temporary exhibitions and artistic courses.

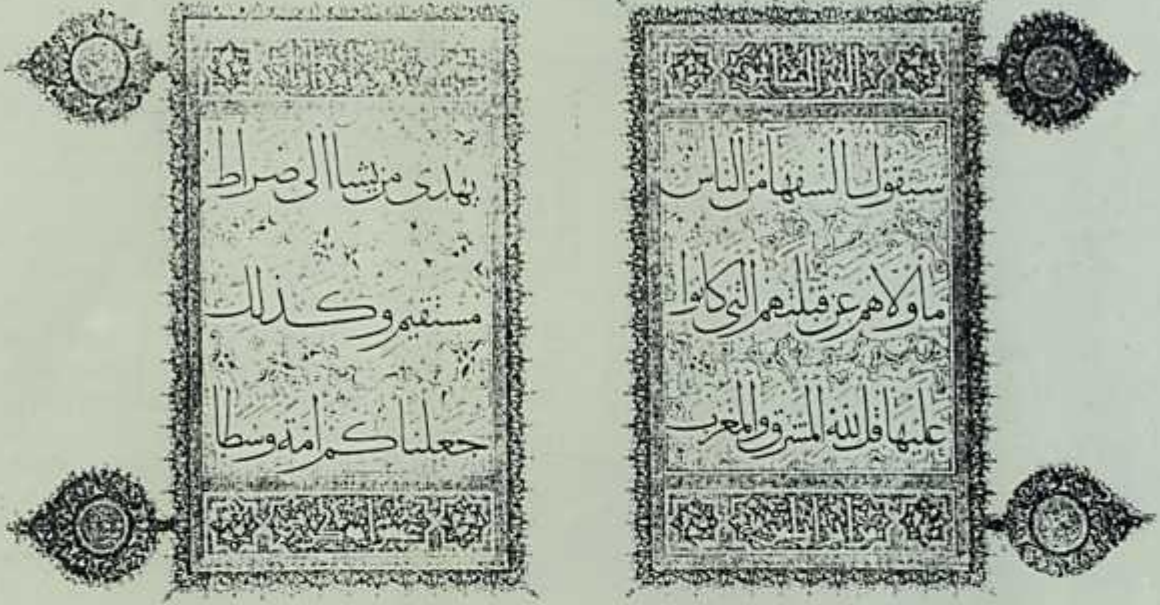
For those interested in more information about the museum and its collections, the address is 337, Karim-Khan Zand Blvd., Tehran, Iran.



Poster of the Iranian Art Festival organized in Germany under the supervision of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance

THE ART OF CALLIGRAPHY IN ISLAMIC HERITAGE

A scholarly and artistic publication by IRCICA



IRCICA is pleased to present a new publication which resulted from several years of studies in the field of Islamic arts and in particular, calligraphy.

The book titled **The Art of Calligraphy in Islamic Heritage** traces the history and development of this art over the centuries. It is also a tribute to the masters of calligraphy, with a selection of reproductions of the best examples of calligraphic works produced in different periods and regions of the Muslim world. With its contents and presentation, the book is both a reference for those who are intellectually interested in this art and an album which will satisfy those who take aesthetical pleasure in contemplating its splendid products.

Calligraphy has a special place among the Islamic arts. For over fourteen centuries, calligraphy has conveyed meaning by enhancing the beauty of words with eloquent forms. It established its own theory, rules and principles. It embodied thought and sayings in a refined visual interpretation. Calligraphy became a system of expression combining culture and creative art.

The studies which led to this book were conducted by a group of researchers under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, IRCICA Director General. Mr. Uğur Derman, expert of calligraphy and art consultant of the Centre, prepared the texts with the assistance of well-known scholar Prof. Dr. Nihat Çetin, Head of the Department of Arabic and Persian Languages, Faculty of Letters, Istanbul University; Arabic translation was done by Dr. Salih Sadawi. The calligraphic masterpieces reproduced for the book were selected from collections around the world. The Introduction gives the history of the art of calligraphy from its origin until our century, covering the contributions of calligraphers such as Ibn Muqla, Ibn ul-Bawwab and Yaqut al-Mustasimi, the establishment of the Ottoman medrese in Istanbul and the works of Hafız Osman, Yesari Esad and Mustafa İzzet which gave prominence to the "Aqlam es-Sitte" (The Six Styles), as well as other calligraphers, including Hamid al-Amidi who is considered as the last of the great masters. The Introduction is followed by the catalogue part comprising 192 colour reproductions of calligraphies, with annotations about the style of writing and other characteristics of each work and a biography of the calligrapher. A bibliography and indexes of calligraphers, other personalities, places, countries and nations are added to the book.

The deluxe publication has 236 pages in big format (42x31 cm.). The Arabic edition is available upon request. English and Turkish editions are under print. Price: US\$ 150,-, postage included.