



Newsletter



OIC RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE

Highlights of the congresses

"Islamic Civilisation in Southern Africa"
(Johannesburg, 1-3 Sept. 2006)

"Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans"
(Bucharest, 1-5 November 2006)

"Tourism and Traditional Crafts"
(Riyadh, 7-14 November 2006)

IRCICA Activities

"Book Hospital" as a joint project of the Ministry of
Culture and Tourism of Turkey,
UNESCO and IRCICA

"Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015"
Architectural Heritage Program

Forthcoming congresses

Lectures at IRCICA

Book Survey

Newsletter



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Editorial

The present issue gives news on our various projects and the progress achieved in their implementation, with an emphasis on the three congresses/symposiums which were held during the last part of 2006. The Johannesburg symposium was the first ever cultural event in which the OIC and IRCICA were co-organisers in the region of Southern Africa. It was a major and successful academic event from the point of view of social science research relating to the region. From IRCICA's standpoint, the symposium opened a new avenue in the series of meetings it has been conducting since the mid-1980s with regional focuses on the theme of Islamic civilisation. Until the present, these meetings focused on the following regions: South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Caucasia, Volga-Ural region, Eastern Africa, West Africa, the Balkans; the next symposium will be held in Kazakhstan, to focus on "Islamic civilisation in Central Asia". These meetings underscore the regional aspects of the process of development of Islamic civilisation throughout its history and trace its interactions with other cultures and civilisations, analyzing the inter-cultural exchanges in arts, sciences, architecture, etc. past and present. They help to promote the related studies as subjects of focus for their own sake, encouraging new perspectives. The Johannesburg symposium also enabled IRCICA to establish cooperation with leading institutions of South Africa, particularly the National Foundation of South Africa (Awqaf SA) and the University of Johannesburg.

As to the Bucarest symposium, also covered in the present issue, it was the third to be devoted to the Balkan region within the above series of meetings. Having thus reached a relatively advanced stage, the congress on the Balkans will from now on be institutionalised in the form of an association for studies in this field, as is being considered by its participants taking into account the usefulness of organising periodical encounters to maintain

constant contacts and collaboration among themselves.

The third meeting highlighted in this issue is the First International Congress on "Tourism and Traditional Crafts" held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It was a large-scale artistic and scholarly event realised successfully thanks to the valuable cooperation of the Supreme Commission for Tourism, of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Within IRCICA's Craft Development Program, this congress was the first one to deal mainly with those aspects of the handicrafts sector that are related to tourism. Six congresses were organised previously within this framework, with special emphasis on either specific branches of handicrafts (carpets, arabesque, architectural crafts, etc.), or aspects of their preservation and promotion ("creativity", problems and prospects). The exhibitions and stands of artisans-at-work that are usually part of the programs of these events constitute for their own sake major international activities in their respective fields. The exhibitions organised on the occasion of the Riyadh congress were excellent opportunities for artisans to display their works and meet their counterparts from various parts of the world.

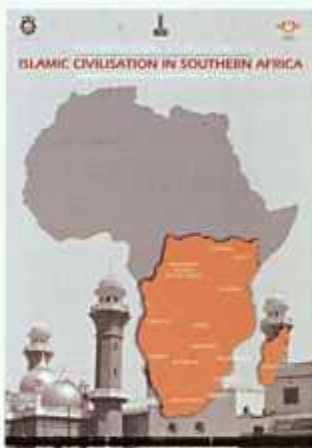
Last but not the least, I would like to note that we continue to receive applications for the Prince Faisal bin Fahd Award competition for the Preservation of Islamic Architectural Heritage. Taking into consideration the requests received, the deadline of application to this competition has been extended until the end of September 2007. Meanwhile, the Seventh Competition of Calligraphy, currently in progress, will be finalised in the Spring 2007. Around 1400 applications have been received for this competition from 45 countries within and outside the OIC member countries. We thank all the present and prospective participants for their interest in these competitions.

Halit Eren

THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON "ISLAMIC CIVILISATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA"

a joint activity of the National Awqaf Foundation of South Africa,
the University of Johannesburg, and IRCICA

Under the patronage of H.E. Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa, the first large-scale cultural event to be held in the region with the participation of the OIC and IRCICA: the international symposium on Islamic Civilisation in Southern Africa was organized jointly by the National Awqaf Foundation of South Africa (Awqaf SA), representing the Muslim community of South Africa, the University of Johannesburg, and IRCICA. The symposium took place on 1-3 September 2006 at the University of Johannesburg. More than 500 participants from various countries in Southern Africa region followed the proceedings of the sessions.



The symposium aimed, among others, to increase and disseminate the existing knowledge of the history and heritage of Islam in Southern Africa; make the religious and cultural heritage of Southern African Muslims better understood by themselves and other communities inside and outside the region; strengthen affinities and cooperation among Muslim and African nations and communities

by producing and disseminating knowledge on culture and history; promote better understanding and dialogue amongst Muslim peoples and peoples of other faiths and cultural communities; offer a forum for the true understanding of Islamic culture in the world; produce references for further research and curriculum development. The key countries of the region under focus are: Angola, Botswana, Burundi,

Comoros, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Lesotho, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe.

The opening of the symposium was preceded by a splendid official launch ceremony on 31 August, held in the presence of the Minister for the Office of the Presidency H.E. Mr. Essop Pahad representing President Thabo Mbeki (due to his illness), the OIC Secretary General H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu as the guest of honour, Western Cape Premier H.E. Mr. Ebrahim Rasool, the Deputy Minister for Communication Mr. Padayachie, the Rector of the University of Johannesburg, Dr. Ihron Rensburg, the Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren, as well as over twenty-two ambassadors of African countries, and an audience of more than 1500 guests, including business and religious leaders from all faiths and backgrounds, representatives of the faith communities, representatives of NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa), African Renaissance Institute, African Union, among others, and the general public.

H.E. Mr. Essop Pahad in his scholarly address at the ceremony conveyed the wishes of success of President Thabo Mbeki for this symposium which was devoted to a topic of immense relevance for all in the present era. He said that the symposium would highlight an African Muslim identity, but it also had the task of locating Islam and Africa in the current global conjuncture and reaching an understanding of an identity that draws on the positive and the progressive dimensions of Islam. "We must reclaim our past and simultaneously assert an identity that speaks to social justice, peace, security, humanity, respect and tolerance" said the Minister. He then spoke of the South-Africa-Mali project on Timbuktu which was initiated by President Mbeki to support the restoration and conservation of the valuable collections of historical



From the right: Dr. J.F.J. van Rensburg, Chairman, Dept. of Semitic Languages, University of Johannesburg, Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren, OIC Secretary General H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Western Cape Premier H.E. Mr. Ebrahim Rasool, and Ahmet Kavas (Istanbul)

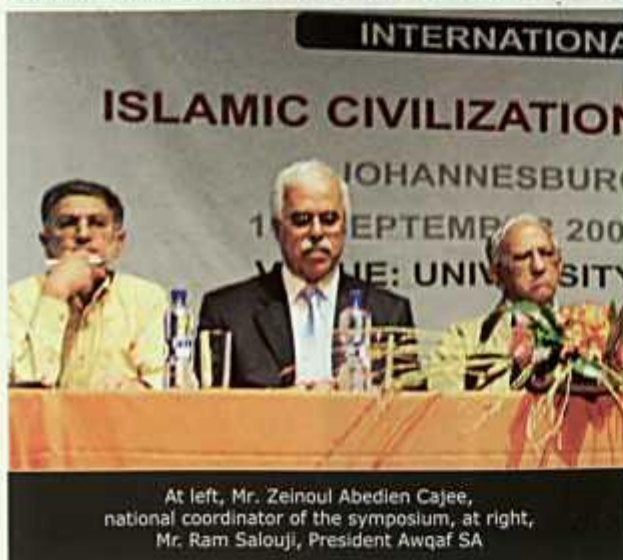
manuscripts in Timbuktu, underlining the significance of the project with respect to Africa and humanity, the past and the future, religion and culture. The Minister said that just as scholars are now studying the Timbuktu manuscripts, studies must begin on pre-colonial Southern Africa as well: research about Islam in Southern Africa is very limited. The present symposium was important in this regard as it served to encourage an understanding of Islam in the Southern African region through the study of various aspects of this history, such as the migration patterns of Muslims along the East coast of Africa and into the interior of Southern Africa, the way in which indigenous cultures received, accepted and adapted to these new migrants, and how Islam adapted to its new surroundings. The Minister said that Islam has had long connections with Southern Africa; there was no Muslim conquest of East Africa or of Southern Africa, there was no colonisation- Islam was probably introduced by traders plying their trade along the East coast of the continent. These traders did not just come to trade; they became part of the local community. This was the beginning of the process of cultural, linguistic and religious fusion. One of the chief by-products of this integration process was Swahili culture which represents the fusion of the Arabic and East African cultures. Islam and Muslims did not replace the indigenous culture, but blended with existing practices in a gradual transition. In East Africa, the process of conversion was tied to peaceful expansion of traders, settlers, and teachers. By the 20th century, Islam became synonymous with anti-colonialism, uniting threatened indigenous populations. H.E. Mr. Pahad said "in claiming place and pace, in clearly articulating the role of Islam in Africa in general and in Southern Africa in particular, we must encourage active scholarship and critical enquiry."

Addressing the ceremony, the Secretary General of OIC H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu pointed to the importance of the idea of this symposium which reminded of a concept, which is not new and valid at all times, and was formulated by Fernand Braudel in his book *A History of the Civilisations*, whereby the history of civilisations is a history of their exchanges over the centuries. The Secretary General said that the multi-cultural context of Southern Africa offers to scholarly observation many significant examples of such cultural exchanges and interaction that were concretised since

the advent of Islam in this region, exemplifying eloquently the process described by Braudel. Prof. Ihsanoglu said that Islam has an esteemed place in South Africa today. He recalled the Bicentennial Commemoration of the Unbanning of Islam in South Africa (1804-2004), which was marked by cultural and scholarly events held under the auspices of the National Awqaf Foundation and highlighted the achievements and coexistence of Islamic civilisation in South Africa.

The Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren, in his address, said that IRCICA upholds the objective of contributing in building bridges between peoples of all cultures and faiths. He referred to the activity programs of the Centre aimed at promoting scholarly research and stimulating fruitful exchanges of knowledge and information across continents. He said that the present symposium was especially significant towards realising this objective. Dr. Eren gave information on the congresses held previously on various themes relating to Islamic civilisation and Muslim cultures, which were held in various countries in South Asia, Southeast Asia, West Africa, East Africa, Caucasia, the Balkans, Volga-Ural region, and the Middle East. A total of fifty symposiums were organised in this context until then, in cooperation with the governments, universities and cultural institutions of the countries of these regions. The symposium on Islamic civilisation in Southern Africa was planned with the same spirit and understanding, but taking into account the particularities of the region within the history of development of Islamic civilisation.

H.E. Justice Mahomed Jajbhay, Patron Trustee, Awqaf SA, in his comprehensive address, pointed out that "there comes a time and a period in the history of nations when they must traverse in some profoundly irreversible and visible way, the journey from the old to the new. That time and that period for our participation as key players in our region on the benevolent continent of Africa have irreversibly forged ahead." Justice Jajbhay said South Africa was an appropriate venue for the symposium, since it has the experience and the potential richness, the traditions and the internal dynamics in view of the objectives to which the symposium tries to contribute. "The precepts of our Islamic and African beliefs and values teach us to expand our energy for the benefit of all humanity, and the democratic temper which informs these precepts must sustain our enthusiastic participation in all



At left, Mr. Zeinoul Abedien Cajee, national coordinator of the symposium, at right, Mr. Ram Salouji, President Awqaf SA



Souvenir plaque of IRCICA presented to the Rector of the University of Johannesburg Dr. Ihron Rensburg, by the Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren

structures, as well as the commitment to social and economic justice that will ultimately release us as a continent, still suffocating from incapacities. This in turn could generate learning and better understanding about human beings, their rights and obligations and ultimately it could accelerate better values and sensitivities to our ethos as Africans."

Mr. Zeinoul Abedien Cajee, member of the Management Board of Awqaf SA and National Coordinator of the symposium, addressed the ceremony, recalling the country's history of struggle for freedom and democracy and stressing the Muslim community's commitment to further contribute and participate in civil society and government activities in all spheres of life, help social and economic development and promote welfare among peoples of all races and creeds. "Awqaf SA set out to build an institutionalised community-based charitable endowment fund, the waqf institution, in this part of the world - where every member of the community has an opportunity to make a long term commitment and contribution to poverty alleviation, nation-building and community development". Mr. Cajee expressed his conviction that the symposium was another milestone in the annals of South African collective history and that it would be a major contribution to the development of knowledge and intellectual capital.

The sub-themes of the symposium were: Penetration of Islam in Southern Africa; Trade and Islam; Language & Islamic Literature; Islamic Education and Intellectual Development; History, Contribution, and Challenges; Colonialism, Apartheid, & Democracy; Coexistence of Cultures; Arts & Crafts, Architecture, Archeology; Future Perspectives; Muslim media; Influential figures; Establishment of financial institutions; Community-State relations; NGOs. The opening session on 1st September heard the addresses of Dr. Ismail Munshi (from the Dept. Of Prosthodontics, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, member of the Symposium Coordinating Committee) and Mr. Zeinoul Abedien Cajee from the National Awqaf Foundation, Dr. J.E.J. van Rensburg, Chairman of the Dept. of Semitic Languages, University of

Johannesburg, IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren, the Secretary General of OIC H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, and the message of H.E. Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa. The importance of the cooperation established between South Africa, its governmental and non-governmental authorities, cultural and academic institutions, in particular the University of Johannesburg, on one side, and IRCICA on the other, was underlined in the speeches. The Secretary General of OIC stated that the cultural contribution of this symposium was in line with the objectives of the OIC, since the Ten-Year Programme of Action put to implementation as of 2006 encourages mutual understanding and dialogue between nations, faiths and cultures across continents; one of the main ways to fulfill this objective is, as explicitly stated in the Programme of Action, to convene congresses within and outside the Member States of the OIC, as best exemplified by the present symposium. The Secretary General expressed his gratitude to the host country South Africa, the President, the government and the people of South Africa. He extended his thanks and appreciation to the organising bodies: the National Awqaf Foundation, the University of Johannesburg, and IRCICA.

The academic program of the symposium was comprised of the following sessions and paper presentations:

Plenary session

Chair: Halit Eren-Zeinoul Abedien Cajee

Ebrahim Rasool: Future Perspectives on Islamic Civilisation in Southern Africa

Ahmet Kavaz: Ottoman Relations with Southern Africa (16th-20th Centuries)

History

Chair: Aslam Fataar

Auwais Rafudeen: Ritual and Political Critique: Tuan Guru's Subversive Pietism

Ebrahim Rhoda: The Founding of the Muslim Community of the Strand in the Nineteenth Century, 1822-1928

Eric L. Germain: South African Muslims' Expressions of Solidarity with the Umma: From the Russo-Ottoman War of 1877-78 till the Khilafat Movement in the Early 1920s

History

Chair: Suleman Dangor

G. Shams Rehman: Western Perception of Southern Africa (A Case Study of Missionaries and Colonialists' Historiography)

Yusuf Dadoo: Reflections on South African Muslim Historiography

Ibrahim Elzain Soghayroun: Role of Traders and Muslim Scholars in Spread of Islam in Zanzibar and East Africa



History

Chair: Muhammed Haron

- Risimati Ali Mathonsi: Medieval Trans-Limpopo Trade
Ibrahim Abdul Gani Panjwani: Muslims in Malawi: Past, Present, and Future
E. Jaffer: Muslims in Pretoria during the late 19th Century

History

Chair: Muhammed Haron

- Yousuf Ismail Eshak: The Life, Times and Contribution of Maulana Cachalia to the Struggle for Freedom in South Africa
Ahmed Essop: Suleiman Mohamed Nana: An Influential Leader
Sheikh Moegamat Abduraghiem Paulsen: The Malay Community of Gauteng: Syncretism, Beliefs and Customs

History

Chair: Umar Ahmed Kasule

- Tapiwa Mapuranga: Islam in Zimbabwe: a Historical and Sociological Analysis
Ahmed Binsumeit A. Badawy: The Role of East African Ulama in Enhancing the Islamic Image in South Africa

Community-State Relations

Chair: Tahir Sitoto

- Umar Ahmad Kasule: Islam and African Culture South of the Sahara: Towards a Steady Convergence
Faraj A. Tamim: The Phenomenon of Exclusion by Integration as a Roll-back Strategy against Islamic Influence in Southern Africa: The Case of Tanzania
Ahmed M. Patel: Establishment of Islam in Ireland by Muslims from South Africa

Community-State Relations

Chair: Suleman Dangor

- Ayesha Mall: A Critical Assessment of the Role and Governance of Muslim Community Radio in South Africa: The Case of Radio Al-Ansaar
Yousuf Cajee-Ebrahim Mphutlane wa Bofelo: The impact of Racism and Related Discrimination within the Muslim Community in South Africa: Prospects and Proposals

Community-State Relations

Chair: Asma Hassan

- Shenaaz Muslim: White South Africa's Perception of Islam: Influenced by Global Media or other Factors?
Attiya Waris: Making a Mountain out of a Molehill: The Protection of the Right to the Freedom of Religion of the Muslim Religious Minority in Kenya's Constitution
Hamza Mustafa Njozi: The Campaign against Qur'anic Schools in Tanzania

The Socio-political Contribution of Muslims

Chair: Lubna Nadvi

- Nisbert Taringa: Pluralism and Islam in Zimbabwe: A Phenomenological Exploration of the Theological and Political Dimensions
Mustafa Efe: The Effects of Colonialism on Islam and Muslims in Southern Africa
Sadiyya Shaikh: Engaging Gender Ethics: Voices of South African Muslim Women

The Socio-political Contribution of Muslims

Chair: Adam Habib

- Lubna Nadvi-Imraan Buccus: The Muslim Vote in Post-Apartheid South Africa: A Comparative Analysis of Voting Patterns amongst Muslims in Durban at National and Local Government Level
Muhammad Sekatawa: Politics and the Development of Muslim Communities in Sub-Saharan Africa: Potential Lessons from the Ugandan Experience
Saber Ahmed Jazbhay: Globalisation, the Constitution and Religious and Cultural Conflicts

The Socio-political Contribution of Muslims

Chair: J.F.J. van Rensburg

- Wesahl Domingo: Muslim Personal Law in South Africa: An Overview of the Draft Muslim Marriages Act
Farida Mahomed: Reflections on Muslim Philosophical Discourse during the Liberation Struggle
Simphiwe Sesanti: Challenges Facing African Muslim Women: Case Study Kwa Nobuhle Township

The Socio-political Contribution of Muslims

Chair: Ismail Munshi

- Inga A. O. Niehaus: South Africa's Muslims between Participation and Exclusion – the Role of a Religious Minority during the Transition to Democracy
Hassan Juma Ndzovu: Politicization of Islam in Kenya
Na'eem Jeenah: Political Islam in South Africa and Its Contribution to the Discourse of a Fiqh of Minorities

Islamic Education and Intellectual Development

Chair: Yasien Mohamed

- Haroon Mahomed: Islamic Education in non-Muslim Countries: South Africa as a Case Study of the Challenges
Salie Abrahams: Pluralism and the Co-existence of Cultures: Dictate or Dialogue
Aslam Fataar: Intersections of Religious and Political Discourses among Muslim Teachers in Apartheid Cape Town

Islamic Education and Intellectual Development

Chair: Haroon Mohamed

- Abdu B.K. Kasozi: Struggle to Deliver Utilitarian (Secular) Education to Muslims in Eastern Africa 1900-1960
Amina A. Issa: Religious Teaching in Government Schools in Colonial Zanzibar
Yasien Alli Mohamed: Turkish Educational Institutions in South Africa



Islamic Education and Intellectual Development

Chair: Shamirah Zafar

Liazzat J. K. Bonate: Islamic Education and State Politics of Education in Mozambique

Issa Haji Ziddy: The Transmission of Islamic Learning in Zanzibar - 19th - 20th Century (Achievements, Problems and Challenges)

Kahumbi Maina: The Interface Between Religion and Culture: Constraints to Muslim Girls' Access to Secondary School Education in Kenya

Socio-Economic Development

Chair: Anas Tikriti

Abdulkadir Hashim: Crown and Crescent: Competing Policies on the Administration of Waqf Institutions in the East African Coast

Zeinoul Abedien Cajee-Asma Hassan: South African Muslim Contribution to Poverty Alleviation: Past, Present & Future

Hussein Najmul Rasool: An Analysis of the Muslims' Contribution to the Socio-Economic Development of Mauritius

Socio-Economic Development

Chair: Ashraf Dockrat

Fuad Hendricks: Conceptualizing a Collective Vision, Leveraging Organizational Capacities and Resources through Networking and Partnering

Surayah Hartley: Islamic Banking and Islamic Finance

Rashid Bhikha: Healthcare Challenges in Southern Africa: Can Islamic Medicine Deal with them?

Spread of Islam in Southern Africa

Chair: Abdu B.K. Kasozi

Viera Pawlikova-Vilhanová: Similarities and Differences in the Spread of Islam: East and South Africa Compared

Al-Amin Abu-Manga-Kamal Mohamed Jahalla: Factors of Spread and Recession of Islam in Zimbabwe and Uganda: A Comparative Study

Musleem Jumeer: A Critical Analysis of the Spread of Islam in Mauritius

Spread of Islam in Southern Africa

Chair: Ashraf Dockrat

Zoraida Isaacs: The Growth of Sufi Orders in the Durban Region

Shaikh Ihsaan Hendricks: Influence of the Muslim Judicial Council in Shaping Muslim Socio-Political Thought and Action in South Africa

Salmin Idruss Omar: Islam in Malawi

Spread of Islam in Southern Africa

Chair: Yusuf Dadoo

Mohamed Said : The Legacy of Sheikh Ahmed Deedat in Tanzania

Sindre Bangstad: The Weight of the World and the Words of Allah: Conversions to Islam among Black Africans in Cape Town, South Africa

Abdullah Hakim Quick: The Call to Islam in 21st Century Southern Africa in the light of Pre-Colonial Trends of Islamisation in the Western Sudan

Islam and Economics

Chair: Raaghieb Najjaar

Ismail Munshi: The Potential Role of Awqaf in Socio-economic Development in Southern Africa

Ebrahim Vawda: Islamic Banking in South Africa: Its History, Growth and Performance and Prospects

Mehmet İpsirli: A Comparative Study of Certain Turkish and East African Waqfs and Future Prospects of Waqf in Africa



Souvenir photo with the managers of Awqaf SA

Remarks and Recommendations were formulated during the concluding session. It was decided that the symposium will be held once every three years, the next one in 2009. Follow-up activities will include various measures to promote and ameliorate studies in Islamic civilisation.

It is planned that cultural activities co-organised by IRCICA and the national institutions of South Africa and other countries in the region will continue, with exhibitions of artistic and archival materials, among others.

This symposium has a special place within the framework of IRCICA's activities: it is the first one to be held on this subject, and also the first one to be held in South Africa. On the other hand, with respect to the Southern African region and South Africa itself, the symposium provided many opportunities for exchanges of ideas among NGOs, community leaders and cultural authorities, on issues of national and communal concern.

A comprehensive report and complete information on the symposium is accessible in the website www.awqafsa.org.za/2006_symposium.htm. The site also contains post-symposium evaluations through public surveys.

For more information about Awqaf SA and its activities, please visit www.awqafsa.org.za, and on the University of Johannesburg, which has more than 40000 and offers courses on Islam at undergraduate and post graduate levels: www.uj.ac.za.

During the symposium period, on 2 September, a public event entitled *Jalsah 2006* was organised at the University of Johannesburg, by the Muslim Students Association of the University in conjunction with Awqaf SA and IRCICA. It featured lectures, poetry, plays, highlighting the role of Islam as a source of cultures and a religion, the community's struggle for equality, and commemorating, particularly, eminent heroes and victims of the struggle such as Imaam Haroon, a leader who played a vital role in the spread of Islam and who suffered the worst hardships and death under the apartheid regime.



*Recitation of poems
(Mr. Abdul Malik Arafat),
authentic plays*



THIRD CONGRESS ON ISLAMIC CIVILISATION IN THE BALKANS held in Bucharest, Romania

Under the patronage of H.E. Traian Basescu, President of the Republic of Romania, the third congress on the theme of Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans was organised jointly by the University of Bucharest, Center for Turkish Studies, and the Romanian Academy, in Bucharest, Romania from 1-5 November 2006. The message of the Secretary General of the OIC H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu addressed to the congress was read, expressing appreciation of the holding of the event at a time when interactions between different cultural traditions are gaining momentum and efforts to consolidate a literature evaluating the traditions of the exchanges of Islam and the Muslim nations in multicultural contexts becomes all the more necessary.

The opening ceremony at the Romanian Academy was addressed by Prof. Ionel Haiduc, President of the Romanian Academy, Prof. Mihai Maxim, Chairman of the Center for Turkish Studies at the University of Bucharest and Director of the Romanian Cultural Institute in Istanbul, Prof. Yusuf Halaçoğlu, President of the Turkish Historical Society, and Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA. Plenary addresses were given by Prof. Kemal Karpat (University of Wisconsin), Prof. Machiel Kiel (University of Utrecht) and Prof. Mihai Maxim. The cultural events organised on the occasion of the congress throughout the period were officiated by several senior officials from the Romanian Government, including the Deputy Foreign Minister of Romania Mr. Valentin Naumescu, and by the Ambassadors of OIC Member States.

The three plenary lectures are outlined as follows by Dean Sakel, who participated in the congress from Istanbul: Kemal Karpat spoke of the population, the professional and religious structure of the town of Sari Saltuk, Babadag and its vicinities, noting the importance of appreciating the actual everyday reality of this Muslim community; Prof. Karpat said that researchers generally dealt with history from an elevated standpoint, ignoring or belittling daily life which is however the evidence at researchers' disposal. In the case of Sari Saltuk, the opportunity was presenting itself for a study of this Muslim community in Ottoman times in terms of its actual social structures, which would in turn allow to study the way in which Islam shaped life in the Balkans. Machiel Kiel focused on the history of the Dabarsko Polje region, today within Bosnia and Herzegovina, from 1458 until today. He traced the history of the rise of Islamic culture in the region as the outcome of a slow process of expansion of Islam during the 16th century, and also reviewed the process of extinction of this culture over the last century.

The lecture by Mihai Maxim dealt with three interconnected aspects of the problem of the study of Islamic civilisation in the Balkans. One aspect is related to the older views on the nature of this civilization, which were based to a sizeable extent, not on actual objective evaluation, but rather on preconceptions. These clichés are opposed to what is found in the sources, i.e. the archival materials, which in the case of Romania, are of varied nature and dating from various countries, and which



From upper left, Prof. Mihai Maxim (Chairman CTS, University of Bucharest, speaking); Prof. Machiel Kiel, Dr. Halit Eren; speaking, Prof. Ionel Haiduc (President, Romanian Academy); bottom left, Assoc. Prof. Yusuf Sarıay, Prof. Yusuf Halaçoğlu; lecture by Prof. Kemal Karpat

only recently begun to be evaluated in an integrated way. The second was the nature of the methods used in the study of these sources, new approaches having allowed new insights into what an Ottoman document had to offer in terms of history, this in turn allowing a progressive revision of older views in the context of an integrated approach in dealing with the Islamic heritage in the Balkans.

It may be recalled that the first two congresses on the theme of Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans were organized in Sofia, Bulgaria, in cooperation with the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (2000) and in Tirana, Albania, in cooperation with the Academy of Sciences of Albania, the General Directorate of Archives of Albania, and the University of Tirana (2003), respectively.

The academic sessions were held in three parallel sessions. 98 papers were presented, on an unlimited range of subjects relating to the administrative history of the Balkan region,

settlements, migrations, architecture, cultural production, economic and social life, and the sources of studies on the history of the Balkans. The conclusive session was a good opportunity for the formulation of remarks and recommendations. The proceedings of the congress will be published in more than one volume.

The participants expressed their gratitude to the organizing bodies for the valuable opportunity provided to a large number of participants to present and discuss their studies. They thanked in particular the secretaries of the congress, Ms. Silvana Rachieru from the Center for Turkish Studies and Ms. Güler Doğan from IRCICA.

On the first day of the Bucharest congress, a separate committee meeting was devoted to the establishment of the "International Association for the Study of Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans". The idea of the Association was formulated during the preceding congress, with the aim of instituting





Director General of the National Archives of Romania Dr. Cornel Lungu opens the exhibition. From the right, Prof. Mihai Maxim, the Ambassador of Turkey A.R. Ökçün, Dr. Eren, Assoc. Prof. Yusuf Sarıay

this series of congresses as a self-generating process. The draft statute of the Association was read, discussed and commented upon.

On the same day, an exhibition of "Documents from the State Archives of Turkey and Romania" was opened at the National Archives of Romania. The Director General of the State Archives of Turkey Assoc. Prof. Yusuf Sarıay and the Director General of the National Archives of Romania Dr. Cornel Lungu were present at the opening of the exhibition. The extremely rich exhibition was comprised of two sections: a large variety of sample documents from the collections of "Ottoman Documents in the National Archives of Romania", contributed by the National Archives of Romania; and, forty

documents dating from the 15th-20th centuries, concerning the social, cultural, commercial characteristics of the Balkans and their relationship with the central administration, selected from the Ottoman Archives in Istanbul affiliated to the Turkish Prime Ministry's Directorate General of State Archives.

One of the cultural activities accompanying the congress was a performance by the Cultural Music Ensemble "Doina Covurluiului" invited from Constanta. The performance was at the National Theatre of Bucharest. Outstanding samples of traditional songs and dances were warmly applauded by the audience.

Another marking cultural activity was the City Tour made on the last day and guided by H.E. Mr. Radwan Teodorosku, ex-Minister of Culture of Romania. Among the monuments visited, there were an Ottoman building named "Manuk Han", and the 17th-century Fundenii Doamnei Monastery which has Ottoman ornamentation on its outer walls.



"Tourism and Traditional Handicrafts" international congress and accompanying activities

Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 14-17 November 2006

Under the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, the International Congress on Tourism and Traditional Handicrafts and the accompanying activities took place from 14-17 November 2006 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The event, marking a new step forward within the framework of IRCICA's Crafts Development Program, was given special attention by H.R.H. Crown Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz, the Deputy Premier, Minister of Defense and Aviation and Inspector General. H.R.H. Prince Naif bin Abdulaziz, Minister of Interior, Head of the Board of Directors of the Supreme Commission for Tourism inaugurated the congress on behalf of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques accompanied by H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, Secretary General of the Supreme Commission for Tourism, along with H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, and Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA.

H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, Secretary General of the Supreme Commission for Tourism, gave the Address of the Host Country, in which he explained the many factors requiring attention for the development of the craft sector and pointed out the problems experienced by the craftspeople. The Secretary General said that the Supreme Commission for Tourism initiated the establishment of a general plan for developing the crafts and traditional industries in Saudi Arabia and prepared, in cooperation with concerned authorities, a national strategy for developing this sector with a 5-year plan which is now waiting for final adoption. H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, in his statement, commended the high patronage accorded by the Custodian of the Two

Holy Mosques to the congress and expressed his thanks to the Supreme Commission for Tourism for the excellent organisation of the event. The Secretary General hailed the aims addressed by the conference for the development of tourism and handicrafts. He underscored the importance given by the OIC to these two sectors, especially taking into consideration that they provide investment opportunities with the potential of creating jobs, bringing revenues and introducing the cultural heritage of the Islamic world. He expressed his confidence that the conference participants would develop a global framework for the development of the tourism sector and the handicrafts.

Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA, in his address, outlined the efforts being deployed by IRCICA relating to the traditional handicrafts of the Muslim world. He referred to the series of symposiums which were devoted to the various aspects of handicrafts and the economic and social sectors surrounding the latter. He said that IRCICA was in the process of developing new lines of action to further expand its activities in this field, comprising, among others, a project to develop a system of documentation in this field.

Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – ISESCO – addressed the congress, stating that traditional craft industries embody a rich heritage with a strong presence in the different walks of life, considering the various functions it assumes - cultural, economic or social, and their growing role in the economies of most of the countries, especially those relying on tourism as a main source of income. He



H.R.H. Prince Naif bin Abdulaziz, Minister of Interior, Head of the Board of Directors of the Supreme Commission for Tourism inaugurating the Congress on behalf of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, accompanied H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Dr. Halit Eren, and a number of Ministers and Ambassadors.



said that ISESCO has planned for its coming action plan (2007-2009) to step up its efforts towards the promotion of traditional industries, handicrafts and cultural tourism, with the aim of highlighting the importance of cultural tourism as a tool both for cultural diversity and for cooperation with regional international organizations such as UNESCO, ALECSO and IRCICA.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by a number of Ministers from the Saudi Government and the Governments of various OIC Member States. The inauguration also included the opening of the following exhibitions:

- * Exhibition of Crafts Masterpieces from the Muslim World,
- * Exhibition of publications and visual materials issued in the field of handicrafts,
- * A Bazaar of the traditional handicrafts of the OIC Member States,
- * Live displays of Islamic artisans at work,
- * An international award for the craft innovators in the Muslim world,
- * Exhibitions by the Saudi Women's Charities in the field of crafts.

Representatives of more than fifty of the OIC Member States participated in the congress, together with a number of artisans from these countries, representatives of international organisations, specialised institutions, tourism and craft experts. The congress handled touristic, cultural, and heritage aspects, with a focus on the ways of making the best use of the crafts sector within the tourism field. The discussions revealed the multiple returns that the tourism sector could gain from a connection with cultural heritage



and handicrafts, by preserving the traditional authenticity which distinguishes the handicrafts, and using all available means for promoting the sector.

More than sixty papers were presented, on the following themes: Globalization and the role of media in raising awareness; Interaction between tourism and handicrafts; Craft villages and tourism activation; Handicrafts as a touristic, social, economic and cultural necessity; Handicrafts and Architectural Heritage; Preservation of Arts and Crafts; Textiles and quality; creating new ornamental designs; Tiles, ceramic, marbled paper and bookbinding; Education, research and documentation; Investment and marketing opportunities between tourism and handicrafts; Heritage identity and cultural tourism; Crafts of the Muslim world.

Dr. Nazeih Maarouf, Head of the Craft Development Program and international coordinator of the symposium, presented the Congress Report and the Riyadh International Declaration, which was adopted by the participants; he gave the address of IRCICA. The address of the Supreme Commission for Tourism was delivered by Dr. Ali al-Ghaban. Members of the groups of craft specialists participating in the congress and representatives of some organizations addressed the conclusive session.

The congress participants adopted many recommendations, on the following subjects:

Quality issues and seeking opportunities for providing raw materials locally; informing the consumer; benefiting from past experiences; education programs; training - improving the qualifications and exchanging the techniques; exchanging the techniques and expertise; creativity; preserving the authenticity and the heritage; documentation and studies; finance; Government's role and patronage - care and attention; participation in international exhibitions; exploring new marketing opportunities; tourism market and the establishment of craft villages; investment in the tourism field and its effects on handicrafts; legal protection; globalization and the role of the media; awards; support to traditional crafts in Palestine.

The congress adopted the Riyadh International Declaration, which points out the major issues relating to the promotion and development of handicrafts. In its operational paragraphs, the Declaration calls for

- intensifying efforts to draw attention and raise awareness on the local, regional and international levels to the importance of the handicrafts sector as a human cultural and civilization



lighting torch. Therefore, this sector should be revived and all means of support should be provided to promote it.

- care and support to be provided to handicraft professions and artisans who should have recognition in their societies as being vital pioneers in preserving the Islamic heritage and ensuring its sustainability.

- training opportunities for artisans in various countries to boost their level of qualification in order to enable them to deal with challenges of competition which became the trademark of our modern times. Schools and colleges should embrace artisans, architects, traditional designers and marketing experts. This will lead to continuous dialogue, consultation, exchange of experiences and staying updated with modern technologies and materials.

- all OIC member countries and other relevant authorities and concerned parties to take all necessary urgent steps and procedures to support those creative artisans and provide incentives and encouragement for them so they may not abandon this sector in search of better living conditions.

- urgent plans to help artisans in marketing their products and promoting them on the local and international levels.

- audio-visual and written media to play an adequate role in raising awareness of our heritage on local, regional and international levels as well as highlight its importance to development, tourism and economic issues in the member countries.

- establishing the Islamic Crafts Council (ICC) in one of the Islamic countries, through the OIC, which could be similar to the World Crafts Council. Such a council would include institutions and experts in the field of handicrafts and traditional industries in Islamic countries who will discuss issues related to developing the sector as well as ways to activate exhibitions and encourage recognition of artisans to ensure continuity of creativity and excellence in this sector.

- holding regular biannual meetings of the Riyadh Congress in one of the Islamic countries to discuss issues related to handicrafts and traditional industries. Other events and activities could be held along with such a congress to address various issues such as innovation, creativity, design, availability of services, seeking marketing opportunities and other issues vital to this sector.

The series of exhibitions held during the congress period and the stands of the artisans received large numbers of visitors.

Another feature of the congress, the International Award for Creativity in Crafts, which covered most of the craft fields, drew participants from fifty countries. The award

was organised jointly by the Supreme Commission for Tourism, Saudi Arabia, and IRCICA. The award criteria were: Excellence (the product representing traditional craftsmanship, that it unites the spiritual and the physical qualities of a craft product, responding to the ideal as well as to the material functions for which it has been created and brought to achievement); creative concept; design and invention in traditional technique. H.R.H. Prince Sultan Ben Salman Ben Abdulaziz, Secretary General of the Supreme Commission for Tourism, awarded the winning artisans. The awards were in the following branches: Pottery and Ceramic, Carpets, Sadu and Kilim, Stucco Coloured Glass, Embroidery, Traditional Costumes, Wooden Crafts, Ornamentation and Miniature, Binding, Gilding, Traditional Paper-making, Jewelry, Metal Crafts, Mosaic Work, Leather Crafts, Straw, Baskets and Bamboo Crafts, Handmade Models, Other Crafts.

Within the framework of its Craft Development Program being implemented since the early 1990s, IRCICA organised nine symposiums until the present one, and published eight books containing their papers. Each symposium is given a special theme of focus, such as: the issue of creativity, arabesque in crafts, traditional carpets, craft in Islamic architecture. Parallel to these activities, a documentary data base is established, containing information on the various types of handicrafts, the current situation of the traditional handicrafts sector all over the Islamic world, designs, marketing, size of the tourism market, exchange of technology, training opportunities, availability of raw materials, among others. The program is conducted in collaboration with the concerned authorities and institutions of the OIC Member States, and regional and international organisations. An international collaborative network has thus been created, involving craft specialists and institutions active in this field.



IRCICA Activities

"Book Hospital" to be set up at Süleymaniye Library: joint project of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Turkey, IRCICA and UNESCO

A project is launched jointly by the Ministry of Culture of Turkey, IRCICA and UNESCO to set up a "Book Hospital" at Süleymaniye Library in Istanbul. A tripartite Memorandum of Understanding was signed for the purpose by the Permanent Representative of Turkey at UNESCO Ambassador Numan Hazer (on behalf of Turkey), UNESCO Director General Mr. Koichiro Matsuura, and IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren, at a ceremony at UNESCO headquarters on 29 November 2006. The Memorandum sets the operational framework for the implementation of the project.

The aim is to create permanent facilities to preserve and restore endangered manuscripts and old books. The present stage was reached after meticulous preparations which involved on-site expert studies and consultations.

The actual implementation to begin from now on will combine the expertise of UNESCO and IRCICA under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Turkey with the aim of expanding the technical equipment, know-how and qualifications existing at Süleymaniye Library in accordance with modern standards and developing the latter into a centre of theoretical and practical training and conservation.

The unit to be thus formed will closely follow and apply the advancements in conservation techniques, form a cadre of qualified personnel, and provide training services in laboratory for curators from around the world. Süleymaniye Library was chosen on account of its central location, the importance of its collections of Islamic manuscripts and the vast knowledge and experience acquired in the maintenance and treatment of this collection. Speaking at the ceremony, IRCICA Director General Dr. Eren said that one of the merits of the project is that it does not start from zero but builds upon the existing system by expanding it but also benefiting from it.

The Director General of UNESCO Mr. Matsuura expressed his pleasure that agreement is reached on this important common endeavour. Mr. Matsuura said that Süleymaniye Library, with its vast and rich holdings of heritage, "is a leading



institution with a strong preservation tradition", and praised the initiative as one that leads to a greater understanding of Islamic culture and civilisation.

Süleymaniye Library houses one of the world's largest collections of manuscripts. The multi-functional restoration and conservation unit in preparation will serve not only in Turkey but also in the preservation and study of the rich manuscript collections all over the Middle East, the Balkans, Central Asia and Caucasia.

Forthcoming: international symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in Central Asia" to be held in Kazakhstan

The next symposium in the series devoted to regional aspects of Islamic history and civilisation in various parts of the world will be on "Islamic Civilisation in Central Asia". The Institute of Oriental Studies of the Ministry of Education and Sciences, Republic of Kazakhstan, has agreed to cooperate with IRCICA to organise this meeting in Kazakhstan, on 4-7 September 2007.

The theme will cover diverse aspects of the history of Islamic culture and civilisation in Central Asia, including the intellectual, scientific, literary, artistic and other cultural fields, the interactions of Islam with other civilisations in and around the region, the main trends of the development of Muslim cultures in the region, the formation and present state of the Islamic cultural heritage in terms of the material culture (written, architectural and other tangible assets) and the spiritual culture (beliefs, oral traditions, performing arts and other intangible expressions of culture).

The symposium is expected to highlight the role and place of Islamic civilisation in the region, its relations and interactions with other cultures and civilisations, its participation in inter-cultural exchanges. At the same time, it will be an opportunity for the presentation of new studies, assessment of the state of scholarly research and publication in this field, and discussion on the problems and prospects of studies on Islamic civilisation in Central Asia and the neighbouring regions as a subject area in academic research. The working languages of the symposium will be Kazakh language, English, and Russian.

The symposium theme will be covered under the following broad titles:

- Islam in Central Asia: problems and prospects
- Historical and philosophical aspects of Islamic heritage in Central Asia
- History of Islam and its interactions with national cultures in Central Asia
- Islamic art in Central Asia
- Islamic culture in Central Asia: common, particular and integrating tendencies
- Development of natural and exact sciences in Muslim Central Asia.

To participate in the symposium, please write to IRCICA, e-mail: congress@ircica.org; fax: 90.212.2584365.

"Egypt in the Ottoman Era" congress

IRCICA and the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Culture of Egypt are jointly developing the terms and modalities of a congress on "Egypt in the Ottoman Era", to be held on 3-5 November 2007, in Cairo. The proposed themes, under consideration, include the following: Sources and approaches to the study of Ottoman Egypt; systems installed by the Ottomans after the Mamluk period; administration of the province; the judiciary; rural and urban society; economy (agriculture, crafts, regional and international trade); culture (learning, arts and architecture). The themes and modalities of the congress will be finalised shortly.

Symposium to mark the 100th anniversary of the Second Constitution (Ottoman State) in 2008

The Second Constitution, proclaimed in 1908, had started a new era in the political history of the Ottoman State in which Sultan Abdulhamid II restored the constitutional monarchy and the power and influence of the Committee of Union and Progress (CUP) ascended. IRCICA plans to organise a symposium in April 2008 on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of this event. The subject will be the Revolution, its impact on the Balkans and the Arab provinces in different fields.

Contacts with governmental authorities in Iran and cooperation agreement with the Organisation of Culture and Islamic Relations

The Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren visited the Islamic Republic of Iran during the period of 21-22 September for a series of meetings with governmental authorities and cultural institutions. Dr. Eren was received by H.E. Dr. Gholam Ali Hadad Adel, Speaker of the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Director General of the Islamic Encyclopedia of Iran. The meeting was an occasion to exchange views on proposed joint activities in the form of a congress and an exhibition of Islamic arts, to be held in Iran, and the translation into Persian of the book on the *History of the Ottoman State and Civilisation*, which was published originally by IRCICA in Turkish and translated into the world's major languages.

A fruitful meeting was with H.E. Sheikh Mahmoud al-Mohmadi al-Iraqi, President, Organisation of Culture and Islamic Relations. The meeting was an occasion to review the



relations between the two parties which had led to a large-scale joint activity four years ago: the First International Congress on Islamic Arts and Crafts, held in Isfahan.

These relations will be further promoted from now on within the framework of a Cooperation Agreement, which was signed during the visit. It defines guidelines for various types of activities such as congresses, publications, etc. to be undertaken in fields of common interest: in particular, the promotion of objective studies on the history and the inter-cultural relations of Muslim peoples, and, under another heading, making better known the various branches of Iranian arts in the other OIC member countries.

Dr. Eren also visited Mr. Mortaza Karimi Nia, Head of the Centre for Translation of the Holy Quran. As bibliographical studies on translations of the Quran constitute one of the main areas of interest of IRCICA, the talks centered on the research and publications relating to translations and editions of the Quran and Quranic literature.

Cooperation with the Royal Documentation Centre of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan formalised

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Royal Documentation Centre of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and IRCICA during the visit of H.R.H. Prince Ali bin Nayef, Chairman of the Centre, to IRCICA on 18 October 2006, accompanied by Dr. Muhammed Issa Al-Adwan, Director of the Royal Documentation Centre.

During the visit, IRCICA's staff had the opportunity to see an audio-visual presentation on the Royal Documentation Centre's activities. It was also an occasion to brief the visitors on recent progress in IRCICA's activities.

The Memorandum of Understanding formalizes the existing cooperation between the two institutions in order to pave the way for more and varied joint activities in the field of documentation. It is agreed that they will pool together their expertise and experience for the training of documentation specialists, in convening symposia, holding documentary exhibitions and doing research in fields of common interest. Furthermore, the two parties will engage in cooperation with regional and international associations working in the field of archives and documentation.



**"Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015"
Architectural Heritage Program: seminar,
presentation of results of preparatory studies**

Within the framework of the newly launched "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" Architectural Heritage Program, a Seminar was held on 25 November at IRCICA. The seminar was opened by Halit Eren and Ambassador Nabil Marouf, Ambassador of Palestine in Ankara, Turkey.

During the seminar, the results of architectural studies conducted in Al-Quds by a group of professors and students from the Department of Architecture of the University of Bari, Italy, chaired by Prof. Attilio Petruccioli, were communicated. This was an occasion to evaluate the progress achieved in the present preparation phase of the project started by IRCICA on the theme of the preservation of the architectural heritage of Al-Quds and Palestine.

Dr. Eren gave a background of the project and explained its future stages. Ambassador Marouf explained his gratitude for initiatives taken by Centre through this important project and gave full commitment of the Palestinian Government to this program.

The lecture "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015 project in context" delivered by Arch. Jon Calame opened fruitful discussion among the professors of architecture contributing to the program: Zeynep Ahunbay (Istanbul Technical University), Amir Pasic (IRCICA), Claudio d'Amato, Attilio Petruccioli (University of Bari), Marwan Abu Khalaf (University of Al-Quds) and other participants, students from the university Politecnico di Bari and Istanbul.



From left, Prof. Attilio Petruccioli, Ambassador Nabil Marouf, Dr. Halit Eren, Prof. Amir Pasic



Architect Jon Calame



Prof. Zeynep Ahunbay, Prof. Marwan Abu Khalaf



IRCICA hosts public lectures on Saturdays twice a month, from September to June inclusive, and occasionally at other times. These lectures are delivered by researchers, authors, specialists of the various arts, from Turkey and abroad, on various themes corresponding to the Centre's fields of activities, with emphasis on the Muslim countries, the history of Muslim nations, arts, architecture, history of art, history of science, language, literature, etc. The lectures are recorded on cassettes and kept as reference materials. The following lectures were held recently:

- "Signs of magnificence: Decorations in the forms of wreaths and medals" by Zekeriya Kurşun, 6 May 2006
- "Yıldız Palace" (including a tour) by Buket Bayoğlu, 13 May 2006
- "Hayreddin Pasha of Tunisia" by Atilla Çetin, 20 May 2006
- "Prof. Dr. Sabri Ülgener, his life, works and milieu" by Ahmet Güner Sayar, 4 November 2006
- "Konya as seen from the camera of Eşref Balım" by Orhan Kologlu, 18 November 2006
- "Calligrapher İsmail Zühdi Efendi" by M. Uğur Derman, 9 December 2006
- "Karacaahmet Cemetery" by Necdet İşli, 16 December 2006

* "Signs of magnificence: Decorations in the forms of wreaths and medals" by Zekeriya Kurşun, 6 May 2006

Prof. Zekeriya Kurşun pointed out that the Ottoman Empire had many symbols of grandeur including palaces, summer palaces and kiosks. In this lecture he focused on smaller signs of magnificence most of which have been lost. These are decorations known as çelenk (wreath), avize (chandelier), şems (sun), hilal (crescent) and madalya (medal). He mentioned some of the previous works which were carried out on this subject by the numismatists İbrahim Artuk and Cevriye Artuk, Turkish Numismatics Society, Prof. Edhem Eldem (about the last Ottoman Bank), and Garo Kürkman. The lecturer dealt with çelenk and madalya from a historical perspective. He pointed out that çelenk emerged within the framework of military rewards. Rewarding has its own

records and hierarchy. It appears mostly in the form of hil'ats (robes of honor). Although there is a dearth of information about çelenk, we are mostly informed about the hil'at. In its etymology, the word is of Turkish origin, meaning the feathers or wings of an eagle, a hawk or a heron. Some dictionaries define it as a crest but this definition is incomplete and wrong.



Prof. Zekeriya Kurşun

The crests were distributed to military men before they went on campaigns. We do not know the time when they emerged. Evliya Çelebi, famous Ottoman traveler of the 17th century mentions the decoration known as çelenk, which was attached to headgears, in various parts of his Seyahatname. He talks about different kinds of it such as gümüş (silver) çelenk, üç çatal çelenk (three forked wreath) and şahin kanadı çelenk (wreath with wing of a falcon). We learn about the jeweled çelenk in the seventeenth century but there is scant information about it. According to Evliya Çelebi, çelenk appeared at the end of the sixteenth and at the turn of the seventeenth century. It was conferred upon successful soldiers. It is mentioned in some archival sources. We learn from the sources that manufacturing this decoration was rather costly. At first, these decorations were conferred when the sultan went on a campaign. Later on, they were conferred on the occasion of other campaigns as well and became more widespread during the 18th century. The purposes of rewarding were twofold: Firstly, encouragement of the person who received the decoration; secondly, assuring the legitimacy of the person who conferred the decoration. In the 18th century, later times, the concept of "jeweled avize" emerged. The decorations known as madalya became widespread and various kinds of them emerged. They were also widespread during Abdülhamid II's reign.

* "Yıldız Palace" (including a tour) by Buket Bayoğlu, 13 May 2006

Ms. Buket Bayoğlu, museologist, Assistant Director of the Yıldız Palace Museum, delivered her conference within the framework of the Museum Week (18-24 May). It focused on the past and present of the Yıldız Palace. This was the last Ottoman Palace where Sultan Abdülhamid II resided 33 years. In later periods, various objects, works and books which were housed in this palace were scattered in different parts of Istanbul such as the Topkapı Palace Museum, Istanbul University, National Palaces, etc. The purpose of modern museology is to hand in these objects to their original places, to restore the buildings in line with their originals and to open them to the public. After informing the participants on the palace and the present activities of museology, restoration and conservation, the lecturer took them to a tour to the various sections of the palace.



Ms. Buket Bayoğlu spoke on Yıldız Palace. Dr. Hidayet Nuhoğlu (IRCICA) introduced the lecturer

Launching of the Arabic edition of the book *Hayreddin Pasha of Tunisia* of Atilla Çetin, 20 May 2006

A meeting was held at IRCICA to launch the Arabic edition, published by IRCICA and the Ministry of Culture of Tunisia, of the book *Hayreddin Pasha of Tunisia* which was written originally in Turkish by Prof. Atilla Çetin. During the meeting, Prof. Atilla Çetin gave a lecture in which he introduced Hayreddin Pasha of Tunisia, a prominent personality in intellectual, administrative and political life of the Islamic world in the 19th century. As an intellectual, Hayreddin Pasha influenced the political and administrative reformation movement that took place in Tunisia in the third quarter of the nineteenth century. He was a Muslim intellectual who was acquainted not only with his own society but with the West as well, through his contacts with France, in the true sense of the word. He advised "Modernization by keeping the identity of a Muslim" and put his views into effect in the duties which he fulfilled. Hayreddin Pasha came to Istanbul on duty and then he began to serve in Ottoman administration upon the order of Sultan Abdülhamid II. He was appointed Grand Vizier in 1878. Hayreddin Pasha's memoirs and thoughts qualify him as one of the most significant thinkers of his period. Many of his works were printed in Arabic and they were also translated into Turkish, French and English. At the end of his lecture, Prof. Atilla Çetin stated that Hayreddin Pasha of Tunisia was a statesman who lived according to the precepts of Islam and at the same time tried to bring the Ottoman State to a level so that it would keep up with the developments of the period.

In his address, Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA spoke of Hayreddin Pasha's firm belief that Tunisia was an inseparable part of the Ottoman State and the well being of Tunisia was contingent upon the reforms to be carried out in Ottoman lands which also included the Arab provinces. He indicated two points. Firstly, he stated that some 19th century Arab historians considered the reform movement in lands such as in Tunisia, Baghdad and Cairo outside of the general movement of reforms which were carried out in the Ottoman State. Secondly, when he was in Istanbul Hayreddin Pasha became aware of the pressure exerted by European countries on the Ottoman State and the efforts by Sultan Mahmud II to improve the situation of the army and the state. He also witnessed the proclamation of the Imperial Rescript of Gülhane (November 3, 1839) and Islahat Fermanı (February 18, 1856). The Director General underlined the fact that Hayreddin Pasha published his work titled *Akşam ul-mesalik fi marifeti ahval al-memalik* in 1867 in which he inquired the reasons for the decay of the Islamic world and

its solutions. He began to apply the ideas of reform when he became Grand Vizier on 1878-1879. Thus, he began to carry out reforms in political, administrative, economic, financial, educational and cultural fields during his office which lasted eight months. He tried to revive the parliamentary system and undertook reforms in the judicial field as well. He also prepared layihâs (reports) on different topics which the Sultan demanded from him. When his duty as grand vizier ended he was asked to be responsible for some important committees. He passed away in Istanbul in 1890.

Prof. Atilla Çetin's book was published by the Ministry of Culture of Turkey twice in 1988-1999. It was translated into Arabic and published in 2006. The idea to translate this work into Arabic had emerged upon the initiative of H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, former Director General of IRCICA, presently Secretary General of the OIC, during a meeting in which the Minister of Culture of Tunisia H.E. Dr. Abdülbaki El-Hermasi and his Turkish counterpart H.E. Mr. İstemihan Talay participated. Prof. İhsanoğlu had pointed out that the Arab readers would like to learn the achievements of the Turkish historians about Ottoman history which is the common history of Turks and Arabs.

Then Consul General of Tunisia Mr. Taoufik Jabeur addressed the meeting; he said that Hayreddin Pasha's life story is as rich as a novel. Born in Caucasia, he was brought to Istanbul and sold there as a slave. Although he did not receive a systematic education, he was a self-educated man. He read many books and during the period when he was in France he learned about the European civilisation. During his functions as Grand Vizier he supported the reform movements and expressed his ideas in his well-known book.

*** "Konya as seen from the camera of Eşref Balum" by Orhan Koloğlu, 18 November 2006**

In his lecture, Dr. Orhan Koloğlu related the life and activities of his grandfather (Süleyman Eşref) Eşref Balum who was a telegrapher, a supporter of the Union and Progress Party and of the Bektashi order. He belonged to the well-known Balmumcuzade family from Konya. The family came to Istanbul at the turn of the 19th century. Starting from its fourth generation, the members of the family met some financial difficulties and began to sell their belongings in order to make a living. Süleyman Eşref was brought up in this period. He was born on 13 August 1873. His mother enrolled



From left, the Consul General of Tunisia Mr. Taoufik Jabeur, Dr. H. Eren, Prof. Atilla Çetin



Dr. Orhan Koloğlu

him in Galatasaray Lycée, but he had to quit after a short period due to financial problems. He then started to work at the telegraph office and served in various cities of Anatolia as a telegrapher until his retirement in 1935. Süleyman Eşref spent the last period of his life in Konya. He took thousands of photographs of the monuments dating from the Seljukid and the pre-Ottoman period in this city, during the period of 1935-1950. A notebook covering his memoirs of the years 1948-49 is kept in IRCICA Archives.

An exhibition entitled "Konya from Eşref Balum's camera" was opened at IRCICA, Çit Qasr which accompanied the lecture of Dr. Orhan Koloğlu. It included black and white photographs of various monuments in Konya taken by Eşref Balum. These mainly include the following: İnce Minare (Slim Minaret), 1940s; Fountain of Karaman Halil Ağa, 1940s; Süleymaniye Mosque, 1940s; Post Office building, 1948; bridge and public bath of Meram, 1940s; Karatay Medrese, 1933; inner court of Mevlana's tomb, 1940s; Alaeddin Hill and its vicinity, and the like. Most of these photographs were taken for the monthly magazine titled Konya published by the People's House (Halkevi) in Konya.

*** "Calligrapher İsmail Zühdi Efendi" by M. Uğur Derman, 9 December 2006**

In his lecture, Dr. M. Uğur Derman first talked about the life of the well-known Ottoman calligrapher İsmail Zühdi Efendi. He learned the six scripts (*aklam-ı sitte*) from Ahmed Hıfzi Efendi. He received his diploma (*icazet*) in 1180/1766 and took the nickname of Zühdi. He became calligraphy teacher in the Palace during the reign of Sultan Mustafa III and was given the title of "reis ül-hattatin" (chief calligrapher). He particularly excelled in thuluth script.



İsmail Zühdi Efendi passed away in 1806. Some of the works he left behind are: parts of the Quran copy he calligraphed, the verse "Anbiya" in his handwriting, 22 practice pieces, the verse of "Zariat", calligraphic albums of old masters, En'am-ı Sherif of Sheikh Hamdullah, four hilyes (description of Prophet Mohammed's physical features) calligraphed by Hafız Osman, pen knives, inkpot, etc. His brother Mustafa Rakım Efendi was also a renowned calligrapher, particularly in jaly thuluth script.

*** "Karacaahmet Cemetery" by Mr. Necdet İşli, 16 December 2006**

In his lecture, historian Mr. Necdet İşli pointed out that the historical Karacaahmet Cemetery in Istanbul is the largest cemetery remaining from the Ottoman Empire. Most of the tombstones belong to the janissaries and statesmen. It is covered under the Law of Antiquities. The cemetery covers a land of 50 hectares. The lecturer stated that it neither has a photographic inventory nor a catalogue. There is neither an academic nor an educational institution dealing with historical tombstones and the culture that flourished around them. There is a need to train and employ specialized people to deal with these matters.



Above, from left: Dr. Uğur Derman, Mr. Necdet İşli, Dr. Hidayet Nuhoğlu; below, right: Dr. Ahmet Güner Sayar

Distinguished visitors



* The Centre was honoured to receive on its premises H.E. Mr. Ebrahim Rasool, Western Cape Premier, Republic of South Africa, and the accompanying delegation, on 20 November 2006. OIC Secretary General Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu was present on this occasion.

Fruitful talks were held on the prospects of cultural cooperation between South African institutions and OIC-IRCICA, in addition to those in view of the Johannesburg symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in Southern Africa" which was then in preparation.

Mr. Ebrahim Rasool recorded his impressions on the Centre's work: "Thank you very much for the work that you do in preserving the collective heritage of the Ummah and, indeed, the heritage of all civilizations. Memory is the most important component of planning our way forward. In memory are preserved the norms, the principles and the values of what we stand for. Memory therefore, contains the golden thread that ensures that while contexts, conditions and times may change, we remain committed to the good we are instructed to maintain. All strength to IRCICA."

* The Minister of Health of the Sultanate of Oman H.E. Mr. Ali bin Mousa and Mrs. Mousa visited IRCICA on 4 September 2006. The Minister received information from Mr. Mohammed Tamimi on the Centre's present activities and future projects. During the visit to the various departments of the Centre, the characteristics of its premises located in the historical Yıldız Palace were mentioned.

Various cultural events organised by IRCICA, such as art competitions and exhibitions, in which Omani researchers, artists and other interested parties participated, were emphasized during the talks.

* The Governor of Damascus H.E. Dr. Bisher al-Sabban and the delegation accompanying the Governor on the occasion of the "Damascus Cultural Days" visited IRCICA in the morning of 18 December 2006. The group comprised a number of high officials from the Syrian Government and the artists participating in the cultural program. Dr. Halit Eren briefed the distinguished visitors on the activities of the Centre, in particular, the fruitful cooperation between the governmental and non-governmental cultural institutions of Syria on one hand and IRCICA on the other which resulted in several joint cultural events in the past years.

"Damascus Cultural Days", opened the same day, continued until 23 December, with concerts and folklore shows, painting and sculpture exhibitions.



Visit of the Governor of Damascus Dr. Bisher al-Sabban



The International Congress and Exhibition of Islamic Arts, Kuwait, and IRCICA's participation



Opening of the Congress by H.E. Mr. Adel al-Felah, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs

An International Congress and Exhibition of Islamic Arts was organised by the Ministry of Waqfs and Islamic Affairs of Kuwait, in Kuwait City on 10-19 December 2006, under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Abdullah Matruq al-Matruq, Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs. Institutions concerned and artists from various Islamic countries participated in the congress and exhibition. The latter was displayed on specially arranged grounds in the surroundings of the Grand Mosque, one of the important religious and cultural monuments of the country. Samples of works in the various branches of Islamic arts were presented: marbled paper, ceramics, woodcarving, calligraphy, etc. Among the participating institution, were Tareq Rajab Museum (Kuwait), Sadu Corporation (Kuwait), IRCICA, among others. An exhibition of paintings relating to Islamic architecture, lectures and workshops relating to the various arts, a special section for children, and a calligraphy competition on the theme of "Tolerance in Islam" announced at the national level, were among the features of the event. IRCICA, represented at the congress and exhibition by

Dr. Halit Eren and Mr. Mohammed Tamimi, presented an exhibition introducing its activities and its publications, particularly those on Islamic arts and calligraphy.



The art of stained glass



Marbled paper works by Mr. Ahmet Çoktan (Turkey), at right, samples of bedouin weaving from Kuwait, presented by Sadu Corporation



Book Survey

Books selected from IRCICA Library

History, Sources

Kazakstan Tarikhi Turali Turki Derektmeleri

(History of Kazakhstan according to the documents in Turkish), 2 vols., edited by I. N. Tasmagambetov et al., Dayk Press, Almaty, 2005 (in Kazakh language)

This book was prepared in two volumes as a result of the studies conducted by R.B. Suleymanov Oriental Institute within the framework of the Agreement concerning Cultural Heritage 2004-2006 (no. 1277) which was signed by H.E. Nursultan Nazarbaev, President of The Republic of Kazakhstan on 13 January 2004. The first volume titled Utemish Hacı Chengizname includes a translation and an interpretation of "Chengizname" which was written by Utemish Haji from Khwarizm in the fourteenth century. The original work is kept as a unique copy at Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences. Chengizname is an invaluable work for the history of Kazakhstan and Central Asia.

The second volume titled Orhon, Enisei and Talas as mentioned in Turkish manuscripts includes the photographs of historical monuments and other materials such as miniatures and coins which were found in the above-mentioned areas as a result of archaeological excavations. These pieces of evidence clarify the history of the region.

It appears that this book constitutes an important source in introducing and preserving the historical materials located in Kazakhstan. In fact, the archival materials which were found during the preparation of the book will shed light upon the hitherto unknown aspects of Kazakh history. (Book survey by Ayna Askarova)

Vedad Bišćević, **Governors of Bosnia during the Ottoman Period (1463-1878)**, Foreword by Professor Mustafa Imamović, Connectum, Sarajevo, 2006, 585 pp. (in Bosnian)

In the introduction of this valuable reference book the author gives the general characteristics of the Ottoman state administration; in the following chapters he gives more details about the Ottoman rule in Bosnia, elaborating on the changes brought to Bosnia by the Ottomans (establishment of the local government, military structures, architecture and urban development, economic structures, and introduction and spread of Islam). The second part of the book gives a list of the governors sorted chronologically, in a total of 319 names. Many of them were in office for several

times, some for a few months, and others for several years. The author follows the same data pattern for each governor (duration of office, military activities, social and economic involvement in Bosnia, and in some cases interesting events related to that period). The Appendix contains data about the settlements, the origins of the governors, their endowments, important and interesting events that took place in Bosnia during the Ottoman period, a glossary, and relevant sources on the subject.

This scholarly work enlightens the historians and interested readers with a reading knowledge of Bosnian about the governors of Bosnia. Its translation into English would make it possible to address wider circles. (Book survey by Prof. Amir Pasic)

Glimpses of Khuda Bakhsh Library, published by Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, 2003, vi+109 p.

This book introduces Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library in Patna, the capital city of Bihar, and its founder, in the light of the impressions of various scholars and poets. It comprises 16 articles. The Library was formally opened to the public in August 1891 and was dedicated to the people of Bihar. The founder of the library Khan Bahadur Maulavi Khuda Bakhsh Khan, (1842-1908) was a leading lawyer in Patna, as well as a social reformer and a bibliophile. Khuda Bakhsh inherited his passion for books from his father Maulavi Mohammad Bakhsh Khan, who left a collection of manuscripts and rare books at his death. His son fulfilled the father's will, preserving the collection and making useful additions to it. Thus, one can find rare manuscripts in the collection which cannot be encountered in any other library in the world. At present, the collection comprises over 21000 manuscripts in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Hindi and Sanskrit languages as well as a great number of printed books in almost all the major oriental and occidental languages.

The Director of the library Dr. Mohd. Ziauddin Ansari states that in view of the importance of the writings about the Library and its founder, which are scattered in various journals and books, the library decided to compile and publish them as a book. The present volume in English came out in this way. The first volume was published as a collection of Urdu, Persian and Arabic writings, and the planned third volume will include the writings in the Hindi language.

Ferec ba'd eş-şidde "Freud nach Leid" (Ein frühosmanisches Geschichtenbuch) ("Joy After Sorrow" – an early Ottoman story book), 2 vols., Studien zur Sprache, Geschichte und Kultur der Türkvölker, Band 5, Klaus Schwarz Verlag GmbH, Berlin, 2006, 650-595 p.

This two-volume book is a transcription and facsimile edition of a 15th-century manuscript work comprising 42 tales translated from Persian into old Anatolian Turkish and early Ottoman Turkish. The work is considered to be one of the masterpieces of translated literature. Its original, dated 1451, is preserved in the Library of Oriental Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. It is an important source for the study of the history of development of the Turkish language and grammar. All of the tales it contains are written in the style of the Book of One Thousand and One Nights. The manuscript is comprised of three parts: first, following a brief preface, there is the invocation – the appeal to God, and brief information on the work; second, a list of the titles of the tales, and third, the 42 tales.

The book was prepared for publication by György Hazai and the late Andreas Tietze, leading European Turcologists of our time. The fact that a number of copies of the book were produced indicates that it was greatly appreciated in its period. The parts lacking in the Budapest copy were completed on the basis of the Istanbul-Laleli copy which is kept at Süleymaniye Library.

The first volume contains a Preface by Hazai and the Introduction by Tietze; information on the manuscript and the edition, explanations on the characteristics of the script, the transcribed text of the manuscript, concordance with the Istanbul copy, an index of the tales, etc. The second volume contains the facsimile prints of the Budapest copy and parts of the Istanbul-Laleli copy. The publication is a valuable source for those who study the history of Turkish language and literature.

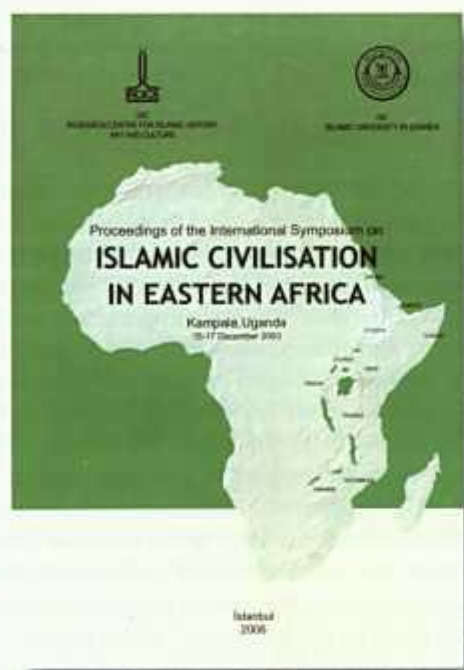
Restauriert für die Zukunft: Osmanische Textilien aus der Rüstkammer Dresden (Restoration for the Future: Ottoman Textiles in Dresden Military Museum), prepared by Holger Schuckelt, Deutscher Kunstverlag, München, 2006 (in German)

This book is the catalogue of the special exhibition which was opened at Dresdener Residenzschloss (Dresden Palace) on 23 March-18 June 2006. The gifts that were presented to the Ottoman sultans by European rulers who visited Saxony constituted the majority of the pieces exhibited. Most of the pieces date from the period of the 16th-19th centuries and concern wars and fashion. The most important item of the exhibition is the roof of the Ottoman tent which was bought from the Ottomans in 1714 upon the order of Prince August. This tent, along with some other items, suffered from the flood that occurred in 2002 in the River Elbe. The damaged pieces were repaired with the support of some institutions. The visitors can see the costumes, textiles, weapons, tents, flags and other items which were used in the Ottoman Empire. These constitute the rich "Orientalica" collection in Prince August's palace in Saxony. This special exhibition constitutes a preliminary study for the historical "Turkish Section" to be established in the Palace of Dresden. This catalogue includes useful information about Ottoman culture and civilization for the period extending from the 16th century when the Empire was at its zenith until its decline from the 19th century onwards.

D'Aronco, Ottoman Architect, Projects for Istanbul 1893-1909, Restorations, projects, Books, Istanbul 2006, İstanbul Araştırmaları Enstitüsü (Institute for research on Istanbul), 342 pp., ill. (in Turkish, English and Italian)

Italian architect Raimondo Tommaso D'Aronco, the royal architect of the Ottoman Palace during 1893-1909, has a special place in Istanbul's architecture of the period. His works generally reflect a combination of Ottoman traditions with the Art Nouveau, representing an original interaction of the architectural cultures and an innovative contribution to decorative arts. With the experiences he gained during his stay in Istanbul, D'Aronco also acquired a special place in European and world Art Nouveau. His works reflect, and contribute to, the modernisation of residential architecture during that period. This beautiful book contains reproductions of samples of his original drawings, aquarelles, designs. The articles it contains address a wide range of topics: building plans, the Architect's library, Ottoman architectural features versus modernity, the summer residence of the Italian Embassy in Istanbul, etc. The book was prepared with the contributions of the Italian Cultural Centre in Istanbul and published by Suna and İnan Kırac Foundation.

Proceedings of the international symposium on Islamic Civilisation in Eastern Africa, Kampala, Uganda, 15-17 December 2003, Sources and Studies on the History of Islamic Civilisation series 13, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2006 (xv+332 pp.)



The symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in Eastern Africa" was held under the patronage of H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, and jointly organised by the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) and IRCICA. It was the first large-scale academic event in which IRCICA participated in the region. For the purposes of the symposium, the region of Eastern Africa was defined to include: The Comoros, Eastern Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, and also Oman, South Africa and Yemen.

The symposium aimed, among others, at contributing to the existing reservoir of knowledge on the history and socio-cultural heritage of Islam in Eastern Africa, facilitating a better understanding of the religious and cultural impact of Islam on the region, strengthening the dynamics of intra and inter-cultural dialogue and cooperation, and offering a high quality academic platform to enable authentic representations concerning the substantial contribution of Islamic civilisation to the modern world. To this end, the symposium drew participants from all continents. The cultural and intellectual riches produced under Islamic influence, as well as the necessary sources and references to study them were discussed. Uganda emerged as the most suitable and fitting venue for the symposium on account of its rich multi-religious cultural heritage part of which represent the historical interactions with neighbouring countries. Historically, it has been a bridge of cultural as well as commercial relations between Africa and Asia, the Arabian

Peninsula, the Sultanate of Oman and Yemen. Furthermore, it has been a dividing line between Christianity and Islam in Eastern and Central Africa.

The book has been edited by Abdu B. K. Kasozi, Former Vice-Rector of IUIU, Executive Director of the National Council for Higher Education in Uganda, who also wrote the Editorial Foreword. The chapters specially selected and edited for this volume highlight the major themes that were discussed and analyzed during the symposium, namely: the penetration of Islam in Eastern Africa; Islam and trade in Eastern Africa; Kiswahili and Islamic literature; Islamic education and intellectual development in Eastern Africa; visual issues in Islamic Civilisation; European colonial powers and Islam; and Islam and the contemporary period.

The book contains the following articles: "Africa and Islamic Civilisation: The East African Experience", by Ali A. Mazrui; "Penetration of Islam in Eastern Africa" by Ahmed Binsumeit, A.Badawy Jamalilyl; "The State and Islam in Ethiopia, 850-1995 AD" by Hussein Ahmed; "The Swahili: Twelve Centuries of Islam" by J.E. G. Sutton; "The Influence of Sudanese Muslims in Uganda From North of the Great Lakes" by Ibrahim Sogayroun; "Islam in Southern Africa: A Historical Perspective" by Mohamed Amra; "Ottoman Policies against European Colonial Powers in Northern Africa" by Süleyman Kızıltoprak; "Mahdism versus Colonialism: A Study of Muslim Response to Colonial Rule in Somaliland" by Oladosu Afis Ayinde; "Relations between the Ottoman Empire and the Zanzibar Sultanate" by Hatice Ugur; "Ottoman Efforts to Protect Somalia against the European Powers" by Tariq Mohamed Nour; "Competing Approaches to Islamic Education in Kenya" by Rudiger Seesman; "The Idea of an Islamic University in Uganda: Realisation of Dreams" by Khalid Lubega; "Sheikh Hassan B. Ameir Ash-Shirazi (1880-1979) His Contribution to Islamic Education in East Africa" by Issa Ziddy; "Kadhi's Intellectual Legacy on the East African Coast: The Contributions of Al-Amin bin Ali Al-Mazrui, Muhammad Al-Mazrui and Abdulla Saleh Farsy" by Abdulkadir Hashim; "Colonialism and Land: Its Cultural and Social Impacts on Muslim Communities in Coastal Kenya, 1895-1960s" by Hamid bin Abd Hamid; "The Enjoyment and Trade of Coffee: History of Reciprocal Exchanges between Ethiopia and the Islamic Civilisation" by Eloi Ficquet; "Journey of Major Rayne on the Banks of Turkwell River: Allegory of Exploring and Disdaining the Other" by Mustafa Kemal Mirzeler; "Kiswahili Language, Islam and Integration in East Africa" by Hamza Mustafa Njozi; "Translingual Borrowing: Luganda Words of Arabic Origin" by Isaac Settuba; "Globalization and Islam in Eastern Africa" by Akin ada Kasvesa Sengendo; "Globalization and Islamic Civilisation in Eastern Africa" by Fastima L. Adamu and Atiku G. Yahaya.

Ahmet Kavaz, *L'Enseignement islamique en Afrique francophone: Les Médersas de la République du Mali*

(Islamic education in French-speaking Africa: the Medersas of the Republic of Mali), IRCICA, Istanbul, 2003, vii+424 p; ill. (in French)



As early as the 14th century Mali, a great empire of the time, assumed a major role in introducing Islamic education in Africa. Timbuctu flourished in that period as an international centre where students from all corners of the continent were trained in Quranic sciences and the Arabic language. Other cities flourished around it, building a network of centres of learning which left an immense intellectual and written heritage. Later, the 18th and 19th centuries saw successive movements of revival in Islamic education. From the end of 19th century onwards, under the French administration, different types of schools were established: the secular public schools, the Islamic schools or medersas, and the Christian schools. Following the foundation of the Republic of Mali, the modern medersa system assumed a key role in Islamic education. This comprehensive book on the developments of the 20th century resulted from the author's doctorate thesis at the University of Paris-7-Denis Diderot, conducted under the advice of Prof. Jean-Louis Triaud. The research is based on in-depth studies in the archives of Mali and Paris. It covers the processes starting with the evolution of modern Islamic education in French-speaking Africa, especially the Quranic school of the colonial period which already existed before and continued to exist after this period, and deals in great detail with the present state of the medersas and Islamic education, with ample data on their activities, their curricula, their teachers and their students, and their

cultural and social influences. The information provided on the medersas is not limited to those of Mali; those of Algeria, Senegal, Mauritania, and the attempts to establish a medersa in Guinea are examined as well. The chapters on the history of development and the present status of the medersas of Mali as a modernised Islamic institution make of this book an essential reference in its field.

Taking this into consideration, IRCICA was pleased to publish Dr. Kavaz' book as a contribution to studies on the cultural history of Africa. The establishment and spread of education for Muslims – religious education, the teaching of Arabic and connected subjects – in Africa has in fact been a subject of interest for IRCICA since the early 1980s. In 1985, IRCICA published Dr. Mamadou Ndiaye's *L'Enseignement Arabo-Islamique au Sénégal*. Furthermore, many of the papers of the international symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in West Africa" which IRCICA organised jointly with the Institut Fondamental d'Afrique Noire (IFAN) in 1986 deal with the theme of Islamic education in French-speaking Africa directly or indirectly. Finally, this book on Islamic education in Mali is a most valuable addition to the literature in this field.

Sana'l Bark al-Shami by Kivamuddin al-Fath

b. Ali al-Bundari, Edited by Ramazan Şeşen,
introduced by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Istanbul, 2004,
XXXVII+464+III pp.

One of the main fields of activity of IRCICA is the publication of studies on valuable historical manuscripts. This book is one such publication. The author Kivâmuđdin al-Fath b. 'Ali al-Bundari al-İsfahani (d. 643/1245) was a historian and a scribe of the imperial council during the Ayyubid period. His work titled *Sana'l-Bark al-Shami* produced in 622/1225, is the abridgement of al-Bark al-Shami written by 'Imaduddin al-Kâtib al-İsfahani (d. 597/1201) which relates the historical events of Saladin al-Ayyubi's reign.

'Imaduddin al-Kâtib was a prominent historian and author who wrote the history of Saladin's period. He was for many years in the Divan al-Insha of Nuruddin Mahmud b. Zengi (d. 569/1174) and Saladin al-Ayyubi and served as a private secretary (kâtib al-sirr). He was personally present at most of the events of this period and closely witnessed and followed the activities of these two important personalities.

Even after Saladin passed away, 'Imaduddin was faithful to him and wrote his seven-volume work entitled *al-Bark al-Shami* between 594-595/1198-1199 to immortalize Saladin's

memory and the history of his period. This valuable work on the history of the Zengids and the Ayyubids between the years 562-589/1167-1193 is the most important and most reliable source of the last years of Nuruddin and the period of Saladin. In addition to political and military events, this work contains 'Imaduddin's memoirs about these two great personalities and numerous diplomatic documents. Al-Bundari's abridgement titled Sana'l-Bark al-Shami was not known until Prof. Dr. Ramazan Şeşen, Head of the Manuscripts Division of IRCICA, found a copy of its first volume (562-583) in 1967, among the manuscripts in the Esad Efendi collection at the Süleymaniye Library during his doctoral research. He prepared this copy for publication, comparing it with the existing two volumes of al-Bark al-Shami, with quotations from related sources and documents. Ramazan Şeşen revised the published and unpublished parts of his study and prepared the present book with the necessary corrections and additions.

Al-Bark al-Shami of 'Imaduddin al-Kâtib, a valuable historian and a famous writer, has both literary and political value besides its historical importance. It has complementary elements with the work titled al-Fath al-Kudsi by the same author where 'Imaduddin relates the historical events between the years 583-589/1187-1193 during Saladin's reign. The extant volume of Sana'l-Bark al-Shami covers the historical events between the years 562-583/1167-1187 during the reigns of Nuruddin and Saladin. These two above-mentioned works written by 'Imaduddin constitute a complete history of Saladin's reign and cover the events of the year 583/1187, namely, the most significant period of Saladin's history, occasionally giving complementary information.

History of Natural and Applied Science Literature during the Ottoman Period, prepared by E. İhsanoğlu, R. Şeşen, S. Bekar, G. Gündüz, V. Bulut, Editor: E. İhsanoğlu, Series of Studies and Sources on History of Science No. 13, History of Ottoman Literature of Science Series No. 6, 2 vols., IRCICA, Istanbul, 2006, CXLVIII+1562 pp.

This sixth book in the series titled *History of Ottoman Literature of Science* gives bibliographic information on the scientific works - books, treatises, articles, reports, legal documents, etc. - that were produced in the fields of natural and applied sciences during the Ottoman period (1299-1923) over the geographical area covered by the Ottoman state, together with biographical information on their authors. The branches of science covered in the book are: physics, chemistry, meteorology, botanic, zoology, geology, engineering, agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, construction, gastronomy, precious stones.

A total of 3354 works are recorded. The authors of 2407 of them are known, while the authors of 926 works recorded

are unknown. 15% of the works recorded are in the field of physics and applied physics; 20% on chemistry and applied chemistry, 0.8% on precious stones, minerals and geology, 29% on botanic and agriculture.

A considerable part of all works recorded are translations; in the early centuries most of the translations were done from works written originally in Arabic and Persian, but starting from the 17th-18th centuries translations were done from European languages - English, French, German, Italian and Latin, mostly from French. Following the establishment of European-style educational institutions in the Ottoman state during the 18th and 19th centuries, introducing the teaching of modern mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, zoology, botanic and technical subjects in higher education, a reform started and gained momentum with the translation of numerous works from European languages into Turkish and Arabic. From the 1880s onwards innovations made in Europe were followed closely by scientists of the Muslim world, especially in the fields of medicine, agriculture, veterinary science, forestry.

The techniques of photography, telephone, telegraph, electricity production, underwater exploration, medical research and techniques such as the works of Koch and Pasteur, the X-ray, as well as automobile and aircraft manufacturing, were soon transferred and put to application.

The books published previously in this series were on the scientific literature in astronomy, mathematics, geography, music, military arts and science. The next publication will cover the literature in medicine, dentistry and pharmacology.



Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, **Mısır'da Türkler ve Kültürel Mirasları** (The Turks in Egypt and their Cultural Heritage. Bibliography of the Printed Turkish Culture from Mehmed Ali Pasha to Our Time and an Evaluation), IRCICA, Istanbul, 2006, xxxiii, 657 p., ill. (in Arabic and Turkish editions)

For centuries, the mutual social and cultural influences between the Egyptians and the Turks who settled in Egypt have been so deep that they have been assimilated in Egyptian society as part of its cultural profile. To distinguish the various traits of the latter with regard to their Egyptian or Turkish is a hard task, which Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu undertook in this book basing his analysis on an in-depth research on the printed works and sources of culture. In his earlier work *Turkish Cultural Traces in Egypt* (IRCICA, 2003) Prof. İhsanoğlu examined the cultural interactions between Turks and Egyptians from the period of the Tolunoğlu State (868-905 AD) until the French Occupation in Egypt, from the standpoints of language, literature, arts, philosophy, customs and traditions, etc.

As to the present work, it covers the period since the reign of Mehmed Ali Pasha (1805-1848) until 1970.

The elaborate Introduction by İhsanoğlu reviews the cultural relations between Egyptians and Turks in historical perspective, with special focus on activities of printing conducted in Turkish, the political and cultural environment and the cultural influences of this activity as reflected in Egyptian and Turkish societies. It describes the process whereby Ottoman

Turkish culture flourished in Egypt during the period of Mehmed Ali Pasha as compared to the preceding period which was due in part to the Pasha's personal interest in this culture and his innovative cultural policies. The author studies this development, which was inspired at the beginning from the example of Istanbul, and how it evolved into an "Ottoman Egypt" version whose traces and fruits can be observed still today.

The book is published in separate Arabic and Turkish editions. It consists of three parts. The first part contains

chapters dealing with aspects of Turkish culture in Egypt, such as the use of Turkish language in social life, in Palace circles, in the administration, in education, in the army and the various reflections of this; the translations done in Egypt from various languages into Turkish and other aspects of publishing activity.

The analysis is based on data collected from the works cited in publication catalogues, the researches and post-graduate theses done on the subject, and the archival documents dating from the period of Mehmed Ali Pasha. The second part of the book deals with the well-known Bulaq printing house which played a major role in the printing activity in Turkish and other printing houses.

The last part consists of the "Bibliography of Printed Turkish Culture in Egypt" which contains lists of the books and periodicals printed in Turkish and the books that were translated from Turkish into Arabic and printed in Egypt. As a result of this work it is assessed that from 1822, date of establishment of the first printing house in Egypt, until the present, 671 books and 64 periodicals in Turkish were printed in Egypt.



Şam Şehrinin XVII. Asırda Sosyal ve Ekonomik Yapısı
(**The Social and Economic Structure of Damascus Province in the XVIIth Century, according to the Avariz Register nr. 1977**), prepared by Halil Sahillioğlu, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2005



One of the main categories of quantitative data sources of Ottoman history is the registers containing the results of censuses that were conducted for the purpose of determining the taxpayers for different types of taxes. Most of the records such as the fiscal surveys and land registers cite the male portion only of the economically active population since the taxable population groups were the heads of families and income-earning single men. However, as the Avariz tax was imposed on basis of households and not income earners, the relating censuses record all the household members including women and children. "Avariz" was a special tax collected by the Ottoman State throughout its territory. It was part of the taxes that were levied not under the Islamic law but according to customary law. It was imposed in extraordinary cases on temporary basis. It was abolished when the circumstances which necessitated it were no more there. At the beginning it consisted of services such as cutting wood into rows for the army, working as rowers, cleaning the roads, etc. From time to time it was converted into cash payments and made permanent instead of temporary. At times it continued to be levied in the form of services or in kind. It remained in application until late during the second part of 19th century. Thus this edition contains extensive data on the settlements and the demographic characteristics of the population of Damascus in the 17th century; the researcher will find in it data on the families, their neighbourhoods, the occupations of the population, immigrations to Damascus, etc.

The edition has been prepared by the well-known scholar of Ottoman economic history and specialist of the Ottoman archives Prof. Dr. Halil Sahillioğlu. His Preface to the book, together with Dr. Halit Eren's Foreword, provides ample information, with specific cases, on the Avariz tax, as well as on the register and the relevance of data it contains.

Koca Sinan Paşa'nın Telhisleri (The *Telhis* of Koca Sinan Pasha), prepared for publication by H. Sahillioğlu, preface by E. İhsanoğlu, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2004, xxxix+340 pp.

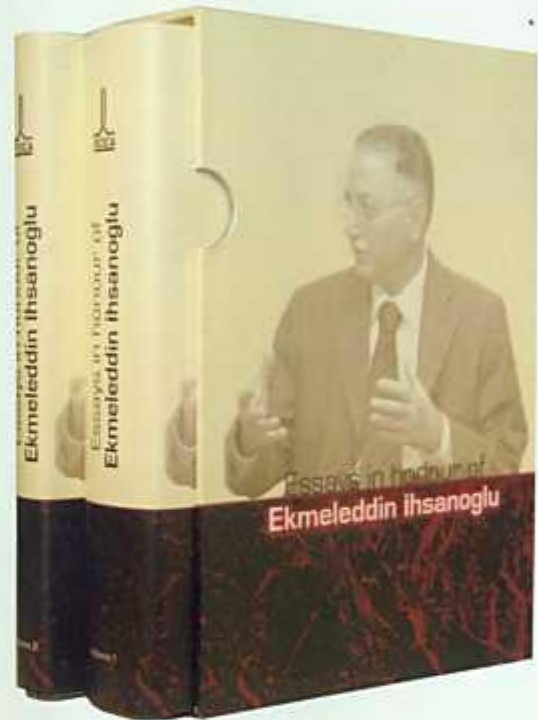
The *Telhis* were outlines, written by Ottoman viziers, of documents on matters to be submitted to the consideration and decision of the Sultan. These outlines are important because they constitute original references pertaining to various subjects of interest to researchers on the administrative and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



Essays in honour of Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Volume I: Societies, Cultures, Sciences: A Collection of Articles; Volume II: Biography, bibliography, and recollections about İhsanoğlu, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2005 (in English, articles in English, French, Turkish)

This is a Festschrift in honour of Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, the Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, who was the Director General of IRCICA from 1980 to December 2004. It is an expression of gratitude for Prof. İhsanoğlu's scholarly endeavours that helped to promote research and international cooperation in many fields of studies relating to the Muslim world, and, from IRCICA's standpoint, for his inspired and foresighted leadership which contributed to the Centre's success since its establishment.

The first volume contains forty-five articles on the history, cultural life, arts and sciences of the Muslim world which were contributed by scholars from around the world. The second



volume contains the views, impressions and souvenirs of persons from academic, diplomatic and cultural circles who have known and collaborated with İhsanoğlu, as well as his biography, and his bibliography.

The initiative leading to this publication belong to a group of social scientists from IRCICA and form universities of Istanbul who collaborated with/ under the direction of Prof. İhsanoğlu for many years: Dr. Mustafa Kaçar (Istanbul University), Zeynep Durukal (IRCICA), Prof. Ali Akyıldız (Marmara University).

The essays of the first volume are grouped in three parts: I. Ottoman History: the Centre, the Provinces, Studies and Sources; II. Cultural Life; III. History of science.

