



Newsletter



ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA)

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2023

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Newsletter

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Editorial

Dear readers,

Dear readers, this issue offers glances at IRCICA's activities during the last quarter of 2023. In this period, our activities saw an extraordinary geographical diversity, along with their usual thematic variety. Academic conferences and artistic exhibitions were co-organized in different countries, from Guyana in the West to Malaysia in the East, covering Djibouti, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan. The International Symposium on the "History and Legacy of Muslims in the Caribbean" was of special importance by being the very first OIC-IRCICA event in the region. The symposium's success was enhanced by the presence and the comprehensive inaugural address of the President of Guyana H.E. Mohamed Irfaan Ali. The symposium gave IRCICA an excellent opportunity to meet with ministers, officials from the Government and the University of Guyana, and several cultural institutions, including Muslim organizations. Furthermore, during my brief stopover in Barbados, I was honored to meet with Ministers from the Barbados Government and Muslim organizations in Barbados, which occasioned an enlightening exchange of views and information on subjects of common interest. We are giving importance to publishing its book of proceedings, which is currently in preparation.

The conference on "The Ottomans and the Malay World: Contemporary Reflections on History, Culture and Economy", co-organized with the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM), an OIC-affiliated university, and several other institutions, will be of interest to researchers who are working on the Malay world from various historical perspectives; primarily, those interested in the history of international and intercultural relations between the Southeast Asian states and communities and different regions of the Muslim geography during the Ottoman period. The next event to be co-organized by IRCICA in Malaysia will be on the "History of Islamic Intellectual Traditions in the Malay World," a conference planned jointly with the University of Malaya for April 2024.

IRCICA is one of the OIC institutions engaged in the context of the activities of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM). The activities are coordinated by the OIC Member States during the periods between the ICTM sessions held every two

years. One of the most impactful programs of the ICTM is the annual "OIC City of Tourism" program. The 11th ICTM, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in June 2022, had designated Şanlıurfa in Türkiye and Khiva in Uzbekistan as the OIC Cities of Tourism for 2023 and 2024 respectively. In this context, we organized an academic conference in December highlighting the historical, cultural and artistic features of Şanlıurfa that make it a destination for cultural tourism. IRCICA's next event in this context will be the international conference on "Khiva in Islamic Civilization" to be organized jointly with the Ministry of Tourism of Uzbekistan and the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan, in Khiva, on 3-4 April 2024. A different event, also coordinated by IRCICA in cooperation with Uzbekistan, is the international conference on "Islamic Civilization in Central Asia: Past and Present". It is organized on annual basis, in cooperation with the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan. The fifth conference in the series will be held in October 2024. The resulting books of proceedings have formed a rich new body of literature on the subject. During the same period, the last quarter of 2023, our Centre's experts attended conferences commemorating the 800th birth anniversary of Sultan Baybars, the Memluk Sultan of Kipchak origin, a prominent figure in the history of Islamic states known for the administrative, legal, urban and technological developments implemented under his reign.

A marking event of this period was the Exhibition of Islamic Calligraphy Art held in Djibouti, in cooperation with the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism, in December, at the National Library and Archives of Djibouti. It was a major event that helped to strengthen mutual awareness between the art circles of various countries and cultural audiences in Djibouti by introducing them with works in different styles from among award-winners in IRCICA's competitions. We are thankful to the Ministries of Commerce and Tourism and Youth and Culture for their cooperation, and the press of Djibouti for their ample coverage of the event.

I believe that these and other headlines of this issue reflect not only IRCICA's engagements but also some part of the academic, educational and artistic interests currently effective around the Muslim world.

Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol KILIÇ
Director General, IRCICA

OIC ACTIVITIES



12th Session of the OIC Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC)

Dakar, Senegal, 16-18 October 2023

The 12th session of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 16 to 18 October 2023, under the theme "What role for Muslim youth in promoting the Islamic values of peace, solidarity and tolerance?" The meeting was opened by H.E. Mr. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairman of COMIAC. It was attended by the ministers in charge of information and culture-related affairs in the Member States, and the heads and representatives of the OIC's subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions. IRCICA was represented by its

Director General, Ambassador Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç. In his inaugural address at the opening ceremony, President Macky Sall emphasized the need for joint efforts to tackle common challenges such as religious extremism, Islamophobia, and misinformation, based on the Islamic values of peace, brotherhood, and tolerance. He underscored the importance of Muslim youth as key players in development and the dialogue of civilizations. Then, on behalf of the OIC Secretary General, the OIC Assistant Secretary General for Humanitarian, Cultural and Social Affairs, Ambassador Tarig Ali Bakheet, highlighted the opportunities offered by new


information and communication technologies to strengthen exchanges and cooperation among media and cultural actors of Member States. He called for greater involvement of Muslim youth in COMIAC's activities and the support of projects aimed at promoting the historical, cultural, and universal Islamic heritage. President Macky Sall and Ambassador Tarig also drew attention to the gravity of the humanitarian situation in Palestine and the urgent need to put an end to Israeli military aggression in Gaza.

During the two-day meeting, participants discussed issues related to information, culture,

the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine, and the protection of Islamic holy sites. Resolutions were adopted under the following titles: “Islamic Information and the Cause of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine”; “Supporting the Information Work of COMIAC”; “Launch of the International Prize for Media Outlets and Journalists”; “Supporting and Coordinating the Work of Joint Islamic Media Action Institutions”; Dialogue Among Civilizations, Alliance of Civilizations; “Palestinian Cultural Affairs”; “Protection of Islamic Holy Places” (Destruction of the Babri Masjid in India and Protection of Islamic Holy Places; Destruction of the Charar-e-Sharif Islamic Complex in Kashmir and other Islamic Sites therein; Destruction and Desecration of Islamic Historical and Cultural Relics and Shrines in the Territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan Resulting from the Aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan); Protection and Preservation of the Islamic and World Historical and Cultural Heritages; Promotion of Cooperation Among OIC Member States in the Cultural Domain and Supporting Cinematographic Production; Commemoration of World Heritage Day. The Standing Committee also reviewed the

reports presented by the relevant OIC subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions summarizing their activities carried out since the 11th Session of COMIAC (2018). IRCICA’s report outlined the post-pandemic drives and evolving thematic priorities of its activities.

During the debates, representatives of various Member States took the floor to express their strong condemnation of the horrific and recurrent killings of unarmed Palestinians in their territories, in the Gaza Strip and in the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territories, resulting in a high number of deaths and injuries. The participants reiterated their support for the cause of Palestine and Al-Quds and urged all OIC Member States and institutions to provide all forms of assistance to the State of Palestine to help it develop the capacities of its media and cultural institutions and to share with it programs and experiences in this field. They welcomed the initiatives taken by the countries that have signed agreements with the State of Palestine in this regard. The participants also expressed their deep concern at the growing phenomenon of Islamophobia through violent attacks against Islam and its religious symbols.

Various speakers emphasized the need to use reasoning, argumentation and logic to combat dissenting opinions. The participants stressed the need to maintain dialogue with the Western world to prove that Islam is a religion of tolerance and moderation. The need was emphasized to focus on the positive aspects of culture, Islamic heritage and the radiant image of Islamic civilization in its various manifestations and expressions, using innovative media and new means of information. The meeting underscored the importance of the theme chosen for the 12th session of the COMIAC, namely: “What Role for Muslim Youth in Promoting Islamic Values of Peace, Solidarity and Tolerance?”, which highlights the compelling need to support the youth of the Islamic world by adopting innovative training and apprenticeship programs to develop their skills and abilities and enable them to contribute effectively to progress and prosperity and achieve development in their national societies. The importance of culture as a lever for economic development and as a job-creating sector for young people and women was underlined. (oic-oci.org) 



39th Session of the OIC Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC)

Istanbul, Türkiye, 2-5 December 2023



The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) held its 39th Session in Istanbul, Türkiye, on 2-5 December 2023. The ministerial session, opened with the address of H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of Türkiye and Chairman of COMCEC, was attended by the OIC Secretary General H.E. Mr. Hissein Brahim Taha, and the representatives of 51 member countries of the OIC and 24 international organizations. Throughout

the meeting, 48 bilateral talks were carried out between member countries, international organizations and private sector representatives. The Chairman of the Islamic Development Bank, Mr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser made a speech at the opening session. The main agenda items were, “World Economic Developments with Special Reference to the OIC Member Countries”, “Intra-OIC Trade”, “Enhancing the Role of Private Sector in Economic Cooperation”, “Deepening Financial Cooperation”, “Improving

Transport and Communications”, “Developing a Sustainable and Competitive Tourism Sector”, “Increasing Productivity of Agriculture Sector and Sustaining Food Security”, “Alleviating Poverty”, “Cooperation on Digital Transformation”, “Improving E-commerce Capacities of the OIC Member Countries” (comcec.org/39th-ministerial-session-of-the-comcec/). IRCICA was represented at the 39th COMCEC Session by Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General, and Mr. Murat Esat Özer, Head of Finance and Administration.🌱

12th Conference of Ministers of Culture in the Islamic World

Doha, Qatar, 25-26 September 2023

The 12th Conference of Ministers of Culture in the Islamic World was organized by the Islamic World Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) and hosted by the State of Qatar, on 25-26 September 2023. The theme of the conference was "Toward Renewing Cultural Work in the Islamic World". IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, together with the Head of Research and Publications Prof. Cengiz Tomar, participated in the conference. In their concluding Declaration, the ministers called for taking the necessary measures and practical initiatives to enhance

encouragement for cultural creativity, renew cultural industries, and facilitate the wise utilization of technological advancements and mechanisms. The establishment and development of specialized digital platforms in various languages were recommended, to facilitate access to diverse forms of Islamic cultural content. (icesco.org).



International Forum “Media and its Role in Inciting Hatred and Violence - Dangers of Bias and Misinformation” organized by the Muslim World League and the Union of OIC News Agencies

Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 26 November 2023


The International Forum “Media and its Role in Inciting Hatred and Violence - Dangers of Bias and Misinformation” convened by the Muslim World League and the Union of OIC News Agencies in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 26 November 2023, discussed several issues of common importance for the Muslim world in the field of information: The

forum pointed to the drastic difference between truth on one hand and misinformation on the other, and underlined the Palestinian case that has suffered from this discrepancy in global media for decades. The forum was launched under the patronage and in the presence of the Secretary-General of the Muslim



World League, Chairman of the Association of Muslim Scholars, H.E. Sheikh Dr. Muhammad bin Abdul Karim Al-Issa, and H.E. the General Supervisor of Official Media in the State of Palestine,

Minister Ahmed Assaf, with the participation of ministers, Islamic and international media leaders, religious, intellectual and legal figures, and representatives of international organizations. Prof.

Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore, Assistant Director General of IRCICA, participated in the forum. 

OIC-IIUM Expert Group Meeting on “Islamic Values and Ethics to Enhance Family Well-Being”

coordinated by the OIC General Secretariat and the
International Islamic University of Malaysia

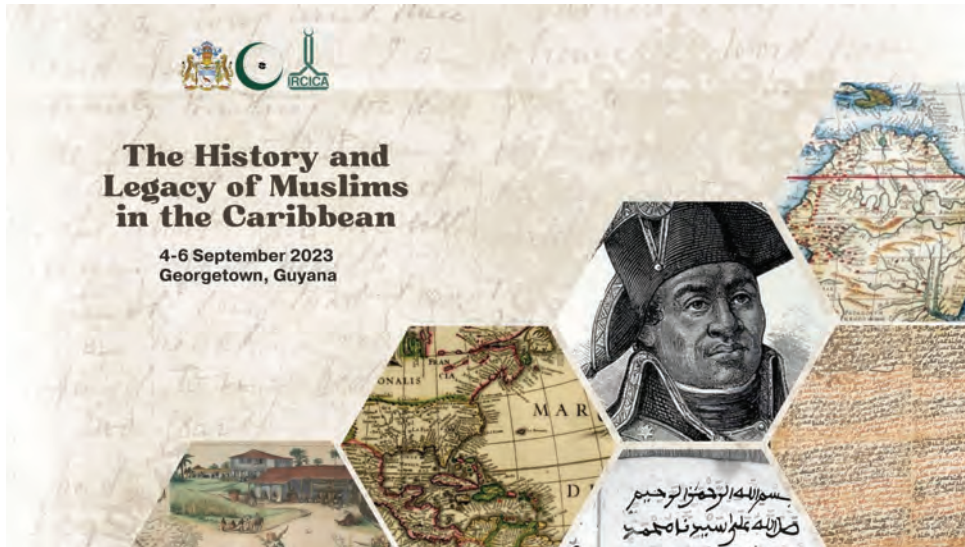
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 4-6 December 2023

The OIC General Secretariat and the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) jointly organized the Roundtable Expert Group Meeting for the Preparation of the Guiding Document for the “Promotion and Implementation of Islamic Values and Ethics to Enhance Women, Children and Family Moral Well-Being in Member Countries” that was requested by 48th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC (Islamabad, Pakistan, March 2022) in its Resolution no. 4/48-C to be drafted in cooperation with the relevant OIC organs and institutions. The meeting was held at IIUM in Kuala Lumpur, on 4-6 December 2023. IRCICA was represented at the meeting by Ms. Yekta Zülfiyar, Rapporteur, who participated in the review and finalization of the said Guiding Document and also presented a Report outlining the Centre’s ongoing and planned activities aiming to deepen the

understanding and promote the application of Islamic values and ethics to enhance women, children and family well-being in the OIC member countries. The other participating OIC organs and institutions were: Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Women Development Organization

(WDO), Independent Permanent Human Rights Commission (IPHRC), International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) and Women Consultative Council (WCC). The Guiding Document that was drafted will be submitted by the OIC General Secretariat to the Council of Foreign Ministers at its next session. 





International Symposium on the “History and Legacy of Muslims in the Caribbean”

organized by IRCICA, OIC General Secretariat,
the Government of Guyana,
and the University of Guyana

Georgetown, Guyana, 4-6 September 2023

IRCICA, The International Symposium on the “History and Legacy of Muslims in the Caribbean” was organized by IRCICA, OIC General Secretariat, the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, and Guyana University, in the Guyanese capital Georgetown. The symposium was opened by the President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana H.E. Mohamed Irfaan Ali with a comprehensive address, on 4 September 2023. The opening ceremony, moderated by Mr. Al Creighton, Dean of

the Faculty of Humanities and Education of the University of Guyana, started with Quran recitation and translation by Hafiz Salih Rahim. Opening remarks were given by H.E. Mr. Hugh Hilton Todd, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA. Dr. Abdullah Hakim Quick, Senior Lecturer, The Islamic Institute of Toronto, Canada, Special Envoy of IRCICA to the Caribbean; Dr. Alhoucine Rhazoui, Director of Cultural Affairs, OIC General Secretariat.

Two cultural performances enhanced the ceremony, including the Islamic Chant in Urdu recited by Mr. Imran Ali, Deputy President of the Muslim Youth Organization, and the Islamic Chant in Yoruba language performed by Mr. Toyib Hamza. A press conference followed the opening session.

The symposium was held at Arthur Chung Conference Center in Georgetown.

The same day, IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç was received by H.E. President

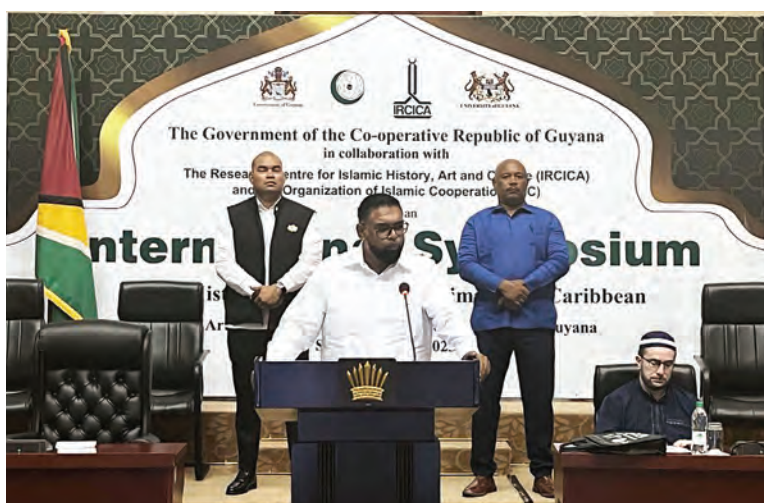
Mohamed Irfaan Ali for a welcoming meeting. Professor Kılıç briefed H.E. the President about IRCICA's objectives and activities. The meeting was held in the presence of Mr. Hugh Hilton Todd, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Mr. Charles S. Ramson, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, high officials from Guyana, and the IRCICA delegation members – Assistant Director General Prof. Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore, Prof. Sadık Ünay, Mr. Samet Yalçın.

IRCICA Director General Prof. Kılıç presented to H.E. President Irfaan Ali and to Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Hugh Todd samples of IRCICA's publications from its series of studies on the Holy Qur'an.

The working sessions, spread over three days, dealt with the following themes:

First day, Session I: Globalization and Localization in the Caribbean: Aliyah Khan, University of Michigan, "The Qasida and Muslim Devotional Music in Guyana and Trinidad"; Frank J. Korom, Boston University, "The Current State of Hosay (Moharram) Observances in the Caribbean"; Abdin Chande, Adelphi University, "Migration and Identity of South Asians of the Caribbean and East African Indian Ocean Region: A Comparative Analysis"; Maurits S. Hassankhan, Anton de Kom University of Suriname, "Localization and Globalization of Religion: The Case of Hindustani Muslims in Suriname".

Session II: Islam in the Greater Caribbean from Early History to Today: Abdullah Hakim Quick, The Islamic Institute of Toronto, "Aspects of Muslim History and Legacy in Pre-Columbian America"; Juan Thomas Ordóñez, Universidad del Rosario, "Caribbean Lebanon:



The Muslim Experience on the Colombia/Venezuela Border"; Mohamed A. Hakim, Islamic Educator and Social Activist in Haiti, "History of Muslims in Haiti"; Nuri Muhammad, Imam, Radio Commentator and Social Activist in Belize, "The Evolution of Muslim Presence in Belize and the Significance of Garifuna Cultural Retrieval".

Session III: Panel on Black Atlantic Muslim Movements - Remapping and Theorizing Global South Migrations: Youssef Carter, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, "Western Sunrise in the Global South: The Islamic Party comes to the Caribbean"; Tasneem Siddiqui, Drexel University, "The Caribbean Is No Island: Rethinking Black Geographies through Muslim Resistance Movements"; Nsenga Knight, Artist & Storyteller, "Irregular Black Muslims: Diasporic Exchange & The Caribbean Elsewhere".

Second day, Session I: Guyanese Experience: Ateeka Khan, McMaster University, "East Indians, Religion, and Politics in 20th Century Guyana"; Nazim Baksh, Former Investigative Producer with Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), "Conflict, Continuity and Change of Religious Narratives and

Practices of Muslims in Guyana (1977-1981)"; Ahmad Hamid, Imam and Researcher, "The Challenges and Role of CIOG in the Transformation of the Muslim Community of Guyana from Chaos to Stability"; Wazir Baksh, Historian and Community Activist, "The Masjid as an Essential Institution to Preserve Faith and Social Cohesion: The Case of Guyana".

Session II: Voices from Trinidad and Tobago: Halima-Sa'adia Kassim, University of the West Indies, "An Evaluation of the Resultant Negotiations of Living in an Alien Society: The Indo-Muslims of Trinidad Claiming Their Place"; Nasser Mustapha & Mirza Ali Mohammad, University of the West Indies, "Race and Ethnic Relations in Trinidad and Tobago"; Anand Rampersad, University of the West Indies, "Successful Muslim Cricketers in Trinidad and Tobago".

Session III: Economy, Identity and Decolonization in the Caribbean: Ibraheem Musa Tijani, International Islamic University Malaysia, "The Economic Development and Commerce of the Muslim Communities in the Caribbean and the Emergence of Islamic

Finance in the Region”; Stanley L. Soeropawiro, Policy Advisor Religious Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Suriname, “Economic Development among the Javanese Muslims in Suriname”; Karimah Rahman, Toronto Metropolitan University, “Decolonizing Muslim Indo-Caribbean Mental Health”; Suleiman Bulbulia & Sabir Nakhuda, Historians and Authors, “The Muslims of Barbados: Sustaining A Muslim Identity”.

On the third day, the Special Panel at the University of Guyana was opened by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paloma Mohamed Martin, and featured the addresses of Dr. Abdullah Hakim Quick (Canada); Stanley Soeropawiro (Suriname); Nuri Muhammed (Belize) and Mohamed Hakim (Haiti).

The closing ceremony of the symposium heard the remarks of Prof. Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore, Assistant Director General of IRCICA and Ambassador Elisabeth Harper, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Guyana.

On 5 September 2023, IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç met with Professor Paloma Mohamed Martin, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Guyana. Director General Kılıç also held meetings with Muslim cultural and educational institutions in Guyana including the Central Islamic Organization of Guyana (CIOG), Guyana Islamic Trust and the ISA School.

The symposium was an occasion for the IRCICA delegation to also establish contacts in Barbados. During the brief stopover in Bridgetown on his return trip on 6 September 2023, Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç was welcomed by two Ministers from the Barbados Government: Dr. Shantal Munro-Knight, Minister in Charge of Culture in the Office of the Prime Minister of Barbados, and Mr. Colin A. Jordan, Minister of Labour, Social Security and Third Sector. Were also present at the meeting Mr. Suleiman Bulbulia, Secretary of the Barbados Muslim Association, Co-Founder and Director of Barbados Halal Experience; Ms.

Carolyn Estwick-Best, Deputy Permanent Secretary for Culture, Prime Minister’s Office; Ms. Chereda Grannum, Project Manager, ROAD Project. Talks were held in view of keeping contacts and information exchange, particularly in the context of history studies and management of historical archives. Minister Shantal Munro-Knight highlighted that Barbados possessed one of the oldest archives on the Muslim community, with some documents dating back to the 1600s. She spoke of the Government’s plans regarding the Reclaiming Our Atlantic Destiny (ROAD) Project, which aims to record and share the history and culture of Barbados on a global scale. Minister Colin A. Jordan said that his Ministry has been working to strengthen mutual understanding between the different religions practiced in Barbados. Other subjects included the Atlantic slave trade records as historical references, relevant categories of Ottoman Archive documents, and inter-faith dialogue platforms. 🟩



International Conference on “The Ottomans and the Malay World: Contemporary Reflections on History, Culture and Economy”

A joint conference of IRCICA, the International Institute of
Islamic Thought and Civilization-
International Islamic University of Malaysia (ISTAC-IIUM),
University of Malaya, Asia West East Center (AsiaWE),
Asia Middle East Center for Research and Dialogue (AMEC),
Bait Al-Amanah, National University of Singapore

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 13-14 October 2023

The International Conference on “The Ottomans and the Malay World: Contemporary Reflections on History, Culture and Economy” was jointly organized by IRCICA, the International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization - International Islamic University of Malaysia (ISTAC-IIUM), University of Malaya, Asia West East Center (AsiaWE), Asia Middle East Center for Research and Dialogue (AMEC), Bait Al-Amanah, and the National University of Singapore. The conference was conducted at ISTAC-IIUM on 14-15 October 2023. Opening addresses were delivered by Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, IRCICA Director General; Prof. Abdelaziz Berghout, Dean of ISTAC-IIUM; Prof. Syed Farid Alatas, Dept. of Sociology, National University of Singapore, Academic Board member of AsiaWE. A documentary film introducing IRCICA’s activities was presented. The opening ceremony concluded with the launching of the book *The Middle East and the Malay World. Contemporary Issues and Future Challenges* resulting from the

International Conference on the same theme organized in Kuala Lumpur in October 2022 by AsiaWE, AMEC, Bait Al Amanah and the University of Malaya (publisher: Gerakbudaya, 2023).

The conference received paper presentations by scholars from various institutions. The paper titles reflect the wide range of relationships cultivated between the Malay world and the Ottoman world over the centuries:

Prof. İsmail Hakki Kadı (Istanbul Medeniyet University, Türkiye), “Saiyid Muhammad bin Ahmad As-Saqqaf (1836-1906) (Nong Chik) in

A TWO-DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON:
THE OTTOMANS AND THE MALAY WORLD
CONTEMPORARY REFLECTIONS ON HISTORY, CULTURE AND ECONOMY

DATE/DAY:
14 - 15
OCTOBER 2023
(Saturday - Sunday)

TIME: 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM
VENUE: Ibn Khaldun Conference Room,
International Institute of Islamic Thought
and Civilization (ISTAC-IIUM)
No. 24, Persiaran Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin,
Taman Duta, Kuala Lumpur

WELCOMING REMARKS:
- Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General, Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), ISTAC-IIUM
- Prof. Dr. Abdelaziz Berghout, Dean, ISTAC-IIUM

SPEAKERS:
- Prof. Dr. İsmail Hakki Kadı, Süleyman Demirel University (SDÜ)
- Prof. Dr. İsmail Hakki Kadı, İstanbul Medeniyet University (İMÜ)
- Prof. Datin Dr. Ahmad Murad Merican, International Institute of Islamic Thought & Civilization (ISTAC-IIUM)
- Prof. Dr. Syed Farid Alatas, National University of Singapore (NUS)
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mahmat Qay, International Institute of Islamic Thought & Civilization (ISTAC-IIUM)
- Dr. Wisdom Sanzen, King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang
- Dr. Nurul Ain Noman, International Institute of Islamic Thought & Civilization (ISTAC-IIUM)
- Dr. Muzet Yas, Marmara University
- Dr. Alireza Rahn, Social Sciences University of Ankara (ASBU)
- Dr. Anni Alatas, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)
- Ahmad Cagri İnan, Universiti Malaya (UM), PhD Candidate
- Tayfun Akgun, International Institute of Islamic Thought & Civilization (ISTAC-IIUM), PhD Candidate
- Syarif Mardhi, National University of Singapore (NUS), PhD Candidate
- Haq Hekima, National University of Singapore (NUS), PhD Candidate

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Ottoman Relations with the Malay World”;

Prof. Ahmad Murad Merican (ISTAC-IIUM), “The Image of the Ottomans and Turkey in the Malay Press Before World War II”;

Assoc. Prof. Mehmet Özey (ISTAC-IIUM), “Some Reflections of Socio-Political Changes in Late Ottoman and Early Republican Eras in Vernacular Press in the Malay Archipelago”;

Mr. Syafiq Mardi (Department of Malay Studies, National University of Singapore), “Singapore Sepoy Mutiny 1915 and Ottoman Empire Relations”;

Mr. Tayfun Akgün (ISTAC-IIUM), “From the ‘Ottoman Concubine’ to the Sultanah of Johore: The Story of Khadijah Hanum”;

Dr. Alaeddin Tekin (Department of History, Social Sciences University of Ankara, Türkiye), “Beyond Pan-Islamism: Understanding the Ottoman Caliphate’s Southeast Asian Policy”;

Dr. Murat Yaş (Institute of Islamic Economics and Finance, Marmara University, Türkiye), “History of

Islamic Financial Innovation: From Ottoman Empire to Southeast Asia”;

Dr. Nurul Ain Norman (ISTAC-IIUM), “Language, Thought & Civilization: Analyzing Intertwined Relationships between the Turkish and the Malay World”;

Prof. İsmail Hakkı Göksoy (Department of Islamic History and Arts, Süleyman Demirel University, Türkiye), “The Ottoman Shaikh al-Islam in the Philippines: Vecih Efendi”;

Dr. Alwi Alatas (Department of History and Civilization, IIUM), “Fostering Hope: The Presence of the Ottoman Consulate in Batavia, 1882-1924”;

Dr. Wasamon Sanasen (Faculty of Architecture, Art and Design, King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Thailand), “The Traces of Ottoman Art in Architectural

Element and Decoration of Mosques in Thailand”;

Mr. Haziq Hakimi (Department of Comparative Asian Studies, National University Singapore), “Hedging as Turkish Foreign Policy during World War II”;

Mr. Ahmed Çağrı İnan (Department of History, University of Malaya), “Türkiye-Malaysia Relations from Cultural Perspective: The Impact of Turkish TV Series in Malaysia”;

Prof. Syed Farid Alatas (National University Singapore), “Said Nursi as a Resource against Sectarianism in the Malay World”.

The conference ended with an Evaluations session, where closing remarks were given by Prof. Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore, Assistant Director General of IRCICA, and Prof. Syed Farid Alatas from the National University of Singapore. 🇲🇵





Symposium on “Şanlıurfa, City of Art and Culture” in the context of “Şanlıurfa OIC City of Tourism for 2023” organized by the Governorate of Şanlıurfa, Harran University, and IRCICA

Şanlıurfa, Türkiye, 11-12 December 2023

Şanlıurfa in Türkiye was designated as the “OIC City of Tourism for 2023” by the 11th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers held in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 27-29 June 2022. The “OIC City of Tourism” program is conducted since 2015 highlighting a city of the Muslim world each year, whereby the OIC Member States and the OIC institutions concerned are invited to organize activities highlighting the touristic characteristics of that city. IRCICA is one of the OIC subsidiary organs taking part in the activities of the “OIC City of Tourism” program. On this

occasion, IRCICA organized a symposium on “Şanlıurfa City of Art and Culture” in cooperation with the Governorate of Şanlıurfa and Harran University (Şanlıurfa), which was held at the University’s Osmanbey Campus on 11-12 December 2023. In his opening address delivered on behalf of the Director General, the Assistant Director General Prof. Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore underlined the salient features of the historical and cultural heritage of Şanlıurfa; Prof. Senghore briefed the audience on the selection process and criteria applied by the OIC in its City of Tourism program and

recalled those preceding, namely al-Quds al-Sharif (Palestine, 2015), Konya (Türkiye, 2016), Madina al-Munawwara (Saudi Arabia, 2017), Tabriz (Iran, 2018), Dhaka (Bangladesh, 2019) and Gabala (Azerbaijan, 2020), adding that the city chosen for 2024 is Khiva, in Uzbekistan. The opening session was also addressed by the Rector of Harran University, Prof. Mehmet Tahir Güllüoğlu and the Governor of Şanlıurfa Mr. Hasan Şıldak. The working sessions heard presentations by scholars and specialists from various universities and research institutes. The titles of the papers

presented reflect the city's wide-ranging characteristics: "Prophet Abraham and Şanlıurfa" (Assoc. Prof. Ahmet Gündüz), "Urfa from the Muslim Conquest Until the Seljuks" (Prof. Adnan Çevik), "Urfa During the Crusaders' Period" (Prof. Birsnel Küçüksipahioğlu), "Urfa During the Ottoman Period" (Prof. Mehmet Emin Üner), "Transfer of Philosophy from Ancient Greek Philosophy to the Islamic Civilization Sphere – the Historic Role of Urfa-Harran" (Prof. Kenan Gürsoy), "Waqf Culture and Religious Life in Urfa" (Assoc. Prof. Yasin Taş), "Religious Beliefs and Locations in Urfa" (Dr. Fatma Çakmak), "Prophet Abraham in Classical Divan Poetry" (Prof. Hikmet Atik), "Religious Music in Şanlıurfa: Important Personalities" (Prof. Hüseyin Akpınar), "Gastronomy in Traditional Urfa Culture" (Assoc. Prof. Mahmut Barakazı), "The Inner World of Urfa Songs" (Mehmet Veysi Dörtbudak), "Urfa the Prophets' City and Evliya Çelebi's Description of the City" (Prof. İlhami Yurdakul), "Urfa Old City Center" (Prof. Bahattin Çelik), "Religious Structures and Places around Halil er-Rahman Lake" (Assoc. Prof. Mustafa Güler). In conclusion, Assoc. Prof.



Alidost Ertuğrul, Chief of IRCICA Architectural Section, made a comprehensive presentation on "Urfa the OIC City of Tourism – Strategies to Tourism and Conservation". A report about the symposium will be presented to the next session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers which will take place in 2024 in Uzbekistan.

Şanlıurfa is one of the oldest cities of the world; it lived under the rules of many states since the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia through the Roman Empire and the Byzantine Empire, the Omeiyad State after the Muslim conquest in the year 18 Hijra, the Abbasid State, the Crusaders County of Urfa (1098-1144 AD), then the Anatolian Seljuks, Ayyubids, Mamluks,

Safavids, and from 1517 on, the Ottoman State, and the Republic of Türkiye. Throughout this history it was successively named Orhay, Edessa, el-Ruha, Urfa, and since 1984, Şanlıurfa (Glorious Urfa, for its victory during the Turkish War of Independence). It has been a land of multi-faith and multicultural coexistence; it was the venue of important contributions to the historical process of the transmission of sciences and philosophy from Ancient Greek culture to Europe through the Golden Age of Islam; it is also an important center of Islamic cultural heritage with the scholarship, literature, urbanization, medreses, public institutions, waqfs, as well as the rich traditional arts, cultivated in its land. 🇹🇷



International Conference on “Islamic Civilization in Central Asia: Past and Present”

held by the International Islamic Academy
of Uzbekistan and IRCICA

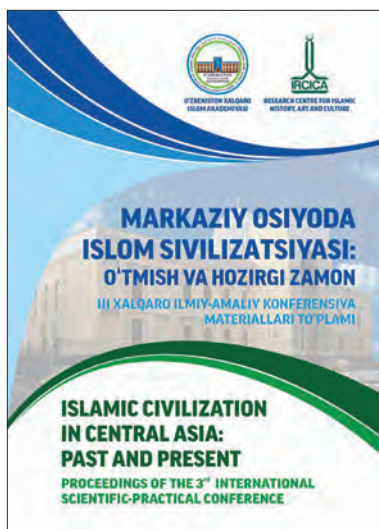
Online, 16 October 2023

The International Conference on “Islamic Civilization in Central Asia: Past and Present” was coordinated jointly by IRCICA and the “IRCICA Chair for Islamic History and Source Studies” at the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan, in online format, on 16 October 2023. This was the fourth conference in a series held mid-October each year. The opening session heard the addresses of the Academy’s Rector Dr. Uygun Gafurov, and, on behalf of IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications. Prof. Tomar conveyed IRCICA’s appreciation of the fact that the international conference on “Islamic Civilization in Central Asia: Past and Present” has been instituted as an annual event and

became a focal point of Central Asian studies.

During the working session, papers on various subjects

ranging from studies on historical manuscripts to the prominent scholars of Central Asia were presented by experts from the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan, Imam Bukhari International Research Center, the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan, Imam Termizi International Scientific Research Center, Imam Maturidi International Research Center (Uzbekistan); Hacı Bayram Veli University (Türkiye) as well as by experts from IRCICA. The proceedings of the conference have been prepared for publication. 





“From Islamic Peace to Zionist Occupation: Palestine, Gaza, Al-Quds” Symposium organized by IRCICA and Esenler Municipality

Istanbul, 23 December 2023

The international symposium “From Islamic Peace to Zionist Occupation: Palestine, Gaza, Al-Quds” was organized by Esenler Municipality (Istanbul) and IRCICA on 23 December 2023. Scholars from various universities and specialists of the subject presented papers in the symposium, where the session themes were: “Palestine and Al-Quds in the Heavenly Religions”; “Palestine and Al-Quds in Medieval Islamic History”; “Palestine and Al-Quds in Ottoman History”; “Palestine and Al-Quds under Zionist Occupation”; “Palestine and Al-Quds in Literature, Art and Architecture”. The last, Special Session of the symposium was addressed by the Governor of Istanbul Mr. Davut Gül, Istanbul Provincial Culture and Tourism Director Prof. Coşkun Yılmaz, and IRCICA’s Head of Research



and Publications Prof. Cengiz Tomar. Another contribution by IRCICA was the presentation of Arch. Eng. Hussein Al Ragabi, on the sustainability of cultural heritage in Palestine. 🇵🇸

The 19th Muslim International Forum on “The Role of Religious Leaders in Protecting Religious and Moral Values and Strengthening Peace and Security”

convened by the “Muslim International Forum” and the
Spiritual Directorate of Muslims of the Russian Federation

Moscow, Russian Federation, 12-13 December 2023

IRCIKA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç was invited to address the 19th Muslim International Forum on the theme “The Role of Religious Leaders in Protecting Religious and Moral Values and Strengthening Peace and Security” which was organized by the “Muslim International Forum” and the Spiritual Directorate of Muslims of the Russian Federation, in Moscow, on 12-13 December 2023. The forum was dedicated to the 200th Anniversary Commemoration of the Birth of the Outstanding Russian Muslim Theologian and Orientalist Husain Faizkhanov (1823–1866). The plenary opening session moderated by Prof. Damir Mukhetdinov, First Vice-Chairman of the Spiritual Directorate of Muslims of the Russian Federation and Rector of the Moscow Islamic Institute, heard the inaugural addresses of Prof. Magomed salam Magomedov, Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration of the Russian Federation; Prof. Marat Khusnullin, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the International Economic Summit “Russia-Islamic World: Kazan Summit 2023”; Prof. Farit Mukhametshin, Deputy Chairman of the Federation Council of the



Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation for International Affairs, Deputy Chairman of the Strategic Vision Group “Russia - Islamic World” (greetings on behalf of the Speaker of the Federation Council Ms. Valentina Matvienko). The forum’s working sessions heard presentations by scholars and dignitaries including Mufti Sheikh Ravil Gainutdin, Secretary General of the International Muslim Forum, Chairman of the Spiritual Department of Muslims of the Russian Federation (moderator); Dr. Youssef Belmehdi, Minister of Religious Affairs and Awqaf of Algeria; Shawki Allam, Grand Mufti of Egypt; Dr. Mahmoud Al-Habbash, Chief Judge of Palestine;

Khalid Shaheen Al-Ghanim, First Deputy Minister of Islamic Affairs and Awqaf of Qatar; Mufti Naurzybay Taganuly, Chairman of the Spiritual Administration of Muslims, Kazakhstan; Dr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi, Chairman, and Dr. Mohammad Ali Bishari, Secretary General, World Council of Muslim Communities, U.A.E.; Dr. Ayatollah Hamid Shahriyari, Secretary General, World Forum for Proximity of Islamic Schools of Thought, Iran; Dr. of Theology Jeyhun Mamedov, Deputy in the Azerbaijan Parliament; Mr. Ibrahim Al Nuaimi, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Doha International Center for Interfaith Dialogue, Qatar; Prof. Vitaly Naumkin, Scientific Director,

Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences; Mufti Ildar Alyautdinov, Mufti of Moscow; Mufti Zamir Rakiev, Mufti of Kyrgyzstan; Prof. Murtaza Bedir, Director, Center for Islamic Studies, Religious Affairs Directorate, Türkiye; Mr. Abdul-Wahed Niyazov, President, European Muslim Forum, Russia; Prof. Nikita Anisimov, Rector of the Higher School of Economics, Russia; and other scholars and specialists from Algeria, Azerbaijan, Qatar, Russia, Tunisia and Uzbekistan.

The forum addressed the following issues: challenges faced in preserving and strengthening peace and security in modern times; protection of religious

and moral values and preventing the use of people's religious feelings to incite conflicts and hostilities; the religious situation in the global world and analysis of modern challenges and trends; efforts made by religious, social, scientific and academic organizations to promote the values of dialogue and mutual respect between people of different faiths and cultures; challenges faced by religious institutions today; the role of religious and government



leaders in encouraging moderation and promoting a just world order, among others. During the period of the forum, IRCICA Director General gave interviews to different media channels covering the event. 🗣️

12th International Avicenna Readings, Conference on “Abu Ali ibn Sina (Avicenna) and Civilization”

organized by Ibn Sina Public Foundation and various institutions

Bukhara, Uzbekistan, 26-28 October 2023

Ibn Sina Public Foundation, together with the Agency for the Development of the Pharmaceutical Industry of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Governorate of Bukhara Region, and Bukhara State Medical Institute named after Abu Ali ibn Sina collaborated to organize the 12th International Avicenna Readings - a Scientific and Practical Conference. This extensive forum included the international conference on the topic “Abu Ali ibn Sina (Avicenna)



and Civilization” which was held on 26-28 October 2023 in Bukhara.

The main thematic directions of the conference were:

- Abu Ali ibn Sina: Uzbekistan and the world
- The role of the legacy of Abu Ali ibn Sina in the development of science and civilization
- The role of Ibn Sina's teachings in the development of traditional medicine
- The teachings of Ibn Sina in the development of modern pharmacy
- Abu Ali ibn Sina and traditional (folk) medicine
- The role of Abu Ali ibn Sina's legacy in the development of natural sciences
- The role of the legacy of Abu Ali ibn Sina in the development of exact sciences
- The role of Abu Ali ibn Sina's legacy in the development of social and humanitarian sciences.

More than one hundred specialists on the history of science, along with experts in modern and

traditional medicine, biologists, chemists, and pharmaceutical specialists from 20 countries took part in the Avicenna Readings forum. The side events of the conference offered the participants informative stands on traditional medicine and medicinal plants.

Within the framework of the forum, the conference on "Abu Ali ibn Sina (Avicenna) and Civilization" was opened with addresses, by Prof. Obidijan Hamidov, Rector of Bukhara State University; Dr. Olgan Bekar, Ambassador of Türkiye in Tashkent; IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç; Mr. Ali Rıza Tezcan, TİKA Coordinator in Tashkent; Mr. Nozimkhon



Mahmudov, Chairman of the Board of Ibn Sina Public Foundation. The working sessions received papers appraising Ibn Sina's contributions to the fields of philosophy, religious and natural sciences, and/or analyzing a specific work written by Ibn Sina. A paper titled "Ibn Sina Manuscripts in the Libraries of Türkiye" was contributed by IRCICA's senior researcher Mr. Veyssel Bulut to the session on "Abu Ali ibn Sina: Manuscripts, Science, Life". 🟢

International Conference "Reassessing the Heritage of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi" organized jointly with the State Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve "Aziret Sultan"

Turkistan, Kazakhstan, 10-11 October 2023

The International Conference themed "Reassessing the Heritage of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi", organized by the State Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve "Aziret Sultan" and IRCICA, was conducted in Turkistan, Kazakhstan on 10-11 October 2023. The opening ceremony

heard the remarks of Mr. Maulen Sadykbekov, Director of the Museum-Reserve, followed by speeches delivered by Ms. Aida Balaeva, Minister of Culture and Information of Kazakhstan; Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA, on behalf of IRCICA Director General

Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç; and Mr. Darkhan Satybaldy, Governor of the Turkistan Region. The working sessions received papers by scholars and researchers participating from various countries in Asia and Europe, around the following session themes:

- Khoja Ahmed Yasawi and Turkic History;
- Khoja Ahmed Yasawi: Literature and Culture of the Turkic Peoples;
- Khoja Ahmed Yasawi and the Sufi Worldview;
- Legacy of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi.

The historians representing IRCICA also presented papers: Professor Cengiz Tomar, on “The Age of Ahmed Yasawi: Karakhanids and



Islam” and Professor Ashirbek Muminov, on “Development of the Sacred Genealogy of the Khans

and Cultural Policy in the Kokand Khanate (1811–1876)”. 📄



International Conference on “Historical Personalities of the Kipchak Steppe: Baybars and His Period”

convened by the Regional Museum of History and Local Culture, the Department of Culture and Language Development, Administration of Atyrau Region

Atyrau, Kazakhstan, 3-4 October 2023

The 800th Birth Anniversary of Baybars I (also spelled Baibars or Beybarys), the Egyptian Mamluk ruler of Turkic origin, occasioned several commemorative conferences during 2023. One of them was the conference titled “Historical personalities of the Kipchak Steppe: Baybars and His Period”, held on 3-4 October 2023 in Atyrau, Kazakhstan. The international conference was organized



by the Department of Culture and Language Development and the Regional Museum of History and Local Culture in Atyrau, with the support of the Administration of Atyrau Region. The event aimed at attracting the attention of researchers to the study of the life path and particularities of the reign of the outstanding statesman Sultan Baybars. The conference brought together researchers from different Egypt, Kazakhstan, Russia, Türkiye and Uzbekistan. The characteristics and historical importance of the reign of Sultan Baybars were underlined from various viewpoints, including domestic

governance, international relations, cultural identity, development of sciences and education, religion, and the image of Baybars as reflected in folkloric literatures and world cinema. The issues of historiography and source studies related to the personality and the period of Sultan Baybars were discussed elaborately.

Baybars strengthened the Mamluk State with administrative and institutional innovations and laid policy guidelines that were continued by his successors. He upheld the principles of justice and fair treatment of peoples.

He appointed chief qadis at the head of each of the major Sunnite sects; established a postal service and road system; strengthened the shipbuilding industries and also gave importance to the preservation of the Turkic social and cultural traditions. Participants in the conference praised the decision to commemorate his 800th Birth Anniversary with a scholarly meeting to promote studies on his period. Prof. Cengiz Tomar from IRCICA participated in the conference with a paper on "The Founder of the Mamluk Sultanate: Sultan Baybars as a Statesman". 🇹🇷



Symposium on “Sultan Baybars and His Time”

organized by the Embassy of Kazakhstan in Ankara, the
University of Ankara, and TÜRKTAV

Ankara, Türkiye, 21 November 2023

The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Ankara, in cooperation with Ankara University Faculty of Language, History and Geography, and the Turkish History and Culture Foundation (TÜRKTAV), organized the International Symposium on “The Golden Age of Turks: Sultan Baybars and His Time” in Ankara, on 21 November 2023, which was dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye and the 800th Anniversary of the Birth of Sultan Baybars. A book launching took place during the symposium for Baybars - Sultan of the Mamluks from Desht-i Kipchak



authored by Prof. Kairat Saki Uzakuly, Member of the Writers' Union and Head of the Centre for Research on Baybars, Kazakhstan. Two scholars from IRCICA, Prof.

Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications, and Prof. Ashirbek Muminov, Consultant for Central Asian Studies, IRCICA, presented research

papers at the symposium. The titles of the papers contributed by scholars from universities and research institutions in Kazakhstan and Türkiye were: Dr. Abdullah Gündoğdu: "The Perception of the Sultan Baybars and Kipchaks in Kazakhstan"; Prof. Kairat Saki Uzakuly: "The Legitimation of Power with the Kipchak Mamluks"; Prof. Ashirbek Muminov: "The Period of Contacts

between Berke Khan and Sultan Baybars and the Development of Islamic Culture"; Prof. İlhan Erdem: "Relations between the Turkish Seljukids and the Mamluk State during the Reign of Sultan Baybars"; Prof. İlyas Gökhan: "The Life, Personality and Leadership Features of Sultan Baybars"; Prof. Mustafa Uyar: "Relations between Mamluks and Ilkhanids during the Reign of Sultan Baybars";

Prof. Cengiz Tomar: "The Mamluk System, Sultan Baybars, and Meritocracy". Following the presentations, Prof. Cengiz Tomar gave interviews to the Kazakh TV 24 and Turkistan TV about the themes of the symposium and IRCICA's studies on the cultural history of the Muslim world emphasizing the prominent figures who left their marks in this history. 🇺🇵



Conference on "Masterpieces of the Eastern Manuscript Heritage in Projects of the World Society"

during the 7th Congress of the World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan, jointly with Beruni Institute of Oriental Studies and the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan with IRCICA and Mueller & Schindler as collaborators

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 5-8 November 2023

Within the framework of the 7th Congress of the World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan (Samarkand, 5-8 November 2023), an international conference on "Masterpieces of the Eastern Manuscript Heritage in Projects of the World Society" was organized by the World Society in cooperation with the Beruni Institute of Oriental Studies and the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan, with IRCICA and Mueller & Schindler (publishers) as collaborators. The conference was held on 6 November 2023. IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, and IRCICA's Consultant for Central Asian Studies Prof. Ashirbek Muminov, participated in the conference. Professor Kılıç addressed the opening session together with Prof. Bahrom Abdukhalimov,



Vice-President of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Director of the Institute

of Oriental Studies named after Beruni, Prof. Shahin Mustafayev, President of the International Turkic Academy, and Prof. Irina Popova, Director of the Institute of Oriental Manuscripts of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

During the working session of the conference, Prof. Ashirbek Muminov presented a research paper titled “Studies on the Mushaf of Uthman in Kazakhstan during the Soviet Era”.

On 7 November, Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç and the Chairman of the Board of the World Society Dr. Firdavs Abdukhalikov signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation in the field of studies on cultural heritage. 🟢

Participation in the 80th Anniversary Celebration of Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies, Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan

Online, 14 November 2023

The 80th foundation anniversary of Abu Rayhan Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies, Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences, Tashkent, was commemorated with an international conference on 14 November 2023. IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç addressed a pre-recorded congratulation message to the conference. Professor Kılıç, in his address, said that a fruitful scholarly cooperation has been established between the Institute and IRCICA in recent years, expressing his appreciation of the Institute’s work that contributes to the development of research in Oriental studies, as well as to the preservation, cataloguing, electronic copying and publishing of the Institute’s valuable collections of manuscripts and historical reference materials: “These activities are important for research on the history of science, philosophy, literature, the arts of the book, as well as as manuscriptology and



management of cultural heritage. They bring to the world’s knowledge the scholarship that flourished in Central Asia through the works of illustrious figures, some of them the greatest of all times such as al-Biruni, Ibn Sina, al-Khwarezmi, al-Farabi, ar-Razi, Ulugh Bey.”

The Institute and IRCICA had jointly organized the workshops on “New Perspectives for the Study of Islamic Culture, History and Art in Uzbekistan” (May 2021) and “Current State of the

Preservation and Research of Ancient Written Sources” (August 2022, also involving the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan and Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies); the proceedings book of the former was launched during the international conference on “Central Asian Islamic Manuscripts: Cultural Heritage and Historical Source” organized by Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies in cooperation with several European institutes in November 2021. 🟢

Online lecture by Prof. Ashirbek Muminov (IRCICA) for Bukhara State University students

Online, 3 October 2023

In the context of the Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation Roadmap effected between IRCICA and Bukhara State University, Uzbekistan since 14 August 2023, the first

academic lecture was given by Prof. Ashirbek Muminov, Dr. of Historical Sciences; Consultant for Central Asian Studies, IRCICA, in online format on 3 October 2023 to a class of graduate

and undergraduate students at Bukhara State University, on the topic "Current Problems of Source Studies".



Participation in the Turkish Statehood History Congress organized by the International Turkic Academy, Turkish Historical Society, Atatürk High Institution for Language, History and Culture

Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, 14-16 September 2023

With the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, the First Turkish Statehood History Congress was conducted by the International Turkic Academy, Turkish Historical Society, and Atatürk High Institution for Language, History and Culture, in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, on 14-16 September 2023. Over 50 scholars and specialists from various countries, including Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Türkiye, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, participated in the congress with research papers. The sessions followed the chronology of Turkic states and covered political and civilizational histories. Special sessions were dedicated to the presentations of junior scholars engaged in this field. Professor Cengiz Tomar, professor of history, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA, presented a paper titled "A Turkish State in



the Middle East: the Mamluks and their System of Governance" during the congress.

Exhibition on the history of Turkistan presented by the State Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve “Aziret Sultan”

Turkistan, Kazakhstan, 23 October 2023

In conjunction with the Republic Day in Kazakhstan – 25 October and the 10th Anniversary Summit of the Organization of Turkic States (Astana, 3 October 2023) an exhibition titled "Turkistan at the Turn of the Millennium" featuring items from the collections of the State Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve "Aziret Sultan" was opened at the Museum on 23 October 2023. The exhibition, organized by the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Kazakhstan, consisted of three parts: "Enlightening History – Turkestan", "Turkestan is the Spiritual Center of the Turkic World", "From the Jochi Ulus (Uluk Ulus) to the Kazakh Khanate". The exhibition covered several periods of history through



displays of architectural and numismatic exhibits of the Genghis Khan period, Jochi Ulus era and the Kazakh Khanate. It also depicted the history of the

construction of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi Mausoleum. Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Professor of History, IRCICA, was invited to address the opening of the exhibition. 🇰🇷

Participation in the 10th Gulf Studies Forum, Doha, Qatar

Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA, participated in the 10th Gulf Studies Forum organized by the Arab Centre for Research and Policy Studies, Doha, Qatar, on 4-5 December 2023. The Forum's main themes were "Arab Gulf States and China", "Cultural Policies in the Gulf States", and "Historical Writing in the Gulf States". A Dialogue Session themed "Culture and Its Role in Society" hosted H.E. Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al Thani, Minister of Culture of Qatar, as speaker. 🇰🇷



IRCICA participated in the Third Tourism Fair of OIC Member States

organized by the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT, Casablanca) and NeXTfairs with the sponsorship of Qatar Tourism Center

Doha, Qatar, 20-23 November 2023

The Third Tourism Fair of OIC Member States was organized by the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and NeXTfairs with the sponsorship of Qatar Tourism Center, on 20-23 November 2023 in Doha, Qatar. The fair aimed to create “An Exclusive Platform Promoting Muslim Friendly Tourism where Traditions and Modernity Converge” by exhibiting tourism potentials and encouraging investments in the travel and tourism sectors in OIC countries. The fair brought together high officials, policymakers, tourism sector representatives, relevant OIC institutions and international organizations. It was opened by H.E. Saad bin Ali bin Saad Al Kharji, Chairman of Qatar Tourism, and Mrs. Latifa El Bouabdellaoui, Director General, ICDT. The fair program featured panel discussions on health, gastronomy, and Muslim-friendly tourism in OIC countries.

IRCICA Delegation chaired by Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç participated in the fair; IRCICA’s stand featured publications, a documentary film on its activities, and artworks from its collections. The stand welcomed distinguished visitors, among them Dr. Khalifa bin Jassim Al-Kawari, Adviser, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of Qatar, and Master Calligrapher Mr. Ubayda al-Banki, Member of IRCICA’s Competition Jury, who visited the stand on 21 November. Dr. Al-Kawari was the Coordinator, on behalf of the Ministry, of the Competition for Calligraphing the “Mushaf of Qatar” organized by the Ministry

with IRCICA’s cooperation in 2007. Mr. Al-Banki, the first winner of the competition, calligraphed the Mushaf of Qatar. The guests were welcomed by Mr. Said Kasımoğlu, Chief of IRCICA’s Arts Section, Curator of the stand. 🇵🇸



IRCICA's stand in the 42nd Sharjah International Book Fair

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, 1-12 November 2023

IRCICA participated in the 42nd Sharjah International Book Fair 2023, in the United Arab Emirates. The fair, coordinated by the Sharjah Book Authority, took place on 1-12 November 2023, at Expo Center Sharjah and attracted close to 1,5 million visitors. IRCICA's publications displayed in the "International Publishers" section of the fair met great

interest. IRCICA's representatives were honored to welcome H.E. Mr. Mohammad Ahmad Al Murr, Chairman of Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Library Foundation, Dubai, former representative of the U.A.E. in IRCICA Governing Board (2003-2014) together with H.E. Dr. Saad Abdulaziz Al-Rashid, Former Undersecretary for Antiquities

and Museums, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and former representative of the K.S.A. in IRCICA Governing Board (2000-2018), who visited the stand on 5 November 2023. The distinguished guests were briefed by IRCICA's representatives Mr. Said Kasımoğlu and Mr. Taha Zahid Özdemir about the Centre's recent publications. 🇹🇪



Participation in the 8th International Istanbul Arabic Book Fair

Istanbul, Türkiye, 9-17 December 2023

The 8th International Istanbul Arabic Book Fair took place at Istanbul Expo Center on 9-17 December 2023. IRCICA participated in the Fair with a rich variety of its publications in the Arabic language. The Fair was organized by the Union of Press and Publications, Istanbul. 🇹🇷



IRCICA's Exhibition of Islamic Calligraphy in Djibouti in cooperation with the Government of Djibouti

24-28 December 2023

An exhibition of Islamic calligraphy titled "IRCICA Generation of Calligraphers: Sample Works of the International Competition Winners" was opened on 24 December 2023 at the National Library and Archives of Djibouti. The exhibition was organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism of the Republic of Djibouti, with the collaboration of the Embassy of Türkiye [IRCICA's host country] in Djibouti, for the period of 24-28 December 2023. The artworks on display were selected from among the award-winning works of the first ten rounds of the triennial IRCICA International Calligraphy Competition which were held between 1986 and 2016.

The opening ceremony of the exhibition was addressed by the Minister of Commerce and Tourism of Djibouti Mr. Mohamed Warsama Dirieh; the Minister of Youth and Culture of Djibouti Dr. Hibo Moumin Assoweh; the Ambassador of Türkiye Mr. Cenk Uraz; and, the Director General of IRCICA, Ambassador Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç. The Minister of Commerce and Tourism expressed his appreciation of the cooperation developed between Djibouti and IRCICA and the

promotion of arts and culture through joint international activities. The Minister of Youth and Culture expressed her thanks to IRCICA and the Ambassador of Türkiye for the exhibition and for introducing the arts of calligraphy to various audiences. In his address, the Ambassador of Türkiye underlined the importance of international activities of arts and culture as exemplified in this exhibition. IRCICA Director General briefed the audience on IRCICA's activities in the field of arts, particularly Islamic calligraphy. A short documentary film on the Center's activities was screened;



then, the Director General guided the Ministers, Mr. Dirieh and Dr. Assoweh through the displays, giving information on the calligraphic styles covered in the competitions and the salient characteristics of the artworks. Guests from diplomatic and cultural circles attended the opening of the exhibition.

The same day, Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç made a series of official contacts with members of the Government of Djibouti. Following a visit to Ambassador Mr. Cenk Uraz



at the Embassy of Türkiye, the Director General, accompanied by Ambassador Uraz, and by the Chief of IRCICA's Arts Section Mr. Said Kasımoğlu, paid a visit to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Djibouti Mr. Mahamoud Ali Youssouf, as well as the Minister of Commerce and Tourism Mr. Mohamed Warsama Dirieh and the Minister of Youth and Culture Dr. Hibo Moumin Assoweh, in their respective offices. The Centre's activities were introduced, samples of

IRCICA's publications were offered, and possibilities of cooperation were discussed.

IRCICA was pleased to note the great interest shown to its exhibition by cultural and artistic circles in Djibouti. These included a group of more than 20 students from Djibouti University received on 26 December. A comprehensive article about the exhibition was published in Djibouti's daily La Nation, no. 252 of Tuesday, 26 December 2023, p. 2. 🇨🇩



Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Djibouti Mr. Mahamoud Ali Youssouf



Meeting with the Minister of Commerce and Tourism Mr. Mohamed Warsama Dirieh



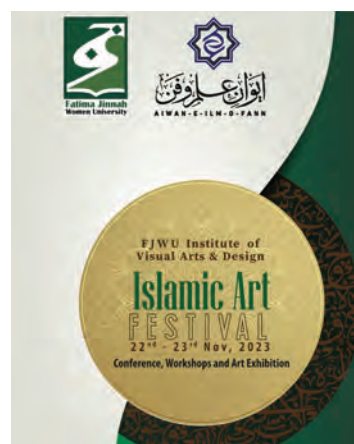
Meeting with the Minister of Youth and Culture Dr. Hibo Moumin



Within the framework of the Islamic Art Festival'23, Pakistan

online conference organized by Fatima
Jinnah Women University and Aiwan-e-
Ilm-o-Fann: presentations by IRCICA

Rawalpindi, Pakistan 22-23 November 2023



An online conference and a series of workshops were organized by the Institute of Visual Arts and Design, Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU, Rawalpindi) and Aiwan-e-Ilm-o-Fann (Lahore), Pakistan, on 22-23 November 2023, within the framework of the International Islamic Art Festival '23 commemorating UNESCO's International Day of Islamic Art – 18 November. Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA, gave an extensive, pre-recorded address for the opening ceremony, in which he appraised the cooperation developed between Pakistan and IRCICA in the field of arts and expressed his appreciation of the participation of artists from Pakistan in IRCICA's calligraphy and illumination courses and International Calligraphy Competition. Opening addresses were given by Prof. Mamoon Khan, Chairperson, Institute of Visual Arts and Design; Prof. Sarwet Rasool, Dean of Social Sciences; the Chief Guest; Prof. Uzaira Rafique, Vice Chancellor, FJWU. During the working

sessions, Master Calligrapher Efdaluddin Kılıç presented a paper and held a practical workshop on behalf of IRCICA. Some paper titles: "Evolution of the Study of Islamic Art: From Ethnography to Theoretical Reflections", Keynote Speaker Dr. Amjad Waheed; "Conceptions and Misconceptions about Islamic Arabesques", Dr. Shaukat Mahmood; "Empirical in the Miraculous, Conspicuous in the Inconspicuous", Prof. Mamoon Khan; "Islamic Art in Modern Time", Dr. Salah Sherzad; "A case of Al-Buraq as an Islamic Iconography in the Contemporary Digitally Mediated World of Augmented Reality", Zarin Gul; "Nuqta in Islamic Art", Keynote Speaker Gen. Ret. Humayun Khan Bangash; "Nastaliq in indo-Pak and Contribution of Abdul Majeed Parveen Raqam" (Secretary General of Aiwan-e-Ilm-o-Fann/ Calligraphers' Association of Pakistan) Irfan Ahmed Qureshi; "Mosaics in Islamic Architecture: Examining the Fusion of Art and Function in Mosques and Palaces", Sidra Ashraf; "Spiritual

Message of Islamic Art", Efdaluddin Kılıç. The second day's sessions were dedicated to practical demonstrations: Efdaluddin Kılıç (Türkiye), Irfan Ahmed Qureshi, Shaukat Ali Minhas Zareen Qalam (Pakistan) and Muhammad Nuri (U.A.E.) on calligraphy; Mumtaz Baig (Pakistan) on paper making, Gülnihal Küpeli (Türkiye) on illumination. Conclusion remarks were delivered by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Uzaira Rafique and the Dean of Social Sciences Prof. Sarweet Rasool.

The main event, the festival, was organized by Lahore Arts Council Alhamra and Pakistan Arts Council Karachi with a large number of artistic activities displayed at Alhamra Arts Centre ("The Mall"). These included workshops, lectures, exhibitions, calligraphy competitions and book stalls. The works of artists from Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye and Yemen were exhibited during the International Islamic Art Festival. 🌟



Award-winning works from IRCICA's calligraphy competitions presented at intercultural arts exhibition

Vicenza, Italy, 14 October 2023-18 February 2024

IRCICA is taking part with a sample of award-winning works from its calligraphy competitions, in the Exhibition titled "A Sea of Letters from the Mediterranean Coasts. The Islamic Art of Calligraphy and its Relationship with the Latin West" which was opened in Vicenza, Italy on 14 October 2023 by the Academy of Interreligious Studies (I.S.A.), Italy; the Museum of the Diocese of Vicenza; COREIS (Religious Community of Italian Muslim Youth), in the halls of the Diocese Museum. Due to extraordinary public participation, the exhibition has been extended till 18 February 2024. Plates in thuluth, jaly thuluth and muhaqqaq styles by calligraphers from Iraq, Egypt and

Türkiye are lent by IRCICA for the exhibition.

Dr. Giovanni Yahya Abd al-Ahad Zanolò, President of the Academy of Interreligious Studies (I.S.A.), Italy, paid a visit to IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç on 13 November 2023, at IRCICA headquarters, during a private trip to Istanbul. The talks were centered around the state of studies on Islamic theology and philosophy in the world today, but also included an appraisal of the interest shown to the works of calligraphy from IRCICA's competitions displayed as part of the Vicenza exhibition. Prof. Kılıç gave information to Dr. Zanolò on IRCICA's activities relating to Islamic arts. 🌍



IRCICA's partnership with Pendik Municipality for the "18th Pendik International Traditional Meeting of Artists"

Istanbul, Türkiye, 15-24 September 2023

Cooperating with the Municipality of Pendik (Istanbul) for the "18th Pendik International Traditional Meeting of Artists", IRCICA coordinated the participation of Ms. Ghadeer Sarab Mohammad Alotaibi, potter/glass painter from Jordan, Mr. Gayrat Atabaev and Mr. Abbos Shomansurov, woodcarvers from Uzbekistan, in this festival event. Following the ribbon-cutting for the opening on 15 September, IRCICA Director General Prof.



Mahmud Erol Kılıç greeted the participating artists. At the closing ceremony of the event, certificates were presented to the participants by Mr. Ahmet Cin, Mayor of Pendik, and Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publication, IRCICA. 🇹🇷

Lecture by Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç during the International Symposium on Islamic Arts, Necmeddin Erbakan University

Konya, Türkiye, 21 October 2023

IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç gave a lecture on 21 October 2023 during the 2nd International Symposium "Our Tradition, Future and Masters" organized by Konya Karatay Municipality and Necmeddin Erbakan University (NEÜ) in Konya. In his lecture, Prof. Kılıç spoke of the metaphysical framework of Islamic arts by describing the notions of "Meaning" and "Aim"

which inspire the artist and infuse spirit into the artwork; he explained these essential concepts that are at the basis of any verbal or visual expression with quotes from the sayings of great Sufis, including Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi and Mevlana Celaleddin-i Rumi. The lecture was attended by faculty members and students from various universities and other interested circles. 🇹🇷



Commemorative panel in honor of Ms. Mihin Lugal, a doyenne of the librarians

IRCICA, 20 October 2023

A meeting was held at IRCICA on 20 October 2023 in memory of the leading expert librarian Ms. Mihin Lugal (1925-2022). Facts and developments in living memory were evoked about research and librarianship in the fields of history, Islamic studies and Oriental studies.

Mihin Lugal received her school education in Germany and Türkiye following the career stages of her father, the professor of Persian literature Necati Lugal. She worked in the library of the Turkish Historical Society (Ankara) for 33 years until 1983, then at Atatürk Cultural Centre (Ankara) until 1987, and at IRCICA Library until retiring in 2013. Throughout her career, she followed modern advancements in librarianship on history and Oriental studies and introduced them to her institutions, which also helped to raise the general level of knowledge in these areas. She also wrote books and articles.

The meeting at IRCICA started with the opening remarks of Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of

Research and Publications, delivered on behalf of Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç. A documentary film was shown, on the life and works of Mihin Lugal, emphasizing some aspects of her career that had interacted with progresses in librarianship. The film also recorded brief personal memories of more than twenty IRCICA staff members emphasizing Lugal's remarkable competence, professionalism, and objective attitude vis-à-vis realities.

Subsequently, a panel was held, with the following speakers: Dr. Didar Bayır, Head of IRCICA Library and Archive; Mihin Lugal's son Argun Eren; and, distinguished

scholars who collaborated with Ms. Lugal at different stages of her career: Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, professor of history of science, ex-Secretary General of OIC (2005-2014); Prof. İlber Ortaylı, professor of history at Galatasaray University in Istanbul and at Bilkent University in Ankara (pre-recorded); Ms. Ayten Şan, ex-Director of Beyazıt Library (İstanbul) and author of a biography book about Mihin Lugal. After the panel, an exhibition of books and photographs was opened, consisting of samples from Mihin Lugal's and her father Prof. Necati Lugal's archive donated to IRCICA. 📖



Study visit by SALT Research to IRCICA Library

A team of researchers and archivists from the artistic and cultural institution SALT Research (Istanbul), headed by Associate Director of Research and Programs Dr. Lorans Baruh,

visited IRCICA Library and Archive on 14 December 2023 and received information from Dr. Didar Bayır, Head of the Library and Archive, on the collections and the activities. SALT Research

comprises a specialized library, comprehensive archives and online content, providing researchers with access to print publications and digitized archival documents.



IRCICA Library and Archive participates in specialized meetings

IRCICA Library and Archive Department participated in conferences relating to its fields of specialization, to monitor developments and establish contacts. These included the following events:

- 1st Symposium on “Preservation and Restoration of Manuscript Works”, organized by the Turkish Ministry of Culture, Presidency of Manuscript Works, Department of Book Rehabilitation and Archive, and held in Rami Library, Istanbul, on 6-8 December 2023, where a group of librarians from IRCICA presented a poster titled “IRCICA Library and Archive’s Collections and Digital Preservation Activities”;
- Workshop on “Digital Transcription of Texts in Ottoman”, convened by Marmara University Digital Humanities Application and Research Center, Istanbul, on 20 December 2023, with a paper presentation by Ms. Neslihan Sandal, Deputy Head, IRCICA Library and Archive, on “OCR Applications for Ottoman at IRCICA”;





- Conference titled "Women Librarians Speaking, on the Centenary of the Republic", organized by the Turkish Directorate General of Librariesat Orhan Kemal Provincial Public Library, Istanbul, on 26



October 2023, where Ms. Neslihan Sandal presented a paper on "A Glimpse at the Principal Features of Special Libraries: the Example of IRCICA Library and Archive".

Selections from IRCICA Library and Archive

This section introduces publications recently added to IRCICA's Library and Archive collections.

Encyclopedia Palestinnica by Dr. Mohammad H. Ghosheh

ISBN 995787831X, 9789957878313

"Encyclopedia Palestinnica is the most extensive pictorial and documentary resource yet published on the history and culture of Palestine in the Ottoman period. This work is marking 500 years since the start of the Ottoman period in Jerusalem and Palestine, when Sultan Selim I entered Jerusalem at the end of 1516. Encyclopedia Palestinnica consists of 24 volumes of around 7,000 pages covering different cultural and historical aspects of Palestine from 1516 until 1918, including much unpublished information on the history and culture of Palestine."- Back cover.

Dr. Mohammad Ghosheh is a historian and architect, author of several major books on Al-

Quds and Palestine, and expert in Islamic arts and architecture. His two-volume book in Arabic, titled *The Islamic Endowments in Jerusalem*, was published by IRCICA in 2009. It is a comprehensive history of waqfs in Al-Quds during the Islamic period.

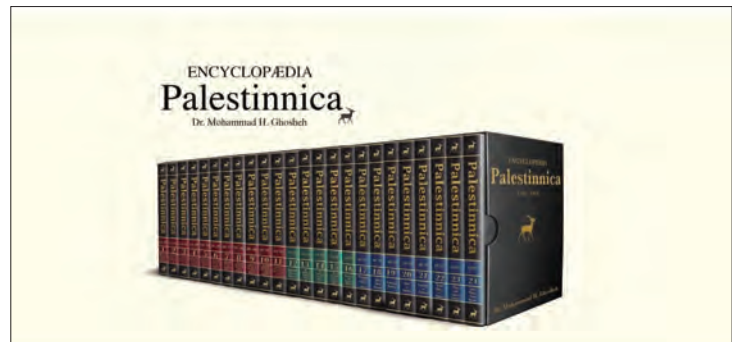
Encyclopaedia Palestinnica is the largest documentary work on the history of Palestine during the Ottoman period published in the English language. The reference documents used for the work are chiefly in Arabic. Dr. Ghosheh has spent 20 years of meticulous research to gather tens of thousands of text pages, documents, drawings, images and

maps on the history of Palestine between 1516 and 1918.

This major work was published by Encyclopaedia Palestinnica Foundation, Amman, in 2018-2019.

Contents

Palestine in the Ottoman Period (1516-1918) – 2-3. The Family Endowments in Palestine (1516-1918) – 4. Drawing Palestine in the Early Ottoman Period (1516-1699) – 5. Drawing Palestine in the Early Ottoman Period (1700-1830) – 6. Drawing Palestine in the Egyptian Period (1831-1840) – 7. Drawing Palestine in the Tanzimat Period





(1841-1875) – 8. Drawing Palestine in the Time of ‘Abdul Hamid II (1876-1880) – 9. Drawing Palestine in the Time of ‘Abdul Hamid II (1881-1882) – 10. Drawing Palestine in the Time of ‘Abdul Hamid II (1882-1889) – 11. Drawing Palestine in the Time of ‘Abdul Hamid II (1890-1909) – 12. Illustrated Maps of Palestine (1550-1913) – 13. The Palestinian Families Archive (1516-1918): I. Cities and towns – 14. The Palestinian Families Archive (1516-1918): II. Towns and villages – 15. The Palestinian Families Archive (1516-1918): III. Stamps and Signature – 16. Manuscripts and Libraries in Palestine (1516-1918) – 17. Photographs and Memories of Palestine (1865-1918) – 18. Daily Life in Ottoman Palestine (1865-1918) – 19. Picturesque Palestine (1865-1918) – 20. Islam in Palestine (1865-1918) – 21. Christianity in Palestine (1865-1918) – 22. Postal History of Palestine (1834-1918) – 23. Flora and Fauna in Palestine (1516-1918) – 24. In the Midst of World War One (1914-1918)

Source: <https://www.iaa.edu.jo/content/encyclopaedia-palestinnica>



The Cultural Legacy Library

IRCICA expresses its thanks to The World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan for gifting 50 volumes of this publication to the Centre.

The Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan in the World Collections project is based on the idea of cataloging and comprehending the masterpieces produced in the historical land of Uzbekistan throughout centuries but which due to various circumstances, are now preserved in various museums and private collections in Russia and other countries of Europe, Asia, America, Africa. These are archaeological artifacts, the rarest manuscripts with unique miniatures, and various objects of applied art. 12.000 high-quality photographs of objects of cultural and historical heritage of Uzbekistan have been collected in the context of this project.

The collected materials are published in the form of richly illustrated book-albums. Each album is dedicated to artifacts from Uzbekistan in one or more foreign collections or a group of collections in one country. The

illustrative series may include both world-renowned masterpieces and samples little known or completely unknown to the general public and specialists. The text in three languages - Uzbek, English, Russian – make it possible to cover the widest possible readership.

To date, 60 volumes of book-albums were published. Of these, more than 15 volumes are devoted to museums and libraries, as well as private collections in Uzbekistan. Among them are the collections of the Savitsky Museum, the Museum of History, the Museum of Art, the Institute of Oriental Studies named after Abu Raykhan Biruni, the Museum of Decorative, Applied and Folk Art, and many others. The volumes also present Uzbek collections of such world-famous museums as the Louvre, the French National Library, the US Library of Congress, the British Museum, the Khuda Bakhsh National Library of India, Topkapı Palace Library, the State Hermitage Museum, the Tretyakov Gallery, the Miho Museum, the Ethnographic Museum of Berlin and many others.

Source: <https://society.uz/cultural-heritage>

COOPERATION, MEETINGS, VISITS

● Visit of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, H.E. Fahad Abualnahr to IRCICA

The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Ankara, Ambassador Fahad Assaad A. Abualnahr paid a courtesy visit to the Director General of IRCICA Ambassador Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç on 17 November 2023. The meeting involved an exchange of views on further enhancing academic and cultural cooperation between the KSA and IRCICA.



● Visit of the Consul General of Uzbekistan in Istanbul Mr. Şerzad Abdunazarov

IRCICA Director General, Ambassador Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç received the Consul General of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Istanbul Mr. Şerzad Abdunazarov at IRCICA on 4 January 2024. Following an appraisal of the 12th International Avicenna Readings conference held in Bukhara on 26-28 October 2023, the guests made a sound recording of Professor Kılıç's remarks on Ibn Sina's works, their importance for science and civilization in world context. Were also present at the meeting, the Consul General's Adviser Mr. Abdurahmon Muhamedov, IRCICA's Head of Research and Publications Prof. Cengiz Tomar, and IRCICA's Consultant for Central Asian Studies Prof. Ashirbek Muminov.



● The Speaker of the Turkish Parliament Prof. Dr. Numan Kurtulmuş received Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç in his office

The Speaker of the Turkish Parliament Prof. Dr. Numan Kurtulmuş received the Director General of IRCICA, Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç on 15 November 2023 in his office at the Parliament. Prof. Kılıç briefed Prof. Kurtulmuş on IRCICA's ongoing activities and planned projects; Prof. Kurtulmuş said "At a time when the world needs more than ever to comply with Islam's call for high virtues, peace, security and welfare, IRCICA assumes an important mission through these values in preserving Islamic civilization and strengthening solidarity within the Muslim world by highlighting the 1400-year old Islamic cultural heritage, intellectual achievements and history of arts" and wished the Centre continual success..



● **Cooperation with the Islamic University in Uganda – Visit of the Rector of IUIU, Dr. Gyagenda**

The Rector of the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU), Dr. Ismail Simbwa Gyagenda, paid a visit to IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç at IRCICA, on 11 October 2023. The existing and potential collaboration between IUIU and IRCICA were discussed, a Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation was signed. The IUIU delegation comprising Mr. Hamza Sewankambo, University Secretary, and Mr. Saim Çelik, Lecturer, Coordinator of the Centre for Capacity Development, were present at the meeting, together with Prof. Aboubacar Senghore, Assistant Director General of IRCICA and the senior staff.



● **Director General's visit to the President of Istanbul University**

Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General, and Prof. Dr. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA, paid a visit to Prof. Dr. Osman Bülent Zülfikar, President of Istanbul University, in his office on 1 Dec. 2023; IRCICA's activities were introduced, views were exchanged on education in humanities and social sciences.



● **The visit of Kırşehir University President Prof. Dr. Karahocagil**

Prof. Dr. Mustafa Kasım Karahocagil, President of Kırşehir University (Türkiye) paid a visit to the Director General of IRCICA Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç at IRCICA headquarters on 4 December 2023. The talks revolved around curricula relating to history and culture.



Visit from the UAE-based Muslim Council of Elders

Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç received Dr. Samir Boudinar, Director, Al-Hokama Center for Peace Research at the Abu Dhabi based Muslim Council of Elders, and Dr. Mohammed Esslimani, Advisor to H.E. Ahmed Al-Tayeb, the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Director of the Center for Islamic Heritage Discovery at Al-Azhar Al-Sharif, at IRCICA on 14 December 2023. The talks focused on advancements of academic research and education in areas of common interest.



Cooperation with Fujairah Fine Arts Academy, United Arab Emirates

The Award Ceremony of the Third Fujairah International Arabic Calligraphy Competition, organized by the Fujairah Fine Arts Academy, United Arab Emirates, was held under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Muhammad bin Hamad Al-Sharqi, Crown Prince of the

Emirate of Fujairah and Head of the Board of Trustees of the Academy, on 12 December 2023. Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications, and Mr. Said Kasımoğlu, Chief of the Arts Section, were invited to participate in the ceremony. Earlier, on 9 November 2023, the Director General of Fujairah Fine Arts Academy, Mr. Ali Obaid Al Hafiti, had received Mr. Said Kasımoğlu, who was then

curating IRCICA's stand at the Sharjah International Book Fair. A meeting was held on possible areas of cooperation, with the participation of Mrs. Sheikha Al-Shara, Head of the Department of Public Relations and Executive Assistant at the Academy, Mr. Muhammad Abu Al-Majd, and Dr. Esra Alhamal, Director of the Islamic School of Illumination.



● Meetings with cultural and artistic institutions in the United Arab Emirates

IRCICA Delegation composed of Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications, and Mr. Said Kasımoğlu, Chief of the Arts Section, held a series of meetings in Abu Dhabi and Sharjah where possibilities of cooperation in relevant fields of common interest were sought. At Abu Dhabi Cultural Foundation attached to the Department of Culture and Tourism of Abu Dhabi, they were received by Ms. Fatima Omar, Head of Outreach (Community), on 13 December 2023. At Khawla Art & Culture Foundation, Abu Dhabi, they had a meeting with Dr. Lamees Al Qaisi, General Manager. The same day, Ms. Aisha Rashid Ali bin Deemas, Director General of the Sharjah Museums Authority, received IRCICA's representatives for a meeting on possibilities of collaboration. On 14 December 2023, the delegation attended the opening of the conference on "Africa's Indian Ocean Islands Colorful Threads: The Interwoven Worlds of Art and Culture in the Western Indian Ocean" at the Africa Institute in Sharjah, where they met with Mr. Ramadan Elkhoully, Researcher and Archivist, and offered samples of publications to the Institute.

An exhibition by Calligrapher Mr. Ferhat Kurlu, IRCICA's calligraphy teacher, was held in the context



Meeting with Ms. Aisha Rashid Ali bin Deemas, Director General of the Sharjah Museums Authority



R. L. Mr. Ferhat Kurlu, Mr. Necati Sancaktutan, Prof. Dr. Cengiz Tomar



Prof. Dr. Tomar presented an IRCICA publication to Dr. Lamees Al Qaisi as a souvenir of the visit.

of the 25th Sharjah International Islamic Arts Festival, from 13 December 2023–21 January 2024. The opening was officiated by Mr. Mohammed Ibrahim Al Qasir, Director of Cultural Affairs in the Department of Culture, Sharjah. The IRCICA Delegation, together with IRCICA's illumination teacher Mr. Necati Sancaktutan, participated in the opening..



Abu Dhabi Cultural Foundation: meeting with Ms. Fatima Omar.



R. Mr. Ramadan Elkhoully: at the Africa Institute in Sharjah.

● Visit from the World Islamic Call Society, Libya

Dr. Ibrahim A. Rabu, Vice President, World Islamic Call Society, and Dr. Abubaker M. Abuswer, Dean of the College of Islamic Call, Tripoli, Libya, paid a visit to IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç at IRCICA headquarters on 23 October 2023. Cultural issues of common interest were discussed.



● IRCICA Director General met with the Minister of Culture of Libya

IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç met with the Minister of Culture of Libya H.E. Ms. Mabrouka Othman on 17 October 2023, during the 12th Session of the OIC Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs held in Dakar. An exchange of views took place for further reinforcement of cultural cooperation between Libya and IRCICA.



● Director General's visit to Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, London

IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç paid a visit to Mr. Sali Shahsuvari, Executive Director, Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, at the Foundation's headquarters in London, on 8 September 2023. The meeting was centered around future orientations of the fruitful cooperation existing between IRCICA and Al-Furqan Foundation in the field of studies on Islamic scholarship and historical manuscripts.



● Visit of H.E. Gholamali Haddad Adel, President of the Iranian Academy of Persian Language and Literature

H.E. Gholamali Haddad Adel, President of the Iranian Academy of Persian Language and Literature, ex-Speaker of the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran (2004-2008), paid a visit to IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç at IRCICA on 18 October 2023. Mr. Adel and Prof. Kılıç exchanged talks on cultural cooperation and IRCICA's activities, as well as common memories from Prof. Kılıç's mission as Secretary General of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States (PUIC) in Tehran. .



● Guests from Iran introduced with the activities

Prof. Dr. Ahmed Rehdar and Calligrapher Habibullah Babayi from Iran, and the Cultural Attaché of the Consulate General of Iran in Istanbul Mr. Hasan Didban, were received at IRCICA on 22 November 2023 by Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications, on behalf of the Director General who was abroad, and introduced with the Centre's activities.



● Visit of the Calligrapher Farid Al-Ali, Director of Kuwait Centre for Islamic Arts

Mr. Farid Al-Ali, Calligrapher, Director of the Kuwait Center for Islamic Arts (Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs) and former Secretary of the Kuwaiti Society for Formative Arts, paid a visit to Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç at IRCICA on 22 September 2023. Cooperation between the Kuwait Centre for Islamic Arts and IRCICA bore fruit in several joint activities in the past years such as the international exhibition of "Handmade Prayer Carpets" (2014). The visit was an excellent occasion to exchange views on developments in Islamic arts activities.



● Visit of Dr. Shafiq Morton from South Africa

Dr. Shafiq Morton, Editor and Historian in South Africa, was welcomed by Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç at IRCICA on 13 September 2023. On this occasion, Professor Kılıç presented copies of the second edition of the book *The Crescent at the Cape. The True Story of Abu-Bakr Effendi. 1814-1880* by Shafiq Morton to its author, published by IRCICA and AwqafSA in 2023. Staff members who had met Dr. Morton during IRCICA's conference at Cape Town in September 2022 were also present.



● Visit of scholars from L.N. Gumilev Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan

IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç received Dr. Symbat Shakirov, Dr. Tolganay Mustafina and Dr. Farida Musatayeva, scholars from L. N. Gumilev Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan, at IRCICA on 3 November 2023. IRCICA's Assistant Director General Prof. Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore, Head of Research and Publications Prof. Cengiz Tomar, and Consultant for Central Asian Studies Prof. Ashirbek Muminov, were present during the meeting.



● Visit from the Religious Studies Center, Atyrau, Kazakhstan

Dr. Seitkaliev Rustem Kirgiuly, Director of the Religious Studies Center, Atyrau, Kazakhstan, and Mr. Salimov Izbasar, expert from the same Center, paid a visit to Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA, on 22 September 2023. Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications, was present at the meeting, where views were exchanged on cultural activities of common interest.



● Visit of a delegation from the Institute of History, Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan

A 14-member delegation comprising mainly post-graduate students from the Institute of History, Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, chaired by Dr. Sherzodkhon Mahmudov, paid a working visit to IRCICA on 29 September 2023 where they were received by IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, together with Prof. Cengiz Tomar, Head of Research and Publications and Prof. Ashirbek Muminov, Consultant for Central Asian Studies. The program of the visit included talks on history studies, exchanges of publications, and an instructive tour in the Library.



● Visit from R.B. Suleimanov Institute of Oriental Studies

Researchers from R.B. Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies, Almaty, Kazakhstan - Prof. Ghalimzhan Duisen, Dr. Ernur Quatuly, Mr. Ayan Sabyrov, and Ms. Kuralai Kurmanbaeva were received at IRCICA on 21 Dec. 2023 by Assistant Director General Prof. Aboubacar Senghore and Consultant for Central Asian Studies Prof. Ashirbek Muminov, for a meeting within the framework of the MOU in effect..



● Benchmarking visit from Universiti Putra Malaysia

Associate Prof. Dr. Mohd Daud Awang, Director, and Mr. Mohd Azrol Hafizi Azman, Executive Officer, at the Centre for Management of Waqf, Zakat and

Endowment (WAZAN), Universiti Putra Malaysia, paid a visit to IRCICA on 23 October 2023. The guests were received by Assistant Director General Prof. Aboubacar A. Senghore and Consultant on Research Projects Prof. Sadık Ünay.

● **Director of Sakıp Sabancı Museum Dr. Nazan Ölçer's visit**

Dr. Nazan Ölçer, Director of the Sakıp Sabancı Museum, Istanbul, paid a visit to IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç at IRCICA, on 23 October 2023. The talks focused on possible avenues of cooperation between the Museum and IRCICA relating particularly to studies on masterpieces of calligraphy.



● **MOU for Cooperation with the Traditional Arts Association, Istanbul**

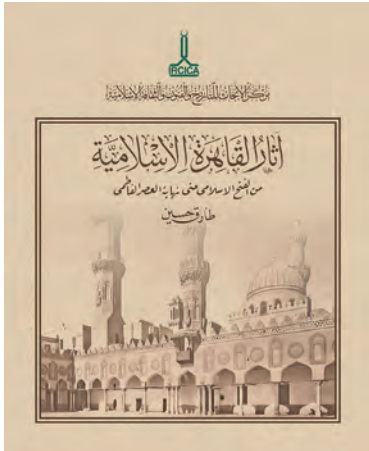
A Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation with the Traditional Arts Association (Istanbul), an NGO accredited at UNESCO for Intangible Heritage, was signed at IRCICA on 18 September 2023 by IRCICA Director General Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç and the Head of the Association Mr. Ahmet Akcan, for the purpose of organizing joint activities of common interest towards promoting the traditional arts.



● **Visit of the Chairman of the Federation of International Student Associations, Istanbul**

IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç received Mr. Abdullah Muhammed İslam, Chairman of the Federation of International Student Associations (UDEF, Istanbul), at IRCICA on 24 October 2023. The Federation covers 61 student associations (udef.org.tr).





Tarek Hussein,
Islamic Monuments of Cairo from the Islamic Conquest Till the End of the Fatimid Period

IRCICA, 2023. HISTORY AND CULTURE IN EGYPT SERIES 6, X+410+5 PP. (IN ARABIC, PREFACE AND INTRODUCTION ALSO IN ENGLISH)


ISBN 9789290634126

This book was published within the framework of IRCICA’s research program on Islamic Architectural Heritage that covers the historical cities, sites and monuments of the Muslim world. The book was

authored by the Egyptian historian of art, Dr. Tarek Hussein. It is about the monuments of Cairo dating from the beginning of the Islamic history of Egypt (7th century) until the end of the Fātimid period (1171 AD). With respect to its timeframe, the study complements IRCICA’s first publication on the subject titled Islamic Monuments of Cairo During the Ottoman Period, authored by Dr. Eng. Mohamed Abul Amayem (Egypt), which covered the period from 1517-1805 in three parts: Book 1: Mosques, Madrasas and Takiyas (2003, xxxviii+541 pp.); Book 2: Public Fountains, Schools, and Watering Places (2011, 2 volumes, 1028 pp.); Book 3: Caravanserais and Marketplaces (2015, 2 volumes, 1138 pp.). Earlier, IRCICA had also published, under a different series, an annotated photography album titled Egypt as Seen in the Nineteenth Century (2001) containing reproductions of 19th century photographs from the Centre’s archives.

Dr. Tarek Hussein’s book describes 48 monuments, arranged chronologically. It contains a total of 546 photographs, maps and plans of the monuments, old and new, and communicates



detailed information extracted from numerous sources about their characteristics. The general maps added to the end of the book situate the monuments according to their periods. The amply illustrated texts and abundant reference materials provide in-depth documentation on the history and present state of each monument. The book is a praiseworthy contribution to the sources and studies on the Islamic architectural heritage of Cairo. 





Abdülkerim Özaydın,
**Büyük Selçuklu
 İmparatorluğu (1040-
 1157) (Siyasî Tarih,
 Teşkilât ve İdare)** [The
 Great Seljuk Empire
 (1040-1157) (Political
 History, Organization and
 Administration)]

IRCICA, ISTANBUL, 2023. SERIES OF
 SOURCES AND STUDIES ON SELJUK
 HISTORY NO. 1. 630 P., MAP (IN
 TURKISH)

ISBN978-92-9063-419-5

The Great Seljuk Empire has a distinct place in Islamic history and world history due to the vast territory and the wide diversity of religious and ethnic communities it encompassed. The Seljuks reigned over centrally located areas of the Muslim world and built strong administrative, urban and social structures, bringing a new dynamism to Islamic civilization in various areas including policy, economy, sciences, literature, arts and architecture. With these achievements, the Seljuks set the example of a genuine embodiment of Islamic culture and civilization in a development drive and fruitfully interacted with neighboring states and

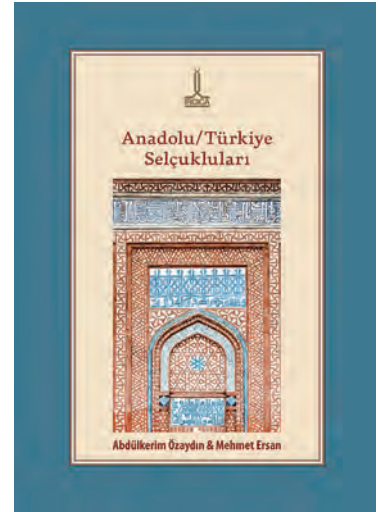
communities. The present book is a comprehensive scholarly work on the Great Seljuk Empire authored by Prof. Dr. Abdülkerim Özaydın and published by IRCICA. It covers all aspects of the Seljuk history, under the chapters titled “The Foundation Phase (945-1040)”, “The First Phase of the Empire (1040-1092)”, “The Period of Regression and Transition (1092-1118)”, “The Second Phase of the Empire (1118-1157)”, “Organization and Administration”. The several appendices include a chronological table, a genealogy of the Great Seljuk Sultans, and indexes. IRCICA believes that this publication will contribute importantly to studies on the Seljuks and also serve as an immediate reference for information on any aspect of the Great Seljuk Empire. 📖

Abdülkerim Özaydın &
 Mehmet Ersan, **Anadolu/
 Türkiye Selçukluları**
 [Anatolian/Turkish Seljuks]

IRCICA, ISTANBUL, 2023. SERIES
 OF SOURCES AND STUDIES ON
 SELJUK HISTORY NO. 2. 620 P. (IN
 TURKISH)

ISBN978-92-9063-418-8

This work authored by Prof. Abdülkerim Özaydın and Prof. Mehmet Ersan and published by IRCICA is a comprehensive history of one the most influential states in Islamic history, the Anatolian Seljuks. The book covers the political developments, administrative system and institutions of the Anatolian Seljuks, their achievements in intellectual life, arts, architecture and urbanism, their heroic struggles against threats to the Muslim world, primarily the Eastern Roman Empire and the



Crusaders, and their relations with other states, examining all aspects of this history in nine chapters organized according to the periods of foundation, ascension, regression and dissolution of the state. Appearing simultaneously with the book “The Great Seljuk Empire (1040-1157) (Political History, Organization and Administration)” by Abdülkerim Özaydın in IRCICA’s same series, this publication is expected to constitute a valuable addition to history literature and a useful reference for researchers.



Muminov A.K., Dyussenov B.D., **Epigraphic Monuments in Arabic Script from the “Abat-Baytaq” Necropolis. Book-Album**

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ALLEN FRANK (EDITOR OF THE ENGLISH TEXT, USA), U.A. UTEPBERGENOVA (INDICES, KAZAKHSTAN). ALMATY: ALTYN PARAQ, 2023. 496 P. + DVD OF THE FILM ON THE “ABAT-BAYTAQ” NECROPOLIS

ISBN: 978-601-7480-00-4

IRCICA's joint publication with the Akimate (Governorate) of Aktobe Region, Kazakhstan, and R.B. Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies, Almaty, Kazakhstan, contains an important scholarly study on the Abat-Baytaq Necropolis in Aktobe. The field research on the gravestone inscriptions in the necropolis was conducted and its outcomes recorded during 2019-2023 by Professor Ashirbek Muminov (IRCICA) and Dr. Baghdad Dyussenov (R.B. Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies) with Dr. Allen J. Frank participating as editor for the English part of the book. The Foreword is written by Ms. Bulbul Eleusinova, Deputy Governor of Aktobe Region, and the Preface, by Prof. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA. IRCICA has been engaged in this joint project due to its research interest in Islamic historical and cultural heritage and the archival and archeological assets of OIC

member countries. The historical complex that comprises the Abat-Baytaq Necropolis and the Abat Mausoleum is an invaluable heritage site and a repository of historical and cultural information. The necropolis came into being during the late 18th - early 20th centuries. The hundreds of gravestones it contains have a high reference value due to the information embodied in their inscriptions, alongside their artisanal characteristics. The majority bear inscriptions in Kazakh language written in Arabic script. They also have high ethnographic significance as records of the persons and families that lived in the region. This has been the very first study conducted on the Abat-Baytaq Necropolis. The authors identified and examined 243 gravestone inscriptions, transcribed them, translated them into Russian and English, and presented them together with their photographs taken from different angles. A scholarly Introduction and indices complete the book. The book will be of interest for historians, researchers in religion studies and regional cultures, as well as the general reader interested in the history and culture of the region. 📖

Ashirbek Muminov, Selahaddin Uygur, Zafar Najmiddinov (eds.).

The Golden Horde in the Works of Ottoman Historiography (16th–17th Centuries)

RESPONSIBLE EDITOR: ZH. M. SABITOV.
FOREWORD: MAHMUD EROL KILIÇ.
ASTANA, 2023. 620 (445+175) P.

ISBN: 978-601-7600-48-8

IRCICA is pleased to present its joint publication with the International Scientific Complex “Astana” in contribution to studies on the Golden Horde. The state of the Golden Horde (Altın Orda) was an influential power of the

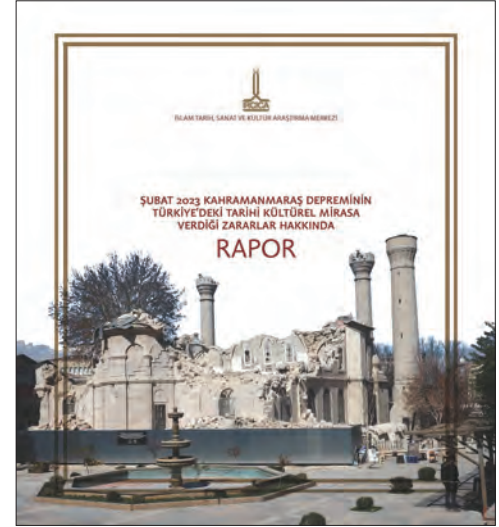


medieval period. It ruled over a vast territory in Central Asia between 1227 and 1502. Islam was introduced to the Khanate in the 13th century and spread throughout its lands by the 14th. Despite its importance, the history of this state has not been studied thoroughly yet, mainly due to the scarcity and fragmented state of the related sources. References to the Golden Horde in Islamic historiographical literature dating from the centuries during and soon after its rule are extremely valuable in this respect, especially to throw light on the scholarly and literary activities recorded in its realm. The present book, produced by Professor Ashirbek Muminov and Mr. Selahaddin Uygur from IRCICA together with Dr. Zafar Najmiddinov (Uzbekistan), brings together four historical texts about the Golden Horde excerpted from treatises written by three Ottoman scholars - Mahmud ibn Sulayman al-Kafawi (d. 1581), Mustafa ibn Hasan al-Janabi (d. 1590-1591) and Kâtib Çelebi (d. 1657). The original Arabic texts are presented together with their translations in Kazakh and Russian, along with information on the main works and their authors, and detailed indices. IRCICA believes this scholarly publication will significantly contribute to meeting researchers' need for sources on the Golden Horde and its period. 📖

Report on the damage caused by the February 2023 Kahramanmaraş earthquake on Islamic cultural heritage in Türkiye

PREPARED BY ALIDOST ERTUĞRUL, TAHA ZAHİD ÖZDEMİR, HUSSEİN AL RAGABI; PREFACE BY MAHMUD EROL KILIÇ. IRCICA; 2023. 241 P., MAPS, COL. ILL., PLANS (IN ENGLISH) ISBN 978-92-9063-415-7

A series of earthquakes with magnitudes of 7.8 and 7.5 hit the southeast of Türkiye and the northwest of Syria on 6 and 7 February 2023, followed by a third shock of 6.4 on 20 February, all with multiple aftershocks. The earthquakes caused major destruction over a vast area and claimed the lives of more than 50.000. In Türkiye, around half a million buildings were damaged or destroyed in the provinces of Adana, Adıyaman, Diyarbakır, Gaziantep, Hatay, Elazığ, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, Malatya, Osmaniye and Şanlıurfa. Comprehensive technical surveys and reports were issued by different institutions, about the consequences. The affected area houses inestimable urban, architectural and archeological assets inherited from many successive states and civilizations. The monuments include fortresses, medreses, libraries, mosques, religious lodges, public baths, fountains, kitchens and marketplaces dating from pre-Islamic and Islamic periods. IRCICA's Architectural Heritage Section made a field survey trip to the region in March 2023 to assess the situation of historical heritage. The three-member IRCICA team headed by Arch. Dr. Alidost Ertuğrul and comprising Arch. Taha Zahid Özdemir and Arch. Eng. Hussein Al Ragabi, focused on the buildings and monuments of historical character located in those eleven provinces, up to the smaller towns and villages. They examined, took evaluation notes and photographed each monument. The resulting report supplies information and evaluations about the



effects of the February 2023 earthquakes on historical structures; it adds to or confirms existing knowledge on their resistance strength and vulnerability factors and special needs for restoration and conservation. 📖



