



NEWSLETTER



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

April 1985

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EDITORIAL

The present issue is rich in events and contains several meeting reports. H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference took over the office on 1 January 1985 from H.E. Mr. Habib Chatty, who directed the OIC with great success for six years and made important contributions to its work. The OIC will now benefit from the experiences and wisdom of H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada and OIC activities at the service of the Islamic world will gain a new impetus in all spheres. The Istanbul Centre as a subsidiary organ of the OIC will also develop under the guidance of the General Secretariat.

H.E. the Secretary General visited the Centre for the first time on 7 February 1985, on the occasion of the Second Meeting of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage. News about his visit are given in this issue.

One of the important events that have taken place since the publication of our last issue was the 15th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers of the OIC, held on 18-22 December 1984 in Sana'a, capital of the Yemen A.R. Information on the work and resolutions of the Conference is given in a separate section. Second Ordinary Meeting of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage was held on 7-9 February 1985 under the chairmanship of H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Commission at the headquarters of the Istanbul Centre, the Secretariat of the Commission. This meeting of the Commission gave fruitful results; execution modalities of the projects were decided and concrete steps were taken in the realisation of the important tasks incumbent upon the Commission. It was decided to institute and announce the King Fahd Award for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture as a regular feature to

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be held every three years. The Commission also discussed the restoration of Demak Mosque in Indonesia, which is the earliest mosque in South East Asia.

Since last December, the Muslim community in Bulgaria is resisting to the drive of Bulgarisation. The Turkish Government has protested this policy which uses cruel methods of execution. H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary General of OIC made a declaration inviting Bulgarian authorities to change their attitude against Muslims. Our section on Muslim Minorities gives the saddening news on the desperate situation of these Muslims.

Prof.Dr. Necmettin Bammate, great Muslim scholar who made important contributions to Islamic civilisation and culture passed away last January. He was well-known not only in the Islamic world but also in the West, where he made valuable efforts to introduce Islam and its philosophy and civilisation. We are informing our readers on the life and works of Professor Necmettin Bammate, who wished that the works he started would continue after his death and donated his and his family's rich collection of books to the Istanbul Centre.

We hope that all our readers will find this issue as interesting as the previous ones and thank those who kindly sent their comments.

Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu
Editor-in-Chief

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H.E.MR. SYED SHARIFUDDIN PIRZADA, THE NEW SECRETARY GENERAL OF OIC



*H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada,
Secretary General of OIC*

H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference has been in the office since 1 January 1985.

H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada was born in 1923. He graduated in Law from the Government Law College of Bombay and was registered First Class in LL.B. Bar-at-Law at Lincoln's Inn. Among the important functions he assumed are the following: Honorary Secretary to the Quaid-i Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah, founder of Pakistan (1941-44); professor at Sind Muslim Law College (1947-54); Adviser to the Constitution Commission of Pakistan (1962); President of the Karachi High Court Bar Association (1964); President of the Pakistan Branch of the International Law Association (1964-67); Attorney General of Pakistan (1965-66, 1968-72 and after 1977); Foreign Minister of Pakistan (1966-68); Minister of Law

and Parliamentary Affairs (after 1979). H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada represented Pakistan and led Pakistan delegations at numerous international fora and tribunals; he worked as a member and also as the Chairman of the UN Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as member of the International Law Commission and as Chairman of the Expert Group for Drafting the Statute of the OIC Islamic International Court of Justice (1983). He moved the resolution about the status of Jerusalem adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1967. He was awarded the Sitara-e-Pakistan honour in 1964.

H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada is the author of the following books: "Pakistan at a Glance" (Bombay, 1941); "Jinnah on Pakistan" (Bombay, 1943); "Leaders Correspondence with Jinnah" (Bombay, 1944 and subsequent editions, 1968 and 1978); "Evolution of Pakistan" (Karachi, 1962, also in Urdu and Arabic); "Fundamental Rights and Constitutional Remedies in Pakistan" (Lahore, 1966); "The Pakistan Resolution and the Historic Lahore Session" (Islamabad, 1970); "Foundations of Pakistan" (2 vol., 1971) and "Some Aspects of Quaid-i Azam's Life" (1978).

The Centre would like to express its pleasure that an Islamic and international personality with such an extensive cultural background has become the Secretary General of OIC, and extends its congratulations and most sincere wishes for the success of H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada as the head of the OIC.

H.E.MR. SYED SHARIFUDDIN PIRZADA, SECRETARY GENERAL OF OIC AT THE CENTRE



Secretary General of OIC H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada examining the Centre's publications

H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference came to the Istanbul Centre on 7 February 1985, on the occasion of the Second Meeting of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage which was held at the Centre's premises on 7-9 February 1985.

H.E. the Secretary General received detailed information on the completed, ongoing and future projects of the Centre. He saw the products of completed projects in the form of books, documents and films and the draft outputs of ongoing research projects. He visited the library and computer sections, as well as various research units. The Secretary General recorded his impressions on the Centre's Book as follows:

"I was deeply impressed by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture. Under the dynamic Director General Dr. Ekmeleddin, the Centre has already made great contribution in the various fields, in a systematic way. The collection of material,

the production of publications, the library, the computerized study, the research and the dedicated team are eloquent testimony about the progress and the work of the Centre. I wish that the works that are under preparation are completed and published and the expansion which is intended is accomplished. I congratulate all concerned and wish the Centre all success."

Then, the Secretary General received the representatives of the Turkish and international press organs in Istanbul and answered their questions on OIC activities in different fields. He also explained the work and objectives of the OIC International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage. The same day, the Secretary General participated at the opening session of this Commission's second ordinary meeting.

The next day, H.E. the Secretary General visited Ankara where he was received by H.E. Kenan Evren, President of Turkey, and H.E.Mr. Turgut Özal, the Prime Minister. H.E. the Secretary General left Turkey on 9 February 1985.

FIFTEENTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, SANA'A

The Fifteenth Islamic Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member States of OIC was held in Sana'a, Yemen A.R. on 18-22 December 1984.

The meeting was inaugurated by His Excellency Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Yemen A.R. who said that the conference was being held under very difficult international circumstances and emphasized the importance of Islamic solidarity at such a time. H.E.Mr. Habib Chatty, ex-Secretary General of the OIC then pronounced a speech and explained in detail the activities undertaken by the Organisation during his term of office to solve problems facing the Islamic Community. He emphasized the high Islamic values and the importance of Islamic heritage and culture, which constitute a treasure capable of enriching human knowledge and contributing to the realisation of a better future for humanity.

After the opening ceremony, the different committees of the conference started their technical sessions. The Istanbul Centre was represented by Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu and experts Messrs. Mohammed Tamimi and Ahmed Lajimi. The Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee examined and approved the activity report submitted by the Istanbul Centre and the Centre's work programme for 1984-85. The budget of the Centre for fiscal year 1984-85 was examined and adopted by the Administrative and Financial Affairs Committee.

In the operative paragraphs of its Resolution No.10/15-C on the Istanbul Centre, the Conference

1. COMMENDS the exemplary efforts of the Centre, which comprise continuous achievements and innovative studies in the field of research and publication,



The Fifteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers

in addition to the studies and practical measures undertaken by the Centre for the implementation of its plan in spite of the fact that it did not receive the additional resources appealed for by previous Conferences.

2. CALLS ON the Organisation of Islamic Conference and Member States to consolidate the budget of the Centre, so as to ensure the publication of its research and the implementation of its projects.
3. REQUESTS the Member States which have not yet paid their contributions to the budget of the Centre to do so, at their earliest convenience so as to enable the Centre to continue its activities and achieve the goals for which it has been instituted. It also invites them to make donations to the Centre for the development and expansion of its activities.
4. APPROVES the report comprising the cultural work plan of the Centre for 1984-85, and additional activities adopted by the Board of Directors of the Centre.
5. EXPRESSES its thanks to the Government of Turkey for the moral and material support it has continuously given to the Centre, in particular its decision to grant it the Yaveran building, so as to enable the Centre to complete the preparations and fittings of its premises, needed for its various activities for the achievement of its goals.
6. CALLS UPON Member States, Islamic Organisations and personalities to make generous donations to the Centre to help it renovate and ready this building.

The International Commission for Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage

The Conference also examined in detail the activities undertaken by the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage under the Chairmanship of H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz. The budget of the Commission for fiscal year 1984-85 was adopted. By Resolution No.11/15-C on the Commission, the Conference

1. ENDORSES the measures taken by the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage under H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd for the implementation of its plan of action.
2. EXPRESSES its appreciation and gratitude for His Majesty King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz who graciously donated an award within the ambit of the Commission for work on the preservation of Islamic heritage.
3. CALLS UPON the International Commission to continue to coordinate its activities with national plans for the preservation of Islamic heritage in Member States to ensure the harmonisation of Islamic efforts.
4. EXPRESSES its appreciation of the Yemeni Government for its urgent measures to preserve the city of Sana'a and its historical character and for its special attention to the safeguarding of the city.
5. EXPRESSES its thanks to Mr. Amadou Makhtar M'Bow, Director General of UNESCO and UNESCO Secretariat for the advisory and technical assistance to survey projects and restoration and maintenance plans and urges

them to continue their efforts in this respect.

- 6. INVITES the International Community, and Islamic States in particular, to respond to the international appeal to safeguard Sana'a and to extend all material and technical assistance to achieve the objectives of the campaign.
- 7. INVITES the International Commission for Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage to take all practical measures in order to preserve the Islamic cultural and civilisational heritage in the City of Sana'a.
- 8. WELCOMES the full cooperation and coordination established between the Commission and the Istanbul Centre, which is the executive organ of the Committee.
- 9. CALLS UPON Member States to pay up the arrears of their contributions to the budget of the Commission.
- 10. CALLS UPON Member States to provide the Commission with information and documents relating to the preservation of Islamic heritage in their territories.
- 11. CALLS ON the International Commission for the Preservation of the Islamic Heritage to continue to coordinate its activities with the Organisation of the Islamic Capitals.

Other activities during the Conference period

On the occasion of the Conference, the Istanbul Centre organised a photographic exhibition on Yemen in general and the city of Sana'a in particular at the end of the

19th Century. Simultaneously with this exhibition, the Centre also displayed all its publications, the results of its researches (Information on these exhibitions is given at the Centre News section).

The Centre delegation at the Fifteenth Islamic Conference in Sana'a, headed by Director General Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu made various visits and established contacts with cultural institutions in Yemen A.R. The delegation visited Mr. Khadi Ismail Ibn Ali Akwa, Director of Monuments and Libraries. During the discussions, possibilities of cooperation between this institution and the Centre were investigated, especially in the field of researches on manuscripts.

The library of the Grand Mosque of Sana'a which contains precious ancient manuscripts was also visited and a copy of the four-volume catalogue of the library was obtained.

Another meeting was held with the delegation of Islamic Da'wah Association based in Tripoli, headed by Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Sharif. Discussions were held on the modalities of execution of the cooperation agreement reached between this Association and the Centre, and preparations for the International Conference on the Translations of Interpretations of the Holy Quran scheduled to be held in mid-1985.

The delegation of the Centre also assisted at the conference given by H.E.Mr. Amadou Mokhtar M'Bow, Director General of UNESCO, about the ruins of ancient Sana'a. At this conference, the Director General of UNESCO called all countries to participate at the campaign launched for preserving this historical city.

SECOND MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL HERITAGE, ISTANBUL



The inaugural ceremony - from left to right: Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey H.E.Mr. Mûkerrem Taşçioğlu, Chairman of the Commission H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz and Secretary General of OIC H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada

The Second Ordinary Meeting of the OIC International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage was held between 7-9 February 1985 at the Secretariat of the Commission at the premises of the Istanbul Centre, under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz.

The opening ceremony was at 6.00 p.m. on 7 February 1985, at the conference hall at Cit Qasr. Participants at this opening ceremony were His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Commission, His Excellency Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, H.E.Mr. Mûkerrem Taşçioğlu, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey, the Governor and the Mayor of Istanbul, Their Excellencies the Ambassadors of Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, the Consuls-General of Islamic countries in Istanbul and scholars and press reporters.

Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary of the Commission delivered a speech in which he welcomed H.R.H. the Chairman of the Commission, H.E. the Secretary General of the OIC who had come to the Centre for the first time on this occasion and all the distinguished guests. Then, H.E. the Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey pronounced a welcoming speech, expressing his pleasure that this meeting was being held in his country and wishing success to the Commission.

H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary General of the OIC then took the floor and said that he was pleased to assist at this meeting of the Commission. He lauded the keen interest of H.R.H. the Chairman of the Commission towards Islamic culture, arts and history and said: "The decision of our Organisation to institute your august Commission was not, in my opinion, haphazard or arbitrary. It was a sincere and spontaneous expression of the desire of all Member States within the Organisa-

tion of the Islamic Conference that your honourable institution become an important cultural support among the other supports which work, within the scope of the OIC, for the restoration of our active civilisational role as contributors not as mere consumers of other peoples' civilisation."

Thereafter, H.R.H. the Chairman of the Commission delivered the inaugural speech commending the efforts of the Commission and highlighting the material and moral support extended to the Commission by the Turkish Government. He lauded the importance and interest attributed by the OIC to the work of its subsidiary organs. He said that the Commission would do its utmost to realise its programmes and objectives and that this was an expression of the Commission's firm desire to support and assist the General Secretariat of the OIC in the achievement of all OIC objectives.

The Commission held its working sessions throughout 8-9 February 1985 under the chairmanship of H.R.H. Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz and with the attendance of H.E.Mr. Hassan Mohamed Daoud, Director of Cultural Affairs at the General Secretariat of the OIC representing H.E. the Secretary General. Sessions were also attended by the following members of the Commission:

- H.E.Prof. Abdelhadi Boutaleb, Director General, ISESCO, Rabat, Morocco
- H.E. Eng. Abdel Kader Koshak, Secretary General, Organisation of Islamic Capitals and Cities, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- Dr. Afif Bahnassi, Director General of Museums and Antiquities, Damascus, Syria
- Prof.Dr. Emin Bilgiç, Faculty of Letters, History and Geography, University of Ankara, Turkey
- Mrs. Raja Fuziah Bt. Raja Tun Uda, Director General, Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Arch. Sami Mohsen Angawi, Director General, Hajj Research Centre, Mecca, Saudi Arabia
- Prof. Dr. Gulzar Haider, Professor of Architecture, Carlton University, Ottawa, Canada
- Dr. Salah Al Mahdi, Director General of National Cultural Activities, Tunis, Tunisia
- Mr. Uka Tjandrasasmita, Director of Preservation of Cultural and Historical Monuments, Jakarta, Indonesia
- Dr. Shawqi Shaa'th, Palestine Centre for Archeology and Heritage, Damascus, Syria
- Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary of the Commission, Director General of the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture, Istanbul.

After the adoption of the Agenda, the Commission started to discuss each agenda item in detail and took decisions on the following subjects:

1. Adoption of the Report submitted by the Secretariat
2. Funding of the Commission
3. The Logo of the Heritage Commission
4. King Fahd Award for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture
5. Demak Mosque Restoration Project
6. Resolutions of the 14th ICFM in Dhaka, 1983
7. Resolutions of the 15th ICFM in Sana'a, 1984
8. Award for Islamic Calligraphy in the name of Hamid Al-Amidi
9. Malaysian Proposal for Arts and Crafts Competitions
10. Islamic Manuscripts
11. Difficulties encountered in the field of Islamic Heritage in non-member states
12. Cooperation with other organisations



H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz, Chairman of the Commission pronouncing the inaugural speech

13. Brochure introducing the Commission and its activities
14. Special edition of an international magazine concerned with Islamic Heritage

At the end of the technical sessions, the Commission adopted its final report and decided to convene its third ordinary session in October 1985 in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. After the closing ceremony, representatives of the press were received and the Secretary of the Commission informed them about the decisions of the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KING FAHD AWARDS FOR DESIGN AND RESEARCH IN ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE

The OIC International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage, chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Bin Fahd, has instituted the KING FAHD AWARDS FOR DESIGN AND RESEARCH IN ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE which will be a triennial competition open to students of architecture and newly graduated architects all over the world. The total value of the award every three years will be US\$ 100,000.

The primary purpose of the KING FAHD AWARDS is to recognize the emerging design talent and scholarship aimed at the issues of Islamic Architecture. More specifically the Awards have been instituted to encourage:

- Discovery of the creative spirit of Islam as embodied in its cultural and artistic legacy.
- Search for the formative principles of architecture as inspired by the Islamic way of life.

- Debate on the architectural design issues that challenge the contemporary Muslim societies.

- Pursuit of compatibility and continuity between the historical tradition as embodied in the architecture and craft of societies structured around Islamic values and the futuristic visions of the contemporary Muslim societies many of whom are driven by the developmental imperatives.

- Scholarly research on specific topics of the history and theories of an Architecture of Islam.

The competition for KING FAHD AWARDS 1986 is composed of two categories:

I. DESIGN OF ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE

Architectural institutions and individuals are invited to devise design problems and run studios around either of the following two Design Issues:

1. Dwelling as Reflection of Self

2. Cultural Transpositions in Architecture

Each participating institution may run as many parallel studios around these themes as they desire and may send a maximum of 5 entries per studio. New graduates, as long as they can obtain sponsorship from an institution, may enter the competition independently.

The total design award of US\$ 50,000 will be divided among 10 prizes for students and 10 prizes for the corresponding design tutors.

II. RESEARCH IN ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE

Students associated with architectural institutions or research organisations are invited to submit their research work relevant within the broad spectrum of issues and topics of architecture and urbanism of Muslim cultures.

The topics may range from philosophy, history, theory, morphology and symbolism to environmental response, materials, techniques, crafts and even to futuristic constructs for architecture and urbanism.

The total research award is also US\$ 50,000 and its distribution among 10 students and their research advisors will be similar to that of the Design Awards.

A complete information package is mailed to all schools of architecture in the world. Institutions and individuals intending to participate must register at latest by December 30, 1985. Due date for entries is July 1, 1986. It is hoped that ample advance notice is being given for the institutions

to plan design studios and initiate student research projects.

For inquiries and to ensure that you receive a personal copy of the competition information package please write to:

KING FAHD AWARDS OFFICE
Research Centre for Islamic
History, Art and Culture,
IRCICA
P.K. 24,
Beşiktaş
Istanbul, Turkey

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

LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION

The Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) is committed to the initiation and nourishment of all those institutions and programmes that will transform the Muslims from a mere demographic category to a cohesive Ummah committed to societal harmony among Knowledge, Culture and Environment intended by Islam.

The Member States of the OIC have recognised that the richness and fundamental unity of Islamic culture constitute sound values for the present and future generations of Muslims. It is also widely understood that the awareness of heritage is essential for the consolidation of the cultural identity of the Islamic civilisation.

As a response to these realisations, the International Commission for Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage was instituted in 1982 and His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz graciously accepted the challenge to chair this Commission.

The highlights of the mandate of

the Commission are:

1. To synthesise a unified and comprehensive concept of the heritage of Islamic cultures.
2. To promote research and scholarship aimed at preservation, regeneration and discovery of culturally significant factors within an Islamic framework.
3. To promote Islamic solidarity through a collectively sharper focus on the Muslim past and a coordinated, clearer vision of the Islamic futures.
4. To organise and disseminate information about the masterpieces of Islamic cultural, scholarly and artistic heritage.
5. To establish and maintain Muslim expertise in the field of heritage and facilitate its availability across the Member States.
6. To establish funds and secure financial resources to assist Member States in achieving their goals relevant to the cause of Islamic heritage.
7. To give priority and attention to the relics in "Al-Quds Al-Sharif" (Jerusalem) and the other relics in the occupied territories of Palestine.

The International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage has developed an impressively dynamic programme of activities and already launched important projects like the Restoration of Demak Mosque of Indonesia, the earliest mosque in Southeast Asia, and the triennial King Fahd Awards for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture.

The Commission has decided to have an emblem (a logo) that

- is expressive of its identity as embodied in its mandate;
- can be easily understood and identified with by Muslims all over the world;
- expresses the sense of unity pervasive across the diverse manifestations of Islamic culture;
- is symbolically meaningful, elegant and beautiful.

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to all design professionals, academics and students.

SPECIFICATIONS

In addition to the general aspirations about the emblem-logo, the following may be considered as specifications, conditions and criteria.

1. It should be applicable to a wide variety of situations - like the letterheads, book and report covers, posters, flags, medallions etc.
2. It should avoid confusion vis-a-vis other well-known symbols and emblems in the world.
3. It should retain its visual quality as it is produced in various sizes and media.
4. It should avoid use of Sacred Names, Quranic Verses and Hadith of the Prophet (MPBUH).

5. It should avoid half-tone (shaded) areas in its basic design.
6. No more than two colours, excluding black and white, should be used.
7. It should not be language-specific. Islamic calligraphy as medium of shape and pattern, however, is perfectly acceptable.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

1. The principal design must be presented in an appropriate size on a 30cmx30cm stiff board.
2. Additional visual material showing the application of the emblem-logo to various situations e.g. letterheads, book covers, posters, flags, medallions etc., must be submitted as mounted on 30cmx30cm stiff boards.
3. Intended colours must be shown as realistically as possible.
4. The name of the designer must not appear anywhere on the front or back of the submission boards. On the back of the principal board must be fixed a plain envelope that contains a paper with the following information:

Name of the participant
Address
Total number of boards

5. No written material attempting to explain the design will be accepted.
6. All entries must be received by August 1, 1985 at the following address:

LOGO
Secretariat of the Heritage
Commission, IRCICA
P.K. 24, Beşiktaş
Istanbul, Turkey

PRIZES

A total of US\$ 10,000 will be awarded as prizes.

The first prize may be adopted for use after necessary modifications and changes in discussion with the designer.

★★★

SEMINAR ON "ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE IN SOUTH ASIA"

A Seminar on "Islamic History, Art and Culture in South Asia" will be organised jointly by the Islamic University of Islamabad and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture. The Seminar will be held in Islamabad in March 1986, at dates to be fixed later.

The topics to be covered at this seminar are as follows:

- I. Genesis of Islam in South Asia
 - a. The introduction of Islam in South Asia
 - b. Islamization of the area
 - c. Tasawwuf, its role in the spread of Islam
- II. A General Overview of Islamic States in the Area
 - a. Brief political history and institutions
 - b. Social and economic life
- III. Emergence and Development of Islamic Culture in South Asia
 - a. Islamic thought and Tasawwuf
 - b. Literature
 - c. Arts and Architecture
 - d. Formation and characteristic of Islamic identity in South Asia

IV. Foreign Hegemony and
Independence Movements in
Historical Perspective

- a. Colonisation
- b. The Islamic response against Western imperialism
- c. The culmination of Islamic resistance movements in the Khilafat Movement
- d. South Asian independence within the context of independence movements in the Islamic World
- e. Apogee of the emergence of Islamic state, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

The papers presented at the seminar will be the results of academic research and unpublished original study of Islam within the areas mentioned above, and their presentation will be of 20 minutes duration. The proceedings of the proposed seminar will be published jointly by the Centre and Islamic University Islamabad.

Those who would like to participate at the Seminar are kindly requested to apply and send an abstract of their paper to the Secretariat of the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture in Istanbul as soon as possible.

The organisation schedule of the seminar is as follows:

15 Octobre 1985

Last date of handing in the papers

November 1985

Printing of the abstracts book

December 1985

Printing of the working volume

January 1986

Sending of tickets to the participants and printing of the list of working sessions

March 1986

Holding of the seminar.

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YAVERAN BUILDING RESTORATION

The Istanbul Centre had started working in the Seyir Köşkü of Yıldız Palace and later, the building known as Çit Qasr was allocated to the Centre. Preliminary studies for the restoration of this building were made and a fund-raising campaign was launched. The first phase of the restoration project was successfully completed and the building was put to use in the Spring of 1983.

The problem of premises arose again when the plans for opening the reference library to the public were made and the volume of work envisaged in the activity report was put to effect. The Turkish Government kindly allocated a third

building for the Centre's use, namely "Yaveran Dairesi". Technical studies regarding the restoration of this building were immediately made and plans are now ready to start the actual construction work.

Yaveran Building will be used to set up Islamic arts workshops as well as providing more space to outside researchers who come to the Centre in order to benefit from library and documentation units.

Understanding the need for the revival of Islamic arts such as calligraphy, gilding, marbled paper and binding, our Centre has introduced in its work programme training courses for young talented people who will arrive from all over the Islamic countries. Such

training programmes as well as courses for techniques of manuscript cataloging are planned to be opened in this building.

Restoration of the Yaveran Building was received favourably in scientific and artistic circles. The 15th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers which convened in Sana'a, capital of Yemen Arab Republic in December 1984 passed a resolution and called for the financial assistance of Islamic countries and cultural institutions for the realization of this project.

If the necessary funds are found in time, the restoration will be

completed in one year under the supervision of Architect Dr. Aydın Yüksel. In order to carry out the restoration of this building which will play an active role in the revival of Islamic arts and culture, we join the summons of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to institutions and persons for their contributions to this cause.

The Centre is deeply grateful to the Istanbul Branch of Arab-Turkish Bank which has already donated US \$ 40.000 for this restoration and hopes that other organisations will follow this example.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Four scholarships for research and doctorate studies in Turkish universities, granted by the Turkish Government for the academic year 1985-86, have been allocated to the Centre.

Two of these scholarships are for post-graduate research and the other two for doctorate studies, both in fields related to Islamic culture and civilisation. For applications, write to the Secretariat of the Centre as soon as possible.

Participation at Cairo Book Fair



H.E.Mr. Kamal Hasan Ali, Prime Minister of Egypt inspecting the Centre's publications at Cairo Book Fair

The 17th Cairo International Book Fair organised by the General Egyptian Book Organisation was held from 22 January to 3 February 1985 with the participation of publishers, booksellers and institutions from 49 countries. The fair was opened by H.E. Mr. Kamal Hasan Ali, Prime Minister and Vice-President of Egypt. H.E.Mr. M. Abdulhamid Ridwan, Minister of Culture of Egypt and Dr. Izzedin Ismail, Director General of the General Egyptian Book Organisation were present at the opening ceremony. The Istanbul Centre participated in the Fair for the second time this year. Centre's publications "International Directory of Islamic Cultural Institutions", "Catalogue of Islamic Medical Manuscripts", "Ottoman Yearbooks", "The Muslim Pious Foundations and Real Estates in Palestine", the pamphlet showing

examples of calligraphy, the Newsletter, brochures introducing the Centre, its forthcoming publications, as well as its documentary films were presented at the Fair. They attracted keen interest on the part of the visitors, representatives of the press and participating organisations. Programmes on the Centre's activities and publications were prepared by the Cairo radio broadcasting service and Egyptian television.

Photographic Exhibition on Sana'a

On the occasion of the Fifteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (Sana'a, 18-22 December 1984), the Istanbul Centre organised a photographic exhibition on Yemen and the city of Sana'a at the end of the 19th Century. The exhi-

bition was planned when the President of Yemen A.R. received the Director General of the Centre during his visit to Turkey and saw photographs of Ancient Yemen existing in the Centre's archives. The exhibition was opened on 19 December 1984 by H.E.Mr. Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani, Prime Minister of Yemen A.R. at the exhibition halls of the Cultural Centre of Sana'a. Ministers of Yemen and other Islamic countries, the Mayor of Sana'a, Ex-Assistant Secretary General of OIC H.E. Ambassador Bakary Drame, the Director General of UNESCO, participants at the Conference and representatives of the Yemeni and international press were present at the inauguration. The photographs which were displayed attracted great interest and admiration. Yemen radio and television announced the event and news were published about it in various journals.

Display of Centre's publications

During the Fifteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Sana'a, the Centre also organised an exhibition of its publications since its establishment,

representing the concrete results of its researches. The exhibition was inaugurated at the Cultural Centre of Sana'a on 19 December 1985 and later transferred to the halls where the meeting of the Cultural and Islamic Affairs Committee was held. Copies of the publications were distributed to the heads of delegations at the Conference and many requests for publications were received.

Conference by Dr. Akmal Ayyubi from India

Dr. Akmal Ayyubi, faculty member at the Institute of Islamic Studies of The Aligarh Muslim University of India, gave a lecture at the Centre on 25 December 1984. The theme was: "Contributions of Aligarh Muslim University, Institute of Islamic Studies to Islamic Learning". During his interesting lecture, Dr. Ayyubi gave details of the research activities and introduced the numerous publications of the Institute, explaining their significance and contents. The Institute of Islamic Studies is undertaking research in fields related to Islamic culture and civilisation, including Islamic

*From left to right:
Prime Minister of
Yemen A.R. H.E.Mr.
Abdul Aziz Abdul
Ghani, Director
General of Istanbul
Centre Prof.Dr.
Ekmeleddin Ihsan-
oğlu, Minister of
Foreign Affairs of
Turkey H.E.Mr.
Vahit Halefoğlu
and Ex-Assistant
Secretary General
of OIC H.E.Mr.
Bakary Drame, at
the photographic
exhibition on Yemen*





Dr. Akmal Ayyubi lecturing at the conference hall in Çit Qasr

philosophy, literature, language, history, sociology and arts. Its publications contain mainly the results of comprehensive studies completed by staff members of the Institute.

Petroleum Minister of Malaysia at the Centre

H.E.Mr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Salleh, Minister of Petroleum of Malaysia visited the Centre on 26 December 1984. The Minister was accompanied by Mrs. Abdullah bin Mohammed Salleh and the H.E.Mr. Datuk Ismail Ambia, Ambassador of Malaysia in Ankara. The distinguished visitors were briefed on the Centre's activities. The Minister wrote his impressions as follows: " I am deeply impressed by the achievements of the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture within such a short span of time. I express my sincere congratulations for this success. I hope that this Centre will continue the study in Islamic history, art and culture in order to revive the glory of Islam in the past."

Visit of Dr. Anis Ahmed from Islamic University of Islamabad

Dr. Anis Ahmed, Dean of the Faculty of Usul al Din, Islamic University Islamabad came to the Centre on 18 February 1985 in order to discuss the seminar to be organised jointly by his University and the Istanbul Centre on "Islamic History, Art and Culture in South Asia" (see detailed information in Announcements section). An agreement was reached on the modalities and guidelines of the organisation. During his four-day visit, Dr. Anis Ahmed also received information on the Centre's activities. He signed the Visitors' Book and wrote: "I am deeply impressed by the quality of research work being done by the Centre. The Centre is not only bringing out new information on Islamic heritage, which is also heritage of mankind, but is showing a new direction in scholarship. The Centre is a proof to the fact that with so little resources but with Islamic commitment remarkable work can be done...."

★★★

PROTEST

The "Australia and the World Golden Book of Encyclopedia" published by Golden Press Pty.Ltd., 2-12 Tennyson Road, Gladesville, N.S.W. 2111, Australia (and 16-Copsy Place, Avondale, Auckland 7, New Zealand) has printed, on pages 766-767 of its volume 12, an imaginary picture of our Holy Prophet Mohammed (P.B.U.H.).

The publication of such an imaginary picture of our Prophet is a violation of our sacred principles and religious rights and constitutes an act of sacrilege against Islam and all Muslims.

SPOTLIGHT ON CULTURAL NEWS

EGYPTCairo International Book Fair

The 17th Cairo International Book Fair organised by the General Egyptian Book Organisation was held between 22 January and 3 February 1985. The Fair was opened on 22 January by Prime Minister of Egypt H.E.Mr. Kamal Hasan Ali. Numerous publishers, booksellers and institutions from 49 different countries participated in the Fair which consisted of four sections, one for exhibitions of books and the other three for sales. This annual Fair, one of the most important book fairs of the world, attracts a large number of visitors every year and constitutes an important cultural event.

Exhibition on medical material and equipment

An exhibition of Islamic medical and pharmaceutical material and equipment was opened at the beginning of February at the Islamic Art Museum in Cairo. The exhibition is planned to last two months. Equipment dating from as old as the 3rd Century Hijra and rare manuscripts on medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and anatomy are displayed at the exhibition.

FRANCEThe Thousand and One Nights

An exhibition on the Thousand and One Nights was held at the Cultural Centre of Boulogne-Billancourt from 25 January to 17 March 1985. Organ-

isers were the local administration of Boulogne city, the Arab World Institute, the National Library and Louvre Museum. "Linking fiction to history, dream to reality", this exhibition is aimed at illustrating the origin and evolution of tales by displaying some remarkable French books on the Thousand and One Nights and nice artistic items representing the Islamic, Sassanid and Byzantine cultures.

Colloquium on cultural life of Ottoman State

The First International Meeting on Studies and Researches on the Ottoman Empire and Contemporary Turkey was held in Paris on 18-22 January 1985. The French Institute of Anatolian Studies in Istanbul, the CNRS (National Centre for Scientific Studies), the "Maison des Sciences de l'Homme" (Centre for Human Sciences) and the Turkish Studies Development Association collaborated in the organisation of this meeting. The agenda comprised two separate parts: 1) Researches on the Ottoman city: the Case of the Galata area, and 2) Political, Economic and Socio-Cultural Life in the Ottoman Empire during the period of the Young Turks.

U.S.A.Computer programme to teach the Holy Quran

Arabic Software Associates, Inc. of California developed a computer programme titled Quran Tutor (Al-Mu'alleem). It allows for memorization and full mastery of the Holy Text by visual study. The programme contains repetitive exercises and progress testing.

ART NEWS

SWEDEN

Exhibitions on Islamic Arts and Culture

A series of Islamic arts exhibitions and cultural events will take place in Stockholm from May 1985 till the end of the year. These activities will be organised by the Swedish Institute, the State Cultural Committee and the International Commission for Technical Cooperation, with the participation of important museums such as the Ethnographic Museum, Historical Museum and Mediterranean Museum and will include demonstrations and exhibitions about various aspects of Islamic culture such as musical shows, films, radio and TV programmes and symposia.

The aim is to increase knowledge about Islam. There are almost 50.000 muslims in Sweden today and little is known about their culture and living habits.

In addition to exhibition catalogues, a book on Islam and Islamic culture will also be published and sold at a modest price. This book will be a collection of scientific papers dealing with principles of Islam, literature, science, arts, crafts, music and architecture in Islam, relations of Islamic countries with other countries, etc.

One of the exhibitions will cover the subject of "Islamic Arts and Culture during Centuries". Various masterpieces and historical items from museums and famous private

collections will be displayed representing the relations between Vikings and Islamic countries and the influences of Islamic culture on living habits and costumes of Vikings. Among the collections to be exhibited are 100.000 Arab coins dating from the 8th and 9th Centuries and collections of carpets, weavings, manuscripts, handicrafts etc. from the museums of Kuwait, Tunisia, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, England and Denmark.

FRANCE

Arab Music Concerts

One hundred and fifty artists from Egypt, Irak, Lebanon, Syria, Qatar and Sudan gave concerts in Nanterre from 25 January to 10 February 1985. The series of 14 concerts were devoted to learned music, popular music and songs directed to a great Arab audience. These performances demonstrated the rich musical expression forms of the Middle East.

ENGLAND

Prize for Architectural Studies

Awards totalling 10.000 Pounds Sterling was announced by the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce in London for research on Arab architecture. The aim is to encourage study and research related to the development of the physical environment in the Arab world.

TYRANNIC MEASURES AGAINST MUSLIMS IN BULGARIA

Since last December, the Muslim community in Bulgaria is resisting to a new drive of cruel oppressive measures of assimilation. Military force is used by Bulgarian authorities on the ethnic Turks to have their Islamic names changed into Bulgarian names.

The question of names is only one aspect of the assimilation policy. Gravestones of Muslims are broken, Turkish education is completely eliminated and Muslims' most fundamental religious practices are forbidden. Those who have Turkish names are prevented from entering hospitals and getting married. Identity cards are not given to Muslim babies if their name is not a Bulgarian one. Most saddening of all, sanction for not complying to these measures is torture.

Authorities are concealing their acts of suppression and giving vague responses to questions. Foreign journalists and tourists are forbidden to travel to regions of the country where most Muslims live. News from the country come through foreign diplomats in Bulgaria and especially Muslims who have relatives in Turkey. However, no news or letters are received from the latter in the last couple of weeks.

Besides strictly violating the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the Charter of the UN (of which Bulgaria is a member since 1955), these policies are also in violation of the Bulgarian Constitution which stipulates, in its Article 35, para 1 that all citizens of the People's Republic of Bulgaria are equal; in para 2 of the same article, it is stated that no privilege or disadvantage based on the differences of nationality, origin, religion, sex, race, education, social and material situation of the peoples would be allowed. Article 45, para 7 of

the same Constitution gives to citizens who are not of Bulgarian origin the right to learn their original language.

The aggression which began last December is not a new one. Violence exercised in the past on Turks led to successive massive migrations to Turkey: from towards the end of the last Century till 1923. In 1925, an agreement was signed between the Turkish and Bulgarian governments regulating migrations between the two countries. Ever since, hundreds of Muslims were forced to emigrate. In 1961, all Muslim gypsies were given Bulgarian names. In 1970, Bulgarisation of Pomaks (people of Turkish origin, descendants of the Turkish Kipchak and Cuman tribes) of the Rodop region began with the implementation of an official decree. Forms requesting name changes were printed and distributed same as today. The recent drive is the continuation of this old policy. It is characterized more than ever by violence, oppression and violation of basic human rights.

International Reactions

* Strong official protestation on the part of the Turkish Government. The Government intends to use all possible measures as well as sanctions in the international fora to try to find a solution to the desperate situation of Muslims. Bulgarian Government has not replied favorably to Turkish proposals aiming to relieve the sufferings of Muslims in Bulgaria.

* H.E.Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary General of OIC made a declaration in Jeddah while the present issue was about to go to press. He announced officially that the Islamic world is not going to ignore the seizure of rights of 1,5 millions of Turks living in Bulgaria. He invited the authorities in Sofia to change their attitude against Turks.

* The following press organs condemned the Bulgarian policy: "Nova Macedonia", official press organ of Yugoslavia, "Arabia" published in London, "Muslim" of Pakistan, "Al-Ahram" of Egypt,

"Dagbladet" of Norway, "Aftonbladet" of Sweden, "The Globe and Mail" of Canada, "Frankfurter Allgemeine" of West Germany, "Time" published in the U.S.A. and "Al-Majalla" published in England.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Religion, Identité et Sources Documentaires sur les Morisques Andalous (Abdeljelil Temimi, ed.), Institut Supérieur de Documentation, No.4, Tunis, 1984

Institut Supérieur de Documentation in Tunis is a higher institute established in 1981 and affiliated to the University of Tunis. Its main objective is to work as educational institution and research centre in the fields of documentation, libraries and archives. The institute also organises colloquia and seminars and training programmes in various fields and issues periodical and occasional technical publications.

In September 1983, the Second Symposium of the International Committee for Moriscan Studies was held at the premises of the Institut Supérieur de Documentation in Tunis (Moriscos or Moors were Muslim people who lived in Spain and converted to Catholicism by force. They were expelled from the country after 1609). The technical papers presented during this meeting have been collected by Prof. Abdeljelil Temimi, Director of the Institute, in two volumes entitled "Religion, Identité et Sources Documentaires sur les Morisques Andalous" (Religion, Identity and Documentary Sources on Andalusian Moriscos) (parts in French, Spanish and English, comprising also summaries of papers presented in Arabic).

The first meeting on Moriscan studies was held in Montpellier

(France) in 1981, in the form of an international round table on the theme of "Moriscos and Their Era". The creation of an International Committee for Moriscan Studies was proposed during this meeting. The Statute of the Committee was approved at the second meeting in Tunis, which also decided that the Committee's headquarters be in Tunis and that the third meeting be held in Andalusia in 1985.

At the technical sessions of the Second Symposium, more than 64 scientific papers were presented in Arabic, French, Spanish and English and fruitful debates were held among the participating 80 historians and specialists. One of the favorable results of the meeting was that the attitude of Western historians towards the subject has changed and they now consider the Moriscan question within the framework of Muslim history and not, as previously, within Spanish history which is treated according to Western Christian philosophy.

The papers collected in the two-volume book deal with a variety of subjects: Moriscan population and Diaspora, religious beliefs, linguistic and onomastic identity of Moriscos, their attachment to their religion and traditions, the Moriscos in different sources, among others. The book can be requested from:

Institut Supérieur de Documentation
3, Place Ali Zouaoui
P.O.B. 600
Tunis, Tunisia

OBITUARY



Late Professor Necmettin Bammate

Prof. Dr. Necmettin Bammate, great Muslim scholar and eminent personality of the Islamic world, passed away on 15 January 1985. He was buried on 24 January 1985 at the Bobigny Muslim Cemetery, very near the tomb of his father, Haidar Bammate Bey, ex-President of the Caucasian Republic.

Hundreds of Muslims prayed for his soul at the Grand Mosque of Paris, including those living in France and the French Muslims. The representatives of Islamic embassies in Paris, the members of different religious organisations, the Assistant Director General of UNESCO and the representative of the Muslim World League in Paris were also

present at the funeral. Director General of the Istanbul Centre represented the Centre and the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage.

Professor Bammate was born in Paris on 8 December 1922. He came from a Muslim family of Daghestan in North Caucasia; he was an Afghan national, afterwards he adopted the Pakistan nationality. He entered the Lycee Buffon in Paris, then the Ecole Nouvelle in Chailly-sur-Lausanne. He studied law at the University of Lausanne and obtained his PhD in the same university. Till 1947, he gave lectures on Roman Law at the Sorbonne Univer-

sity in Paris. From 1947 to 1952, he made further studies on Islam at the Trinity College in Cambridge and at al-Azhar University in Cairo then pursued his studies at the Institut des Langues Orientales, Ecole des Hautes Etudes (Institute of Oriental Languages, School of Higher Studies) and at College de France in Paris.

Dr. Necmettin Bammate was the delegate of Afghanistan at the United Nations in 1948 and at the International Red Crescent Conference in Geneva in 1949. Starting in September 1949, he worked as international staff at UNESCO, assuming the following functions: from 1949 to 1954, official at the bureau of the Legal Advisor; from 1954 to 1958, in charge of diplomatic relations with Arab countries, the Middle-East and East Europe; from 1960 to 1964, coordinator of the UNESCO East-West project; from 1964 to 1969, Director of the Division of Human Sciences; between 1970 and 1974, Director of the Cultural Department and between 1975-1979, Special Advisor to the Assistant Director General for Culture and Communication.

From 1976 onwards, Professor Bammate was the representative of OIC in Paris; he also worked as a member of the Committee for Drafting the Islamic Declaration on Human Rights and was in charge of Cultural Identity Affairs in the office of the Assistant Secretary General of OIC. He also worked actively and contributed to the work of the Istanbul Centre and the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage of the OIC.

In 1977 he started to teach Islamic civilisation and sociology at the University of Paris VII and then also at Sorbonne University. Professor Bammate knew French,

English, Russian, German, Spanish, Italian as well as classical Arabic, Persian, Turkish and Japanese.

Professor Necmettin Bammate made active contributions to Islam and Islamic-Christian dialogue. He wrote numerous articles and gave lectures on Islamic civilisation, notably on the subjects of art, architecture, urbanism and environment. He published the following books:

- "Aspects de l'art musulman" (Aspects of Muslim art), Paris, Lausanne 1947.
- "Visages de l'Islam" (Faces of Islam), Paris 1954, in collaboration with Haidar Bammate; a new edition is under preparation.
- "Themes et Rythmes dans la littérature de l'Islam" (Themes and rhythms in the literature of Islam), Paris 1958.
- The Status of Science and Technology in Islamic Civilisation, Los Angeles 1964.
- "L'Orient dans un Miroir" (The East in a mirror) (Hachette, Paris).
- "La Mecque et Médine Aujourd'hui" (Mekka and Medina today), with the collaboration of Hamza Kaidi and El Hachemi Tidjani.
- "Cités de l'Islam" (Cities of Islam) (to be published).

He very successfully prepared a series of programmes about Islamic civilisation, which were shown on the French television and attracted great interest throughout Europe.

Professor Bammate possessed a very rich collection of books and manuscripts on Islam in different languages. Before his death, he donated this precious collection to the Istanbul Centre. The Centre is deeply grateful to Prof. Bammate and will do its utmost to meet the conditions of his last wish, that these books be preserved and kept

together for the use of interested people. Following is the translation of the text of his last will:

"Paris, 6/XI/84

I bequeathed my numerous books and manuscripts on Islam coming from my father, grand-father and myself and which are in different languages; Turkish, Arabic, Persian, French, English, Spanish, Italian and Russian, to Turkey, Library of the Research Centre for Islamic History and Culture, at Yildiz Kiosk in Istanbul. I wished that these books be kept together and made available in Turkey after my death.

Necmettin Bammate"

The Centre would like to take this occasion to extend its most sincere thanks to Mr. Timur Bammate, brother of late Professor Bammate, for the efforts he makes to assist the Centre in ensuring that this valuable collection of books be safely transferred to Istanbul. This is only one indication that Mr. Timur Bammate will spare no effort to carry on the work started by his father and his brother.

NECMETTIN BAMMATE AS I KNOW HIM

Prof. Dr. N. Bammate was a unique person with multiple and varied characteristics. Very dynamic, bursting with vitality, exemplary with his efforts, his will, his unceasing work and travels, and all this for a single aim: to serve Islam and to expand it from the Northernmost to the Southernmost, from East to West...

Late Professor Bammate was always present and active in every international conference held to serve Islam. He could easily be distinguished: a tall man with a smiling

UNIVERSITE PARIS 7

C.E.R. ANTHROPOLOGIE
ETHNOLOGIE SCIENCES
DES RELIGIONS
100 rue de Tolouse
75013 PARIS

Paris
Le 6/XI/84

J'ai legué les nombreux livres
et manuscrits sur l'Islam dont je
dispose, venant de mon père, grand-
père et moi-même, en différentes
langues: turc, arabe, persan, français,
anglais, espagnol, italien, russe à la
Turquie, Bibliothèque du Centre
d'études historiques et culturelles
islamiques, à Yildiz Kiosk à Istanbul.
J'ai désiré que ces livres restent
groupés et disponibles en Turquie
après ma mort

Necmettin Bammate

UNIVERSITE PARIS 7 - 100 rue de Tolouse 75013 Paris - Tél. (01) 47 36 15 00 ou 37 54 11 11 - Fax (01) 47 36 15 00

Last will of Professor Bammate

face and eyes glittering with intelligence and warm friendship.

When you were sitting and talking with him, you thought he was very close to you, actually it was his physical presence that you saw. When you looked carefully you would see his eyes were totally absorbed and he was living in a different world.

An oriental man strongly attached to his origins; an oriental man in his soul as well as in his spirit. But when he was talking with Europeans, his personality and appearance had the look of a true occidental... It would suffice to be with him for one day in his daily life to understand that my above words on his personality were not exaggerated at all.

The phone rings very early in the morning and someone calls him from abroad .. maybe from Istanbul, maybe from Jeddah or Cairo ... or from Islamabad, or Washington, or London or Australia ... to ask his

advice, or to invite him to a conference or an expert meeting to be held somewhere.

He first says "Assalamualaykum" with a sleepy voice. Then he receives the call with friendship, his voice becoming more lively and revealing a warm personality. Then the phone rings again and this time it is an Islamic delegation in transit at Paris airport, calling him to ask for his news and inviting him to go and see them during transit hours Later in the morning the phone rings a third time: one of his students at the university is requesting his help in solving a problem with the administration of the university or local authorities.

Then, Necmettin Bammate leaves his apartment with his well-known dynamism and starts travelling between UNESCO, the university and Islamic associations, meeting different persons or visiting studios of the French television; going to conference halls of UNESCO, to the university or to cultural circles where he gives conferences on Islam, Islamic culture and its importance, with his unique and distinguished style: the style of the expert in every field related to the essence and realities of Islam, the style of the man who knows the secrets behind the veils obstructing the eyes and ears of his audience; highlighting the truth, unveiling the facts one by one

Imposing appearance and beauty of spirit ... impressive manner of expressing his ideas ... fluent style, warm character; all these made him a star of Islam in the sky of Europe. In France and in neighbouring countries people had the opportunity to see, during the last four years, his programmes introducing Islamic civilisation and arts with a perfect style. These

programmes differed from others by their artistic production and the manner in which the French language was used: simply but at the same time so perfect that this does not come easily to everybody.

French-speaking Western people could see and understand Islam ranging from Istanbul to Morocco, from Yemen to Malaysia. They could appreciate the eternal architectural and artistic monuments and glance at the precious creations of Islam and its ever-lasting heritage ... All I heard about his TV series was appreciation, and all those I met, having seen the series told me about the broadcast where Necmettin Bammate was at the well-known cemetery of Istanbul which is very near to the tomb of Abu Eyyub Al-Ansari, companion of the Prophet (PBUH). In this sequence, Necmettin Bammate was seen standing in the shadow of cedar trees among the headstones with engravings of beautiful calligraphies and geometrical forms. He was talking about death, of his Islamic Sufi conception of death; the lover reaches the Beloved ... a contact leading to eternity ... an eternal life beyond death ... I was very pleased to hear the praises of those who saw the programmes and I am happy to have had the opportunity to contribute modestly to some of these programmes.

The wish of late Professor Bammate, who was born in Paris because his father was living in exile, was to die in an Islamic land ... and I think he would have liked to be buried at the cemetery near the tomb of Abu Ayyub El-Ansari, companion of the Prophet (PBUH), the link between the Prophet of Islam and the beginnings of Islam and the Muslim conquests in Europe throughout the centuries of Islamic history. Because of this the Ottomans considered him their spiritual leader during their last conquests.

Nobody knows where he will die. Death caught up with him on 15th January 1985 in the Paris metro during one of his usual dynamic days. It was one of the coldest days since half a century. Necmettin Bammate was buried on 24 January 1985 at the Muslim cemetery of Bobigny, very near the tomb of his father Haidar Bammate Bey At the exact moment when he was being lowered into the grave, the sun came out for a second and disappeared again ...

Hundreds of Muslims filled the Paris Mosque: Arabs, Turks, Iranians, Pakistanis, Indians and French Muslims, men and women, were

present at the funeral in addition to the representatives from various Islamic embassies and international organisations as well as personages from religious non-Muslim communities. The Imam of the Masjid pronounced an eulogy about him, followed by the words of the representative of the Muslim World League in Paris. I wanted to speak too, in the name of the OIC and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture in Istanbul, but I was bereft of words since I was full of emotion and praying with tears in my eyes.

Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu

REQUESTS FOR BOOK DONATIONS AND ASSISTANCE

* Muhammed Bin Qassim Library, Sind, Pakistan is in need of Islamic literature, magazines, newspapers and translations of the Holy Quran in various languages. The address is as below:

Mr. Hussain Amir
Honorary Secretary General
Muhammad Bin Qassim Library
Main Road, Sujawal,
District Thatta
Sind, Pakistan

* The below institutions in Ghana are requesting Islamic books:

- Islamic Research and Information Centre, P.O.Box 99, Nima, Accra
- Ghana High Council of Islamic Affairs, P.O.B. 12387, Accra-North
- National Association of Quranic Schools, P.O.Box 139, Nima, Accra
- African Institute for the Development of Islamic Values and Identity, P.O.Box 13733, Accra
- The Holy Quranic School, P.O.B.70, Kintampo B/A

* ISLAMIC BOOKS PUBLISHED BY CHRISTIANS

It is reported from Ghana that due to the lack of Islamic books in English and in other African languages, some Christian organisations are publishing books that give erroneous pictures of Islam and distributing a great number of them among Muslims in Ghana.

The question becomes even more serious taking into consideration that these books are distributed among poor Muslims who do not have easy access to good books; thus, the only books they can obtain are distributed by Christians.

The Islamic Book Development and Translation Council in Accra is prepared to publish simple books in English and in different African languages, that would save Muslims from being misled and remedy this alarming situation. Although technical preparations are already completed, the Council is in need of financial help to realise this project.

ISTANBUL CENTRE AND HERITAGE COMMISSION IN THE PRESS

Al-Madina

An interview with Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu was published in Al-Madina dated 16 January 1985, on page 7. The report concerns essentially the researches on manuscripts undertaken by the Centre. It explains that the Centre is following the studies in this field in cooperation and coordination with related OIC agencies and that a catalogue of manuscripts in Istanbul has already been prepared.

Al-Madina

Al-Madina published the news about the second meeting of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage on 4 February 1985 in the first and second pages of the paper. The King Fahd Award for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture announced by the Commission and the other agenda items and decisions of the meeting are reported in the news.

Al-Madina

Another news entitled "A Successful Step by King Fahd to Upgrade Islamic Architectural Arts" was published in the 10 February 1985 issue of Al-Madina, page 7. The article stresses the importance of preserving Islamic arts and architecture. It enumerates some of the architectural monuments in Islamic countries and the principal characteristics of Islamic architecture. It emphasizes the important role that the King Fahd Award for Islamic Architecture will play in the preservation and development of this architecture.

La Suisse

La Suisse newspaper published in Switzerland announced, in its 12 February 1985 issue, the institution of an international competition on Islamic architecture in the name of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, to be renewed each three years. The international fund-raising campaign launched by the Heritage Commission for the restoration of Demak Mosque in Indonesia, as well as the declaration of 1990 as the International Heritage Year are also reported.

Asharq-ul Awsat

An article entitled "International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage discusses the King Fahd Award" was published on page 19 of Asharq-ul Awsat dated 9 February 1985. The report gives information about the meeting and the King Fahd Award for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture, and also mentions the participation of the Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey.

Shaab

Algerian daily Shaab published news about the Second Meeting of the Heritage Commission in its 5 February 1985 issue, page 12. It mentions the subject of protection of the city of Sana'a, and the decisions of recent Islamic Conferences of Foreign Ministers concerning the activities of the Commission, which constituted some of the agenda items of the meeting.

Middle East Business and Banking

An article entitled "Istanbul Research Centre of the Islamic Conference: Computerized Research" is published in the December 1984 issue of Middle East Business and Banking, a monthly magazine published in Istanbul, Turkey. The article gives detailed information on the establishment of the Centre, the restoration of the historical buildings housing it, its research and publication projects and its contributions for establishing cooperation among institutions and researchers of the Islamic world through symposia and publications. The article gives particular emphasis to computer usage in research and publication activities and library procedures.

New Middle East

An article titled "The Islamic Research Centre in Istanbul: Cultural Ties with Muslim Countries Reinforced" was published in December 1984 issue of this monthly magazine based in Istanbul. Introducing the Centre and its activities in detail, the article cites the main objectives of the Centre and the principle of brotherly relations among Member States of the OIC based on their common cultural legacy. It emphasizes the service rendered by the Centre as a place where researchers, scholars and artists from Islamic countries meet.

Mew Middle East

In the March 1985 issue of the magazine, an article entitled "1990

Proclaimed Islamic Culture Year" was published. The article gives detailed information on the Second Meeting of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage and excerpts and summaries of the speeches pronounced by the Secretary of the Commission Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, the Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey H.E. Mr. Mükerrrem Taşçioğlu, the Secretary General of OIC H.E. Mr. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada and the Chairman of the Commission H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz respectively at the opening ceremony of the meeting. The article also explains the decision of the meeting to proclaim 1990 as the International Islamic Culture Year and announces that the next meeting of the Commission will be held in October 1985 in Saudi Arabia.

Al-Sabah

Dr. Salah Al-Mahdi, Director General of National Cultural Activities in Tunisia and member of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage reported the results of the Second Meeting of this Commission to Tunisian Al-Sabah. The decisions of the meeting were published in the 20 February 1985 issue of the journal. The article gives detailed information on each of the Commission's decisions and announces the next meeting of the Commission which will be held in Saudi Arabia in October 1985. It also enumerates the propositions made by Dr. Salah Al-Mahdi during the meeting, which include among

others the publication of a bulletin containing explanations on Islamic worship practices and Islamic principles to be distributed all over the world and the preparation and distribution of cassettes containing verses of the Holy Quran. These subjects will be included in the agenda of the next meeting of the Commission.

Köprü

Köprü magazine published in Istanbul included, in its March 1985 issue, an interview with Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre and Secretary of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage. The interview concerned both the Second Meeting of the Commission and the Istanbul Centre activities.

During the interview, Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu first gave detailed information on the establishment and objectives of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage under the chairmanship of H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz. He said that the Commission aims mainly to preserve and revive the monuments and other items representing Islamic heritage, which are scattered all over the world and which have been neglected and in some cases destroyed for various reasons. He enumerated the main projects undertaken by the Commission and discussed during its second meeting: the King Fahd Award for Islamic Architecture, the Demak Mosque restoration project for

which a fund-raising campaign is launched by the Commission, the competition on calligraphy, the protection of Islamic manuscripts, etc. Concerning the proclamation of 1990 as Islamic Culture Year, he explained that the decision on this subject was taken during the 14th Islamic Conference held in Bangladesh in 1983. He said that within the framework of this programme, many exhibitions, symposia, seminars and audio-visual demonstrations will be organised and that all Islamic countries will participate in this organisation.

Concerning the Istanbul Centre, the Director General answered the questions on the Centre's different projects, mentioning the books published by the Centre to disseminate research results. He explained that the publications of the Centre are composed using the word-processing facilities and that this saves time and money. The library also is administered through this modern technology. A list of accessions is issued periodically through the word-processor. Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu introduced Centre's library and the rich collection of books it contains, mentioning that rare books increase the value of the collection.

He also enumerated meetings and exhibitions held by the Centre on various occasions: the symposium on "Common Principles, Themes and Forms of Islamic Arts" organised by the Centre and the symposium on "Islamic Arts and Asia" organised jointly with UNESCO, the exhibitions of calligraphy, photographs and prayer beads, etc.

EDITOR'S POST AND COMMENTS

"I would like to thank you for sending us your valuable Newsletter. It is the result of your generous efforts and your unceasing work which we are following with appreciation. We follow all of your activities and find them praiseworthy."

17.1.1985

Abu Firaz

Representative of the P.L.O.
Ankara

"The Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture in Istanbul that I have visited today, Tuesday 8 January 1985 is the most beautiful place I have seen in Turkey. I noticed the noble and meritorious efforts of the Centre under the direction of brother Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, and its important contributions to Islamic culture and civilisation. The Centre is at the service of researchers coming from all over the Islamic world. I am completely sure that these researchers are capable of achieving the impossible for their nations and for their noble heritage. The work of researchers employed in this Centre is unique. I wish good health to all of them in order that they succeed in their important work. I express once again my feelings of awe for all I have seen and think that myself and all those who are interested in Islamic culture and heritage should benefit from the facilities of this Centre in works and researches."

8.1.1985

Dr. Yusuf Gawanmeh

Director, Dept. of History
Yarmouk University
Irbid, Jordan

"We at the Islamic University of North Sumatra, Medan, Indonesia, feel very happy indeed to receive

the sixth issue of the Newsletter, because it gives us information on the Islamic cultural activities and gives us ideas to be implemented at our University, for example the exhibitions on 'Tesbih' and wood calligraphy".

Dr.H.Mustafa Majnu, Rector

Islamic University of North Sumatra
Indonesia

"It is a great pleasure for me to have been given the opportunity to extend my warm and sincere felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu for the good work which is being done at the Islamic Centre under his inspired and dedicated guidance. Already he and his colleagues have created a vibrant centre of Islamic cultural and intellectual identity. The future holds a rich promise for the Centre's contribution to the sustenance and enrichment of Islamic thought and achievement. I extend my humble tribute and my best wishes for the continued progress and success of the Centre."

1 February 1985

Mufti Mohammed Abbas

Ambassador of Pakistan, Ankara

"It was a great pleasure for me to visit the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture. I would like to thank Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu for his efforts to revive the Arab-Islamic heritage. His name will always remain in the history of this Centre. I express my appreciation and thanks for the work and efforts of the Centre, its Director and its staff. I pray God for their success."

18.1.1985

Mohammed Reshad Ibrahim

Consul of Egypt
Istanbul

NEW PUBLICATIONS OF THE CENTRE

CATALOGUE OF ISLAMIC MEDICAL MANUSCRIPTS

The Catalogue of Islamic Medical Manuscripts in the Libraries of Turkey was published by the Istanbul Centre on the occasion of the Third Islamic Medicine Conference held in Istanbul on 28 September-2 October 1984. This publication will certainly fill a gap in the field of history of science and will be a valuable addition to Islamic medical books and particularly medical manuscripts. Approximately 5000 Islamic medical manuscripts existing in 129 major libraries of Turkey are described. These works are either originals or copies of about 1000 works and their summaries, commentaries and translations.

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

625 pp./ Price: \$US 30.-

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

The International Directory of Islamic Cultural Institutions is a developed and enlarged version of the first two books published by the Centre, namely "Guide Book of Islamic Cultural Institutions" and "Addresses of Cultural Institutions in the Member States of the O.I.C." The Directory gives the

addresses of 3579 cultural institutions in 106 countries. Necessary information was collected through questionnaires and by scanning numerous reference sources.

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

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

350 pp./ Price: \$US 10.-

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

VIDEO CASSETTES

Two documentary films prepared by the Centre are available in video cassettes:

1. "Life and Works of the Late Calligrapher Hamid Al-Amidi (Aytac)" and calligraphic arts;
2. "Arts of Illumination and Gilding".

Films are in Arabic. The English text will be included in the cassette. It may be ordered from the Secretariat of the Centre specifying diffusion system (PAL/SECAM) and cassette type (VHS/BETAMAX).

30 minutes/Unit price: US\$ 15.-