



Newsletter



ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA)

JUNE-AUGUST 2021

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Editorial

I have the pleasure to introduce IRCICA's Newsletter for the period from June to August 2021 inclusive. The news published in this issue converge, coincidentally, on two main areas of IRCICA's mandate. One of them is the Cooperation for Development undertaken within the framework of the OIC. In this context, high-level conferences were held in two areas of the OIC's development agenda which also engage IRCICA, namely "Science and Technology" and "Women's Advancement". In the first area, the Second Summit Conference on Science and Technology took place under the chairmanship of the State of the United Arab Emirates, in online format, in June. The Summit reviewed the progress of activities in this field since the first Summit held in Astana, Kazakhstan, in 2007; it recommended guidelines for developing science, technology and innovation in the Member States as envisaged in the "OIC Science, Technology and Innovation Agenda 2026". Some areas of action recommended under the Agenda are closely related to the mandate of IRCICA, notably those under the first priority area: "Nurture the Thinking Mind: Build A Culture of Science and Innovation" and the priority area 7, in particular its recommendation "to establish additional collections of information about ancient manuscripts and historical works in the OIC Member States". Our Centre's various projects directly or indirectly contribute towards these aims. In devising our work programs, we are taking into consideration this Agenda together with the OIC-2025 Programme of Action and other cooperation schemes adopted by the OIC Member States in various fields of development.

The second conference in the context of the OIC Cooperation for Development was the Eighth Session of the OIC Ministerial Conference on Women, held in Cairo, Egypt, this past July. IRCICA contributes to the realization of the OIC Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women (OPAAW) through its various projects and art events. It hosted and chaired the First Workshop on Implementation Mechanisms of OPAAW at its headquarters in January 2016 and took part in the subsequent work conducted in this area. I had the opportunity to brief the ministers and delegations participating in the aforementioned conference about our activities that highlight women's achievements in various fields of competence contributing to sciences, literature, arts, and social progress and our international art events where the rates of female participation have been on the rise.

The other main focus of this issue of the Newsletter is the history of science and philosophy in Islam, which is one of the main themes of IRCICA's research programs. We are covering some recent conferences which revisited the legacy of eminent scholars of the classical age of Islam and their successors through the lenses of new studies. The conferences, coordinated by academic institutions in Uzbekistan during June and July, commemorated the contributions of Imam Maturidi, Imam Bukhari, and the scholars of Termez, as well as the works of their followers and successors, who interpreted and elaborated upon their teachings, thus contributing to their preservation and diffusion.

This issue's section on Publications presents among others, the book which resulted from the international conference on "New Perspectives for the Study of Islamic Culture, History and Art in Uzbekistan" dedicated to the memory of Academician Ubaydulla Karimov which was organized by IRCICA and Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan in May. One of the objectives of the conference was to assess the state of sources and studies and evaluate the evolving prospects of research and teaching with respect to the history, arts and culture of Central Asia. It is noteworthy that this objective, which directs the attention to issues of perspective, approach, methodology and source materials in a given research area, is now also incorporated into our activities concerning other regions of the Muslim world, including some of the conferences that we are preparing in cooperation with Member States in Africa and Asia. I wish to invite the scholars and researchers concerned to participate in the Symposium on "Religious Literature and Heritage" that we will coordinate jointly with the Center for Research and Development of Religious Literature and Heritage of the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Indonesia and Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University, Malang, Indonesia, at the end of November this year and to be held in online format.

Finally, as you know, IRCICA's 12th calligraphy competition is on, and we are looking forward to completing the registrations by 31 December 2021. The deadline for submission of the entries is 20 March 2022. I take this occasion to wish success to the prospective participants. I also thank all readers of the Newsletter for their interest in our activities.

Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol KILIÇ
Director General, IRCICA



DR. AMINA OBYAYD AL-HAJRI, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR CULTURAL, SOCIAL AND FAMILY AFFAIRS AT THE OIC GENERAL SECRETARIAT, REPRESENTING THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF OIC DR. YOUSSEF BIN AHMED AL-OTHAIMEEN
 PROF.DR. AMADOU CISSÉ NDIÉGUÈNE, CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNING BOARD (SENEGAL), AMBASSADOR PROF. DR. MAHMUD EROL KILIÇ, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF IRCICA

The 37th Session of IRCICA Governing Board

Istanbul, 19 August 2021

The Governing Board of IRCICA held its 37th session at the headquarters of the Centre, in the Palace of the Sublime Porte (Bâb-ı Âli), Istanbul, on 19 August 2021, under the Chairmanship of Prof. Amadou Cissé Ndiéguène (Republic of Senegal). The following members of the Governing Board were present in the session:

- Dr. Amina Obayd Al-Hajri, Director General for Cultural, Social and Family Affairs at the OIC General Secretariat, representing Dr. Youssef Bin Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, Secretary General of the OIC;
- Prof. Amadou Cissé Ndiéguène, Chairman of the Governing Board (Republic of Senegal);
- Dr. Abdul Aziz Abdullah Turki al-Subaie, Vice-Chairman of the Board (State of Qatar);
- Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA;
- Prof. Dr. Mustafa Sait Yazıcıoğlu (Republic of Turkey);
- Ambassador Dr. Shaazim Shaislamovich Minovarov (Republic of Uzbekistan);
- Dr. Astadjam Haman Saoudi (Republic of Cameroon);
- Dr. Sallama Al Khafaji (Republic of Iraq);
- Sheikh Dr. Boureima Abdou Daouda (Republic of Niger);
- Mr. Abdulmotaleb Salem Abousalem (State of Libya).

The session started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. The Opening Session heard the following speeches:

Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA, welcomed the members and expressed his pleasure to be attending the Board's session for the first time after assuming office at IRCICA. He greeted the

members and welcomed Dr. Amina Obayd Al-Hajri, Director General for Cultural, Social and Family Affairs of the OIC, representative of the Secretary General of OIC H.E. Dr. Yousef Ahmed Al-Othaimeen. Director General Ambassador Kılıç expressed his commitment to the mission of IRCICA as the OIC's cultural centre dedicated to Islamic civilization and the Muslim world. He said that "The mandate of IRCICA is crucial for cultural development and cooperation in the Muslim world. It is also a support pillar for the OIC's action in all fields. The Centre will continue to fulfil this role." The Director General expressed his belief that the prospective priorities and orientations of the Centre in the coming period would benefit from the valuable advice and recommendations of the Governing Board members.

Prof. Amadou Cissé Ndiéguène (Republic of Senegal), the Chairman of the Governing Board, greeted the Board members and the representative of the Secretary General. The Chairman conveyed the Board's gratitude to H.E. the Secretary General through his representative, for the support

and attention accorded to the Centre. Prof. Ndiéguène praised and welcomed the appointment of Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, an eminent personality, experienced academic, author, poet, philosopher and diplomat to the head of IRCICA. The Chairman assured the Director General of the Board's readiness to extend him and his office all the necessary support for the successful completion of the Centre's programs and projects, which are greatly appreciated throughout the Muslim world. He said the Centre will continue to reinforce the cultural dimensions of the place and active share of the Muslim world in the universal harmony of humanity.

Representing the Secretary General of the OIC H.E. Dr. Youssef Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, Dr. Amina Obayd Al-Hajri, Director General of Cultural, Social and Family Affairs at the OIC, reiterated the congratulations of the OIC Secretary General to Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç for his assignment as the Director General of IRCICA. The message of the OIC Secretary General said: "On the occasion of your appointment, I would like to express my warm congratulations

and sincere wishes for success in your new mandate. I am convinced that you will be able to contribute with energy to the mandate of IRCICA and I hope that, under your impetus, the confidence placed in you by the authorities of your country as well as the Secretary General of the OIC, the history, art and culture that characterize IRCICA's *raison d'être* will experience greater visibility." Alluding to the deep and destructive challenges the Muslim world faces that beset its identity and culture and threaten security and stability, including the loss of cultural objects, the Secretary General pointed to the urgent need to fortify societies culturally and set up policies to protect and preserve the Islamic legacy all over the world. The Secretary General also underlined that the General Secretariat pays due attention to promoting further cultural exchange among the OIC Member States. In this respect, the Secretary General urged IRCICA to continue to play important roles in maintaining peace and harmony through cultural projects and called for intensifying the joint initiatives between IRCICA, the General Secretariat and other relevant institutions.



Dr. Abdul Aziz Abdullah Turki al-Subai
State of Qatar



Prof. Dr. Mustafa Sait Yazıcıoğlu
Republic of Turkey



Ambassador Dr. Shaazim Shaislamovich Minovarov
Republic of Uzbekistan



Dr. Astadjam Haman Saoudi
Republic of Cameroon



Dr. Sallama Al Khafaji
Republic of Iraq



Sheikh Dr. Boureima Abdou
Republic of Niger



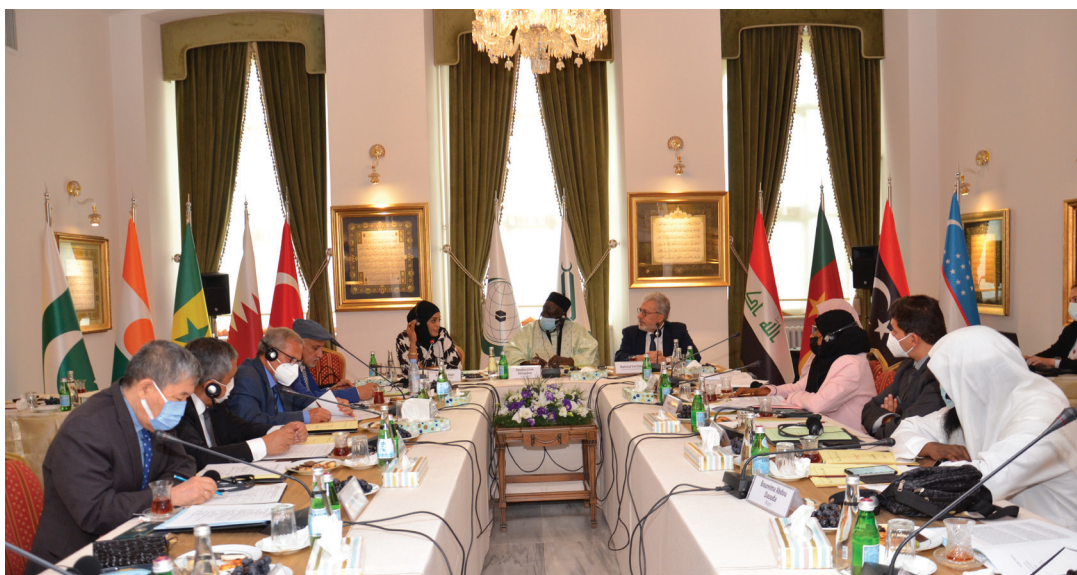
Mr. Abdulmoteleb Salem
Abousalem
State of Libya

During the Working Session, the Director General presented the reports of the Centre on the activities completed during 2020 and those ongoing in 2021 and the proposed work program for 2022. The Director General pointed out that as usual, some of the ongoing projects span over a timeline of more than one year, due to their nature as research work or academic events involving stages of preparation. He described the state of implementation of the current work program concerning research projects and publications, conferences, art competitions and other activities, of which many are of long-term

nature. Among them, he cited in particular the 12th International Calligraphy Competition to be finalized in mid-2021, the Prince Sultan bin Salman Islamic Architectural Heritage Database maintained by IRCICA, and the series of regional congresses on the History of Islamic Civilization and the History of Learning and Scholarship that focus on different regions of Africa and Asia. He also cited those events such as training programs and workshops that were prepared earlier but postponed until the end of the pandemic. Relating to activities foreseen for 2022, the Director General explained the main specializations and orientations that the Centre found necessary to incorporate under its main programs; these will be reflected in the thematic and geographic focuses of the newly planned conferences and publications. The Board Chairman and members

expressed their appreciation of the accurate and scientific style in which the Director General had presented the documents. They underlined the importance of the many and varied projects undertaken by IRCICA. They suggested ways for wider dissemination of their results to both cultural institutions and general readership in the member countries and beyond.

The Board members adopted the Report and Recommendations of the 37th Session, in which they recorded their congratulations to the Director General on his appointment and their appreciation of his qualifications and experiences as an academic and diplomat which will ensure the Centre's future success. They wished him continuous achievements in his management role in fulfilling the goals and objectives of the OIC and IRCICA. The Board stated in its recommendations that the Centre's activities planned in this efficient manner could contribute to solidarity among peoples towards resolution of the various problems faced on global scale. 🇺🇸



The Eighth Session of the OIC Ministerial Conference “Preserving the Achievements of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond”

Cairo, Egypt, 6-8 July 2021

The Eighth Session of the OIC Ministerial Conference on Women was held in Cairo, Egypt, 6-8 July 2021, on the theme “Preserving the Achievements of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond.” Forty-eight Member States of the OIC were represented at the conference, along with the General Secretariat, the subsidiary, specialized and affiliated organs and institutions of the OIC, and invited experts and institutions. IRCICA was represented at the conference by Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç and Assistant Head of Research and Publications Prof. Dr. Najat Khalil.

The opening ceremony heard the address of H.E. Mrs. Hélène Marie Laurence Ilboudo Marchal, Minister of Women, National Solidarity, Family and Humanitarian Action of Burkina Faso, Chair of the Seventh Session of the Ministerial Conference (Ouagadougou, November-December 2018), summarizing her country’s efforts towards women’s empowerment and gender equality. Minister Ilboudo Marchal

also briefed the conference on the activities undertaken in follow-up to the resolutions of the seventh session of the conference. Dr. Maya Morsy, President of Egypt’s National Council for Women, said, in her statement, that the conference was an opportunity for Member States to share views on the issues of gender equality and justice, reflect on the best ways to preserve the rights of women, identify obstacles and propose solutions. In his address at the opening session, the Secretary General of the OIC, H.E. Dr. Youssef Ahmed Al-Othaimeen, commended the choice of the theme of the session, stressing that preserving the gains in gender equality, justice and women’s rights and empowerment, particularly in light of the social and economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, requires closer cooperation among the Member States and the relevant institutions. Egyptian President Abdul Fattah al-Sisi’s keynote address pointed to the challenges of gender equality, justice and empowerment for women, and ways to consolidate the gains achieved by the OIC and



its Member States in this area. He expressed Egypt’s readiness, both as Chair of the current session of the Conference and as the host country of the OIC Women Development Organization (WDO), to contribute to preserving those gains, strengthening the Organization’s role in driving empowerment for women, promoting their economic, social, political and cultural status and enhancing their role and participation in decision-making. (www.oic.oci.org)

The delegations made presentations on their national efforts and policies in terms of achieving their targets of gender equality, justice and empowerment for women, along with activities to support implementation of the OIC Plan for the Advancement of Women (OPAAW), particularly in the context of the pandemic.

The conference passed resolutions on the following issues: “Palestinian Women’s Development”; “Women Protection and Empowerment for Adaptation and Recovery during Pandemic and Exceptional Circumstances”; “Ensuring Sustainability of Gains in Women’s Empowerment and Equality between Women and Men in OIC Member States”; “Developing an OIC Policy on Equality between Women and Men”; “Mainstreaming the Perspective of Equality between Women and Men in COVID-19 Strategies and Policies”; “Women Consultative Council of OIC Ministerial Conference on Women”; “Promoting Women’s Economic Empowerment”; “Directing Religious and Media Discourse towards Protection and Promotion of Women’s Rights”; “Coordinating Mainstreaming of the Perspective of Equality between Women and Men throughout the OIC System”; “Joint Support Action for Refugee and Displaced Women”; “Promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education”; “Mainstreaming Social Protection for Women and Girls”. Among its various other decisions, the conference welcomed the entry into force of the Statute of the OIC Women Development Organization (WDO) located in Cairo, and called on the OIC Member States that have not yet ratified the WDO Statute

to expedite the completion of the ratification procedures. The conference also welcomed the Islamic Republic of Pakistan’s offering to host its ninth session in 2023.

The conference also took a decision regarding the second edition of the OIC Women of Achievement Prize, which was instituted in its earlier sessions. Taking into consideration the financial and travel limitations induced by the pandemic, the conference decided to award symbolic certificates to the following persons and institutions as part of the second round of the prize: Research, Study, Documentation and Information Centre for Women, Tunisia (for the Arab region); Burkina Faso Association for the Promotion of Gaoua Women (for the African region); Ms. Shamim Shoul Kashmiri from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (for the Asian region); the Palestinian Sustenance Fund (for Palestine).

In his address at the conference, IRCICA Director General Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç said that the Eighth Session of the Ministerial Conference on Women represented an advanced stage in the OIC’s action in this area and that the establishment of the Organisation for Women Development (Cairo) was an important step in this context. The Director General explained that IRCICA is concerned with women’s issues with regard to their cultural aspects: the Centre’s contribution to the OIC’s action aims to enhance women’s participation in economic and cultural life in meaningful and productive ways. In this vein, the Centre aims to encourage women of all ages living in the Muslim world to actively



Prof. Dr. Najat Khalil.

take part in the diverse sectors of activities covered by IRCICA’s mandate. These sectors mainly cover the fine arts and traditional handicrafts and the study and preservation of cultural heritage. Prof. Kılıç informed the conference that growing numbers of lady artists and experts were enrolling in IRCICA’s art competitions and its training programs on Islamic calligraphy and preservation of architectural heritage. Moreover, growing numbers of women artists and artisans won awards in the festivals of handicrafts conducted in various Member States. Specifically, “Tabriz International Festival for Women Artisans” was organized by IRCICA jointly with Tabriz University of Islamic Arts (in 2019) involving a congress, exhibitions and awards. Director General Kılıç also briefed the audience on IRCICA’s research projects aiming to highlight the contributions of women to development in the Muslim world from a historical perspective. Outcomes of these projects include the Centre’s publications on the waqfs – endowments that were set up by women of the Muslim world throughout history in contribution to social administration and welfare in their respective societies. 🟢

OIC Summit on Science and Technology chaired by the State of the United Arab Emirates and Abu Dhabi Declaration on “Science, Technology and Innovation: Opening New Horizons”

Online, 17 June 2021

The Second Summit of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on Science and Technology was conducted online on 17 June 2021, under the Chairmanship of the State of the United Arab Emirates. The Summit heard statements by Kazakhstan (Chair of the First Summit, Astana, 2017); the United Arab Emirates (Chair of the Second Summit); Saudi Arabia (Chair of the 14th Islamic Summit); Pakistan (Chair of the OIC Standing Committee on Science and Technology – COMSTECH); the African, the Arab and the Asian Groups; and the OIC Secretary General. The Working Session heard the Statements of the Heads of Delegations of Member States.

H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates, welcomed the participants on behalf of H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the State of the United Arab Emirates, and thanked the leadership of Kazakhstan for the efforts it made during its presidency of the First Summit. H.H. the Minister underlined the aim of the Second

Summit: to build upon the achievements of the first session and proceed with developing a roadmap to achieve the goals of the Action Plan for Science and Technology [prepared by the COMSTECH], which focuses on making science and technology the main driver for the development of OIC countries by 2026. Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan noted the most prominent scientific milestones achieved by the United Arab Emirates over the past two decades in making technology, innovation, and their applications vital elements of various sectors of development (<https://www.mofaic.gov.ae/en/mediahub/news/2021/6/17/17-06-2021-uae-oic>).

The Summit was opened with a speech by H.E. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Chairperson of the First OIC Summit on Science and Technology (Astana, 2017), who renewed his country's efforts to achieve the goals set out in the Summit's first meeting in Astana in 2017. The other leaders attending the virtual Summit were: H.E. M. Ashraf Ghani, President of the Republic of Afghanistan; H.E. Ilham Aliyev,

President of the Republic of Azerbaijan; H.E. Mohammad Abdul Hamid, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; H.E. Ali Bongo Ondimba, President of the Republic of Gabon; H.E. Ma'ruf Amin, Vice-President of Indonesia; H.E. Mohamed Bazoum, President of the Republic of Niger; H.E. Arif Alvi, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Chairman of the OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH); H.E. Julius Maada Bio, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone; and, H.E. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, President of the Republic of Turkmenistan.

President Tokayev underlined the importance of investing in human capital, especially in high-quality education: “It is vitally important to strengthen and develop our scientific cooperation. ... The future of our countries depends on whether we succeed in scientific, technological, and innovative development.” The President also alluded to consequences of the coronavirus crisis, pointing out that the fight against the pandemic has become a serious test for scientific and technological

policies at both national and international levels. He said that as a contribution to the battle against COVID-19, Kazakhstan has developed its own vaccine, Kazvac.

H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi, President of Pakistan and Chairman of COMSTECH said, in his statement, that COMSTECH, is moving forward on the Science, Technology and Innovation Agenda 2026. President Alvi proposed to place focus on African Member States for health and agriculture development and give priority to biosaline agriculture, COVID-19 related technology and capacity building, initiation of research fellowships and technical training programs for African science community, and addressing the challenge of environmental degradation.

The Secretary General of the OIC, H.E. Dr. Yousef Bin Ahmad Al-Othaimeen, gave an address, in which he indicated that the OIC Member States had made positive progress recently, as the number of scientific publications increased by 34 % and the value of technology exports increased by 32 %. The Secretary General said that huge funds had been invested in higher education in the OIC Member States, and that large scientific projects were launched, such as artificial intelligence and green cities in Saudi Arabia, and significant

projects based on advanced technology, renewable and peaceful energy, and the digital economy, the probe successfully placed by United Arab Emirates in an orbit around Mars and other pioneering technological projects. Dr. Al-Othaimeen called for taking some practical steps to confront the challenges that hinder scientific development. He stressed the need to enhance Islamic cooperation and partnerships in education by increasing academic interactions, providing scholarships and exchanging researchers and specialized scholars (https://www.oic-oci.org/topic/?t_id=28239&ref=18422&lan=en).

H.E. Sarah Al Amiri, Minister of State for Advanced Technology, U.A.E., moderated the Summit. In her speech, the Minister noted the role of science and technology sectors in overcoming current development challenges, including poverty alleviation, advancing sustainable development efforts in the health sector, preserving the environment, and ensuring food, water and energy security.

At the conclusion of the Summit, the leaders adopted the “Abu Dhabi Declaration”, in which they renewed their commitment to take all necessary measures to create an environment conducive to achieving progress in science, technology and innovation, and to continue to work to implement

the OIC’s Science, Technology and Innovation Agenda 2026.

The Ten-Year Plan, prepared by COMSTECH and approved by the First OIC Summit on Science and Technology (Astana, 2017) as the Science, Technology and Innovation Agenda 2026, comprises recommendations of goals, with each governments setting its own targets. The Agenda sets priorities in the following areas:

1. “Nurture the Thinking Mind”: Build a culture of science and innovation
2. Making people employable: Education and skills
3. Safety of water, food and environment
4. Ensure healthy lives for all citizens
5. Improve the quality of higher education and research
6. The Case for mathematics and physics; biology and biotechnology; and the chemical sciences
7. Managing big data with security in the digital economy
8. Managing energy requirements
9. One Planet: the Environment, climate change and sustainability
10. Enhancing Intra-OIC cooperation
11. Big science programs.



International Online Scientific-Practical Symposium on “The Maturidiyya Teaching and the Present”

16 June 2021

The International Online Scientific-Practical Symposium on “The Maturidiyya Teaching and the Present” was coordinated by Imam Maturidi International Scientific-Research Centre of the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan (Tashkent) on 16 July 2021. IRCICA was one of the academic partners of the symposium.

Papers with a large variety of focuses highlighted the thought and teachings of Abu Mansur al-Maturidi and their importance as guidelines for treatment of present-day issues. More than 100 lectures/papers were contributed to the symposium by researchers from: Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Jordan, France, Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Russian Federation, Turkey, and Uzbekistan itself.

The symposium was moderated by Dr. Davronbek Makhsudov, Director of the Imam Maturidi International Scientific-Research Center. The Director thanked the institutions having cooperated with the Center and the Academy towards the symposium namely the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan (Tashkent), Imam Bukhari International Scientific-Research Center (Samarkand, Uzbekistan), Imam Termizi International Scientific-Research Center (Termiz, Uzbekistan), IRCICA, Al-Azhar University



(Cairo, Egypt), Selçuk University (Konya, Turkey), ICESCO (Rabat, Morocco) and the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (IKIM).

The Rector of the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan, Associate Professor Muzaffar Kamilov opened the symposium with an introductory address underlining the historical and present-time significance of the Maturidiyya teaching and highlighting the purview of the symposium.

Congratulation speeches were delivered at the opening session. Ambassador Dr. Shoazim Minovarov, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Director of the

Center for Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan, pointed out that both religious sciences and physical sciences are given priority within the framework of development policies in Uzbekistan. In the context of the former, preservation and diffusion of Imam Maturidi's theological heritage and his teachings relating to reason and moderation have an important place.

Hazrat Homidjon Ishmatbekov, Vice-Chairman of the Muslim Board of Uzbekistan, spoke of developments in theological studies and teaching in Uzbekistan and pointed to the roles of scholarly centers such as Imam Maturidi Center in highlighting the heritage of great theologians.

Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA, gave a congratulation address, underlining the importance of disseminating a true understanding of the teachings of Imam Maturidi and affirming that in this respect, the activities of Imam Maturidi Center under the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan were followed with interest by its counterpart institutions and the circles concerned around the world. Alluding to the cooperation established between Imam Maturidi Center and IRCICA, Prof. Dr. Kılıç outlined the main traits of IRCICA's research projects relating to the works of prominent philosophers and scientists of the Islamic world. In the light of IRCICA's experiences and his own academic work in this field, Prof. Kılıç pointed to the need of promoting the specialized studies and analytical editions of works, expanding the educational programs on the great philosophers and their disciples and followers. Prof. Kılıç said that Imam Maturidi Center is contributing remarkably towards these aims with its various projects and the Journal *Moturidiylik – The Maturidiyya*.

Congratulation addresses were also delivered by Dr. Mohd. Zeydi bin Ismail, Deputy Director General of the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia (IKIM); Dr. Salim AlMalik, Director General of the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO); and, Prof. Dr. Metin Aksoy, Rector of Selçuk University. The opening session ended with presentations on the activities, research projects and series of publications of Imam Maturidi Center.

The working sessions of the symposium were conducted in three parallel sessions which continued all day. Papers/lectures were delivered by rectors, vice-

rectors and faculty members from universities and experts from research centers. Specialized studies were presented on diverse aspects of the main theme, including: the characteristics and significance of Imam Maturidi's works and the Maturidiyya; its definitions of the main concepts – such as knowledge, reason, religion, free will, virtue and sin; answers to today's questions found in the Maturidiyya teachings; the state of studies and research on Imam Maturidi and his followers in different regions of the world; sources of information available for these studies, among others. The presentations were grouped under the following session themes:

- Imam Maturidi and the Maturidiyya teaching: the role of Maturidi scholars in the development of the doctrine
- Moderation, according to the Maturidiyya doctrine

- Research in Islamic studies, and studies on the Maturidiyya.

Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA, coordinated IRCICA's participation in the symposium as co-organizer and also presented a paper titled "Contribution of biographical data to social and cultural history: Epitaphs from Abu Mansur Maturidi's cemetery" under the second theme above.

Imam Maturidi International Scientific Research Centre was established under the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan in 2020. Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA, is a member of the Editorial Board of the Center's academic journal *Moturidiylik – The Maturidiyya*. The Center is one of the scholarly institutions with which IRCICA cooperates through joint projects such as conferences and joint publications. 🌱



International Online Conference on “The Contribution of Termez Scholars to the Development of Islamic and World Civilization”

23 June 2021

Papers Imam Termizi International Scientific-Research Center, Termez, Uzbekistan, has organized an international online scientific symposium themed “The Contribution of Termez Scholars to the Development of Islamic and World Civilization” on 23 June 2021. Scholars and specialists from universities and research centers in Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Iraq, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey, U.K., U.S.A. and Uzbekistan participated in the conference. The addresses delivered at the opening session and the papers presented during the working sessions alluded to the intellectual climate and trends of scholarship that prevailed in Termez and its region during the early centuries of Islam in Central Asia. The numerous works written by Termizi scholars in the fields of Islamic exegesis, sciences of the Hadith – traditions of Prophet Muhammadsaw, and Sufism were highlighted; developments in research, teaching and publications about these works were evaluated.

Dr. Shukurillo Umarov, Director of Imam Termizi Center and moderator of the conference, welcomed the attendees on behalf of his Center and the people of Surkhandarya region. He invited the Governor of Surkhandarya region Tura Bobolov to address the meeting.

Surkhandarya Governor Mr. Tura Bobolov commended the conference and the joining of a



large number of specialists from various countries in an endeavor to study the legacy of the great Islamic scholars and transfer the resulting knowledge to younger generations of researchers. The Governor underlined the importance of the task of Imam Termizi Center, which was established by Decree of the President of Uzbekistan H.E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed on 14 February 2017, in highlighting the legacy of the great scholar Abu Isa al-Termizi (Imam Termizi). Governor Bobolov said the works of Imam Termizi and the other scholars of the region are known and studied in all countries of the world.

Ambassador Dr. Shoazim Minovarov, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Director of the Center for Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan, said that in

conformity with the very first word of Allah Almighty^ﷻ in the Holy Quran: “Iqra’!”, the Islamic sciences had progressed through successions of scholars in Termez and elsewhere. The Golden Age of Islam contributed greatly to world civilization through the works of scholars who emanated from Termez and other regions. Minovarov said that the legacy of Termizi scholars is part of the heritage of the peoples of Mavaraunnahr and also the entire world: peoples can come together through the bonds inspired by this heritage.

IRCICA Director General, Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, delivered an address at the opening session, pointing out that the Islamic scholarship of Termez constitutes an important asset within the Islamic scientific and spiritual heritage and therefore also in the

context of world civilization. The Director General underlined the importance of the role of Imam Termizi Center in highlighting this heritage. Ambassador Kılıç stated that Termez has been a cradle of intellectual and spiritual advancements starting from the early history of Islam in Central Asia; it gave birth to prominent scholars who worked in all Islamic sciences, especially Quranic exegesis and jurisprudence, collection and scientific study of Hadiths, theory and practical application of Sufism. Some prominent Sufi teachers influential all over the Islamic world are associated with Termez and all sciences progressed in Termez in close contact with other main centers of learning and science in the Islamic world. In this regard, Prof. Kılıç cited some of the illustrious Termizi scholars and their works that were studied, quoted and commented upon by eminent scholars of later times. The Director General also outlined IRCICA's activities relating to the works of the prominent Islamic scholars in the context of its mandate as the OIC's research centre working on the history and heritage of Islamic civilization.

In his speech at the opening session, Mufti Usman Khan Alimov, Chairman of the Muslim Board of Uzbekistan, drew the framework and explained the importance of promoting the study of the great ulama's works from theoretical and practical perspectives in the context of Islamic civilization and other civilizations.

The activities of Imam Termizi Center were introduced with a video presentation.

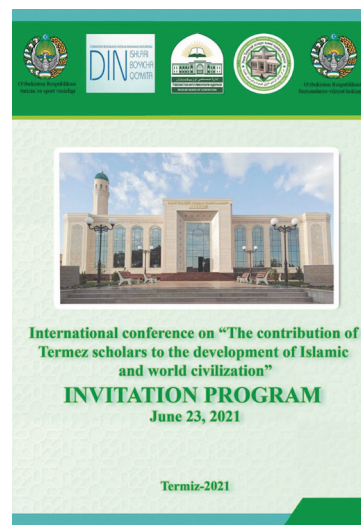
The conference's working sessions heard lectures and papers focusing on different aspects of the works of Termizi scholars, illustrating the areas and features of their contributions in their respective fields of reference.

In his lecture, the Vice-Rector of the International Islamic

Academy of Uzbekistan Prof. Dr. Zokhidjon Islamov expressed his appreciation of the academic interest shown to the heritage of Termizi scholars from all over the world. Prof. Islamov pointed to the inexhaustibility of this heritage, which would still have much knowledge to reveal even if it were studied for a thousand years. Prof. Islamov spoke of the considerable volume of the written heritage of Uzbekistan which is located abroad, in collections of manuscripts in various countries; this cultural heritage located abroad is being assessed and studied within the framework of academic projects supported by state policies.

Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and publications, IRCICA, gave a lecture on the Hanafi scholars in Termez. Prof. Dr. Sönmez Kutlu from the Faculty of Theology of Ankara University, Turkey, spoke of the history of Islamic schools of thought in the Termez region, and gave examples of the Hanafi outlook's facilitating the geographical expansion of Islam. Prof. Dr. Necdet Tosun from the Faculty of Theology of Marmara University, Turkey, introduced, in his lecture, the works of the great scholar of Hadith, jurisprudence and Sufi thought al-Hakim al-Termizi which were translated and published in the Turkish language and two recent PhD dissertations on the subject. Prof. Dr. Veysel Özdemir from the Faculty of Theology of İnönü University, Turkey, gave a lecture focusing on the outstanding contributions of Imam Termizi on the science of ilm al-hadith, a subject area of great subtlety where specialists are few. Lectures with a large variety of focuses were given by: Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Usmanov, Vice-Rector of the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan; Dr. Roiq Bakhodirov, Director of the Center for Research on Uzbekistan's Cultural Wealth Located Overseas Under the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of

Uzbekistan; Prof. Dr. Enbiya Yıldırım, Faculty of Theology, Ankara University, Turkey; Dr. Muhammad Hashim, Chief Justice of Takhar Province, Afghanistan; Dr. Shovosil Ziyadov, Director of Imam Bukhari International Scientific-Research Center, Uzbekistan; Prof. Dr. İbrahim Işıtan, Faculty of Theology, Selçuk University, Turkey; Prof. Dr. Ramil Adıgamov, Kazan Islamic University, Russia; Prof. Dr. Abuzar Khairi, International Academy of Islamic Studies, India; Prof. Dr. Otabek Shukurov, Director of the Moturidi Institute, U.K.; Prof. Dr. Hamid Algar, Faculty of Near Eastern Studies, University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.; Dr. Uygun Gafurov, Rector of Tashkent Islamic Institute, Uzbekistan; Dr. Olimkhan Yusupov, Director, School of Hadith, Uzbekistan; Dr. Mahmud Abdurrahman, School of Hadith, Uzbekistan; Dr. Ahmad Damankhuri, Imam Maturidi International Scientific-Research Center, Uzbekistan; Dr. Haydarkhan Yuldashkhojaev, Director of Mir Arab High School, Uzbekistan; Prof. Dr. Muhammad Fawzi Kubaysi, Iraq State University, Iraq; Dr. Ayşe Esra Şahyar, Faculty of Theology, Marmara University, Turkey; and Dr. Jaloliddin Mirzaev, Researcher, Imam Termizi International Scientific-Research Center, Uzbekistan. 



The banner features a row of logos from various international institutions at the top, including the Imam Bukhari International Scientific-Research Center, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan, IRCICA, ICESCO, and several universities and research centers from Turkey, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. The central text is in both English and Uzbek, with a decorative illustration of a mosque dome on the right. The date and location are listed at the bottom.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

«SAHIHUL BUXORIY» ASARINING
JAHON KUTUBXONALARIDA SAQLANAYOTGAN QADIMIY
VA NODIR QO'LYOZMA NUSXALARI

مخطوطات «صحيح البخاري» القديمة والنادرة
في مكتبات العالم

ANCIENT AND RARE MANUSCRIPTS OF THE «SAHIH AL-BUKHARI»
IN WORLD LIBRARIES

July 15, 2021 – Samarkand / Uzbekistan

International Online Conference on “Ancient and Rare Manuscripts of the Sahih al-Bukhari in World Libraries”

15 July 2021

Imam Bukhari International Scientific-Research Center, Samarkand, Uzbekistan, conducted an International Online Conference on the theme of “Ancient and Rare Manuscripts of the *Sahih al-Bukhari* in World Libraries” on 15 July 2021. The conference was organized in collaboration with various international research centers, including IRCICA (Istanbul), ICESCO (Rabat), al-Azhar Research Center (Cairo), and the Institute of Islamic Thought (Ankara).

The Director of Imam Bukhari International Scientific-Research Centre Dr. Shovosil Ziyodov welcomed the institutions,

universities, scholars and specialists participating in this conference dedicated to laying foundations for further development of studies on the heritage of Imam Bukhari. He evoked the historical achievements of Mawaraunnahr region in both Islamic sciences and natural sciences. In the context of the former, he said, four of the six main books containing the hadith of the Prophet Muhammad were compiled in this region. One of them, *al-Jami' as-Sahih*, or *Sahih al-Bukhari*, was written by Imam Bukhari, who collected more than 600 thousand hadith from thousands of transmitters. Dr.

Ziyodov stressed that teaching the religious sciences in accordance with the “truth of truth” represented by the Hadith of the Prophet Muhammad is the task of today, and *Sahih al-Bukhari* is a precious source in this direction.

In his address, Ambassador Dr. Shoazim Minovarov, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Director of the Center for Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan, recalled the problems created by the pandemic throughout the world; in this environment, he said, the true ideas of the Islamic faith must be protected from deviant religious currents and from becoming

the weapon of politics. This conference will contribute in this direction, by allowing the transmission of the true teachings of Islam to future generations.

Mr. Aziz Abdulkhakimov, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Tourism and Sports of the Republic of Uzbekistan, expressed his pleasure that the conference was attended by scholars and specialists from various countries and international organizations. He said that the conference was being held in pursuance of the Decree of the President of Uzbekistan H.E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, aimed at promoting the spheres of tourism and culture in Uzbekistan and highlighting in this context, the country's great thinkers and scientists. The Deputy Prime Minister said that *Sahih al-Bukhari* is a source that illuminates the hearts of millions of peoples, and it is important to take a fresh look at the moral teachings conveyed by Imam Bukhari on ethics, compassion, love for the motherland, and other issues. This is one of the aspects of Uzbekistan that attract cultural tourism, together with around 800 Islamic shrines and other cultural assets.

Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA, gave a congratulatory address, evoking the conducive intellectual milieu and interactions of scientists and scholars in Mawaraunnahr region starting from the early centuries of Islam which gave birth to illustrious figures whose works have been germinal. One of the key representatives of this process is the great scholar Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, who is well-known and profoundly esteemed for his lifelong scholarship devoted to the compilation and study of the Hadiths of the Prophet Muhammad and his monumental work *Sahih al-Bukhari*. Prof. Dr. Kılıç said that numerous

copies and commentaries of this work were produced by scholars over the centuries and that it continues to be the subject of academic studies in various languages in universities and research institutes around the world.

Vice-Mufti Homidjon Ishmatbekov representing the Muslims Administration in Uzbekistan gave an address in which he underlined the significance of the conference in reflecting the importance accorded by Uzbekistan to the heritage of Imam Bukhari. At the same time, he said, the conference was a great opportunity for specialists from Uzbekistan and other countries to share their knowledge and studies about the heritage of Imam Bukhari.

Addresses were delivered at the opening session by: Prof. Dr. Mehmet Görmez, President of the Institute of Islamic Thought; Dr. Nazir Muhammad Ayad, Secretary- General of Al-Azhar Islamic Research Center, and Dr. Mohamed Zeinelabdin from ICESCO. At the end of the opening session, a documentary film was displayed, containing comprehensive information on early and rare copies of the book *Sahih al-Bukhari* located in collections around the world.

The working sessions of the conference were conducted in three parallel sessions. 58 lectures were delivered by participants from Egypt, Germany, Iraq, Malaysia, Morocco, Turkey, U.K. and Uzbekistan. Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA, moderated the session on "The Contribution of the Scholars of Mawaraunnahr to the Development of Islamic Civilization". The titles of the other sessions were: "Ancient and Rare Manuscripts of the '*Sahih al-Bukhari*' in World Libraries"; and, "Scientific Heritage of Imam Bukhari and the Present".

In his final statement delivered at the plenary closing session, Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov stressed the role of this conference in furthering research and education on the heritage of Imam Bukhari and disseminating the scientific results of the studies in public opinion as well as academic circles. He said that the conference had raised the awareness of researchers about the ancient and rare copies of *Sahih al-Bukhari* and the studies carried out on these copies; in this context, the experience of Uzbekistan in the study of ancient manuscripts has been uncovered. Alluding to the participation of specialists from various countries, Prof. Muminov said that other results of the conference included: its reaffirming the importance of establishing and organizing multilateral international cooperation for the study and promotion of Islamic cultural heritage; its underlining the need to further enhance research, translation and education activities about the major works that form this heritage, and its participants' unanimously acknowledging Imam Bukhari Center as a platform to establish a systematic dialogue and exchange of information regarding studies on the heritage of Imam Bukhari.

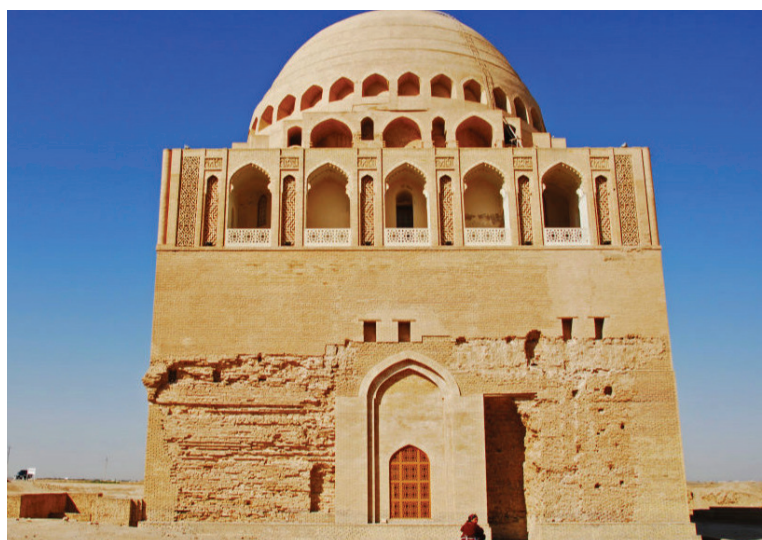


International Meeting on “Historical Image of Sultan Sanjar, Principles of Peacefulness and Friendliness Inherent to the Mentality of Turkmen People”

Ashgabat, 14 May 2021

An international meeting on the “Historical Image of Sultan Sanjar, Principles of Peacefulness and Friendliness Inherent to the Mentality of Turkmen People” was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, and the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan in hybrid format at the headquarters of the Turkmen State Institute of Culture, Ashgabat, on 14 May 2021. Specialists from a dozen countries participated in the meeting, including Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Georgia, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, U.A.E., U.K., and U.S.A. including representatives of universities, research centers and museums (<https://www.mfa.gov.tm/en/news/2609>).

The introductory presentations, by the Director of the Institute of Language, Literature and National Manuscripts named after Makhtumkuli of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan, Dr. Davud Orasakhedov and the Rector of the Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Djumamurad Gurbangeldiev, underscored the main traits of the foreign policy of the Great Seljuk Empire (11th-



12th centuries) and in particular, Sultan Sanjar (r. 1097-1118). These traits include peace, justice, neutrality and diplomacy through treaties. Some of the papers presented during the working sessions underlined the role of the Seljuk Empire in world history through its influences in political, economic and cultural life. It was noted that the state built by Seljuk Turks is still the important page of the world history and remains in the spotlight of the scientists, historians and politicians. Prosperity achieved during Sultan Sanjar's period through trade and manufacturing coupled with subtle diplomacy made of the country an active

center of the Great Silk road. Other papers covered the specifics of cultural life in Central Asia during the time of Sultan Sanjar and the Seljuk rulers' contribution to world culture. Still other papers consisted of studies on the works dedicated to Sultan Sanjar in medieval literature and art and mentions of him in works authored at different times and places.

IRCICA was represented at the meeting by Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and Publications, with a paper titled "Features of Cultural Life during Sultan Sanjar's Reign".

Forthcoming

International Symposium on Religious Literature and Heritage: “The Role of Cultural and Literary Heritage in Facing Global Challenges”

to be coordinated jointly with the Center for Research and Development of Religious Literature and Heritage, Agency for Research, Development, and Training, Ministry of Religious Affairs, Republic of Indonesia and Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University, Malang, Indonesia

30 November-2 December 2021

This symposium, to be coordinated jointly by IRCICA, the Center for Research and Development of Religious Literature and Heritage, Agency for Research, Development, and Training, Ministry of Religious Affairs, Republic of Indonesia and Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University in Malang, Indonesia, draws its concept from the following backgrounds: “The present age of global interdependencies has multiplied the challenges of multicultural coexistence while creating opportunities of cooperation in facing common problems. The current pandemic has erupted at a time when the world was already confronted with economic crises, international conflicts and intercultural divides. As in the case of major earlier epidemics in human history, the pandemic has already created sensible changes in the lives and functioning of societies, institutions and individuals. Differently from earlier cases, however, availability of instant communications by virtual means made it possible for peoples to share information and remain abreast of developments on global scale. In this environment, the

pandemic has raised humanity’s awareness of its common destiny and potential benefits of solidarity. Strengthening the spirit of coexistence in jointly meeting common challenges now appears as a timely and conducive endeavor for the present and the future, a task to which all conscientious parties can contribute in their respective capacities.”

The International Symposium on Religious Literature and Heritage to be held on 30 November-2 December 2021 will be the third edition in the series titled “Religious Literature and Heritage - ISLAGE III” for the Indonesian side. It will have as its main theme: “The Role of Cultural and Literary Heritage in Facing Global Challenges”. The symposium will take place in online and offline format. Its sub-themes will be:

- * Religious Literature and Oral Traditions across the Muslim World: Research and Teaching
- * Epidemics and Disasters in Islamic History: Experiences, Studies, and Lessons Learned
- * Management and Preservation of Cultural Heritage in Post-Disaster Recovery Processes across the Muslim World



- * Traditional Medication and Popular Wisdom in Facing Global Challenges
- * The Role of Cultural and Religious Heritage in Enhancing Inter-Faith Harmony
- * Religious Literary Heritage: Preservation, Promotion and Digitization
- * Religious Literature and the Challenges of Radicalism

The symposium’s calendar and application procedures have been announced by the co-organizers in their respective websites and publications.📄

The Twelfth International Calligraphy Competition in the name of Mustafa Râkım Efendi (1758-1826) in progress

IRCICA launched its Twelfth International Calligraphy Competition in June 2021. The competition will be finalized in mid-2022.

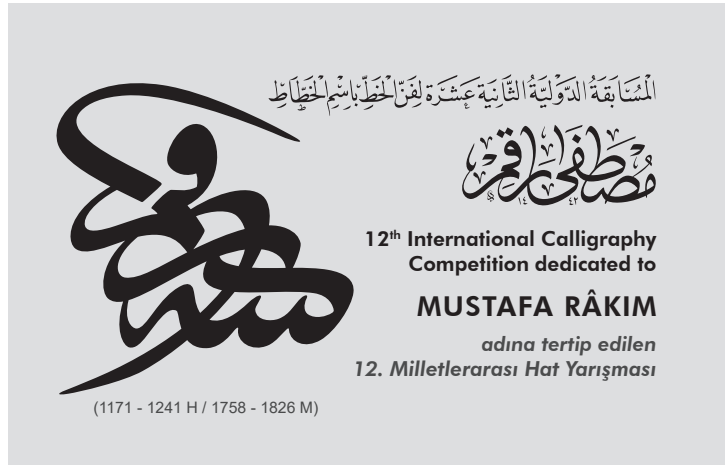
The purpose of the calligraphy competition is to acknowledge and encourage the artists, introduce this art to wider audiences, and support its continuous development.

IRCICA's calligraphy competition is held every three years. As a tradition, each round is dedicated to one of the master calligraphers who contributed to the development of this art over the past centuries, to commemorate them and encourage calligraphers to follow their examples. Thus, the Twelfth Competition is dedicated to Calligrapher Mustafa Râkım Efendi (1758-1826) who lived in Istanbul and brought innovations as to script style and composition, particularly in the jaly thuluth script.

The previous eleven rounds of the competition drew growing numbers of participants from various countries over the years and facilitated consultations and cooperation among them. The catalogues of their award-winning works published by IRCICA were valuable additions to existing publications about the art of calligraphy. Similar outcomes are expected from the present competition.

The Eleventh Competition was conducted during 2018-19. 613 participants from 38 countries submitted a total of 835 works to the competition. 52 calligraphers from 11 countries won awards for 66 works, 36 of them within the first three prizes and the rest as mentions.

The Twelfth Competition is conducted in the following categories of calligraphic styles: Jaly Thuluth; Thuluth; Naskh; Muhaqqaq; Thuluth-Naskh; Jaly Taliq; Taliq; Jaly Diwani; Diwani; Kufi.



The texts to be written for submissions in each style category are accessible at IRCICA website together with the regulations, modalities and evaluation criteria of the competition.

The competition jury is composed of: Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç, IRCICA Director General and Chairman of the Organizing Committee; Prof. Dr. Abdulridha Baheya Dawood, master calligrapher, Iraq; Mr. Belaid Hamidi, master calligrapher, Morocco; Mr. Davut Bektaş, master calligrapher, Turkey; Mr. Fuat Başar, master calligrapher, Turkey; Mr. Jalil Rasouli, master calligrapher, Iran; Mr. Mehmed Özçay, master calligrapher, Turkey; Mr. Mosaad Mostafa M. Khodeir, master calligrapher, Egypt; Mr. Ubayda Albanki, master calligrapher, Syria. Its honorary members are: Mr. Ahmed Ziya İbrahim, master calligrapher, Saudi Arabia; Mr. Hasan Çelebi, master calligrapher, Turkey; Dr. Mohammed Cherifi, master calligrapher, Algeria; Prof. Dr. Muhittin Serin, master calligrapher, Turkey; Prof. M. Uğur Derman, calligraphy specialist, Turkey.

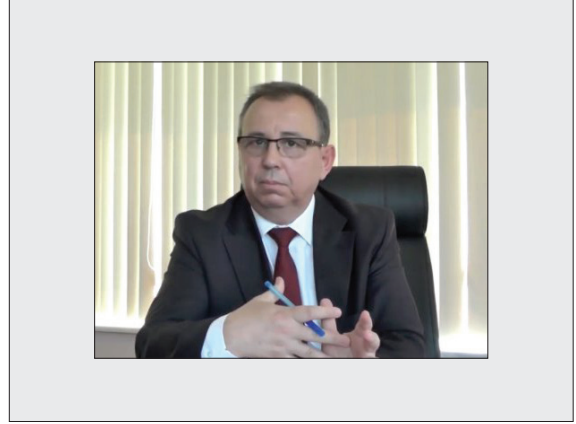
According to the competition calendar, applications are currently being received for registrations, to be completed by 31 December 2021. The deadline for submission of the entries is 20 March 2022. The jury meeting and announcement of the competition results are scheduled for May 2022. 📌

MEETINGS, VISITS, COOPERATION

● Dr. Şekib Avdagiç, Chairman of Istanbul Chamber of Commerce was received by Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç at IRCICA on 18 August 2021. Dr. Avdagiç was accompanied by the Secretary General of the Chamber Mr. Nihat Alayoğlu and member of the Administrative Board Mr. Münir Üstün.



● Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu, President of Trakya University, Edirne, Turkey, made a visit of congratulations to the Director General of IRCICA Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç on 9 August 2021. The meeting occasioned exchanges of views on academic activities of common concern.



● IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç received the mayor of Eyüpsultan, Istanbul, Mr. Deniz Köken and members of his municipality on 24 June 2021



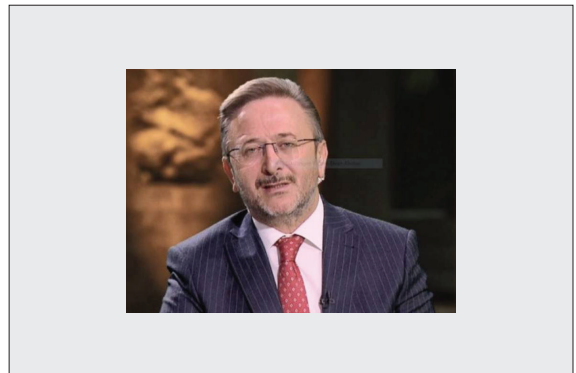
● Prof. Dr. Shodmon Huseinzoda Vokhidov, Vice-Rector of Penjikent Pedagogical Institute, Penjikent, Republic of Tajikistan, was received by IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç on 23 June 2021. A graduate of Tajik State University (Dushanbe) Faculty of History, Prof. Vokhidov has around 30 books and more than 100 articles published on history and culture of the peoples of Central Asia. His studies focus on the works of representatives of the schools of historiography in the Kokand and Khiva khanates and the Bukhara Emirate.



● AK Party Vice Chairman, Deputy of Istanbul Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş and Mrs. Kurtulmuş paid a visit of congratulations to IRCICA Director General Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç on 16 June 2021.



● Mr. Coşkun Yılmaz, Provincial Director of Culture and Tourism of Istanbul, was received by IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol Kılıç on 30 June 2021 for a visit of congratulations on the Director General's taking office.

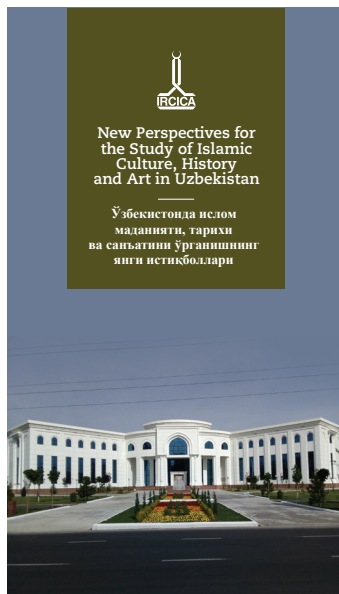


**Proceedings of
the International
Conference Dedicated
to the Memory
of Academician
Ubaydulla Karimov:
New Perspectives for
the Study of Islamic
Culture, History and
Art in Uzbekistan
May 2021: Tashkent**

**“Ўзбекистонда ислом
маданияти, тарихи ва
санъатини ўрганишнинг
янги истиқболлари”
мавзуидаги
академик Убайдулла
Каримов хотирасига
бағишланган 2021
йил май ойида
Тошкентда бўлиб ўтган
халқаро конференция
мақолалари тўплами**

EDITED BY: PROF. MAHMUD
EROL KILIÇ, PROF. BAKHROM
ABDUKHALIMOV; PREPARED FOR
PUBLICATION BY: PROF. SURAYYO
KARIMOVA, KHILOLA NAZIROVA,
PROF. ASHIRBEK MUMINOV, FATMA
YEKTA INCI ZULFIKAR, IRCICA,
2021, 774 P.: COL. ILL.; 24 CM.
ISBN 978-92-9063-064-7

This book contains the proceedings of the international conference on “New Perspectives for the Study of Islamic Culture, History and Art in Uzbekistan” dedicated to the memory of Academician Ubaydulla Karimov which was organized by IRCICA and Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of



Uzbekistan (Tashkent) online and offline, on 28 May 2021.

The book, under print as the present Newsletter goes to press, includes a total of 84 articles in the Uzbek, Russian and Turkish languages, each accompanied by its abstract in English.

Academician Ubaydulla Karimov (1920-1997), to whom the conference was dedicated, is introduced at the beginning of the book by Surayyo Ubaydullaevna Karimova with a comprehensive article. Both a chemist and an orientalist, through his research work Karimov presented scholarly evidence to some important aspects of the contributions of Central Asia to world science and civilization.

The first chapter, on “History and Source Studies” contains forty articles addressing a variety of themes, from science and medicine

to economy and waqfs, from influential persons and institutions to international relations, from the discovery of previously unknown works to emerging topics and new methods in Islamic studies.

The twenty-nine articles presented in the second chapter are devoted to “Islamic Studies”. They result from recent research on specialized topics in the history of Quranic sciences, philosophy, natural sciences, architecture and archeology, and the heritage of medieval scientists and scholars. The third chapter contains fifteen articles in “Philology” contributed by specialists and researchers interested in the linguistic and literary processes in Central Asia.

Considering their number and remarkable diversity, this collection of articles constitutes a representative sample of current academic research activity in Uzbekistan in the fields of the humanities and social sciences relating to the history and culture of the Islamic world.🌍



IRCICA Calligraphy Competitions: Award-Winning Works, 1986-2016

PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION BY SAID KASIMOĞLU AND NURCAN TOPRAK, IRCICA 2021, XXXIX, 567 P.: COL. ILL.; 33 CM. ALBUM; TEXT IN TURKISH, ENGLISH, FRENCH, ARABIC.

ISBN 978-92-9063-370-9

This album, put to print as the present Newsletter goes to press, contains reproductions of the prize-winning works of the first ten calligraphy competitions organized by IRCICA from 1986 to 2016. The calligraphy competition is conducted by IRCICA every three years. The eleventh competition was finalized in 2019. The twelfth competition, launched in June 2021, will be finalized mid-2022.

Over the first thirty years of the competition program, a total of 511 calligraphers from 46 countries were presented 1029 awards, consisting of 80 first prizes, 74 second prizes, 81 third prizes, 439 mentions and 355 incentive awards. These results are reflected in this publication. Each round of the competition was conducted in thirteen or fourteen categories of writing styles, chosen for their relatively widespread usage around the world. The main categories are: *thuluth*, *jaly thuluth*, *naskh*, *diwani*, *jaly diwani*, *ta'liq (nasta'liq)*, *jaly ta'liq*, *kuŞc*, *riq'a*, *maghribi*, *muhaqqaq*, *ijazah*, *khurde ta'liq*, and *rayhani*. The competition Jury, chaired by the Director General of IRCICA, is composed of seven to ten eminent masters of this art invited from



various countries. The evaluation process is made in accordance with the regulations announced at the launch of each round. The Jury decides mainly on the basis of the following criteria: conformity with the traditionally agreed general rules and principles of calligraphy, creativity in composition, and observance of the conditions of the competition. For each category of script, the Jury works by discarding entries until there remains the best ones corresponding to the number of prizes allocated. First, second and third prizes, mentions and incentive prizes are distributed in each category.

Another feature of the calligraphy competition is that each round is named after an acknowledged master or patron of calligraphy art. The aim is to encourage calligraphers to follow the example of those masters and

to commemorate the latter's contributions to this art. The eleventh competition, not covered in this book, was dedicated to calligrapher Mehmed Shawki Efendi (1829-1887). The ongoing, twelfth competition is dedicated to Mustafa Rakım Efendi (1758-1826). The titles of the first ten competitions covered in this book are as follows, with brief information about each one:

- The First International Calligraphy Competition, in the name of Hamid al-Amidi (Aytaç, 1891-1982), 1986
1272 works were submitted to this competition by 356 participants from 18 countries. 62 works by 43 participants from 17 countries won awards in different categories of writing styles.



- The Second International Calligraphy Competition, in the name of Yaqut al-Musta'simi (? -1298), 1989

450 participants from 30 countries submitted a total of 1732 works. 50 works by 31 participants from 11 countries received awards. Incentive prizes, consisting of a copy of IRCICA's publication The Art of Calligraphy in Islamic Heritage, were distributed to 13 calligraphers from 10 countries, where the art of calligraphy was newly flourishing.

- The Third International Calligraphy Competition, in the name of Ibn al-Bawwab (? -1022), 1993

The competition was dedicated to Ibn al-Bawwab on the 1000th (Hijri) year of his death. 1106 works were submitted by 480 participants from 35 countries. 124 works by 96 participants from 27 countries received awards.

- The Fourth International Calligraphy Competition, in the name of Sheikh Hamdullah (1429-1520), 1998

1841 works were submitted by 839 participants from 35 countries. 93 works won awards in the different categories of the competition. 46 others were given incentive prizes. Thus 139 works by 110 participants from 31 countries were acknowledged.

- The Fifth International Calligraphy Competition, in the name of Sayyid Ibrahim (1897-1994), 2001

1892 works were submitted to this competition by 909 participants from 40 countries. 132 works by 116 participants from 33 countries won awards. Simultaneously with this competition, an Award for Distinction in Calligraphy was also distributed, to mark IRCICA's 20th anniversary commemorated in 2000; 3 mentions were distributed to

calligraphers from different countries.

- The Sixth International Calligraphy Competition, in the name of Mir Imad al-Haseni (1554-1615), 2004

1000 participants from 40 countries submitted a total of 1825 works to this competition. 109 works by 94 participants from 30 countries won awards, 33 of them incentive prizes.

- The Seventh International Calligraphy Competition, in the name of Hashim Muhammad al-Baghdadi (1917-1973), 2007

Works received for this competition numbered 1623 in total, by 916 participants from 38 countries. Awards were distributed to 146 works by 117 participants from 27 countries including 42 incentive prizes.

- The Eighth International Calligraphy Competition, in the name of Muhammad Badawi al-Dirani (1894-1967), 2010



IRCICA's contribution to this development. In time, the professional and educational diversity of the participants has increased; the quality of works submitted to the competition has improved. Furthermore, exhibitions, award ceremonies, publication of catalogues of winners' works and other events relating to the competition helped to boost communications between artists across continents. The works submitted to the competitions are catalogued and preserved at IRCICA. Artworks from this collection are presented to public at exhibitions held in different countries.👁️

This competition was organized by IRCICA and sponsored by the Abu Dhabi Culture and Heritage Authority; its results were announced with press conferences in Abu Dhabi and Istanbul on 15 April 2010. The competition received 969 works by 683 participants from 31 countries. 68 works by 63 participants from 14 countries were rewarded, 8 of them with incentive prizes.

- The Ninth International Calligraphy Competition, held in 2013, was dedicated to Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu (1943-), former Secretary General of the OIC (2005-2014) and former Director General of IRCICA (1980-2004), in recognition of his contributions to this art through many projects he instituted, among them IRCICA's calligraphy competitions. 900 works were submitted to the competition by 672 participants from 45 countries. 77 works by 73 participants from 20 countries

won awards.

- The Tenth International Calligraphy Competition, dedicated to Hafiz Osman (1642-1698), 2016
688 participants from 36 countries submitted 973 works. Out of this total, 122 works by 113 participants from 17 countries won awards.

The present album contains the reproductions of 235 works by 143 calligraphers which won one of the first three prizes in the first ten competitions. These works were decorated before publication under IRCICA's coordination by 121 illuminators, 5 paper cutters and 1 paper marbler. Reproductions of the works which won mentions are also included.

Observations on the participants' profiles and quality of works submitted at each round have allowed us to evaluate the development of this art over a period of thirty years alongside





البلاد العربية في القرنين العاشر والعاشر الميلاديين

The Muslims of Andalusia and the Government of Fez in the 10th Century H/16th Century AD

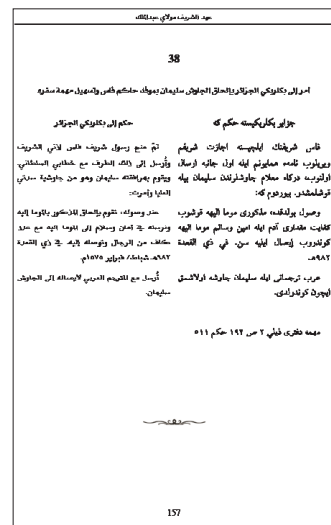
COMPILATION, TRANSLATION AND STUDY BY FAZIL BAYAT, ISTANBUL, 2020 (IN ARABIC)

This volume is seventh in the Series *History of Arab Countries Through Ottoman Archive Documents*. It is arranged in two parts: the first part focuses on documents the Muslims of Andalusia and the Ottoman State, and the second one, on documents relating to the Government of Fez in the 16th century. With this geographical focus, the volume expands the coverage of the entire series westward. The first three volumes, which were published in 2010, 2011 and 2014 respectively, comprise documents from the periods of the Ottoman sultans Selim I (1512-1520) and Suleyman the Lawgiver (1520-1566) on matters concerning the Arab lands. The fourth volume, published in

2015, is related to the Haramayn (Makkah al-Mukaramah and Madina al-Munawara) in the period of Sultan Selim II (1566-1574). Volumes V and VI published in 2017 are related to the Iraqi provinces of the Ottoman Empire during the reign of Sultan Selim II. Each volume contains the reproductions of selected archival documents in Ottoman, together with their translations and study in Arabic. The main purpose is to render these authentic sources accessible to historians and researchers whose working language is Arabic.

In its first part, *The Muslims of Andalusia and the Government of Fez in the 10th Century H/16th Century AD* has three chapters; namely “The period of Sharif Muhammed al-Sheikh and Sharif Abdullah Al-Ghalib”; “The period of Sharif Abdul-Malik” and “The Era of Sharif Ahmed Al Mansour”. The documents show the importance given by the Ottoman State to the Muslims of Andalusia following the fall of Granada, the circumstances that impeded its helping them to survive in their land, and the assistance that it was nevertheless able to extend to them in one way or another, particularly in the transfer of groups of peoples from the Spanish coasts to various parts of the Ottoman territory. According to the author of the book, if the Ottomans had obtained access to Andalusia before the fall of Granada, the course of history would have changed and the Muslims of Andalusia would have survived with their Arab cultural identity. The second part of the book touches upon the relationship between Fez and the Ottoman State, especially in the Saadi

Era. This section throw light on aspects of this relationship that are generally unknown to researchers who have not deciphered these documents in particular.



Research on History, Arts and Culture in Tajikistan.

Изучение истории, искусства и культуры в Таджикистане.

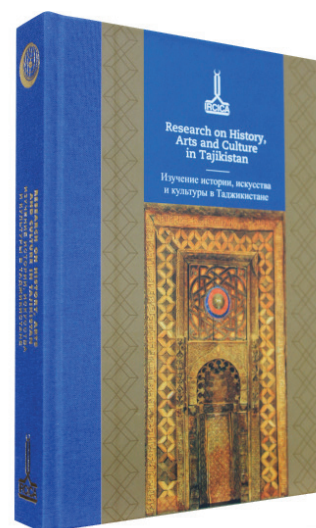
Proceedings of the International Round Table “Status of Contemporary Research on History, Arts and Culture in Tajikistan,” September 2019, Dushanbe

PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION BY: LOLA DODKHUOEVA, ASHIRBEK MUMINOV. IRCICA, ISTANBUL, 2020. SOURCES AND STUDIES ON THE HISTORY OF ISLAMIC CIVILISATION SERIES; NO. 49. XXIV+480 P., ILLUSTRATED (ARTICLES IN ENGLISH, TAJIK AND RUSSIAN)

A variety of specific topics relating to scholarly research on history, art and culture come under focus in this book through the lenses of leading specialists. This is the collection of the papers presented during the International Round Table conducted by IRCICA and the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan through its Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnography, in Dushanbe, in September 2019. The round table was designed to encompass practical, methodological and other operational aspects of research with respect to multifarious topics involved in history, art and culture. In consequence, a large gamut of observations came out at the crossings of the procedures with their subject matters. The resulting specialized studies are grouped in the book under the area headings of: archeology, architecture, history of art, numismatics, studies on manuscripts and Arabic documents and epigraphy. As a scholarly exercise with both theoretical and

practical relevance for further development of research, the round table has also been a model conference that could be effectively applied in other thematic and geographical contexts as well.

The list of titles of the articles will suffice to show the variety of topics: “On Unique Monuments of the Islamic Culture of North Tajikistan” by Galina Tahimovna Karimova; “Hulbuk – the Capital of Khuttal” by Tatiana Germanovna Filimonovna, Sherali Khojaev; “Topical Issues of Studying the Latest Architecture of Tajikistan” by Rustam Mukimov; “Study of Arabographic Documents in Tajikistan” by Ahmad Hojiev; “Islamic Book Painting: the Collections of the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan” by Larisa Dodkhudoeva; “Pamir Musical Art: From Origin to Modernity”; “Poetic Heritage of Vasli Samarqand in the Collection of the Center of Written Heritage of the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan” by Kholida Davlatova; “Manuscriptology in Tajikistan: New Century – New State in the Cataloguing of Manuscripts” by Lola Dodkhudoeva; “On the Manuscript of Mahmud az-Zamakhshari in the Fund of the Written Heritage of the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan” by Rakhmatsho Isroilov, Mahmud Nazarov; “Newly Found Copy of the Divan Navadiran-Nihaya by ‘Alisher Navo’i” by Badriddin Maqsudov; “About the Results of the Scientific Trip to the Rasht Valley in August 2019” by Izzatullo Mirzoev; “Some Manuscripts in Arabic Script from Panjakent” by Shodmon Khuseynovich Vokhidov; “Activity of the Center of Written Heritage of the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan:



Achievements and Perspectives” by Jurabek Nazriev; “Arabic Manuscripts in the Collections of the Center of Written Heritage of the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan” by Saidnuriddin Shahobiddinov; “Badakhshan Collection of the center of Written Heritage of the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan” by Qudrat Èlchibekov; “Development of Islamic Numismatics in Tajikistan” by Davlatkhoja Dovudi; “Specimens of Architectural Epigraphy of the Premongol Period in Tajikistan in the Context of Political Challenges of the Epoch” by Lola Dodkhudoeva; “About the Rock Inscriptions of Babur in the Village of Shamtich: New Reading” by Hamza Kamol; “Memories of My Father” by Saodat Mukhtarova [daughter of Academician Ahror Mukhtarov].

IRCICA is observing with appreciation that research interest towards these fields has been growing worldwide. Facilitated access to archival funds and archeological materials coupled with the countries stronger

support of academic exchanges and international cooperation have helped this trend. In its capacity as the intergovernmental cultural research centre of the Islamic world, IRCICA endeavours to support these positive trends observable in the international research milieu as regards the study of Islamic civilization. To this aim, IRCICA organizes international projects and events that underscore the history, arts and culture of its member countries. It holds series of congresses focusing on the main regions of the Muslim world. For the purpose of this series, the regions of study are defined, from East to West, as: Southeast Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, Caucasus, Volga-Ural region, the Balkans and Southeast Europe, the Middle East and the Mediterranean, Eastern Africa, Central Africa, Southern Africa, and West Africa. IRCICA has organized one to five congresses in each region, which were implemented in cooperation with governmental and academic authorities of the countries. Central Asia is one of the regions where IRCICA developed most active cultural and academic cooperation schemes, covering the sources and the studies on history, arts and culture. These mainly took the form of congresses and joint publication projects. Examples of these activities are: the international conference on “Islamic History and Civilization in Central Asia” co-organized with R.B. Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies of the Ministry of Education and Science (Astana, Kazakhstan, 2007), the international conference on “Islamic History and Civilization in Central Asia” organized in collaboration with Kyrgyzstan-

Turkey Manas University (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 2012), the Workshop on “Islamic Manuscript Heritage in Kazakhstan” and the International Conference on the “Contribution of Kazakhstan to the Development of Islamic Culture” (Astana, Kazakhstan, 2018), the international congress on “Saduaqas Ghilmani and the Great Steppe Scholars” organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science and Eurasian National University (Astana, Kazakhstan, 2019), the international workshop on “Manuscript Heritage in Uzbekistan” and an Exhibition of Islamic Calligraphy held in collaboration with Imam Bukhari International Scientific-Research Center (Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 2019), the international workshop on “Islamic Studies in Uzbekistan” coordinated in collaboration with the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan (Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 2019), the international workshop on “Research on Islamic History, Art and Culture in Kyrgyzstan” organized jointly with Bishkek State University (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 2020), the online international conference on “Culture, Religious Traditions and Customs of the Central Asian Peoples” organized jointly with the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan (Tashkent, Uzbekistan) (2020), the online international conference on “The Place of Termiz in the History of Islamic Civilization” conducted in cooperation with Imam Termizi International Scientific-Research Center (Termiz, Uzbekistan) and the Center for Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan (Tashkent, Uzbekistan) (2020), and the online international conference on the “Role and Contribution of

Bukhara to Islamic Civilization” co-organized together with the Centre of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan (Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 2020). In recent years, IRCICA undertook joint research and publication projects with countries in Central Asia which resulted in books highlighting the scholarship, science and civilization in the region. These include the edition and English translation of Saduaqas Ghilmani’s work *Biographies of Islamic Scholars of Our Time* (edited by Ashirbek Muminov, Allen Frank and Aitzhan Nurmanova, IRCICA, 2018) and the book *Epitaphs of Muslim Scholars in Samarkand (10th–14th Centuries)* (edited by Bakhtiyar Babadjanov, Lola Dodkhudoeva, Ashirbek Muminov and Ulrich Rudolph, IRCICA, 2019). The proceedings of the above meetings are also published in book form.

The international round table which was conducted jointly with the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan through its Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnography, constituted an important stage in this series of academic meetings. It engendered high quality papers that were contributed by participants from academies, universities, museums and cultural institutes. The nineteen articles collected in this book, with rich illustrations of monuments, documents and artifacts, are expected to meet the interest of the scholarly community concerned, increase awareness and deepen the perception of researchers about the history, arts and culture of Tajikistan and its region.



تاريخ فن الخط مدارسهم واولادهم

Muhittin Serin, **History of the art of calligraphy, the schools and their followers**

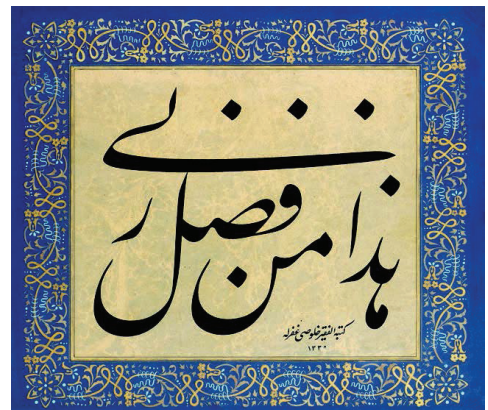
TRANSL.: SALIH SADAWI, IRCICA, ISTANBUL, 2020, 3 VOLS. 864 P. 1ST VOLUME 184P P, 2ND VOLUME 424 P, 3RD VOLUME 264 P. (IN ARABIC)

IRCICA has the pleasure to present the Arabic edition of Prof. Dr. Muhittin Serin's essential book on the art of calligraphy. The translation from Turkish into Arabic under IRCICA's coordination is based on the book's revised and enlarged edition dated 2019 published by Kubbealti Publishing, Istanbul. The book presents the traditional art of calligraphy with its aesthetical values, its history, the various styles of calligraphy, the writing tools and materials, all based on examples of works by famous calligraphers of the Islamic world.

The author, Prof. Dr. Muhittin Serin, is an internationally acknowledged specialist of this art and a master calligrapher himself. He teaches the history and theory of the art of calligraphy at 29 Mayıs University in Istanbul. Having received his *Ijaza* (certificate of qualification to teach and practice the art of calligraphy, issued by the teacher) from Kemal Batanay in the ta'liq style; he participated in several exhibitions, delivered lectures and papers at conferences and published articles in art journals, all on international level.

IRCICA had planned since long ago to publish a reference book on the art of calligraphy in the Arabic language. This comprehensive scholarly book concretizes this aim in the best way. Originally in two volumes, the Arabic translation has been set up into three volumes. Following an introductory chapter on "art" as a concept, its emergence and development, Volume I has the following chapters:

- I. Islam and writing
- II. Harmony in Islamic calligraphy
- III. Most widespread uses of the art of calligraphy



IV. The origins of Islamic calligraphy: balanced and proportioned writings

V. Kufi and its varieties: al-aqlam al-sitta

The chapters In Volume II are on:

VI. Al-aqlam al-sitta in the Ottoman period: the schools and their followers

VII. The Ottoman calligraphy school in Egypt

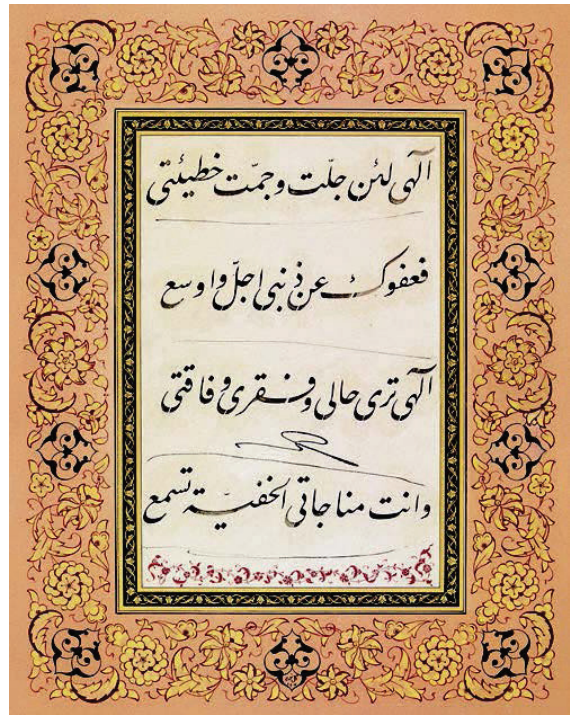
and Volume III has the following topics:

VIII. Scripts developed outside al-aqlam al-sitta

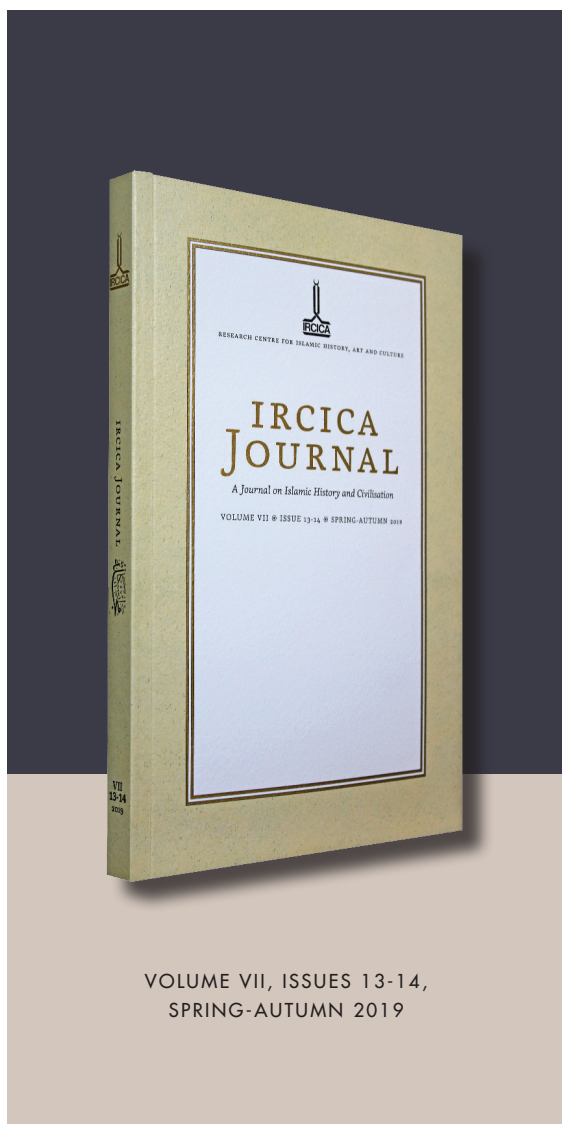
IX. Famous Ottoman calligraphers in nasta'liq

X. Institutions for calligraphy education in the Republic period in Turkey and the calligraphers

XI. Writing tools and materials.



IRCICA JOURNAL



IRCICA Journal is an interdisciplinary refereed journal published in Spring and Fall issues. It includes articles on all themes in Islamic History and Civilization, in the English and Arabic languages.

Articles in English:

- » Muslims of South Asia during the Colonial Period
Prof. Dr. Shafiq Bhatti, Chairman, Dept. of History, Baha-ud-Din Zakariya University, Multan, and *Asst. Prof. Naumana Kiran*, University of the Punjab, Dept. of History and Pakistan Studies, Lahore, Pakistan
- » Nine-domes Mosques of Bangladesh
Asst. Prof. Dr. Khoundkar Alamgir, National University of Bangladesh, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- » Political and Cultural History of Mughal
Asst. Prof. Dr. Faraz Anjum, University of the Punjab, Department of History, Lahore, Pakistan

Articles in Arabic:

- » The Evolution of the Judicial Organization in the Abbasid Period (132 – 656 AH) / (749 -1258 CE)
Asst. Prof. Dr. Ali Soltan, College of Education, University in Kirkuk, Iraq
- » Islam in Darfur: Its First Roots and Means of its Spread
Dr. Abuelbasha Abdelrahman Yousif, Professor of History, Faculty of Arts, Al Fashir University, Sudan
- » Architectural Epigraphy of Uzbekistan (Origin, Evolution and Characteristics)
Dr. Kamilcan Rahimov, Al-Beruni Institute for Oriental Studies, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan

