



Newsletter



OIC RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE

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Ircica Activities

Co-organisation of events in commemoration of "Baku – capital of Islamic culture 2009"

UNESCO World Heritage Centre and IRCICA sign Cooperation Agreement

"Al-Quds during the Ottoman Era" congress held in Damascus

First International Congress for Urban Heritage in Islamic Countries to take place in Riyadh, 2010

Book Survey

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Editorial

The Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States met in Damascus on their thirty-sixth annual session last May. The expansion achieved in the overall OIC agenda during the last three years - in conformity with the Ten-Year Programme of Action adopted in the Makkah Summit of December 2005 - was reflected in the proceedings of the conference and in the numerous resolutions taken in various fields. Cultural issues covered within the framework of this agenda have also seen a noticeable expansion, with the addition of new fields and strategies of action - some of universal dimension, relating to such objectives as promotion of inter-cultural and inter-faith relations, dialogue of civilisations, projecting the true image of Islam and its civilisation, combating the phenomenon of "Islamophobia", among others, together with issues relating to the preservation of cultural heritage. All of these subjects come, to varying extents, also under the areas of interest of the OIC's cultural subsidiary IRCICA. As a natural consequence of the above, our Centre's activities have seen a parallel expansion with the various projects undertaken in its different fields of activities.

These developments are most rewarding, especially in the present time as the OIC celebrates its fortieth anniversary. This year OIC institutions are participating in the commemoration of this anniversary with special activities. IRCICA for its part undertook several activities, most notably, it dedicated to it one of the most distinguished publications of its history: the annotated album of historical photographs of Al-

Quds, presented in this issue, has been published on this occasion. This publication is significant in that it underscores once again the central importance of Al-Quds and Palestine for the OIC and IRCICA as an expression of the special place they hold in the hearts of all Muslims.

At the same time, IRCICA completes thirty years of activities this year with many achievements on its record. It is conducting numerous programs in various fields of Islamic culture and civilisation. It continues to plan its activities in a way to meet the changing requirements of an international environment where cultural subjects matter more than before. At present, simultaneously with growing exchanges in trade, finance and economy around the globe, new relationships are established and new channels of exchanges activated in various fields of culture, science and education. In this climate, the task of IRCICA as a promoter of cultural studies at inter-civilisational level acquire growing importance. We are also aware of the need to innovate and to develop our programs continuously, with an eye to keep pace with changes and advancements in the cultural environment in OIC Member States and around the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the readers of the Newsletter for the interest they have shown to this publication. Special thanks and appreciation are due to those who contributed to it by sending us news on cultural events and activities.

Dr. Halit Eren



The Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States held its Thirty-sixth Session (Damascus, May 2009)

The 36th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of the OIC Member States ("Session of Enhancing Islamic Solidarity") was held on 22-25 May 2009 in Damascus, capital of the Syrian Arab Republic.

H.E. Dr. Bashar Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic, delivered an address pointing out that the past few years had been rife with significant political and economic developments that impacted and destabilized the world. Muslim countries, he continued, have been frontally confronted, either as a party or as a target, with the ramifications of these developments. He added that these developments have been associated with a hectic campaign against Islam, seeking to tarnish its image as the cultural and religious reference of our peoples. The campaign targeted Muslims, too, in a bid to isolate and discredit them. President Assad explained that it is natural that such a situation fills Muslims with deep feelings of frustration as they face up to successive crises and as they see their own helplessness in the face of recurrent abuses of their religious and cultural symbols and the continuous onslaughts on their sovereignty. President Assad emphasized the need to face up to any attempt seeking to violate the sovereignty of the Muslim world or transgress its independence. He stressed that independence starts by confronting the challenges imposed on the Muslim world and working out the proper solutions that would best serve the interests of the OIC Member States. This approach, he explained, does not imply any isolationist stand when it comes to cooperating with others. (The addresses delivered and resolutions and documents adopted by the session can be found at <http://www.oic-oci.org/36cfm>)

H.E. Mr. Sam Kutesa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda and Chairman of the 35th CFM (held in Kampala, 18-20 June 2008) highlighted the activities and achievements that were accomplished by the OIC during the chairmanship of his country.

H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, addressed the session, recalling that this was the first CFM session since his assuming his second term in office as OIC Secretary General after his unanimous election at the 11th Islamic Summit (Dakar, March 2008). The Secretary

General said he was honoured to be given the opportunity to continue to work in this important post in order to make every effort to serve the Member States and the Islamic Ummah and to advance its glory and progress, being fully aware of the tremendous responsibility placed upon their shoulders. The Secretary General said "The past four years have been an opportunity for us to test our capacity to achieve, to progress, and to get the world to listen to our views. Our actions have spoken louder than our words, and our efforts have been acknowledged internally and our voice heard and respected externally. We have thus made a quantum leap that has lifted the Organisation from an organization whose sole exercise was to stage conferences and issue recommendations, to one with high interactive and ramified links and contacts with impactful regional and international organisations and governments and with civil society institutions." Prof. İhsanoğlu said that taking into consideration the developments of international politics and the shift which took place in the balance of power among influential states in the past decade, the role of the Islamic world was not what it should be, taking into account its huge demographic weight, wide surface, strategic location, tremendous capacities, potentials and natural resources. Following a recapitulation of major developments and shifts of power balances in the world over the past decades, Prof. İhsanoğlu recalled that the Ten-Year Programme of Action had managed to set up a conception of a unified and mutually supportive Islamic world capable of facing up the challenges: "We have indeed started implementing the provisions of this program, with the General Secretariat having on its part carried through most of what was requested of it in terms of institutional action, such as amending the Charter, introducing substantive reforms on a number of OIC institutions, foremost of which the International Islamic Fiqh Academy and the International Islamic News Agency (IINA), and evolving a proposal for establishing an independent permanent human rights commission for the Islamic world in order to promote good governance. We have likewise strengthened and supported the economic institutions active in the field of joint Islamic action, just as we have stimulated quality education and seen to the evolvement of joint initiatives in the field of

science and technology.” The Secretary General outlined the situation and the recent developments relating to the major issues of concern for the Islamic world, starting with the Palestine question, and including the developments in Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, Afghanistan, Jammu and Kashmir, among others, and also, the attacks targeted at Islam and Muslims that continue at a growing pace. The Secretary General said that the OIC had made and continues to make multiple efforts at varied and diverse levels to raise public awareness of the need to combat Islamophobia in all parts of the world and more particularly in the West. Prof. İhsanoğlu pointed out that on this score, the activities of the OIC Observatory on Islamophobia had been effective: it was able to monitor an electronic game titled Faith Fighter on a website which depicted an assumed war involving the Prophet Muhammad and Jesus Christ. The OIC’s intervention to condemn this game had led to it being withdrawn from circulation. The Observatory had become an international reference for getting information on the occurrences and repercussions of this phenomenon. (The Secretary General’s address can be found at <http://www.oic-oci.org/36cfm>). Prof. İhsanoğlu also noted that the year 2009 coincides with the 40th Anniversary of the OIC and that the General Secretariat was planning to mark this event.

The Thirty-sixth Session took resolutions on a wide range of issues of interest to the Member States, related to: the Cause of Palestine and the Middle East; Political Affairs; Ten-Year Program of Action (TYPOA); Statutory, Organic and General Matters; Legal Affairs; Conditions of Muslim Minorities and Communities in Non-OIC Member States; Information Affairs; Celebration of the 40th anniversary of the OIC; Administrative and Financial Affairs; and Humanitarian Affairs. A special brainstorming session was organised by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic with active participation of the Member States, on the future role of the OIC in maintaining security, peace keeping and conflict resolution in the Member States. The Council welcomed the offer of Burkina Faso to host the Economic Forum of Western Africa next October as well as the proposal made by Cameroon to organise the Economic Forum of Central and East Africa by the end of 2009 in conformity with the various resolutions of the OIC. The 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers will be held in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan, in 2010 and the 38th CFM in Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan, in 2011.

The final communiqué issued at the conclusion of the CFM meeting highlighted the unwavering commitment to the return of all Palestinian territory that was occupied in 1967, including Al-Quds city and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in line with international resolutions and the Arab peace initiative. The CFM underscored the centrality of the issue of Al-Quds city for the Muslim Ummah and the commitment of Muslims to

the city’s Arabo-Islamic identity. The final communiqué rejected Israel’s attempts to Judaize and conduct aggressive acts against Islamic holy sites in Al-Quds. It also denounced Israel’s tampering with the demographic structure of the city. The CFM meeting decided to undertake action at the international level to put an end to Israeli attacks, strive to support the resistance of Jerusalemites and preserve the city’s Arabo-Islamic character.

The 36th CFM meeting adopted the Damascus Declaration, which underlined that the itinerary of the OIC over the past forty years, along with the critical developments unraveling across the world today, emphasize the importance of boosting Islamic solidarity in the face of current political and economic developments.

Relating to cultural and social affairs on its agenda, the conference adopted resolutions on the following subjects: general cultural matters (the Alliance of Civilizations, dialogue among civilizations, the Cultural Strategy and Plan of Action, the “Unified Hijri Calendar”); Protection of Islamic Holy Places (the destruction of Babri Masjid in India, Charar-e-Sharif Islamic Complex in Kashmir and other Islamic sites therein, the destruction and desecration of Islamic historical and cultural relics and shrines in the occupied Azerbaijan territories resulting from the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan, destruction of mosques, tombs, Hussainiat and houses of worship in Iraq); social issues (promoting women’s status, child care and protection), Islamic cultural institutions, centres and institutes (Regional Institute for Complementary Education – RICE, Islamabad, Islamic Institute of Translation, Khartoum); Palestinian affairs (twinning of Palestinian universities in the Occupied Territories with universities in OIC Member States), the educational situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and the Occupied Syrian Golan, the Israeli aggressions against Islamic shrines in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and the preservation of the Islamic character, human heritage and religious rights of Al-Quds Al-Sharif).

Concerning the UN Alliance of Civilizations and taking into consideration the outcomes of its Second Forum held in Istanbul, on 6-7 April 2009, the Council expressed its appreciation of the efforts of the Republic of Turkey in contributing to the overall work of the Alliance and the dissemination of its noble goals. It welcomed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariats of the OIC and the Alliance of Civilizations.

On the subject of the dialogue of civilisations, the Council recalled the principles of the Tehran Declaration adopted by the Eighth Islamic Summit Conference (December 1997) affirming that Islamic civilisation has always and throughout history been rooted in peaceful co-existence, cooperation, mutual understanding, and constructive dialogue with

other civilisations. The Council also took note that the UN General Assembly designated the year 2001 as the "UN Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations" and also recalled in this regard the provisions of the OIC Ten-Year Program of Action that call on the OIC and its bodies to contribute as a partner to intercultural and inter-religious dialogue. In this field, the Council commended the various initiatives and efforts undertaken by leaders of the Muslim world to promote inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue: the initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah Bin Abdelaziz on Inter-faith and Intercultural Dialogue, which was concretised in the Conference of Makkah in 2005 with the participation of Muslim scholars from different schools of thought and which paved the way to the conference that was held in Madrid and brought together a large number of followers of world civilisations and cultures; and also, the continued efforts of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques which led to the organisation of a high-level meeting by the General Assembly of the UN in November 2008, to which many world leaders participated in support of the results of the Madrid Conference. This was emphasized in the statement of the Secretary General who commended the initiative and its role in the dissemination of the culture of dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding among all the peoples of the world. The Council also commended the efforts exerted by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan through the Al al-Bayt Institute for Islamic Thought, with the organisation of many conferences in the context of dialogue among religions and civilisations, both inside and outside the kingdom, and its contribution to the Amman Message adopted in an international conference held in Amman in 2005, with the participation of religious scholars from different Islamic schools of thought. The Message, which was translated into living languages and which was distributed on a large scale, highlighted the enlightened image of Islam and its commitment to dialogue with The Other. Furthermore, the session welcomed the efforts of Kazakhstan in supporting dialogue among civilizations and the organisation of the Ministerial Conference "Common World: Progress through Diversity" (Astana, October 2008) and the Third Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions (Astana, July 2009). Further, the meeting commended the active role Azerbaijan plays in promoting inter-cultural dialogue between the Islamic world and the West, and emphasized the importance of the Conference on "Intercultural Dialogue as a basis for peace and sustainable development in Europe and its neighboring regions" held in December 2008 in Baku and its "Baku Declaration for the Promotion of Intercultural Dialogue". The Council also lauded the efforts of the Republic of Tunisia in this field, undertaken under the patronage of its President, Mr. Zein El Abidine Ben Ali.

The Council of Foreign Ministers commended the OIC Secretary General for engaging in dialogue with the United Nations, the European Union and other international

organisations, political leaders and civil society to underscore the concerns over the dangers of Islamophobia and for his initiative calling for a historical reconciliation between Islam and the West. The Secretary General Prof. İhsanoğlu pioneered a call for a "Historic Reconciliation between Islam and Christianity", as was the case between Judaism and Christianity during the last century, which he had formulated in the context of his address at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 4 October 2005, and reiterated in subsequent occasions, recently in his address at the first working session of the Second Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilisations held in Istanbul in April 2009 (see Newsletter no. 78). The 36th CFM called upon the OIC General Secretariat, UNESCO, ISESCO, and IRCICA to continue to strengthen inter-cultural and inter-civilisational dialogue through concrete and sustainable initiatives.

In its resolutions relating to the preservation of the holy sites, the CFM recalled that the five-centuries old Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, India, was demolished by Hindu extremists on 6 December 1992 and no concrete step was taken since then towards rebuilding of the Masjid or punishing those responsible for its destruction and killing of thousands of Muslims in its aftermath. It expressed deep regret over the failure of the Indian authorities to take appropriate measures to protect this Muslim holy site, despite several appeals made by the OIC to the Indian Government. The CFM expressed deep concern over the safety and security of the Muslim minority in India and recommended a set of measures towards reconstruction of the Babri Masjid on its original site and prevent the construction of a temple on its site.

Relating to the Charar-e-Sharif Islamic Complex and other Islamic sites in Kashmir, the CFM recalled that in 1995, over 1500 houses and shops were gutted, holy relics were destroyed and the mosque and the 538 year-old Islamic Complex of Charar-e-Sharif was razed to the ground, that damages were done to: the Shrine of the Shah-e-Hamadan (1997), the Jamia Mosque of Safapur in Baramula district (1998), the historic Jamia Mosque at Kishtwar (2001), Chadora mosque (2001) and a mosque in Srinagar with burning of the Holy Quran (2002). It strongly deplored these events and urged the international community, especially the Member States, to exert utmost efforts to protect the basic rights of the Kashmiri people, including their right to self-determination according to the relevant UN Resolutions as well as to safeguard their religious and cultural rights and their Islamic heritage.

Relating to the destruction and desecration of Islamic historical and cultural relics and shrines in the occupied Azerbaijan territories resulting from the aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan, the CFM emphasized that pieces of Azerbaijani history, culture, archaeology, and ethnography remaining in the territories occupied by Armenia are an integral part of Islamic heritage, and, therefore, must be protected; it reaffirmed the United Nations Security Council

(UNSC) Resolutions No. 822, 853, 874, and 884, which call on the Armenian forces to effect a full withdrawal from all the occupied Azerbaijani territories, including the Lachin and Shusha areas, immediately and without conditions; and strongly urge Armenia to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The CFM strongly condemned the barbaric acts committed by the Armenian aggressors in the Republic of Azerbaijan with the aim of total annihilation of the Islamic heritage in the occupied Azerbaijani territories; it reaffirmed its support for the efforts deployed by Azerbaijan at regional and international levels on this issue. The CFM affirmed the Republic of Armenia's responsibility to pay up full compensation for such damages. It requested the relevant OIC organs and agencies to explore the possibility of drawing up a program to help rebuild the mosques, educational institutions, libraries, and museums in the Azerbaijani territories liberated from occupation with the help of OIC Member States. The CFM thanked the Secretary General for transmitting the OIC Member States' position on this issue to the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and other international bodies and for the coordination measures taken within the framework of the Organisation.

The CFM deplored the destructions in Iraq that affected the mosques, holy tombs of Imam Al-Hadi and Imam Al Hasan Al Askari, Hussainiat and houses of worship in addition to the killing of many Iraqis, as acts aimed at causing sedition and sectarian strife among Iraqi citizens. It urged the international community, in particular the Member States to exert utmost efforts by providing possible assistance in order to protect religious places, especially because they are citadels of Islamic civilisation. In this context the CFM affirmed the necessity and importance of strengthening the unity of the Iraqi people and of rejecting differences, particularly those with sectarian foundations.

The 36th Session of the CFM adopted the resolution on "Islamic Cultural Institutions, Centres and Institutes" covering the following institutions: the Regional Institute for Complementary Education (RICE) in Islamabad, Pakistan, which encourages the teaching of the Arabic language and Islamic culture in non-Arabic speaking Asian countries; the Islamic Institute of Translation in Khartoum, which contributes to consolidating the bonds between cultures.

Concerning IRCICA, in Part A of its resolution relating to the OIC's Subsidiary Organs, the Council:

1. Notes with appreciation the production of a number of reference books in the field of culture, history, arts, and crafts of the Muslim world resulting from the Centre's various programs and research projects, and organization of academic congresses, awards and diverse exhibitions;
2. Takes note of the various activities of the Centre aimed to improve the image of Islamic civilization and Muslim cultures by raising more awareness and introducing a policy of better understanding among cultures of the world;
3. Notes with appreciation the successful organization of the second symposium on "The Image of the Other in the context of globalization" jointly organized by IRCICA and the Council of Europe which has been held at the Center's premises in Istanbul on 1-3 December 2008;
4. Commends the efforts of IRCICA for successfully organizing the third International Congress on "Islamic Civilization in Volga-Ural Region" held in Ufa on 14-16 October 2008 under the patronage of H.E. M. G. Rakhimov, President of Bashkortostan;
5. Takes note of the successful organization of the International Congress on "The Second Constitutional Period of the Ottoman State on its Centenary" held in Istanbul on 7-10 May 2008;
6. Commends the initiative of the Centre and the cooperation of the Government of Bangladesh for successfully organizing the Second Congress on Islamic Civilization in South Asia held in Dhaka on 16-18 November 2008 in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh and the University of Dhaka;
7. Commends the successful organization of the International Congress on Employment of Traditional industries within the new Architectural Projects held in Tunis on 27-31 October 2008, under the patronage of H.E. President Zain El-Abedine Bin Ali, the President of the Republic of Tunisia, in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Handicraft and the Ministry of Culture and Heritage Preservation of the Tunisian Republic;

8. Commends the efforts made by IRCICA jointly with the Council of Europe to organize, in cooperation with the Alliance of Civilisations, a Meeting of Historians on "Intercultural Dialogue, History and History Teaching in the context of Globalisation" in Istanbul, on 4 April 2009, prior to the Second Summit of the Alliance of Civilisations (Istanbul, 6-7 April 2009), which issued a report and submitted it to the Summit;
9. Noted with appreciation the finalization of the international Competition for the "Prince Faisal bin Fahd Awards for the Preservation of Islamic Architectural Heritage" that IRCICA dedicated to the memory of the late Prince Faisal bin Fahd, the Chairman of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) as a tribute for his remarkable contributions to the preservation of Islamic cultural heritage, and the presentation of the awards to the winning architectural restoration projects in October 2009;
10. Commends the progress made in the ongoing work aimed at establishing the Prince Sultan bin Salman Islamic Architectural Heritage Database, sponsored by H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Tourism and Antiquities, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and requests the Member States which have not done so yet, to provide IRCICA with the required data and information on their Islamic sites and monuments and designate their respective focal points to collaborate permanently with the Database unit at IRCICA in this respect;
11. Notes with gratitude the generous donation of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Mactoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Emir of Dubai towards establishing a digital library on Islamic civilisation at IRCICA, and commends the progress of activities at the Centre in this regard;
12. Takes note of the plan of IRCICA to organize an International Congress on Maghreb and the Western Mediterranean during the Ottoman Era planned to be held in Rabat, Morocco in cooperation with the Royal Institute for Research on the History of Morocco, on 12-14 November 2009;
13. Takes note with appreciation of the project to organize, jointly with the Ministry of Information of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, an exhibition of historical photographs of Mecca and Medina to be chosen from IRCICA archive collections comprising the Yildiz Palace albums;
14. Notes with appreciation the publication by IRCICA of a historical album of Al-Quds and Palestine which includes annotated reproductions of historical photographs from the late 19th and early century;
15. Notes with appreciation the efforts made by IRCICA to organise an International Congress on Al-Quds during the Ottoman Era in Damascus on 22-25 June 2009 in cooperation with the Syrian Ministry of Culture;
16. Commends the successful organization of the Seminar on the "Role of Cultural Exchanges in Promoting International Relations" which took place at the Center's premises on 9-10 April 2008;
17. Commends the plan of the Centre to organize the second International Symposium on Islamic Civilization in West Africa, planned to be held in Mali in 2010;
18. Takes note of the plan of IRCICA to coordinate a comprehensive publication on the history and civilization of Islam and the history of Muslim nations;
19. Commends the initiative of the Centre to organize an International Symposium on Yemen during the Ottoman Era planned to be held in cooperation with the Yemeni National Center for Archive which will be held in Sana'a in the beginning of 2010;
20. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to all the Member States for the moral and material support they are extending to IRCICA, thus enabling it to fulfill its mission, in particular the host country of IRCICA, the Republic of Turkey, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the host country of the OIC; notes with gratitude the support and patronage extended by the Sovereigns, Heads of State and Government of the Member States.

IRCICA ACTIVITIES

CO-ORGANISATION OF EVENTS IN COMMEMORATION OF "BAKU – CAPITAL OF ISLAMIC CULTURE 2009": "Islamic Historical Cities and Modern Architecture" International Conference

Baku, the capital city of Azerbaijan, was proclaimed the "Capital of Islamic culture 2009" by the OIC. A wide range of cultural activities are taking place on this occasion. IRCICA participates as co-organiser and coordinator in some events, particularly those relating to the study and preservation of architectural and urban heritage. On 27-29 May, the Centre coordinated an international conference on "Islamic Historical Cities and Modern Architecture" in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan. Experts from Azerbaijan, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lithuania Morocco, Turkey, Uzbekistan and UK attended the conference. The aim of the conference was the preservation of the architectural heritage and historic environment of Islamic historical cities, along with research into the influence of new development, modern architecture and town planning as well as capacity building between experts working in the abovementioned spheres. The organisers were the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan and IRCICA, with the contributions of the Administration of State Historic Architectural Reserve "Icheri sheher" under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the International Centre TURKSOY for Turkic Cultural Heritage.

Earlier, on 15-20 March, an international festival titled "Degree and profession" was organised by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan, jointly with the Azerbaijan University of Architecture and Construction, IRCICA, and Romualdo del Bianco Foundation (Florence). The festival was addressed to students and young architects, on the subject "Traditional Islamic Architecture". During the event IRCICA had presented its own activities relating to the preservation of architectural heritage.

The conference on "Islamic Historical Cities and Modern Architecture" was opened at the Museum Center in Baku, with the address of H.E. Mr. Abulfas Garayev, Minister of Culture and Tourism. The Minister gave information on the international events being held in Baku. He said "Historical cities of Islamic countries have existed for centuries. These cities have preserved their historicity, uniqueness. Social and economic situations and new technologies improve architecture, town planning, and sometimes the structure of the cities needs changing. Much attention should be paid to the historical atmosphere of cities, preservation of their historical and architectural heritage. Historical cities exist and should exist." The Minister explained the objectives of the conference, namely, to preserve architectural heritage

and the historical environment in Islamic cities, study the influence of the developments, modern architecture and town planning on this environment, and promote exchanges of experiences in this field.

In his address, the Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren said that IRCICA attached importance to this conference for two reasons basically: first, because it was another link in the series of cultural events IRCICA had been organising in cooperation with the Government of Azerbaijan for decades; he gave highlights of those events and the cooperation covering various fields of cultural studies. Secondly, because of IRCICA's engagement in architectural studies and preservation of urban and architectural heritage, a field in which it had been conducting a number of projects in various parts of the Muslim world: these activities include long-term programs of architectural studies and workshops, architectural competitions, archival research, training, publications, public lectures, congresses. He gave information on two major programs undertaken by IRCICA in this area, namely the Prince Sultan bin Salman Islamic Architectural Heritage Database, and the "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" program. He expressed his conviction that the meeting would contribute to a better understanding of the problems associated with historical properties: many historical cities are dealing with a large number of serious problems, including the virtually complete destruction (or lack) of the city infrastructure, environmental problems, especially garbage dumping and air pollution, traffic problems, the lack of maintenance of buildings, overpopulation of sites, sanitation problems, the squatter character of neighborhoods, low educational levels of the population, fragmentation and entanglement of property rights involving owners and tenants. But, he said, a most serious problem is the complete destruction of historical sites. The cases of Bosnia and Herzegovina ten years ago, Iraq, Karabagh and some regions in the Muslim world today are sad examples of it.

The meeting focused on three key topics: addressing the pressing needs for social development and community buildings in the Islamic world; protection, restoration and skillful re-use of the heritage of the past, at a time when that heritage is threatened with destruction by war, environmental degradation or demographic and economic pressures of exploding urban growth; identifying contemporary architectural expressions of quality, representing efforts at capturing present opportunities and defining future aspirations.

Following the address of Mr. Zaki Aslan, Representative of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), the meeting heard the following presentations: "The issue of the maintenance of the world heritage site Icheri Sheher on the modern stage" (Gulchohra Mammadova, Azerbaijan); "Back to the human construction" (Amaal Aldeberky, Egypt); "The Islamic historic city and modern architecture: comparing key cities" (Amir Pašić, IRCICA); "The influence of man-made changes of the geological environment on the safety of historical monuments" (Tursun Zhunisov, Kazakhstan); "Developing institutional capacity building for the conservation of Islamic heritage: the case of ICCROM's ATHAR Programme" (Zaki Aslan, ICCROM); "Islamic religious architecture in historical context in Amman" (Saqr Sqour, Jordan); "3D Documentation and City Modelling of Historical Heritage by Terrestrial Laser Scanning: Case Study (The historical peninsula in Istanbul) (Ibrahim Baz, Turkey); "The inventory of urban and architectural heritage of the Medina of Marrakesh" (Abdellatif Marou, Morocco); "Project of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference Headquarters in Jeddah, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia" (Thomas Pucher, Austria); "Transport problems of historic towns in Azerbaijan" (Nargiz Abdullaeva, Azerbaijan); "Features of development of modern Islamic cities" (Fikrat Huseynov, Azerbaijan); "Active conservation of historic cities - a British perspective" (Simon Rowberry, United Kingdom); "Regional experience: preservation of the world heritage and contemporary development in Baltic capital cities" (Gediminas Rutkauskas, Lithuania); "The preservation of historic cities in Azerbaijan after the example of Sheki" (Sabina Hajiyeva, Azerbaijan).

In his presentation titled "Islamic Historical City and Modern Architecture – Comparing Key Cities", Prof. Arch. Amir Pašić



Prof. Amir Pašić (IRCICA) delivered a comprehensive lecture at the conference

pointed out that historical cities show a variety of origins and growth patterns. These were conditioned on the one hand by external factors such as pre-existing settlements, deliberate location choices and prevailing dynastic changes, and on the other hand by internal factors such as the morphological principles implied in individual architectural components and in the genesis of the urban fabric. Prof. Pašić described the historical evolution of some major cities: Al-Quds, Baghdad, Khiva (Bukhara), Fez, Aleppo, Mostar, pointing to their particularities and explaining the common elements of the Islamic settlement, modern parts of the city, structural conflicts between traditional concepts and modern planning methods, problems of post-modern movements. Prof. Pašić recalled that the Modern Movement in architecture tended to design buildings in an isolated way, abstracted from the surrounding urban space. As to traditional architecture, "it used to work on different premises altogether: buildings were not conceived as detached 'objects' but as living architectural shells, shaped according to the internal needs of distinct social micro-units and responding to the enclosed activities."

"Historical edifices should be not regarded as isolated, individual elements. They should be placed in context of historical and urban environments with contemporary functions that accommodate uses and perform services in order to ensure their continued functions in the lives of the people and to sustain their existence, such as in Qairawan, Tunisia, Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Safranbolu in Turkey." In his comprehensive presentation Prof. Pašić illustrated different concepts of community institutions, urban form, architectural form, aesthetics, and others on the basis of a comparison of three heritage properties: Mostar, Samarkand, and Istanbul. He concluded by citing some guiding principles towards reconciling tradition and modernity.



Shirvanshah Palace in Baku.

UNESCO World Heritage Centre and IRCICA sign Cooperation Agreement

A new avenue is now opened within the UNESCO-IRCICA cooperation after the signing of the Cooperation Agreement between UNESCO World Heritage Centre and IRCICA, on 12 June 2009. The agreement, signed at IRCICA by Mr. Francesco Bandarin, Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and Dr. Halit Eren, Director General, IRCICA, covers the fields of interest common to the two centres, that is, "World Heritage Conservation in the Islamic World". In this area, the two parties will collaborate for the development of research and communication, supporting nomination processes of cultural and natural sites in Islamic countries, identification of technical assistance projects for cultural and natural heritage (management plans, capacity building and conservation activities) in world heritage sites in Islamic countries, and conducting special projects such as large restoration projects of individual monuments or sites, to be used as demonstration or best practices.

Participation in the 33rd Session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, Seville

Pursuant to the agreement, IRCICA participated in the Thirty-third session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee which was held in Seville, Spain, on 22-30 June 2009. Within the framework of the session, IRCICA was represented by Prof. Arch. Amir Pašić, Head of the Department of Architecture, at the Second Meeting of the World Heritage Funds and World Heritage Training and Research Centres. Countries and other institutions represented in this meeting were: Egypt, Switzerland, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), the Nordic World Heritage Fund, the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research – Asia and Pacific (WHITR-AP, Shanghai), the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH, Bahrain), the Regional Heritage Management Training Centre (Rio de Janeiro), the proposed Regional Centre for Training and Research (Zacatecas, Mexico). For information, see: (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/33COM/documents/>)

Prof. Amir Pašić read the message of IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren which outlined the activities conducted by IRCICA for the study, registration and preservation of the vast set of world heritage comprising those monuments and sites that belong, partly as well as totally, to the Islamic history and geography. These activities are organised in the form of multidimensional programs, enlisting international cooperation and comprising workshops on the conservation



From right to left, Mr. Francesco Bandarin, Dr. Halit Eren, Prof. Amir Pašić

of cities and monuments; on-site restoration projects; building of a data bank of sites and monuments of the OIC Member States; seminars held in various countries; competitions on preservation of architectural heritage.

The main programs of IRCICA in this field are:

Prince Sultan bin Salman Architectural Heritage Database: A Database for documenting and recording the archeological sites and historical monuments in Islamic countries, set at IRCICA. The project, conducted since 2006, is sponsored by Prince Sultan bin Salman, Chairman of the Supreme Commission for Tourism and Antiquities in Saudi Arabia. The database program aims to register the Islamic archeological and architectural heritage assets, record comprehensive information describing their history and present state, their environment, physical features, past and present functions, restorations done, etc. By this it aims among others, to produce reliable technical references to contribute to their preservation and eventual functional re-use. Four data levels of dossier are built for each property: basic data; property per se; property in urban context; supporting documents- digital library and archive.

"Mostar 2004" program of architectural studies and workshops: From 1994 to 2004, workshops titled "Mostar 2004" were conducted annually (held in Istanbul during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, then every year in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina), and drew hundreds of participants from faculties around the world. Plans and guidelines were produced for the reconstruction of damaged, destroyed and/or war-torn cities and monuments. Voluminous documentation was produced every year and an overall report containing the results of the program was published in 2005.

"Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" Architectural Heritage Program: IRCICA presently carries out a comprehensive program of field studies and workshops devoted to the Islamic heritage

in Al-Quds and Palestine. Since it was launched in 2006 the program has involved a study mission to the historic city of Al-Quds/Jerusalem (June 2007), an academic workshop held in Al-Quds/Jerusalem (Jan. 2008) with 34 architects and their assistants, a meeting of experts (Nov. 2006) and an academic workshop held at IRCICA (June 2008). The latter meeting drew plans for the 2009-2010 activities.

Competition for the Preservation of Islamic Architectural Heritage: Back in 1986 IRCICA had organised a global-scale competition for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture, namely the "King Fahd Award". In 2008 it finalised another competition, the "Prince Faisal bin Fahd Award for the Preservation of Islamic Architectural Heritage". Its purpose was to support the revival of Islamic heritage - preservation of monuments in order to give them vital functions, either historical or contemporary. Projects were received from Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, India, Iran, Syria, Turkey, and Uzbekistan; the winners are, from Turkey in the Single Building Conservation Category, and from Bahrain in the Site Conservation Category.

Restoration and reconstruction: Projects conducted since 2000 have focused on Southeast Europe and the Balkans: the 16th-century monuments Neziraga Mosque, Smajkic Mosque, Karadjozbey Mosque and a "Sabil" (fountain) were restored and reconstructed under the coordination of IRCICA with international collaboration.

It is observed that the above activities have contributed in reinforcing public consciousness on the preservation of Islamic heritage in addition to drawing interest and participation from the architectural community worldwide. The workshops in particular, offered opportunities for architects and restorers to work in international teams focusing on multicultural urban and built heritage which gave them an enriching experience. The research and references produced in these workshops served as examples for preservation activities in damaged or destroyed cities and architectural structures elsewhere in the world.



Mr. Francesco Bandarin, Director, UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and Prof. Arch. Amir Pašić, Head of the Department of Architecture, IRCICA

Participation in the CIEPO Interim Symposium at Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University, Bishkek

The Center for Turkish Civilization Studies of Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, and the Turkish Prime Ministry's Turkish Cooperation and Development Agency jointly organised the Interim Symposium of the International Committee of Pre-Ottoman and Ottoman Studies (CIEPO) which was devoted to the theme "Central Asiatic Roots of the Pre-Ottoman and Ottoman Culture". The following authorities contributed in its organisation: the Ministry of Education and Science of Kyrgyzstan, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Turkey, the Directorate General of State Archives of Turkey, the Turkish Historical Society, the University of Tokyo and the University of Meiji, Japan. The opening ceremony on 24 August 2009 was addressed by the Rector of Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University Prof. Sulayman Kayıpov, the Kyrgyz Education and Science Minister Prof. Abdulla Musayev and the Culture and Information Minister Mr. Sultan Raev and concerned scholars. Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA, was invited to address the opening ceremony. In

his speech, Dr. Eren stressed the importance of the interim meeting's focusing on Central Asia, one of the principal geographical components of Ottoman cultural history, and its being held in cooperation with a distinguished academic institution in Central Asia, Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University. Recalling that Central Asian civilisation and Ottoman civilisation have, each for their part, integrated a heritage of culture and science that are part of the common legacy of various countries today, he reviewed IRCICA's activities - congresses and publications - which contributed in highlighting these two great achievements and the links between them. In this respect he recalled among others, the symposium on "Learning and Education in the Ottoman World" held in 1997 on the seventh centennial of the foundation of the Ottoman State, the symposium on "Science and Technology in the Turkish and Islamic World" convened at Kandilli Observatory in Istanbul in 1994, on the occasion of Ulug Bey's 600th birthday and the 125th anniversary of the foundation of Kandilli Observatory, the 15-volume series

of bio-bibliographies on the History of Ottoman Scientific Literature published under Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu's chief editorship which inventory the science literature produced throughout the Ottoman geography.

The papers were grouped under the following session titles: Issues of Identity and Ethnic Relationship, Historical Sources, Nomads, Ottoman-Eurasian Relations, Art and Architecture, Culture and Society, Language and Literature, Religion and

Faith, Education and Science, Archeology, Administration and Organisation.

Dr. Halit Eren met with Prof. Sulayman Kayıpoğlu, Rector of Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University, and Prof. İlhan Şahin, Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Secretary General of the Interim Symposium. During the meeting with Rector Prof. Kayıpoğlu, areas of cooperation between the University and IRCICA were discussed, including the organisation of a joint congress.

"Al-Quds during the Ottoman Era" Congress held in Damascus

The Ministry of Culture of Syria and IRCICA jointly organised an international congress on "Al-Quds during the Ottoman Era". The congress was held in Damascus, on 22-25 June 2009. It was placed under the patronage of H.E. Mohammed Naji Otri, Prime Minister of Syria, and in the context of the program "Al-Quds capital of Arab Culture, 2009".

The opening took place in the auditorium of Al-Assad National Library in Damascus, in the presence of Mr. Riyad Nassan Agha, Minister of Culture of Syria, representing the Prime Minister; Mr. Ali Saad, Minister of Education; Mr. Mohsen Bilal, Minister of Information; Mr. Hassan Sari, Minister of State; Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA; Sheikh Dr. Taysir R. Al-Tamimi, Chief Justice of Palestine; Bishop Yuhanna Ibrahim, Bishop of the Syrian Orthodox, Aleppo; Bishop Luka Al-Khuri, Bishop of the Roman Orthodox, Damascus; and the participating scholars and researchers.

The congress covered various aspects of Al-Quds: Al-Haram Al-Sharif during the Ottoman Period; Political Developments in Al-Quds; Intellectual Life and Educational Institutions; Judicial System, Social Relations, Endowments, Medical Services; Construction and Urban Restoration; Inscriptions and Decorations of the Dome of the Rock, manuscripts of Al-Quds; Water and Water Resources; Population of Al-Quds at different Periods, etc. It was accompanied by two exhibitions: official documents of the Ottoman government relating to Al-Quds selected from the Ottoman Archives attached to the Turkish Prime Ministry, and photographs of Al-Quds selected from IRCICA's archives.

The Minister of Culture Mr. Riyad Nassan Agha stated, in his address at the opening, that the

congress aimed to contribute in defeating the claims that Palestine is national home to Jews. He said some intellectuals may wonder about the benefit of holding conferences while Israel is carrying on its violation of international resolutions, continuing to build settlements, and trying to impose Judaism on Jerusalem. "If we examine the Zionist experience, we will find that Israel itself has got to this point through conferences that were held for reviving a history of no more than 73 years, while we have to revive a history of one thousand years."

Sheikh Al-Tamimi, Chief Justice of Palestine, said that Israeli occupation is trying in all possible ways to hit the Palestinian unity to achieve its settlement project. He expressed the hope that through the unity of Muslims the Jewish settlement project will be stopped, adding that Al-Quds was occupied many times through history, all occupiers were defeated; that Israeli occupation will come to its end too and the blessed Al-Quds will remain an Arab-Islamic land.



H.E. Mohammed Naji Otri, Prime Minister of Syria, received the Director General

Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA, underlined that Al-Quds occupies a special status in the hearts of believers of all the divine religions. For Muslims particularly, it is the first Qibla, the third holy city, and the land from where Prophet Muhammad started his Ascension to Heaven (Miraj). He informed the audience about IRCICA's "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" program. After the speeches, a documentary film titled "The inscriptions of the Dome of the Rock", produced by Mr. Ahmad Al-Mufti, was shown. It gave a general history of the city, the construction of the Dome of the Rock, and a detailed description of the inscriptions on the Dome and the gates.



Dr. Eren presented a copy of IRCICA's album of historical photographs of Al-Quds to the Minister of Culture of Syria Mr. Riyad Nassan Agha

Among the paper presented at the congress, there were the following titles:

in the section on Political Developments in Al-Quds, "The First Period of Ottoman Rule in Jerusalem", by Feridun Emecen; "Jews of the Levant in the 19th Century and the First Half of the 20th Century", by Yusif Jamil al-Naeisa; "Housing the Urban Clans In and Around Al-Quds in the 19th Century AD", by Asma Sheikh Halil; "Political Developments in the Southern Levant and Commercial Relations between Palestine and Transjordan, 16th-19th Centuries", by Kamal Abdul Fattah; in the section on Al-Haram al-Sharif and the Situation During the Ottoman Era, "The Question of the Holy Places During the Ottoman Period", by Ş. Tufan Buzpinar; "The Development of the Haram al-Sharif During the Ottoman Rule", by Michael Hamilton Bugoyne;

in the two sections on Architectural Heritage and Restorations, "Restoration of the monuments of Al-Quds during the Ottoman period, with special focus on the Dome of the Rock, Aqsa Mosque and Waterlines, by Mehmet İpşirli; "The Jerusalem Ottoman Wall: its importance, features, and the legends associated with it", by Yusuf Said Natsheh; "Aesthetic interpretations of the architecture of the Dome of the Rock",

by Afif Bahnassy; "Architectural Developments in Bilad al-Sham During Late Ottoman Era: Al-Quds and Aleppo as an Example", by Omar al-Dakak; "Restoration of Sultan Mahmud II in Al-Quds", by Khader Salamah; "Architecture and its Social Relationship in Al-Quds During the Ottoman Era", by Mohammed Kaja; "Water and water sources in the City of Al-Quds, by Noufan R. Swarieh;

on subjects of Law, Justice, Social Relations, Awqaf and Medical Services, "Aspects of Sufism in Jerusalem as Some of the Muslims Rihlat Mentioned in the Middle of the Ottoman Era", by Bouchra Kheir Bek, "Law, Justice and Social Relations in Jerusalem during the 16th Century through the Primary Sources", by Ablah S. Muhtadi; "Awaqf and Social Services in Jerusalem During the 18th Century", by Ziad Madani; "Doctors and Hospitals in Al-Quds during the Ottoman Era", by Mohamad Yasir Zakkour; "The Importance of Ottoman Waqf Registers in Protecting Al-Aqsa Mosque", by Mohamed Fateh Zaghl; "The Transition from Mamluks to Ottomans: Population and Identity in Al-Quds According to Ottoman Registers in the 16th Century", by Cengiz Tomar; "The Church of Kamama (Holy Sepulcher) in Jerusalem during the Ottoman Era", by Mustafa Bilge;

on Education and Cultural Institutions in Al-Quds, "The Phenomenon of the Spread of Education in Al-Quds in the Light of Ottoman-Foreign Competition", by Fazil M. Bayat; "Educational and Cultural Institutions in Al-Quds during the Ottoman Era", by Abdul-Jalil Abdul Mahdi; "Examples of Intellectual Life in Jerusalem in the Late Ottoman Period", by Khairia Kasmieh;

on The Writings and Decorations of the Dome of the Rock and the Manuscript Heritage of the City of Al-Quds, "The



Writings and Decoration of the Dome of the Rock", by Ahmad al-Mufti; "Jerusalem in a Manuscript from the Middle Ottoman Reign", by Baghdad Abdulmunem; "The Arabic Heritage of Manuscripts in Al-Quds", by Iad Khalid al-Tabbah.

The last day of the congress was a Working Day on the Present State of Al-Quds City, where two sessions were held with the participation of Dr. Halit Eren; Sheikh Mahmoud Al-Tamimy, Mufti of Al-Quds; Mr. Ali Qayim, Undersecretary, Ministry of Culture; Bishop Yuhanna Ibrahim,

Aleppo. During the period of the conference, Dr. Halit Eren, and Dr. Nazih Marouf, Coordinator of the congress, were received by Dr. Najah Al-Attar, Vice-President of the Syrian Arab Republic. Dr. Halit Eren was received by H.E. Mohammed Naji Otri, Prime Minister of Syria. The Syrian press gave large coverage to the congress.



First International Congress for Urban Heritage in Islamic Countries to take place in Riyadh, 2010

IRCICA is one of the co-organisers of the First International Congress for Urban Heritage in Islamic Countries which will take place in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 18-23 April 2010. The Congress, placed under the patronage of H.M. King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, is organised at the initiative of the Supreme Commission for Tourism and Antiquities, jointly with IRCICA, the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs of Saudi Arabia, the Ministry of Finance of Saudi Arabia, King Saud University, and the Heritage Foundation of Saudi Arabia.

The Conference is planned as a large-scale event to comprise the following sections: Country Reports; Studies of Islamic Urban Heritage (Education, Training, Research); Realised Urban Heritage Preservation Projects. Exhibitions will be held, reflecting the experiences of countries as to: Studies in the field of urban heritage, Realised Projects in the Preservation and Development of Urban Heritage, Demonstrations of Craftsmen on crafts related to urban heritage buildings.

The Country Reports, to be contributed by the participating Member States, are expected to outline the following: history of the urban heritage and its preservation, laws and regulations protecting urban heritage and surrounding areas, national registers of urban heritage (documentation and classification), economic aspects of the preservation and development of urban heritage (state mechanisms for financing urban heritage projects, government funds, private investment, employment), tourism and urban heritage, urban heritage and education, the role of the media, successful

examples of utilisation of urban heritage, rehabilitation of urban heritage villages, historic town center development projects, heritage hotel projects, traditional market development projects, handicrafts and architecture, etc. As to Studies of Islamic Urban Heritage, they are expected to cover subjects relating to urban heritage in educational curricula, originality and creativity in the development of urban heritage, modernisation of Islamic cities, use of technology in developing building materials for urban heritage, modern processes in restoration, maintenance, preservation and rehabilitation, educational programs for different levels of education, development of craftsmanship, utilization of elements of urban heritage in modern architecture, role of the media in raising awareness and educating the public on urban heritage. The third section, on Realised Projects in the Preservation and Development of Urban Heritage, will be related to: environmental factors affecting urban heritage, mechanisms to deal with environmental variables affecting urban heritage buildings, the role of government, private sector initiatives regarding the protection, maintenance and restoration of urban heritage, feasibility of modern alternatives for natural materials used in the restoration and maintenance of urban heritage buildings.

Some of the planned exhibitions will highlight various country experiences besides presentations on projects and studies of institutions concerned with urban heritage.

The congress aims to issue a set of recommendations for the consideration of countries, international and regional organisations.

VISITS, MEETINGS AND COOPERATION

The visit of Mr. Ali Mohamed Al-Anisi, Director of the Presidential Office, Republic of Yemen

11 June 2009

Mr. Ali Mohamed Al-Anisi, Director of the Presidential Office of the Republic of Yemen, paid a visit to IRCICA on 11 June 2009 within the framework of his visit to Turkey. The expanding cooperation between Yemeni institutions and IRCICA was the focus of the visit. Mr. Anisi also received information on the Centre's activities and various departments. At the end of the visit, Mr. Anisi recorded his impressions on the Visitors Book (original: Arabic):



"I and my colleagues members of my delegation are happy to visit IRCICA during our visit to the brotherly country Turkey, where we saw magnificent accomplishments and a rich heritage rooted in the history of Turkey and its Muslim nation, and this history as documented by means of modern technologies and by honest and qualified staff under the direction of my brother Dr. Halit Eren. I cannot but pay tribute to all those who worked and work now at this Centre, which is the fruit of joint efforts by the OIC and Turkey".

Meeting with Prof. Ildus Ilishev, Deputy Prime Minister of Bashkortostan, at IRCICA

18 June 2009

IRCICA was honoured to receive Prof. Ildus Ilishev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Bashkortostan, on its premises on 18 June 2009. The meeting with Director General Dr. Halit Eren focused on the academic and cultural cooperation between Bashkortostan on one hand and IRCICA which bore fruit in the organisation of the congress on "Islamic Civilisation in Volga-Ural Region" on 14-16 October 2008 in Ufa, capital city of Bashkortostan. This was the third congress on this theme, after the first two congresses



held in Kazan, Tatarstan, in 2001 and 2005 respectively. The meeting of Prof. Ilishev and Dr. Eren focused on preparations relating to the next, that is the fourth congress in the series, which will also take place in Ufa, in the Fall of 2010.

Prof. Ilishev recorded the following message in IRCICA's Visitors Book: "On behalf of the President of Bashkortostan Murtaza Rakhimov, I would like to send you a message of love and friendship. You do great work for the benefit of our Turkic culture. I wish you every success and happiness. We do hope very many joint projects await us."



Book Survey

»»»» A selection of recent additions to IRCICA Library

- **Tārikh-e 'Elm, Iranian Journal for the History of Science**, No. 6, 2008, Managing Editor: Ahmad Badkubeh Hazaveh, Chief Editor: Mohammad Bagheri, Institute for the History of Science, University of Tehran

Tārikh-e 'Elm journal is an internationally renown academic journal in the field of history of science in Islam. It is published by the Institute for the History of Science, University of Tehran, since 2003.

The volumes published until now contain articles on a wide spectrum of subjects highlighting Islamic contributions in arithmetics, geometry, astronomy, physics, medicine, alchemy, etc., as well as reference documents and book reviews. The articles are in Persian, Arabic, English and French, with English summaries in cases where the main text is in another language.

The latest issue of Tārikh-e 'Elm contains as usual, quality articles on: "Two Beautiful Geometrical Theorems by Abū Sahl Kūhī in a 17th Century Dutch Translation" (Jan P. Hogendijk), "A Brief History of Zero" (George Gheverghese Joseph), "Introduction of Persian Astronomy into India" (Yukio Ōhashi), "Solar Eclipses in Medieval Islamic Civilisation: A Note on Cultural and Social Aspects" (Hamid-Reza Ghihi Yazdi), "Solutions in al-Riyād al-Kabīr Attributed to Jābir ibn Hayyān (Saeed Akbari Shād), "An Early Persian Translation of the Section on Calendars in Kūshyār's Zīj" (Mohammad Bagheri), "A Persian Treatise on the Determination of the Sine of One Degree" (Fateme Savadi), "Abu Hātam Asfizāri and Ibn Khammār's Place in the Meteorological Tradition of the Islamic Period" (Younes Karamati).

The journal accepts submissions of articles for publication. The mailing address is: Tārikh-e 'Elm, Iranian Journal for the History of Science, P.O. Box 13145-1836, Tehran, Iran.

- **István Ormos, Max Herz Pasha. His life and Career (1856-1919)** Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale, Cairo, 2009; 2 volumes, IX+636 p; 323 illustrations

The Hungarian architect Max Herz (1856-1919) played an important role in the conservation of Arab-Islamic and Coptic architectural heritage of Egypt. He chaired the activities of the «Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe» (Conservation committee for the monuments of Arab art) in Egypt for a quarter century, from 1887 to 1914. The Committee accomplished a remarkably intensive amount of work to inventory and to restore the monuments in Cairo, and progressively of its surroundings. Herz worked as the Director of the Arab Museum (today, the Islamic Art Museum) and at

the same time a devoted scholar and a specialist of the neo-Mamluk style. This well-written, pleasant read book on the life, career and activities of Herz Pasha is based on extensive documentation and has frequent, informative excerpts.

The author divided the book into six chapters, three in each volume. The first volume is about the life of Herz Pasha (his childhood and youth, the periods he spent in Budapest, Vienna and Egypt respectively, his illness, and the main traits of his personality); Herz as a restorer (his methods of preservation and conservation, his work at the head of the Committee, the extension of the Committee's sphere of authority to cover Coptic monuments besides the Islamic ones, the Committee after Herz Pasha, documentation of the Committee); the large number of monuments rescued under his direction: Arab-Islamic monuments (the mosques of al-Mu'ayyad Šayh, Abū Bakr ibn Muzhir and Sultan Barkūk, Sultan Barkūk mausoleum, etc.), Coptic monuments (churches and monasteries), secular structures (public buildings and fountains). The second volume is devoted to museums and the activities relating to them (Herz Pasha's directorship of the Arab Museum, his founding the Coptic Museum); Herz as a scholar (his fields of interest, major and lesser publications, the Committee's annual reports, preparation of publications on Coptic architecture, his unachieved works, his drawings); Herz as a private architect (the "Arab style" known today as a revival of Mamluk style, Herz' role in the prevalence of this style, the buildings he designed such as the Palace of Count Zogheb, Villa Herz, la Villa Ades, the extension works on the Austro-Hungarian hospital, etc.). The various chapters contain ample information on the architecture of Cairo in general.

In the Conclusion, the author outlines the contributions of Herz: his restoring and preserving monuments for posterity, the "high professional standard and strict working discipline" maintained in the Committee during his term of office which served as a model for later generations; the rescuing of artifacts, arrangement of exhibits and preparation of catalogues in the Arab Museum. An extensive appendix about Herz follows: the person, documents and manuscript sources relating to Herz (documents concerning his dismissal, his death, his activities at the head of the Committee); his correspondence with the Ignaz Goldziher, the Hungarian Arabist, and Max Van Berchem, the Swiss founder of Arabic epigraphy and historian of Islamic art; his biographies published in various languages, and the donations of Herz Pasha. A large bibliography, an index of personal names, a numerical index of monuments of Cairo, and a chronological index of monuments of Cairo complete the work. (*Book presentation by Faisal Benaissa, IRCICA*)

- **Hélène Carrère d'Encausse, Islam and the Russian Empire. Reform and Revolution in Central Asia**, I.B. Tauris & Co Ltd, London, 2009, xix+267 p.

This book was originally published in 1966 under the title *Réforme et Révolution chez les Musulmans de l'Empire Russe*. This English translation has not been updated; it therefore reflects the realities of the time the book was written. It maintains its importance today as a reliable source on a significant period of the history of Muslims in Central Asia. Focusing on politics, administration and religious life in the state of Bukhara, it deals with the relations between the central authority of the Russian empire and its Muslim-populated regions from mid-19th century until early 20th century, immediately after the Russian Revolution. The book is also a history of the Muslim reform movement. After the Crimean War, Russian power spread into and increased its influence in the politics and economy of the Muslim states of Central Asia. With the settlement of Russians among the local populations, notable changes occurred in society, especially intellectual milieus. A reformist movement – Jadidism – developed among the Muslim intelligentsia of Bukhara which faced opposition from conservative religious and political institutions. At the end, the Muslim reform movement was absorbed by the Bolshevik Revolution. The book gives an excellent account of the reformist movement as it was reflected in the press, the educational reforms – their successes and failures, the Jadid circles and institutions, the activities of the Young Bukharan Party, etc. completed by a rich Appendix section.

Hélène Carrère d'Encausse is an eminent specialist of Russian history, author of many books, and permanent secretary of the Académie Française. The Preface is by Maxime Rodinson (1915-2004), a French scholar specialised in Islamic history.

- **Faith and Worship. Islam, July 22-October 10, 2009, Abu Dhabi**, published by Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, and Republic of Turkey, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2009, 439 p.

This large-size artistic publication is the catalogue of an exhibition of selected works representing Islamic religious and cultural heritage. The exhibition is organised jointly by the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage (ADACH) and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey, and staged at the Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi. The exhibits were chosen from Turkey's museums and libraries, including: Topkapı Palace Museum and the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts, Istanbul; Ethnographic Museum, Ankara; Mevlana Museum, Konya; the Mevlevi Lodge, Beyazıt State Library and Millet Library, Istanbul.

The artifacts consist of works of Ottoman and Islamic arts relating to the Islamic faith. They include copies of the Quran, functional and decorative objects relating to pilgrimage to Mecca during the Ottoman period including cloths and curtains woven for the Ka'ba and other places in Mecca and

Medina, diverse objects relating to Muslims' daily worshipping practices such as prayer rugs, prayer beads, ewers, etc. The catalogue has the photographs of 145 artifacts, accompanied by rich texts containing detailed descriptions of each item with information on its function, its history and significance from the point of view of purpose and artistic features.

The catalogue part is preceded by four articles: "Humanity's need for the Prophet Muhammad today" by Suat Yıldırım; "Muhammad the last Prophet" by Mustafa Çiçekler; "The existence and unity of God" by Mustafa Çiçekler; "Development of art in the Islamic world" by Hülya Tezcan.

The book has forewords by Sheikh Sultan bin Tahnoon Al Nahyan, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage; Ertuğrul Günay, Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey; İlber Ortaylı, President, Topkapı Palace Museum.

- **M. Uğur Derman, Eternal Letters. From the Abdul Rahman Al Owais Collection of Islamic Calligraphy, Sharjah, April-September 2009 Sharjah – U.A.E.** translated by Irvin Cemil Schick; published by Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilisation, 367 p.

This book is essentially a catalogue of samples from the collection of calligraphic works belonging to Mr. Abdul Rahman Al Owais (Minister of Culture, United Arab Emirates) and displayed at the Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilisation. It has a Foreword by Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi (Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Emir of Sharjah). The Introduction titled "Calligraphy in Islam" by calligraphy expert M. Uğur Derman tells the history of this art, the periods of its development, the styles, the contributors, the tools and materials used – before and after the advent of paper, types of ink, the pen, uses and applications of calligraphy. Mr. Derman is also the author of the informative texts accompanying the reproductions. These texts containing information on each calligrapher, a study of the work with respect to its history, its significance within the period it belongs to, its various technical features including its style, form of composition, illumination, etc. add greatly to the value of the book making of it a useful reference on the art of calligraphy.

The works reproduced in the catalogue, 71 in total, are masterpieces of eminent calligraphers of the 15th to the 19th centuries. The majority are Ottoman calligraphers, such as Şeyh Hamdullah, Ahmed Karahisari, Sultan Ali Al-Mashhadi, Mir Ali Haravi. Among the works are Quranic verses, hilyes about Prophet Mohammed, tughras (monograms), and calligraphers' licenses, the latter dating from 19th century and written in thuluth and naskh styles. At the end is a glossary of terms used in the book, with explanations in Arabic, Persian and Turkish, a genealogical table of calligraphers based upon the master-student relationship, which was crucial for the transmission of the art over generations, a bibliography, and an index.

(Book presentation by Faisal Benaissa, IRCICA)

**Mushaf Al-Sharif Attributed to 'Uthman bin 'Affan
(The copy at al-Mashhad al-Husaini in Cairo)**

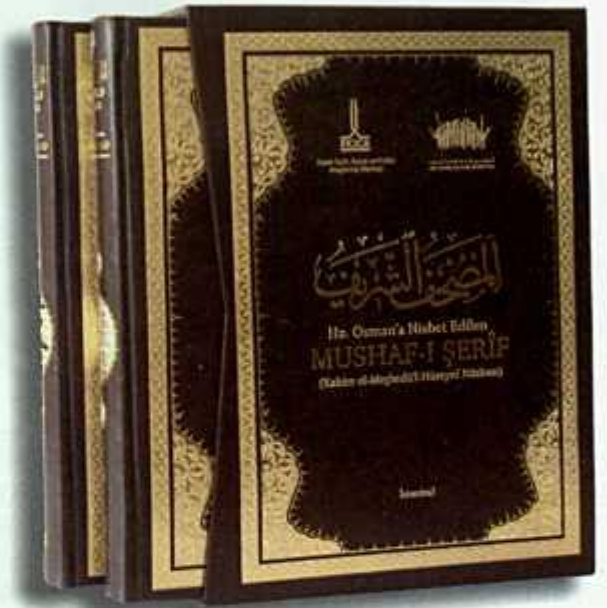
prepared for publication and Introduction by Tayyar Altıkulaç,
Foreword by Halit Eren, Istanbul, 1430/2009
(Introduction in Turkish, English and Arabic)

This book contains the facsimile edition, accompanied by a scholarly study, of a copy of the Holy Quran which is located in Cairo and attributed to the time of Caliph Othman. Thus among the copies dating from that period, this one is known as the "Cairo Mushaf". It belonged to the collection of the Library of Imam Hussain in Cairo but it was later transferred to the Central Library of Islamic Manuscripts affiliated to the Ministry of Awqaf of Egypt for restoration purposes. The study of this copy, accompanying the facsimile edition, and its preparation for publication, have been done by a leading scholar in Quranic studies, ex-President of Religious Affairs in Turkey, Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç.

This publication comes in the same line of editions the first of which was a facsimile edition of the copy attributed to the same period, that of Caliph Othman, and located in the library of Topkapı Palace Museum in Istanbul, accompanied, similarly, by a study by Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç, published in 2007. A similar work, relating to the copy of the Quran attributed to the same period and kept at the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum (Istanbul), by the same author, was published in 2008 by ISAM (Istanbul).

The study on the Cairo copy is a meticulous analysis of the copy comparing it to the other copies which date from the same period and are preserved in different cities of the world, namely the Topkapı copy, the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum copy, the Tashkent copy (preserved at the Khazrati Imam Mosque in Tashkent, Uzbekistan) and the copy of the Great Mosque of Sana'a (Yemen).

IRCICA is thankful to the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage for the financial contribution to the printing of the book and to the Ministry of Awqaf of Egypt for facilitating the work conducted on basis of the copy.

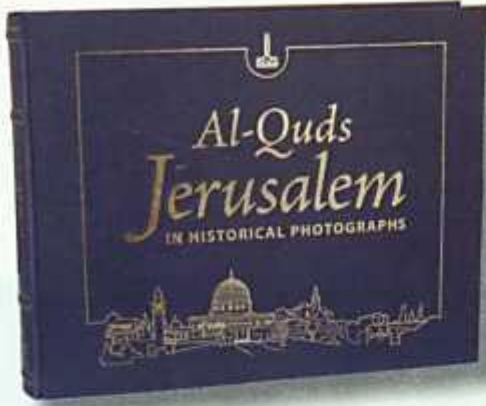


Earlier, IRCICA had published two other historical copies of the Quran. The first one was the copy known as the "Fazıl Pasha Mushaf", written in the name of the Seljukid Sultan Tugrul Bey in the year 1186 and kept in Gazi Hüsrev Bey Library in Sarajevo, which was published by IRCICA in a facsimile edition. The second one was the reprint of the first Quran copy printed in the Muslim world, that is, the copy printed in Kazan, Tatarstan, in 1803; this copy was reprinted in Istanbul in 2005 at the initiative of the Municipality of Kazan, on the occasion of the millennium of Kazan City, following a technical revision by IRCICA in preparation for printing.

Al-Quds

Jerusalem in historical photographs

Text: Kerim Balci, Foreword: Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Preface: Halit Eren, IRCICA, 2009, xxxi, 435 pp. (in English, Arabic and Turkish editions)



This publication resulted from a major project IRCICA devoted to the preservation of the multicultural architectural and urban heritage of Al-Quds/Jerusalem, “The” esteemed city of all the heavenly faith systems. The Centre placed the book within the framework of the 40th anniversary commemoration of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, wrote the Foreword to the album. İhsanoğlu underlines the importance of Al-Quds/Jerusalem on universal scale, as a holy city for all three heavenly religions. For Muslims, Al-Quds is the third holy city after Makkah and Madina. Masjid al-Aqsa (“The farthest mosque”) is Muslims’ first qibla – the direction faced when praying. Throughout its history of several millennias the city has been the cradle of various faiths and cultures. It was always coveted by the main faith communities until modern times. The Secretary General then states that resolution of the conflict over Al-Quds and Palestine which is ongoing since mid-20th century was the founding motive of the OIC in 1969 and remains its foremost cause today. The OIC reiterated on all occasions its strong belief that the problem of Al-Quds is not just an Islamic issue but enjoys a wider religious dimension. İhsanoğlu underlines in this regard that preservation of the multicultural character of the city with due respect of the populations and the shrines of each faith is no doubt an indispensable part of any acceptable solution of the problem.

In the Preface, Dr. Halit Eren explains that in its capacity as the OIC’s research centre in charge of studies on history, culture and preservation of heritage, IRCICA carries out various activity programs relating to the urban, architectural and socio-cultural heritage of Al-Quds and Palestine. Eren refers to the history of Al-Quds/Jerusalem under the rule of successive states and refers to the major restorations

conducted on Al-Quds monuments during Ottoman times; the city was almost renewed during the reign of Suleyman the Magnificent with the restorations conducted at Qubbat as-Sakhra, the construction of walls, fountains, market places and the repair of water canals. Due to its special importance, also, Al-Quds/Jerusalem was visited and described by many travelers whose accounts provide information on various aspects of the city. European travelers’ books sometimes also contain engravings. Then, the region became the first place of interest of the pioneer photographers. The Ottoman Palace was among the first in the world to acquire photographs of the region. Due to the special importance Sultan Abdülhamid II gave to Al-Quds, the Yıldız photograph collection which was formed during his reign contains a large number of them. The collection also contains prints taken by Ottoman photographers.

Mr. Kerim Balci, political scientist, specialist of the history of Al-Quds, reviews the developments in Jerusalem photography in the Introduction of the book. The voluminous collection of photographs contained in the book tells the history of the city during the last quarter of the 19th and the first quarter of the 20th century through the lenses of the pioneer photographers who traveled to the Holy Lands shortly after the invention of photography techniques in the second half of the 19th century. Mr. Balci gives instructive information on the activities of the photographers. They were either religiously motivated – looking for evidence from early Christianity, amateur explorers of the East, or rich westerners investing in images of the East for a growing market demand. Due to the steady pace of development of Jerusalem photography from those early years onwards, the images reproduced in the book reflect not only the city’s features that changed or remained unchanged over time but also the progress of techniques and artistic know-how during the decades that followed the invention.

The album contains the reproductions of 470 photographs gathered from IRCICA’s archive comprising the Yıldız Photograph Albums and several other collections. The sections are arranged under the following titles: Panoramic Jerusalem, Al-Aqsa Mosque, The City and Its People, Holy Sites, Jerusalem’s History on Its Doors and in Its Streets, Jerusalem Streets, Professional Classes and Human Faces from Ottoman Jerusalem, Kaiser Wilhelm II visits Jerusalem, Ottoman Soldiers in Jerusalem and the Defense of the City. The book ends with special photographs on various themes and existing hand-colored versions of some of the photographs. Researchers interested in various aspects of A-Quds, from economic and social life to architecture, will benefit from having this selected archival collection at hand’s reach.

Osmanlı Tıbbi Bilimler Literatürü Tarihi

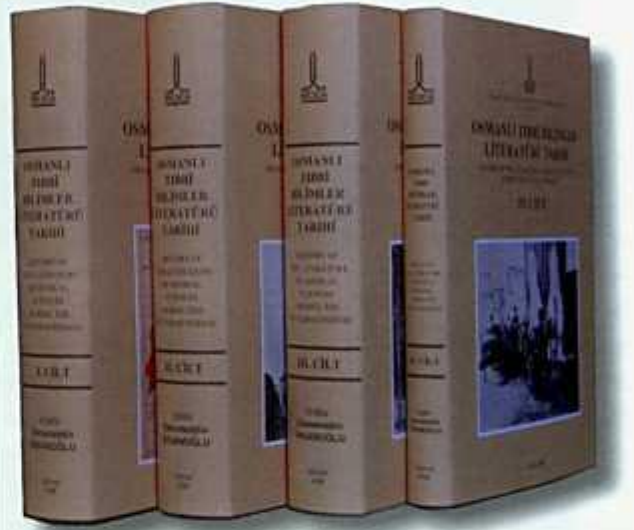
(History of the Literature of Medical Sciences during the Ottoman Period).

prepared by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Ramazan Şeşen, M. Serdar Bekar, Gülcan Gündüz, Veysel Bulut, edited by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, 4 volumes: p. CLXXXI+556, 557-1304, 1305-2036, bibliographies and indexes 2037-2380, IRCICA, İstanbul, 2009

The bio-bibliographies on the History of Ottoman Scientific Literature, a series resulting from about twenty-five years of research, of which the first two volumes appeared in 1997, now reached its fifteenth volume. The preceding eleven volumes were related to astronomy, mathematics, geography, music, military arts, and natural and applied arts, respectively.

The work begins with a Preface by Prof. İhsanoğlu that sketches the main features of the history of medical sciences starting from early Islam and with emphasis on the Ottoman period, describing the landmark developments in theory and practice and those relating to the establishment of hospitals, qualities of the physicians, and translations of medical works from other languages. The Introduction by Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and Prof. Ramazan Şeşen is an instructive study on the history of medicine – including dentistry, pharmacological sciences and veterinary sciences, the various schools and traditions, and the medical institutions, throughout the Umayyad, Abbasid and Ottoman periods. This section evaluates the results of the research and draws statistical figures from the content of the four volumes, thus describing the characteristics of scientific activity, theory, and authorship in the above medical fields. The main body of the book lists the medical works in chronological order under the names and biographies of their authors. The last section lists the books of which the authors and/or translators are not known. The first three volumes have illustrations at the end, such as reproductions of manuscripts, drawings or photographs of hospital buildings, laboratories, etc., and the fourth volume ends with indexes of personal names, book titles, place names, names of institutions, names of copyists, names of places mentioned in colophon, book ownership registers and waqf registers.

In the Ottoman period, authorship of original treatises began in the 14th century with Jamaledin al-Aksarayi and Haji Pasha. Hospitals were built starting from the reign of Yıldırım Beyazıt (1389-1402). Ottoman medicine was for its greatest part directed to practice and treatment and so were Ottoman contributions to medical science. Ottoman medical scientists wrote treatises and made translations in all branches of medicine, however as it was the case in previous periods, studies on anatomy were relatively less. These, together with works in other medical sciences, gained pace in the 19th century especially with the opening of modern medical schools and later of other related institutions.



Western professors, physicians and veterinarians were invited to the Ottoman state and Ottoman graduates of the modern schools were sent to Europe for specialisation; some of them were taught by founders of modern medicine such as Pasteur, R. Koch, and Claude Bernard. From the 1880's onwards Ottoman physicians closely followed the medical progresses in Europe and America. Some of them taught and practiced in Arab countries. As in other fields of science, the improvement of health services and the quality of medical literature were remarkable in the 19th century.

The book covers 5607 treatises and articles on medicine, dentistry, pharmacology and veterinary sciences by 1430 authors. 1437 out of the total are either manuscripts or have manuscript copies. Again out of the total, 4558 are medical books, 544 on pharmacology, and 546 on veterinary sciences. 4560 are in the Turkish language, 821 in Arabic, 114 in French, 39 in Persian, 17 in Armenian, and 14 in German. 36 of them are in more than one language. There exist a large number of translations. Until the 18th century, Ottoman medicine practically followed Islamic medicine, and thus until the 17th translations were made mostly from Arabic and Persian, while after that time translations from Western languages increased. The number of translated works included in the book is 723; 262 of them were translated from French to Turkish and 106 from Arabic to Turkish.

It is estimated that this publication adds considerably to the data available on medical literature in the Muslim world.

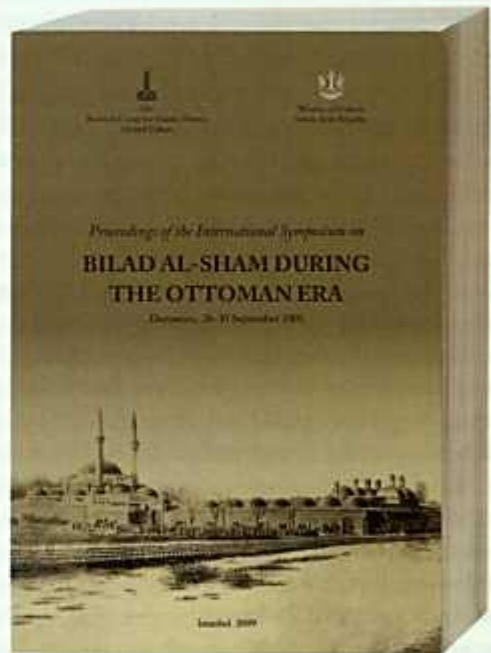
IRCICA PUBLICATIONS

Proceedings of the International Symposium on **Bilad al-Sham During the Ottoman Era**

Damascus, 26-30 September 2005, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2009

The congress on "Bilad Al-Sham during the Ottoman Era" was co-organised by IRCICA and the Ministry of Culture of Syria under the patronage of the President of Syria Dr. Bashar al-Assad. Within the framework of IRCICA's series of congresses focusing on the history of Muslim peoples in various regions, it was the first congress to be devoted to Bilad al-Sham, corresponding to the region comprising modern-day Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria and which always had a significant place in the political, economic and cultural history of the Ottoman Empire. Participants were specialists from universities in the Arab world, Turkey, Europe, Japan and the USA. A wide range of topics were addressed namely state and society, economy, modernisation, education and culture, cities and infrastructure during the period, as well as the state of research in this field and questions of methodology.

In the Preface, Dr. Halit Eren states that the history of Bilad al-Sham during the Ottoman period represents a shared history of many nation-states of today. Public perception and memory of it is therefore important and will benefit from an objective understanding of this past that would take into account factors both internal and external to the region and view its facts and realities from the perspective of the broader world political environment of the time. The papers in this volume altogether represent an attempt towards such an understanding. The book contains eight articles in English and ten in Arabic.



"Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" Program, 2008 Report, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2009

The ten-year program of architectural studies and workshops "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" is undertaken by IRCICA to make studies and produce reports on the urban and architectural situation of the Old City and its surroundings. These reports would serve as references during efforts to restore, preserve and improve the conditions and well-being of people in the area. The program as a whole will contribute to the protection and preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of Jerusalem, aid its positive urban development, and demonstrate the potential for cooperation among concerned professionals under challenging circumstances.



After having completed the ten-year program of workshops on the architectural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina titled "Mostar 2004" and held annually from 1994 to 2004, and drawing from the experience acquired in it, IRCICA undertook the present comprehensive program with contributions from universities around the world. The University of Al-Quds and a team of architects from various countries, are collaborating with the Centre. It is the first research and field-based architectural project of its kind.

The present report contains the results of the activities conducted by IRCICA's Department of Architecture during 2008 together with reports contributed by the participating scholars and experts. It begins with the Project Overview, by Prof. Arch. Amir Pašić, Head of the Department of Architecture, IRCICA. This section outlines the fact-finding missions, field studies and seminars conducted during the year. It is followed by articles titled: "Old City of Jerusalem: Challenges for an Administration of Urban Function", by Rassem Khamaisi; "Interpreting of the Urban Structure of Old Jerusalem", by Cladio D'Amato, Attilio Petruccioli, Annalinda Neglia, Giuseppe Rociola, Claudio Rubini, Domenico Catania; "Collections of Extant and Registers in the Prime Ministry Ottoman Archives concerning Jerusalem", by Cengiz Tomar, "Islamic Monuments in Al-Quds/Jerusalem, A General Assesment", by C. İrem Yaylalı; "Ottoman Fountains in Al-Quds/Jerusalem", by Işıl Çokuğraş; "The Birket Hammam al-Batrak (Pool of the Bath of the Patriarch)", by J. Brooke Harrington; "The Typological Analysis of Mamluk Public Building in Jerusalem: The Ribat and the Madrasa, A Work in Progress", by Cladio D'Amato, Attilio Petruccioli, Annalinda Neglia, Giuseppe Rociola, Claudio Rubini, Domenico Catania; "Turba of Turkân Khâtûn", by Gül Ünal, Gülhan Kılınç; "Public Kitchen of Haseki Sultan within the Takiyya Complex in Al-Quds/Jerusalem", Zeynep Ahunbay, Betül Ekimci, Füsün Ece Ferah, Umut Almaç, Duygu Göçmen, Burcu Akan; "Parametric Construction of Islamic Star Patterns/Rosettes: Jaffa Gate Rosette", by M. Birgül Çolakoğlu, Arman Yasa, Aydın Avunduk; "Modeling and Interactive Simulation of Historical City Al-Quds/Jerusalem for CIS: Case Study on Via Dolorosa", by Togan Tong.

