

# NEWSLETTER



O.I.C. RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE

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No.: 7

## EDITORIAL

Our Newsletter thus reached its seventh issue. While endeavouring to develop it to better satisfy the demands and desires of our readers, we are at the same time trying to meet the growing number of requests for our Newsletter. For our last issue, though printed in a record number of 7000 copies in total in the three languages, is almost exhausted. Our intention is to ensure an even wider distribution of our Newsletter. In this, we are certainly encouraged by the growing interest shown to it, as transpires from the growing number of appreciative letters so kindly sent by our readers.

Though short, the four-month period elapsed since our number six was an active one. The Eleventh Meeting of the Islamic Commission of the O.I.C., the Third Conference on Islamic Medicine and the Third Meeting of the Governing Council of the Centre were the important meetings held during this period. Also, our Centre published the results of two of its research projects in the same period: the Catalogue of Islamic Medical Manuscripts, and the International Directory of Islamic Cultural Institutions. We give news on these meetings and our two new books in this issue. You will find in it, as usual, news on cultural and artistic events, as well as our news concerning Muslim minorities. The section devoted to the latter contains, among others, information on the Conference on Muslim Minorities organised recently by the O.I.C. in Australia.

Our Centre News section comprises news on different visits to the Centre, our participation to meetings, and two exhibitions organised by our Centre. In our regular "Islamic Cultural Institutions" section, we introduce this time the Islamic Foundation Bangladesh.

The Islamic World has lost one of its great personalities: Mr. Mohammed Daoud. We give a biography of this famous Moroccan thinker and historian in this issue.

As you know, we started to publish, in our last issue, news on articles concerning our Centre published in the international press. We were happy to note, during the last four months, that a considerable number of such articles were published in various newspapers and journals of the Member States, either introducing our Centre in general, or giving information on a particular activity or publication. We are again giving summaries of these articles in our section entitled "The Centre in the Press". We extend our most sincere thanks to the press organs who wrote on our Centre and their representatives who came to visit us for interviews.

We take this occasion to reiterate that we would be grateful to receive your comments and observations on our Newsletter, since our basic aim is to satisfy the needs of our readers and develop this journal as an efficient media at the service of the Islamic World.

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## THIRD MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL



The Third Meeting of the Governing Council of the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture was held in Istanbul at the headquarters of the Centre, on 23-25 November 1984 (1-3 Rabiul Awal 1405H). As the previous ones, this meeting of the Council gave useful and fruitful results for the development and expansion of the Centre's work.

The following members of the Council participated at the meeting:

- Dr.Afif Bahnassi, Chairman of the Council, Director of Museums and Antiquities, Damascus, Syria
- Arch.Sami Angawi, Vice-Chairman of the Council, Director, Hajj Research Centre, Mecca, Saudi Arabia
- Dr.Mahmoud Zouber, Rapporteur of the Council, Director, Ahmed Baba Islamic Institute, Tombouctou, Mali
- Raja Fuziah bte. Raja Tun Uda, Director General, Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Dr.Mohammed Sijelmassi, Pediatrician, Casablanca, Morocco
- Dr.Salah Al-Mahdi, Director General of National Cultural Activities, Tunis, Tunisia
- Prof.Dr.Emin Bilgiç, University of Ankara, Faculty of Languages, History and Geography, Ankara, Turkey
- Eng.Abdel Kader Koshak, Secretary General, Organisation of Islamic Capitals, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre.

The opening ceremony of the meeting took place at the Çit Qasr with the presence of H.E.Mr.Mükerrem Taşçıoğlu, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey and H.E.Mr. Cahit Aral, Minister of Commerce

and Industry of Turkey. Also present were the heads of Islamic missions accredited in Istanbul, rectors and deans of universities, scientists and eminent personalities of the Islamic World.

H.E.M. Mükerrrem Taşçıoğlu, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey inaugurated the meeting. In his speech, he reminded that the Istanbul Centre was established upon proposition of the Turkish Government and that the principal objectives of the Centre are to contribute to the strengthening of cultural and historical links among Muslim nations and to the creation of a friendly and brotherly atmosphere among them. At the end of his speech, he expressed his appreciation for the work of the Centre and reasserted the firm intention of Turkey to reinforce its relations and cooperation with the other Islamic countries.

Then, Dr. Afif Bahnassi, Chairman of the Council, addressed the audience. He expressed his satisfaction with the work accomplished by the Centre and congratulated its staff members who successfully realised the preceding work programs, despite the scope and diversity of the projects and the short periods of execution. He then lauded the continuous support given to the Centre by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference under the direction of H.E.M. Habib Chatty, Secretary General of the OIC, and the Turkish Government. He mentioned that the Centre had made an important contribution to festivities on the occasion of the 15th Century Hijra by organising the international symposium on Islamic arts. He also said that the selection of Istanbul as location of its headquarters was appropriate and that this had enabled the Centre to benefit from local experiences and enormous possibilities offered by this city, given the unlimited

number of fabulous relics in its houses. He then mentioned that the Centre played an important role by restoring the Çit Qasr which serves today as working place to numerous researchers. He concluded his speech by emphasizing the importance of the Centre's objectives as mentioned in its establishment statute, the means available to the Centre to fulfill its tasks and achieve its long-term objectives, as well as the continuous confidence and merit attributed to it. He congratulated the personnel of the Centre and in particular its Director General.

Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre then took the floor and welcomed the participants. He said that the Centre had executed its work programs as approved by the Governing Council. He emphasized the important role played by the Centre in the promotion of cooperation and mutual understanding based on culture among Islamic peoples. Reviewing the achievements of the Centre, he mentioned that 7 books and 6 issues of the Newsletter in three languages were published and two documentary films in two languages were prepared by the Centre. He said that the library now possessed 15000 books and 700 periodicals, a rich collection accumulated by the Centre in less than four years. Concerning research projects undertaken by the Centre, he said that the results of 8 research projects are ready for publication. Finally, he expressed his thanks and gratitude to the Secretary General of the OIC and the Turkish authorities for their unflinching support to the Centre and to the Governing Council for its skillful guidance, enabling the Centre to become one of the leading scientific institutions in its field.

Slides constituting the nucleus of the Centre's museum were shown to the audience and participants after the speeches. These consisted of photographs of invaluable and rare ethnographic material given to the Centre by Mrs. Hikmet Uğut. Then, the guests and participants listened to a concert given by the State Classical Turkish Music Chorus conducted by Dr. Nevzat Atlığ.

After the ceremony, the Chairman of the Governing Council opened the working sessions. The agenda was adopted as proposed. Then, the Director General of the Centre presented his report on the activities of the Centre. After the discussions on the report, the Council made the following recommendations:

1) Research projects, the preparation of bibliographies, and all other principal and general projects which are already completed by the Centre should be considered as first stages and these projects should be continued to cover the whole Islamic World.

2) Concerning post-graduate studies,

a) The Director General of the Centre will establish contacts with the University of Istanbul to institute, in cooperation with this University, post-graduate masters and PhD courses on subjects to be chosen by the Centre. The Centre will subsequently investigate the possibilities and modalities of undertaking the scholarships pertaining to these programs.

b) The Centre will define the important fields in which these post-graduate studies may be conducted and will ask member countries to allocate scholarships for studies in these fields.

3) Concerning publication activities,

a) The OIC and Member States are asked to reinforce the budget of the Centre in order that the latter could publish its researches and undertake the envisaged publication projects.

b) The Centre should communicate with publishers of the Islamic World in order to determine how and under which conditions these publishers could help the Centre in publishing the completed studies, as well as the possible participation of the Centre in such arrangements.

c) Informative brochures of the Centre's publications will be forwarded to potential buyers.

d) The Centre will publish the results of its researches within the limits of its possibilities.

The Council then approved the Director General's report and heard the project proposal of Malaysia concerning the preparation of a book on history and civilisation in South-East Asia. Following debates on the subject, the proposal was adopted in principle. The Council asked the Director General to establish contacts with the Governments of the Member States which are directly concerned with the project, namely the Governments of Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam, and to present a detailed study and a programme to the Council.

The Council continued its work by examining and adopting the program of activities of the Centre for 1984-1985.

The Council also approved the project proposal concerning the collection of oral translations of the Holy Quran in West Africa. It requested the Centre to take the necessary initiatives with the concerned bodies. However, the Council was in the opinion that the Centre may publish these oral translations only after consulting the religious authorities.

Concerning the financial problems of the Centre, the Council made the following recommendations:

1) The OIC and Member States are requested to take the necessary measures to ensure financial stability to the Centre and to

make regularly all contributions which would strengthen its budget.

2) The Centre will try to create special funds for the realisation of particular projects. These funds would be nourished through contributions of persons, member countries organisations and international organisations.

The Council expressed its appreciation for the researches and other activities undertaken by the Centre since its establishment, and qualified the work of the Centre on the whole as authentic and ingenious; it also took note of the fact that these activities constitute in no way a duplication and that they fill a gap in the studies on Islamic civilisation.



## ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE ISLAMIC COMMISSION FOR ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

The Eleventh Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs of the O.I.C. was held in Jeddah on 27-30 Dhul Hijjah 1404H (22-25 September 1984). H.E.Mr.Habib Chatty, Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference opened the meeting, saying that this session was a continuation of the untiring activities of the O.I.C., as evident in conferences, colloquia and symposia and various meetings of the specialised organs and commissions of the O.I.C. which are all geared to the fulfilment of the noble objectives for which the Organisation was created. He stressed the fact that ever since the O.I.C. was instituted as a functional framework for Islamic solidarity, its Member States have realised that such solidarity can only be achieved through effective and sincere cooperation at all levels. He said that the successful and regular holding of the previous sessions of the Commission are indicative of the care of Member States to its work, as well as of their cooperative spirit.

The Commission examined the report submitted by the Istanbul Centre concerning the progresses and achievements realised in each sphere of its activities. The Centre's report recapitulated its various research and publication activities, the restoration of the Çit Qasr, the meetings and exhibitions organised by the Centre and

explained its future activities and plans. In its capacity as the Secretariat of the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage, the Centre also presented the report of this Commission.

Having examined the report of the Centre, the Commission adopted it for submission to the forthcoming Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, by commending the "exemplary efforts of the Centre, which comprise continuous achievements and innovative studies in the field of research and publication". Concerning the activities of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage, the Commission welcomed the practical steps taken by the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage under the chairmanship of H.R.H. Prince Faisal Bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz and expressed its appreciation and gratitude to H.M. King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz for instituting an award in the field of Islamic heritage. It also welcomed the full cooperation and coordination existing between this Commission and the Istanbul Centre as its executive organ, and invited the Member States of the O.I.C. to provide the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage with any information and documents they may have on Islamic heritage in their respective countries.

## THIRD CONFERENCE ON ISLAMIC MEDICINE



*From left to right: H.E.Prof.Dr. Ihsan Dođramacı, H.E.Dr.Abderrahman Al-Awadi, H.E.Turgut Özal, H.E. Mehmet Aydın.*

The Third Conference on Islamic Medicine was held in Istanbul on 3-7 Muharram 1405 (28 September-2 October 1984) under the auspices of H.E.Kenan Evren, President of the Republic of Turkey. The international conference was organised jointly by the Ministry of Public Health of Kuwait and the Council for High Education of Turkey with the collaboration of the Istanbul Centre. 120 participants in total from 21 countries, the U.S.A. and Germany, including Ministers of Health of Islamic countries and Muslim scientists, were present at the conference.

The conference was opened on 28 September 1984 by H.E.Mr.Turgut Özal, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, at the historical Conference Hall of the Istanbul University. The audience was first addressed by H.E.Dr.Abderrahman Al-Awadi, Minister of Public

Health of Kuwait, President of the Islamic Organisation for Medical Sciences, and President of the Conference. The Minister emphasized that medicine always had a prominent place in Islam and one of the major principles in Islam is to render medical treatment accessible to all. Dr.Al-Awadi also mentioned that Islamic medicine should be restored its earlier glory.

Then, H.E.Mehmet Aydın, Minister of Health and Social Security of Turkey took the floor and explained that a major characteristic of Islamic medicine is that it is always open to scientific developments and that innovations in the West are always welcomed if they are beneficial.

Prof.Dr.Ihsan Dođramacı, Head of the Turkish Council for High Education addressed the meeting and explained that at a time, Islamic sciences were one thousand years ahead of Western sciences with respect to their productivity and contributions. He expressed his conviction that the presentations and discussions would shed light on the achievements, contributions and problems of Islamic medicine and that this gathering of Muslim scientists would constitute an occasion whereby they could renew friendships and establish contacts.

H.E.Turgut Özal, Prime Minister of Turkey read the message of H.E. Kenan Evren, President of the Republic of Turkey. In his message, the President of Turkey expressed his conviction that the conference would further enhance the friendship, fraternity and mutual support among Islamic countries. He emphasized that the science of medicine

is a sacred branch at the service of man, and Islam has always attributed due importance to medicine, given birth to eminent scientists and taken the lead in the field of medicine for centuries.

H.E.Kenan Evren said: "Today in the world, innovations and new developments are gaining more importance in the field of medicine, as in other fields. It is known that Islamic medicine is making all possible efforts to follow these innovations and developments closely and to solve the problems of Muslims. I am sure that with the cooperation established among Islamic countries in the field of medicine, even more effective work would be realised in the coming years and the objectives fixed would be attained".

Inaugurating the Conference, H.E. Turgut Özal, Prime Minister of Turkey said that in Islam, medical sciences come before religious sciences. He emphasized the fact that starting with the 8th Century, in the period referred as the Golden Era of Islamic science and medicine, great importance was accorded to medicine and medical education; there has never been a contradictory attitude to science in Islam. "Islam has been the precursor in medicine as in other fields. This third meeting will enhance friendship and close relations among the brotherly Islamic countries. The aim of this conference is to understand the past and to establish confidence in the future".

During the sessions of the Conference, the presentation of technical papers was accompanied with fruitful discussions and deliberations. Numerous papers were presented about each of the main themes on the agenda of the conference. The main themes were the following:

- "The influence of Islamic civilisation on European civilisation during the Renaissance period in

the field of medicine or its allied subjects";

- "The influence of Islam and its teachings on health of human being and the society";

- "Certain diseases, transmitted due to un-Islamic behaviour";

- "Pharmacological evaluation for some plants mentioned by the Muslim scientists";

- "Clinical evaluation for some plants mentioned by the Muslim scientists";

- "Applied research";

- "Psychiatry and its treatment in Islam";

- "Alcohol-induced diseases".

Simultaneously with the Conference, the participants had the opportunity to visit the Süleymaniye Library where an "Exhibition of Medical Manuscripts" was organised by the Library's administration with the collaboration of the Centre. The exhibition was opened the first day of the Conference by the Prime Minister of Turkey Mr.Turgut Özal. At this exhibition, the visitors had the occasion to see the precious manuscripts on medicine dating from the Ottoman period.

On the occasion of the conference, the Istanbul Centre organised an "Exhibition of Calligraphy and Gilding by Contemporary Artists". The exhibition was opened the same day at the Sheraton Hotel jointly by H.E.Mr.Mehmet Aydın, Minister of Health and Social Security of Turkey and H.E.Mr.Abderrahman Al-Awadi, Minister of Public Health of Kuwait. Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre explained the purpose of the exhibition and the masterpieces being displayed. The exhibition comprised 86 calligraphies by 20 living Turkish artists.

## NEWS FROM THE CENTRE

### President of the Yemen Arab Republic Receives the Director General

H.E.Mr.Ali Abdullah Salih, President of the Yemen Arab Republic granted an audience to Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre on 12 October 1984, while he was in Istanbul for a private visit. During the talks, the President reiterated the importance that the Yemen Arab Republic attributes to cultural coo-

peration among Islamic countries, since the common culture and history of these countries constitute the basis of Islamic solidarity and unity. The Director General offered to the President one hundred-years old photographs of ancient Yemen available in the Centre's archives. Also, it was decided that the Centre would organise a photographic exhibition on "Yemen in the Last Century" during the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers scheduled for December 1984 in Sana'a.



*Minister of Foreign Affairs of Yemen A.R. with Director General*

### The Counsellor of the Crown Prince of Kuwait at the Centre

H.E.Dr.Ahmed Kamal Abu Al-Majd, Counsellor of H.R.H.the Crown Prince of Kuwait and ex-Minister of Information of Egypt visited the Centre on 30.11.1984. He received information on the Centre and its activities and visited the library and the computer section of the Centre. He recorded his impressions on the Visitors Book, as follows: "I visited the Centre and I met its Director and his assistants; this increased my appreciation of the

important efforts they are deploying with zeal, ambition and belief in order to institute an Islamic rebirth faithful to its bases and roots and based on well-researched scientific principles. These sacred efforts merit the congratulation, assistance and support of all who attribute importance to the future and to the culture of Islam.

I wish success to my dear brother the Director of the Centre and the staff members linked to each other in a family spirit, and I promise that I will extend to them all the help I can with my modest means."

The Chief Minister of Johor,  
Malaysia at the Centre



*H.E. and Mrs. Dato Abdul Ajib bin Ahmed in the Centre's library*

H.E. Mr. Dato Abdul Ajib bin Ahmed, Chief Minister of Johor, Malaysia visited the Centre on 11 October 1984. The Chief Minister and his entourage saw an exhibition of photographs of the Middle East compiled from the collections of historical photographs of the Centre. They also visited the calligraphic exhibition that was being

held at the Centre and were interested with its contents. Signing the Visitors Book of the Centre, the Chief Minister wrote the following: "I wish to congratulate the Centre on its efforts for the advancement of Islam. May this effort continue to bring about the solidarity of Islam universally. Insh-Allah".

An official from "Jeune Afrique"  
visits the Centre

Mr. Hamza Kaidi from the "Groupe Jeune Afrique", Paris, visited the Centre on 27 November 1984. He was briefed by the Director General on the Centre, its establishment, its activities, its library and different research projects. Interested with the Centre's work, Mr. Kaidi signed the Visitors Book as follows: "I was awed by all I saw

in this Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture. The restoration of these buildings by itself is a considerable contribution. Such great achievements in such a short time! A large gap is thus filled and valuable works that were maybe forgotten will be revaluated from now on in our Community's rich heritage.

May God help you in the accomplishment of your honorable task."

Visit of officials from the Library of Congress, U.S.A.

Mr. George Atiyah, Head of the Middle East Division of the Library of Congress, U.S.A. and Mr. Michael W. Albin from the Library of Congress Office in Cairo included the Istanbul Centre in their programme of visits in Turkey. The visitors

examined the library of the Centre. They appreciated the quality and quantity of the library collection and the computerized system adopted for the classification, registration, searching for books in the library and keeping track of book orders. Discussions were held on the possibilities of cooperation between the two institutions.



*H.M. the First Queen of Malaysia, Centre's Assistant Director General Dr. Nuhoğlu, Centre's calligrapher Mr. Çelebi and other members of the Malaysian delegation*

Visit of a Delegation from the Malaysian Women's Social Development Council

A delegation from the Malaysian Women's Social Development Council, headed by the First Queen of Malaysia H.M. Tunku Puan Besar Kurshiah, visited the Centre on 23 September 1984. The Queen and the delegates visited a small calligraphic exhibition at the Centre and were very interested with the works displayed. They saw slides of Istanbul and an exhibition of photographs of Malaysia, both by the famous photographer Sami Güner, which were organised on the occasion of their visit. The First Queen of Malaysia signed the Visitors Book and wrote: "I am awed by the beauty and splendour of this palace. I extend our best wishes

to the people of Turkey. I feel a sense of admiration in seeing the wonderful work accomplished by the Centre. I believe this institution will achieve great success in the years to come."

The delegation of 41 Malaysian ladies was visiting Turkey unofficially to establish contacts and have meetings with the Turkish women's and mothers' associations in Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir.

Exhibition of Calligraphy and Gilding

An "Exhibition of Calligraphy and Gilding by Contemporary Artists" was organised by the Centre from 28 September to 17 October 1984. The exhibition was opened on the



*From left to right: H.E.Prof.Dr.Ihsan Dođramacı, H.E.Dr. Abderrahman Al-Awadi, Prof.Dr. Sũheyl Őnver, Calligrapher Hasan Őelebi and Director General at the opening of the exhibition.*

occasion of the Third Conference on Islamic Medicine, at the Sheraton Hotel where the sessions were held; after the closing of the conference, it was transferred to the Centre's premises. H.E.Mehmet Aydın, Minister of Health and Social Security of Turkey and H.E. Abderrahman Al-Awadi, Minister of Public Health of Kuwait inaugurated

#### Presentation of the Centre's books at the Frankfurt Book Fair

The 36th Frankfurt Book Fair was held on 3-8 October 1984 with the participation of more than 6000 publishers from 90 countries. At this fair, which is one of the largest in the world, two experts from the Centre presented the Centre's publications and examples from book collections in its library. Their presence at the fair proved to be very fruitful and it was understood that the Centre's publications are arousing great interest in the international book markets and among publishers.

the exhibition and Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanođlu, Director General of the Centre explained to the guests its purpose and contents.

The exhibition comprised 86 masterpieces by 20 living calligraphers and 9 gilding artists. The calligraphies of teachers and students were displayed together.

#### Participation at the Symposium on National Palaces in Turkey

Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanođlu, Director General of the Centre participated at the above Symposium organised by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey between 12-17 November 1984 in Istanbul. The Director General presented a paper at the Symposium, in which he gave information on the Seyir Kõşk and Őit Qasr which are historical palaces allocated to the Centre as its premises and restored by the Centre. He explained in detail the phases of restoration of each of these buildings, including the

materials used and measures taken to restore them to their original form. He also mentioned that the Yaveran building, another historical palace within the Yıldız Palace complex, has recently been allocated to the Centre to house its research, training, audio-visual and computer units and informed the audience that the Centre had already started the preparations for the restoration of this building.

#### Exhibition of Photographs from the Yıldız Palace Albums

The Centre contributed to the Symposium on National Palaces of Turkey by preparing, jointly with the organisers of the Symposium, the "Exhibition of Photographs from the Yıldız Palace Albums". The one-week exhibition was opened at the Çit Qasr on 16 November 1984 by Halil İbrahim Karan, Vice-Chairman of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre, in his opening speech, gave detailed information about the photograph albums. 40 historical photographs representing the Yıldız Palace were displayed at the exhibition.

#### Participation at the Meeting of "Islam and the West" Association

Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre participated at the Second General Assembly meeting of the International "Islam and the West" Association. The meeting was held on 10-12 September 1984 in Seville, Spain. The General Assembly heard the activity reports of the national branches of the Association. Also, new officers were elected for the various organs of the Association. H.E. Mr. Habib Chatty, Secretary General of the O.I.C. was elected President of the Executive Committee.

#### Visit of the Representatives of Soviet Union Muslims



*From left to right: Mr. Mahmoud Gekkiyev and Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu.*

The representatives of Caucasian, Central Asian and Kazakh Muslims visited the Centre on 29 October 1984. The delegation consisted of Mr. Mahmoud Gekkiyev, Mufti of North Caucasia, Mr. Sabir Hüseyinoğlu from the Religious Affairs Division of South Caucasian Muslims, Mr. Ataullah Mevlanakul, Director of Religious Affairs Division of Central Asian and Kazakh Muslims and Mr. Polatcan Babamuhammed from the same Division. They were visiting Turkey as official guests of Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç, President of the Religious Affairs Division of Turkey. The visitors were briefed on the activities of the Centre. They saw the library of the Centre and appreciated the collection of books and manuscripts in Russian and in the other languages of Soviet Union Muslims.

Head of the delegation Mr. Gekkiyev wrote the following in the Visitors Book of the Centre: "Today, on 29 October 1984, we visited the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture which is situated in Istanbul, the most beautiful city of the world. We took note of the activities undertaken in the field of Islamic sciences by the Centre's staff under the direction of our dear brother Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu. We thank him and our other brothers for their noble efforts and their work for the good of Islam."

## SPOTLIGHT ON CULTURAL NEWS

### SPAIN

#### General Assembly of the "Islam and the West" Association

The "Islam and the West" Association held its Second General Assembly meeting on 10-12 September 1984 in Seville, Spain. The main theme of the meeting was the intercultural dialogue and communication between Islamic and Western civilisations.

H.E.Mr.Habib Chatty, Secretary General of the O.I.C. also addressed the meeting, emphasizing that the Islamic and Western civilisations together represent almost half of the humanity today. He reminded that the city of Seville where the meeting was being held represents the joint history of these two civilisations. He also declared the support of O.I.C. to the Association. Mentioning the call made by the Third Islamic Summit Conference held in 1981 for all states and peoples to re-build a new world of peace through sincere and concerted efforts, he said that the Association is working exactly in this spirit and the same direction.

The representatives of more than 30 national branches of "Islam and the West" presented their activity reports. The establishment of ten more national and regional branches in the near future was decided.

H.E.Mr. Habib Chatty, Secretary General of the O.I.C. was elected to the Presidency of the Executive Committee by the General Assembly during the designation of new officers to the various organs of the Association.

### TURKEY

#### Symposium on National Palaces

A Symposium on National Palaces was organised by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey between 12-17 November 1984 at the Yıldız Palace in Istanbul. Various papers were presented and discussions held on national palaces of Turkey, their characteristics, importance, use, restoration and protection. Exhibitions were organised simultaneously with the Symposium in different palaces in the city, on "The Palace in Turkish Paintings", "Paintings of Ottoman Palaces", "The Book and Fine Arts in the Palaces" and "Examples from Photographic Albums of the Yıldız Palace", the latter organised with the collaboration of the Istanbul Centre.

#### Islamic Encyclopedia

The Turkish Religious Affairs Foundation started preparations for the publication of a new Islamic Encyclopedia. A rich reference library will be established first at the Encyclopedia Centre in Istanbul for the usage of experts in charge with the project.

### ENGLAND

#### Arab Book Fair

An Arab Book Fair was opened on 16 November 1984 in London. The fair was organised by the London Bureau of the Arab League with the participation of around 100 publishers. Books in Arabic and English concerning the Arab world were displayed at the fair, the purpose of which was to disseminate the Arab culture and introduce new books on the subject.

### Exhibition of Books on Islam and the Muslim World

The Fifth Annual International Exhibition of Books on Islam and the Muslim World was held in mid-September 1984 in London. The exhibition was organised by the Islamic Council of Europe, London. Its purpose was to introduce new and forthcoming books concerning various aspects of the social, cultural, political, economic and religious life in the Islamic world. Books published all over the world were displayed, most of them in English, as well as periodical publications on the same subjects.

### BBC Programmes on Islam

The BBC television treats Islam in a new series of programmes called "Encounters with Islam". Four interviews are diffused, with Malaysian, Sudanese, Pakistanese and Iraqi scholars, concerning, among others, the Islamic principles and concepts as applied today.

### Summer course on Islam and Christianity

A summer course on Islam and Christianity was organised by the Centre for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations in Birmingham on 10-20 September 1984. There were 40 participants from various countries. Many lectures were given on the principles and concepts of Islam and Christianity and discussions were held on Christian-Muslim relations, the Muslim Community in England, etc. This was the sixth course of its kind.

### SAUDI ARABIA

#### Quran translations on tape

The Muslim World League is cooperating with the Ministry of Hadj and Religious Affairs of Saudi

Arabia to record on tape translations and interpretations of the Holy Quran in all major languages of the world. When the project is completed, the tapes will be distributed to Islamic centres and organisations all over the world. The Chinese Embassy and Chinese Muslims have already expressed their willingness to assist for the translation into their language.

### Education as priority policy area

A priority place is given to education in the Fourth Five Year Development Plan for 1985-1990. In the third national development plan (1980-85), 16 % of total expenditure for the plan period was allocated to education. In the 1984-85 government budget, 30.46 billion SR are allocated to the same sector, compared to 24.7 billion SR last year.

### Guide Book on Islamic History

A Guide Book on Islamic History has been prepared by Dr. Shakir Mustafa, Secretary General of the Arab Culture Planning Committee. The book will be published soon and will introduce Islamic states, their development, their major scientists, poets, thinkers, viziers, etc.

### KUWAIT

#### Arabic Books Exhibition

The organisation of the annual Arabic Books Exhibition was planned by the National Council for Culture, Arts and Literature of Kuwait in the first half of December 1984. Books concerning Islamic and academic subjects, mostly in Arabic, were to be displayed at the exhibition.

### Committee on Arab Cultural Heritage

A Committee on Arab Cultural Heri-

tage is established under the Arab League's Arab Manuscripts Institute. The aim of the Commission is to present and disseminate information on the Arab cultural heritage and to examine the publications on this subject before they are printed and distributed.

The Islamic Manuscripts Institute is also preparing a union catalogue of the catalogues of Arab manuscripts published throughout the world.

#### U.S.A.

##### Copies of the Holy Quran for the Blind

An English translation of the Holy Quran has been prepared in Braille alphabet. It will be made available to the blind in most U.S. libraries in special files having a standard reference number. The translation was done by the Indian scholar Abdullah Yusuf Ali and prepared for the usage of the blind following the Braille method by Ahab Yem-bouni, himself blind.

##### Bibliography of PhD Theses on the Arab World

The Library of Congress published the first supplement to its bibliography entitled American Doctoral Dissertations on the Arab World published in 1970. This original bibliography comprised 1032 theses submitted to U.S. universities between 1883-1968, and its second edition, 1825 theses for the 1883-1974 period. This first supplement covers 1296 doctoral dissertations written from 1974 to 1983, thus updating the earlier editions. The Library of Congress has decided to issue a supplement every five years.

#### OMAN

##### First University

The first university of the country, Sultan Qaboos University, is scheduled to be completed in 1985-1986. Actually, there are approximately 330 primary and secondary schools and 18 technical schools in Oman.

#### NIGERIA

##### Translation of the Quran into Haoussa language

Hadj Abou Bakr Mohammed Juli, researcher and scientist of Nigeria, translated the Holy Quran into the Haoussa language. This language is spoken by the majority of the people in Nigeria and also by West African Muslims.

#### POLAND

##### Translation of the Holy Quran into Polish

Dr. Blafisky from the Warsaw University in Poland translated the Holy Quran into Polish language. The translation, completed in 15 years, has been revised at the Azhar University, Cairo, and will be published soon.

#### SUDAN

##### Catalogue of Arabic Manuscripts in Africa

The Khartoum University published a Catalogue of Arabic Manuscripts in Africa, prepared by Prof. Osman Sayed Ahmed, Minister of Education of Sudan. This 200 pages book also contains indexes of authors, places, tribes, etc.

## SYRIA

### Book on Architectural Monuments of Damascus

This book by Carrell and Litzinger, published in Germany, contains valuable information and photographs concerning the architectural monuments of Damascus. It has been translated into Arabic by Mr. Kasim Tuwayr, Secretary General of the Council for the Preservation of the Monuments of Damascus; it contains a foreword by Dr. Afif Bahnassi, Director General of Museums of Syria and Chairman of the Governing Council of the Istanbul Centre.

## EGYPT

### The Fourth Congress on Seerah

The Fourth Congress on Seerah, planned to be held in November 1984 in Cairo, is postponed. The Congress will be held some time in March-April 1985. The preceding congresses were held respectively in Pakistan, Turkey and Qatar. It is reported that around 100 papers were received until now for presentation at the Congress and the Azhar University still continues to accept papers.

### Festival on Historical Citadels

A Festival on Historical Citadels is scheduled to be organised in Cairo at the beginning of 1985. It is expected that many Arab and other Muslim countries will participate at this festival to show photographs and models of their historical citadels and make presentations explaining the restoration and preservation works undertaken in their respective countries.

## MALDIVES

### Establishment of an Islamic Centre

An Islamic Centre will be established in the Maldives by the Pakistan Government. H.E. General Zia-ul Haq, President of Pakistan declared this venture as a very important one and that they hope that the Islamic Centre will be beneficial not only for the Maldives but for the Muslim World as a whole. A group of Pakistani architects and engineers has already started to work for the construction.

## BAHRAIN

### Third Middle-East Book Fair

The Third Middle-East Book Fair is held in Bahrain on 3-6 December 1984, accompanied with a conference on the establishment of library systems in the Middle East. High interest and participation were recorded at the second fair organised last year.

## **REQUEST FOR BOOK DONATIONS**

The Islamic Book Development and Translation Council, P.O. Box 5303, Accra, Ghana is facing difficulties in finding Islamic books and in printing their own books. The Council requests Islamic books in English and in African languages, as well as assistance for their printing activities.

## MUSLIM MINORITIES: CULTURAL NEWS DIGEST

### AUSTRALIA

#### Symposium on Muslim Minorities

The Symposium on Muslim Minorities organised by the O.I.C. was held in Bert, Australia on 24-27 September 1984. H.E.Mr.Habib Chatty, Secretary General of the O.I.C. addressed a message to the symposium, stressing the importance attributed by the O.I.C. to the problems of Muslim minorities. He also emphasized the necessity that liberty of religion be accorded to Muslims living in non-Muslim countries, and invited all Islamic countries to assist these minorities by opening Arabic medium schools and libraries in the countries where these minorities live.

Islam is the second largest religion in Australia. The immigration flows started at the beginning of our Century; the Muslims living there are from various Islamic countries. Today, most are those who migrated for employment. The Muslim community in Australia is very active: there are radio broadcasts in the languages of Muslim countries and mosques in all big cities; an Islamic primary school was opened last year in Melbourne and new ones are planned.

### ITALY

#### Islamic Centre

Muslims in Italy have succeeded to lay the bases of an Islamic Centre comprising a mosque, classrooms and a library in Rome. The complex will be built on a land of 7.5 acres and construction is expected to start in the summer 1985. There are around 200.000 Muslims in Italy, nearly 40.000 of which are in Rome; most of these Muslims are immigrant workers.

### SWEDEN

#### Islamic Centre

The eight thousand Muslims living in Malmö, Sweden, have opened an Islamic Centre in June 1984. The Islamic Centre is a complex built on an area of 30 thousand square meters, comprising among others a mosque and a classroom.

### ENGLAND

#### Annual Congress of the Union of Islamic Institutions

Representatives of 160 Islamic institutions in Europe met in mid-August in London for a two-day congress. The O.I.C. also participated at the congress where the Muslims in England constituted the main subject.

# ART NEWS

## EAST GERMANY

### Exhibition of Islamic Miniature Paintings

An exhibition of "Islamic Miniature Paintings in the Collections of GDR" was held at the "Islamisches Museum" (Islamic Museum) of Berlin from 20 October to 7 December 1984. This was the first time all collections of Islamic manuscripts and miniatures in the German Democratic Republic were displayed. A catalogue of the works displayed at this exhibition was also printed and distributed.

## MOROCCO

### Book Exhibition on Islamic Arts

An Exhibition of Books on Islamic Arts was organised in August 1984 in Rabat. 360 books in English published in England were displayed at the exhibition which is also expected to circulate in other Islamic countries.

## IRAQ

### Calligraphic Exhibition

The Iraqi Calligraphers Association opened an Exhibition of Arabic Calligraphic and Gilding Arts in Baghdad in August 1984, where various examples of calligraphy and gilding were displayed.

## TURKEY

### The First International Congress on Turkish Carpets

The First International Congress on Turkish Carpets was held on 7-14 October 1984 in Istanbul. The Congress was organised by several committees of experts under the auspices of State Minister H.E. Mesut Yılmaz. During the scien-

tific sessions, a total of 121 papers were presented by experts from all over the world. The papers dealt with many aspects of the ancient and contemporary Turkish art of carpet-making. Some of the themes treated during the sessions were "evidence from written sources, inventories, miniatures and other arts", "carpets in collections", "design influences", "Anatolian kilims", "esthetics and symbolism", "the Turkish carpet today". A carpet auction and six exhibitions were organised simultaneously with the congress. The exhibitions were on: "The Turkish Carpet During History", "The Regional Carpets and Kilims of Anatolia", "Turkish Kilims", "Hereke Carpets", "Turkmen and Yuruk Weavings" and "Turkish Carpets Today".

### Museum of Calligraphic Arts

A Museum of Calligraphic Arts, first of its kind in Turkey, was opened on 28 October 1984 at the Beyazıd Madrasa Complex in Istanbul. The premises were restored and prepared for the display of 277 precious masterpieces of various age, from the 9th Century to the present and including the calligraphies of famous artists as well as those of Ottoman sultans.

## SWEDEN

### International Exhibition on Islamic Arts

The organisation of an International Exhibition on Islamic Arts is planned between April-December 1985 in Stockholm. It is reported that the exhibition will consist of two separate units, one to be continuous and stable (in Stockholm) and the other, to travel in European countries.

## THE CENTRE IN THE PRESS

### Al-Arabi

The Al-Arabi magazine is issued by the Kuwait Ministry of Information and widely read throughout the world. A detailed article on the Istanbul Centre was published in its October 1984 issue no.311, entitled "Re-writing of Islamic History at the Istanbul Research Centre". The article is an interview with the Director General by Mr. Sulaiman Al-Sheikh, accompanied with numerous photographs of the Centre by Oscar Mitri. The delegation from Al-Arabi had visited the Centre in April 1984. The article gives a description of the Centre's premises and its various units as well as the atmosphere prevailing within the Centre, with the following words: "We entered: seeing the activity, the silence and productivity, we felt as we were in a bee hive. Is it because of the peaceful atmosphere and the splendid, well-established and historical place where it is situated, or is the nature of the work (research) which gives this impression?"

The article contains explanations on the role and objectives of the Centre, its phases of establishment, its various research projects and publications. Particular emphasis is given to the studies on Islamic history, which constitute one of the major projects: in re-writing the history of Islamic nations, the Centre has adopted a general and comprehensive approach aiming to correct misunderstandings, to provide the interpretations that are necessary to eliminate dissensions, to clarify conflictual technical issues and to point out the contributions of Islam to humanity.

### Milli Gazete

An interview with the Director General of the Centre was published in the Turkish daily Milli Gazete dated 10.6.1984. During the interview, the Director General explained the activities of the Centre and gave information on its rich library of 15.000 volumes, its researches, the publications and documentary films and the various meetings it organises, as well as the Centre's future activities. The interview report comprises also explanations on the research project undertaken in the field of Islamic history and the three-volume book on Turkish history to be published by the Centre. It mentions that this book will be followed by a research on the Islamic history of South-East Asia to be realised with the collaboration of the Malaysian Government.

### Al-Misaq

In the Moroccan journal Al-Misaq dated 30 June 1984, a news on the Istanbul Centre's Bibliography of Translations of the Meanings of the Holy Quran was published. The article announces that the bibliography contains 2710 translations and interpretations in 61 languages, of which 1340 are printed complete translations of the Quran, and 1370 partial translations.

### Al-Madina

The Al-Madina daily of 29 October 1984 contains an article introducing the Centre's book entitled The Muslim Pious Foundations and Real Estates in Palestine. It explains that the book is based mainly on the 16th Century Ottoman Tahrir Registers containing

the awqaf and real estate registers of Gazza, Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Safed, Nablus and Ajlun districts. Describing the different sections and contents of the book, the article qualifies it as clear, precise and useful.

#### Al-Madina

Mr. Abdou Sabbagh from Al-Madina visited the Centre recently. His report was published in the 25 October 1984 issue of the journal under the title "Manuscripts at the Research Centre". The article mentions some of the Centre's research and publication projects, especially those undertaken in the field of Islamic arts. It introduces the Centre's library, giving detailed information on the books and periodicals. The rare and historical books owned by the Centre and particularly its valuable collections of Islamic manuscripts and catalogues of manuscripts are cited with appreciation. The computerized library system adopted by the Centre is also mentioned for its efficiency and the easy access it provides to books and periodicals in the library.

#### Al-Khalej

Al-Khalej newspaper of the U.A.E. published, on 11.8.1984, Mr. Zeyd Al-Sabuni's interview with the Director General of the Istanbul Centre. The article explains the various activities undertaken by the Centre since its establishment and the support extended to it by the Member States. It stresses the important role played by the Centre in the protection and promotion of Islamic arts and in the dissemination of Islamic culture. The interview report also mentions the objectives of the Centre, among others, the development of cooperation between Islamic historians and writers and the clarification of questions on which subjective

points of views are put forward by non-Muslim writers. It enumerates the meetings and exhibitions organised by the Centre and explains in detail its various research projects. The publications and documentary films of the Centre are also mentioned, as well as the results of the projects which are completed and ready to go to press, such as Islamic swords, Islamic calligraphy and Quran translations.

#### Asharq Al-Awsat

Famous Islamic thinker and writer Akram Zuaytr wrote, in Asharq Al-Awsat dated 14.11.1984, an article in which he emphasized the support given to the Istanbul Centre by the host country Turkey. Mentioning some of the important activities of the Centre and pointing out the visits of the President of the Republic, the President of the Grand National Assembly and some Ministers of Turkey, he said that Turkey has always given due consideration to the important work of the Centre. He noted with appreciation that the Turkish Government granted diplomatic status to the Centre.

#### Arabia

In its November 1984 issue, the journal Arabia (Vol.4, no.39) published an article entitled "The OIC and a Cultural Review" about the state of cultural development in the Member States of the OIC. The article summarizes the main findings of the research project and constitutes thus a resume of the Centre's book to be published on the subject in the near future. The state of culture is evaluated through the analysis of statistical indicators concerning the quantifiable aspects of cultural development. These quantifiable aspects are education, research and development, mass media, museums, libraries and cinemas and theatres.

# ISLAMIC CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

It will be remembered that in the last issue of our Newsletter, we started to introduce selected cultural institutions dealing with Islamic subjects and gave information on the International Institute of Islamic Thought, Washington, D.C., U.S.A. In the present issue, we are introducing the Islamic Foundation Bangladesh.

## THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION BANGLADESH

The Islamic Foundation Bangladesh functions under the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Bangladesh. With the guidance and supervision of its Board of Governors, the Foundation undertakes various research and publication activities, sets up Islamic cultural centres and libraries and organises training programmes. The activities of the Foundation are financed through governmental grants and loans, aids and grants from other countries and organisations, donations, investments, etc.

Functions: The Foundation's main functions are:

- to establish and manage mosques and Islamic centres, academies and institutes;
- to render financial assistance to mosques and Islamic centres, academies and institutes;
- to undertake research on the contribution of Islam to culture, thought, science and civilisation;
- to assist in propagating basic Islamic ideals of universal brotherhood, tolerance and justice;
- to organise and promote studies on Islamic history, philosophy, culture, law and jurisprudence;

- to publish books, periodicals and pamphlets in the above-mentioned fields;
- to organise conferences, lectures and seminars in the above-mentioned fields;
- to institute prizes and medals for outstanding contributions in Islamic studies;
- to award scholarships for Islamic studies.

Projects: The Foundation establishes various cultural centres equipped with Islamic libraries, where seminars and symposia on Islamic subjects are also held and open to the public. It sets up book-clubs and publishes books and magazines through its divisional and district headquarters.

The numerous publications of the Foundation include books, journals and research papers on Islam as well as translations in Bengali language of the Islamic classics such as Tafsirs and Hadith books. The Foundation has also undertaken the publication of the 20-volume Islamic Encyclopedia, in Bengali language, reducing it to two volumes.

Various training programmes are organised for the youth, teachers and imams. The Foundation also institutes Islamic missions to help and instruct people in the poor and distressed regions of the country.

Address: Islamic Foundation  
Bangladesh  
67, Purana Paltan,  
Dhaka-2, Bangladesh  
Phone: 23 64 07, 25 63 49  
Cable: ISLAM FOUND DHAKA

## HASAN ÇELEBİ'S CALLIGRAPHIC EXHIBITION IN MALAYSIA

by Raja Fuziah bt. Raja Tun Uda



*From left to right: Syed Ahmad Jamal, Director of National Art Gallery, H.E.Dr.Mahathir bin Mohanmad, Prime Minister of Malaysia and sitting, calligrapher Mr.Çelebi*

You will remember that the Centre participated at the International Exhibition on Islamic Civilisation opened at the end of May in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. At this exhibition, the calligraphic works of Mr. Hasan Çelebi, the Centre's calligrapher were also displayed. Mrs. Raja Fuziah bt. Raja Tun Uda, member of the Governing Council of the Centre and Director General of the Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation, Kuala Lumpur, gives her impressions on the exhibition.

From May this year, Malaysians and foreign visitors had a rare opportunity of seeing the work of Hasan Çelebi on display at the new National Art Gallery, Kuala Lumpur.

In conjunction with the International Islamic Civilisations Exhibition, the Gallery mounted a Calligraphic Exhibition which included Hasan Çelebi's special collection. The four-month long exhibition which was officially declared open on 21st May 1984 by the

Honourable, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Seri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad, had attracted thousands of visitors, both Muslims and non-Muslims, from all walks of life.

Hasan Çelebi's work created an immense interest because of its sheer beauty and the visual impact of the classical art form that it manifested. It was also significant because Mr. Çelebi's work has given a new meaning and created a new dimension and vigour to thousands of Muslims in this country, at a time when there is a growing consciousness and interest in the need to revive the Islamic art form. To quote Syed Ahmad Jamal, the Director of the National Art Gallery, "His work is a great lesson and inspiration to Malaysian calligraphers and lovers of calligraphy and art." And I for one, share his view.

It was interesting to see how the crowd milled around Mr. Hasan as he sat there illustrating the art form of which he is a master. For hours and for days, he enthralled the old and the young with his superb control over his art form, expressing as it were to the young that the height of craftsmanship can only

be attained through deep love, understanding and total commitment to the media that one dedicates oneself to.

Like all good things, Mr. Hasan could not stay as long as we would have liked him to. We have, however, one other tangible memory of his visit to Malaysia. In the course of looking for additional writing material, Mr. Hasan stumbled on a local plant which he began to use most effectively while he was here. He has named this new writing aid as the "Kalam Jawi Malaysia"

We certainly hope that in near future, Mr. Hasan will find time to come back to his adoring public. In so short a time, he had not only wooed the distinguished, the artists, but in his simple way, he has also earned a recognition and respect for himself, and through his calligraphy, found a niche in the heart of all Malaysians who had come and known him. For the opportunity given to share this experience, I would like to thank the OIC Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul, and in particular its Director General Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, for having made it possible."

★★★

## OBITUARY:

### MR. MOHAMMED DAUD



*The late Mr. Mohammed Daoud*

The Islamic world has lost one of its eminent personalities: Mohammed Daoud, deceased on 4 Ramadan 1404H (4 June 1984). He is considered as one of the most important figures of Morocco in the 20th Century.

Mohammed Daoud was born in Tetouan (Morocco) in 1901. He studied in the same city and in 1920 he entered the Quarawin University in Fez, where he followed the courses of the greatest ulema of this city for two years. Returning from Fez,

he started his professional life in education, then he worked in the justice sector. He also worked as a journalist in Morocco as well as Eastern countries. During the struggle against foreign domination, he was the special correspondent of "Al-Ahram" published in Cairo.

In 1925, he established "Al-Madrassa Al-Ahliya" where he assumed the functions of Director and professor for 12 years. This madrasa was considered as the first free Arab-Islamic school established in Northern Morocco in the colonial period. This school was also the nucleus of the modern scientific movement and the nationalist struggle for the independence of Morocco.

In 1945, he was appointed member of the Commission of Reforms in Islamic Education in Northern Morocco; he prepared the reform project and worked as Rapporteur of this Commission. In 1933 he founded the "As-Salam" magazine and worked as its Director and Editor-in-Chief. This was the first free and independent nationalist magazine published in the colonial period.

In 1934, Spanish authorities expelled him from Tangiers, then French authorities from Rabat. At that time, Mohammed Daoud was the official representative of the Association of North African Students in France.

In 1936, he started to publish the "Al-Ahbar" journal which was considered as the first independent Moroccan daily. In 1939, he was nominated member of the High Council of Islamic Awqaf and in 1942

Director of Education in Northern Morocco. After the proclamation of the independence, H.M. King Mohammed V assigned to him the functions of member of the National Consultative Council; subsequently, he was elected adviser to this Council and member of its Board of Directors. He then worked as member of the Royal Committee for Educational Reform. Lastly, he was nominated Director of the Royal Library by H.M. King Hassan II, where he worked between 1968 and 1974.

Mohammed Daoud is the author of valuable books, some of which are mentioned below (English translations of the original titles in Arabic):

- History of Tetouan, 15 vol. (8 vol. published)
- Summary of History of Tetouan (published)
- History of Tetouan Continued (unpublished)
- Families of Tetouan
- Heading the Fourty
- Popular Sayings of Tetouan and of Arab Countries
- Moroccan Currencies in 100 Years

Mohammed Daoud left a very rich library containing thousands of books on different subjects, in manuscript or printed form, as well as many Western and Eastern journals and a precious collection of thousands of historical photographs.

We deplore the loss of this great scholar and thinker. May his soul rest in peace and may God give to his family and to the Islamic Ummah patience and force to endure his loss.

## EDITOR'S POST AND COMMENTS

"I received the fourth and sixth issues of your Newsletter. It treats important cultural questions concerning the Islamic world. I wish you God's help for the development of your activities at the service of Islam and Muslims. Please send past and future issues of the Newsletter regularly in order that we could benefit from it at the King Abdulaziz University."

Dr. Abdullah Mubashir At-Terazi  
Faculty of Arts  
King Abdulaziz University  
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

"I was honoured to receive the fifth issue of your Newsletter. It gives me happiness to acquire this journal which gives precious informations on the Muslim World and Islamic culture. I express my sincere thanks and my deep appreciation. I admire the Islamic arts and particularly the arts of architecture and calligraphy. Could you please give news, in your future issues, on activities and exhibitions related to these arts, or present institutions dealing with these subjects, so that I can establish contacts with them to benefit from them and to introduce these arts in my country."

Edip Assini  
Peking, China

"We have seen the sixth issue of your Newsletter and read the news and information it gives on various subjects, especially the news on Muslim minorities; the contents are exhaustive and informative for those who are interested in Islamic culture, history and art. We would

like to receive copies of this bulletin. We appreciate the efforts the Centre is deploying, with the support of the OIC, in the scientific, cultural and artistic fields and to preserve the Islamic heritage; we pray God for the success of its efforts in these different fields."

Abdullah Ahmed Al-Dari  
Director of Press and Information  
Muslim World League  
Mecca, Saudi Arabia

"I received your Newsletter, and I thank you. The contents are rich and interesting. I particularly liked the practical character of the informations given in your Newsletter. The latter is thus a valid instrument that can be used in contacts and researches. My most sincere wishes are with you in the continuation of your project."

A. Ary Roest Crollius S.I.  
Director  
Centre for Religions and Cultures  
Pontifica Universita Gregoriana  
Rome, Italy

"I had the opportunity to read the August 1984 issue of your Newsletter, and I found it very interesting, in particular the sections on cultural news and Muslim minorities; though I was attracted by all the arguments treated."

Prof. Giorgio Verdellin  
University of Venice  
Institute of Iranian Studies  
Venice, Italy

# NEW PUBLICATIONS OF THE CENTRE

## CATALOGUE OF ISLAMIC MEDICAL MANUSCRIPTS

The Catalogue of Islamic Medical Manuscripts in the Libraries of Turkey published by the Istanbul Centre on the occasion of the Third Islamic Medicine Conference held in Istanbul on 28 September-2 October 1984 is the first volume in the "Series of Studies and Sources on the History of Science" planned to be published by the Centre. This publication will certainly fill a gap in the field of history of science and will be a valuable addition to Islamic medical books and particularly medical manuscripts.

In this book, approximately 5000 Islamic medical manuscripts in the collections of 129 major libraries of Turkey are described. These works are either originals or copies of approximately 1000 works and their summaries, commentaries and translations.

The works are presented according to author names given in alphabetical order. Under the name of each author, the names of the works are given, followed by descriptions of the copies existing in the libraries, the libraries where these copies are kept, their reference numbers, descriptions of the original texts, translations, summaries and commentaries. Works by unknown authors and incomplete texts are included as well. The catalogue is in Arabic.

625 pp./ Price: \$US 30 + post and package

## INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

One of the important projects of the Centre is the publication of a complete directory of Islamic cultural institutions all over the world working in the fields of Islamic culture, civilisation, history and art. The Centre had previously published two preliminary versions of this Directory, entitled, respectively, Guide of Islamic Cultural Institutions and Guide Book of Cultural Institutions in the Member States of the O.I.C. The recently published International Directory of Islamic Cultural Institutions is a developed and enlarged version of the first two books, and gives the addresses of 3579 cultural institutions in 106 countries. The necessary information was collected through questionnaires and the scanning of numerous reference sources.

The book consists of two sections; institutions of member and observer countries of the O.I.C. are presented in the first section, and the second comprises institutions of non-member countries. Countries are presented in alphabetic order and the institutions in each country are grouped according to their nature: academies, learned societies and research centres, libraries and archives, museums, universities and educational institutions.

The Directory will be useful for researchers and organisations working in the fields of Islamic civilisation, culture, history and arts and facilitate cooperation and contacts among cultural institutions.

350 pp./ Price: 10 \$US + post and package

Both of these publications may be requested from the Secretariat of the Centre.

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