



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



# NEWSLETTER

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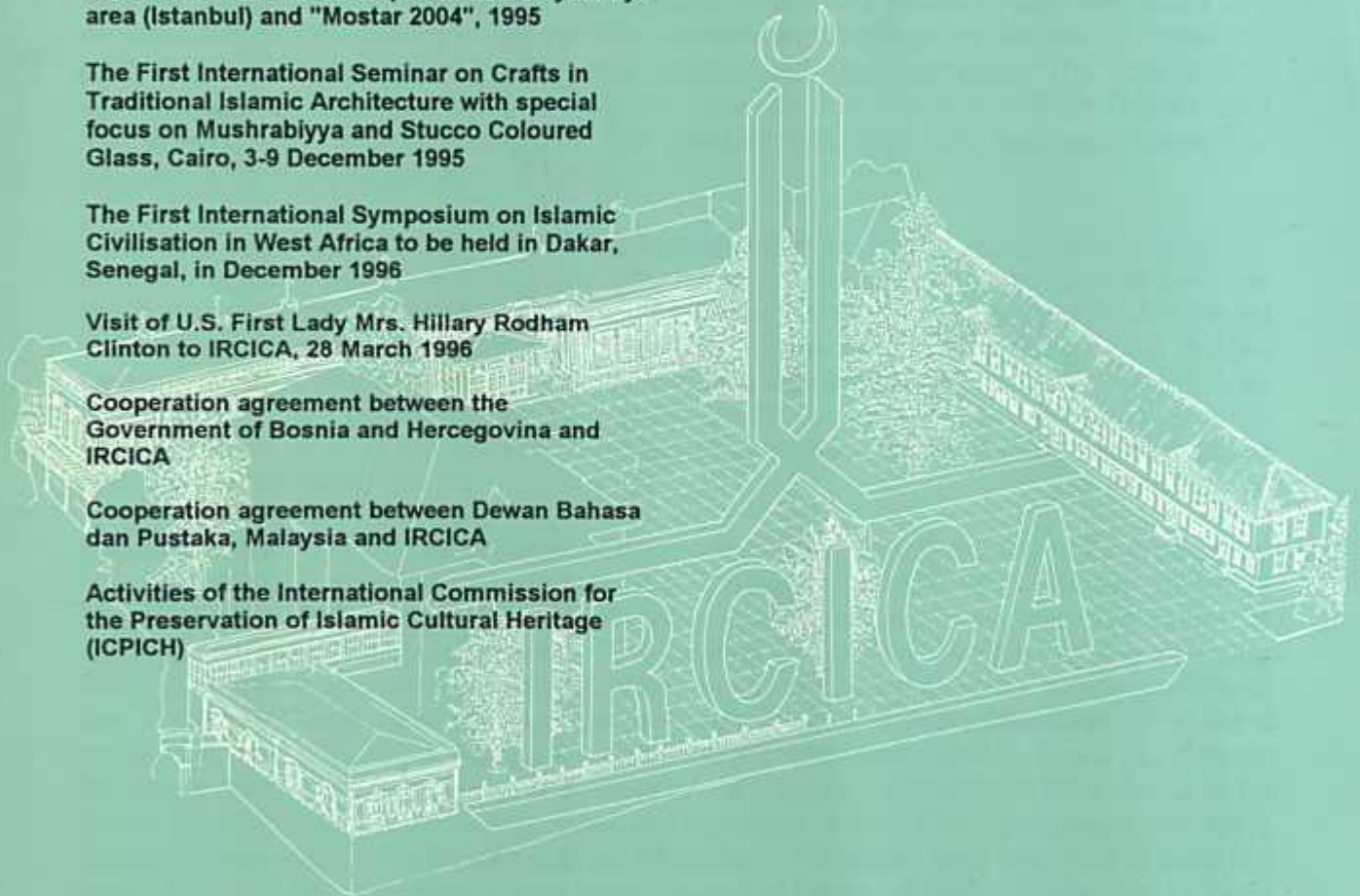
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## EDITORIAL

Following the December 1995 issue where we covered mainly the ceremony and other activities related to the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Centre, we are pleased to publish news, this time, on several international activities of the recent months realized in the framework of IRCICA's various research projects. One of them is the international workshop on *Architectural Heritage Today* which was held last Summer in two stages focusing, respectively, on the Süleymaniye area (Istanbul) and Mostar, Bosnia and Hercegovina. This was the second architectural workshop in a series after the previous year's Mostar 2004 workshop program. These architectural workshops, and all the other activities undertaken under the Centre's project *The History and Culture of Bosnia and Hercegovina*, meet great international interest. These activities carried out in agreement with the Government of Bosnia and Hercegovina aims to contribute to the restoration and preservation of the country's cultural and architectural heritage by means of research, publications, documentation, architectural studies and other activities. The cooperation agreement that has recently been signed between the Government of Bosnia and Hercegovina and IRCICA recognizes the Centre's efforts in this field and draws the framework for more cooperation in future.

There has been new progress also in the framework of the *Crafts Development Program*, another long-term project of the Centre, after the convening the First International Seminar on Traditional Crafts in Traditional Islamic Architecture With Special Focus on Mushrabiyya and Stucco Coloured Glass: Present State and Future Prospects, held in Cairo on 3-9 December 1995. The seminar was jointly organised with the Ministry of Culture of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The implementation of the Crafts Development Program will continue with various studies as well as with meetings of specialists on the diverse aspects of the crafts of Islamic countries.

Meanwhile, the OIC Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs chaired by H.E. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, held its Fifth Session on 27-28 March 1996 in Dakar, Senegal. The Standing Committee took note and expressed its appreciation of the Centre's activities. The holding of the Fifth Session of the Standing Committee for Information and Cultural Affairs in Dakar gave the Centre's representatives the chance to meet with the Senegalese authorities and representatives of cultural institutions, in particular the *Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN)*, Dakar, to discuss the preparations of the *International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in West Africa* to be jointly organised by IRCICA and IFAN in December 1996. The symposium will bring together specialists of the history of West Africa from the region itself and from around the world. It will be the beginning of new research on the history of Islamic civilisation in West Africa in the framework of the Centre's broad project titled the History of Muslim Nations, and is expected to lead to a publication on this subject. This will be an important step forward in the Centre's activities related to the Islamic culture in West Africa, a topic that was included in its work plans from its earliest years onwards. Prospective developments in this regard will be further enhanced through the Centre's increasing cooperation with the academic and cultural institutions of the Member States in Africa.

On the other side of the vast Muslim world geography, the Centre has been active for years in its cooperation with the authorities and institutions of the Member States in Southeast Asia. While the research project on the history of *Islamic civilisation in Southeast Asia* carried out in cooperation with the Governments of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia will soon lead to a comprehensive publication, new projects are now envisaged in cooperation with the cultural institutions of these Member States. In this regard, the Centre's participation in the Second Istiqlal Festival held in Jakarta, Indonesia (September-October 1995) and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation between Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Malaysia and IRCICA in Kuala Lumpur, on 21 August 1995, created new possibilities for the Centre to increase its cooperation with Indonesian and Malaysian institutions.

The importance of fostering understanding between peoples of different cultures was underscored on an important occasion recently: U.S. First Lady Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton visited IRCICA on 28 March 1996 in the framework of her official trip to Turkey, and also attended a meeting of the leaders of the different faiths represented in Turkey convened on this occasion. The meeting, by itself a contribution to dialogue between communities, emphasized the necessity to reinforce the spirit of mutual understanding between cultures and in this context, it highlighted the importance of the Centre's efforts to make the Islamic culture and civilisation better known in the world. This issue of the Newsletter gives news on the US First Lady's visit to the Centre.

This issue also reflects the progress achieved in IRCICA's cooperation with UN agencies, especially with UNESCO, and the Centre's participation in the Nineteenth Session of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee held in Berlin, Germany, on 4-9 December 1995. The section related to the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) reviews the various activities carried out by the Commission since last Summer. In this connection, we are pleased to give the good news to calligraphers around the world that preparations are under way to announce the Fourth International Calligraphy Competition later during 1996.

**Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu**

**THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE OIC STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (COMIAC)**

**Dakar, Republic of Senegal**

**27-28 March 1996**

The OIC Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs (COMIAC) held its Fifth Session in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, on 27-28 March 1996, upon the invitation of H.E. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairman of COMIAC, and with the participation of H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference.

Following the recitation of Verses from the Holy Quran, President Abdou Diouf delivered an opening speech, declaring that the opportunity was offered today for COMIAC to take stock of the mission entrusted to it by the Islamic world and to open up future perspectives for joint action in furtherance of the OIC's ideals. H.E. the President of Senegal and Chairman of COMIAC recalled that under the current circumstances marked by a gradual decline of age-old ideologies and an exacerbated crisis of moral values, many points of reference have been lost and mankind is witnessing a powerful revival of the need for spirituality. He added that this situation should induce the members of the Standing Committee to work harder in order to reflect the true image of Islam, especially for those who are wondering, in the face of certain deplorable events to say the least, what Islam is in reality. H.E. Abdou Diouf underlined, in this context, the necessity to establish a Special Fund for the Development of Culture and Information in the Islamic World to be supported with voluntary contributions. The Chairman of COMIAC also laid emphasis on the serious social problems the Islamic world, and beyond it the whole international community, are facing. In this respect, he called for holding meetings at the Ministerial level to discuss and define the cooperation policy to be applied in favour of children, youth and women.

The Committee heard the message of H.M. Hassan II, King of Morocco and Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference, where His Majesty the King stressed that the meeting was being held at a time when the world was undergoing deep and critical changes which call for coordination of actions and methods in order to present the true image of Islam, in accordance with its lasting principles which tackle the problems besetting mankind from a perspective of dignity and freedom, and in keeping with the principle of consultation and dialogue. H.M. Hassan II also said that the Muslim world ought to take its rightful place in keeping with its history and role as an ancient nation with a specific message and a role to play.

H.E. Dr. Hamid Algabid, Secretary General of the OIC delivered an address, emphasizing that information and culture are the two fundamental pillars for the expression of peoples' identities and that for the Muslim world, they reflect the eternal values of its rich heritage and its legitimate aspirations for welfare and progress. Dr. Hamid Algabid said that for its prosperity and flourishing, the Muslim world must devote a special interest to the cultural and social dimensions of development. He added, in this respect, that the implementation of the cultural strategy will make it possible to promote notably the teaching and educational programs for the benefit of the youth.

Then, the Committee heard the addresses of the representatives of the Arab, Asian and African Member States, as well as those of the Ministers of Information of Egypt and Syria. Following the adoption of the agenda and the election of the members of the Bureau, the COMIAC continued its work in two commission, one for information, and the other for cultural affairs. The Commission for Information discussed a

number of issues related to the promotion of news exchanges among the member countries and the development of telecommunication technologies; it adopted the statute of an Islamic Program for the Development of Information and Communication and recommended measures for its implementation; it also decided to give high priority to the establishment of an information and television news exchange pool, devised as the Islamvision project. The Commission for Cultural Affairs heard the report of the Director General of IRCICA covering the Centre's activities accomplished during the past activity year and its work program for 1996-97. Among the activities comprised in the report were the ceremony of the Fifteenth Anniversary of IRCICA, and the preparations related to the International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in West Africa that the Centre will organise in cooperation with the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire in Dakar, in December 1996. In its resolution no. 16/5-C (COMIAC) concerning IRCICA, the Standing Committee

1. Commended the efforts of the Centre as reflected in its pioneering accomplishments and its activities aimed at meeting the needs of the Muslim Ummah and keeping pace with international developments in the field of culture and Islamic heritage in the optimal way, thus warranting satisfaction with and appreciation of the efforts exerted in this respect.
2. Approved the report submitted by the Centre on its activities and future plan of action as well as the report and recommendations of the Twelfth Session of the Governing Board of the Centre, and the recommendations of the General Assembly of the Centre made at the Nineteenth Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs.
3. Expressed its appreciation for the diverse activities carried out by the Centre with the aim of raising the awareness of the world opinion with respect to the Islamic cultural heritage in Bosnia and Hercegovina, and for the efforts it exerts for the maintenance and preservation of that heritage.
4. Requested IRCICA to make contacts with the Member States to prepare an exhibition on Islamic heritage and culture pursuant to the relevant resolution of the Seventh Islamic Summit, aimed at publicizing the different dimensions of that culture and its role in building human civilisation and its values and ideals.
5. Expressed satisfaction at the Centre's commemoration of its Fifteenth Anniversary and, on this occasion, extends its thanks and gratitude to H.E. Süleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey, for having graciously given his patronage to the commemoration of this event which will enhance the prestige of the Centre in the world academic circles.
6. Expresses thanks to the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the first international seminar on Handicrafts in Islamic Architecture which was organised jointly by the Centre and the Ministry of Culture of Egypt in Cairo in December 1995.
7. Welcomes the Centre's initiative to hold an international symposium on Islamic Civilisation in West Africa under the patronage of His Excellency President Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, in Dakar at the end of this year, in cooperation with the Fondamental Institute of Black Africa (IFAN) and the contribution of the Senegalese Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Culture.

8. Expresses its thanks and appreciation to the host country (The Republic of Turkey) and to the other Member States, particularly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for the material and moral support they are extending to the Centre, thus enabling it to carry out its tasks in a satisfactory manner.
9. Expresses its thanks to the Member States which regularly pay their contributions in the budget of the Centre in accordance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, in particular the State of the United Arab Emirates, and calls on the Member States in arrears with their contributions to follow its example in compliance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference.
10. Recommends to the Member States to pay their contributions to the budget of the Centre on a regular basis and calls upon the Member States in arrears to settle their contributions so that the Centre can implement its current and future plans of action.

#### **Activities of the Centre during the period of the Fifth Session of the COMIAC**

The Centre's delegation attending the Fifth Session of the COMIAC had the opportunity to meet with many personalities and to visit some cultural institutions in Dakar. The Director General was received by H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye Elimane Kane, Minister of

Culture of the Republic of Senegal. In this meeting, the Director General briefed H.E. the Minister on the different projects of the Centre in various fields, in particular, the International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in West Africa which will be organised in Dakar in cooperation with the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN). The Minister of Culture expressed the readiness of the Ministry to give its support for the successful realisation of this symposium. Furthermore, the Ministry of Culture of Senegal and IRCICA agreed to prepare and finalize a Framework Agreement for cooperation.

The Centre's delegation also visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad and had fruitful meetings with high officials at the Ministry, in particular the Secretary General of the Ministry and the Director for International Organisations, on the ways and means to enhance cooperation between the two sides and particularly the possible measures that can be taken jointly to ensure the success of the international symposium on Islamic Civilisation in West Africa. The latter project was thoroughly discussed at the Centre's meetings with the officials of the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN). It was agreed that the symposium would be held at the end of December 1996. Another project discussed with IFAN was the Centre's project to publish Sheikh Musa Camara's work titled "Zuhur el-Basatin". In addition to these meetings, the Centre's delegation also visited the Institut Islamique de Dakar to discuss on the areas of cooperation between the Institute and the Centre.

## THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

### The Süleymaniye area (Istanbul) and Mostar 2004 architectural workshops Istanbul, 1st July-18 August 1995



View of the audience at the opening ceremony.  
In the middle, Metropolitan Mayor of Istanbul Mr. R.T. Erdoğan

The workshop program titled **Architectural Heritage Today** was organised by IRCICA with the cooperation of the Metropolitan Municipality of Greater Istanbul, with institutional support from around the world. 158 architects and professionals participated in the workshop, from thirty-nine universities in nineteen countries. The workshop took place from 1st July-18 August 1995, at IRCICA, as well as at the Yıldız Technical University (Istanbul) and other universities. It was held in two stages comprising sixty-four lectures and 156 hours of studio work in total. The first stage was on the restoration and preservation of Istanbul and the Süleymaniye Area (1st-27 July 1995); the second stage (24 July-18 August 1995) was the second pilot workshop Mostar 2004.

The workshop series aim to deploy and coordinate an international academic effort to support future reconstruction and urban preservation activities in Bosnia and Hercegovina. The broad objectives of the project are: to preserve the thousand-year old architectural heritage of multicultural Bosnia and Hercegovina; to develop an integrated process of urban preservation for Bosnia and Hercegovina

through the formation of a practical system of education; and, to establish an international network of prominent schools and cultural organizations for urban preservation to assist and support the reconstruction. For this purpose, the participants draw restoration plans and methodological guidelines for reconstruction, towards the ultimate and symbolic goal of meeting around fully restored Old Bridge of Mostar in the year 2004. The first workshop Mostar 2004, beginning of the series, had taken place from 15 July to 15 August 1994 in Istanbul. Thirty-nine lecturers and thirty-two senior architectural students from 25 universities in 22 countries attended the workshop, together with a core group from Bosnia and Hercegovina itself.

In accordance with the above objectives, the 1995 workshop program aimed to help promote the academic and technical study of the Islamic cultural heritage in Istanbul and in Mostar, two cities historically and culturally linked to each other. In his address to the opening ceremony of the workshop held at the Metropolitan Municipality on 1st July 1995, IRCICA Director General Prof.

Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu stated that in addition to their usefulness for the promotion of academic and technical studies, these workshops also carry a special importance because of the historical and architectural characteristics of the areas they deal with. He underlined that the participation and contributions of the Metropolitan Municipality of Greater Istanbul to an architectural program of such significance is an example of the importance that they are giving to the preservation of the cultural heritage. The Director General expressed his gratitude to the Mayor of the Metropolitan Municipality of Greater Istanbul Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the Secretary General Dr. Kahraman Emmioğlu, advisors to the Mayor Mr. Ali Yılmaz Örnek and Architect Mr. İsmet Şahin and other officials of the Municipality who contributed to the realisation of this project. He expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Yıldız Technical University, all international organisations, universities and cultural institutions, and particularly the participants,

The Mayor of the Metropolitan Municipality of Greater Istanbul Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan delivered an address emphasizing the importance of the workshop program organised jointly with IRCICA for protecting the historical identity of Istanbul. He said that this city is a miniature of Turkey and that its historical character is known all over the world. He declared that the Municipality is making efforts to restore its historical and cultural features and that the Süleymaniye and Eyüp projects were developed with this aim. The workshop on Süleymaniye was, he said, one important step taken in this direction. The Mayor

also expressed the hope that the workshop program on Süleymaniye sets an example in Istanbul and in the country on a larger scale. He thanked all participants for their contributions to the realisation of the project.

The district of Süleymaniye is a historical area located on third hill of the seven hills of Istanbul, where important architectural monuments built in the glorious period of the Ottoman State are found. With the construction by Mimar Sinan of the Süleymaniye Complex in the 16th century, this area became a centre of culture and education and increased the aesthetical beauty of the Golden Horn panorama. Around the mosque, Mimar Sinan also built a primary school, a Quranic school, four medreses, a Hadith school, a medical School, a hospital, a public kitchen, a guest-house and a public bath. Religious, cultural and educational activities were carried out here for centuries with a spirit of social solidarity. The architecture of the area was enriched with palaces and kiosks built by Mimar Sinan. However, later, the population of Istanbul increased fast and this area gradually became a commercial quarter. The opening of Süleymaniye area to commerce required that new roads be built and some buildings be demolished for this purpose. Hence the aesthetical and architectural characteristics of this area weakened with time. From there comes the need to deploy efforts to restore the architecture of Süleymaniye and preserve its qualities of a centre of culture.



From left to right: Mr. Yiğit Gülöksüz, Prof. L. Rodwin, Prof. S. Gürel and Prof. T. Övünç in one of the sessions.

The first part of the 1995 workshop was devoted to the development of guidelines and suggestion of measures for the protection and restoration of the Süleymaniye area. For this purpose, a pilot project was carried out on the spot. As to the second part of the workshop, it drew plans and made recommendations for the restoration of the architectural heritage of Bosnia and Hercegovina. At the outcome of the workshop architectural plans and models were suggested to help the restoration of Mostar and especially the Old Town, whose architecture reflects the centuries of peaceful coexistence of people with different beliefs living in common neighborhoods with their mosques, churches or synagogues. In addition, the workshop participants also focused on the proposed international multidisciplinary program for the urban preservation of Bosnia and Hercegovina which will involve the attention and participation of an international community of architects, educators, historians, and students together with their Bosnian counterparts.

*Statistics on the Architectural Heritage Program 1995*

Number of participants: 158

Universities represented: 39

(Yale, Harvard, MIT, Temple, Georgia Institute of Technology, Columbia, University Nansy, Cheljabinsk, Samarkand, Aahen, La Sapienza Rome, Ferrara, METU, YTU, Boğaziçi, Mimar Sinan, Istanbul Technical U, Istanbul U, Ecole d'Architecture Paris-Belleville, Selçuk U., Balangor, Kaiserslautern, Dreger, Univ. Skopje, Cambridge, Zagreb, Vienna, Sarajevo, Mostar, Marmara, York, Trondheim, Prague, Damascus, Amman, Dawood College Karachi, University of Toronto, U. of Torino, City College of New York, Pratt Institute New York)

Countries represented: 19

Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Canada, Croatia, France, Germany, India, Italy, Jordan, Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Russia, Syria, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan

Working days: 44

Number of lectures: 64

Studio hours: 156

Field trips: 4 (Bursa, Konya, Edirne, Safranbolu)



**THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON  
CRAFTS IN TRADITIONAL ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE**

*with special focus on Mushrabiyya and Stucco Coloured Glass*  
held in Cairo, Egypt, on 3-9 December 1995



The first International Seminar on *Crafts in Traditional Islamic Architecture with special focus on Mushrabiyya and Stucco Colored Glass: present state and future prospects*, jointly organised by IRCICA and the Ministry of Culture of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and co-sponsored by the Middle East Broadcasting Centre (London), took place in Cairo on 3-9 December 1995. The participants deliberated on various aspects of the development of traditional skills in modern times. They issued the Cairo International Declaration on crafts, and a number of recommendations.

The inaugural ceremony of the seminar took place at the Opera Foundation, Al Jazeira, Cairo, under the auspices and in the presence of H.E. Mr. Farouk Hosny, Minister of Culture of Egypt. The ceremony comprised an international parade of the delegates from various countries, crafts people, artists, folk and traditional troupes from OIC countries bearing the slogan "Revival and Preservation of Islamic Urban Heritage", on the Opera House Grounds. The parade was attended by Ambassadors of OIC Member States, Ministers and high officials from Egypt, the participating delegations and representatives of the local and international press. Mr. Mohamed Ghoneim, Undersecretary of State for Foreign Cultural Relations of Egypt gave the inaugural address. Then, Mrs. Siva

Obeyesekre, President of the World Crafts Council addressed the ceremony. This was followed by the address of IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu; at the end of his address the Director General of IRCICA presented H.E. Mr. Farouk Hosny, Minister of Culture of Egypt, with the Centre's plaque of honour, as a commemorative token of the Cairo seminar. H.E. Mr. Farouk Hosny in his address expressed his pleasure to see that a large number of experts, scholars and delegations from various regions of the world were joining this important gathering to assess the state of crafts in Islamic architecture and look into the prospects of their development.

After the ceremony, the following exhibitions were inaugurated: "Historical Photographs from the Archives of Sultan Abdul-Hamid II", "Masterpieces of Crafts in Islamic Architecture", "Modern and Contemporary Works of Art inspired by Islamic Heritage", and Workshops of Islamic Crafts. Folklore performances and live concerts from Egypt and other countries continued daily during the seminar period.

In the afternoon session, Mr. Nazih Maarouf, the International Coordinator of the Seminar (IRCICA) introduced the delegates and participants, and confirmed the receipt of 50 papers from specialists and representatives of

nearly 40 countries including Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, Denmark, France, Iran, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Saudi Arabia, Tatarstan, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, U.K., U.S.A, Yemen, many from the host country Egypt, and from 15 regional and international organisations. The National Coordinator Mrs. Inam Selim (Director General of International Organizations, Ministry of Culture, Egypt) introduced the 12 paper presenters from Egypt.

During the sixteen working sessions held over six days, groups of speakers and panels of specialists and scholars in Islamic arts and crafts presented the findings of researches on various aspects of the seminar theme. At each session there were at least two paper presentations, a commentary by a delegate and a country paper; hence, the issues at hand were thoroughly discussed both in general terms and with respect to specific cases. The plenary session covered the summary presentation of the seminar recommendations.

The Official Closing Ceremony was held on 9 December 1995. Mr. Nazih Maarouf, Reporter of the Seminar, presented the seminar recommendations; Mrs. Inam Selim, the National Coordinator of the Seminar, presented the Cairo Declaration. The address of the Asian Group was presented by Prof. Dr. Gündüz Gökçe, Rector of Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul; Dr. Asa'd Nadim, Director of Nadim Institute for Mushrabiyya, Cairo, presented the address of the African group; and, Mrs. Faika Uweida, Director, Arab Establishment for Culture and Fine Arts, Beirut, gave the address of the Arab group. The speech on behalf of the international organizations was presented by Mrs. Siva Obeyesekere, President, World Crafts Council; Mrs. Khalida Rahman, Head of Photography Unit, Surrey College, U.K., addressed the meeting on behalf of the participants. The address of IRCICA was presented by Mr. Nazih Maarouf, and that of the Foreign Cultural Relations Department, Ministry of Culture of Egypt, was presented by Mr. Mohamad Ghuneim, Under-Secretary, Ministry of Culture.



### Recommendations of the seminar



H.E. the Minister of Culture of Egypt, IRCICA Director General, and H.E. the Ambassador of Turkey to Egypt at the exhibitions (from left to right)

#### 1- Government and Patronage

- \* To work for the widening of the present limited scope of patronage extended to Islamic crafts and this through the understanding of their actual state and the financial or material difficulties they face as an obstacle to their development; Serious initiatives must be taken to support this sector and actively revive it.
- \* To request concerned parties in every Member State to employ traditional Islamic arts in all their important projects.
- \* To encourage the promotional process of Islamic crafts and architecture through the organization of more research, scientific and training meetings to provide an opportunity and a forum for crafts people from the Member States, the regional organisations and the architects and designers so that they can have an interactive exchange and learn from each other's works, techniques, skills and traditions.
- \* To organize international competitions to honor the artisans who have shown creativity in the field of mushrabiyya and stucco coloured glass.

#### 2- Financing

- \* To establish a fund for the development of the crafts that would be financed by annual

allocations by the Member States and the developed countries and international organisations; these funds would cover different areas and would be used to assist the young crafts people, establish workshops, provide them with raw materials and different training techniques and familiarize them with new marketing methods for these products

#### 3- Documentation, Restoration and Preservation

- \* To increase national, regional and international efforts to restore and preserve the Islamic architectural monuments and protect them against aggressions. In addition, to make every effort for documentation in a proper scientific way, and organize cultural or social events in the relevant places. Restoration efforts can help revive the crafts workshops and employ the crafts people in the different domains of architectural restoration which in turn will stimulate the revival movements in the concerned countries. It is recommended to adopt the experience of Wekalat al-Ghuri in Cairo, since the continued presence of crafts people and artists there, has guaranteed the continued preservation of the historical buildings besides its being a continuous source of inspiration to them.

#### 4- Training

- \* Training is an essential element for forming well-versed crafts people in workshops where experienced artisans, the competent architects and art designers would gather and where modern construction or production methods and materials will be used in order to obtain the best possible results in the field of traditional crafts in Islamic architecture. Naturally, the concerned governments, institutions, and organisations must be convinced of the necessity of taking initiatives, for patronizing intensive programs in this field, and offering all the means that will ensure the realization of these projects.

**5- Teaching and Educational Programs for the Children**

- \* Educating, teaching and raising the awareness of the society for better understanding of the real value of the craft heritage as an element of growth, continuity and pride. This also provides career opportunities for the unemployed, and possibilities for hard currency income through craft tourism and this by organizing visits for tourists to the workshops of the artisans while at work, or also through the exportation of those crafts. One of the core activities would be the introduction of educational programs for children to make them aware of the real value of crafts, their importance and their place in society; which will lead to a deeper realization of the possibilities of positive returns in this field.

**6- Scientific Committees**

- \* To stress the importance of establishing specialized committees to produce a technical dictionary for art and craft terminology in the different traditional areas whether in architecture, wood, ceramic, stucco, weaving, beading, carpets, copper or other, using as a basis the Arts Glossary published by IRCICA and all the other available dictionaries in the field. The aim is to produce a comprehensive reference on terms common to all crafts people, architects, and artists, another unifying element in the Islamic community.



From the right, Prof. Dr. Gündüz Gökçe, Mr. Abdul Aziz Kamel, Mme. Siva Obeysekere, Mr. Nezh Maarouf and Prof. Dr. Lütfi Yazıcioğlu

**7- Exploring New Marketing Opportunities -- Exhibitions**

- \* Exploring new opportunities to encourage the marketing of crafts products by assisting artisans to be in touch with the local and international consumer, making them feel that there is a constant demand for, and interest in their product, that some collectors are willing to purchase at high cost; this will appease the crafts people and assure them of their status in society, confirming the message of progress, development, and continuity of the beauty of their heritage and as a consequence of their perseverance in their field and their striving towards better living conditions.
- \* To organize periodical, local, regional or international exhibitions, to encourage the crafts people to participate, and produce outstanding art pieces which might attract the vision of crafts people to participate, and produce outstanding art pieces which might attract the vision of crafts people and the organisations of the foreign countries thus causing competitiveness and constant search for creativity, for the continuation of a tradition with a renewed spirit.
- \* To encourage the various institutions to be in direct contact with museums, artistic and tourist organisations to promote and introduce the crafts and find marketing opportunities. Halls in hotels, airport waiting rooms, travel agencies' reference books, museum shops, convention centers and other meeting places can be used for advertisement and the distribution of brochures and other informational material to encourage sales.

**8- Exchange of Techniques and Experiences**

- \* To organize visits to the artisans and architects of the Member States in order to exchange the new means and methods in use with other nations, a direct connection that will benefit both parties.
- \* To participate in international exhibitions, conventions and festivals, to establish a solid basis for Islamic crafts, contacts with importers, wholesalers, interior designers

and architectural firms who are always in search of new ideas and products.

**9- Research and Creativity**

- \* Take measures to guarantee creativity and research, to organize craft training and to safeguard the continuity of creativity in the field of architectural crafts. The architecture and craft schools must be given due importance as well as the development of the contemporary applications of the mushrabiyya and the stucco colored glass. New projects for local and academic competitions must be organised for the restoration of a traditional area of a town or a city for instance, the enlarging of an old building with a modern extension that comprises these artistic elements, working for all this as a group that includes students, master artisans and crafts people, and to propose modernization of the materials, shapes and designs within the contemporary limits that are in keep with the traditional heritage.

**10- Heritage and Modernity, to which extent?**

- \* The purpose is not to confront tradition with modernity but to **seek inspiration** from tradition for the creation of modern products while connecting culture and creation, which was and can be in an era that is characterized by vitality and cultural exchange. Naturally, modern architecture faces great dangers in today's world that calls for a planning that will ensure the safeguarding of the tradition and the continuity in the architectural and cultural development in a way that links the past to the new, which corresponds to our times and agrees with the modern means and methods.

**11- Role of the Media**

- \* To define the responsibility of the media and the role it must play in the development of crafts, architecture and design towards revival and the diffusion on all levels whether local, regional, or international, i.e. towards raising the awareness of the people on the creativity in their cultural treasures.



The participants visiting artisans' workshops

**The Cairo International Declaration**  
**issued by the First International Seminar on**  
**Traditional Crafts in Islamic Architecture**

The participants declared the following:

**Our recognition** of the threats that the architectural Islamic heritage, a major component of world civilisation, is facing whether environmental, social, or economic and that could lead to its total extinction or corrosion.

**Our awareness** of the extent of the dangers some essential sectors of this heritage are facing and especially some crafts like mushrabiyya and stucco coloured glass; this is due to some essential factors such as the artisans' renouncing their profession because of the low incomes, the difficulties of obtaining raw material, the lack of concern of society for these two aspects, the lack of purchasers, and marketing opportunities.

**Our conviction** of the necessity of financing and the essentiality of the role of the training and teaching institutions.

The following resolutions were agreed upon:

**Calling up** to redouble efforts in order to awaken the local, regional, and international concern for the traditional Islamic heritage as a wealth for civilisation and humanity and to work on preserving, protecting, and restoring it.

**To be concerned** with the crafts people, the role they play in society, their being an essential element in the preservation of the Islamic heritage and its preservation.

**To provide** opportunities of training and general formation for the artisans in the different countries in order for them to become competent masters and to learn about technology, architecture, art history, and design and this through the establishment of schools and academies that will gather crafts people, architects, traditional designers, marketing experts

which will lead to consultations, exchanges, and following up with the new technologies, materials and others.

**To set up** an international fund for the restoration of Islamic architectural monuments, this being financed by the yearly allocations given by the member states and the assistance of the international banks through the levying of taxes on the sold products, and the gathering of contributions and donations by the developed countries, the different organisations, and the individuals concerned with the restoration of this part of the world heritage.

**To establish** an international training center in Cairo for the crafts of mushrabiyya and stucco coloured glass, as a gathering place for the training of artisans and for the organisations concerned with handicrafts; meetings in such a place will give opportunities for the exchange of expertise regarding materials and modern technology and the comparison of methods.

**To call** the Member states, the organisations, and the concerned parties to take the necessary urgent measures to protect the creative artists and encourage them not to leave this field and look for better living conditions.

**To take** urgent measures to help market the products and advertise them locally and internationally.

**To set up** special funds for the development and support of the neglected and threatened crafts.

**To appeal** to the media channels so that they help in the teaching about this tradition on a local, regional and international level and show its importance for the growth of tourism and economy in the Member States.

## FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ISLAMIC CIVILISATION IN WEST AFRICA

Under the high patronage of H.E. Abdou Diouf  
President of the Republic of Senegal

*to be organised in Dakar, Republic of Senegal  
on 25-29 December 1996*

*in cooperation with*  
Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire  
Cheikh Anta Diop (IFAN, Dakar, Senegal)

The organisation of the International Symposium on Islamic Civilisation in West Africa jointly with the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) will represent the outcome of many efforts IRCICA spent for years in order to implement an activity program on this theme. The latter was included in the Centre's work program years ago as one of the major topics to be covered under the research project on the History of Muslim Nations. It is hoped that this symposium will help promote fruitful scholarly activities in this field and contribute in making them better known in the world academic circles. In the framework of these activities the Centre also aims to establish a library collection on Islamic culture and civilisation in West Africa for the reference of interested researchers.

### ***Objectives of the symposium***

- \* to establish an academic forum where specialists from African and other countries would communicate the results of their research on different aspects of the theme, exchange information, views and experiences
- \* to draw from this debate indicators of the present state and future prospects of research in this field
- \* produce a reference work on this theme by publishing the proceedings of the symposium

### ***Organizers***

The Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), in cooperation with the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN).

*The logistical and technical administration* is provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Senegal in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and the Presidency of the University of Dakar.

*Sponsorship for the symposium* is provided by the International Islamic Call Society, Tripoli, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, which extended the financial assistance needed to implement the project.

### ***The program***

The symposium will be held on 25-29 December 1996.

The duration of the symposium is five days. There will be *six working sessions spread over three days* each devoted to one aspect of the main theme, with five papers of 20 minutes approximately for the presentation and 10 minutes for questions and answers. *Cultural activities on the occasion of the symposium* will include a visit to Gorée Island, a visit to the crafts centre, an African Evening, and a public conference to be attended by the press, students, and other interested persons.

**Themes of the sessions**

1. History of the introduction of Islam to West Africa
2. Interpretations of the meaning of the Holy Quran in local languages (oral translations)
3. Islamic education in West Africa
4. Islam in the colonial period
5. Interactions between the Islamic culture and the regional culture as manifested in arts and other forms of cultural expression
6. Contributions of West Africa to Islamic culture and civilisation

**Papers**

Each paper presentation is limited to 30 minutes including the questions and answers. Accordingly, the length of the papers must not exceed 10 pages of 50 typed lines. Papers presented at the symposium will be the property of IRCICA until publication of the proceedings in a book, which will be sent to the participants free of charge. IRCICA holds the rights to publish the proceedings.

**Languages**

The languages of the symposium are English and French. Simultaneous translation will be provided between the two languages.

**Modalities of participation**

The filled-in and completed Participation Form should reach IRCICA by 30 June 1996 the latest. A summary of the paper, written in English or in French and typed, should be sent to IRCICA by 31 July 1996 the latest. As soon as it receives the summaries of the papers, IRCICA shall send invitations to all the paper presenters.

**Documents**

Following the receipt of the summaries of the papers, IRCICA will send to the participants a brochure and a poster of the symposium comprising all the necessary information on the program, the paper presentations, the participants, and administrative aspects of the symposium.

**Travel and accomodation**

The organizers will provide airway tickets, local transport and accomodation to the paper presenters. Other interested persons wishing to attend the symposium are most welcome, but are kindly requested to meet their own expenses.

**Correspondence**

All correspondence outside of Senegal should be sent to IRCICA, at the following address:

IRCICA, P.K. 24, 80692 Beşiktaş, Istanbul, Turkey;  
 Phone: (90-212) 259 17 42;  
 Fax: (90 212) 258 43 65;  
 e-mail: ircic-ed@yunus.mam.tubitak.gov.tr

**VISIT OF U.S. FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON  
TO IRCICA**

**28 March 1996**



From right to left, Prof. Dr. Mehmet Aydın, Chief Rabbi David Asseo, Mufti of Istanbul Salahattin Kaya, Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç, Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton, IRCICA Director General, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I, and the Patriarch of the Armenians Karekin II

U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton visited IRCICA at its headquarters in Yıldız Palace on 28 March 1996, in the framework of her official visit to Turkey. Mrs. Clinton, accompanied by her daughter Ms. Chelsea Clinton and by members of the US diplomatic and consular missions in Turkey, was received by Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu in his office at the Seyir Köşk. During the meeting, Prof. İhsanoğlu gave information to Mrs. Clinton on the Centre's activities and presented her with samples of the Centre's publications.

Then, Mrs. Clinton, the other guests and the Director General moved to the conference hall at Çit Qasr, where Mrs. Clinton met with the leaders of the different faiths represented in Turkey who

were invited by the Director General on the occasion of her visit. The following religious leaders and scholars were present at the meeting: member of the Turkish Parliament and previous President of Religious Affairs in Turkey Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç, the Grand Mufti of Istanbul Selahattin Kaya, the General Secretary of the Bishops' Conference in Turkey George Marovitch, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Fener Bartholomew I, the Metropolitan of the Syrian Orthodox Archbishop Filuksinos Yusuf Çetin, Chief Rabbi David Asseo, the Patriarch of the Armenians in Turkey Karekin II, the Chaldean Archbishop Paul Karataş, and the Dean of the Faculty of Theology at Dokuz Eylül University (İzmir) Prof. Dr. Mehmet Aydın, as well as other guests from diplomatic and academic circles.

The meeting with the representatives of various religions and communities started with the address of the Director General welcoming US First Lady Mrs. Hillary Clinton and the distinguished guests who had accepted the invitation to meet her. He noted that Mrs. Clinton's visit to IRCICA was another positive step in her efforts towards promoting inter-cultural understanding, a mission which the Centre shares. He informed the audience that the Centre, since its inception fifteen years ago, had been trying to strengthen cooperation among Islamic countries and to promote understanding between the Muslim world and other nations, by projecting a true image of the Islamic civilisation and better informing the world opinion on the civilisation of Islam, the history and culture of Muslim nations, their cultural and scientific exchanges with other civilisations. He pointed out that in the framework of these efforts the Centre had taken part for years in the various inter-religious fora bringing together representatives of different religions. The Director General stated that the inter-religious dialogue ought to be based on the principles of tolerance and respect of others common to all divine religions. All three divine religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, come from the same source and have common principles: the Monotheistic approach to divinity, the Hereafter, the Judgement, and also, moral responsibilities manifested in similar sets of ethical norms. He pointed out that despite this, relations between religions and cultures still suffer from misunderstandings and distrust and that there are people who believe incompatibility and enmity between civilisations are more likely than mutual respect and recognition. He said that such prejudices against inter-faith relations may hinder the establishment of a peaceful future for mankind and that

humanity needs dialogue more than ever. The Director General also said that Mrs. Clinton's visit to the Centre and the meeting with religious representatives was a meaningful example of inter-cultural dialogue. He ended his address by quoting a saying of Prophet Muhammed (Peace Be Upon Him) on the universal principle of respect of others: "The most blessed of mankind is the one most beneficial for mankind". Finally, as a token of gratitude and appreciation, the Director General presented Mrs. Hillary Clinton a calligraphic plate bearing this saying of Prophet Muhammed and produced by three leading contemporary Turkish artists.

First Lady Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton replied with an address expressing her pleasure to be at the Centre in Istanbul, a city which has been and remains as the meeting place of the world's great religions. She said she was grateful that the leaders of various religions had come together to assist her in understanding and being part of a dialogue on behalf of peace, tolerance and respect among all people, and that she was honoured to be at IRCICA. Mrs. Clinton spoke of her meetings with leaders of the communities of business, academia and other institutions about the dramatic costs of ethnic and religious conflict in the past and in the present. The First Lady said that in Bosnia and Hercegovina, where she had been before coming to Turkey, she had met with religious leaders and leaders of the communities represented in Bosnia. In those meetings it was underlined that peace cannot be realized unless there is both physical and spiritual renewal, tolerance and reconciliation. Mrs. Hillary Clinton expressed her pleasure of the presence in Istanbul of leaders representing the major monotheistic religions, because this city has a

great symbolic and religious importance to people throughout the world. She pointed out that as the Director General said, mankind faces enormous challenges in the future and the religious community will have to be in the forefront of assisting others in meeting those challenges, in creating conditions for coexistence and harmony, in making it possible for all religions and religious people to exemplify their own spirituality in ways that enhance their lives. Mrs. Clinton also expressed her appreciation that there are efforts such as those that emanate from IRCICA to bridge the divides that too often separate people from each other.

Then, First Lady Mrs. Hillary Clinton and the other guests and participants listened to a concert by Prof. Dr. Necdet Yaşar and his group presenting representative examples of classical Turkish music. Following the concert, Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton and the religious leaders

had cordial talks, discussions, exchanges of views and opinions. The talks focused on the necessity of deploying international efforts towards the promotion of understanding, recognition and dialogue among peoples of different cultures and religions. At the end of the discussions, First Lady Mrs. Clinton thanked all the religious leaders and scholars for having shared their thoughts with her on the importance of creating conditions for dialogue, respect and tolerance in the world.

After the meeting, souvenir photographs were taken of the First Lady with the religious leaders, as well as with the staff members of IRCICA. First Lady Mrs. Hillary Clinton wrote the following words signing the Centre's Visitors' Book:

"Thank you for your work on behalf of understanding, coexistence and peace."  
*Hillary Rodham Clinton*



**COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE  
GOVERNMENT OF BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA AND IRCICA**

signed on 27 January 1996

A Cooperation Agreement has been signed between the Government of Bosnia and Hercegovina and IRCICA on 27 January 1996, to constitute the general framework for activities that IRCICA is carrying out to contribute to the study, the preservation and the restoration of the cultural and architectural heritage of the country with the support of the authorities and institutions concerned at an international scale. The agreement signed by Dr. Enes Karic, Minister of Education and Culture, and Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, IRCICA Director General, was announced to the press at a ceremony held in the presence of Prime Minister Dr. Haris Silajdzic in Sarajevo, on 27 January 1996. The Centre was represented at the ceremony by Dr. Halit Eren. The agreement covers cooperation in various fields including research, reconstruction, publications, exhibitions, exchange of documents and materials, as well as joint training programs and workshops. It establishes a Bosnia and Hercegovina - IRCICA Joint Board to coordinate the activities to be undertaken in cooperation and determine their guidelines.

On the occasion of the visit to Bosnia and Hercegovina the Centre's representative Dr. Halit Eren had the opportunity to meet with the Government authorities and representatives of cultural institutions of Bosnia and Hercegovina to discuss the various activities in progress and those envisaged in the future. Among the projects in preparation is the third architectural workshop Mostar 2004, which is planned to be organised in Bosnia and Hercegovina, in continuation of the first two Istanbul workshops. Another important topic of cooperation is the training of Bosnian archivists on the restoration of manuscripts, at courses to be organised in Istanbul.

The Centre's representative was received by the Prime Minister, as well as by Dr. Mustafa Ceric, leader of the Muslim community, who also chairs the administration of the historical Gazi Husrev Bey Library. Mr. Eren visited the Gazi Husrev Bey Library, the Oriental Institute, the National Library, in Sarajevo. He met with Prof. Dr. Muhammed Hamidovic, Head of the Institute for the Protection of Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with Dr. Kemal Zukic, head of

the newly established Centre for Islamic Architecture, Dr. Dzenana Golas, Director of the City Institute for the protection of Cultural, Historical and National Heritage of Sarajevo, and Dr. Munib Maglajlic, Director of the *Preporod* newspaper; in Mostar, he met with Dr. Ziad Demirovic, Head of the Institute for the Protection of the Cultural Heritage of Mostar and its Region and also visited the Municipality of Mostar. These meetings and visits have been very useful for further enhancing the extent and widening the scope of IRCICA's actual and potential contributions to research, studies, preservation and development of the Bosnian cultural heritage in the framework of the Cooperation Agreement between the Government of Bosnia and Hercegovina and IRCICA.

**IRCICA is honoured** that the appreciation of the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina of its research and other activities on the country's history and cultural heritage was expressed in a letter dated 27 January 1996 addressed by H.E. Dr. Haris Silajdzic (then Prime Minister) to His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco and Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Summit.

The Prime Minister of Bosnia and Hercegovina expressed, on behalf of the Government and the people of Bosnia and Hercegovina, their gratitude for the contributions of the Kingdom of Morocco to the cause of Bosnia and Hercegovina through His Majesty's endeavours and mediation with international authorities in order to ensure peace and justice in the country. The Prime Minister also informed H.M. King Hassan II of Morocco that the Government of Bosnia and Hercegovina had established close links with IRCICA and signed a memorandum of understanding with the Centre to expand the ongoing projects that successfully resulted in the formulation of an academic network system of professionals and academicians concerned with the reconstruction of the country. H.E. Dr. Silajdzic stated that the memorandum of understanding represents the recognition of the fruitful projects implemented by IRCICA which were recommended in various OIC resolutions, specifically resolution No. 28/7-C adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit which was held in

Casablanca in December 1994, entrusting IRCICA the role of raising the awareness of the world opinion with respect to the Islamic cultural heritage of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

**The reconstruction of Bosnia and Hercegovina taken up at the 1996 World Economic Forum held in Davos, Switzerland**

The reconstruction of Bosnia and Hercegovina was one of the priority topics on the agenda of the World Economic Forum held on 1st-6 February 1996 in Davos, Switzerland which devoted the last two days' sessions to Bosnia and Hercegovina. Leaders of politics and economy from around the world participated in the Forum, together with close to one thousand administrators and company managers, as well as representatives of the international press, academic and artistic circles. IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu and expert Arch. Dr. Amir Pasic participated in the Forum. In the framework of discussions on the action and measures to be taken to rebuild Bosnia and Hercegovina, the projects of IRCICA regarding the reconstruction of the city of Mostar as well as the architectural monuments of Bosnia and Hercegovina were introduced to the Forum. The Centre's publications, plans and drawings of the Old Bridge, and other documents resulting from the Centre's studies were presented to the international circles.

**VISIT OF H.E. PROF. DR. FAHRUDDIN RIZVANBEGOVIC, FEDERAL MINISTER OF CULTURE OF BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA TO IRCICA 23 March 1996**

H.E. Prof. Dr. Fahrudin Rizvanbegovic, Federal Minister for Education, Science, Culture, Sports and Information of Bosnia and Hercegovina visited IRCICA on 23 March 1996. The Minister met with IRCICA Director General, visited the different departments of the Centre and received information on their activities.

The major themes of the meeting with the Director General were the progress of activities carried out by the Centre in the field of the history and culture of Bosnia and Hercegovina, the possible guidelines of the future development of these activities, and possible new areas of research. Prof. Dr. Fahrudin Rizvanbegovic, who is the first Minister for Education, Science, Culture, Sports and Information of the newly established Federal Government of Bosnia and Hercegovina, is a professor of literature and scholar of culture.

The Minister signed the Centre's Book, writing the following words (original text in Bosnian): "I am pleased to visit IRCICA and to see that this important institution cares for my beloved country".

*Dr. Fahrudin Rizvanbegovic  
Federal Minister for Education, Science,  
Culture, Sports and Information of Bosnia and  
Hercegovina*

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COOPERATION  
BETWEEN DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA, MALAYSIA AND IRCICA**



*The Director General of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka Haji Dr. Abdul Aziz Deraman shaking hands with Dr. H. Eren. In the middle is the Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim; to the left of Dr. Deraman is Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Wan Mohd. Zahid Wan Mohd. Noordin. The Minister of Education Datuk Seri Mohd. Najib Tun Abdul Razak is present, as well as the Deputy Director General of DBP Mr. Shaari Abdullah and IRCICA Governing Board member Raja Fuziah bte Raja Tun Uda*

A Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation between Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (Language and Literature Bureau), Malaysia and IRCICA has been signed in Kuala Lumpur on 21 August 1995. The memorandum determines the guidelines and aims to further expand the cooperation that has been continuing for years between the two institutions. The memorandum was signed at a ceremony held during the inauguration of the World Congress of Malay Language organised by Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka. During the ceremony, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka signed cooperation agreements with fourteen institutions.

The Congress was inaugurated by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia; the following personalities were present: Datuk Seri Mohd. Najib Tun Abdul Razak, Minister of Education; Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Wan Mohd. Zahid Wan Mohd. Noordin, Director General of Education; Haji Dr. Abdul Aziz Deraman, Director General, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka; Mr. Shaari Abdullah, Deputy Director General, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka;

Raja Fuziah bte Raja Tun Uda, specialist of crafts and member of IRCICA Governing Board; high officials of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, participants at the congress and guests. Dr. Halit Eren, representative of the Centre, signed the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of IRCICA Director General.

Cooperation between Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka and IRCICA has already yielded remarkable results. The Centre's publication titled *Islamic Swords and Swordsmiths* was translated and published in the Malay language by Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka in 1993. As to the joint project of the Governments of Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia with IRCICA as research coordinator, aiming to publish a comprehensive book on Islamic Civilisation in the Malay World, it is expected to be finalised in the coming months. After the ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Centre's representative Dr. Halit Eren met with the Director General and high officials of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka to discuss on-going and future cooperation.

## IRCICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE SECOND ISTIQLAL FESTIVAL, JAKARTA, INDONESIA



President Soeharto received IRCICA Director General,  
Vice-President H.E. Mr. Try Sutrisno shaking hands with the Director General

Upon the invitation of H.E. Dr. Tarmizi Taher, Minister of Religious Affairs, Republic of Indonesia, IRCICA participated in the Second Istiqlal Festival held from 23 September-23 November 1995. The major aim of the Festival is to develop a positive image of Islam through a set of activities including seminars, a film festival, folklore performances, crafts exhibitions, traditional and contemporary arts, and displays of old Mushafs, manuscripts, books, and other artifacts.

The Festival was inaugurated by H.E. President Soeharto in the presence of Ministers and high officials from various countries. IRCICA was represented in this Festival by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General and Mr. Nazih Maarouf, Head of External Relations and Information. IRCICA delegation took this opportunity to hold a series of meetings with the concerned officials, to develop the cooperation between the authorities and institutions of the Republic of Indonesia and IRCICA.

During the period of the Festival, H.E. President Soeharto received Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of the Centre; the President commended the Centre's activities and expressed his appreciation of the Centre's participation in the Festival. H.E. Dr. H. Tarmizi Taher, Minister of Religious Affairs offered one copy of the "Istiqlal Mushaf", a copy of the Quran which was produced on this occasion by a special team consisting of a group of experts in calligraphy, painting, Qur'anic exegesis and Islamic culture in general. Work on this Mushaf started on 15 October 1991 at the Istiqlal Mosque and was completed in 1995. At the meeting with H.E. Minister of Religious Affairs, the importance of the Centre's publication "World Bibliography of Translations of the Meaning of the Holy Quran" was emphasized; it was agreed that the Ministry would provide IRCICA with additional information on translations of the Holy Quran in the

Indonesian language, for inclusion in future editions. Among the other issues discussed was the possibility of jointly organising a second international seminar on "Islamic Civilisation in Southeast Asia" in Jakarta (the first seminar on this theme was organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Brunei Darussalam in June 1989). The Ministry of Religious Affairs of Indonesia and IRCICA will keep in touch to follow up this matter and agree on a project proposal, as a first step towards organising the seminar.

IRCICA delegation was also received by H.E. Prof. Dr. Ing. Wardiman Djojonegoro, Minister of Education and Culture. The talks focused on the areas of common concern where cooperation between institutions of Indonesia and

IRCICA could be developed. The Minister of Education and Culture expressed readiness to cooperate with IRCICA to organise the Second International Islamic Artisans-at-Work Festival in Jakarta in 1998. IRCICA welcomed this offer. IRCICA delegation also had a working session with Prof. Edi Sedyawati, Director General for Culture, Department of Education and Culture, to discuss the ways of developing the existing cooperation between IRCICA and the researchers and scholars of Southeast Asia. The possibility of organising the Second International Seminar on Islamic Civilisation in Southeast Asia in Indonesia was also taken up at this meeting and the parties agreed on future steps to be taken towards implementing this project.



Meeting with HE. Dr. Tarmizi Taher, Minister of Religious Affairs, Republic of Indonesia.

**THE NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE  
UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

**and IRCICA's participation  
Berlin, December 1995**

The Nineteenth Session of the World Heritage Committee on the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was held in Berlin, Germany, on 4-9 December 1995. There are 143 States Parties to the Convention; there are twenty-one members to the Committee which are elected from among the States Parties to the Convention for terms of six years. The following countries now members of the Committee were represented at the session, in addition to forty-three other States Parties to the Convention which attended in the status of observers: Australia, Benin, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Niger, Philippines, Spain, and U.S.A. IRCICA participated in the session as the representative of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, together with the representatives of non-governmental organisations involved in the preservation of cultural heritage and those dealing with the conservation of natural heritage.

The Committee reviewed the activities undertaken since the eighteenth session (December 1994, Thailand) in different regions of the world. Among the developments regarding Asia are the application of the Geographical Information System as a tool to enhance site management, and the adoption of World Heritage Preservation by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum as a part of its tourism development program. As regards the Arab States, the Committee underlined the usefulness of the seminar on "Heritage and Urbanism" organised in Fez, Morocco in January 1995, and the expert mission to Egypt to assist the Egyptian authorities in defining

a new route in order to avoid the Pyramids, from Giza to Dahshur; it also cited as a successful undertaking the third training seminar for natural heritage preservation in the Arab region, held at Cairo University in June 1995 and attended by experts and managers from sixteen Arab countries. Regarding Africa, the Committee noted that activities had focused on the preparation of tentative lists of sites; lists have been submitted by Gambia and Nigeria, and more are expected for 1996. The Committee also noted the satisfactory progress of some of the projects such as the restoration of three mosques in Timbuktu, Mali, and the conservation and management of the Royal Palaces of Abomey in Benin.

The Committee examined a great number of reports on the state of conservation of the world heritage cultural and natural properties, including eight natural and seven cultural properties inscribed on the list of World Heritage in Danger, and considered the proposals for inclusion of new sites in the lists. It decided to inscribe the cities of Sarajevo and Mostar in Bosnia and Hercegovina on the list of World Heritage in Danger. The Committee also discussed at length the ways and means of improving its strategy for training in the field of heritage preservation, including the training programs it organises in different countries.

Upon the request of the OIC General Secretariat that IRCICA represents the OIC at this meeting, Mr. Ahmed Lajimi from IRCICA attended the session. The World Heritage Committee decided to include IRCICA and ICPICH, in addition to the OIC, in the list of organisations to be invited to its future sessions.

## MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE BALKANS HELD AT IRCICA

The Aspen Institute (Berlin) and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (Washington D.C.) have established an International Commission on the Balkans, an independent body of European and North American opinion leaders. The Commission's mission is to examine the problems of the region at national and regional levels in order to help to draw policies that would contribute in building stability in the region. Chaired by former Belgian Prime Minister Leo Tindemans, headquartered and managed by the Aspen Institute, the Commission will sponsor original research and policy analysis on the Balkans. It also undertakes study missions to the region to meet with governmental and non-governmental actors, as well as to relevant countries outside the region to talk to representatives of international institutions and agencies. The Commission plans to issue a final report in June 1996.

In the framework of a study mission to Turkey, the Commission requested to meet with IRCICA Director General, some researchers of the Centre, together with specialists and press representatives from Turkey. The meeting was held on 31st

October 1995 under the Chairmanship of IRCICA Director General, with the participation of: Mr. Leo Tindemans (Commission Chairman), Mme. Simone Veil (former President of the European Parliament, former Minister for Social and Health Affairs of France), Mr. John Roper (Associate Fellow, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, and former Director of the Western European Union Institute for Security Studies), Mr. Dana H. Allin (Deputy Director of the Aspen Institute), and Mr. Jacques Rupnik (National Foundation for Political Sciences, Paris) from the Commission; Hidayet Nuhoğlu, Acar Tanlak, Amir Pasic, Adem Handzic, Halit Eren, Ahmed Lajimi, Mohammed Tamimi, and Zeynep Durukal from the Centre, and Mr. Cengiz Çandar (journalist, writer), Mr. Orhan Koloğlu (historian, writer), Ms. Yasemin Dobra Manço (journalist), Mr. Mustafa Necati Özfatura (journalist). The participants discussed the historical and contemporary ethnic, religious and cultural characteristics of the region, Islam in the Balkans and in Europe, the weight of the issue in Turkish politics and for the Islamic world, the attitude and action of the international community, among others.



Cooperation between the United Nations and its agencies and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary and specialized institutions has been going on for the last twelve years at an increasing pace, on projects and activities of common interest.

Within this context, IRCICA participates in the "Coordination Meeting of the lead Agencies of the United Nations System and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its Specialised Institutions" which is held annually at UN headquarters in Geneva.

The last meeting was held on 19-21 June 1995. The Centre was represented by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General and Mr. Nazih Maarouf, Head of External Relations and Information.

The Centre cooperates with various agencies of the United Nations system in common fields of interest, within the overall framework of cooperation that has been established by periodical meetings between the OIC and the UN.

During the June 1995 meeting, IRCICA met with the representatives of the following UN agencies: with UNIDO, on the organisation of regional seminars for the development of traditional crafts, the promotion of exchange of information and experience between craftspeople of the least developed countries, and the preparation of a directory on traditional industries in OIC countries; UNCTAD, on cooperation in the framework of the Commission for Science and Technology for Development for the period 1995-1997 on information technology, focusing on the effects of this technology on cultural values; UNESCO, with which IRCICA has an increasingly active cooperation in fields related to Islamic culture, art and crafts; UNDP, on exploring the priorities accorded to the development of arts which could be usefully channelled to income-generating activities in rural areas of OIC Member States.

#### **Consultation meetings between IRCICA and UNESCO on the organisation of the International Travelling Exhibition on the Image of Islamic Civilisation**

IRCICA has been entrusted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference (Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco, December 1994) the task of preparing an exhibition on Islamic heritage and culture aimed at publicizing the different dimensions of that culture and its role in building up human civilisation, its values and ideals". Accordingly, the Centre started preparations to organise this exhibition planned to be a large-scale event to be realised through international cooperation with the Member States and the relevant organisations, bodies and institutions in the world.

UNESCO's will and readiness to cooperate with IRCICA towards organising this exhibition was affirmed during the visit of Mr. Federico Mayor, Director General of UNESCO to the Centre on 3 October 1995. More recently, a meeting has been held at UNESCO premises in Paris on 18-19 December 1995, to define the ways and means of implementing this project. UNESCO was represented by Mme. Madeleine Gobeil, Director, Division of the Arts and Cultural Life, Mr. Indrasen Vencatachellum, Chief, Sector for Artistic Creation, Mrs. Sonia Ramzi, Division of Cultural Heritage. The Centre was represented by Mr. Nazih Maarouf, Head of External Relations and Information. The proposed International Travelling Exhibition will display the living arts, crafts, cultural products and activities, performance of folk music and films of the Islamic world. Academic components will be introduced by simultaneously holding a series of lectures and seminars on different topics related to the objectives of this event. Planned activities include project papers on the conservation of historical sites, publications, research programs, documentation on seminars, symposia and exhibitions. The Centre's representative also met with Mr. Henri Lopez, Assistant Director General for External Relations, Mr. Host Godicke, Chief of Section, Europe and North America, Bureau of External Relations, Mrs. Camany, responsible for External Relations with International Organizations, H.E. Mr. Khawaja Shahid Hosain, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Pakistan to UNESCO, and H.E. Mr. Ömer Engin Lütem, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Turkey to UNESCO, on respective areas of common interest.

Lectures at the Centre



\* The well-known Iraqi scholar and calligrapher Prof. Yusuf Zunnun gave a conference titled "The influence of the Hadari script on the development of pre-Islamic Arabic script" on 22 September 1995. The lecturer explained and analyzed the three main theories that have been put forward until now about the emergence of Hadari script and its role in the development of pre-Islamic Arabic script. According to the first one of these theories, the Hadari script was revealed by God to either one of the Prophets Adam, Driss, Hud, or Ismail; this theory is known as the Tawqif theory. According to the second one, known as the Tawfiq theory, the Hadari script was an invention, attributed to Bin Murra, Bin Sidra, Bin Jidra or to other personalities, to certain tribes such as the Beni lad or the Madyan kings, or to the Himyar, Ma'in, or Saba' tribes of Yemen who would have derived it from the Musnad script. As to the third theory, which is the modern theory, researchers asserted, on the basis of late Nabati inscriptions and pre-Islamic Arabic inscriptions, that the origin of the Hadari script was the Nabati script. After this explanation of the three theories, Prof.

Zunnun communicated his own findings according to which pre-Islamic Arabic script was an invention inspired from the Hadari script, which, in turn, had its origin in a script that was widespread in the Jezira region from the second century B.C. to the third century A.D. Prof. Zunnun examined the inscriptions found in Hadar, which was the capital city of the Hadaris and is located 110 kms. south to the city of Musul. He compared the Hadari script with the Arabic script to pinpoint their differences and similarities; the major similarity between the two scripts is the linking together of letters.



A calligraphy by Yusuf Zunnun

\* The Centre had the pleasure to host a lecture by the German diplomat and scholar Dr. Murad Hofman on "The European Mentality and Islam" (27 October 1995). Dr. Hofman analyzed the Western world's general attitude towards Islam and cited cases where this attitude lead to the application of a double standard vis-à-vis Islamic issues. He analyzed the historical reasons of this attitude, stating that historically rooted fear and anxiety, and a warped image of the Orient had formed a "collective memory" that influences today the decision-making

process on issues regarding Muslims. Murad Hofman is a Doctor in jurisprudence; he served for years as a diplomat, most recently as the Ambassador of the F.R. of Germany in Algeria (1987-1990) and Ambassador of Germany in Morocco (1990-1994). He is the author of the books *Diary of a German Muslim* (German ed. Cologne 1985 and 1991, English ed. Cologne 1987, French eds. Algiers 1990 and Rabat 1991, Arabic ed. Cairo 1993); *Islam: the Alternative* (German eds. Munich 1992 and 1993, English ed. Reading 1993, Arabic ed. Munich/Kuwait 1993); *Islam 2000* (Arabic ed. Cairo 1995, English ed. forthcoming); his book *Voyage to Makkah - How to practice Islam* (German ed., Munich) is forthcoming.



Ambassador Murad Hoffman

\* Dr. Khalid Abdullah Tariq Al-Mansour, lawyer, co-founder and Director of the African Arabian Islamic Bank, religious teacher and author of a number of books on Islam, gave a lecture at the Centre on "The Role of Islam in the 21st Century" on 13 November 1995. Dr. Al-Mansour spoke of Muslim nations and Muslim minorities in different parts of the world as regards to their socio-economic conditions, as well as to their understanding and practice of Islam. He addressed the issue of development in relation with self-reliance, hard work, and adherence to certain moral values. He said that every country has its particular features as to the application of the religion, and that among the Muslim countries, Malaysia is giving a highly successful example of a Muslim society that has achieved a good pace of economic and social development. Dr. Al-Mansour said that in view of the 21st century, mankind awaits a honest, prosperous, spiritual, interconnected world of peace and brotherhood, and for this, Muslims should prepare themselves as models through education, sacrifice, discipline and hard work. After the lecture, Dr. Al-Mansour answered questions of the participants. Books and Videos of Dr. Khalid Abdullah Tariq Al-Mansour have been published by The First African Arabian Press, San Fransisco, CA, U.S.A.

Meanwhile, the Centre continued to organise public lectures in its conference hall on Saturdays twice a month. Recent lectures were on the following topics:

- "Human rights in Islam", by Hüseyin Hatemi (7 Oct. 1995)
- "Flute player and calligrapher Emin Dede commemorated on the 50th year of his death", by Mr. Uğur Derman (21st Oct. 1995)
- "Cultural policy: the spirit of responsibility", by Aytuğ İzat (4 Nov. 1995)
- "Clothes in Anatolia throughout history", by Sabahattin Türkoğlu (18 Nov. 1995)
- "Commemoration of the poet, the late Orhan Şaik Gökyay on the first year of his death", Günay Kut, Filiz Çağman, Gündoğ Kayaoğlu (2 Dec. 1995)
- "Archery and the Archery Ground", by İlhan Hattatoğlu (16 Dec. 1995)
- "The masters of calligraphy- a commemoration", by Uğur Derman (6 Jan. 1996)
- "The ritual of the central area in Turkish housing", by Rıza Ruşen Dora (12 Jan. 1996)

- "The change of mentality in Halide Edip", by İnci Enginün (20 Jan. 1996)  
"Fine Arts and literature in the industrial age", by Orhan Okay (3 Feb. 1996)  
"Mimar Sinan's concept of illumination", by Gözde Ramazanoğlu (2 March 1996)  
"Shahname writing in the period of Murad III", by Filiz Çağman (16 March 1996)  
"The future of Turkey in the age of information", by Niyazi Eruslu (6 April 1996)  
"Antakya throughout the ages", by Ataman Demir (17 April 1996)  
"The traditional Turkish coffee", by Sabahattin Türkoğlu (19 April 1996)  
"The services of Turkish music to Islam", by Orhan Nasuhioğlu (20 April 1996)



A non-exhaustive list of public lectures given during the first fifteen years of IRCICA was published in the Newsletter no. 37, the special issue for the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Centre. Upon the request of some readers, a complementary list of the lectures is given below.

- "The emergence and first phases of development of the art of calligraphy in the Islamic civilisation", by Nihat Çetin (10 May 1986)  
"The image of Turkey in the views of Iqbal", by Javed Iqbal (27 April 1987)  
"Literature in the period of Sultan Süleyman the Lawmaker", by Amil Çelebioğlu (17 Oct. 1987)  
"Turkish works of calligraphy found in Egypt", by Uğur Derman (7 Nov. 1987)  
"Nurullah Pertevoğlu and Seyfettin Özege", by M. Şevki Çanga (21 Nov. 1987)  
"Pleasant stories about calligraphers", by M. Fuad Başar (6 Feb. 1988)  
"Andalusia", by Kâzım Çeçen (20 Feb. 1988)  
"The teaching of traditional crafts from the Second Constitution [1908] until our times and Feyzullah Dayıgil", by Kerim Silivriili (2 April 1988)  
"The Galata Mevlevihane and Turkish music", by Orhan Nasuhioğlu (16 April 1988)

- "The old Istanbul accent in Turkish language", by Muhittin Çanga (21 Jan. 1989)
- "Ottoman Sultans who were poets", by Ali Alparslan (18 Feb. 1989)
- "Turkish pottery (Evanis)", by Kerim Silivrili (4 March 1989)
- "Illumination in the art of Mimar Sinan", by Gözde Ramazanoğlu (11 March 1989)
- "Decorations of the Çoban Mustafa Paşa Mosque in Gebze (Istanbul) inspired by Mamluk art", by Ayşen Aldoğan (22 April 1989)
- "Our religious music", by Orhan Nasuhioğlu (20 May 1989)
- "Calligraphic works in tombs built by Mimar Sinan", by Tahsin Tahaoğlu (3 June 1989)
- "Translator Asım Efendi and his Turkish" by Orhan Şaik Gökyay (21 Oct. 1989)
- "Tiles produced in İznik", by Kerim Silivrili (4 Nov. 1989)
- "The economic reasons of the Hijra [Prophet Muhammed's travel from Mecca to Medina]", by Mithat Sertoğlu (18 Nov. 1989)
- "The Ahi guilds", by A. Aydın Bolak (16 Dec. 1989)
- "Calligrapher Hulusi Efendi", by Uğur Derman (6 Jan. 1990)
- "Scientific works translated from Western languages into Arabic", by Ramazan Şeşen (20 Jan. 1990)
- "Innovations in pottery craftsmanship inspired by the excavations in İznik", by Oktay Aslanapa (3 Feb. 1990)
- "The turkification of the scientific language", by Husrev Hatemi (17 Feb. 1990)
- "The famous Ottoman astronomer Taqi al-Din al-Rasid", by Sevim Tekeli (3 March 1990)
- "The Turkish cuisine culture and cookery", by Nureddin Konyalı (17 March 1990)
- "Books and manuscripts on textile-weaving and its history", by Hülya Tezcan (7 April 1990)
- "Ebuzziya Tevfik Bey's carpets carrying political messages and his carpet-making", by Ziyad Ebuzziya (21 April 1990)
- "The aircraft industry in Turkey", by Zafer Orbay (18 May 1990)
- "Historical and cultural research activities in Baku", by Ziya M. Bunyatov (21 May 1990)
- "Collections of manuscripts in Baku", by Cihangir Kahramanov (24 May 1990)
- "The period and the ideas of Abdülhak Hamid", by İnci Enginün (16 Feb. 1991)
- "Some remarks on the Ottoman İlmiye [scholarly] circles", by Mehmet İpşirli (4 May 1991)
- "Oriental studies in the U.S.A.", by Richard Frye (9 May 1991)
- "The secular and religious identity of the Middle East", by Eden Naby (9 May 1991)
- "The traditional characteristics of Arabic literature", by Ulrich Marzolph (14 May 1991)
- "The melodic patterns and tones in Turkish music", by Necdet Yaşar (18 May 1991)
- "Mathematics in the Ottoman State", Halil Al-Rahman (20 June 1991)
- "Turkish books printed in the Armenian and Greek scripts", by Turgut Kut (4 Jan. 1992)
- "Calligraphic inscriptions around domes", by Uğur Derman (18 Jan. 1992)
- "The Quran copy written by Ahmet Karahisari and its gildings", by Filiz Çağman (1st Feb. 1992)
- "Turkish textiles and embroidery inspired by the early patterns of the Palace Nakkaşhane [engraving house]", by Hülya Tezcan (15 Feb. 1992)
- "The Museum of Turkish-Islamic Arts and its collections", by Nazan Ölçer (7 March 1992)
- "The history of printing in the Middle East", by Michael Albin (27 March 1992)
- "Two great sufis: Aziz Mahmud Hudai and Mehmed Nasuhi", by Orhan Nasuhioğlu (18 April 1992)
- "Ottoman poetry and Ottoman culture", by Hilmi Yavuz (2nd May 1992)
- "The collections of manuscripts at the Atatürk Library", by Nail Bayraktar (16 May 1992)
- "A lost city [Istanbul]", slides presentation by Hasan Ali Göksoy (30 May 1992)
- "Librarianship in oriental studies in the U.S.A.", by Christopher Murphy (2nd Oct. 1992)

- "Neyzen [flute player] Tevfik", by A. Aydın Bolak (9 Jan. 1993)  
 "On the School of Calligraphers [Istanbul]", by Uğur Derman (23 Jan. 1993)  
 "The Göktürk Inscriptions on the 100th anniversary of their deciphering", by Osman Fikri Sertkaya (6 Feb. 1993)  
 "Dentistry in Islam", by İlater Uzel (20 Feb. 1993)  
 "The Turkish culture in India", by Anne-Marie Schimmel (20 March 1993)  
 "Ahmet Yesevi and his entourage" (on the occasion of the Year of Ahmet Yesevi 1993), by Orhan Bilgin (3 April 1993)  
 "The Turkish industry as represented in 19th-century commodities", by Önder Küçükerman (17 April 1993)  
 "Whispers in water- the art of marbled paper", by Ahmet Çoktan (24 April 1993)  
 "Aspects of Istanbul we overlook" (in slides), by Hasan Ali Göksoy (1st May 1993)  
 "Ottoman architecture in Bosnia and Hercegovina", by Aydın Yüksel (15 May 1993)  
 "İbn'ül Emin Mahmud Kemal Bey", by Taha Toros (22 May 1993)  
 "Meeting to commemorate IRCICA's late staff member Edip Özkale", various speakers (12 Oct. 1993)  
 "Ebu'l Ula Mardin", by A. Aydın Bolak (16 Oct. 1993)  
 "Salih Münir Paşa, Ambassador to Paris", by Taha Toros (6 Nov. 1993)  
 "Internal politics in the Ottoman State in the 16th century", by Nejat Göyünç (20 Nov. 1993)  
 "Siyasetnames [political annals]", by Ayla Demiroğlu (4 Dec. 1993)  
 "Meeting to commemorate Ord. Prof. Dr. Aydın Sayılı", various speakers (10 Dec. 1993)  
 "Views of Siberia" (slide presentation), by Uğur Derman (18 Dec. 1993)  
 "Orders of distinction in the Ottoman State", by Erol Özbilgen (8 Jan. 1994)  
 "The Topkapı Palace in the 16th and 17th centuries according to illustrated sources", by Filiz Çağman (22 Jan. 1994)  
 "Costumes of Ottoman doctors, pharmacists, soldiers and other professionals in the 19th century", by Rengin Dramur (5 Feb. 1994)  
 "Sultan Abdulhamid and the press", by Orhan Koloğlu (19 Feb. 1994)  
 "The importance of teaching the traditional Turkish-Islamic arts", by Zeki Kuşoğlu (26 Feb. 1994)  
 "Some observations on the establishment and development of the Anatolian Turkish navigation", by Ali İhsan Gencer (5 March 1994)  
 "The introduction of the metric system in Turkey", by Feza Günergün (2nd April 1994)  
 "The great musician Rauf Yekta", by Orhan Nasuhioğlu (16 April 1994)  
 "The old water networks of Istanbul", by Kâzım Çeçen (30 April 1994)  
 "Commemoration of Ferit Kam [writer, specialist of Persian and Turkish literature]", various speakers (7 May 1994)  
 "The quadrant, its principle and its usage", by Atilla Bir (14 May 1994)  
 "Some new research in Islamic studies", by Hamid Algar (19 July 1994)  
 "Architecture and migration: mosques in America, by Jerrilyn Dodds (18 August 1994)  
 "Remarks on the relationship between man and arms in Turkish culture", by Nejat Eralp (18 Feb. 1995)  
 "Churches converted into mosques in Istanbul", by Semavi Eyice (1st April 1995)  
 "Marbled paper works and their spread in Europe", by R. Peya Gökçen (24 August 1995)

## Art exhibitions at IRCICA

### An exhibition of watercolours by Prof. Rıza Ruşen Dora "Traditional Turkish houses"

Close to fifty watercolour paintings by Prof. Rıza Ruşen Dora, faculty member of Mimar Sinan University Faculty of Architecture, were displayed at IRCICA's exhibition hall from 12 to 21 January 1996. This eighty-eighth exhibition of the architect and painter reflected his perception of the house as a visual reference on society's culture, in his words, "Let's see the houses not as buildings, but as documents of the culture. Houses mirror the people". Prof. Dora had opened his eighty-seventh exhibition in Romania last December, together with the Minister of Culture of Romania Mr. Viorel Marginean. Starting with the first award for the Turkish pavillon at the New York World Fair 1963, Prof. Rıza Ruşen Dora won awards in a number of international competitions and exhibitions.



Prof. Rıza Ruşen Dora and his works

### The calligraphies of Mr. Osman Rebiî Önel

Calligrapher Mr. Osman Rebiî Önel displayed his works at IRCICA from 12 to 28 April 1996. Mr. Önel is a descendant of Sultan Ahmed III, who was a calligrapher, as well as of Reisulhattatin (Chief Calligrapher) Muhsinzade Abdullah Bey and calligrapher Muhsinzade Mehmet Rahmi Bey. Born in Istanbul in 1915, Mr. Önel studied at the Military Academy. He retired from his duties as army officer in 1960, but continued to work for another fifteen years as an expert of old Turkish language and script at the Turkish presidency of war history. His interest in calligraphy started at a young age; he ameliorated his practice of this art by taking courses from well-known calligraphers. The exhibition at IRCICA comprised forty calligraphic plates written mainly in the thuluth-naskh and jaly thuluth styles.

### Forthcoming exhibitions

Forthcoming art exhibitions include Mrs. Sıdıka Yüceer's paintings on silk (21st-30 May) and the Özçay brothers' calligraphy exhibition (31st May-21st June).



Exhibition on the Darulaceze

### Exhibition of historical photographs of the Darulaceze

As a contribution to the commemoration activities of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Darulaceze (house for the poor) in Istanbul, IRCICA organised in its hall an exhibition of nearly one hundred historical photographs related to the Darulaceze. The exhibition was opened on 29 February for a period of two weeks.

**The distinguished visitors' impressions on the Centre**



From the right: IRCICA Director General; Mehmet Nuri Yılmaz, President of Religious Affairs; Mr. Sami Uslu, Deputy President of Religious Affairs; Mr. Selahattin Kaya, Mufti of Istanbul

"This is my first visit to the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture. History is embodied here. It leads one to reflection, to take lessons from history, and carries one to the splendour of the past. I congratulate Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu for having restored and revived this valuable monument. The productive work that is being carried out here is commendable." (Original: Turkish)

**Mehmet Nuri Yılmaz**  
**President of Religious Affairs of Turkey**  
**5 October 1995**

"I am proud to visit this Centre which deserves every merit. Its efforts are clearly seen in the activities it accomplishes towards the cultural causes for which it was established. Surely, this Centre will be the first important place where I will invite the Egyptian officials visiting Istanbul." (Original: Arabic)

**Mr. Ibrahim Shaban**  
**Consul General of Egypt, Istanbul**  
**11 October 1995**

"I am happy to have visited this Islamic institution. We hope it will radiate with success. I thank Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu and the staff of the Centre for having given us the opportunity to see this Centre." (Original: Arabic)

**Prof. Dr. Abdulkerim Shahada**  
**Institute for the History of Arabic Science**  
**Aleppo, Syria**  
**21 October 1995**

"... I saw the library, and observed the serious work carried out in this Centre. Allow me to express my deep appreciation of your magnificent endeavours. I am sure these works of yours will leave permanent traces in the history of the Islamic countries." (Original: Arabic)

**Prof. Dr. Bashir el-Katib, Professor of Surgery,  
Fac. of Medicine, University of Aleppo, Syria  
21 October 1995**

"I am proud to visit this Centre which is full of historical symbols, especially after its restoration. I was also very pleased to visit the library, which is well-arranged and well-administered. The cultural action undertaken by this Centre is a very big effort, and as far as I know, having visited many institutions around the world, I have not seen any centre that accomplishes a work of this level..." (Original: Arabic)

**Prof. Dr. Abdurrahim Ali Ibrahim  
President, International University of Africa, Khartoum, Sudan  
28 October 1995**

"My admiration of the Centre and all its publications, its research and studies, is boundless. I regret I did not know and had not visited this Centre before, but thanks God, I did it today. The Centre is able to accomplish all this magnificent work thanks to your good administration and to the efforts of your devoted staff. Thank you for giving me this opportunity. I wish you full success, and further prosperity and development to the Centre." (Original: Arabic)

**Dr. Mohammed bin Ali Al-Habishi  
Member of the Consultative Council of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
17 November 1995**

"Thank you for receiving me and for your courtesy in showing me the impressive restoration and highly professional scholarly work underway at Yıldız Palace. I especially enjoyed our conversation on tolerance among the world's religions and was delighted with the close cooperation in so many areas that you have developed with academic institutions in so many other nations, including the United States. Congratulations on the 15th anniversary of the Center ..."

**H.E. Mr. Marc Grossman  
Ambassador of the  
United States of America  
in Ankara, Turkey  
17 November 1995**



Leila Tarazi Fawaz, **An Occasion for War: Civil Conflict in Lebanon and Damascus in 1860**, University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1994, 302 p.

This book gives a concise and insightful analytical account of the civil wars in Mount Lebanon and Damascus in 1860 within the framework of the social, economic and political changes that occurred in the nineteenth century. In doing so, the author explores how the local context interacted with the broader regional and international currents to shape the particular nature of contemporary social conflicts, insurrectionary movements and civil wars.

Fawaz describes the civil war of 1860 in Mount Lebanon and Damascus as the biggest sectarian outburst which the history of Ottoman Syria witnessed. It was followed by a period of stability and peace that lasted longer than the Ottoman empire. In fact, the author states that there was more than one civil war of 1860. Each of these reflected different grievances and civil conflicts. Fawaz points out that although some excellent studies focused on various aspects of this civil war, and some very valuable chronicles and memoirs have been published, there is no single monograph on this topic. Thus, the present work aims to fill this gap.

Chapter 1 mainly focuses on the sectarian identities such as Sunni, Shi'i, Druze, Maronite, Greek Orthodox and Greek Catholic, developed historically in Mount Lebanon and Damascus, as well as the relations between these groups, and how the introduction of Ottoman rule and the influence and interference of the Europeans influenced Syria and Lebanon. Chapters 2 and 3 describe the historical background to the civil war of 1860 and examine how the effects of this war were

seen in different areas of the Mountain. Chapters 4 and 5 describe how the civil war emerged in Mount Lebanon and in Damascus. Chapter 6 focuses on the immediate responses by Ottomans and Europeans to the news of the crisis. Chapters 7 and 8 examine the immediate measures which the Ottomans and Europeans took to solve the crisis. Chapter 9 (Civil Wars Compared) compares the nineteenth- and the twentieth-century conflicts and describes how consensus gradually built up among Ottoman and European diplomats about issues such as reparation and future administration of Mount Lebanon. The conclusion examines the nature of the civil conflict in Lebanon (the civil wars of 1860 and post-1975 period) in a comparative, historical perspective.

This is a first-rate work written by a scholar of a sound academic career. The book has an Appendix the Treaty of Peace between the Christians and the Druzes [Translation of the treaty signed on 12 July 1860]. It has detailed informative notes and a rich bibliography including government documents, archival and other primary sources, newspapers, secondary works and reference works. 3 maps are included in the book. It is an important source for researchers who are interested in the history of Syria and Lebanon in general and the civil conflict of 1860, in particular.

Hassan Hathout, **Reading the Muslim Mind**, Foreword by Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Plainfield, Indiana: American Trust Publications, 1995, 152 p.

Dr. Hassan Hathout, as a physician, thinker, writer, poet, and at the same time an Islamic scholar, explains the mission of his work as one of correcting the distorted image of Islam in the West and presenting the true essence of this religion. The

Foreword is by Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, former Minister of Petrol and Mineral Resources of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Islamic scholar, founder and chairman of Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation (London), author of *The Everlasting Shari'ah* (Saudi Publishing House, 1970).

The Foreword explains the basic principles of Islam: the relationship of the human being to the Almighty, one of ultimate submission; the relationship between Muslims and non-Muslims, to be based on tolerance and peace; the regulation of human rights, the organisation of society, and also elaborates upon the chapters' topics. In particular, regarding the relationship between Islam and the other two divine religions - Christianity and Judaism, dealt with in Chapter Three of the book, Sheikh Yamani points out that bonds of fraternity between religions can be extremely strong given the requisite sincerity and political will.

In Chapter One, the author logically analyzes the factors that indicate the existence of God. Chapter Two analyzes the consequences of the existence of God by focusing on four major features that are unique to the species of man: "knowledge, an awareness of good and evil, freedom of choice, and accountability"; the hereafter and the Day of Judgment; the concept of prophethood in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam- the three Abrahamic monotheistic religions. Chapter Three mainly discusses the relations between Muslims and the People of the Book (Jews and Christians); doctrinal differences between Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Chapter Four focuses on the sources and goals of the Shari'ah; Church and State; Islam and democracy; the five pillars of Islam; Islamic morality on the basis of Quranic injunctions and traditions of the Prophet. In Chapter

Five the author presents the Islamic approach to some live issues of the modern day. These are discussed under four main headings: The new world order, jihad, family and the sexual revolution, and biomedical ethics.

This book which is full of wisdom and inspiration instills in the human mind the hope to change the world into one of cooperation and understanding. It gives an eloquent and succinct account of what Islam is.

**World Survey of Islamic Manuscripts.** Volume IV (Supplement), General Editor: Geoffrey Roper, published by Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, London, 1994, Publication Number: 11, 489 p.

Volume Four of the *World Survey of Islamic Manuscripts* is a collective bibliographical book on the work of Muslim and non-Muslim manuscript scholars from all over the world. It is a valuable contribution to the knowledge of the written heritage of the Islamic civilisation. This supplement includes indexes arranged according to languages, names and titles of the collections comprised in volumes I-IV.

The Al-Furqan Survey brings together and updates most of the information contained in the previous bibliographies. It aims to guide the reader to the collections of Islamic manuscripts, providing details of access to these collections as well as their holdings, in addition to information on especially significant manuscripts which they include. It is the first attempt to give information on all collections in all Islamic languages in more than 90 countries. Thus, it fills a gap for the collections previously uncatalogued and even for the incomplete information in many catalogued collections.

The Al-Furqan survey contains valuable information on published and unpublished union catalogues and surveys as well as individual collections. In regard to the latter, following the introductory notes about the situation of the collections (when necessary), it gives information on the total number of manuscripts they contain, their dates of establishment, conditions of access, description of the collections, published, forthcoming and unpublished catalogues, uncatalogued manuscripts and bibliographical appendices, where applicable.

The survey contains information presented by well-known scholars about the collections located in the following countries: Algeria, Australia, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, Comoros, Ethiopia, France (addenda), Gambia, Germany (addenda), Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India (addenda & corrigenda), Indonesia, Iraq (addenda), Ireland (corrigenda & addenda), Libya, Mauritania, Nigeria (addenda & corrigenda), Palestine (corrigenda), Philippines. This survey is an invaluable reference work for researchers, scholars, cataloguers and curators who study Islamic manuscripts. It is also beneficial for readers who are interested in the rich written heritage of the Islamic civilisation.

M.A. Yekta Saraç, **Şeyhülislam Kemal Paşa-zâde, hayatı, şahsiyeti, eserleri, bazı şiirleri** (Sheikh ul Islam Kemal Paşa-zâde, his life, his personality, his works, some of his poems), Risâle publications, Istanbul, 1995, 126 p.

This is a useful reference about Kemal Paşa-zâde (1468-1530), who is known to be one of the most prolific authors in Ottoman literature. The book does not claim exhaustiveness but aims to encourage more studies on the life and the

works of this important political, literary and cultural personality. Previous references on Kemal Paşa-zâde include the article by İsmet Parmaksızoğlu in *İslam Ansiklopedisi*, VI, pp. 561-566, and the article by Nihal Atsız titled "Kemal Paşa-oğlu'nun eserlerinin yazma nüshaları" (manuscript copies of Kemal Paşa-oğlu's works) published in *Şarkiyat Mecmuası*, VI, pp. 71-72, VII, pp. 83-135. Yekta Saraç's book adds a lot of new information to those found in them. The contents of the book can be classified in four main parts: first, there is the section on the life and the personal characteristics of Kemal Paşa-zâde and his relations with Sultan Yavuz Selim (pp. 15-41), which is based on biographic works, articles in encyclopedias and the prefaces of Kemal Paşa-zâde's published works. Although he did refer to and quote passages from these works, the author could have drawn more information from these works, particularly of Kemal Paşa-zâde's *Tevarih-i Al-i Osman*. The second main part is on the literary characteristics of Kemal Paşa-zâde (pp. 47-51). Here, the author focuses on Kemal Paşa-zâde's place in Turkish literature; he criticizes the use of representations in his prose and the lack of lyricism in his poetry, referring to various authors' opinions on these points. He does not make any reference to Kemal Paşa-zâde's style of language or to his place in Arabic literature. The third main part of the book, on the works of Kemal Paşa-zâde (pp. 53-73), gives their number, emphasizing his prolific authorship, and lists his works in Turkish, in Persian and in Arabic. It gives information on the contents of his fourteen works in Turkish, and briefly introduces his six works in Persian and one hundred and eighty-two works in Arabic. In fact, a study of Kemal Paşa-zâde's works requires extensive research, and no such work has been done until now regarding his works in Persian and in Arabic. Finally, the fourth

main part of the book deals with the place of Kemal Paşa-zâde in Divan poetry (pp. 75-85), through an appraisal of his works in Turkish (namely his books titled *Divan*, *Yusuf u Zeliha Mesnevisi*, *Kafiye Risalesi*, *Nasayih*, *Usulname*, *Tevarih-i Al-i Osman*, and the translations of his poetry *Kaside-i Burde* and *Kaside-i Tantarâniye*) from the point of view of Divan poetry. It is understood from here that because of his lack of lyricism, Kemal Paşa-zâde can be considered as a versifier rather than a poet. As to his style in prose, it was

artistic. The above parts of Saraç's book are followed, on pages 87-126, by the texts of Kemal Paşa-zâde's Will regarding his burial, his Fatwa (decree) for the Iranian campaign, the translations of *Kaside-i Burde* and *Kaside-i Tantarâniye*, and the elegy he wrote for Sultan Yavuz Selim. Explanations are given in footnotes for these texts.

*The Editorial Board thanks Prof. Dr. Ramazan Şeşen for the above book review.*

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**INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE  
PRESERVATION OF ISLAMIC  
CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICPICH)**

**The Commission's activity report  
submitted to the 23rd Islamic Conference  
of Foreign Ministers (Conakry, Republic of Guinea)**

The Twenty-Third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea on 9-12 December 1995 examined and adopted the activity report of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) for the past year and its work program for 1996-97. The Commission was represented at the Twenty-Third Islamic Conference by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary of ICPICH, Dr. Mohammed Saleh Gazdar, Director of the Liaison and Coordination Office under the Presidency of the Commission in Riyadh, and Mr. Mohammed Tamimi from the Commission Secretariat. In its resolution no. 30/23-C regarding the Commission, the Twenty-Third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers

1. Approves the report of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage including its work plan.
2. Addresses its thanks to the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of Turkey, for their moral and material support to the Commission and sponsoring its projects.
3. Expresses its appreciation to the efforts exerted by the Chairman of the

Commission H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdul Aziz in order to realize its objectives.

4. Expresses its satisfaction to note that the Commission's activities contribute to promoting general awareness on the preservation of the Islamic cultural, artistic and architectural heritage and its cooperation with IRCICA in implementing the architectural workshops on the reconstruction of Bosnia and Hercegovina.
5. Commends the efforts of the Commission to assist calligraphers, artists and archivists from the Member States in upgrading their skills.
6. Appeals to the Member States to pay regularly their contributions and settle their arrears in the budget of the Commission.
7. Expresses thanks to the Member States which have paid their arrears in the budgets of the Commission in accordance with the resolution of the Sixth Islamic Summit Conference, particularly the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the State of the United Arab Emirates. It calls on States having arrears to follow suit in this regard.

### **The Commission Secretariat - a meeting place for artists and art lovers**

The headquarters of IRCICA, where the Secretariat of ICPICH is located, have become a meeting place for artists, art lovers, and particularly calligraphers from the Member States and other countries. The Summer of 1995 was an active period in this respect. Messrs. Haji Zeyne Abdul Ghani and Mohammed Hilmi Haji Noor from Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Brunei Darussalam, have been to Istanbul for a two-month special training in calligraphy during June-July 1995. They received certificates at the end of the course. Meanwhile, Mr. Ali Al-Bedah from Dar al-Athar al-Islamiya, Kuwait, was in Istanbul during July-August 1995; while he was following a six-week special training program to further his knowledge on various styles of calligraphy, as well as on the arts of the book and the restoration and preservation of manuscripts, he made study visits to the museums and libraries and met with teachers of calligraphy. Mr. Bedah wrote a report summarizing the results of his studies for future reference. The Libyan calligrapher Mr. Mahfouz al-Bouaishi, who had won an award in the Third Calligraphy Competition organised by ICPICH, received training in various calligraphic styles, during the months of June and July. The Commission Secretariat is pleased that after his return to Tripoli, Mr. Mahfouz has joined the well-known Libyan calligrapher Mr. Abu Bakr Sasi in teaching calligraphy to interested artists and students.

Meanwhile, the Saudi Arabian calligrapher Mr. Abdullah Rıza held an exhibition at the Commission Secretariat. The exhibition was opened on 9 June 1995 in the presence of the Consuls General of the Member States in Istanbul. It met great interest. The Commission Secretariat also received the Iraqi scholar and calligrapher Prof. Yusuf Zunnun, who gave a conference on "The influence of the Hadari script on the development of pre-Islamic Arabic script" on 22 September 1995. Some Iraqi calligraphers who were present at the conference expressed their desire to organise an exhibition of their works at the Commission Secretariat; the exhibition is planned to take place in the Summer of 1996. Furthermore, Mr. Nassar Mansour, post-graduate student at Al-

Albait University in Jordan, visited the Commission Secretariat to collect references and prepare his thesis on the ijaza- diplomes of calligraphy. Meanwhile, the Commission Secretariat coordinated the training program that the Algerian calligrapher Mr. Abdulhamid Djouambi has followed with master Mr. Hasan Çelebi for one year; Mr. Djouambi has reached a satisfactory level of skills in calligraphy, particularly in the thuluth, jaly thuluth, and naskh styles.

Among the calligraphers who visited the Commission Secretariat during the Summer of 1995, are Mr. Hussein al-Sirri, the calligrapher of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates; Mr. Mohammed Buhayri, Algerian calligrapher who works in the United Arab Emirates; the Kuwaiti calligrapher Mr. Walid al-Farhud and the Jordanian calligrapher Khalid al-Kurdi, who regularly communicate with the Commission Secretariat and with Turkish calligraphers. Also, Mr. Khalid Seyyid Ibrahim, the son of the famous Egyptian calligrapher the late Seyyid Ibrahim, visited the Commission Secretariat and met with the Director General of IRCICA and Secretary of the Commission, particularly to have advice and information regarding the restoration and decoration with illuminations of some works of his father.



Master calligrapher Hasan Çelebi, on his left Mr. Mahfouz al-Bouaishi, standing Messrs. Haji Zeyne Abdul Ghani and Mohammed Hilmi Haji Noor

**The Sudanese calligrapher Omar Durma completed M.A. studies at Mimar Sinan University**

Mr. Omar Durma, Sudanese calligrapher and teaching assistant at the Islamic Arts Faculty in Khartoum, was sent to Istanbul on scholarship by the Government of Sudan, with IRCICA's assistance as intermediary. He obtained the Master's degree from the Institute of Social Sciences of Mimar Sinan University in December 1995. His thesis, prepared under the supervision of Dr. Savaş Çevik, is on "Hamid Aytac- his life and his works". In this study, Durma looks into the personal and artistic characteristics of the eminent calligrapher the late Hamid Aytac, his creativity, the different periods of his career, his teaching. Based on interviews with famous students of Aytac such as Hasan Çelebi, Hüseyin Kutlu, Hüsrev Subaşı and Fuat Başar, he introduces the reader with unknown aspects of the great calligrapher. Omar Durma now continues his studies at Mimar Sinan University for a doctorate degree.

**Treasures from Kuwait: masterpieces from the collection of Dar al-Athar al-Islamiya exhibited at Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge University**

The exhibition "Islamic Arts and Patronage: Treasures from Kuwait" opened at the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge University on 10 April 1995, in the framework of a series of travelling exhibitions of the Dar al-Athar al-Islamiya (Islamic Art Museum), Kuwait. The exhibition consists of 107 artifacts which were selected from the museum collection to represent the arts of the Islamic world in its different regions and different periods. The theme of the exhibition reflects the importance of patronage in arts, because building and promoting a collection is an art in itself. Sheikha Husa al-Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah, Director of Dar al-Athar al-Islamiya, gave a speech at the opening of the exhibition, which was preceded by a lecture by Mr. Manuel Keene, Curator of the collection. The travelling exhibition was first opened in August 1990 in St. Petersburg (Russia) and then in Leningrad; afterwards, it travelled to the U.S.A., and was displayed in Baltimore, Maryland in December 1990, then in

Fort Worth, Texas; Atlanta, Georgia; Scottsdale, Arizona; Richmond, Virginia; St. Louis, Missouri; and then on in the Canadian Museum of Civilisations in Hull, Quebec, and finally in the New Orleans Museum of Art in Louisiana.



From the collection: a page of the Quran, Egypt, 14th century

**Exhibition of calligraphies by Rasheed Butt organised at Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, London**

An exhibition of works by the Pakistani calligrapher Mr. Rasheed Butt took place at the headquarters Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation (London) on 21 November - 1 December 1995. The works were in various calligraphic styles including thuluth, jaly thuluth, naskh, taliq and qufi. Mr. Rasheed Butt has won awards in the calligraphy competitions organised by ICPICH. The exhibition was opened by H.E. Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Chairman of Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, in the presence of the Ambassadors of Islamic countries, art lovers, as well as specialists and researchers who were attending the symposium on Islamic manuscripts that was being organised by the Foundation.

**PROF. DR. EMİN BİLGİÇ, EMINENT TURKISH SCHOLAR AND  
ONE OF THE FIRST MEMBERS OF IRCICA GOVERNING BOARD, PASSED AWAY**

The demise of Prof. Dr. Emin Bilgiç has been a great sorrow to everyone at IRCICA and to all those who know the Centre and its activities. Prof. Bilgiç, scholar, man of culture and one of the first members of the Governing Board of IRCICA in its first term from 1981-1986, passed away in Ankara on 20 January 1996.



Emin Bilgiç was born in Şarkikaraağaç (Isparta) in 1916. He graduated from the Faculty of Letters, History and Geography of Ankara University in 1940. The same year, he was admitted as graduate assistant to the chair of Sumerology of the same Faculty. He completed his PhD in 1943. Dr. Emin Bilgiç became Assistant Professor in 1949, Professor and Chairman in 1955. He went to England in 1952 for two years of research, and was a Visiting Professor at Hamburg University during 1960-62. From his return to Turkey until his retirement in 1983, Prof. Dr. Bilgiç taught at the Faculty of Letters, History and Geography of Ankara University. During this period he was a member of the University Senate for ten years and Dean of the Faculty for two years. From 1975 to 1980, Prof. Dr. Emin Bilgiç served as Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, for two consecutive terms. In this period, he gave a close and constant backing to the establishment of IRCICA. Thanks to his support and to his contributions in the Centre's establishment stage and initial years, solid foundations were laid for IRCICA.

A man of great scholarship, learning and culture, Prof. Bilgiç contributed to the promotion of academic research in his field and in related areas not only with his teaching but also through his many other achievements, by establishing the Institute of Seljukid Studies in the university, working as the Director of the Institute's periodical publication the "Selçuklu Araştırmaları Dergisi" (Journal of Seljukid Studies) as well as of the journal "Anatolia" published by the Faculty of Letters, History and Geography. During his functions as Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, he also gave importance to publishing activities of the Ministry and ensured the publication of the journal "Millî Kültür" (National Culture) and some other periodicals. From 1959 onwards, Prof. Emin Bilgiç participated for years to archeological excavations in the surroundings of Van Lake (east of Turkey) as a member and Chief of the teams. Meanwhile, he was first a corresponding member and later a full member of the German Archeological Institute. Prof. Bilgiç contributed papers to a number of international conferences and gave lectures in different countries. He is the author of hundreds of articles on Sumerology and Ancient History written in Turkish, in English or in German, most of which were translated into French, Russian and other languages and added to the corpus of international academic literature in these fields. Besides being an outstanding scholar, Prof. Dr. Emin Bilgiç was also a leading intellectual of his country. His works on cultural subjects, education and social issues drew the interest of a wide readership. He was also known for his services as a member of some national institutions working in these fields and notably, as General President of the cultural institutions known as the "Türkocakları" Turkish hearths which are active since 1911 with some interruptions.

A specialist and experienced scholar in his field and at the same time a warm-hearted and affectionate family man and professor, Emin Bilgiç exemplified the modesty of the truly virtuous. Among all those who loved and respected him present at his funerals, there were the President of the Republic of Turkey Mr. Süleyman Demirel together with many personalities of the political, cultural circles.

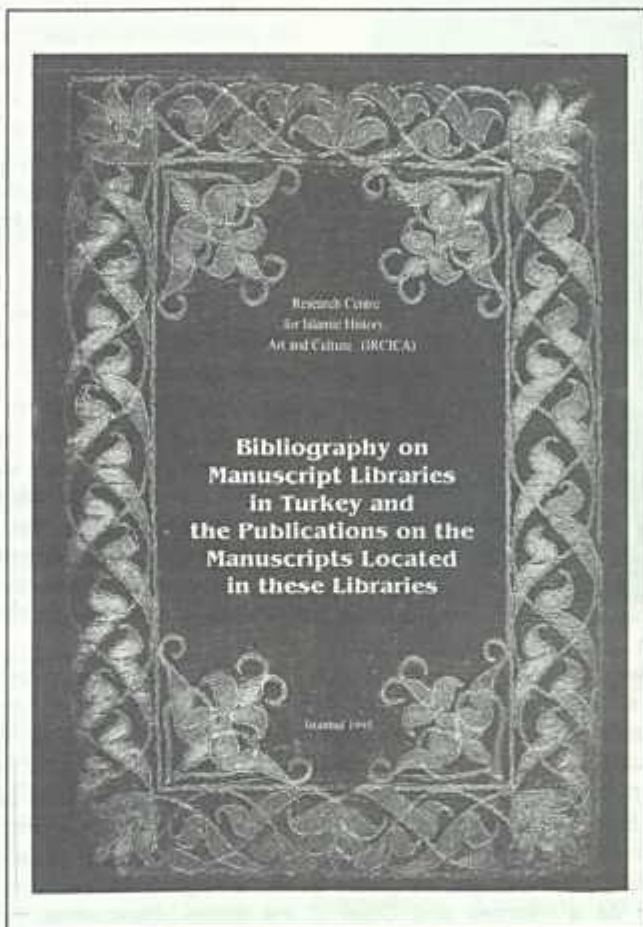
**Bibliography on Manuscript Libraries in Turkey and the Publications on the Manuscripts Located in these Libraries**, prepared by Nimet Bayraktar and Mihin Lugal, Edited by Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Istanbul, 1995

This book resulted from years of research in the libraries of Turkey which have collections of manuscripts. Its purpose is two-fold: on the one hand, it is an extensive bibliography of the manuscripts, on the other hand, it is a guide book of manuscript libraries. In the section devoted to each library, there is information on its address and affiliation, its collections, the number it contains and their according to language, particularly already handlists and well as various and short histories library. The previous that were published or subjects or about manuscripts located in library, are also bibliography.

The Introduction by the the development of librarianship in Turkey. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu history of libraries the Ottoman period were founded as referring to the deeds which are primary information on this also reviews the of librarianship in the Turkish Republic, the

nts of the Cataloguing Commission established under the Ministry of Education, and the various catalogues of manuscripts published in Turkey until the present time.

The first part of the book consists of two main sections: the first section is a guide to the libraries, and the second one comprises a bibliography about these libraries. The second part of the book contains the bibliography of publications about the works located in the collections of these libraries, arranged in alphabetical order of the names of authors. Indexes have been prepared for names of authors, translators, compilers, personal names cited in titles, the titles of the articles and books and the titles of works cited in them. It is expected that this catalogue will be of great help to researchers concerned.



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**Catalogue of the Islamic Manuscripts in Cyprus**, prepared by Ramazan Şeşen, Mustafa Haşim Altan and Cevat Izgi; Preface by H.E. Rauf Denктаş, introduction by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, published by the Waqf for Research in Islamic History, Art and Culture, İstanbul, 1995

This catalogue resulted from a project undertaken jointly with the National Archives and Research Centre of Northern Cyprus starting from 1987. It is a record of the written Islamic cultural heritage that is now preserved in the libraries and archives of North Cyprus, namely in the Sultan Mahmud II Library, the Selimiye Mosque, the Laleli Mosque and the National Archives.

The book has a Preface by H.E. Rauf Denктаş, leader of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus. Recalling that Islam was introduced to Cyprus as early as the year 28 H./648-49 A.D. and that the island acquired a Muslim Turkish character after its conquest by the Ottomans in 978 H./1570-71, H.E. Mr. Denктаş points out that with the establishment of institutions such as waqfs, mosques, medreses and libraries, the country had flourished as a centre of science, culture and arts. Taking into consideration that its collections of historical manuscripts are part of the heritage that testifies to this brilliant cultural history, Mr. Rauf Denктаş underlines the importance of this catalogue with respect to recording this heritage and introducing it to the coming generations.



The Introduction by Prof. İhsanoğlu gives a brief political and cultural history of the island, as well as information on the Islamic monuments and the major libraries, and short biographies of some of the Muslim scientists who lived in Cyprus in the Ottoman period. The catalogue has three main parts covering Arabic, Turkish, and Persian manuscripts respectively; there are 1948 manuscripts in Arabic, 211 manuscripts in Turkish, and 96 manuscripts in Persian, i.e. 2255 works in total. In each part, the bibliographic entries are arranged according to their subjects: copies of the Quran and manuscripts on Quranic sciences, the Hadith, the life of the Prophet, Islamic jurisprudence, literature, philosophy, history, logic, astronomy, and other subjects. At the end of each part, there are indices of authors, titles, copists, waqfs and other institutions, places, and reference works.

**A Survey of Islamic Cultural Monuments until the end of the 19th Century in Bosnia**, by Adem Handzic, foreword by Enes Karić, preface by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Istanbul, 1996

This book is a comprehensive recording of both major and minor *vakıfs* in Central and Northern Bosnia, a "*vakıf*" being an endowment system through which a donor bequeathes his fortune, or part of it, towards the setting up of religious institutions such as mosques or *mescids* and *jami's*, religious schools or *medreses*, cemeteries or other buildings. In his survey, Dr. Handzic enumerates the *vakıfs* and analyses their role as a fundamental feature in the spread and establishment of the Muslim settlements in Bosnia.



Prof. Dr. Enes Karić, scholar and statesman, points out in his introductory reflections to the book, that this research not only represents a corpus for Bosnia's cultural past but that it might also be an incentive for scholars to strive towards the rebuilding of the "Bosnia of the future" in accordance with the historical and architectural facts recorded. In his preface, Prof. Dr. İhsanoğlu stresses the significance of the *vakıf* institution as a catalyst in the development of the Ottoman world in particular, and the Islamic world in general. Such a survey, such a cultural inventory, he says, is most essential in our time, a time when the Bosnian architectural heritage, and therefore the *vakıfs'* institutional buildings, have been destroyed during the war. The facts and data presented in this book could be the last written testimony to the existence of a Bosnian architecture.

Dr. Adem Handzic, the well-known Bosnian scholar, was bound to leave his country during the war, after forty years of study and research at the famous Sarajevo Institute of Oriental Studies. He persisted in his efforts to compile a cultural inventory for Bosnia at IRCICA. He wrote two books, titled *Population of Bosnia in the Ottoman Empire: a Historical Overview* and *Studije o Bosnia, Historijski Prilozi iz Osmansko-Turskog Perioda* (Studies on Bosnia, Historical Contributions of the Ottoman Turkish Period); both published by IRCICA in 1994. *A Survey of the Islamic Cultural Monuments until the End of the Nineteenth Century in Bosnia* is Dr. Handzic's third research undertaken for and published by IRCICA.