



Newsletter



OIC RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE

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assumed office as**

Secretary General of OIC:

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the Secretary General's inaugural address

Farewell ceremony at
IRCICA for the departure
of Prof. İhsanoğlu

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Dr. Halit Eren assumed office**

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Islamic Archaeology**

held under the patronage of
**H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan,
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Tourism Ministers**

Dakar, Senegal

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Newsletter



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Editorial

It is a pleasure for me to address the readers of IRCICA Newsletter for the first time after assuming office as Director General at IRCICA as of 1 January 2005. Having served IRCICA since its earliest years, first as the Head of the Libraries and Archives Department and then for many years as Deputy Director General, I had the chance of assisting and collaborating closely with H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, the Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, who was the Director General of IRCICA from 1980 to December 2004. Thus I was able, together with our colleagues at the Centre, to participate actively in the evolution of the Centre and be closely involved in the expansion and diversification of its activities. I take this opportunity to renew my commitment to the objectives of the OIC and express my resolve to develop the Centre's full potential. I am confident that with the continuous support of the OIC Member States and the cooperation of their cultural institutions, IRCICA will continue to flourish as a centre of knowledge devoted to the study of Islamic culture and civilisation.

The period of four months that has passed since 1st January was full of landmark occasions. We are covering them briefly in this issue. Thus we highlight first the ceremony that was held in Jeddah, on the occasion of the investiture of Prof. Ihsanoglu as OIC Secretary General, and also, the farewell ceremony held before that at IRCICA. We are happy that we will continue to work closely together with Prof. Ihsanoglu, since he will be at the head of the General Secretariat. We are also proud that after being our Director General for twenty-five years, he was elected Secretary General by the Member States' votes.

This is an occasion for me to express, on behalf of IRCICA and myself, our gratitude to Prof. Ihsanoglu, for his seminal endeavours which carried the Centre from a mere concept defined in its establishment statute into the present fully-fledged institution. The concept had no precedent: IRCICA is the first inter-governmental research centre to be engaged in research on culture, history and arts and promote cultural cooperation in the Muslim world. For this reason, devising the work plans of the Centre required an innovative approach and an accurate assessment of the state of existing studies and activities in these fields. By taking into consideration the cultural policies and needs of the Member States and the developments observed in international relations on cultural issues, and with the foresight and accurate vision of Prof. Ihsanoglu, the Centre was able to formulate and execute work plans that won the approval and support of the OIC Member States.

Another landmark event is the 25th anniversary of IRCICA to be commemorated this year. On this occasion, we have planned to organise an "Islamic Countries Cul-

tural Week", starting from 22 November 2005. The program of activities, to be communicated to the Foreign Ministries of the Member States in detail, is outlined in the present issue. It will also be announced in IRCICA's website.

On the occasion of this anniversary, we have also adapted a new presentation format for the *Newsletter*.

Our Centre maintains close links of cooperation with the relevant academic, artistic and cultural circles of the world. The scope of its activities widen continuously, to address subjects previously uncovered in studies on Islam and the Muslim world and promote cooperation between the specialists concerned. The First International Congress on "Islamic Archaeology", held in our Centre in early April, resulted from a similar effort: it was the first meeting to focus on the archaeology of the Islamic sites and periods, in an initiative to establish a regular forum of archaeologists, scholars and specialists of the field. We hope, as also expressed by the participants, that its results will give an impetus to studies on Islamic archaeology.

Within the framework of our studies on the history of Islamic civilisation in various geographical regions within and outside the Muslim world, we covered until now East and West Africa, South and Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Caucasus, Southeast Europe and the Balkans. The scope of these studies is expanding, to cover other regions where Islamic civilisation flourished. Thus, a core region of Islamic history, "Bilad al-Sham", will come into focus at the International Congress on "Syria in the Ottoman Period", to be held in Damascus on 26-30 September 2005. The Second International Symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in Volga-Ural Region", to be held in Tatarstan on 24-26 June 2005, coinciding with the 1000th anniversary of Kazan City, will underline the coexistence of Islam with other religions and cultures in that northern corner of the Muslim world. Good rates of participation are already recorded for these congresses.

Furthermore, we have the pleasure to announce that we will soon launch an international competition on Islamic architecture: the «Prince Faisal bin Fahd Award for the Preservation of Islamic Architecture». The award will be presented to the best restoration projects of Islamic structures. Please find information on this competition in the present issue. The program, purpose and modalities of the competition and the conditions of participation will be announced in IRCICA's website, and by correspondence to the architectural institutions and circles concerned, from May 2005 onwards.

Our website, currently under revision, will give you up-to-date information on these and other activities. Thank you for your interest.

Dr. Halit Eren

Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu assumed office as Secretary General of OIC:

takeover ceremony in Jeddah and the Secretary General's inaugural address

Prof. Dr., Dr. h.c. mult. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu assumed office as Secretary General of the OIC. An official ceremony was held on this occasion in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in the evening of 28 December 2004.

The ceremony was organised by the OIC, on the occasion of the completion of the mandate of H.E. Dr. Abdelouahed Belkéziz as Secretary General and the investiture of H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu as the new Secretary General. The ceremony was attended by a number of official personalities and members of the diplomatic corps accredited in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

At the beginning, the Assistant Secretary General of OIC for Political Affairs, Ambassador Izzat Kamil Mufti, delivered a statement on behalf of the General Secretariat. He extended his gratitude to H.E. Dr. Abdelouahed Belkéziz for his endeavours as Secretary General during the past four years within difficult international conditions. His Excellency made every effort to mark the presence of joint Islamic action and the Organisation's efforts at various levels and various inter-

national fora. Ambassador Mufti then addressed Prof. İhsanoğlu, the new OIC Secretary General, with the following words: "It is little wonder, therefore, that the leaders of the Muslim Ummah have chosen you and entrusted you with this noble mission after you won in free, fair and unblemished elections which lay sound foundations for the principles of transparency, justice and democracy within our Organisation. Congratulations for the trust and paramount respect of the Muslim world, and congratulations to the Muslim Ummah for choosing one of its best, noblest and most competent men to pursue the journey in so tense conditions that the Muslim Ummah has scarcely ever witnessed before."

The following speaker was His Eminence the Secretary General of the Islamic Fiqh Academy, Dr. Mohamed Habib Belkhoja, who lauded Dr. Abdelouahed Belkéziz and Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, highlighting the OIC's role in the progress of the Muslim Ummah, the prosperity of its peoples and the protection of its interests in the face of the challenges of the 21st century.

The President of the Islamic Development Bank, Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Ali, made a statement addressing the



Dr. Abdelouahed Belkéziz, Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu



Dr. Abdelouahed Belkéziz, Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu

significant role entrusted to the OIC and its various organs to meet the challenges facing the Muslim Ummah. He reaffirmed the IDB's full willingness to continue its fruitful cooperation with the OIC at the upcoming stage.

Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu gave a comprehensive inaugural statement, in which he acknowledged with profound gratitude the close interest shown by the Member States to the activities of the OIC, its subsidiaries, its specialised and affiliated institutions, by their involvement in the various OIC bodies, specialised committees, by hosting and supporting the various organs of the OIC, its conferences and expert meetings. He expressed his hope that this support would continue in the period ahead with an even more active participation of all Member States in the OIC's activities. In this respect he paid a deferential tribute to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the host country of the General Secretariat. Prof. Ihsanoglu said that the goals which were laid down at the establishment of the OIC remained as matters of current importance in our time, but that the real world conditions today are not the same as at the time of the OIC's establishment.

The OIC was born in the Cold War period and reinforced by the idea of cooperation among developing countries. After the end of the Cold War and the bipolar world, globalisation increased the interdependencies between countries. In contrast with the previous period, where the foreign relations of each country were defined in terms of alignment with a bloc, globalisation led each country to link itself with the world economy. International cooperation is even more indispensable.

International organisations are expected to assume more prominent roles. Therefore, he said, the OIC has to strengthen its role as the partner of other major organisations and the inter-governmental institution representing the Muslim world on matters commonly agreed by the Member States. In such an environment, international solidarity and cooperation become more pressing and more indispensable than ever. In this regard, the Secretary General appraised the achievements of the OIC since its establishment thirty-five years ago. Pointing out that the outside world is now much more aware of the Muslim countries, their potentials and cultural diversities, and the cultural and religious identities of the Muslim communities and minorities, he indicated that possibilities are now greater for enhancing the OIC's role as an agent of cooperation and solidarity among Muslim countries and communities and boosting its effectiveness in world politics.

Then, H.E. Dr. Abdelouahed Belkéziz delivered a statement extending thanks and appreciation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and to His Majesty Mohammed VI, King of Morocco and Chairman of the Al Quds Committee, for the support he received in person and for the active backing of joint Islamic action within Al Quds Committee and other missions undertaken by the OIC. Addressing his successor, Dr. Belkéziz said: "I turn over this difficult and noble mission today to my brother and friend Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu with great assurance and confidence. I am fully convinced that the General Secretariat will be in honest, competent, efficient and creative hands."



A souvenir artwork presented to Prof. Ihsanoğlu

Farewell ceremony at IRCICA for Prof. Ihsanoğlu

22 December 2004 was a memorable day at IRCICA: a farewell ceremony was held on the eve of Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu's departure to Jeddah to take over the functions of Secretary General of OIC. The staff assembled in the conference hall at Çit Qasr for the occasion. Dr. Halit Eren spoke on behalf of IRCICA and himself, extending his gratitude and appreciation to Prof. Ihsanoğlu for his pioneering accomplishments and remarkable endeavours during the establishment and evolution processes of IRCICA which enabled the latter to become a focal point of scholarship and international cultural cooperation recognised in the world at large. He expressed his thanks to Prof. Ihsanoğlu also for having created a team spirit, a family atmosphere within the Centre, which contributed to building solidarity among the staff members.

Dr. Eren underlined that it was a source of pride and pleasure for IRCICA that its Director General was elected Secretary General of OIC. "It is comforting for us", he said, "that Prof. Ihsanoğlu is not leaving IRCICA, but will remain within the same Organisation, at the head of the General Secretariat, and that we will continue to work together". He invited the staff members to express

their thoughts and feelings on this occasion, if they wished so. Many of the staff members took the floor, telling their memories of the past years, wishing success to Prof. Ihsanoğlu in his new mission.

Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu thanked Dr. Eren and all the staff members for their diligent efforts and their commitment to the objectives of the Centre, saying that the success of the Centre was the product of their collective, collaborative effort. He thanked them for the warm feelings and sincere wishes they had expressed on this occasion.

He expressed his belief that the family atmosphere and the spirit of collaboration will continue to characterise the Centre with regard to all aspects of its activities. He said he was assured that under the direction of Dr. Halit Eren, IRCICA will continue to progress steadily and to serve the Member States through its innovative and effective activities in the various fields of studies on Islamic culture and civilisation.

This gathering was also an occasion for the IRCICA staff to bid farewell to their colleagues who left together with Prof. Ihsanoğlu to assume posts at the General Secretariat: Mr. Erol Öcalır, the Director of the Administration and Finance Department of IRCICA who took office as Internal Auditor at the General Secretariat, Mr. Ahmed Lajimi, Director of Cabinet at IRCICA who assumed the post of Advisor, and also Mr. Rahmi Kaleli, who was the Director of Administration



The staff members who assumed posts at the General Secretariat were given certificates of appreciation

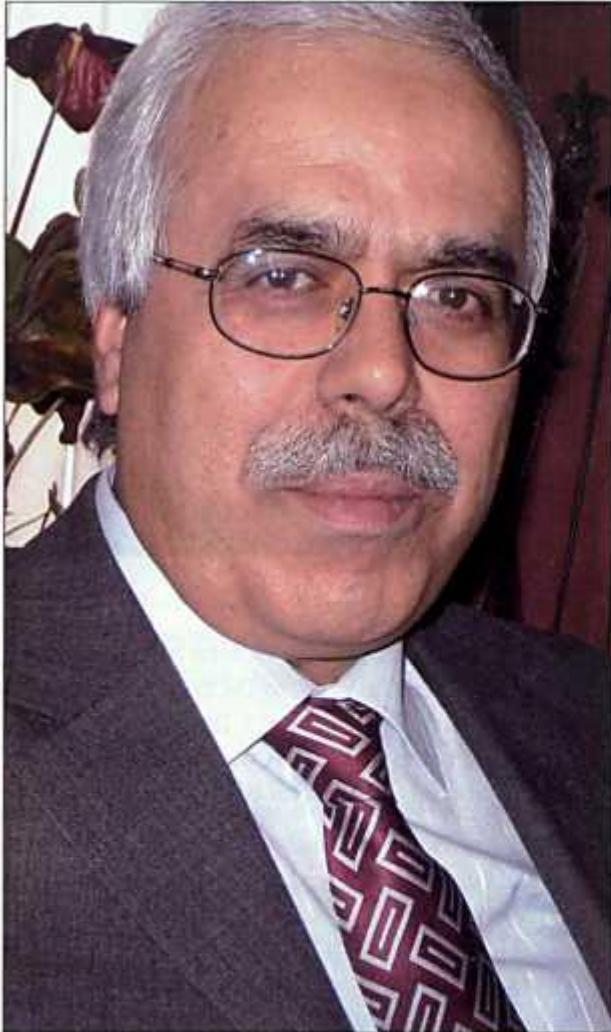
and Finance for twenty years at the OIC Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre, Ankara, Turkey, and has been appointed Director of Administration and Finance at the OIC General Secretariat.

After assuming office at the General Secretariat, Prof. Ihsanoğlu made his first visit to IRCICA in his capacity as OIC Secretary General on 15 January 2005. Some time later, he came to IRCICA on the occasion of the First International Congress on Islamic Archaeology (8-10 April 2005).



IRCICA's new Director General Dr. Halit Eren assumed office

IRCICA's new Director General Dr. Halit Eren assumed office



Halit Eren, the new Director General of IRCICA, assumed office as of 1st January 2005. Following the election of Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu to the General Secretariat of OIC, Dr. Halit Eren, who was the Deputy Director General of IRCICA, was appointed by the Secretary General, at the recommendation of the Governing Board of IRCICA and upon being nominated by the Government of the Republic of Turkey.

A brief biography

Born in 1953, Halit Eren graduated from Marmara University, Istanbul, in 1976. He received his MA on History from the Institute of Social Sciences, Marmara

University, in 1989 and his PhD on History of Modern Times from the Institute of Turkic Studies in the same university in 1995.

Dr. Halit Eren joined IRCICA in 1981 as senior researcher and Head of the Library and Documentation Department. A few years later he was appointed Deputy Director General. His first assignment at the Centre was the compilation, together with İsmet Binark, of the World Bibliography of Translations of the Meanings of the Holy Quran. Printed Translations, 15151980. For many years he was the Coordinator/Member of the Organizing Committee of IRCICA's congresses and symposiums relating to Caucasia, VolgaUral region, Central Asia and the Balkans. He participated in the Islamic Summit Conferences, Islamic Conferences of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Conferences of Culture Ministers, Information Ministers, and other conferences and committees of the OIC.

Dr. Eren has been active, since before his joining IRCICA, as founder and administrator of philanthropic societies and cultural NGOs. He founded and directed the TurkishIslamic Association of England (19791981); was a member of the Executive Board (19841994) and President (19921994) of the Central Office of the Solidarity Association of Western Thrace Turks, Istanbul, Secretary General of the Foundation for Research on Islamic History, Art and Culture (ISAR), Istanbul (1990); founding member of Turkish Society for History of Science (1989), founding member of the Rumeli (Eastern Europe) Foundation for Education, Istanbul (1993); member of the Preparatory Committee of the Seventh Development Plan of Turkey, Ankara (1993); founding member (1996) and VicePresident (19961998, 20022004) of the Western Thrace Foundation for Education, Culture and Health, Istanbul; VicePresident of the Cultural and Solidarity Association of East European Turks (19972001); member of the Executive Board and VicePresident of the Cultural and Solidarity Foundation of East European Turks (2001); Advisor on Balkan Affairs to the Minister of State of the Republic of Turkey (1997). He knows Arabic, English and Greek and can communicate in Slavic languages and Persian.

Publications

- *World Bibliography of Translations of the Meanings of the Holy Quran. Printed Translations, 1515-1980*, Istanbul: IRCICA, 1986 (Compiler, with Ismet Binark).
- *Bati Trakya Türkleri* (Western Thrace Turks), Istanbul, 1997.
- "The Muslim minority in Bulgaria: A status report", *Journal of the Institute of Muslim Minority Affairs* (London), vol. 5, no. 1, 1983-1984, 136-144.
- "Bati Trakya Türk Cemaat ve Vakıf İdareleri" (Turkish community and Waqf Administrations of Western Thrace), *Le Waqf dans le monde Musulman contemporain (XIXe-XXe Siècles)*, Istanbul: Institut Français d'Etudes Anatoliennes, 1994, 215-229.
- "Bati Trakya Türklerinin eğitim sorunları: ilgili kanun, antlaşma ve protokoller" (Educational problems of Western Thrace Turks: laws, agreements and protocols), *Türk Dünyası Araştırmaları Dergisi* (Istanbul), no. 2, 1979, 114-137.
- "Reasons and purposes for translating the Glorious Quran", *The World Symposium on the Meanings and Translations of the Glorious Quran*, Malta: World Islamic Call Society, 1986, 35-43.
- "Balkanlarda Türk ve diğer Müslüman toplulukları ve göç olgusu" (Turkish and other Muslim communities in the Balkans and the migration phenomenon), *Balkanlar*, Istanbul: Ortadoğu ve Balkan İncelemeleri Vakfı, 1983, 289-299.
- "Al-Muslimun fi Traqya al-Gharbiyya-al-Yunan (Muslims of Western Thrace)", *Al-Aqalliyat al-Muslîma fî al-alam zurûfiha al-muasira, alamuha wa amaluhu*, Riyadh: Muslim Minorities in the World-World Assembly of Muslim Youth 1986, vol. 3, 1077-1091.
- "Bati Trakya'daki Türkçe süreli neşriyat üzerine: 1923-1988" (Periodical publications in Western Thrace: 1923-1988), *Bati Trakya'nın Sesi* (Istanbul), no. 6, 1988, 18-23.
- "Bati Trakya Türk yerleşim bölgeleri" (Turkish settlement areas of Western Thrace), *Bati Trakya'nın Sesi* (Istanbul), nos. 6-8, 1989.
- "Turkish community and waqf administrations of Western Thrace", *XIth Turkish History Congress*, Ankara, 1994.
- "Bati Trakya" (Western Thrace), *İslam Ansiklopedisi*, Istanbul: Türkiye Diyanet Vakfı, 1992, vol. 5, 144-147 (Co-author).
- "Cumhuriyet döneminde göç ve iltica" (Migrations and refugees in the Republican period), *Türklerde İnsani Değerler ve İnsan Hakları*, Istanbul: Türk Kültürüne Hizmet Vakfı, 1993, vol. 3, 357-381.
- "Osmanlı mirası bir medrese örneği: Gümülcine Medrese-i Hayriyyesi" (Medrese-i Hayriyye in Komotoni: a Medersa as an Example of Ottoman Heritage), *Learning & Education in the Ottoman World*, Istanbul: IRCICA, 2001, 57-62.
- Founder and editor-in-chief, 1987-1994, General Coordinator, 1994-1997, *Bati Trakya'nın Sesi* (The voice of Western Thrace, Istanbul), journal.
- Editor, 2002- , *Rumeli Kültürü* (Rumelian Culture), Istanbul: Rumeli Türkleri Vakfı, journal.

Congresses

Chairmanship and membership of Organising Committees, participation, papers presented (in chronological order)

- The Sixth International Conference of the World Assembly of Muslim Youth: The Muslim Minorities, Riyadh 12-17 January 1986: "Muslims in Bulgaria" and "Muslims of Western Thrace, Greece".
- Symposium on Translations of the Meanings of the Holy Quran, "The reason in translating the meaning of the Holy Quran and purposeful translations", Istanbul: 21 March 1986.
- Congress on the Developments in Central Asia, London, 1987.
- Sixth Turcology Congress, 22 September 1988, Istanbul: "Periodical publications in Western Thrace: 1923-1988."
- International Congress on Turkish History, Ankara, 1990: "Foundations – Waqfs in Western Thrace."
- International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in Caucasasia, Baku, 9-11 December 1998 (member of Organizing Committee and Coordinator on behalf of IRCICA).
- Congress on Muslim Minorities in Eastern Europe, Vienna, 1989, 1990 and 1991: Papers on the situation of Muslims in Bulgaria and Greece.
- Congress on Muslim Minorities in Eastern Europe, Romania, 1990.
- Congress on the Islamic Culture in Macedonia, Skopje, 1990.
- International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans, Sofia, 21-23 April 2000 (Member of Organizing Committee and Coordinator on behalf of IRCICA).
- International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in Volga-Ural Region, Kazan, 8-11 June 2001 (Member of Organizing Committee and Coordinator on behalf of IRCICA).
- Second Congress on the Balkans: Balkans in the 21st Century, Istanbul, 11 May 2002 (Organizer and Chairman).
- Seminar on the Cooperation of the Turks and Albanians Throughout History, Tirana, 27 September 2002 (Chairman of Organizing Committee).
- Congress on the Conquest of Istanbul and Rumeli in its 550th anniversary, Istanbul, 24 May 2003 (Chairman of Organizing Committee).
- Second International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans, Tirana, 4-7 December 2003 (Member of Organizing Committee and Coordinator on behalf of IRCICA).
- Third International Symposium on Turcology in the Balkans, Kotor, 8-12 September 2003 (Co-Chairman).
- Meeting for the Commemoration of Alija İzzetbegovic, Istanbul, 21 February 2004 (Chairman of Organizing Committee).
- Journées d'Etudes "Islam et Société", organised by the Association Les Amis de la Médina with the support of the "Institut de l'Islam et des Sociétés du Monde Musulman, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales", Paris, 3 March 2005: "Religious Foundations (Waqfs) in Turkey and the Balkans: Historical Aspects and Current Issues".
- International Islamic Economic and Cultural Conference, organised by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry jointly with the Ministry of Industries, Production and Special Initiatives, Government of Pakistan, the Experts Advisory Cell, Pakistan, and MS Dewan Mushtaq Group, Pakistan, Lahore, 25-26 April 2005: "Islamic Architecture: Economic, Cultural and Social Aspects".

IRCICA is thankful to the heads and members of governments and diplomatic missions, cultural authorities and representatives of academic institutions of the OIC Member States and many other countries who have paid visits and sent letters of congratulations to Dr. Halit Eren on his taking the office as Director General. Below are excerpts from the letter of H.E. Dr. Abdullah Gül, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Vice Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, the host country of the Centre.

**Excerpts from the letter of H.E. Dr. Abdullah Gül,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Vice Prime Minister of Turkey,
to Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA**

«I noted with pleasure that you have been appointed to the post of Director General of the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), Organisation of the Islamic Conference, which was left vacant after Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, the former Director General of IRCICA, assumed office as Secretary General of OIC. I am sure that the studies and activities of IRCICA, which is the OIC's first research centre to deal with culture and which has shown its efficiency through the successful works it achieved about the history, arts and cultures of the nations over the vast geographical area where the OIC Member States are situated, will continue success-

fully during the period of your Directorate General as well. I hope that the activities of the Centre will contribute to better introducing the Islamic culture and civilisation, developing the intercultural dialogue and relations and strengthening mutual understanding and rapprochement among the OIC member countries and between these countries and other nations and civilisations.

I believe that the valuable services you have fulfilled at the Centre for a long time will continue from now on with a growing intensity in your capacity as Director General. I take this opportunity to congratulate you on your new mission and wish you success.

Abdullah Gül
12 Jan. 2005



Meeting with H.E. Mr. Muammer Güler, Governor of Istanbul, following the Director General's taking the office, 11 January 2005

The First International Congress on Islamic Archaeology held under the patronage of H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of Turkey

8-10 April 2005

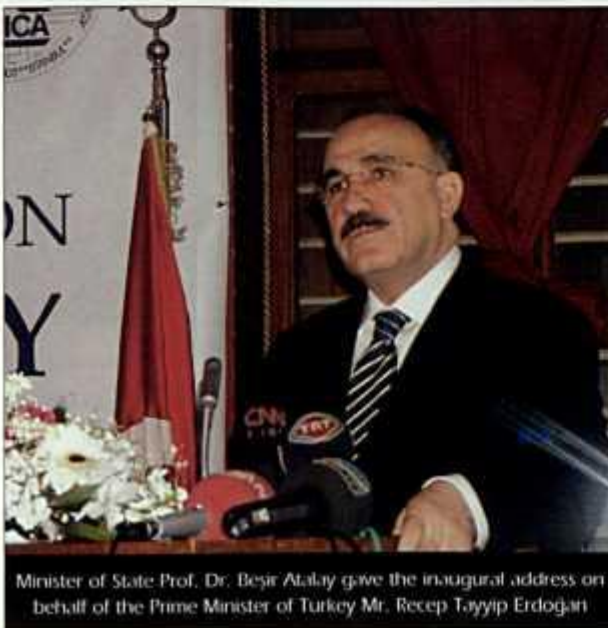
The First International Congress on Islamic Archaeology brought together ninetythree scholars and researchers in archaeology, art history and related fields from 20 countries. Thirtyfive papers were presented during the sessions held over three days.

The congress aimed to create a forum for the exchange of research and excavation results on the archaeology of the Islamic period and to provide an opportunity for an evaluation of the state of the field, its problems and prospects. This paved the way for a reconsideration of the periodical and geographical divisions of archaeological studies so that they take into account the Islamic period and the Islamic geography together with existing divisions of the discipline.

The opening ceremony was held on 8 April in presence of H.E. Prof. Dr. Beşir Atalay, Minister of State, representing H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of Turkey. The Prime Minister was attending the funerals of Pope John Paul II in Vatican the same day. H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, delivered an address at the opening ceremony, was present throughout the congress and chaired the closing session. The official guests at the

ceremony included the Deputy Governor of Istanbul, H.E. Mr. Cumhuri Güven Taşbaşı representing the Governor of Istanbul H.E. Mr. Muammer Güler, the Mayor of Selçuklu (Konya) Dr. Adem Esen, the Head of the Department of National Palaces at the Turkish Grand National Assembly Dr. Cemal Öztaş, the Consuls General of OIC Member States accredited in Istanbul, and a number of high officials.

IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren gave a welcoming address, in which he underlined that one of the main objectives of IRCICA is to promote cooperation among universities, research institutions and researchers working on Islamic history, art and culture, and with this aim it had organised fourtysix congresses in various fields until the present one. He said that the concept of the archaeology congress was formulated by Professor İhsanoğlu three years ago and recommended by the Governing Board of IRCICA in 2002 for inclusion in the Centre's work plans. The Organising Committee, comprising scholars of the field, gave valuable advice during the preparation of the congress. He pointed out that the orientations and findings of archaeological activities relating to the Islamic period possess the cha-



Minister of State Prof. Dr. Beşir Atalay gave the inaugural address on behalf of the Prime Minister of Turkey Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan



Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, spoke of Islamic archaeology as a field of specialisation

racteristics necessary and sufficient for being distinguished as "Islamic archaeology" within the discipline of archaeology. These studies give evidence, among others, of cultural encounters and mutual influences between preexisting local cultures on one hand and the Islamic culture on the other during the expansion of Islam. Thus, Islamic archaeology, in close relation with studies in history of art, uncovers facts and findings of interdisciplinary relevance on the cultural and social history of Muslim peoples, under their common aspects and their diversities.

H.E. Dr. Saad bin Abdulaziz alRashed, Deputy Minister for Antiquities and Museums, Ministry of Education, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, delivered an address, in which he said that as a member of the Governing Board of IRCICA and an archaeologist, he had attached great importance to this project from its inception. Dr. alRashed said that the congress filled a big gap in its field. It brought together scientific findings on the sites and settlements of the Islamic period, certainly with the necessary references to the preIslamic period, and covering the classical period of Islam, that is from the beginning date of the Hijra era, 622 AD, until 15th century AD. Dr. alRashed expressed his belief that the congress will promote cooperation and communications between the official authorities of Islamic countries as well as among the archeologists, art historians and related disciplines.

Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, highlighted the importance of the congress' theme and objectives. He pointed out that the Islamic period, which spans fourteen centuries of the history of mankind excluding the present century, encompasses many states, societies and cultures and that the archaeological heritage of this period includes elements of

Islamic character as well as elements representing the mutual influences of cultures and religions, among them the interactions of Muslim cultures with other cultures. Thus to properly reflect the scope of the archaeology of this period, it is necessary to define it as Islamic archaeology. Archaeological activities and research relating to this period were conducted in a rather isolated way. Leading studies were done, but these were made possible thanks to individual efforts by researchers and some interested institutions. Efforts, if any, to establish this archaeology as a distinct field of study, were not far-reaching. IRCICA's initiative aimed to fill this gap. Prof. Ihsanoğlu said that with these aspects, and with respect to its organisation, networking and academic features, this congress could be considered as a beginning, being another innovative step taken by IRCICA to promote academic cooperation. The Secretary General said that the Organisation of the Islamic Conference gives importance to promoting international cultural and scholarly cooperation as a most efficient and objective means to better introduce nations and peoples to each other and establish mutual understanding among them. In this respect, the OIC General Secretariat will continue to encourage and support the activities of IRCICA.

H.E. Prof. Dr. Beşir Atalay, Minister of State, representing H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of Turkey, delivered an address in which he expressed his appreciation of the activities of IRCICA which, he said, are always followed with interest by universities and research centres all over the world and are pioneering initiatives in their fields. The Minister said that one reason for this success is of course the Centre's policy which consists in monitoring developments in research fields within its purview to determine the needs felt and taking steps to meet them. He added that the Centre also



From the right: Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu; State Minister Prof. Dr. Beşir Atalay; Dr. Halit Eren; Mr. Cümhur Güven Taşbaşı, Deputy Governor of Istanbul; Dr. Cemal Öztas, Head of the Department of National Palaces at the Turkish Grand National Assembly



brings fresh approaches and opens new avenues in the study of Islamic history and culture. Prof. Atalay recalled that the archaeology of the Islamic period, spread over fifteen centuries and on three continents, and full of major advances in human history, constitutes an epoch in itself and covers many subjects of research. Remarkably, the congress sheds light on the cultural and social history of this vast area which has been the cradle of civilisations since millennia. The Minister of State expressed his belief that the Centre will continue to undertake leading activities in its varied fields and reaffirmed the Turkish Government's firm support to the OIC and IRCICA.

The following papers were presented during the sessions:

- **Abdullah Abdulhafez (Egypt)**
"The Role of Waqf in Conservation of Islamic Monuments"
- **Abdullah Nassif (Saudi Arabia)**
"Ancient and Archaeological Remains in alUla Area"
- **Ahmad Serrieh (Syria)**
"The Results of Excavations at Tell Arbid"
- **Ara Altun (Turkey)**
"Excavations in Iznik"
- **Aynur Durukan (Turkey)**
"Some Considerations on the Mamluk Remains of Birecik (Şanlıurfa)"
- **A. Osman Uysal (Turkey)**
"Excavations at the 'Fatih Foundry' in Demirköy: The 2003 and 2004 Seasons"
- **Bahram Ajorloo (Iran)**
"Islamic Archaeology in Iran: An Approach to Study the Cultural/Social Changes through the Islamic Era"
- **Beyhan Karamağralı (Turkey)**
"Islamic Coins Found in Ani"
- **Dragica Zivkova (Macedonia)**
"Archeological Research in Gradiste (Kale) – Skopje"
- **Erhan Alpaslan, Cihangir Aydoğan, Reşat Kafarov, Aslı Dönertaş, Hilal Yüce, Bora Erkan (Turkey)**
"Preservation of Architecture by Use of GIS Tools"
- **Filiz Yenişehirlioğlu (Turkey)**
"The Archaeology of the Ottoman Empire"
- **Franziska Bloch (Germany)**
"Leisure Time in a Rural Estate of Umayyad Times: Two Board Games from Jabal Says"
- **Gönül Cantay (Turkey)**
"Excavations of Edirne New Palace 1999/2002"
- **Günhan Danışman (Turkey)**
"Critical Analysis of A Historical Archaeology of the Ottoman Empire: Breaking New Ground, and its Implications for Demirköy/Samakocuk Research"
- **Haider S. Yakub (Libya)**
"Towards an Islamic Center for Preserving Monumental Cities and Buildings in the Islamic World"
- **Haşim Karpuz Osman Eravşar (Turkey)**
"Archaeological Problems of Islamic Cities in Anatolia: Examples of Akşehir Kayseri – Karaman"
- **Ibrahim Boolaky (U.K.)**
"The Importance of Archaeological Treasures and Heritage of Islam in the West"
- **Jodi Magness (USA)**
"Two Early Islamic Settlements on Palestine's Desert Periphery"
- **Julia Gonella (Germany)**
"My Castle is My Home: The Early Memlucs in the Citadel of Aleppo"
- **Kenan Bilici (Turkey)**
"Islamic Archaeology": An Orientalistic Rhetoric?
- **Machiel Kiel (Netherlands)**
"In Search for the Disappeared Early Ottoman Building Complex in Kırkkavak, Uzunköprü, Edirne"



Nageela Yusuf
United Kingdom

Marwan Abu Khalaf
Palestine

Julia Gonnella
Germany



Ahmed Semeh
Syria

Oluş Arık
Turkey

Sami Angawi
Saudi Arabia



Machiel Kiel
The Netherlands

Mir Saeed Moosavi
Iran



Gönül Canıay
Turkey

Lorenz Kom
Germany

- Marwan Abu Khalaf (Palestine)
“The Islamic Pottery of Khirbat Shuwayka Excavations – El Bireh, Palestine”
- Mehmet Canatar – M. Hanefi Kutluoğlu (Turkey)
“Some Archaeological Records in Council of State Registers”
- Mir Saeed Moosavi (Iran)
“Bazaar and its Role in the Development of Iranian Traditional Cities”
- Mona Al Moadin (Syria)
“Ceramic With Luster of ArRaqqā”
- Nageela Yusuf (U.K.)
“Recognising Islam: The Archaeology of the Late Sixteenth Century Spanish Muslim Domestic Sphere”
- Oluş Arık (Turkey)
“Meaning and Function of Islamic Archaeology”
- Örcün Barışta (Turkey)
“A Report on the Excavations and Surface Surveys that Took Place Between 1996/1998 at the Eyüp Sultan in Istanbul”

- Saad Bin Abdulaziz AlRashid (Saudi Arabia)
“Islamic Finds in Rabada”
- Sami Angawi (Saudi Arabia)
“The Heritage of the Prophet’s Seera”
- Scott Redford (USA)
“What is Islamic about Islamic Archaeology? Some Examples from Turkey”
- Şeniz Atik (Turkey)
“Üsküdar Square Excavations for Marmaray Station: Typical Approaches for Inner City Rescue Archaeology”
- Şükran Sevimli (Turkey)
“The Archaeology of Islam in Turkey: Hygiene Concept, Materials, Techniques, and its Application”
- Verena Daiber (Syria)
“Ayyubid Mamluk Ceramics from the 2001/2004 Seasons in Baalbek”
- Zülküf Yılmaz (Turkey)
“Preliminary Evaluation of 2001/2004 Rescue Excavation of Ottoman Iron Foundry in Demirköy, Kırklareli”



Opening of the exhibition on the monuments of Konya by the Mayor of Selçuklu Dr. Adem Esen. From the right: Dr. Saad bin Abdulaziz al-Rashed, Deputy Minister for Antiquities and Museums, Ministry of Education, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; documentary photographer Mr. Ibrahim Duvarcı; Dr. Adem Esen; the Chairman of the Konya Association in Istanbul Dr. Oktay Özaydın; the Mayor of Esenler (Istanbul) Mr. Mehmet Öcalan; Dr. Halit Eren

Cultural events organised on the occasion of the congress

A photograph exhibition of high documentary value, on the «Islamic Monuments of the Seljuk, Beylik and Ottoman Periods in Konya», contributed to the congress by the Municipality of Selçuklu of the city of Konya, was opened next to the congress hall. The Mayor of Selçuklu Assoc. Prof. Dr. Adem Esen and his colleagues briefed the guests and visitors about the characteristics of the monuments.

On 9 April, an exhibition of «Archaeological Finds of the Islamic Period», contributed to the congress by the Ministry of Culture of Turkey and organised at the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts, Istanbul, was opened jointly by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa İsen and the Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren.

From left, Prof. Dr. Günsel Renda (Turkey), Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Prof. Dr. Saad Abdulaziz AlRashed (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia), Dr. Halit Eren.

At the closing session on 10 April, the Chairman of the Organising Committee Prof. İhsanoğlu thanked the participants for their papers and their contributions in the discussions. He underlined the twofold objective of this first congress: in addition to offering a forum for the presentation of excavation and research results, it served as the founding body of an institutionalised congress on

Islamic archaeology to be held periodically. He said that the rate and quality of participation had confirmed that need was felt for a meeting of this kind in this field. A number of proposals and recommendations were formulated relating to the archaeological activities on one hand, and Islamic Archaeology as a field of study on the other. These proposals and recommendations were important because they emanated from the specialists of the field who deal with different aspects of Islamic archaeology based on their own observations and experiences. The Secretary General of OIC expressed his thanks and appreciation to IRCICA: Director General Dr. Halit Eren and his colleagues, in particular Dr. Hidayet Y. Nuhoglu, who coordinated the organisation of the congress, and Zeynep Durukal for her editorial contributions.

The Director General of IRCICA Dr. Eren outlined the proceedings and the proposals and recommendations of the participants. He read the text of the Closing Statement of the Congress containing these recommendations. In line with the congress' objective of institutionalising an international congress on Islamic archaeology, the draft Statute of the International Congress for Islamic Archaeology (ICIA) was to be finalised in the present congress, for review and adoption by the first General Assembly to be held during the next congress.

At the end of his address, the Director General extended his gratitude to Dr. Hidayet Y. Nuhoglu, IRCICA,



Dr. Seracettin Şahin, Director of the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts, gives information on the objects displayed to Dr. Mustafa İsen, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, and Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA.

for having coordinated the congress in an excellent manner.

The participants expressed their views on the draft Statute and the Closing Statement, and unanimously adopted them.

ICIA is established for the purpose of encouraging, facilitating, coordinating and publishing works and researches and organising scholarly meetings related to the Islamic archaeology as well as supporting archaeological excavations. It is affiliated to IRCICA. Through the intermediation of its Executive Board, it will coordinate

research with a spirit of international cooperation, establish research programs, support collaboration among archaeologists or centers of archaeology, publish the outcomes of archaeological activities, and diffuse recommendations of its members on the state of studies and ways to develop and improve the activities. The Organising Committee is comprised of Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of OIC (Chairman), Prof. Dr. Saad bin Abdulaziz al-Rashed (member of IRCICA Governing Board); Prof. Dr. Günsel Renda (member of IRCICA Governing Board), Dr. Halit Eren,

Excerpts from the closing statement of the First International Congress on Islamic Archaeology

Participants in the First International Congress on Islamic Archaeology expressed their appreciation of the initiative taken by IRCICA to organise the congress with a two-fold objective so as to act as a forum for the presentation of excavation and research results and the founding body of the periodical congress on Islamic archaeology.

In relation with archaeological si-

tes, monuments and objects, the congress participants underline that the archaeological sites must be preserved, protected from damage and destruction. No new construction shall be carried out on archaeological sites. Restorations shall be done in strict conformity with the originals.

The participants agreed that the congress be organized every three years. The first two congresses will co-

ver general issues and subsequent congresses can address specific aspects of the field as well. ... A wide geographic coverage of the papers will be encouraged. The congress can address some special themes of general interest such as concepts and terminology, training of archaeologists, participation of young scholars and if necessary, academicians, in the excavation projects in different countries.

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ISLAMIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Istanbul, 8-10 April 2005



From left, Prof. Dr. Günzel Renda (Turkey), Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu,
Prof. Dr. Saad Abdulaziz Al-Rashed (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia), Dr. Halit Eren.

Director General, IRCICA, Prof. Dr. Oluş Arık, Prof. Dr. Machiel Kiel, Dr. Lorenz Korn.

A final session was held, in presence of H.E. Mr. Atilla Koç, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey. The Minister expressed his pleasure to see that the congress was held successfully with promising results. He pointed out the importance of archaeology for the Islamic countries, which all possess valuable archaeological properties.

Director General Dr. Halit Eren expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan for the high patronage extended to this event. He conveyed his grati-

tude to the Minister of State Prof. Dr. Beşir Atalay for delivering an address at the opening ceremony and H.E. Mr. Atilla Koç for attending the final session and the Ministry's contributing an exhibition of archaeological finds of the Islamic period presented at the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum. He expressed his profound gratitude to Professor Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu for initiating this congress and chairing the Organising Committee. He warmly thanked and expressed his appreciation to the members of the Organising Committee for their contributions to the event.

The congress participants expressed their appreciation that some later periods and topics, such as industrial archaeology, were covered in the papers. Regarding language, future congresses shall be conducted in more languages, with Arabic and the working language of the host country in addition to English.

The congress recommended that a roster of specialists working in the fi-

eld of Islamic archaeology be prepared, containing their addresses and fields. They agreed there must also be a data bank that would include the authorities of antiquities and museums in the Islamic countries and other countries where there are Islamic sites, because these are the focal points and liaison authorities in the countries concerned with Islamic archaeology. This data bank would also

include the institutions and universities which have programs relating to Islamic archaeology.

The General Assembly to take place during the next congress will adopt the Statute of the International Congress on Islamic Archaeology. Until then, the Organising Committee shall act as the Executive Board of ICIA.

The Fourth Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers held in Dakar, Senegal

The Fourth Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers was held in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 29-30 March 2005, with the participation of forty-eight OIC Member States. H.E. Abdoulaye Wade, President of Senegal, opened the conference, underlining Islamic solidarity and the consolidation of cooperation in the field of tourism. The President pointed to the importance of the image of Islam as projected through the latest information technologies and highlighted the importance of improving and correcting the image of Islam whenever necessary by means of an appeal for sound tourism.

In his capacity as Chairman of the Third Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers, H.R.H. Prince Sultan Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Secretary General, Supreme Council for Tourism of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, reviewed the progress made on the implementation of the resolutions of the previous conference. He emphasised the importance of achieving sustainable development in the tourism industry and the latter's growing contribution to the economies of Member States, stressing the need to re-activate intra-OIC tourism and coordinated joint action.

H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, OIC Secretary General, stressed that tourism has become one of the most advanced sectors, for it constitutes an efficient tool to fight poverty and improve the standard of living of our people through the creation of job opportunities and generation of income. He pointed out that compared to countries that have a long-established tourism experience, Islamic countries are endowed with rich natural resources and a diversified cultural heritage and that this makes them attractive from the tourism point of view. The conference examined and discussed a number of proposals that were presented by the Member States. Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA, presented a study that was conducted by IRCICA at the request of the previous conference, entitled Documenting and Recording the Archeological Sites and Historical Monuments in Islamic States and Use of the Geographic Information System (GIS). Dr. Nazeih Maarouf, Head of the Crafts Development Program, presented a report on Tourism and Cultural Heritage: Traditional Arts, Crafts and Urban Heritage. On the occasion of the conference, IRCICA announced to the Tourism Ministers the planned celebration program of its 25th anniversary.

Regarding the activities of IRCICA, two resolutions were issued, in which the conference

- Takes note of the report submitted by the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art, and Culture (IRCICA) of the OIC, and commends the Center's efforts embodied in its activities in the domain of Islamic civilisational heritage, which

provides the sector of tourism with excellent areas for development, as a vital field for publicising the cultural and heritage personality of Member States, highlighting the areas of Islamic civilisations, and encouraging studies thereof with the purpose of generating more interest among our societies and enhancing civilisational and cultural dialogue among peoples and nations, as well as encouraging studies and documentation works in the field of architectural heritage, arts and handicrafts, such that ensure a complete awareness of tourism productivity of the Islamic civilisational heritage that helps boost the development efforts in our states.

The Conference invites Member States to participate in the cultural week that will be organised by IRCICA on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

- Extends gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Syrian Arab Republic for preparing a framework for a project on the use of Geographical Information System (GIS) in documenting and classifying archeological and historical sites and archeological heritage in Member States; extends thanks to the Research Center for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) for preparing a feasibility study on the project and urges Member States to examine ways to finance it.

The conference adopted a Resolution on Tourism Development, and a Dakar Declaration that is aimed at promoting tourism in the OIC space from both internal and external sources and strengthening various ways of cooperation among themselves in this field.

During the period of the conference, the Director General of IRCICA was received by H.E. Dr. Abdul Malal Diop, Minister for Senegalese Abroad, and H.E. Sheikh Tidiane Sy, Minister of State at the Presidency of Senegal. One of the subjects addressed during the meeting with Dr. Abdul Malal Diop was the project of the editing and reproduction of the one-thousand page Arabic manuscript book on the Islamic history of West Africa written by the Senegalese scholar El Hadj Musa Kamara, to be printed by IRCICA. It is important that the Editor will be the Minister Dr. Abdul Malal Diop himself, who is at the same time a scholar specialised on El Hadj Musa Kamara and his works. Thanks to this development, it will now be possible to undertake and realise this important project.

During the meeting with H.E. Sheikh Tidiane Sy, Minister of State at the Presidency of Senegal, several subjects of common interest related to international cooperation in the field of culture were brought forth, with an emphasis on the state of studies relating to the dialogue of civilizations. During the same period, the IRCICA delegation had meetings with H.E. Prof. Amadou Cissé Ndiéguene, the member of the Governing Board of IRCICA representing the Republic of Senegal.

IRCICA Activities

Architectural Competition:

The Prince Faisal bin Fahd Award for the Preservation of Islamic Architecture

IRCICA will be soon launching a competition on the preservation of Islamic architecture. The awards will be given to the best restoration projects of Islamic structures, to be selected by an international jury architects and specialists of restoration.

The competition is dedicated to the memory of the late Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz alSaud. Prince Faisal was the Chairman of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH), an adhoc subsidiary body of the OIC which operated from 1983 until 2000 with IRCICA as its Executive Secretariat. The Commission was merged with IRCICA in 2000, following the demise of its Chairman, and its activities were integrated into the work plans of IRCICA. At the request of the Islamic Summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences held since 2000, asking that IRCICA dedicates a special activity to the memory of Prince Faisal, the Centre planned to organise an architectural competition entitled "Prince Faisal bin Fahd Award for the Preservation of Islamic Architecture", and the project was approved by the 20th session of its Governing Board (25–26 Nov. 2004). The guidelines, timetable and other modalities are being finalised by IRCICA and will be announced in IRCICA's website, and by correspondence to the architectural institutions and circles concerned, from May 2005.

The purpose of the competition is to support the revival of Islamic heritage by encouraging the preservation of monuments in order to give them vital functions, either historical or contemporary.

The competition is open to completed projects accomplished in the last five years representing meritorious and exemplary contributions to the preservation of heritage. Governmental and nongovernmental organisations as well as individuals are invited to apply to the competition. The projects are to be presented in Arabic or English.

The award seeks out the broadest possible range of preservation interventions: social efforts embodied in the projects, contemporary design projects in conjunction with historic sites, projects demonstrating the use of appropriate technologies, etc. Although there are no fixed criteria as to the type, nature, location, or cost of projects to be considered for the award, eligible projects must be designed for or used by Muslim communities, in part or in whole, wherever they are located.

Three equal awards will be presented to the best projects. An exhibition of the participating projects will be organised and a catalogue of this exhibition will be published.

This will be the second competition to be organised by IRCICA on an architectural theme. The Centre had organised in 1986, within the framework of ICPICH activities, the King Fahd Awards Competition for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture. Awards were allocated for the competition by H.M. King Fahd bin Abdulaziz and distributed to the winners in the design and research categories.

There were 270 entries in the design category and 90 entries in the research category, from 40 countries around the world.

'Islamic Countries Cultural Week' on the occasion of IRCICA's 25th anniversary: starting from 22 November 2005

IRCICA will commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of its establishment with a series of cultural activities entitled "Islamic Countries Cultural Week", to be held as a cultural festival of the OIC Member States representing their cultures, arts and traditional crafts.

The Week's program will be organised in conjunction with the 21st Session of the Standing Committee for

Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) to be held under the Chairmanship of H.E. Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey, with the participation of the Ministerial delegations of the OIC Member States, and in presence of H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, in Istanbul, from 22 November 2005.

IRCICA is inviting the 57 Member States of the OIC to participate in the activities of the Islamic Countries Cultural Week, which will comprise the following:

1. Exhibition of paintings by artists of the member countries reflecting "Expressions of Islamic culture"

This exhibition will consist of works painted in any modern or traditional technique using any kind of materials, including oil paintings, engravings, miniatures, etc., reflecting the tangible and intangible assets of the Islamic cultural heritage, such as artistic interpretations of historical monuments (a tangible heritage) or social traditions (an intangible heritage). The works will be accompanied by information on the artist, the date and dimensions of the work, and optionally, informative explanations on the work.

Each country will be offered an area to accommodate the desired number of framed works. IRCICA plans to photograph the works and publish ultimately a catalogue of the exhibition.

2. Exhibition of traditional handicrafts of the member countries

Samples of traditional handicrafts of the member countries will be presented in this exhibition. Stands of appropriate dimensions will be provided. The exhibits can be put up for sale if the participants wish so.

3. Concerts of the national folkloric and/or classical music of the member countries

Solo or group performances of music representative of the national folkloric and/or classical music will be

scheduled with large public attendance, and broadcast on TV channels.

4. Presentation of films and display of publications to be brought by the member countries and introducing their history, archeological sites, arts, architecture and other cultural heritage assets

The films will be presented to interested audiences at sessions to be organised at the conference and exhibition hall of IRCICA.

The publications, which can be of any number, any focus and any type, including research works on the history of the country, books on the national cuisine, samples from periodicals published in the country, tourism brochures, etc., will be displayed at a most frequently visited conference or exhibition venue.

The participating countries may wish to offer their publications brought for display to the Library of IRCICA for the use of visiting researchers.

During the Week, IRCICA will organise an exhibition of archive documents reflecting the common history of the member countries and an exhibition of historical photographs of the member countries.

IRCICA in cooperation with the Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul has made the necessary arrangements to allocate major centrally-located concert and exhibition halls of Istanbul for these events. The latter will be open to the public. They will be diffused and recorded through various mediums, for promotion and academic purposes. The schedule of activities will be determined in the months to come.

IRCICA's book on the *History of the Ottoman State, Society and Civilisation* published in the Bosnian language



IRCICA's book *History of the Ottoman State, Society and Civilisation* has been published in a Bosnian edition. The book had resulted from a collaborative research project of select scholars specialised on various aspects of Otto-

man history. The aim was to produce a comprehensive reference on the Ottoman period on the basis of the Ottoman archival sources, chronicles, and works by contemporary Western and Turkish scholars. The first edition was published in two volumes in Turkish, in 1994 and 1997 respectively. Later, these volumes were translated into Arabic and English and published during 1999–2002. The Bosnian edition, produced with the cooperation of the Oriental Institute in Sarajevo, is fourth with respect to language. It is a big, single volume containing the majority of the chapters of the original edition.

A large-scale book launching ceremony was held on 12 April 2005 at the Bosnian Institute in Sarajevo, in presence of H.E. Sulejman Tihić, Member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Also present were State Ministers Messrs. Safet Halilovic and Mirsad Kebo, the ambassadors of some countries and guests from universities and cultural circles. Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin İh-



From the right, Prof. Enes Karic, Dr. Kerima Filan, Prof. Fehim Nametak, Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, DR. Halit Eren, Prof. Enes Pelidija, Dr. Behija Zlatar, Mrs. Amina Siljak Jasenkovic



Meeting at the Bosnian Institute, in presence of Mr. Sulejman Tihić, Member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina (fourth from left). On his right is Mr. Adil Zulfikarpasic, Founder and President of the Bosnian Institute; first from left is the Ambassador of Egypt in Sarajevo Mr. Mohammad Nureddin Nasrat. To the left of the President are the Ambassador of Turkey in Sarajevo Mrs. Sina Melek Baydur and State Minister Mr. Safet Halilovic

sanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC, who is the Editor of the book, was present at the ceremony. IRCICA was represented by its Director General Dr. Halit Eren and Arch. Dr. Amir Pasic (IRCICA).

During their stay in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Secretary General of the OIC and the Director General of IRCICA were received by H.E. Sulejman Tihić, Member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and H.E. Mr. Adnan Terzic, Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The publication of the Bosnian edition is another out-

come of the multifarious activities that were undertaken jointly by the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and IRCICA starting from the early 1990s. Previously IRCICA published several research books written by Bosnian scholars on the history, the cultural history and the arts and architecture of Bosnia and Herzegovina. IRCICA's collection of articles entitled *The West and Islam: Towards A Dialogue*, published in 1999, was later translated into Bosnian by Prof. Dr. Enes Karic (scholar, ex-Minister of Culture) and published in Sarajevo.

The Bosnian edition of the present book resulted

from the collaboration between IRCICA and the Oriental Institute in Sarajevo.

It was prepared under the co-editorship of Professors Enes Karic and Fehim Nametak. The project was coordinated by Dr. Behija Zlatar, Director of the Institute.

The translation was done by Enes Karic, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kerima Filan (who also revised and harmonised the entire text), and Mrs. Amina Siljak Jasenkovic. Mr. Tarik Jesenkovic did the design.

A Russian edition of the two volumes is forthcoming.

Takvim-i Vekayi, the Ottoman Official Gazette now available to researchers

IRCICA is producing DVD copies of *Takvimi Vekayi*, the Official Gazette that was published by the Ottoman State. It is a valuable source of information for researchers in history whose subjects of interest relate to the second half of 19th century. The gazette was issued between the years 1831–1922, with intervals, over three periods: 1 November 1831– 8–9 April 1880, 2139 numbers; 26 March 1891–14 May 1892, 283 numbers; 28 September 1908–4 November 1922, 4608 numbers. Thus 7030 numbers were published in total. The gazette not only declared and disseminated the decisions of the State, but was also a medium of information on everyday facts and events. One finds in it official news concerning the State, military news, and also internal news, external news, orders and decisions of the Sultan; laws, regulations, declarations; budgetary and financial news; graduations, medals; economic and health news; scientific news; commercial and industrial news; strange events; public notices.

It was published in Turkish and sometimes also in the following languages, although for short periods and irregularly: Arabic, Persian, Greek, Armenian and French. *Takvimi Vekayi* is an indispensable source for researchers interested in the recent periods of Ottoman history.

No complete collection of this gazette was available in a single institution within or outside Turkey. Twenty years ago, IRCICA had undertaken to put together a full collection by obtaining the missing issues from libraries and archives around the world where copies are found, and to reproduce the whole collection on computer.

Assistance was obtained from the following libraries: the National Library of Turkey (Ankara), the Library of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey (Ankara), the Adnan Ötügen Provincial Public Library (Ankara), the State Library of Beyazıt (Istanbul), Hakkı Tarık Us Library (Istanbul), Atatürk Library of the Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul, the Library of the Ottoman Archives (Istanbul, among other libraries of Turkey; the Staatsbibliothek Berlin, Staatsbibliothek München (Germany), Bibliothèque Nationale (France), British Library (UK), Library of Congress (USA). IRCICA is thankful to the above libraries for their valuable cooperation.

For the last two years, IRCICA has been loading the pages on computer, a task which is now nearly completed. The gazette contains a variety of information on the state policies, events and developments relating to all parts of the Ottoman empire and neighbouring lands, and the relations of the state with other countries. Therefore, the gazette can be of interest to researchers of all countries.

Mr. Jamal Bensaid, calligrapher at the Ministry of the Royal House, Protocol and the Chancellery, Kingdom of Morocco, received a calligraphy diploma

Mr. Jamal Bensaid, calligrapher at the Ministry of the Royal House, Protocol and the Chancellery, Kingdom of Morocco, completed his training in the diwani and jaly diwani styles and received a calligraphy diploma (ijaza) from his teacher Prof. Dr. Ali Alparslan, professor of calligraphy at Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul. A ceremony was held at the Centre on this occasion, on 29 April 2005, during which H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary General of OIC; who was in Istanbul during the period, presented the diploma to Mr. Bensaid. Calligraphers, members of faculties of art, art lovers and students participated in the ceremony. In his welcoming address, Director General Dr. Halit Eren reviewed the programs and activities instituted by IRCICA to pro-

mote the art of calligraphy, such as training programs and competitions, and said that around thirty calligraphy diplomas had been given until now to calligraphers from various countries, including three calligraphers from Morocco. Prof. E. Ihsanoğlu, Secretary General of OIC, gave a brief address in which he expressed his close interest in the art of calligraphy which had led him to institute the various activities in this field during the period he was the Director General of IRCICA. Prof. Dr. Ali Alparslan expressed his pleasure for Mr. Bensaid's diligent efforts and fast progress.

He commended IRCICA's efforts in promoting this art. Then, Mr. Jamal Bensaid expressed his gratitude to Prof. Ihsanoğlu for the fatherly patronage he is extend-



From the left: Prof. İhsanoğlu, Mr. Jamal Bensaid, Mr. Mohammed Tamimi, Prof. Dr. Ali Alparslan, Dr. Eren

ing to the calligraphers and to Prof. Ali Alparslan for having taught him with patience and understanding. He thanked the Director General of IRCICA and his colleagues for the assistance extended to him during his studies. Mr. Bensaid conveyed his deep gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI for the high patronage

accorded to him to upgrade his skills and competence in the art of calligraphy.

Mr. Bensaid had attended courses in Istanbul in 2000 with another teacher, Mr. Hasan Çelebi, with whom he will continue to study the thuluth and naskh styles.

Lectures at IRCICA

IRCICA hosts public lectures on Saturdays twice a month, from September to June inclusive, and occasionally at other times. These lectures are delivered by scholars, authors and researchers from Turkey and abroad on various subjects corresponding to the Centre's fields of activities, with emphasis on the history of Muslim countries and peoples, art, architecture, history of art, history of science, language, literature, etc. The lectures are recorded on cassettes and kept as reference materials. The titles of the lectures held from January to April 2005 are listed below:

- "The causes of the Crusades" by Serdar Bekar, 15 January 2005
- "Paper Pulp: The Dough of World Civilization" by Oğuzhan Tuğrul, 12 February 2005
- "Gardens" by Prof. Dr. Nurhan Atasoy, 17 February 2005
- "Alexandria Library: Past and Present" by Prof. Dr. Ramazan Şeşen, 19 February 2005
- "Prayer places (Namazgâh) in Islamic Civilization" by Prof. Uğur Derman, 5 March 2005



Serdar Bekar

- "The late Master Süheyl Ünver" by Prof. Dr. Ahmet Güner Sayar, 12 March 2005
- "Ships of the Ottoman Fleet" by Prof. Dr. Idris Bostan, 19 March 2005
- "A Glimpse at Islamic Ethics" by Ahmet Fazıl Temizerler, 2 April 2005

Some of these lectures are outlined below.



Oguzhan Tuğrul

The Crusades

M. Serdar Bekar's lecture on The Crusades drew a large audience of interested researchers and students. Mr. Bekar works as researcher in the Department of Bibliographies and Manuscripts of IRCICA. At the same time, he is pursuing his doctoral studies at the University of Marmara, Department of Medieval History. The subject of his lecture was the same as his dissertation topic. Mr. Bekar said that the Crusades left deep traces on the history of humanity and had far-reaching repercussions on both the Muslim and the Western worlds. He focused on the Crusades in the 11th to the 13th century, the meaning and purpose of the Crusades, the political, social, economic and religious causes of this event, as well as the political and social conditions under which the Muslims lived when this event, particularly the First Crusade, took place.

Paper Pulp

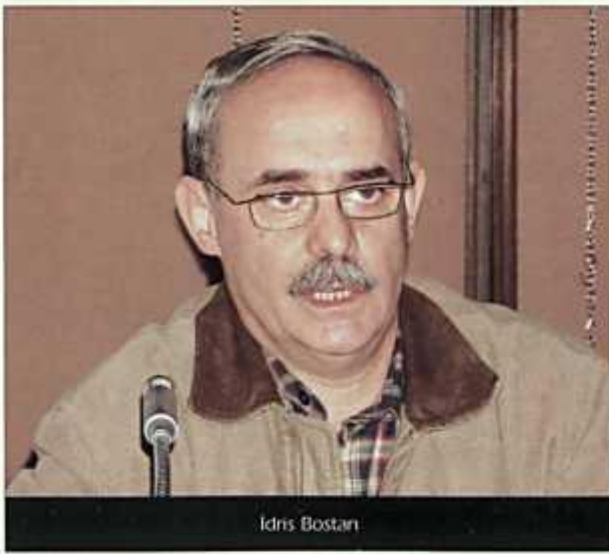
In his lecture entitled "Paper Pulp: The Dough of World Civilization", which was accompanied by an exhibition and a film presentation, Mr. Oguzhan Tuğrul gave the history of paper making tracing it back to its origins in Eastern Asia. This cultural program contributed in making better known the disappearing traditional Turkish and Uygur hand papermaking crafts and their application to traditional Turkish Islamic calligraphic arts and marbling (ebru). The exhibition was realised through the collaboration of Nelle Tresselt, American marbling artist; Niyaz Han and Tohtu Baki, both Uygur papermakers from Khotan-Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of People's Republic of China; and Mr. Oguzhan Tuğrul. They displayed applications of traditional paper cutting arts into marbled Turkish Islamic calligraphic examples of the 99 attributes of God laminating them in Khotanese handmade mulberry



Ramazan Şeşen

tree-bark paper. Rag, hemp, silk waste, mulberry tree-bark have been used in this traditional hand papermaking craft for the past 2000 years among Central Asian Turkish nations on the West side of the Great Wall in China, since long before the accepted date for the invention of paper. A documentary film about an Uygur lady papermaker, titled "The last Papermakers on the Silk Road", produced by Ms. Elaine Koretsky, was shown to the audience. Ms. Koretsky, a researcher of Chinese and other Asian hand papermaking arts and crafts and Founder of Museum of Paper Science and Technology in Brookline, Massachusetts; was the first western scholar to locate non-Chinese hand papermakers in Northwest China and document the craft for the archives of the now rapidly changing history of paper and its invention. An exhibition of photographs of Uygur papermakers in Khotan was part of the event.

Mr. Oguzhan Tuğrul undertakes activities of research, documentation, publication, development and education related to traditional arts of papermaking, glazing and decoration of plaster windows. These arts spread from Central Asia to Anatolia and throughout the world and they are about to disappear in the present day. The artist applies some original techniques in traditional arts and handicrafts and produces raw materials (dough) of paper from rags and the barks of trees. The artist tries to introduce these arts in countries all over the world through activities such as conferences, seminars, and exhibitions. Mr. Tuğrul calls the two thousand year old legacy of papermaking as the "dough of civilization". He states that he took over the responsibility to give this traditional art the prestige it deserves on the international level and to make it better known in academic circles. From 2008 onwards, Mr. Oguzhan Tuğrul will teach courses on traditional papermaking within the framework of the program of UNESCO, WCC, Craft Center and Smithsonian Institute aiming to develop the handicrafts in Latin American countries.



Idris Bostan



Ahmet Fazıl Temizerler

Alexandria Library

In his lecture entitled "Alexandria Library: Past and Present" Prof. Dr. Ramazan Şeşen, Head of the Bibliographies and Manuscripts Department of IRCICA, gave a highly instructive outline of the history of the library, its establishment, the Alexandria School called "Musaion", how the books were collected, the scholarly pursuits in the library, cataloguing work and the translations that were made. He also focused on the influence of the library on Islamic culture and scholarship around the world, and the destructions that the library underwent throughout history. The lecturer also gave ample information on Alexandria Library in the present day, its importance, its activities. Prof. Şeşen, a renowned scholar in history of science and Islamic manuscripts, has participated in congresses held at Alexandria Library in recent years.

Ottoman Fleet

Prof. Dr. Idris Bostan's lecture on "Ships of the Ottoman Fleet" was based on extensive research he conducted on the history of navigation in the Ottoman empire, particularly the ships and related techniques, the staff

and services, the supplies, the records, etc. He described the types of ships used in the Ottoman navy by showing their slide pictures, reviewing the technological advances and occasionally comparing them to those used in Europe. The ship generally used until the end of 15th century was the galley; the galleon, a sailboat, became widespread after the 15th and especially in the middle of 17th century. The rowers were galley-slaves or convicts condemned to the galleys; rarely, additional rowers were recruited in lieu of taxes. The lecturer also reviewed the development of the dockyards and observed that the Ottoman arsenal generally kept pace with technological advances.

Islamic ethics

In his lecture on Islamic ethics, Mr. Ahmet Fazıl Temizerler spoke of Islamic ethics regulating the daily life of Muslims by referring to and quoting from the fundamental sources where the basic rules of ethics and conduct are to be found: the Holy Quran, the Hadith (the sayings of the Prophet), the Sunna (the tradition of the Prophet). He gave examples from history, literature and daily life, of benefits drawn from observance of these rules and the harm caused by non-compliance with them.

Exhibitions

Exhibition on 'Stone Ornamentations of Divrigi Great Mosque and Hospital (Shifahane) as viewed by the painting studio of Ord. Prof. Dr. A. Suheyl Ünver'

Ünver painting studio, an art workshop in Istanbul, was founded by the late Ord. Prof. Ahmet Süheyl Ünver,

who was the founder and director of the History of Medicine and Deontology Chair at the University of Istanbul, Faculty of Medicine in 1933. He initiated artistic activities at the Institute of History of Medicine with the purpose of reviving the classical arts of ornamentation. Ünver painting studio displayed the paintings of its members based on/inspired by the ornamentation at

Divriği mosque complex in Central Anatolia, in the Centre's hall, on 4–17 March 2005.

Divriği, which is situated in the south east of Sivas, has been an important settlement in Asia Minor throughout history. It is characterised by numerous historical monuments.

The complex of the Great Mosque and Hospital is regarded as the most significant example of Turkish art and architecture in 13th century Anatolia. UNESCO selected this complex as one of the major monuments that need to be preserved.

It consists of two adjacent buildings, and reflects the artistic and cultural characteristics of the period with its architecture and unique stone ornamentations. The theme of the exhibition was the original drawings of the motifs and compositions seen in various parts of this complex such as the portals, pulpit, and the vaults of the dome.

The exhibition of Sabriye Seker Illumination Group

Within the framework of the exhibitions organised by IRCICA with the purpose of developing and introducing the traditional Turkish arts and passing them on to future generations, the present exhibition, including approximately 45 works, was held on 21–31 March 2005. Sabriye Şeker Illumination Group includes seven artists from various professions.

Exhibition of marbling ('ebru') by Eda Özbekkangay

An exhibition of marbling – marbled paper ("ebru") by the promising artist Eda Özbekkangay was held in IRCICA's hall on 14–28 April 2005. This was her second exhibition at the Centre. Fortyseven recent works by the artist were displayed. Official guests IRCICA received during the period visited the exhibition.

Distinguished visitors

H.E. Mr. Atilla Koç, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey, visited IRCICA on 6 March 2005 to congratulate Dr. Halit Eren on his taking the office as Director

General of IRCICA and wish him success in his new mission.

On this occasion, the Director General briefed the



Samples from the IRCICA's collection of rare and old books were presented to the Minister of Culture and Tourism Mr. Atilla Koç



Minister on the objectives of the Centre and the work undertaken by its various departments. He guided the Minister to the department of architectural activities and informed him on the ten-year program of architectural workshops that has been completed in Bosnia and Herzegovina, recalling that the first of these workshops comprised a symposium on the urban heritage of Istanbul and the Süleymaniye area.

The Minister also examined the albums of historical photographs of Islamic countries, and the library of IRCICA. He recorded his impressions in the Visitors' Book, as follows:

"I am impressed by your work. I will do my best to help you work with further facilities. I have always been proud of our culture and civilisation. Here at the Centre I understood how much I was right in this. With my best wishes for many more successful achievements."

Atilla Koç, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey

One month later, H.E. the Minister officiated the final session of the First International Congress on Islamic Archaeology, which IRCICA believes, is another manifestation of his close support and interest in the Centre's activities.

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H.E. Prof. Dr. Beşir Atalay, Minister of State of Turkey, paid a visit to IRCICA on 8 April 2005, on the occasion of his officiating the opening session of the First International Congress on Islamic Archaeology on behalf of the Prime Minister of Turkey.

Prof. Atalay congratulated Dr. Halit Eren on his appointment as Director General of IRCICA. He received information on the Centre's activities, saw its publications, and examined in particular the collections and the activities of the Library and Archives Department. The Minister of State expressed his appreciation of the vast subject areas and themes addressed by IRCICA within the framework of its various research and publication projects.



H.E. Prof. Dr. Beşir Atalay, Minister of State of Turkey, visited IRCICA's library. On the right is Prof. Dr. Mustafa Fayda, Decan of the Faculty of Theology, Marmara University, Istanbul



Dr. Madani saw the rare books in the Center's library



The distinguished guests were briefed by Dr. Nazeih Marouf on the Craft Development Program

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It was an honour for IRCICA to receive H.E. Dr. Nizar Obeid Madani, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 30 April 2005. The Assistant Minister was accompanied by H.E. Amb. Muhammad A. Tayeb, Director General of the Office of H.E. the Assistant Minister, and H.E. Mr. Muhammad Hashim, Consul General of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Istanbul. H.E. Dr. Madani was in Istanbul to attend the Iraqi Neighbouring Countries Foreign Ministers Meeting organised by the Government of Turkey. He was welcomed at IRCICA by Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of OIC, who was attending the same meeting, and Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of the Centre. The distinguished visitors saw the different departments of the Centre and received information on various projects, in particular those related to the library and archives, the architectural activities, the Craft Development Program, among others. The Assistant Minister recorded his impressions in the Centre's Book, as follows (original in Arabic):

"I have had the opportunity of visiting the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture. I saw around the Centre, got acquainted with its valuable and beneficial activities. I admired these fruitful activities. I take this opportunity to extend my thanks and my appreciation to Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, the Secretary General of OIC, for the greatest share he has in the Centre's establishment



H.E. Dr. Nizar Obeid Madani, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, receives information on the architectural projects of the Centre presented by Prof. Arch. Amir Pasic

and success, and for his supporting its projects and activities. I extend my thanks and appreciation to the new Director General of the Centre. I wish continuous success to all those who work here so that these important efforts, which are beneficial and fruitful for the Muslim world and its glorious history, are carried on steadily."

Dr. Nizar Obeid Madani, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



IRCICA was honoured by the visit of H.E. Mr. Abdellah Zagour, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco in Ankara, Turkey, to its premises, on 14 April 2005. Ambassador Zagour and Dr. Halit Eren met to review the progress of cooperation between the cultural authorities and institutions of Morocco on one hand



H.E. Mr. Abdellah Zagour, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco at the Director General's office



Dr. Yusuf Sarıncay meets with the Director General

and IRCICA on the other, and explore future possibilities in this regard. Ambassador Zagour also received information on the ongoing and future projects of the Centre.

Then, the Ambassador visited the departments of the Centre where he was presented with samples of publications and briefed on activities such as public lectures organised at the Centre, competitions and exhibitions of arts, and the Craft Development Program. Ambassador Zagour expressed his appreciation of IRCICA's contributions in promoting research and public knowledge on the history, cultures and cultural heritage of Muslim nations through its publications and cultural activities. H.E. Mr. Abdellah Zagour expressed the hope that cooperation between the cultural authorities and institutions of Morocco and IRCICA will be further expanded and intensified.



The Centre was honoured by the visit of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yusuf Sarıncay, Director General of the State Archives of the Republic of Turkey, on 19 February 2005. The distinguished visitor received information on the Centre's activities, completed and planned projects. Dr. Sarıncay expressed his congratulations to Dr. Halit Eren, the new Director General of IRCICA. He assured the Centre of the support and cooperation of the Directorate General of the State Archives to IRCICA and its activities. On 12 January 2005, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Budak, Assistant Director General of the State Archives of Turkey and Dr. Önder Bayır, Head of the

Department of Ottoman Archives, paid a visit to IRCICA and congratulated Dr. Halit Eren on his appointment as Director General of the Centre.

The talks centered essentially on the cooperation between the Ottoman Archives and IRCICA. It was agreed upon that the Ottoman Archives department will contribute to the exhibitions to be organised by IRCICA during the forthcoming 32nd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers to be held in Yemen Republic on 28–30 June 2005 and the international symposium on "Syria during the Ottoman Period" to be held in Damascus on 26–30 September 2005, with reproductions of the relevant historical documents to be selected from the archive collections.



IRCICA was honoured to receive H.E. Monseigneur Edmond Farhat, the Ambassador of Vatican in Ankara, Turkey, visited IRCICA on 23 March 2005. Monseigneur Farhat was accompanied by Monseigneur Georges Marovitch, the Istanbul representative of the Embassy of Vatican and General Secretary of the Bishops' Conference.

H.E. the Ambassador of Vatican expressed his congratulations to Dr. Halit Eren and wished him success in his new mission as Director General of IRCICA. The Centre's activities were highlighted, with an emphasis on those that aim to promote a genuine understanding between peoples of different cultures and faiths. In this regard, the role played by IRCICA in its capacity as the OIC's cultural institution was underlined.



Ambassador Msr. Edmond Farhat (at left) and Msr. Georges Marovitch (at right) with the Director General

Monseigneur Edmond Farhat wrote his views and impressions in the Visitors Book:

I was honoured to visit IRCICA and admired this treasury of culture. I very much appreciated, in particular, the high culture and kindness of Director General Halit Eren, who introduced me with the Centre and gave me very useful and important information. I wish him success and hope that we will cooperate in the fields of culture and literature with the aim of contributing to peace and justice among human beings all of whom are the creatures of God.

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A group of distinguished scholars from the Republic of Tatarstan paid a visit to IRCICA on 22 April 2005 for a meeting with Director General Dr. Halit Eren.

The ongoing cooperation projects, undertaken jointly by the scholars and universities of Tatarstan and IRCICA were reviewed, with special emphasis on the progress achieved in the preparation of the comprehensive collective work on Islamic Civilisation in Tatarstan.

This work will be the first reference book on this theme to be published in the English language.

Talks were held also on the forthcoming international symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in VolgaUral Region" to be organised jointly by the academic institutions of Tatarstan and IRCICA, in Kazan, on 24–26 June 2005. The group of scholars was composed of Prof. Dr. Mirkasim Usmanov, professor and Head of Department at the State University of Kazan and member of the Institute of History, Academy of Sciences of Tatarstan, who is the coeditor (with Prof. Dr. Raphael Khakimov)

of the comprehensive work on Islamic Civilisation in Tatarstan, Prof. Dr. Damir Ishakov and Prof. Dr. Rafik Muhammad Çin from the same Institute, and Mr. Suleiman Rahimov, coordinator in Tatarstan of the international symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in VolgaUral Region".



The scholars from Tatarstan saw the exhibition of marbled paper works by Eda Özbekkengay on display at the Centre

Cultural Events



International Islamic Economic and Cultural Conference held in Lahore, Pakistan

The International Islamic Economic and Cultural Conference (IIECC) was organised jointly by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry (an institution affiliated to the OIC and based in Karachi), the Ministry of Industries, Production and Special Initiatives, Pakistan, the Dewan Group of Companies, and the Experts Advisory Cell, Government of Pakistan. The conference was held in Lahore, on 25-26 April 2005. Following the welcome address of Mr. Dewan Abdullah, Managing Director, Dewan Group of Companies, the speakers at the opening ceremony included Mr. Aqeel A. Al-Jassem, Secretary General of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Mr. Chaudhary Mohammed Saeed, President of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The conference addressed a wide range of subjects, through the specialised papers and case studies that were contributed by Ministers, public authorities and establishments from all sectors of activity, scholars and specialists of economic and cultural subjects and development issues, from Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sudan, Thailand and Togo. The Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren contributed to the conference a research paper entitled "Islamic Architecture and its Economic and Social Dimensions".

Symposium in Paris dealt with the waqfs - philanthropic foundations in the past and today

Within the framework of the series of forums of the Association Friends of the Medina, Paris, the «Institut de l'Islam et des Sociétés du Monde Musulman» organised a symposium on 3 March 2005 in Paris, on «The waqf and the modalities to finance Muslim religious activities». The symposium, coordinated and presented

jointly by Assoc. Prof. Randi Deguilhem (Chargée de recherche CR1, CNRS) and media specialist Mr. Hakim Ghissassi, examined the institution of the waqf – pious foundation –and explored the possibility of its serving as a medium of financing the Muslim religious activities in Europe. The theme was taken up in four parts. First, studies were presented on the historical and theological aspects of the waqf, including case studies from North Africa, the Middle East and Turkey. Based on these studies, the second part of the symposium examined the new forms of pious foundations in Europe and their adapting to society and legislation in various European countries. The third part of the presentations and discussions was devoted to an analysis of the possibilities offered by French law for financing the Muslim, Christian and Jewish religious activities. Finally, the fourth part dealt with the Muslim foundations in France. Some of the matters discussed at the symposium were: the major differences of present-day waqfs operating in new geographical contexts and outside of the Mediterranean region as compared to the historical waqf institution which became an indispensable element of the societies where it originated; the ways in which waqfs can meet the needs of today's societies; the legal, economic, political and social challenges and difficulties facing the waqfs. Speakers at the symposium included religious authorities from Lebanon, Morocco, officials in charge of community affairs in France, and faculty members from universities. The symposium ended with a debate with the audience, which included specialists and actors of civil society.

The Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren participated in the symposium on behalf of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, and presented a paper entitled "Religious Foundations (Waqfs) in Turkey and the Balkans: Historical Aspects and Current Issues". The papers of the symposium will be published in the form of a book.



The 22nd Tunisian Creative Crafts Fair, the Craft Awards, and the UNESCO Crafts Prize 2005 for the Arab States

The National Office for Handicrafts (ONA) of Tunisia launched the 22nd Tunisian Creative Crafts Fair on 17 March 2005. The fair, titled "Craft Creativity for Tunisia of Tomorrow", attracted about 650 national exhibitors from all parts of Tunisia for a period of ten days, displaying textiles, weaving, wooden furniture, wrought iron and cane furniture, wood, copper, mosaics, carpets, tapestry, silverware, blownglass, among others. Simultaneously with the fair, a series of competitions were organised, to promote standards of creativity among artisans, art students, decorators and traders along with a new line for creativity in the Tunisian dress.

The scheme included the following awards: the Awards of Creativity for Artisans, the Award of Creativity for Arts Students, the Award for the Best Stand Commercial Space, the Award of "Golden Khomsa" for day wear competition. 162 artisans participated in the competition.

The competition for the UNESCO Crafts Prize 2005 for the Arab States was run during the same period. The entries for this competition were works made of glass or metal. Seventeen candidatures were received from five countries: Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates. The first prize was awarded to Ali Nacef Trabelsi, Tunisia, the second prize to Naja Ben Chedli Mahdaoui, Tunisia, and the third prize was shared by Maya Husseini Ayoub, Lebanon and Lotfi Boughzala, Tunisia.

The amount of the First Prize (US\$ 5,000) includes the cost of participation in the International Crafts Show "Maison & Objet" in Paris, in September 2005, together with the first prize winners from Africa, Latin America/the Caribbean and the AsiaPacific region. The international Juries for the Awards of the Tunisian Creative Crafts Fair and the UNESCO Prize included Mr. Omar Amine Benabdallah (Morocco), former Director of the Crafts Department and former President of the World Crafts Council, exmember of IRCICA Governing Board, Mr. Chedly Karoui (Tunisia), Director General of the National Office for Handicrafts

(Tunisia), Dr. Nazeih Maarouf, Head of the Crafts Development Program, IRCICA, and Mr. Indrasen Vencatachellum, Chief, Section for Arts, Crafts and Design, UNESCO. The UNESCO Crafts Prize is intended as a reward for the efforts of craftworkers who, by trying out different forms and techniques, have contributed to the creation of original models in their respective trades. The artisans were requested not to submit works that are mere imitation or reproduction of old items, to give preference to works which include traditional techniques and/or apply new techniques, and to use materials which are renewable and environment-friendly.

Dubai International Calligraphy Exhibition

An exhibition of calligraphy was organised in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, through the cooperation of the Organisation for Tourism and Commercial Marketing of the Government of Dubai, the Sultan bin Ali alUways



From the right: Mr. Juma al-Majid, Mr. Mohammed al-Murr, Mr. Mohammed Tamimi at the opening



Demonstration of marbling techniques by the artist and teacher Mr. Fuat Başar

Foundation, Dubai, and IRCICA, on 30 January 10 February 2005. A first exhibition under the same title was held one year ago, in connection with the trade festival of Dubai 2004 (from 15 January to 15 February 2004). The opening was officiated by H.E. Khaled Ahmed bin Sleyim, Director General of the Organisation for Tourism and Commercial Marketing, H.E. Mr. Juma alMajid, Chairman of the Council of Economic Affairs of Dubai and President of the Juma alMajid Center for Cultural Heritage, H.E. Mr. Mohammed alMurr, Chairman of the Cultural Council of Dubai and Member of IRCICA Governing Board, and other high officials and authorities in charge of cultural and tourism affairs. On behalf of IRCICA, Mr. Mohammed Tamimi, coordinator of the exhibition, and Mr. Said Kasimoğlu, took part in the organization of the exhibition. About one hundred calligraphic works were displayed in this exhibition belonging to twentyfive

artists from eight countries: Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Sudan, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates.

Works by newly emerging artists were displayed in a separate section of the exhibition; still another section displayed writing tools and materials. The events were accompanied by lectures – mostly by calligrapher Fuat Başar and seminars on the art of calligraphy. It is noteworthy that almost half of the works displayed in the exhibition were sold at the opening and that the event attracted art lovers and calligraphers from neighbouring countries as well. A catalogue of the exhibition was published. On this occasion, the catalogue of awardwinning works in IRCICA's Sixth Calligraphy Competition, which was published by IRCICA, was introduced to the visitors. The award certificates and certificates of participation of the calligraphers from the United Arab Emirates who had participated in the competition were presented to their owners.

Dr. Hussain Mujib al-Masry, an eminent scholar in comparative Islamic literature, passed away

Hussain Mujib al-Masry was born in 1916 to an aristocratic family of Egypt. He graduated from Cairo University 1939. He was planning to go to Basel to prepare a doctorate thesis on the Turkish poet Fuzuli al-Baghdadi under the supervision of Prof. Tischudi, but World War II erupted just at the time. He was admitted to the Institute of Oriental Studies of Cairo University, where he completed his higher studies on Turkish and Persian literature.

He taught Turkish and Persian literature, comparative Islamic literature, Ottoman history and Turkish popular literature, mainly in the Cairo and Ain Shams Universities. He went to Istanbul for some time to see the manuscripts relating to Fuzuli al-Baghdadi. He finalized his doctorate thesis in 1955 and thus became the first Arab to obtain a doctorate in the field of Turcology. With his book published in 1951, he was also the first to introduce the history of Turkish literature to Arabic readers. He then translated this book into Persian. He was the first Arab scholar to teach and write on comparative Islamic literature as part of Turkish literature studies.

Al-Masry was the first Arab author to compose poetry in Turkish. He published a *divan* (collection of poems) in Turkish entitled "Solgun bir Gül" ("a pale rose"). Then he re-wrote these poems in Arabic. He had also written a collection of poems in Persian which was printed in Pakistan together with its Arabic version. He was adapting his own Turkish and Persian poems to the Arabic language, and was the first author to do so. He adapted the *Mevlud*, the poem written by Süleyman Çelebi and depicting the birth of Prophet Mohammad, from Turkish to Ara-

bic, with the same meter system, prefacing it with explanations in which he was comparing Turkish and Arabic *mevluds*.

The Government of Pakistan presented Dr. Hussain Mujib al-Masry with the Iqbal Award in 1977. Two years later, al-Masry participated in the congress held on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the birth of the illustrious Pakistani philosopher and author Iqbal. Al-Masry also undertook research and published seven books, in addition to articles and poems, on Iqbal. Al-Masry was nominated for the State Award of Encouragement by the Department of Oriental Studies of Ain Shams University. In the 1990s, Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of OIC who was at the time the Director General of IRCICA, had applied to the authorities concerned in Turkey in order that al-Masry be given recognition for his contributions in making Turkish literature better known in the Arab world; thus the University of Marmara, Istanbul, had conferred an honorary doctorate to Dr. Hussain Mujib al-Masry together with two other Egyptian scholars, namely the historian of art Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Issa and the specialist in bibliographies Dr. Nasrullah Mubashir al-Tirazi. Al-Masry was not able to be present at the ceremony held on 9 November 1995 due to his health condition, but the honorary doctorate was presented to him at the Turkish Embassy in Cairo on 6 December 1995, at a ceremony hosted by the Ambassador of Turkey Mr. Yaşar Yakış, in which Prof. Ihsanoglu was present.

Dr. H. Mujib al-Masry passed away on 14 December 2004.

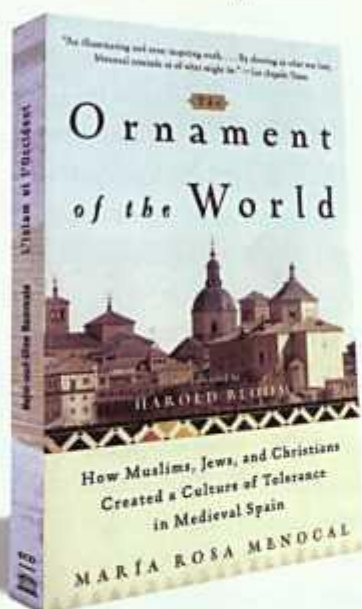
Dr. Salih Sadawi

Book Survey

MARIA ROSA MENOCA

The Ornament of the World: How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain

Foreword by Harold Bloom, Boston: Little, Brown and Company, May 2002, Back Bay paperback edition April 2002, xiv+315 pp.



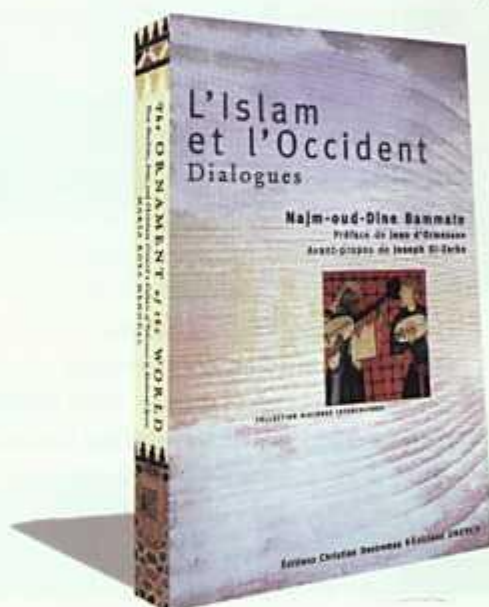
■ The Muslim rule in Spain which lasted from 711 to 1495 AD is of particular significance for the history of religions and cultures: Muslims, Christians and Jews lived side by side, interacting fruitfully, in an experience of religious and cultural coexistence perhaps unique in history. It was also a most significant period of scientific and intellectual development, where Muslim scientists made pioneering advances in astronomy, optics, medicine, etc. From the tenth century onwards, a major translation movement took place in Europe, whereby the Arabic books written by these scientists were translated into Latin and Hebrew, providing significant contributions to the European Renaissance. Mutual influences between the communities of different faiths living in Andalusia were also reflected in the arts, architecture, language and literature. This historical survey offers lively portraits of the multicultural intellectual climate of Andalusia giving evidence that it was largely a result of the tolerance shown toward Christians and Jews and their cultures. The subtitle, "How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval

Spain", implies both an origin for this tolerance, which is to be found in Islam, and the lesson to be drawn for ethics in contemporary interfaith relations.

NAJM-OD-DINE BAMMATE

L'Islam et l'Occident: Dialogues, Préface de Jean d'Ormesson

Avantpropos de Joseph Kizerbo, Editions Christian Destremau, Editions UNESCO, 2000, 167 pp.



■ NajmoudDine Bammate (1922-1985), an eminent figure of contemporary Islam, was a high official of UNESCO from 1949 to 1979, having served in his last four posts as coordinator of the EastWest project, Director of the Division of Human Sciences, Director of the Cultural Department, and Special Advisor to the Assistant DirectorGeneral for Culture and Communication. From 1979 onwards he was the representative of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in Paris; he worked as a member of the Committee for Drafting the Islamic Declaration on Human Rights, and participated in the preparatory committees prior to the establishment of IRCICA and ICPICH (Newsletter no. 8, April 1985). Bammate bequeathed his book collection to IRCICA. The present book is a first collection of the major lectures Bammate delivered on different occasions (all in French), some of which were published as articles.

It has a preface by Jean d'Ormesson from the Académie Française who knew him personally and appreciated his vast knowledge of both Islamic and Western philosophy, languages and literature. Joseph KiZerbo, professor of history at the University of Ouagadougou, former Secretary General of the African and Malagasy Council for High Education (CAMES), wrote on religions, the IslamWest debate and Bammate's thought and lectures on these.

The third and last text prefacing the lectures is by Sadek Sellam, who reviews Bammate's professional career, his thoughts, including his belief in the oneness of humanity, his opinions on contacts between the different civilisations and points to the many benefits to be drawn from a rereading of his lectures. The book was published with the contributions of the World Islamic Call Society.

The lectures and articles contained in the book, some followed by the proceedings of debates, address a wide range of complex issues such as "The Destiny of the Muslim Man", the concept of "Liberty in Islam", "The Traditional Doctrine of the Muslim State", "Islam and the West – Islamic tradition in the face of the present world". They will be enriching and inspiring for anybody interested in the cultural and spiritual as well as the real and practical aspects of interreligious and intercultural relations.

ABDUL-RAHIM ABU-HUSAYN

**The View from Istanbul:
Ottoman Lebanon and the Druze Emirate**

London: Centre for Lebanese Studies in association with I. B. Tauris Publishers, 2004, x+213 pp. maps

■ This work not only fills many lacunae of knowledge and documentation on the history of Lebanon – the parts of Ottoman Syria that ultimately came to form Lebanon – in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, but also corrects a lot of misinformation. Existing research on the history of Ottoman Lebanon is largely based on French and other European archival material and some local family and community archives. However, an essential source for studies relating to the period of the Ottoman rule in Syria from 1516 until the dissolution of the empire is the Ottoman archival materials as well as literary sources; neither one was used systematically and extensively by Arab historians. Some scholars are making efforts to fill this gap: one of them is Prof. Dr. AbdulRahim AbuHusayn, professor of history at the American University of Beirut.

He has used and published Ottoman documents relating to the history of the region in an earlier book, *Provincial Leaderships in Syria, 1575-1650* (AUB, 1985), and numerous articles. As to the present book, it is the first to study and make extensive use of the Ottoman Chancery documents on the history of the Druze Emirate, the first political entity that covered a large part of presentday Lebanon. It studies the imperial orders contained in the *Umuri Mühimme Defteri* (Register of Public Affairs) and official communication sent from the capital Istanbul to the governors and local authorities in the Lebanese mukataas and the region of the Druze Mountain. It is also the first publication containing the full English renderings of these documents. The author's focus on the Druze Emirate sheds light on the rule of the Ma'an family and the rivalries and conflicts between the members of this family; it goes beyond the time limit of earlier works on the subject, to end in 1711, the year in which the Shihab regime in Lebanon was consolidated.

The comprehensive general introduction outlines the history of the period, reviews the existing sources, and very importantly, compares information obtained from archive documents with that contained in literary sources, relating to many developments and issues. The chapters are titled 1. Sidon/Beirut, 2. The Sancak/Eyalet of Tripoli, 3. The Country of Baalbek, the Biqa' and



Wadi alTaym, 4. The Sancak of Safad, 5. Imperial Military Campaigns, 6. Pilgrimage and The Lebanon. Under each chapter, the documents are classified according to their subjects – the families, rebellions, administrative matters, etc. Each section has a preface

which places the documents in historical context and analyses their scope and content.

The author's choice of terms and chapter headings is important as it indicates that he has not fallen under the influence of different schools in Lebanese history that are ideologically inspired but has drawn on contemporary Ottoman usage. Therefore, the book will certainly help to redress the existing deviation from original sources which was partly due to their unavailability, in general and in the English language. The documents contained in the book provide an integral picture of the history of Bilad alSham, centered around the Jabal Duruz, Jabal alAmil, and extending to the neighbouring regions (Jordan, Palestine, Syria). This picture shows, among others, that during the rule of the Ma'ans, the Druze emirs were not granted ranks higher than those of other mukataas, contrary to the prevalent view in historical works written in Lebanon since the 19th century. It also highlights one major cause of the Druze rebellions: their loss of economic privileges they enjoyed during the Memluk period. The book questions the existing knowledge on many issues of importance for the history of the region such as these, and confirms or corrects it on basis of original documents and by referring to other sources. It is an important contribution to studies on Syria during the Ottoman period, in particular, the history of a key phase of it, the Druze Emirate.

Die Islamgelehrten Daghestans und ihre arabischen Werke. Nadir ad Durgilis (st. 1935) Nuzhat al-adhan fi tarāḡim 'ulāma' Daḡistan

Islamic scholars of Daghestan and their Arabic works, Published, translated and annotated by Michael Kempner and Amri R. Sixsaidov, Islamkundliche Untersuchungen, Band 259, Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 294+165 pp.

■ This is the fourth volume of a series entitled Muslim Culture in Russia and Central Asia, 18th-20th Centuries. The volume contains the reproduction of the original Arabic text and an annotated German translation of the book entitled Nuzhat aladhan by Nadir ad Durgili (1891-1935). Durgili's work is a collection of biographies of the intellectual elites of Daghestan (Caucasus) having lived from the 11th century until the beginning of the 20th century. It is the most comprehensive book on this subject. It was used largely by Daghestani researchers as a major reference but was never printed or translated, even into Russian. Altogether, it gives an overview of the progress of scholarship in Daghestan over the centuries and shows the continuity of literary activity in the Arabic language even during the Soviet period. Manuscripts

relating to Islamic studies were preserved in libraries and private collections; in the early decades of 20th century they were transferred to the relevant institutes of universities. The manuscript work of Durgili is now preserved at the Daghestan scholarly center of the Academy of Sciences of Russia. The majority of the biographies belong to scholars of the 17th-19th centuries and were prepared on the basis of written and oral sources of Daghestan most of which have disappeared. In his study Michael Kempner looks into the activities of the Daghestani scholars since the 18th century: they built up a network of madrasas (Islamic schools) in the villages and produced a vast Arabic literature in almost all branches of Islamic studies.

Rasail alShajarat allahiyah fi 'Ulūm alHaqa'iq alRabbaniyah

(A book of treatises as a divine tree on the sciences of the truths of divinity). Published with presentation by Necip Görgün, Istanbul, 2004, 3 vols. (28+509; 643; 639+88)

Presented by Dr. Hidayet Y. Nuhoglu

■ As is known, research on the history of Islamic thought generally revolves around a limited number of authors and their works. Thus inevitably, some newcomers in the field were misled to believe that this was all about it. No doubt, one of the reasons for this incomplete knowledge and coverage of the literature is the lack or difficulty of access to the many scholars and authors other than the few whose works were edited and studied a number of times.

One of the important figures of the history of Islamic thought waiting to be rediscovered is certainly, Shams alDin Muhammad bin Mahmud alShahrazûri. A student of the Sufi philosopher Suhrawardi, having taught numerous students himself, alShahrazûri lived and died in Shahrazûr, in the 7th c. H/13th c. AD. He is known for his interpretation, development and teaching of the Ishraqi philosophy, an important school within Islamic thought. He wrote works that are significant for the history and the systematic classification of philosophy. Besides the annotations he wrote to two works of his teacher Suhrawardi, he authored four treatises, to our knowledge, on history of science and philosophical thought.

One of the treatises of alShahrazûri which made remarkable influence, is Rasail alShajarat allahiyah fi 'Ulūm alHaqa'iq alRabbaniyah. According to Dr. Görgün's assessment, fourteen copies of this work are found in the libraries of Turkey eight of which are complete copies, and two copies outside Turkey. Görgün

states that the fourth book of the treatise which is devoted to physics was translated by Yirmisekiz Mehmed Çelebi (a man of culture who had been to Paris and helped in the process of introduction of printing techniques to Turkey) and that there are two copies of this translation.

This treatise is arranged encyclopedically and comprised of five main books. The first and second books are on the classification of sciences and logic, the third on behavioral knowledge, that is ethics and politics, the fourth on theoretical knowledge which is considered the peak of science, that is physics and metaphysics. The treatise is remarkable for its methodology, and its most important aspect is, in our opinion, its influence on Shiite thought through Sadr alDin Shirazî on one hand, and on OttomanSunni thought through Jalal alDin Dawani. The treatise has been meticulously prepared and published by Dr. Necip Görgün in three volumes, with an 88 page article (in Turkish) at the end introducing the author, his works and his ideas on certain themes of philosophy. This publication is an important reference for researchers and librarians who work on the history of Islamic culture and thought. For further information please write to: ngorgun@ogw.edu.tr

Les fondations pieuses(waqf) en Méditerranée. Enjeux de société, enjeux de pouvoir

(The philanthropic foundations {waqf} in the Mediterranean. Challenges of society, challenges of power], coordinated by Randi Deguilhem, Abdelhamid Hénia, Published by the Fondation Publique des Awqaf du Koweit, 2004, 437 p. (articles in French or English)

■ This book results from an international research workshop on the theme "Networks throughout contemporary Mediterranean: properties of philanthropic foundations, revenues and sociopolitical alliances between the North of Africa, the Middle East and Europe" held on 21–25 March 2001 within the framework of the meetings of the "Institut Universitaire Européen" (European University Institute) of Florence relating to social and political research on the Mediterranean region. The workshop brought together specialists in various social sciences who are working on the waqf institutions, i.e. the pious foundations which were established in countries around the Mediterranean Sea in different periods of history.

The resulting publication contains articles on cases, experiences and aspects of waqfs that highlight the roles of the waqfs as agents of social and religious life and vec-

tors of power strategies – the first part of the book and the interference of the State in the waqf – the second part. The coordinators, Prof. Randi Deguilhem and Prof. Abdelhamid Hénia explain, in their Presentation of the book, that this collective work aims not only to add empirical information to the existing knowledge on waqfs, but also to assess and describe the religious law and jurisprudence relating to the waqfs. Each part contains seven articles.

The publisher, the Public Foundation of Awqaf of Kuwait, implements programs aimed at promoting research on waqfs. As explained in the Note of the Editor at the beginning of the book, these programs include an international competition, the publication of a specialised periodical, and research grants to students. The publication of this book comes under the same objective. A strategy for the promotion of waqfs was adopted by the Executive Committee of the Congress of Ministers of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of Muslim Countries, in 1995, and the State of Kuwait was designated the Coordinator State of the waqf activities among Islamic countries. The Public Foundation of Awqaf of Kuwait was assigned by the State to undertake programs and projects to revive the waqfs and explore the socioeconomic benefits it can bring to Muslim societies.

MURAT ÇIZAKÇA

A History of Philanthropic Foundations: The Islamic World from the Seventh Century to the Present

Istanbul: Boğaziçi University Press, 2000, xii+288 pp.

■ Philanthropic foundations, which are generally known in the Islamic world as waqf, contributed in financing a large variety of services in Muslim societies. This compact yet comprehensive book presents a history of the waqf system in the Islamic world from the beginning until the present day. The author examines the social and economic roles assumed by the waqf system, its origins and impact, and its serving as an example for associations and foundations in countries outside the Muslim world.

The founders, the beneficiaries, the functioning, the trustees and managers, the capital of the waqfs are examined on basis of cases at different places and periods of history. In addition to these analyses, the author discusses at length the controversy relating to cash waqfs – whether or not endowments in movables can be considered acceptable. In this, Çizakça refers to the cash waqfs in the Ottoman empire, Syria, Egypt, Central Asia, India, Malaysia and Singapore. A highly informative

section of the book is related to the centralisation process of the waqf system which reoccurred throughout Islamic economic history.

The author explains the reasons for the subjugation of the waqfs by the state and the legal issues associated with their confiscation. After a discussion of centralisa-

tion in the Ottoman Empire and Turkey, Çizakça examines the cases of Egypt, Sudan, Morocco, Iran, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines. The author concludes with proposals, indicating the need for a reform of this system for its adaptation to presentday societies.

New publications by IRCICA

Koca Sinan Paşa'nın Telhisleri (The Telhis of Koca Sinan Pasha)

Prepared for publication by H. Sahillioğlu, preface by E. İhsanoğlu, IRCICA, İstanbul, 2004, xxxix+340 pp.

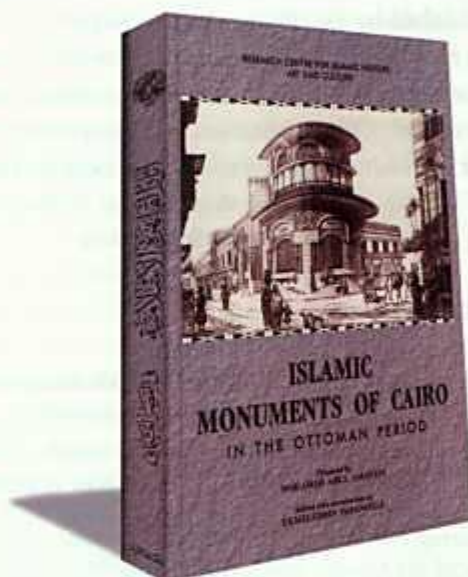


■ The Telhis were outlines, written by Ottoman viziers, of documents on matters to be submitted to the consideration and decision of the Sultan. These outlines are important because they constitute original references pertaining to various subjects of interest to researchers on the administrative and political history of the Ottoman period. The Telhis registers kept in the Ottoman Archives in İstanbul comprise a collection of those that were written by Grand Vizier Sinan Pasha, a prominent figure of 16th century. He is known for his remarkable political career, having been appointed vizier five times over more than seven years. Also remarkable was his military career marked by successes – as the conqueror of Yemen and of Tunisia – and also by failures. He left numerous writings that are particularly important for historians who study the period of his functions.

Prof. Dr. Halil Sahillioğlu, an authoritative scholar in Ottoman history and studies on the Ottoman archives, has prepared for publication Sinan Pasha's Telhis that are found in the libraries and museums of İstanbul. The book is supplemented with indexes.

Islamic Monuments of Cairo in the Ottoman Period

Islamic Monuments of Cairo in the Ottoman Period, Volume I: Mosques, Madrasas & Takiyas, prepared by Mohamed Abul Amayem, edited with introduction by E. İhsanoğlu, İstanbul 2003 (XXXVIII+541 p.)



■ The main purpose of this book is to examine the architectural works in Egypt constructed during the Ottoman period (1517-1805 A.D.) from the viewpoint of the relationship between Turkish administrative circles and the Egyptian people. One of the objectives of this book is to shed light upon the cultural ties between the Egyptians and the Turks. As its previous publications such as *Egypt as Seen in the Nineteenth Century*, a photograph album on the historical buildings and monuments of Egypt, with this book, too, IRCICA aims to highlight the progress made by Islamic civilization in various historical and geographical contexts and to emphasize the cross-cultural and regional aspects of its heritage.

The first volume of *Islamic Monuments of Cairo in the Ottoman Period* contains information on mosques, schools, zawiyas and tekkes (religious lodges), etc. The second volume to be published will encompass information on houses, caravanserais, sabils, burial shrines and

other buildings. The present volume describes 141 monuments, which were built during the period from the Ottoman conquest of Egypt (1517) until the beginning of Mehmed Ali Pasha's rule in 1805. The monuments built between 1805-1914 will be the subject of a separate study.

This book attempts to give a detailed record of Ottoman buildings in Cairo. The entries, which are arranged in chronological order, include the official registration number, the date of construction, the names of patrons and the location in Cairo. This is followed by a description of the building, information on its status in connection with the Waqf Administration of Egypt when applicable. Finally, the main sources mentioning the building in question are cited.

This book is based on several references and materials. Among them are the following: Photographs from the archive collections of the Arab Monuments Preservation Committee, photographs from IRCICA's archives, location maps, horizontal and vertical sections of the buildings, photographs taken by Eng. Mohamed Abul Amayem, and all kinds of explanatory materials. Brief explanations on Egyptian architecture are given in the footnotes. The book also contains an appendix comprising maps obtained from the Egyptian Survey Authority in order to help the reader locate the monuments. The entry of each monument includes a detailed map of its location and area. Both the existing and the destroyed monuments are included.

Creativity and Crafts in the Muslim World

Proceedings of the International Seminar on Creativity in Islamic Crafts, Islamabad, 10-12 October 1994, Editor: Nazeih Taleb Maarouf, Preface: Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, IRCICA – Istanbul, 2004, xxxix, 365, [42], 223 p.: ill. (In English and Arabic)

■ This volume highlights examples of images of innovative craft works from various regions of the Muslim world which have made these products flourish through the ages towards sublime. These examples reflect the authenticity of the craft products and the traditional arts as they are applied in architecture, calligraphy, gilding, arabesque, bookbinding, miniature, pottery, engraving on wood and other works. They are expressions of beauty and splendour and products of a creative spirit. The volume also gives an overview of the experiences of some member countries in the field of crafts and some craftspeople, in order to make these experiences shared by others, encourage cooperation and promote exchanges of views on the different tech-

niques used. Colour photographs of the craft works beautifully illustrate the high level of originality reached in the performance of design, techniques and forms.

The volume also aims to provide a much needed documentation of scholarly nature relating to the various Islamic craft works as recorded on the spot, through field work. This documentation is supplemented with data and explanatory tables on the present state of this sector.

The book is the collective outcome of studies conducted by researchers and specialists from various countries of the Muslim world, from Europe and the U.S.A. The authors of the articles focus on different aspects of the theme: the history of the development of crafts, the technical aspects of craft production such as the primary materials, dyes and other intermediary inputs, marketing and distribution of craft products, and the craftspeople in their continuous efforts to upgrade and promote their products.

The book also gives information on the First International Islamic Artisans-at-Work Festival which was held in Islamabad, Pakistan, and the various activities that were connected to it. The knowledge and experience gathered during the festival can be considered as a contribution to researches in this field because they reflect the state of this sector of activity, the problems and prospects of development, and the levels of advancement reached regarding the designs, techniques, primaries, tools and equipment, and their repercussions



on the quality of the products. The reader will also find information on the economic and financial aspects, the role of governments and patronage, data and documentation concerning this sector, the markets, channels of distribution, product development and promotion, among others.

Catalogue of Winners' Plates in the Sixth International Calligraphy Competition in the Name of Mir Imad alHaseni (961/1024 H/1554/1615 M)

IRCICA Istanbul, 1425/2004

■ This catalogue contains the reproductions of the seventyseven calligraphies which won prizes in the Sixth International Calligraphy Competition organised by IRCICA. The competition was dedicated to the illustrious Iranian calligrapher and pioneer of the nestaliq style Mir Imad alHaseni, on the 400th year of his death (1024 H–1615 M). It was conducted in the fourteen major styles of calligraphy that are known and widespread in the world.

The winning works, which were selected from among 1800 entries submitted by 930 participants from 36

countries, were announced at a press conference held on 25 March 2004. In addition to the awards distributed in the various categories of styles, thirtythree incentive prizes were given to promising calligraphers from countries where this art is newly flourishing. In total, 110 awards and incentive prizes were presented to ninetyfour calligraphers from thirty countries. The catalogue contains a roster of the awardwinners with contact information, to promote communications among them.

The catalogue, prepared by Mohammed Tamimi, the coordinator of the competition, has a Preface by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Chairman of the Competition Jury, who was the Director General of IRCICA at the time of publication of the catalogue. The latter is not only an artistic catalogue but also constitutes a reference for calligraphers.



First prize in the Jaly Thuluth:
Calligraphy by Jawad Khooran (Iran)

New publication by IRCICA



Cultural Contacts in Building A Universal Civilisation: Islamic Contributions

Edited by Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, based on the proceedings of the international congress held under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohamed Al-Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Emir of Sharjah, on 17-19 January 2004, Studies and sources on the history of Islamic civilisation series, no. 11, IRCICA 2005 x, 413 p.

■ Contacts between peoples of different cultures have been determining factors in the evolution of universal knowledge and civilisation.

Islam played an active role in this process from its earliest centuries, by interacting constructively with other cultures within and outside its own realm in different fields of learning, science and arts. This book offers fresh multidisciplinary analyses of these interactions and highlights their contributions to the history of development of selected fields in humanities, sciences and arts. This analysis is followed by an evaluation of the existing and potential implications of these contacts for intercultural relations in our time.

The majority of the articles contained in this book were presented at the international congress on "Cultural Contacts in Building A Universal Civilisation: The Role of Islamic Contributions" which was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin

Mohamed AlQassimi, member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Emir of Sharjah, and organised by IRCICA in conjunction with the American University of Sharjah (pls. see the Newsletter no. 63, April 2004).

The authors of the articles were invited to join in this collaborative effort on account of their authority in the fields under study.

Their contributions are grouped under the following chapter titles: "humanities", "sciences", "arts". The last chapter, entitled "contemporary perspectives", discusses the implications of these contacts for intercultural relations in our time.

The articles of each chapter are arranged subjectwise or in the chronological order of their topics. The Introduction by Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu is followed by the contributions of (in the order of the articles) Abdulwahab Bouhdiba, AbdulHafez Helmy Mohammad, Enrico Berti, David Lea, William Gallois on contacts in various fields of humanities; Régis Morelon, Paul Kunitzsch, Irfan Shahid, Roshdi Rashed, William R. Shea, Ahmad Y. alHassan on contacts in science and technology; Oleg Grabar, Géza Fehérvári, Wijdan Ali, Günsel Renda on contacts in arts, and Majid Fakhry on contemporary perspectives.

The first two articles are in Arabic, accompanied by their abridged English versions. The other articles are in English.

