



NEWSLETTER



April 1989

No:20

The Newsletter is published triannually in the three official languages of the OIC (English, French and Arabic).

Editorial Board:

Zeynep Inal
Mohammed Tamimi
Ahmed Lajimi
Acar-Tanlak

Publisher:

Research Centre for
Islamic History, Art
and Culture (IRCICA),
Organisation of the
Islamic Conference

Mailing Address:
P.O.Box 16,
Gayrettepe,
Istanbul, Turkey

Telex: 26484 isam tr
Phone: 160 59 88 - 89

Location:
Yıldız Sarayı,
Sevir Köşkü,
Beşiktaş,
Istanbul, Turkey

Composition, layout
and printing: IRCICA

In this issue:

- *OIC Secretary General H. E. Dr. Hamid Algabid in IRCICA*
- *First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture held in Senegal*
- *IRCICA in the Resolutions of the 18th Islamic Conference*
- *Seventh Meeting of IRCICA Governing Council*
- *International Symposium on the "History of Science in the Muslim World", held at IRCICA*
- *IRCICA activities: lectures, exhibitions*
- *Spotlight on Cultural Events*
- *Books*
- *Cultural Institutions:
"African Research Centre for the Preservation of Islamic Heritage", Uganda
"Institute of Islamic Studies", Peru*
- *Third World Academy of Sciences (Italy):
History of Science Prize*

Islamic Heritage Commission (ICPICH)

- *ICPICH represented at the 18th Islamic Conference and the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture*
- *Islamic Heritage Year*
- *The Museum of Islamic Arts, Cairo, Egypt*

This issue of IRCICA Newsletter was produced at the IRCICA Printing House which was donated by **Islamic Development Bank**. IRCICA gratefully acknowledges **Islamic Development Bank's** contribution to Islamic Culture and expresses its appreciation and thanks to the President and the staff of the Islamic Development Bank.

IRCICA PUBLICATIONS



The following IRCICA publications and documentary films can be ordered from the Centre by a letter addressed to the attention of the "Book Sales Section":

CATALOGUE OF ISLAMIC MEDICAL MONUSCRIPTS IN THE LIBRARIES OF TURKEY, edited by EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU; prepared by RAMAZAN ŞEŞEN, CEMİL AKPINAR and CEVAT İZGİ, *History of Science Series no. 1, Istanbul, 1984; 24, 525 p.; 24 cm. (Arabic) Price: US \$30 post and package included.*

This catalogue has been published on the occasion of the Third Congress on Islamic Medicine (Istanbul, 1984). It presents approximately 1000 original manuscripts and lists their copies available in the collections of 129 major libraries of Turkey. About 5000 items are covered.

THE MUSLIM PIOUS FOUNDATIONS AND REAL ESTATES IN PALESTINE, by MEHMED İPŞİRLİ, MOHAMMED AL-TAMIMI, *Istanbul, 1982; 30, 235, 4 p.; 27 cm. (Arabic) Price: US \$50 post and package included.*

A publication containing information deciphered and processed from a 16th Century Ottoman State Tahrir Register pertaining to Waqfs and Muslim properties in five regions of Palestine: Al-Quds, Gaza, Safad, Nablus and Ajlun. There are indexes for names, places and terms.

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS, Prepared by ACAR TANLAK and AHMED LAJIMI, *Istanbul, 1984; VII, 337, 4 p.; 24 cm. (English) Price: US \$10, post and package included.*

The Directory gives the addresses of 3579 institutions in 106 countries working in the field of Islamic culture, civilisation, history and art.

L'ENSEIGNEMENT ARABO-ISLAMIQUE AU SENEGAL (ARAB-ISLAMIC EDUCATION IN SENEGAL), by MAMADOU NDIAYE, *Istanbul, 1985; VII, 253, 9 p.; 24 cm. (French) Price: US \$10, post and package included.*

This work is one of the first objective studies on the introduction and preservation of the Arabic language in Black Africa and especially in Senegal. It also sheds light on the archive documents belonging to the colonial period and which restricted the teaching of the language of the Holy Qur'an in these countries. Enriched with statistics, the book gives the history of the evolution of the teaching of this language and the difficulties and problems encountered during this process.

EDITORIAL

This issue relates to our readers two important conferences held in the framework of the OIC, namely the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture held in Dakar, Senegal and the 18th Islamic Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. These conferences gave significant results concerning both the overall organisation of OIC activities and specific projects in different fields. We provide general information about the deliberations and decisions of these conferences with particular emphasis on their decisions concerning IRCICA and ICPICH.

In April, IRCICA organised the second meeting in the series of international symposia on the history of science, focusing on the process of introduction of modern transportation and communication techniques to the Muslim world. You will find, in the following pages, information about the proceedings of the meeting, as well as on the very informative exhibitions organized on this occasion. The papers presented during the symposium reflected the findings of original studies. They contributed to the increase of knowledge on this subject which has not been fully explored yet.

As the contents of this periodical publication would reflect, the volume of work incumbent upon IRCICA grows continuously in response to new needs arising for research and informational activities in the field of Islamic culture. Sometimes, new subject areas are added into the research programmes; it also happens that the geographical coverage of existing research projects is expanded. Such developments lead to an increase in both the frequency and the variety of the activities. The Centre makes all efforts possible to meet the requirements in the best possible way. In the same time, the Centre continues to enlarge and enrich the stock of knowledge and reference sources accumulated during the period of about ten years that has elapsed since its establishment. The Centre's library is one of the depositories of such accumulated

knowledge. As the present academic year will end soon, an increase is expected in the number of visiting scholars and researchers to IRCICA. As usual, we are ready to offer to them the services and facilities of our library, so that they may benefit from the collection of references and research works it contains in the fields of Islamic culture, history and arts. This collection is enriched continuously through new acquisitions as well as exchange programs which have been established with other libraries and institutions all over the world.

This year will be marked by significant activities in the framework of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage-ICPICH. The Second International Calligraphy Competition named after the master of calligraphy Yakut al-Mustasimi has already aroused great interest around the world. As we proceed in accordance with the competition calendar, we are encouraged by the high number of applications received until now. The same is valid for the International Photography Competition which also meets considerable interest. These two activities are expected to contribute significantly to the celebration programmes envisaged on the occasion of the Islamic Heritage Year 1410H. In the same context, we are honoured to publish in this issue the message of H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage, on the subject of the Islamic Heritage Year.

Lastly, we are happy to announce that starting with this issue, the Newsletter will be printed in the newly established printing unit of IRCICA. Formalities of establishment and initial operationalisation procedures of the unit caused a delay in the publication of the present issue, for which we apologize.

Prof.Dr.Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu

OIC SECRETARY GENERAL H.E.DR.HAMID ALGABID AT IRCICA



It was our pleasure to announce in the last Newsletter that H.E.Dr. Hamid Algabid, ex-Prime Minister of Niger took the office as the Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. We are happy to record this time that we were honoured by the visit of H.E. the Secretary General to our Centre, on 26-27 February 1989. The Secretary General was accompanied by a delegation of officials of the General Secretariat.

On 26 February, the first day of his visit to the Centre, the Secretary General saw the research sections, the word-processing unit, the archive of historical photographs and the library. He received information on the state of advancement and the findings of each research project. In the library, an exhibition of books selected from the library collections was presented to the Secretary General.

The visit of H.E.Dr. Hamid Algabid continued with a welcoming ceremony and press

conference in IRCICA's conference hall at Çit Qasr. IRCICA Director General took the floor to express the pleasure and honour given to the Centre by the visit of the Secretary General. He said that Dr. Algabid's graciously accepting the functions of the Secretary General of OIC gives fresh hopes to the Muslim world. He expressed his conviction that his leadership as the Head of the Organisation will give a new impetus to OIC activities. H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid said his visit to IRCICA had enabled him to better acquaint himself with the Centre's work. He expressed appreciation for the accomplishments of the Centre and the sources of knowledge and information it accumulated over the years. Pointing out that the Centre was successfully performing its tasks as a subsidiary organ of OIC, he assured the Centre that the General Secretariat will continue to support its activities. H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid also mentioned that the Organisation of Islamic Conference will celebrate its 20th anniversary next September and said this was a good occasion to promote and better introduce OIC activities around the world.



H.E. the Secretary General being briefed by Mr. Acar Tanlak, Head of the Computer Section



H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid examines rare books in the Centre's Library

The Secretary General answered the questions of press representatives, concerning the OIC and world issues in general. Samples of IRCICA's publications were presented to the Secretary General. At the end of the ceremony, H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid recorded his impressions on the Centre's book, as follows (translation):

“

What distinguishes the Organisation of the Islamic Conference from other international organisations is Islamic history, arts and culture. This institute which is in charge with these subjects is therefore the nucleus of the organisation.

The fact that it is located in Istanbul, historic capital city of Islam, gives it more radiance. The fact that it is directed by a person as dynamic and devoted as Mr. Ekmeleddin, assures its success.”

The following day, 27 February, the Secretary General visited the premises of the Centre's printing unit which is in the process of

establishment. He received explanations on the modalities of its operation and the facilities it will provide. This visit was followed by a meeting with IRCICA's officials on matters related to the Centre's work. The same day, H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid left for Ankara, to have official meetings with Turkish authorities.

Le 26/2/89

*L'organisation de la Conférence Islamique a un caractère
non raffiné ses activités, organisation internationale de
l'histoire, l'art et la culture islamique. C'est
le fait qui se a la charge et donc le noyau
sur de l'organisation.*

*Le fait qu'il soit situé à Istanbul, capitale
historique de l'Islam, ne lui donne que plus
de rayonnement. Le fait qu'il soit dirigé
par un homme aussi dynamique que et
dévoté que M. Ekmeleddin, en est un
gage de succès.*

*Hamid Algabid
26/2/89*

FIRST ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE

DAKAR-SENEGAL

Although a couple of months passed over since this conference was held, its importance led us to relate to our readers its major aspects. This was the first time the Ministers of Culture of the Member States of OIC came together, in Dakar, Senegal, on 25-26 January 1989. The meeting had several items on its agenda, relating, notably, to the problems hindering joint action in the cultural field and ways to solve them, and to the preparation of a strategy for cultural action in the Islamic world.

The conference was inaugurated by H.E. Abdou Diouf, President of Senegal who expressed hope that the work of the meeting would give a new impetus to cultural action in the Islamic world. He said that the will of the Member States to give culture its rightful place was obvious and that this meeting would be a beginning to turn this will into concrete reality. The President pointed out that the meeting was expected to deal with issues concerning the cultural institutions of the Islamic world and the disbursement of the material and human resources, as well as the preparation of a cultural strategy which is the condition sine qua non for the development of a cohesive cultural programme and the implementation of dynamic cultural projects.

In his speech, H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of OIC underlined the importance of the meeting being held for the first time since the establishment of the OIC twenty years ago. He said that the conference marked a decisive step in the efforts made to translate into facts the solemn pledge made by the Third Islamic Summit Conference held in Mecca/Taif in 1981, where the Kings and Heads of State and Government of Islamic countries pledged to coordinate their efforts in the educational and cultural fields by drawing on their spiritual sources, which is necessary to unite the Ummah, consolidate its culture and strengthen its solidarity. The Secretary General praised the merits of comprehensive and harmonious coordination among various institutions and said that the numerous subsidiary organs and affiliated bodies of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference respond to needs, which are actually felt, and contribute to the achievement of the objectives stipulated in the OIC Charter. He also pointed out that on the eve of the twenty-first century, cultural development seemed to be one of the most serious challenges with which nations of the world were confronted and said it was gratifying to note that Islamic countries decided to pool efforts in order to take up this challenge.



H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of OIC and H.E. Mr. Mustapha Ka, Minister of Culture of Senegal (from right to left) being briefed by IRCICA Director General about the Centre's publications

IRCICA was represented at the conference by its Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Assistant Director General Raja Fuziah bte. Raja Tun Uda and researchers Messrs. Ahmed Lajimi and Acar Tanlak. A report was submitted to the meeting about the Centre and its activities. A document titled "Towards a Cultural Strategy" was also distributed, comprising the Centre's study on the "Cultural Dimensions of Development in the Member States of the OIC" and the conclusions of the international seminar on "Research in Islamic civilisation: outlook for the coming decade" organised in September 1988.

The conference took several resolutions, concerning, among others, "The Report of the OIC General Secretariat on the Activities of the Organs, Institutions, Universities and Islamic Centres of Cultural Nature", "Obstacles to the Development of the Cultural Sector and Proposed Remedies" and "The Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and Plan of Action". The conference adopted the "Dakar Declaration on the Protection and Development of Islamic Culture and on Inter-Islamic Cultural Cooperation". The full text of this Declaration is reproduced below:

"We the representatives of the States and Organizations participating in the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture, held on 25 and 26 January 1989 in Dakar, capital of the Republic of Senegal, citadel of Islam and crossroads of civilizations, at the gracious invitation of His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs set up by the Summit Conference of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

- Convinced of the oneness of our Islamic faith and of the community of our destiny as members of a firmly united Ummah with diverse components and distinctive features,

- Convinced that culture plays an effective role in safeguarding world peace and security, as it fosters rapprochement and understanding among peoples and nations, contributes to the emancipation and self-fulfilment of the individual by stimulating his faith and conscience, and promotes communal spirit and cohesion within societies,

- Reaffirming the basic rights of individuals

and communities to express themselves, innovate and assert their Islamic identity,

- Considering that Islamic culture, among its distinctive characteristics, accommodates both the material aspirations and the spiritual needs of man, and imparts balance and meaning to his life as an individual and as a member of the community,

- Conscious of the threats posed to the Islamic Ummah and our cultural identity by world and Zionist cultural invasion, and the continued alienation resulting from the latter's use of various communication media,

- Desirous of strengthening the commendable efforts being made by the Islamic Ummah to preserve its cultural identity and its civilization through fruitful cooperation within the framework of the OIC and its affiliated organs and institutions,

- Referring to the charters of the OIC and its affiliated and subsidiary institutions on the one hand, and to the Summit Conferences, the Conferences of Foreign Ministers, and the Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs on the other hand,

Affirm The Following:

1. In spite of the progress made by the Islamic world towards solidarity, complementarity and the consolidation of its personality, its efforts have not come up to expectations by reason, in particular, of the inadequacy of the resources allocated to cultural action.

2. In order to achieve the desired development, the Muslim world must pay greater attention to culture by placing it among its high priorities and fundamental Islamic objectives.

3. Given the contribution that Muslim peoples can make to human thought, culture and creativity, it is incumbent upon the Islamic Ummah to be united - particularly within the international fora the deal with culture or its dissemination, and to demand the strict application of the principle of reciprocity with respect to the unrestricted circulation, dissemination and exchange of intellectual and cultural production. Moreover, in order to strengthen the bonds among all parts of the Muslim World, and given the distinctive characteristics of these parts, which have



Inauguration of IRCICA's exhibition by H.E. Mr. Mustafa Ka, Minister of Culture of Senegal

enriched and are still enriching Islamic civilization, the Conference stresses the need for the Islamic world to open up to its regional cultural particularities which express both diversity and unity, and to take them into consideration.

4. Since the contribution of nations is in fact the contribution of their scholars, intellectuals, and other innovators, the Conference exhorts the OIC and the Islamic States to encourage and honour them.

5. As a reparation for the loss it has suffered and continues to suffer as a result of the confiscation and plundering of its cultural treasures, the Islamic Ummah demands the return of the marvels of which it has been so unjustly dispossessed, and considers any obstacle to their retrocession an act of cultural aggression. It also emphasizes the need to work for the preservation and protection of Islamic monuments and shrines, particularly in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

6. On the basis of the words of the Most-High: "We have made you into nations and tribes that you might get to know one another. The noblest of you, in Allah's sight is the most righteous of you" and also: "And of His signs are the creation of heaven and earth and the diversity of your tongues and colours", the Islamic Ummah supports every world cultural action that spreads tolerance and mutual respect among all peoples, since Islamic culture emerged only through interaction of the distinctive characteristics of its peoples, in an atmosphere of emancipation and tolerance which had been brought by Islam.

7. Proceeding from these principles, the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture, endorses the United Nations' resolution establishing a Cultural Development Decade and proclaims its determination to contribute to the latter's success. It also supports UNESCO in the tasks of coordination and follow up assigned to it in this context.

8. In light of the above, the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture requests the General Secretariat of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to work for materializing the present Declaration. ,,

IRCICA activities at the Conference

On the occasion of the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture, the Centre organised an exhibition in order to better introduce its activities and publications. On display were posters, photographs and documents representing the research projects, exhibitions, conferences and symposia and other activities of IRCICA, as well as winners' works at the First International Calligraphy Competition organised by the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH).

H.E. Mr. Mustapha Ka, Minister of Culture of Senegal graciously inaugurated the exhibition, on the first day of the Conference. Were present at the inauguration H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of the OIC, Ministers of Culture of the Member States, Heads of Diplomatic missions in Dakar, delegations at the Conference and representatives of the press. The Centre's publications aroused great interest.

On the other hand, the Conference was a good opportunity for the Centre to establish fruitful contacts with the Ministers of Culture and Ambassadors of the Member States and concerned authorities of Senegal.

IRCICA IN THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE 18TH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

RIYADH-SAUDI ARABIA

The resolutions and decisions about IRCICA taken by the conferences at different levels of the OIC are communicated to the readers of this Newsletter because of their importance in relation with IRCICA's work. Especially the annual conferences of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States hear the activity reports submitted by the Centre and examine and adopt the projects contained in its work programme, as well as its annual budgets.

The Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of OIC Member States was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on 13-16 March 1989. The Custodian of the Holy Places King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz inaugurated the conference, expressing the hope that it reinforces solidarity and brotherhood in the Islamic world and among its institutions in various fields of activity. The inaugural session also heard the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Tunisia and Uganda speaking in the name of the Member States in Asia, Africa and the Arab world, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Jordan as the Chairman of the 17th Islamic Conference held last year in Amman.

H.E.Dr. Hamid Algabid took an oath of office before the Conference, as the Secretary General of OIC. He made a speech evaluating the developments which took place on the world scene and their consequences in the Islamic world. He also elaborated upon the fundamental role of the OIC in strengthening cooperation among the Member States for the execution of strategies and resolutions put forward in the Islamic Conferences.

H.R.H. Prince Saud Al-Faisal, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia was unanimously elected Chairman of the Conference. In his speech, the President underlined that the conference was being held after important positive events had taken place in the world in various fields and that it constituted a timely opportunity to take up those issues concerning the Islamic world. Working sessions of the conference were held in four separate committees, for political affairs, economic affairs, administrative and financial affairs and cultural and social affairs respectively, in addition to the plenary. It was decided to name the 18th Islamic Conference as the "Islamic Fraternity and Solidarity Session".

The Cultural and Social Affairs Committee studied and adopted the Report presented by the Centre, comprising its work programme for 1988-89. The Financial and Administrative Affairs Committee

examined and adopted the Centre's budget for fiscal year 1988-89.

In the operational paragraphs of the Resolution of the 18th Islamic Conference concerning IRCICA, the Conference,

1. Commends the efforts of the Centre as represented by its leading achievements.

2. Approves the report which includes the plan of action of the Centre and the report of the Governing Council.

3. Expresses thanks and appreciation to the host country for the material and moral support it has constantly extended to the Centre thus enabling it to satisfactorily perform its tasks.

4. Expresses thanks to the Islamic Development Bank for providing a Printing Unit for the Centre.

5. Requests the Member States to pay their contributions regularly in order to enable the Centre to carry out its current plan of action and plan for the future.

6. Calls upon the Member States, institutions and philanthropists from the Muslim world to continue to support the Centre in furnishing and equipping the newly restored building according to the needs and requirements of the Centre and expresses its thanks to those that offered assistance.

7. Commends the document prepared by the Centre on the "Cultural dimensions of development in the OIC Member States" which was prepared in compliance with Resolution No. 22 of the 17th Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, held in Amman in 1988, and requests the Member States to revise it and send their comments to the Centre for the final edition of the document.

The Director General of IRCICA took the floor at the plenary session to inform the Ministers about the accomplishments made by the Centre since its establishment ten years ago. He said that after acquiring the necessary experience and maturity, the Centre enlarged the domain of its activities to cover different parts of the vast geographical area over which the Islamic world extends. He also touched upon the cooperation and coordination established between the Centre and related institutions of the Member States, as well as with cultural institutions in non-member countries.

The text of the speech of IRCICA Director General is reproduced below, since this would also provide to our readers a brief recapitulation of the Centre's activities:

“ H.R.H. the Chairman of the Conference, Their Excellencies the Ministers, H.E. the Secretary General of OIC,

I am honoured to have the opportunity to relate the activities of the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture of the OIC, in this Hall named after the leader of Islamic Solidarity and on the occasion of two anniversaries: that of the 20th anniversary of the OIC and the 10th anniversary of IRCICA which was created as the first cultural organ of the OIC.

First of all, I would like to thank H.R.H. the Chairman for giving this opportunity to me, and to express my gratitude to the Government of the Custodian of Haramain Sharifein for the continual support extended to the Centre and its activities in the past ten years.

This Centre was established with the goal of strengthening the historical links among Muslim people and creating an atmosphere of brotherhood based on the rich heritage of our civilisation. The Centre achieved its objective of becoming a meeting place for historians, scholars and artists where they can exchange ideas and study our common civilisation and our precious heritage, in order to highlight the contributions of Islam to world civilisation.

The Centre made a good beginning in its premisses in the historical Yıldız Palace allocated graciously by the Government of the host country, Turkey. In this marvelous historical environment, the Centre established a library containing over the 20 000 titles in 34 languages, an archive unit comprising a collection of over 35 000 photographs of various Islamic countries most of which date from the 19th and early 20th Century. The Centre also established a computer unit and scholarly research section.

The Centre would like to record its gratitude to the Government of Turkey for its continual support which provided to the Centre easy access to the sources of reference and moral and material possibilities. Thus the Centre became a concrete

manifestation of one of the successful projects of the OIC. A summary of the Centre's accomplishment follows:

- The Centre published until now 20 research works.
- 19 issues of the Newsletter were published. This triannual publication is distributed in 10.000 copies in the three official languages of the OIC.
- 50 exhibitions were organised, some in the Centre's premises, some in the member States and some others in non-member countries.
- The Centre participated regularly in International Book Fairs. It is the sole OIC organ which obtains a non-negligible amount of revenues from the sale of its publications. And this trend will continue with the entering into operation of the printing unit being established with the assistance of the Islamic Development Bank.
- A scholarship programme was developed in cooperation with some Member States.
- The Centre is honoured to act as the Secretariat of the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Cultural Heritage chaired by H.R.H. Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz. Important activities were realised in this context, such as the organisation of competitions which promoted interest in Islamic Heritage, notably in the field of Islamic Architecture.

These and other achievements of the Centre benefited greatly from the cooperation and coordination established with scholarly institutions around the world dealing with similar subjects. On the other hand, the constructive role and support of the General Secretariat of the OIC and the Counsels of the Centre's Governing Council should be underlined.

It can be said the Centre laid solid foundation for itself and developed as an international research institutions of high scholarly standing. The coverage of its studies enlarged as it acquired maturity and experience. to deal with regions of the Islamic world such as South-East Asia, West Africa and the Arab Maghreb. The realisations of the Centre are the results of devoted efforts made by a group of researchers working in the Centre, in order to achieve the objectives of their country and their Organisation. They performed a sincere, professional work unhampered by subjective considerations. And I would like to assure you, Excellencies, that we shall continue to work seriously and devotedly to continue to deserve your confidence in us. ,,

SEVENTH MEETING OF IRCICA GOVERNING COUNCIL IN TRIPOLI, LIBYA

The Seventh Meeting of the Governing Council of IRCICA was held in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 10 - 11 February 1989, upon the invitation of H.E. Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Al-Sharif, Secretary General of the International Islamic Call Society and member of the Governing Council.

Following the inauguration of the meeting, IRCICA Director General expressed his satisfaction for the convening of the meeting in Tripoli, under the auspices of the International Islamic Call Society which had already contributed to some fundamental projects and IRCICA. He gave an overview of the accomplishments made by IRCICA since its establishment ten years ago. Dr. Afif Bahnassi, Chairman of the Governing Council thanked the host country and the International Islamic Call Society for the hospitality extended to the Governing Council. He pointed to the similarity between the objectives of the Society of IRCICA which both aim to uncover the riches of Islamic culture and civilisation, focusing on different aspects of the subject. Then, the message of H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of OIC was read by Dr. Heidi Hnitech, wishing success to this meeting which coincided with the 10th anniversary of IRCICA and the 20th anniversary of the OIC, and held at a time when IRCICA is expected to play an important role in the work that has been launched towards the elaboration of a cultural strategy for the Islamic world. This was followed by the address of H.E. Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Al-Sharif, Secretary General of the International Islamic Call Society who said the convening of the Governing Council meeting in Tripoli reinforced the cooperation which already exists between his Society and IRCICA. The opening ceremony of the

Governing Council meeting was attended by the representatives of diplomatic missions in Tripoli, academicians and journalists.

During the working sessions, the Governing Council examined the report presented by the Centre giving a detailed account of its on-going activities and future projects.

By its decisions and recommendations, the Governing Council approved the report presented by the Centre; recalling the address made by the Director General at the inauguration of the meeting, the Council took note of the fact that IRCICA had proven, through its work program and activities of the last 10 years, that it plays a significant role in directing research in Islamic civilisation. Focusing its attention on the coming decade, the Centre should consolidate its resources and energy towards innovating new directions and the creation of new visions in the field of research. Other recommendations were made concerning the Centre's projects and different aspects of its work. The Council decided to send a cable to Colonel Muammar Khadafi to express its thanks and gratitude to the Jamahiriya for hosting this historical session of the Governing Council and for the continuous support provided to Islamic activities throughout the world. After the closing of the meetings, H.E. Major Abdusselam Ahmed Jalloud received the members of the Governing Council; a sincere and brotherly meeting and an open intellectual dialogue took place, at the end of which H.E. Jalloud expressed his interest in the accomplishments of the Centre and his hope that the Centre will continue to realise its objectives in future. He also affirmed that the Jamahiriya will continue to support the Centre's activities.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON MODERN TECHNIQUES OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION IN THE OTTOMAN STATE

Istanbul, 3-5 April 1989

This was the second meeting in the series of international symposia on the history of science, jointly organised by IRCICA and the Department of History of Science, Faculty of Letters, Istanbul University. The symposium took place at IRCICA's conference hall at Çit Qasr. The Ministry of Transport of Turkey, the Directorate General of Posts, Telephone and Telegraph (PTT) and the PTT Museum, the Directorate General of State Railways and the State Maritime Lines Co. actively contributed to the organisation of the symposium. 35 papers were presented during the three-day meeting, before an audience of scholars and researchers engaged in the study of the history of science in the Muslim world.

The symposium was inaugurated on 3 April by Dr. Ertan Yülek, Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Transport of Turkey. Dr. Yülek underlined the crucial place of means of transportation and communication in the development of any country. He gave a brief overview of the development of these sectors in the Ottoman period and thanked the organisers of the symposium for their initiative to hold a scholarly meeting in this field.

Prof. Dr. Nurhan Atasoy, Dean of the Faculty of Letters of Istanbul University declared that the Faculty gives great importance to history

of science as a field of study and to this series of symposia as a scholarly activity. She emphasized the necessity of having regular meetings of this kind among researchers working in this field. Then, IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu welcomed the participants and guests. He gave the guidelines and frame of reference of the symposium theme and a brief overview of the development of transportation and communications in the Ottoman State. Following the inaugural ceremony, an exhibition of old communication equipment was opened in the same building. The exhibition was organised by the PTT Museum as a contribution to the symposium. It included samples of the first telegraph and telephone equipment used in the past century, mail bags and other accessories used by the couriers, old photographs showing the first post office buildings and couriers with their uniforms, among others. The exhibition also comprised the newest communications equipment, to show the technological progress achieved in this area. Envelopes bearing a special stamp prepared for the symposium were sold by the PTT as a souvenir item.

The following list gives the titles of the papers presented during the symposium. IRCICA plans to publish the proceedings in the form of a book.



*Dr. Ertan Yülek, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Transport of Turkey and
Prof. Dr. Nurhan Atasoy, Dean of the Faculty of Letters, Istanbul University*



Monday, 3 April

First session.

Chairman: Ercüment Kuran

- **Nesimi Yazıcı:** *"Ottoman post in the Tanzimat period"*
- **Mustafa Kaçar:** *"Ottoman Telegraph Administration"*
- **Yücel Özkaya:** *"The Menzil organisation in the Ottoman State in the 18th century"*

Second session.

Chairman: Mihail Guboğlu

- **Aliye Önay:** *"Establishment of the first telephone system in Turkey"*
- **Zafer Toprak:** *"Passage from organic energy to inorganic energy in the Ottoman communication and transportation sectors"*
- **Edip Özkale:** *"Hamidiye-Hejaz Railway and technical issues"*
- **Beyhan Atmaca:** *"First agreement about the telegraph"*

Third session.

Chairman: Halil Sahillioğlu

- **Mihail Guboğlu:** *"Black Sea-Danube canal projects in the Ottoman Empire (1836-1876) and first railway between Köstence and Boğazköy (1855-1860)"*

- **Mübahat Kütükoğlu:** *"Ottoman Steamships Company and the Izmir Bay Hamidiye Company"*
- **Paolo Cuneo:** *"An architectural celebration of the Ottoman telegraph: the Rostal Column by Raimondo erected in Damascus for the inauguration of the line Hejaz"*

Tuesday, 4 April

First session.

Chairman: Abdulaziz Awad

- **Ercüment Kuran:** *"Maritime transport in the Ottoman State in the 19th century: foundation and activities of Idare-i Mahsusa"*
- **Şükran Eryılmaz:** *"PTT Museum in Ankara"*
- **Mücteba İlgürel:** *"Attempts to establish the technology of the steamship in the Ottoman State"*
- **Nezih Başgelen:** *"An interesting transportation line in Istanbul in the second half or 19th century: scheduled boat trips from Galata bridge to Yeşilköy"*

Second session.

Chairman: J. Paul Luft

- Z.H. Zaidi: *"Hejaz Railroad"*
- Ali Akyıldız: *"İzmir-Aydın Railway"*
- Cemil Öztürk: *"The Haydarpaşa-İzmit Railway as a State enterprise in the Tanzimat period (1871-1888)"*

Third session.

Chairman: Mücteba İlgürel

- Kazım Çeçen: *"Rail transport in the Ottoman period"*
- Selim İlkin: *"The introduction of the use of cars in long-distance road transport"*
- Musa Çadırcı: *"Road transport in the Tanzimat period (1840-1876)"*
- Bünyamin Duran: *"Period of modernization in road transport in the Ottoman State (1880-1814)"*

Fourth session.

Chairman: Zafer Toprak

- Kazım Arısan: *"Urban transport in Istanbul in the past centuries"*
- Cumhur Odabaşoğlu: *"Transit transport between Trabzon and Iran, until 1923"*
- J.P. Luft: *"Power politics and railways construction in Western Iran in the late 19th and the early 20th century"*
- Semavi Eyice: *"Two communication projects in the Ottoman State in the past century"*

Wednesday, 5 April

First session.

Chairman: Mübahat Kütükoğlu

- Ali İhsan Gençer: *"Construction of the first horse-driven tramcar in Istanbul"*
- Feza Günergun: *"Attempts to operate steam-driven tramcars in the Ottoman State"*

Second session.

Chairman: Dr. Hidayet Yavuz Nuhoğlu

- Emre Dölen: *"The undertaking of the Boğaziçi Tunnel early 20th century and Ahmed Besim Paşa"*

- Y.Kahya-G.Tanyeli: *"Bridges on the Golden Horn and their effects to city transport"*

Third session.

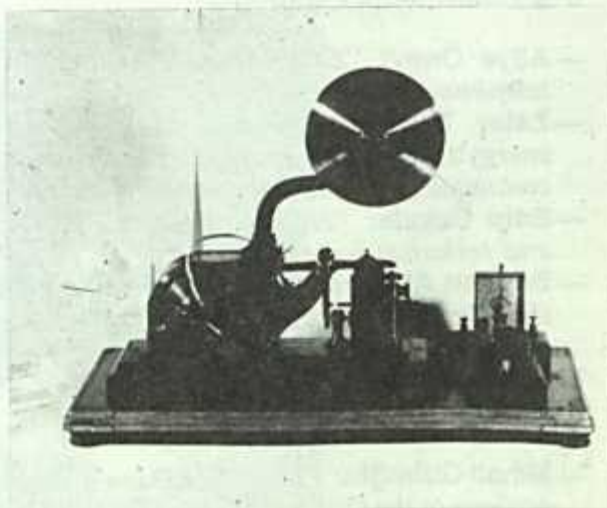
Chairman: Z.H. Zaidi

- Afife Batur: *"Architectural activities in the Ottoman Empire due to the establishment of the telegraph lines"*
- Uğur Tanyeli: *"The Ottoman city transport organisation and its Westernization-a techno-cultural evaluation"*
- Abdul Aziz Awad: *"Communications in Bilad Al-Sham in the second half of the nineteenth century"*

Fourth session.

Chairman: Kemal Beydilli

- Nil Sarı: *"Transportation of ill people in the Ottoman State"*
- Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu: *"Aviation in the Ottoman State"*



Morse telegraphic equipment



ICPICH IN THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

The 18th Islamic Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of OIC was held on 13-16 March 1989 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) submitted a report to the Conference about its completed and on-going activities and envisaged projects. The work programme as contained in this report, as well as the budget of the Commission for fiscal year 1988-89, were adopted by the Conference.

H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Commission was present at the inaugural ceremony of the Conference. During working sessions, the Commission was represented by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Commission Secretary and Dr. M. Saleh Gazdar, Director of the Liaison and Coordination Bureau. The operational paragraphs of the Resolution No. 13/18-C of the 18th Islamic Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs about the Commission are as follows:

The Conference,

1. Commends the Commission for organising the first competitions of "King Fahd Award for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture", and the "International Competition for Calligraphy".
2. Expresses sincere gratitude to His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Commission, for his continued patronage and guidance to the Commission.
3. Calls upon the Commission to continue coordinating its activities with those undertaken by the Member States for the

preservation of the Islamic heritage with a view to collating Member States efforts in this field.

4. Expresses satisfaction on the full coordination existing between the Commission and the Istanbul Centre as the executive organ of the Commission.
5. Approves the future Plan of Action included in the Commission's report.

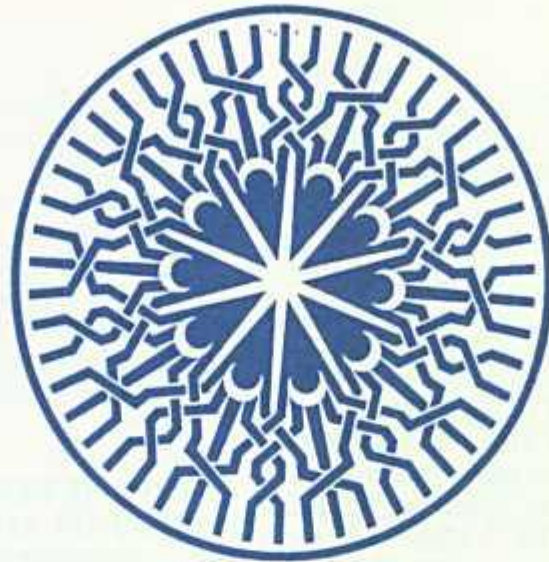
ICPICH REPRESENTED AT THE FIRST ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE

The International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) participated in the First Islamic Conference of Ministers of Culture held in Dakar, Senegal on 25-26 January 1989.

The Commission submitted a report to the Conference, giving detailed information about all activities realised since 1982, year of its establishment, until the present. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary of the Commission, Raja Fuziah bte Raja Tun Uda, Dr. M. Saleh Gazdar, Director of the Liaison and Coordination Bureau with the H.R.H. Chairman of the Commission and his assistant Mr. Walid Al-Mena Al-Kahtani participated at this Conference in the name of the Commission.

On the occasion of this Conference, ICPICH organised an exhibition of winners' works at the First International Calligraphy Competition. H.E. Mr. Mustapha Ka, Minister of Culture of Senegal inaugurated this exhibition on the first day of the Conference, in the presence of H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of the OIC and Ministers of Culture of the Member States, Ambassadors of the Member States in Dakar, high officials of Senegal, other participants and a high number of journalists.

ISLAMIC HERITAGE YEAR 1410 H.



The Organisation of the Islamic Conference declared the Year 1410 Hijra/1989 the "Islamic Heritage Year", to commemorate the first decade of the 15th Century Hijra. On this occasion, activities will be held in different parts of the Muslim world and dedicated to the promotion of awareness about Islamic heritage. The International Photography Competition on Islamic Heritage is being organised by the OIC International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) on the same occasion. On the other hand, the Second International Calligraphy Competition in the name of calligrapher Yakut al-Mustasimi also coincides with the celebration programmes.

Member States of the OIC are organising various cultural activities on the occasion of the Islamic Heritage Year to emphasize Islamic heritage.

We are honoured to convey below to our readers the message of H.R.H. Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of ICPICH, on the occasion of the Islamic Heritage Year (original: Arabic).

"The rising consciousness of the Islamic world about its present led it to a greater awareness of its precious heritage and the responsibility incumbent upon it therefrom. Islamic heritage is one of the most important characteristics which distinguish the Islamic world from other nations. Furthermore, cultural heritage is, for any nation,

a source of inspiration and an important factor in the advancement of civilisation. A nation which neglects its heritage, which is not conscious of the role heritage plays in shaping its identity and strengthening its place among other nations, is bound to break up and vanish, and come under the influence of other civilisations. In such a situation, it would no more be considered and respected by others.

The heritage of the Islamic world is one of high standing comprising multi-dimensional aspects; it is characterized by flexibility, harmony, richness of inspiration and vitality as well as by continuity, since it can be adapted to different places and periods. It is a living heritage, which can promote the progress and renewal of civilisation. Heritage is much more than the existence of historical sites, manuscripts, libraries, traditional arts and crafts. It is a concrete manifestation of Islamic culture proving its greatness to all other nations, and a factor which contributes to the progress of civilisation, knowledge, literature and arts. Throughout the centuries, Islamic heritage became a real justification of the progress achieved by the Muslim world in its glorious times. It is also a powerful factor urging our young generations to proceed on the glorious path drawn by our ancestors with faith, great efforts and devotion.

The heritage of every nation is a source of pride as well as a cultural riches and a treasure of civilisation. Heritage is an indication of various

aspects of a nation's identity, of its degree of vitality and principal features.

Aware of the importance of Islamic heritage, its deep influence and its crucial role in the progress of culture despite the contemporary challenges, the Organisation of the Islamic Conference established the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage and entrusted it the task of protecting and preserving its heritage. In the same spirit, during the 14th Islamic Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs held in Dacca, Bangladesh in 1983, OIC member States took a resolution to declare the year 1410H the Islamic Heritage Year. During the year, all Member States and their relevant institutions and organisations shall endeavour to promote public awareness on the significance of Islamic heritage by organising various activities in cooperation and coordination with the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage.

I would like to affirm that the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage continues to make all possible efforts in order to realise the objectives that the Muslim world has set for itself in this field. Thank God and with the moral and material support of the Member States, the Commission undertook programmes and various activities such as competitions with the aim of protecting and preserving Islamic heritage. The King Fahd Awards for Islamic Architecture is one of the projects which already started to give results, since the winners of the competition produced successful works highlighting the characteristics of Islamic architecture and reflecting its development in accordance with contemporary requirements. The International Calligraphy Competition too gave remarkable results helping to preserve and revive the authentic values and styles of Islamic calligraphy. On the other hand, the International Photography Competition which aims to record and document various Islamic heritage properties, will be finalised in the course of the Islamic Heritage Year.

In accordance with the Resolution of the 14th Islamic Conference declaring the year 1410H as the Islamic Heritage Year, the International Commission has completed the necessary

preparations for the celebration programmes.

Given that our heritage is common to all Muslims and that it can be protected, preserved and developed only through cooperation and joint efforts, I take this opportunity to invite all Member States, their concerned institutions, organisations and centres as well as the subsidiary and specialised organs of the OIC, to organise activities such as symposia, conferences, exhibitions, to issue commemorative stamps, coins, posters among others, in order to celebrate the event, arouse awareness about Islamic heritage and promote an understanding about its significance.

I would like to request the Islamic mass media in particular, to support the programmes which would be undertaken by their country and its concerned institutions, in order to ensure the success of this project. I hope that scholars, thinkers, artists and writers of the Muslim world will give it the importance it deserves. All concerned institutions in the Member States and abroad are invited to participate in the programmes envisaged by the Commission; it is hoped that the efforts made will thus be multiplied and pave the way for a cooperation which would enable the realisation of the objectives for which the Commission was created. We would thus have worked towards our common goals and reinforced Islamic solidarity among individuals, communities and States.

I am pleased to reaffirm that the Commission is ready to work in cooperation and coordination with the Member States and their concerned institutions, to preserve the uniqueness of Islamic heritage and prepare a brilliant future for it. In this respect, the Commission shall make some proposals to the Member States and their institutions, concerning the activities which would be held during the year, taking the possibilities into account.

May God help us to succeed in our project and achieve our goals in the service of Islam and Muslims. ۞

*H.R.H. Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz
Chairman, International Commission for the
Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage*

WORLD ISLAMIC CIVILISATION EXPO -EKSPLO TAMADUN ISLAM SEDUNIA-

ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF
MALAYSIA

"Islam for all" is envisaged to be the emphasis of the World Islamic Civilisation Expo, a project of large scale undertaken by the Government of Malaysia. The activities are scheduled to be held from 1st June to 31st August 1990 at Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the New Straits Times Press, Berhad of Malaysia are the co-organisers, with contributions by the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the National Museum, the National Archives, Malaysian Airlines, among others. The programme is planned to focus on the global aspects of the Islamic community and its heritage. To this aim, the following activities are envisaged:

- An exhibition of World Islamic Heritage;
- An Islamic Calligraphy Competition;
- Islamic World Cultural Dance/Song Presentation;
- An International Islamic Seminar.

Among the objectives of the project are: to celebrate the first decade of the 15th Century of Hijra, to promote understanding and cooperation among Islamic countries, to highlight the universal character of Islam and to increase awareness and encourage exchanges of views on the Islamic way of life, culture and civilisation.

A similar event was organised by the Malaysian Government in 1984 with great success. It comprised an exhibition and a seminar on Islamic heritage. The exhibition held at the National Museum for three months presented artifacts from all over the world. As to the seminar, it brought together 200 participants from various countries, for discussions about the Islamic administrative system, education, economics, culture, science and technology and other aspects of Islamic civilisation.

PROGRESS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS OF CALLIGRAPHY AND PHOTOGRAPHY

As announced previously, ICPICH organised the Second International Calligraphy Competition in the name of the great calligrapher Yakut al-Mustasimi; on the other hand an International Photography Competition is being organised on the occasion of the Islamic Heritage Year. Considerable interest is shown to these two competitions by artists all over the world. The calligraphy Competition Secretariat received over 1500 requests for the brochure containing the conditions of the competition in addition to the 2000 copies distributed previously. More than 800 prospective participants from 40 countries sent their registration forms. It is expected that this second competition will be even more successful than the first one, since the Commission largely benefits now from the experience it has gained.

On the other hand, the Secretariat of the International Photographic Competition to Commemorate the Islamic Heritage Year 1410H./1989 already received nearly 30 letters from Belgium, Iraq, France, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey and the United Kingdom. Distribution of the brochure of the competition specifying the conditions of participation continues.

In order that these two competitions be announced as widely as possible around the world, the Commission benefited largely from the cooperation and assistance of the relevant authorities of the Member States. On the other hand, it has used the possibilities offered by various organs of the mass-media in the member countries and abroad. Thus it could draw the attention of institutions and individual artists of many countries to these two important cultural and artistic activities of the Commission.

MUSEUMS

A new feature was introduced to the ICPICH section of our Newsletter no. 19, to present information on museums holding Islamic collections. We would like to renew our invitation to museum authorities to provide introductory information and illustrations to us, for publication in this section.

The museum introduced in the last issue was the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts in Istanbul, Turkey. We selected for the present issue one of the oldest and most developed museums of the Islamic world.

THE MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ARTS CAIRO, EGYPT



The foundation of the Museum of Islamic Arts dates back to 1881, when it was established upon the order of the Khedive of Egypt Mohammed Tawfiq Pasha. Located, in the beginning, in the courtyard of the mosque of

the Fatimid Caliph Al-Haq Biamrillah, it was later moved to a small building annexed to the mosque. In 1903, the museum was transferred to its present premises in the district of Bab Al-Khalk. Until 1952, the museum was called the "Museum of Arab Art".

The number of artifacts contained in the museum approaches 100.000. They are distributed in 24 galleries according to their categories, as coins, ceramics and pottery, glassware, objects of wood and ivory, metalwork, jewellery, arms, prayer rugs, woven fabrics, and stone and marble works. The museum also has halls for studies and research annexed to its library.

The museum aims to preserve and display these Islamic art objects which come from various parts of the Islamic world and date back to a period from the beginnings of Islam until mid-19th century. Various cultural activities are organised in addition to regular work related to museology. For example, training programs are offered in concerned universities and institutions, on the history of Islamic arts and architecture; exhibitions are organised from time to time in Egypt and abroad to help in promoting consciousness about Islamic arts and heritage among the people. The museum also publishes guidebooks and catalogues.

The library of the museum is open for the use of researchers and students. It contains a rich collection of around 15 000 volumes of books and microfilms, maps and documents. The museum authorities give particular emphasis to cooperation with other museums and institutions in the country and abroad. Such cooperation is established for mutual technical assistance, joint exhibitions, exchanges of publications, among others. The Director General of the museum is Dr. Abderrauf Ali Yusuf and the address,

*"Museum of Islamic Arts
Meydan Ahmed Maher
Bab Khalk,
Cairo, Egypt".*

LECTURES

Commemoration of late Calligrapher Emin Barın

Artists, specialists and lovers of Islamic arts came together at IRCICA on Saturday, 5 January to commemorate Professor Emin Barın, eminent contemporary figure of Islamic arts. Master of the art of bookbinding and calligrapher, Emin Barın lectured at Mimar Sinan University for years, until his death in December 1987. Three lecturers, Mr. Mithat Sertoğlu (researcher, writer), Mr. İlhami Turan (scholar) and Dr. Savaş Çevik (scholar, artist) briefed the audience about Barın's biography, his works and his contributions as an artist and scholar. An exhibition was arranged, consisting of bookbindings and calligraphies by Emin Barın and samples of instruments he used in the performance of his art.

"Writing and writing equipment as a theme in Divan poetry"

An interesting Saturday lecture was given on 4 February by Dr. Nejat Sefercioğlu, IRCICA's expert in bibliographies and Associate Professor of Literature at Marmara University. The lecturer said that contrarily to the general belief, Divan literature was closely

related to everyday life. In addition to sentimental themes, Divan poetry also dealt with daily events and activities. The act of writing and the equipment used for writing found a place in the poems as elements of aesthetical structure, in analogies, imaginations, among others. The lecturer gave examples of the mention of the pen, the ink, the paper, the sharpener, "rih" (sand sprinkled to dry the ink) and other writing equipment.

"Documents in the Ottoman Archives"

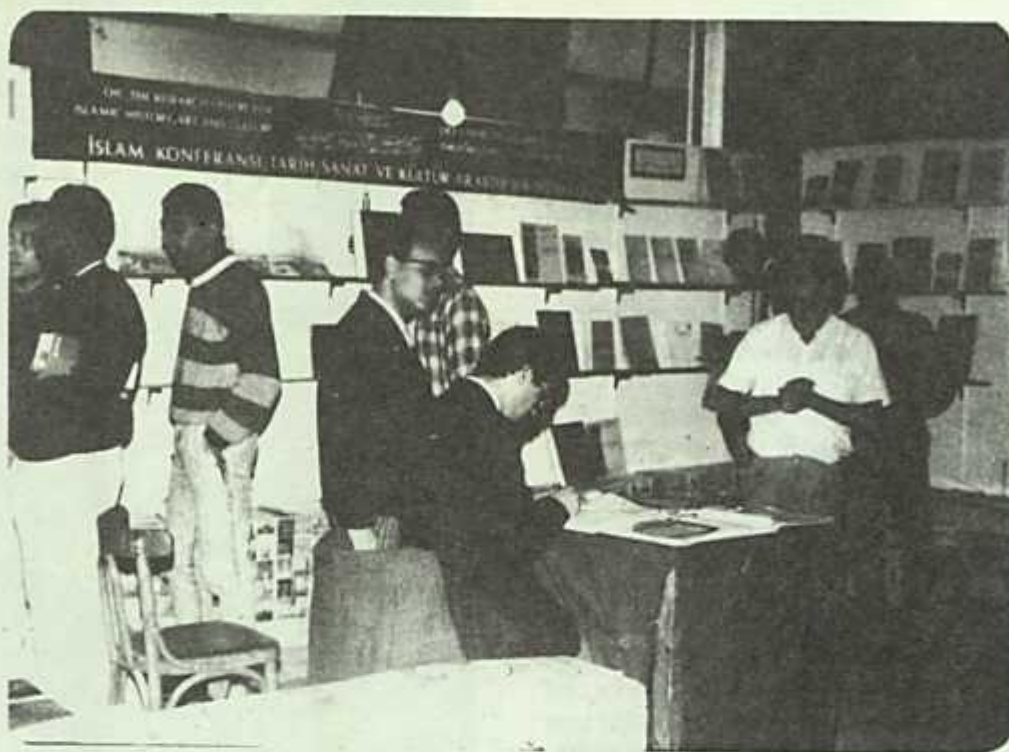
Another lecture was given on 18 March, by Prof. Dr. Halil Sahillioğlu from the Institute of Economic History, Faculty of Economics of Istanbul University. The theme was the historical documents contained in the Ottoman archives which are important sources of references for historians. The lecturer gave detailed information on various types of documents found in the archives and which emanated from the decision-making process at the level of the State. Explaining the separation of powers and how decisions were made by Divan (Council of State) and approved by the Sultan on legal, administrative, financial and other matters, he showed many examples of documents and indicated the characteristics by they can be distinguished.



Samples of documents contained in the Ottoman Archives

EXHIBITIONS

Participation at 21st Cairo Book Fair



IRCICA's stand at the Cairo Book Fair

The 21st Cairo International Book Fair was inaugurated by H.E. Hosni Mubarak, President of Egypt on 24 January 1989. Around 1800 publishers from 52 countries participated in the fair with 13 million titles of books. The fair, organised by the General Egyptian Book Organisation, was placed on an area of 55.000 sq.m. at Medinatunnasr, Cairo. IRCICA participates in this important cultural event since 1984. This year for the third time the Centre had stands both in the selling hall and the exhibition hall. It also took the opportunity to acquire new books for its library. On the other hand, interviews were given to journalists and representatives of Radio Egypt and the British TV company WTN about the Centre's studies and publications.

Ebru with drawing and calligraphy

The exhibition of "Ebru with Drawing and Calligraphy" by Feridun Özgören and Nan Freeman, held in IRCICA from 7-31 March,

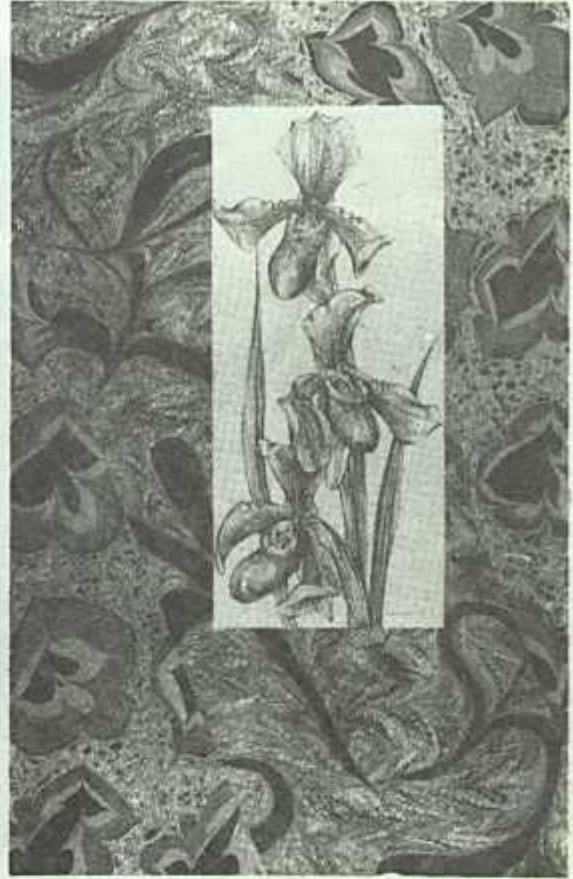
attracted great interest. Outstanding ebru (marbled paper) works by Mr. Feridun Özgören, on paper of 102 cm. by 65 cm., formed the background of either reproductions of famous calligraphies, or black-and-white drawings by Nan Freeman; these drawings were inspired by the patterns of the ebru. The technique used by the artists is not one of collage as it would be expected at first sight. It is the same as the traditional ebru technique but it differs in the manner in which it is applied and in the use of certain materials.

Mr. Feridun Özgören is an economist and statistician. He studied the ebru technique with Mr. Niyazi Sayın, Turkish musician and ebru artist. Mr. Özgören lived in Boston, U.S.A. for years and his ebru works were exhibited by museums in the U.S.A., Europe and the Middle East. He gave numerous lectures about this art. As to painter Nan Freeman, she received a PhD in history and theory of modern art. Her works were shown by museums and galleries of the U.S.A. and Europe.

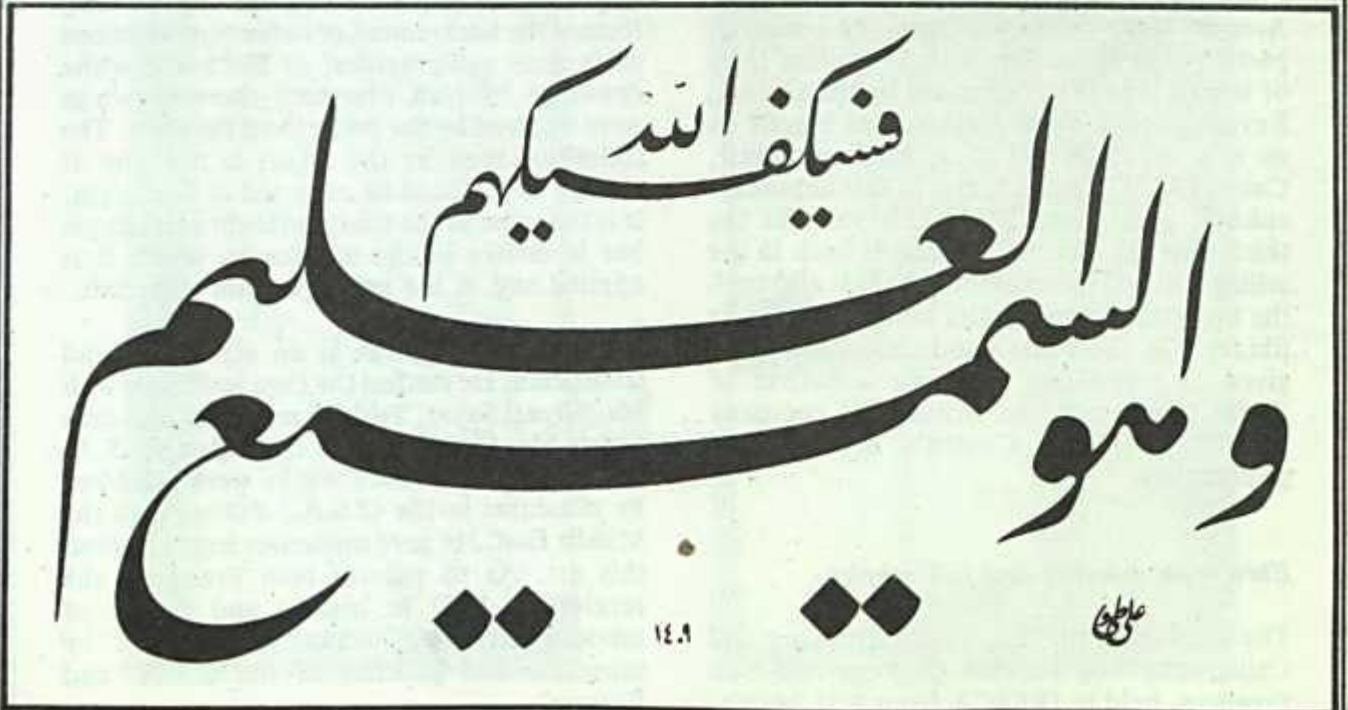
What is remarkable about the art of ebru is that the purposes it served changed over the ages. Originally, it was used inside book covers. Later, it was associated with calligraphic writings. In more recent times, it has been recognised as an art object for its own sake and independent ebru works entered museums and private collections of the world.

Calligraphic exhibition

An exhibition of calligraphies in the jali taliq style was held in IRCICA's exhibition hall from 2-19 February. Mr. Ali Toy, architect and calligrapher, displayed 40 works of calligraphy and ebru (marbled paper). This was the first personal exhibition of the young artist, who also conducts research studies, about "the aesthetical development of the taliq art", "aesthetical elements in Turkish architecture", "classical decorations in architecture".



Ebru with drawing



Calligraphy by Mr. Ali Toy

CATALOGUE OF YILDIZ PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS

Preparations are made by IRCICA to publish a catalogue of the photographic albums of Yıldız Palace, a highly valuable collection of historical photographs dating from the 19th century. The collection consists of 940 albums containing 37 000 photographs in total.

With the spread of the technique of photography in the past century, a number of studios were opened in Istanbul. They were often commissioned by the State to take photographs of different monuments, places and activities. The interest of the State in photographic recording of facts and events was accelerated during the reign of Sultan Abdülhamid II (1876-1909). The Headquarters of State administration were, in his period, the Yıldız Palace.

The albums of photographs accumulated in the Palace through this process were kept in the Library of Istanbul University. By a formal agreement with the concerned authorities, the right to study and publish these photographs was given to IRCICA, which made reproductions of the whole collection, to preserve the original photographs from the destruction of time. The Centre looked into the possibilities of making this important collection available to researchers. In response to requests received from various institutions around the world, the Centre undertook the preparation of a catalogue, under the supervision of experts in this field.

The Centre plans to publish this catalogue in two phases: the first catalogue will cover 24 500 photographs referring to the period between 1862 and 1917 and showing places and monuments in 62 countries. The second catalogue to be published later will be related to personalities' photographs and miniatures figuring in the collection.

There will be five parts of the catalogue of places and monuments; the first part will contain information on the subject matter, the name of the place or monument, the photographer, the location and country and the archive classification number of the volume, the album and the photograph. The second part will contain an index of photographers and the third, a chronological index. The fourth part will give another useful index, according to the countries and locations of the photographs, while the fifth will include reproductions of selected photographs.

A detailed introduction will give the necessary information related to the history of the Yıldız Photographic Albums and the usage of the catalogue.

Publication is planned for the end of the year and a limited number of copies shall be printed. It is expected that this publication will respond to various needs and requests and uncover a collection which is unique in nature and content.

IMPRESSIONS OF VISITORS

"It is a great pleasure to visit IRCICA in Istanbul. A great treasure of research materials is present here. I am delighted to see the Imperial Palace where this Centre is accommodated. I thank the staff to show me round all the activities which are going around here".

H.E.Mr. Sufi Ahmed Chowdhury
Ambassador of Bangladesh in Turkey.
31 March 1989

"I was happy to see in the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture the manifestation of Islam's spirit which leads man to science and knowledge. I sincerely congratulate all the staff and wish them a continual success"(original: Turkish).

H.E.Mr. Namık Kemal Zeybek
Minister of Culture of Turkey
15 April 1989

"I was indeed very pleased to visit the Centre and see the excellent work being done under the able and dynamic leadership of Dr. İhsanoğlu. I wish the Centre the best of luck in its endeavours to attain greater heights of excellence".

Mr.A.M.Qureshi
Consul General of Pakistan in Istanbul
20 April 1989

"It is an honour for me to visit this Centre and see its activities. I am pleased to mention my appreciation for the efforts made here in the service of Islam and for the preservation of Islamic heritage under its historical, scientific and artistic aspects. I convey my satisfaction

to those who work here and to the Director General for their accomplishments. I believe all Muslims should do their best to assist them" (original: Arabic).

H.E.Mr. Abdou Muallim Mussa
Ambassador of Niger in Riyadh
24 April 1989

"This visit gave me happiness and peace of mind. Looking at this great palace and its surroundings, I recalled all that our ancestors did to make a honourable history for us and I prayed God that our future generations be able to revive and perpetuate it. On the other hand, I was happy to observe the efforts made by those who work in the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture in scientific and artistic fields in order to record, document and disseminate this honourable history. I wish them all the success" (original: Arabic).

Prof. Madani Abdurrahman Al-Tayyib
Omdurman Islamic University, Sudan
29 February 1989

"My visit to this Centre has been a source of pleasure. Seeing the accomplishments made here, I found an answer to a question that came to my mind before: this concerned the need for a documentation centre for Islamic heritage. I saw here many devoted persons working to this aim. I expect this Centre will have a successful future, since the achievements this team makes can clearly be seen ..." (original: Arabic).

Prof. Mahmud Ahmed Shawq
Imam Muhammed bin Saud Islamic University, Riyadh
24 February 1989

SPOTLIGHT ON CULTURAL EVENTS

HUNGARY

Conference on "Tradition and Modernization in Africa Today"

The African Research Program (ARP) of Lorand Eotvos University in Budapest, Department of Regional Geography organises an international conference on "Tradition and Modernization in Africa Today" from 27 August-4 September 1989.

The ARP is a research association established in 1981. It deals with development issues related to Africa and has more than 300 members from various disciplines. In addition to issuing publications, the ARP organised two international conferences in Budapest, in 1982 and 1984, on the theme of "Folklore in Africa Today".

The theme of the third conference is expected to cover practically all disciplines. The proposed themes are grouped under the following headings:

- I. *Folklore in Africa today*
- II. *Social sciences*
- III. *Economic sciences*
- IV. *Earth sciences, biology, geography*
- V. *Agrarian sciences*
- VI. *Technical sciences, industrialisation, development of infrastructure*
- VII. *Medical sciences-health.*

"Folklore in Africa Today" will cover this time topics such as the place and role of local traditions in African countries today, traditional art forms, oral history research and theoretical and methodological problems related to it, museology and its tasks in African countries, the features of African culture and its place in world culture.

JORDAN

Conference on the History of Bilad al-Sham

The History of Bilad al-Sham Committee of the University of Jordan will organise, in cooperation with Yarmouk University (Irbid, Jordan) the Fifth International Conference on the History of Bilad al-Sham, from 4-8 March 1989. The conference will refer to the history of the region during the Abbasid period (132-750H/(451-1059) in its different aspects.

LIBYA

Symposium on Islamic studies

The Islamic Call College in Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya will hold a symposium on "Scholarly Research in Islamic Studies" on 20-22 June 1989. Scholars and researchers from Islamic countries are to attend the symposium. Paper presentations and discussions will be centered around the following subject areas:

1. Rules of scholarly research; characteristics of the researcher; methods of scientific research
2. Rules of scholarly research in Islamic heritage; studies on the Holy Quran and Seera; scholarly research among theologians; literary criticism among Arabs
3. Islamic studies about the westerners; Western writings on the Quran; Western writings on the personality of the Prophet PBUH; Western writings on Sufism; Western writings on Islamic history; Western writings on women.

BOOKS



Journal of Islamic Studies, Oxford University Press in association with the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, St. Cross College, Oxford, U.K. (forthcoming, English)

A call for papers has been announced for this academic journal which is to appear twice a year starting from January 1990. The Editor is Dr. Farhan Ahmad Nizami from the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, St. Cross College, Oxford.

Each issue of the Journal will contain five to six scholarly articles and book reviews, notices and communications. The articles are to come across a broad spectrum of academic disciplines and relate to some aspect of Islam or the Islamic world. The editors welcome works dealing with history, geography, economics, sociology, anthropology, law, literature, philosophy, international relations, environmental and development issues, as well as ethical questions related to scholarly and scientific research, provided that they contribute to the objectives of the Journal. These objectives are:

- to place Islam and the Islamic tradition as a central focus of academic inquiry and to encourage comprehensive consideration of its many facets;
- to provide a forum for the study of Islam and Muslim societies in their global context;
- to publish scholarly works specialised in terms of topic, time or place and encourage interdisciplinary, cross-national and comparative studies of the Islamic world;
- to promote the dissemination, exchange and discussion of research findings;
- to encourage interaction among academics from various traditions of learning.

Brief information about the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies will help the reader better understand the aims in the framework of which the Journal was conceived: "The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies was established in 1985 in association with Oxford University, to promote a better understanding of Islam and the Islamic world through advanced research, teaching and cooperation between Muslim and non-Muslim scholars and academic

institutions. It sponsors research programs concerned not only with religious, cultural and historical aspects of Islamic tradition but also with the relevance of Islam to the needs of contemporary Muslim societies", as indicated in the announcement for the Journal.

This publication is therefore expected to give a new impetus to the scholarly study of Islam and the Islamic world from a multi-disciplinary perspective, and contribute to further interaction among researchers engaged in this area. IRCICA is pleased to mention that its Director General is among the consultant editors to this publication.



Ramazân Şeşen, Salahaddin el-Eyyubi ve Devlet (Salah al-Din al-Ayyubi and the State), Çağ Publ., İstanbul, 1987, 16x23,7 cm., 515 p. (Turkish)

A comprehensive study about Salah al-Din al-Ayyubi (1138-1193) and the period of his reign. To the Turkish national poet Mehmed Akif, Salah al-Din was "the beloved Sultan of the East"; to the French historian Champdor, he was "the purest hero of Islam". Salah al-Din is best known for his heroic accomplishments during the Crusades, such as his victorious battle of Hittin and his conquest of Al-Quds.

The author's analysis is not limited to the life of the Sultan alone; it also gives a full picture of the society at that time, scientific developments, the economic system, the administration of the State, etc. In addition to references about Salah al-Din published in the Muslim world and in the West, the author used original sources, such as official documents written by el-Kadı'l-Fadıl and Imadeddin el-Katib el-Isfahani, two viziers of Salah al-Din.

The Preface (p.9-18) provides explanations about the place of Salah al-Din and his State in Islamic history. The work is composed mainly of two parts: "political and military history" (p.27-200) and "cultural history" (p.201-437). The first part deals with the military education Salah al-Din received, the beginnings of his rule and how he reunified the

State after the death of Nureddine, his relations with other Muslim States, his struggles with the Crusaders, his personal characteristics. This analysis is supplemented with excerpts from official communications and documents of the period. It highlights the role played by Salah al-Din in the history of the Crusades and Islamic history. The second part describes the administration of the State (the separation of powers, the army, the financial system, taxes and other revenues of the State) under the rule of Salah al-Din, the economic system, agriculture, commerce, institutions of social assistance, the system of education and scientific life. Concerning the scientific activities carried out in that period, comprehensive information is given about the scientists and their works. The fields of study of the period are reclassified as religious sciences, language and literature, history and geography, politics and military sciences, philosophy, mathematics, natural sciences and medicine. The Conclusion of the book recapitulates the active role played by Salah al-Din and his companions in Islamic history and the political, military, cultural and ethical characteristics of the period.

The book is a remarkable contribution to studies in Islamic history not only because of its account of Salah al-Din al-Ayyubi's life and accomplishments but also for its approach, which provides an overall picture of the society and its institutions. Dr. Ramazan Şeşen is a specialist of Islamic history and especially the period of Salah al-Din al-Ayyubi. He works with IRCICA as the Head of the Manuscripts Section.



Towards Understanding The Quran: Vol. I, Surahs 1-3, English version of "Tafhim al-Quran" by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi, translated and edited by Zafar Ishaq Ansari, The Islamic Foundation, Leicester, 1988, 23,5x15,5 cm., 370 p.

Translation into English from the original text in Urdu of "Tafhim al-Quran" by Sayyid Abul A'la Mawdudi (1903-1979). This tafsir (exegesis) is the major and monumental work of Sayyid Mawdudi, great contemporary scholar who wrote over 150 books and treatises about Islam. With this work, the author aimed at what the title indicates-to make understand the meaning of the Quran. But not only that; through his interpretative translation and explanatory annotations, he also aimed to highlight how the Quran responds to the needs and addresses to people of all times, today's as much as those of past ages. The work was intended to serve mainly the layman. But it ultimately attracted the appreciation and interest of scholarly circles as well and won world-wide recognition. The meritorious initiative of publishing an English version of "Tafhim al-Quran" was taken by the Islamic

Foundation, Leicester, U.K. and the task of translation entrusted to Dr. Zafar Ishaq Ansari, following the wish of Sayyid Mawdudi. This first volume contains the exegesis of the first three Sourates of the Quran: Al-Fatiha, Al-Baqarah and Al 'Imran. At least one volume is planned to be published every year.

The main part of the book, which is the translation of Mawdudi's work, is preceded by a Foreword by Prof. Khurshid Ahmad, Chairman of the Islamic Foundation, and a Preface by the Editor and Translator Dr. Ansari. These parts are followed by Mawdudi's Preface, and his Introduction to the exegesis, where he explains his approach and methodology. For each Sourate, Mawdudi provides an introduction with information about the period of revelation of the Sourate and main events to which it is related; the translation of the verses is accompanied with elaborate explanatory notes. The book is praiseworthy for its high editorial quality. It will greatly contribute to making Islam better understood all over the world. The reader of the first volume will look forward to the following volumes.



Ibrahim al-Mouelhy, Organisation et Fonctionnement des Institutions Ottomanes en Egypte (1517-1917) (Organisation and functioning of Ottoman institutions in Egypt), Publication of The Turkish History Society, Series VII, No:93, Ankara, 1989, 24x16,5cm., 210 p. (French)

A study based on the documents contained in the General Archives of Egypt. The author Mr. Ibrahim al-Mouelhy is a well-known scholar, member of the Egyptian Institute and the International Council of Archives. By a sound and careful methodology, he deciphered, translated and analysed historical documents related to the Ottoman rule in Egypt, which lasted four centuries. Through this analysis, he shed light on several issues, correcting the accusations brought against the Ottoman administration in Egypt by some historians. He also shows, on the basis of the documents, that a social security system was established by the Ottomans 250 years earlier than in the West. This was a system of life-long pensions to widows, orphans and disabled al-Azhar Sheikhs, paid upon the order of the Sublime Porte.

The author presents the administrative structure of the Ottoman rule in Egypt in great detail. Thus he explains the functions and authority of the Governor, his two Divan (assemblies) which exerted a certain control over his powers, the structure of the army, the judiciary based on Islamic law, the system of tax collection, among others. The author deserves to be congratulated for the probity and objectivity which characterize his analysis."

CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

We briefly introduce below two research institutions dealing with different aspects of Islamic culture. One is "Thurath" located in Uganda, and the other, the Institute of Islamic Studies of Peru, South America.

AFRICAN RESEARCH CENTRE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ISLAMIC HERITAGE — KAMPALA, UGANDA

Thurath-The African Research Centre for the Preservation of Islamic Heritage is a newborn institution which became operational in February 1989. We are pleased to introduce this institution to our readers on the basis of the information brochure provided by its Secretary General Mr. Muhammad Yusuf Kamoga.

The aims of the Centre are, broadly, to create an awareness among the people of Uganda in particular and Africa in general, for the preservation of their Islamic cultural heritage; and, to lay strategies and open up avenues for the preservation of Islamic cultural heritage in the region, for the benefit of the present and future generations. The objectives and functions it assumed in order to realise these basic aims are, in summary, the following:

1. To undertake translations of Islamic books into indigenous African languages;
2. To undertake research in scholarly fields related to Islamic heritage in Africa and to distribute such scholarly material;
3. To ensure publicity concerning movable and unmovable Islamic cultural assets for both national and international recognition;
4. To organize, seminars, exhibitions and other fora about calligraphy;
5. To encourage the establishment of cultural centres, libraries, museums, archives and other institutions for the preservation and exhibition of the ancestral crafts heritage which greatly contributed in the past to the glory of Islam in the region;
6. To set up investment schemes in order to generate income to support the activities and projects undertaken by Thurath.

The Centre is governed by a Board of Trustees consisting of 7 members of which four represent international Islamic organisations and the remaining three, Islamic personalities from Uganda. The Board nominates a Chairman for the 6-member Executive Council which manages and coordinates the activities of the Centre's departments. The latter are in the number of four, as follows:

1. Research and publications department
2. Antiquities and exhibitions department
3. Afro-Arab cooperation department
4. Investments and projects department.

Each department is headed by an Assistant Secretary General. The Secretary General of Thurath is the overall head of the administration. Thurath confirms its solidarity and cooperation with national and international Islamic cultural institutions such as universities, research centres, museums, libraries, youth and student organisations. We mention below the titles of some of the projects envisaged by Thurath, selected from an elaborate list of "research projects in pipeline":

- Arab-Muslim civilisation in Uganda
- Arab-Muslim impact on the cultures of the indigenous African peoples in Uganda
- The influences of Arabic on Swahili language
- Writing of Swahili with the Arabic alphabet
- Uganda and the Muslim world in the 20th century (1914-1989)
- Arab-Muslim contributions in the field of literacy and education in Uganda (from 1840's to the present)
- Arab-Muslim contributions in the field of music and their cultural impact on African traditional music in Uganda (from the early decades of the 20th century to the present).

The address for correspondence and inquiries is as follows:

*"The Secretary General
African Research Centre (THURATH)
P.O.Box 9312
Kampala, Uganda
Telex: 61314 ite ug".*

ANNOUNCEMENT

INSTITUTO DE ESTUDIOS ISLAMICOS (INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES) LIMA, PERU

The Institute of Islamic Studies of Peru has the following objectives:

- To study the Islamic history in Andalusia;
- To study the immigration process of Muslims to Latin America during the 16th and 17th centuries and their status;
- To study the culture, arts, history and economy of the Muslim world;
- To distribute translations of the Holy Quran.

The institute works since 1959 as a non-profit academic research institution. Its studies are published in various specialised journals in the United States, Europe, Asia and Africa.

The distribution in Latin America of translations of the Holy Quran in Spanish, Portuguese and other languages is a major task of the institute. In this framework, it distributed around 2000 copies of the Quran to concerned Ministries and institutions in Latin America.

The institute maintains a library of more than 5000 books, references on the well-known personalities of Islam, and documentation material such as films. Most of the library holdings were acquired as donations. The library is open for the use of outside researchers too.

The institute is desirous to establish working relationship and cooperation with cultural institutions of the Muslim world. It also expects to receive donations of books and bibliographies on Islam, Islamic history, art and literature in order to further expand its library.

The President of the Institute of Islamic Studies of Peru is Prof. Rafael Guevara Bazan. The address for correspondence is as follows:

*"Calle Rey de Bahamonde 121,
Vista Alegre, Surco,
Lima (33), Peru"*

THIRD WORLD ACADEMY OF SCIENCES 1989 HISTORY OF SCIENCE PRIZE

In 1987, the Third World Academy of Sciences instituted a Prize for the best research essay highlighting the work of a scientist from a country of the Third World whose achievements had not been previously recognized. The first of these prizes was awarded in October 1988, for an essay on some remarkable astronomical tables compiled by a computational genius, Shams-al-Din-al-Khalili, and used in Damascus from the fourteenth century to the nineteenth.

As a result of the enthusiastic response to the announcement of the first prize and the success of that first competition, the Third World Academy of Sciences is pleased to invite submission of essays to be considered for a SECOND HISTORY OF SCIENCE PRIZE to be awarded in 1990.

The regulations, similar to those pertaining to the award of the first prize, are as follows:

- *The essay should summarize the major achievements of a Third World scientist. It should indicate the impact of the scientist's contributions on his/her community and, where relevant, establish their influence on modern scientific thought*
- *Essays on previously unstudied works by scholars who are already known to the modern literature will also be considered - Essays on themes in the history of science which are not associated with one particular scientist or individual will also be considered*
- *Essays must be written in the English language*
- *The length of the essay should be between about 20,000 and 50,000 words, but these limits are not binding.*
- *The competition is open to scholars both from the Third World and elsewhere.*
- *Essays should be received by the Executive Secretary of the Third World Academy of Sciences no later than 28 February 1990 at the address given below.*
- *All essays satisfying the above conditions will be judged by an International Committee of Experts in the History of Science appointed by the Third World Academy of Sciences.*
- *The 1989 Prize will consist of a medal and US\$ 10,000. It will be awarded at the Academy in the Autumn of 1990.*
- *The Third World Academy of Science will arrange for the prize-winning essay to be published in book form.*
- *The Committee may advise authors of other essays deemed to be of exceptional merit in what form their work could be published elsewhere. The Committee may advise authors of essays deemed to be of exceptional promise how they could provide their essays and prepare them for eventual publication. The Academy is not obliged to offer such advice.*

*Address:
"TWAS History of Science Prize"
c/o International Centre for Theoretical Physics
P.O.Box 586, 34100 Trieste, Italy
Phone:(040)2240-1; Telex:460392 ictp i*

IRCICA PUBLICATIONS



WORLD BIBLIOGRAPHY OF TRANSLATIONS OF THE MEANING OF THE HOLY QUR'AN: PRINTED TRANSLATIONS 1515 - 1980, prepared by İSMET BİNARK, HALİT EREN; Edited and Prefaced by EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU, Istanbul, 1986; XCIX, 880, 34 p.; 24 cm. (English) Price: US \$80 plus package and postage (US \$20 for America, URSS, Japan and China; US \$10 all others).

Gives information about 267 works which are the originals, copies and different editions of 551 complete and 883 incomplete translations and selections in 65 languages. The Preface gives the history of Quran translations from the beginnings of Islam to our time.

UNION CATALOGUE OF PERIODICALS IN ARABIC SCRIPT IN THE LIBRARIES OF ISTANBUL (1828-1928), Compiled by HASAN DUMAN, Istanbul, 1986; 664 p.; 24 cm. Price: US \$25 plus package and postage (US\$ 10 for America, URSS, Japan and China; US \$5 all others).

Contains information about 1804 titles of periodicals in different languages printed in Arabic script. The preface, the bibliographical explanations and indications for indexes are trilingual in English, Arabic and Turkish.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF EARLY TURKISH WORKS ON CHEMISTRY (Printed works, 1830-1923), Prepared by Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, History of Science Series no.2, Istanbul, 1985; IX, 148 p.; 24 cm. (Turkish) Price: US \$10 post and package included.

Gives the results of researches conducted on more than 250 references assessed through the scanning of numerous sources and about 20 library collections. There are 259 entries of works published between 1830-1923 given in chronological order according to the date of publications and indexes of authors, educational institutions and the names of printers and publishers.

OTTOMAN ARCHIVES, Prepared by NECATİ AKTAŞ, İSMET BİNARK; Translated by SALİH SADAVİ SALİH; Edited and Prefaced by EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU, published by IRCICA and the Centre for Archives and Manuscripts, University of Jordan, Amman, 1986; 14, 251 p.; 24 cm. (Arabic). Price: US \$30 post and package included.

The Ottoman Archives is a unique and authentic source for the history of many Islamic countries. This work contains a brief history of the Ottoman Archives, a discription of the present classification system used in the archives and explanations of archive regulations and procedures. A glossary of Ottoman archival terms and a bibliography are included.

IRCICA PUBLICATIONS



CATALOGUE OF MANUSCRIPTS IN THE KÖPRÜLÜ LIBRARY by RAMAZAN ŞEŞEN, CEVAT İZGİ, CEMİL AKPINAR, *Istanbul, 1986; 3 vols. (XII, 609, 34; 647, XII; 639, XII, 22 p.); 24 cm. (Arabic) Price: US \$60 plus package and postage (US \$5 all others).*

The Köprülü Library in Istanbul contains an important collection of manuscripts: nearly 2773 volumes under 3500 titles in the fields of history, philosophy, natural sciences, mathematics, etc. The catalogue provides full bibliographic information about them. The Preface gives the history of the collection.

THE OTTOMAN SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, 1st National Symposium on Turkish History of Science, 3-5 April 1987, edited by EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU, published by IRCICA and the Department of History of Science, Faculty of Letters, Istanbul University; History of Science Series 3, 1987; VIII, 264 p.; 24 cm. (Turkish) Price: US \$5 post and package included.

A collection of papers presented at the symposium which was jointly organised by IRCICA and the Department of History of Science, Faculty of Letters, University of Istanbul. The introduction gives information on some of the scientific and professional associations which were established in the Ottoman State. Two essays on the subject were prepared before the symposium. Some associations which were not known before were introduced in these papers and the establishment of the Ottoman associations, their problems, activities and accomplishments were discussed.

ISTANBUL, A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST (Photo-Album) presented by Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, *Istanbul, 1987; 97 p., 1 map; 22 cm. (English, Arabic and Turkish) Price: US \$20 post and package included.*

This album contains a collection of the rare photographs of Istanbul almost one hundred years ago, which were chosen from the archive of the Centre. The photographs introduce different sectors of life in Istanbul at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Each photograph has an explanation. This album was published by the Centre in cooperation with the Arab-Turkish Bank in Istanbul on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of their foundation.

IRCICA PUBLICATIONS



TURKISH ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE by Prof. Dr. Oktay ASLANAPA, translated by Ahmed ISSA, Istanbul, 1987; 21, 442, 282 p.; pictures, 1 map; 28 cm. (Arabic) Price: US \$ 60 post included.

A comprehensive encyclopaedic work covering the history of Turkish-Islamic architecture and various branches of art such as carpet-making, the arts of the book including calligraphy, miniatures and binding, etc. Originally published in English. A glossary of 600 art terms has been added.

ISLAMIC SWORDS AND SWORDMITHS, by Ünsal YÜCEL, translated by Tahsin TAHAOĞLU, IRCICA and the Ministry of Information of Kuwait, 1988; 145 p., pictures, 28x21.5 cm. (Arabic), Price: US \$15 post and package included.

Descriptive catalogue of 114 swords kept at the Topkapi Palace Museum and the Military Museum in Istanbul, with 186 photographs. These swords were used from the first to the tenth century Hijra (7th-16th centuries A.D.). Chapters deal with: Blessed swords related to the Prophet (P.B.U.H.), the four Khalifas and the companions of the Prophet; Characteristics of the Islamic swords and developments in their forms; Muslim swordsmiths.

BOOKS IN THE PRESS

PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE COMMON PRICIPLES, FORMS AND THEMES OF ISLAMIC ART, edited by Ahmad ISSA

This book contains thirty-nine research papers presented by scholars from various countries at the International Symposium on the Common Principles, Forms and Themes of Islamic Art organised by IRCICA in April 1983. The papers are in Arabic, English and French and deal with architecture, decoration, calligraphy, miniature painting and other fields of Islamic arts.

HOLY KA'BA KEYS AND LOCKS, prepared Tercan Yilmaz

The catalogue describes 56 pieces of locks and keys kept in Topkapi Palace Museum in Istanbul, with colour photographs. The introduction gives information on the method of manufacturing of the keys and locks and materials used as well as explanations on their inscriptions and decorations.

VIDEO CASSETTES

The following documentary films prepared by the Centre are available on a single cassette in Arabic. Diffussion system is PAL. Cassette type to be specifield (VHS/BETAMAX). Price: US \$30.-.

- ★ "Life and Works of the Calligrapher Hamid Al-Amidi and Calligraphic Arts"
- ★ "Arts of Illumination and Gilding".