



Newsletter



O.I.C. Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture
April 2001

No. 54

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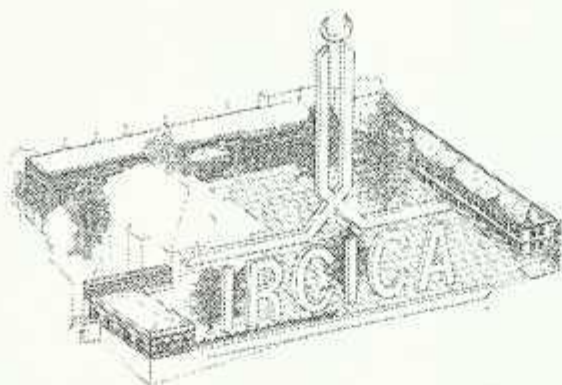
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Results of the *Fifth International Calligraphy Competition*
in the name of the Egyptian calligrapher *Sayyed Ibrahim* and the IRCICA Award for
Distinction in Calligraphy



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Research Centre for Islamic
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(IRCICA)

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IRCICA Activities

Results of the *Fifth International Calligraphy
Competition in the name of the Egyptian calligrapher
Sayyed Ibrahim* and the *IRCICA Award for Distinction
in Calligraphy*

We are most pleased that the preceding issue, no. 53 of the Newsletter, which was a Special Issue devoted to IRCICA's twentieth anniversary, was received with interest. It contains brief reviews of all the activities undertaken by IRCICA since its establishment, as well as the highlights of the diverse cultural events associated with the anniversary. As such, it gives an entire picture of the Centre, its history of development and present status. The Newsletter is now back to its regular format, with outlines of research programs, congresses, new publications in Islamic studies and academic news from around the world.

This issue also includes a brief introductory article on Kosovo, covering its history, socio-cultural development, architectural monuments, and the destruction of its heritage assets that has been going on for over five years. The OIC has included the situation in Kosovo in its agenda as soon as the atrocities began and has declared its attitude supportive of the United Nations' action aimed at building peace, security and development in the region. Lastly, the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, held in Qatar in November 2000, adopted a resolution addressing various aspects of the problem and called on the international community to defend the right of Kosovars to self-determination and to protect their cultural identity and heritage. The Summit Conference "asserted the readiness and determination of the OIC to participate in monitoring and peace keeping operations in Kosovo within the framework of international peace-keeping action under the auspices of the United Nations." The Conference also expressed appreciation for the humanitarian assistance extended by OIC Member States to Kosovo and invited them, along with other States around the world, to continue providing financial assistance for the reconstruction of Kosovo. The subject will be taken up by the forthcoming Twenty-Eighth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States to be held in Bamako, Mali, on 25-29 June 2001.

During the past twenty years, IRCICA implemented a number of research programs and cultural activities to promote the understanding and the performance of Islamic arts. The art of calligraphy was given special emphasis, taking into consideration the important place it holds, together with the various decorative arts, in the history and the contemporary development of Islamic arts. The training programs we organised to help the calligraphers upgrade their skills were attended until now by calligraphers from various OIC member countries and also from other countries including Japan and the U.S.A. Twenty calligraphers were given calligraphy diplomas (*ijaza*) until now. One of the main activities of IRCICA in the field of calligraphy is the international competition, which we organised once every three years since 1986. The Fifth International Calligraphy Competition, launched in 2000, and the "IRCICA Award for Distinction in Calligraphy" marking the Centre's twentieth anniversary, were finalised just as this issue was being sent to press. The results of these competitions have shown that IRCICA's continuous and devoted efforts in this field bore fruit, that the calligraphy competition acquired a global dimension and earned recognition in the world artistic community. It is rewarding to see that these activities did contribute in promoting this art and disseminating knowledge and skills across continents. In fact, not only did the number of participants increase and the quality of their works improve over the years, new forms of international cooperation was established among calligraphers: some successful participants in the fifth competition were trained by award-winners of the previous competitions and by calligraphers who had received their diplomas at IRCICA. It is noteworthy that this teacher-student relationship between calligraphers takes place at an international scale. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly congratulate the winners and wish success to all the participants in future.

Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu

KOSOVO: CULTURAL HERITAGE UNDER DESTRUCTION

Arch. Prof. Amir Pasic

Kosovo is a province within the Yugoslav Federation and the republic of Serbia. Kosovo covers an area of 10,887 square kilometers. The province has a central position in the Balkans, on the shortest route from the Adriatic to the Aegean Sea. Statistical estimates for the end of 2000 put the population at about two millions: Albanians (more than %75), and Serbs, Montenegrins, Bosniaks, Turks and Romany. For its rate of population growth (more than 2.5 % per year) and population density, Kosovo takes the first place in the Balkans.



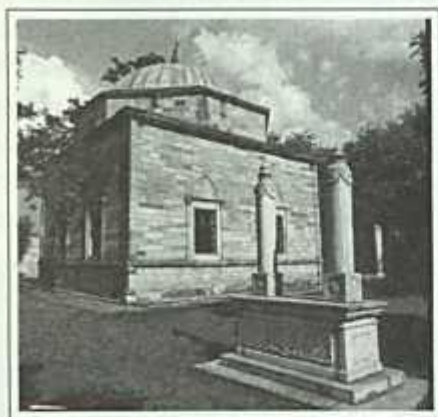
A mainly mountainous region, it has two large areas of lowland: the plain (*polje*) of Kosovo, and the plain of Metohija (Dugajini). It is ringed by highlands: Kopaonik, Shar-planina and other mountains in the south; Prokletije on the west; and the lower mountains of the upper morava area in the east. The former volcanic region – around Trepcha and the extinct volcano of Zvechan, the Novo Brdo-Janjevo area and others- constitutes one of the richest mining districts in Europe. Forests cover half of the million hectares of available land; 200,000 hectares are pastureland, and only 300,000 hectares arable land.

Prishtina is the capital. Other major towns are Prizren, Peja, Kosovska Mitrovica, Gjakova, Gnjilan, and Ferizaj.

Archaeological findings have proven that the region was already populated in the Stone age. Later the Kosovo region was inhabited by the Illyrians, who settled in the Balkans from the second millennium B.C. Present-day Albanians are their descendents. The Illyrian tribe of dardanae occupied the territory of ancient dardania comprising Kosovo, part of Macedonia and the south-western part of Serbia proper. Dardania was subsequently conquered by the Romans. It was the scene of many battles: between the Illyrians and Romans, the Serbs and byzantines, the serbs and ottoman turks. Landmarks in its history were the great Illyrian rebellion against rome in the 1st century A.D., and in the middle ages, the famous battle of kosovo (1389), fought at Gazimestan, near Prishtina, between Serbs and Ottoman Turks. At the end of the 12th century, the Serbian ruler Stefan Nemanja (reigned 1170-1196) expanded his state to include Kosovo. From this time on until the Ottoman conquest, Kosovo was an important area of the Serbian realm. Much valuable evidence has survived concerning life in this region in the middle ages. Novo Brdo, which is presumed to have had about 35,000 inhabitants, was the most important fortified settlement. Many churches and monasteries from that period have survived (Bogorodica Ljeviška; the St. Arhandjeli; Visoki Dechani, an original variant of the Serbo-Byzantine style of architecture; the holy apostles, the church of St. Demetrius and others).

Ancient Illyrian remains include the citadel of Ulpiana near Prishtina, burial mounds at Romaja close to Prizren, and the fortress on the outskirts of present-day Peja.

Architectural monuments from the Ottoman period include a number of fine mosques: Fatih mosque (1461) in Prishtina; Sinan Pasha mosque (17th century) in Prizren; Hadum-mosque (16th century) in Djakovica; Bajrakli mosque (16th century) in Pech; and others. There are also numerous caravansarais and mausoleums (Sultan Murat's and Gazimestan tombs near Prishtina).



Sultan Murat tomb at Gazimestan, and protected part of the historic town of Prizren



After the battle of Kosovo (1389), the population began converting to Islam. There were many uprisings in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, particularly at the time of the wars between the western Christian states and the Ottoman State. In the middle of 1878, the Prizren league was founded, headed by its main committee with its headquarters in Prizren, and sub-committees and branches in other places populated by Albanians. Early in 1881 a provisional government was formed, with task of leading the Albanian autonomy movement. Armed revolts against the Ottoman administration continued and assumed a broad scale in the middle of 1912. The insurgents, already numbering 30,000, took hold of the whole of Kosovo.

During the first Balkan war, the Serbian and Montenegrin armies fought in this territory. During the WW I, at the end of 1915, the Serbian army retreated through Kosovo; Austria-Hungary occupied the northern part and Bulgaria the southern. After the war, Kosovo became part of the newly-established kingdom of Yugoslavia. The region was economically backward. A primitive agriculture, lack of industry, unexploited power sources, insufficiency of educational facilities, high illiteracy rates...the Albanians were in the worst position. Not only were they denied basic democratic and national rights, but also the Serbian bourgeoisie aimed at their assimilation and de-nationalisation.

Kosovo has achieved remarkable social and economic progress since WW II and especially after the 1970s, becoming increasingly integrated in contemporary economic and business trends. No longer simply a producer of raw materials and power, Kosovo's manufacturing industries are forging ahead, most notably in the production of rubber goods, textiles, shock-absorbers, artificial fertilizers, food and beverages. The province has lignite reserves estimated at around 10,000 million tons, which provide the fuel for the large thermo-electric

power plants built in the area. During the 1980s Kosovo enjoyed special subsidies to encourage its development. Compared to the 1950s when 80 % of the population was illiterate and the languages of the non-Slav inhabitants (who make up the majority) were not used in schools or for any other forms of educational and cultural activity, one finds that by the 1980s, every third person living in Kosovo underwent some form of education. 400,000 young Albanians, Serbs, Montenegrins, Turks and Bosniaks attended primary and secondary schools... The university of Prishtina and other institutions of higher education had a total enrollment of 45,000 students. Parallel with the progress in education, conditions had been created for the general cultural advancement of all nationalities in the province. Prishtina has a university center with nine faculties (the oldest being the humanities faculty established ten years ago). Other important cultural and scientific institutions are the academy of sciences and arts, the provincial theatre, and a number of museums, galleries and archives. Newspapers and magazines appear in three languages, which are also used by Prishtina's radio and TV channels.

Kosovo's population, particularly the Albanians, cultivate strong family ties. Of the ancient customs importance is still attached by the Albanians to the sanctity of *besa* (word of honor). Warm-heartedness, hospitality and sincerity are qualities that are honoured and fostered.

Meanwhile, the last fifteen years of Kosovo were marked by the aggression perpetrated by Serbian extreme-nationalists towards non-Serbs inhabitants. The decline of the Yugoslav state started in Kosovo in 1987, when Serbia used police and military force to apply a scenario drawn by state institutions to abolish the autonomy of Kosovo and thus a set of the rights of the Albanian people. The process was completed in 1998-99 through the Serbian military and paramilitary aggression on Kosovo with large scale ethnic cleansing and barbarities against Islamic monuments. More than 12,000 people were killed and massacred, mainly women, children and elderly, thousands of women were raped, thousands of people went missing or were arrested. More than 600 mass graves across the region testify to the tragedies and suffering that hit undefended civilians during a war fought between unequal parties.

Kosovo has a very large number and variety of cultural and historical monuments dating from different periods of history. Among these treasures representing the spiritual and daily culture, many are from the ottoman period: mosques, *masjids*, *tekkes*, baths, *medreses*, etc.

These monuments of religious, secular, public or educational character are part of the Islamic-Albanian culture and part of the Albanian heritage. They offer a rich material and documentary reference fund for the study of the history of Albanians.

These buildings embody a particular spirit and mentality. They reflect the creativity, the technical, technological and architectural capacities, the cultural, historical, economic, social and religious circumstances; they are a proof of the historical ascents and declines and are an expression of the originality and the qualities of local artists. The attitude towards the Albanian monuments of the Ottoman period (as well as those dating from other periods) was shaped among others by the political currents that affected former Yugoslavia in general and Kosovo in particular. As the Albanians did not enjoy a favorable attitude and treatment, neither did the Albanian monuments from the afore-mentioned period.



Destroyed mosques: Hoce e Vogel, Hadumi in Gjakovica, HasanPasha in Mushtisht, and Karamanli in Vushtrri



Destroyed mosques in Arllatit, Reti e Poshmet, Landishte, and Burim

The Islamic-Albanian monuments were affected by two factors: one was time, while the other was the planned destruction (especially during the implementation of the urbanization plans throughout Kosovo, aimed at destroying the architectural complexes and other objects of special value including monumental mosques, *masjids*, turkish baths, *tekkes*, *medreses*, etc., frequently during 1998 and 1999). A large number of monuments from 15th-19th centuries were damaged or destroyed. Among them were the following: the Bazaar (Bajrakli) mosque (15th century), the Hamam mosque and the Haji beg hamam (15th century), the Kurshumli mosque (16th century), the Defterdari mosque (16th century) and the Red mosque (16th-19th centuries) in peja; the Gazi Ali beg mosque (15th century) and the Bazaar mosque (19th century) in Vushitrn; the Hasan aga mosque (16th century) in the village of Rogova Hasit; the Hadumi mosque (16th century) in Gjakova; the mosque in Deçan (19th century), as well as numerous religious objects in towns and villages throughout Kosovo. From a total of 560 mosques in Kosovo 217 were burned, demolished and destroyed.

A number of *medreses* and libraries were looted and destroyed; books and documents they contained were burned (12.000 manuscripts and Quran copies from the 16th-20th centuries were burned).

It is hoped the strategy to destroy the Albanian heritage will be stopped before any further damage is created.

CULTURAL EVENTS

International competition for research on "The Waqf" organized by the State of Kuwait

Within the framework of the activities marking the selection of Kuwait as the capital of Arab culture for the year 2001, the State of Kuwait is organising, under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Saad al-Abdullah Al-Salim Al-Sabah, Crown Prince and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, and through its General Secretariat for the Awqaf, an International Competition for Research on "The Role of the Waqf in the Fields of Education and Culture in Contemporary Arab-Muslim Societies". Prospective participants are expected to do a case study of an Islamic country, and present it according to the following plan:

1. Historical background of the role of the waqf in the fields of education and culture in Muslim society (10 pages)
2. Case study of a waqf's contribution in supporting educational establishments (schools, colleges, universities) in a selected country in the 20th century (15 pages)
3. The role of the waqf in supporting public cultural institutions (public libraries, cultural associations, art museums, etc.) (15 pages)
4. The state of the relationship between waqfs and educational and cultural institutions: discussion of principal problems faced in this relationship from legal, administrative and financial points of view (30 pages)
5. Proposal of an example of a cultural or educational waqf taking into consideration the legal and administrative aspects of social reality (10 pages).

Individual or institutional participation in the competition is possible. Works written in any language other than Arabic ought to be accompanied by a complete Arabic translation. The research works ought to range from 80 to 100 pages. They should not have won any prize before. The entries ought to reach the competition secretariat by the end of 2001. The secretariat maintains the right not to confer any

prize if none of the entries is eligible and not to return the submitted works. The amounts of the prizes are US\$ 15,000 for the first prize, US\$ 10,000 for the second prize and US\$ 5,000 for the third prize. For additional information and to send the entries, please write to the General Secretariat for Awqaf, International Competition of Kuwait for Research on Waqfs, P.O. Box 482, Safad, 13005 Kuwait; tel.: 00965 2 532646; fax: 00965 2 532676; e-mail: info@awqaf.org. It is significant that the competition will generate research on contemporary applications of a traditional form of public institution and contribute in improving such applications by bringing the examples of case studies into focus.

Conference on "Islamic Perspectives on the New Millennium" held at the Australian National University, Canberra

An international Conference on "Islamic Perspectives on the New Millennium" was held at the Australian National University, in Canberra, on 20-21 November 2000. The conference was supported by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs, the Ford Foundation, Jakarta, and the Australian Institute of International Affairs. The idea for the conference was inspired by the observation that in the Muslim communities of Southeast Asia, the Middle East and South Asia, particularly among young Muslims, there has been increasing concern to define and articulate a moral vision for action in contemporary society. These ideas are not readily accessible to non-Muslims because often they are developed in study groups or in informal networks or debates that are not widely reported in non-Muslim societies. Based on these facts, scholars of Islamic studies at the Australian National University - from the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies, the Faculty of Asian Studies and the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies - invited leading Muslims from the Middle East and from Southeast Asia to speak on six critical issues: the new world order; the economy; human rights and new social movements; the nation state; Islamic law; and globalisation.

The speakers were invited to give a non-Muslim audience an impressionistic 'report' about current Muslim debates on each of those issues. Each topic was addressed by two speakers, one representing the Middle East and the other Southeast Asia. The final session of the conference was devoted to a discussion between representatives of the Australian community, including church leaders. The audience participated enthusiastically in the dialogue and this was a highlight of the conference, receiving considerable media

coverage. The conference papers are being edited for publication by Professor Amin Saikal of the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies and Professor Virginia Hooker of the Faculty of Asian Studies, organizers of the conference. Further enquiries can be addressed by e-mail through Virginia.Hooker@anu.edu.au or Ms. Vera Joveska, Centre Administrator, Southeast Asia Centre and South and West Asia Centre, Faculty of Asian Studies, Australian National University, Canberra 0200, Fax: 61 2 6125 0745.

U.S. postal stamp issued for Ramadan

In the fall of 2000, the U.S. postal service has issued the first stamp marking an Islamic holiday. The stamp, released on the occasion of the Eid ul-Fitr celebrated in 2001, features the Arabic greeting phrase "Eid mubarak", meaning "May the holiday be blessed", in Islamic calligraphy designed by the American Muslim calligrapher Mohammed Zakariya (Arlington, VA). A Hanukah stamp and a Kwanzaa stamp were issued in the U.S. for the first time in 1996 and 1997 respectively. Calligrapher Mohammed Zakariya, a friend of IRCICA, had received an *ijaza* (calligraphy diploma) after having completed calligraphy courses under IRCICA's auspices to upgrade his writing skills. He translated into English, in cooperation with Dr. Mohamed Asfour, IRCICA's publication entitled *The Art of Calligraphy in Islamic Heritage*, which was published in Arabic in 1990, in Turkish in 1992 and in English in 1998.



The U.S. postal stamp designed by Mr. Mohammed Zakariya

Abdul Majeed Shoman International Award for Jerusalem

The Abdul Majeed Shoman International Award for Jerusalem has announced the opening of nominations for the 1423 AH/2002 AD Award on the theme "Social, Economic and Political Changes in the City of Jerusalem, 1850-2000 AD". Mr. Abdul Majeed Shoman, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Bank and of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, founder and benefactor of the Abdul Majeed Shoman International Award for Jerusalem, donated the amount of US\$ 100,000 for this first award. The Board of Trustees of the Award, under the Presidency of Prof. Dr. Nasir El-Din El-Asad, invites universities, research centers, academic and cultural institutions throughout the world to submit nominations. The stated objectives of the award specify that it will be granted to honour individuals for their life-long intellectual, academic, literary or artistic contributions that exhibit originality and excellence, and that genuinely enhance and further knowledge of Jerusalem and its Arab identity and national role, in terms of its history, geography, demography and culture. However, the Award may also be granted to honour individuals for an outstanding single work that meets the Award's criteria. Nominations should be submitted by universities, research centers or academic or cultural institutions. Nominated works should be in Arabic, English, French or German, or translated into one of these languages. The deadline for submitting nominations for the 2002 Award is 30 September 2001. The winners will be announced in March 2002. All correspondence should be addressed to the Board of Trustees, Abdul Majeed Shoman International Award for Jerusalem, Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, P.O. Box 940255, Amman 11194, Jordan; tel.: 5602155; fax: 5672541; e-mail: ahsf@shoman.org.jo; home page: www.shoman.org. The Award will be granted every two years in one of the

following fields of study on Jerusalem: historical studies, contemporary issues, creative literary works, and creative artistic works.

Conference on the Conservation and Regeneration of Traditional Urban Centers in the Middle East, in Amman

The First International Conference on the "Conservation and Regeneration of Traditional Urban Centers in the Middle East, Learning from Regional Experiences and Building Partnerships" will be held in Amman, Jordan on 24-30 November 2001. The main conference sponsors are Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), the Council for British Research in the Levant (CBRL) in Amman, Jordan, and Darat al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jordan. Many other institutions and organisations are also supporting the conference such as the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment of Jordan, the School of Architecture at Edinburgh College of Art in the U.K., the Institute of Housing Research in Cairo, Egypt, and Turath: Heritage Conservation, Management and Environmental Design Consultants, Amman. The conference will address many issues related to the evolution of the physical and social environment in Islamic societies in the Middle East, the necessary heritage conservation policies, and the appropriateness of methods and strategies for its conservation and continuity. In addition to paper presentations, the participants will have the chance to attend thematic workshops on the topic of urban conservation presented by renowned theoreticians and practitioners from various parts of the world. Following are the conference themes:

- Urban Conservation Mechanisms, Approaches, and Methods.
- Heritage Conservation Ethics and Philosophy

- Public Participation and Heritage Conservation Endeavors
- Cultural Site Management and Interpretation
- Traditional Islamic Cities in Development
- Role of Local Governments and Municipalities in Urban Conservation
- Islamic Archaeology and Architecture and the Urban Context
- Appropriate Technology for Urban Conservation
- Heritage Conservation and Computer and Information Technologies.
- Resources and Methods of Islamic History and Research (e.g., resources for archival research on the Islamic city)
- Case Studies in Urban Conservation.

Workshops on the following themes will be integrated as part of the conference activities: Urban Conservation and Regeneration in the Traditional Middle East; Presentation and Management of Archaeological Sites in Islamic Cities; Applications of computers and information technology in heritage conservation.

Participants have to send their abstracts of papers to the organisers by 1 August 2001. For more information, please write to Dr. Rami Farouk Daher, Conference Director (Jordan University of Science and Technology), P.O. Box 402, Amman 11118, Jordan; e-mail: radaher5@just.edu.jo or turath@joynet.com.jo.

**“Dialogue between the Arab and the Western Civilisations”:
a congress to be held in Beirut**

The Faculty of Letters of the Arab University of Beirut is organising a Congress on the theme “Dialogue between the Arab and the Western Civilisations Throughout the Mediterranean”, jointly with the Centre for Arab-European Studies of Paris, on 7-9 May 2001, in Beirut. The themes of the congress are as follows:

- Translation movements within Oriental studies and Western studies
- Travelogues of the illustrious travelers
- The Arab presence and civilisation in the Mediterranean basin
- Economic and social relations between peoples of the Mediterranean basin
- Cultural dialogue between the Arab and the Western civilisations within the framework of globalisation.

OBITUARY

Sheikh Hamad al-Jasir, one of the foremost scholars of the Muslim world, passed away



Sheikh Hamad al-Jasir, one of the foremost scholars of the Muslim world, in particular the Arabian peninsula, passed away on 14 September 2000. Hamad al-Jasir was a leading figure of the educational sector in Saudi Arabia and a member of the Academies of Baghdad, Cairo and Damascus. He was a learned researcher, editor and author in the fields of history, language, literature, anthropology, and more specifically, a specialist of the place-names relating to the ancient and modern tribes of Saudi Arabia. His studies contributed in increasing the stock of knowledge in these fields and uncovered facts concerning the history of Arabia. He was the founder of the first printing house in Najd in 1955. In 1966, he established Dar al-Yamamah for Research, Translation and Publishing.

Hamad al-Jasir was born in the small village of Burud in the southern district of Sir. He was sent to Riyadh for studies. Having lost his parents when he was only six, he was raised by his maternal grand-father, the imam of Burud, whom he later helped in preaching. Hamad al-Jasir also benefited greatly from his grand-father's library collection. He taught for some time in his native village, and later worked in education, law and journalism. He became a member of the Arab Scientific Academy of Damascus in 1951, the Iraqi Academy in 1954, and the Arab Academy of Cairo in 1958. He lived for ten years in Beirut, where he lost his elder son in an aircraft hit by a bomb during the civil war, and where his personal library disappeared in a fire. His publications, and notably his encyclopedic works on the history and geography of Arabia, were appreciated by the intellectual and scholarly circles of his country and the Gulf region due to their innovativeness, diversity and wide coverage. He also compiled works on the development of Islamic culture and its contributions to world civilisation in the past and in present times. Hamad al-Jasir founded the following periodicals: al-Yamamah (the first newspaper in Riyadh, 1952), al-Riyadh newspaper (1976), and al-Arab (a journal specialised in the history, literature and cultural heritage of Arabia, 1978). The total number of books he compiled or edited is 127. The titles of some of these publications are (originally in Arabic): Geographical Dictionary of Saudi Arabia (focusing especially on the North and the East of Saudi Arabia); The City of Riyadh Throughout History (a history of the events of the Najd region from the 9th to the end of the 13th century Hijra); The Country of the Arabs (edition of an old work concerning the places of the tribes from the beginning of Islam); Dictionary of the Tribes of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Al-Diraia: the Basis of the First Saudi State; Western Travelers in Our Countries.



Hakeem Abdul Hameed (1908-1999), Founder-Chancellor of Hamdard University and Hamdard Foundation, India, was commemorated during IRCICA's twentieth anniversary ceremony held in Istanbul, on 25 October 2000. The IRCICA Award for Patronage in the Preservation of Cultural Heritage and Promotion of Scholarship was presented posthumously, as a tribute to his memory and the remarkable services he rendered by his founding and sponsoring numerous educational and medical institutions and promoting research in Islamic studies and history of medicine. The award plaque was received by his grand-son Mr. Asad Mueed during the award ceremony (*Newsletter* no. 53, December 2000). Hakeem Abdul Hameed's picture, kindly sent to IRCICA by Dr. S. Asaf Ali from the Chancellor's House, Hamdard University, New Delhi, is reproduced here together with that of a Hamdard University building.



CULTURAL DATA ON OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES

This section contains summary information reflecting some aspects of cultural life in the OIC member countries.

Information drawn from the Centre's data files of statistical indicators and directories of cultural institutions are published here as brief country surveys. The purpose is to disseminate part of the data that is being collected in the framework of the Centre's projects leading to the *International Directory of Islamic Cultural Institutions and Studies on the Cultural Dimensions of Development in the OIC Member States*. The statistical institutions of the countries concerned are invited to assist the Centre in updating the information published here. Below are summary statistics on the Republic of Mali and a list of cultural institutions.

MALI

Summary information

Area	1,240,000 sq. km.
Population (1998)	10.7 million
Av. annual pop. growth	2.5 %
Population density	8 inhabitants per sq. km.
Share of Muslim population	65 %
Capital city	Bamako
Adult literacy rate	Average: 35.6 %
School enrolment ratios (1997)	First level: male: 58 %, average: 49 % Second level: male: 17 %, average: 13 %
Student/teacher ratio (1997)	79.5
Daily newspaper titles:	3; 1.2 copies per 1000 inhabitants
Radio receivers (1997)	55 per 1000 inhabitants
TV receivers	4 per 1000 inhabitants
PCs	1 per 1000 inhabitants

Cultural institutions

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INSTITUTIONS IN ISLAMIC STUDIES

The present section contains brief information on two research institutes engaged in Islamic studies with their primary focus on Africa:

the Institute for High Islamic Studies and Research Ahmed Baba (IHERIAB) in Timbuctu, Mali, and the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA) at Northwestern University, Chicago, U.S.A.

The Institute for High Islamic Studies and Research Ahmed Baba, Timbuctu, Mali

The Institute for High Islamic Studies and Research Ahmed Baba (*Institut des Hautes Etudes et de Recherches Islamiques Ahmed Baba – IHERIAB*) is one of the most deep-rooted research institutions of Mali and the whole of sub-Saharan Africa. It was established by law on 23 January 1970 under the name "Ahmed Baba Historical Documentation and Research Centre" and transformed into the present institute on 5 July 2000. The Director General of IHERIAB is Dr. Mohamed Gallah Dicko. The institute is made up of three departments:

- the Department of Teaching and Research
- the Department of Documentation
- the Department of Editing.

The institute possesses a valuable collection of manuscripts estimated at about twenty thousand titles which were acquired through allocations from the national budget and donations by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. With this collection, the Institute Ahmed Baba ranks largest among all documentation centers of the region; nevertheless, the collection represents a minimal part of the historical manuscripts that are found in Timbuctu and its surroundings. Despite the Institute's punctual restoration and treatment of manuscripts contained in private libraries, a number of manuscripts are still threatened by destructive factors such as humidity, insects and various hazards.

The institute's collection is partly recorded in bilingual (Arabic-French) catalogues comprising 1500 titles each. The Arabic version of the first six volumes of the catalogue has been edited with the help of Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation (London). The institute needs assistance for the Arabic edition of the remaining volumes and the entire French edition.

Despite the fact that IHERIAB has acquired considerable experience over the past decades in its fields of specialisation, it is not functioning in full capacity now due to a number of obstacles. One of them is related to the shortage of qualified specialists and professors. Outside services are needed until the training of the local manpower is completed. The

institute hopes that the type of cooperation project it envisages and that would best suit its needs will materialize, that is, a scheme whereby qualified specialists would be recruited for the institute from such countries as Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco and Sudan and remunerated through external financial support to be obtained from states and institutions. Certainly, any other form of technical cooperation would be equally beneficial towards establishing full-fledged programs for the protection of the manuscript cultural heritage assets of Mali and neighbouring regions. Another obstacle faced by the institute is the lack of infrastructure, especially the facilities required to meet the standards of preservation in the manuscript hall.

A project is currently carried on at the institute under the title "Electronic Archive Project of the Manuscripts of Timbuctu" (ARELMAT). Its aim is to help the institute in preserving and recording the old manuscripts. The project is directed by a steering committee and consists of three main programs in addition to training. Each program is undertaken by a commission, as follows:

- the Research Commission deals with scholarly research on the manuscripts, in particular their contents and their historical and informational value.
- the Electronic Archive or Data Base Commission is in charge of the computerized recording of the institute's archive of manuscripts. Its work includes the preparation of data bases related to: the catalogue of the manuscripts contained in the library, their numerical images, the touches made on the manuscripts and their details, bibliographic entries for the information of researchers. This commission is also in charge of developing a web page for the institute, and training the institute staff in computerized cataloguing and research, computer-based publishing, and administration of data bases.
- the Commission for Physical Conservation carries out the restoration and preservation of the manuscripts and trains the staff for this purpose.

This project was launched by means of funds granted by the Ford Foundation (U.S.A.) for a period of one year. The same donation also allowed the institute to recruit six restoration experts who have been working since

October 2000. One thousand manuscripts have already been selected by the research team to be restored by the Commission for Physical Conservation. The Research Commission's members are revising the catalogues and studying the manuscripts. The institute wishes to provide training abroad to the young graduate and undergraduate-level recruits of this Commission. As to the Electronic Archive Commission, a great part of its necessary equipment has been acquired by the Institute and is about to be installed. A teacher training program is planned to be held in Bamako for the members of this Commission, to endow them with the necessary skills in the long run. The project as a whole is promising; however, financial support is needed for its continuation after September 2001.

The Institute for High Islamic Studies and Research Ahmed Baba organised an "open-gate day" last March to introduce its activities to the concerned circles and the general public. Members of the Government, local authorities and the diplomatic corps, researchers, and owners of manuscript collections participated in this event.

The institute has inherited from Ahmed Baba Centre a scholarly journal titled *Sankoré* which it continues to publish within its limited budgetary means. Allocations from the national budget fall short in meeting all the operations of the institute. At present, the only source of funds available for the purchase of manuscripts comes as a donation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

IRCICA recalls with appreciation that H.E. Ambassador Dr. Mahmoud Zouber, Advisor to the President of the Republic of Mali, was a member of IRCICA Governing Board for two terms during 1981-1989, during the period when he was Director of the Ahmed Baba Historical Documentation and Research Centre.

The address of the institute is: B.P. 14, Timbuctu, Mali; tel. (223) 921081; tel./fax: (223) 921192.

**The Institute for the Study of
Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA)
Northwestern University, Chicago, U.S.A.**

The Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA) was inaugurated by the Program of African Studies at Northwestern University, Chicago, in January 2001. ISITA's principal objectives are:

1. Preserving, and disseminating information on, African libraries that have collections of Islamic manuscripts.
2. Establishing networks of collaboration between African, American, and European scholars working on the Islamic intellectual tradition in Africa.
3. Bringing scholars together to discuss multiple aspects of Islamic thought in Africa through workshops, colloquia and conferences.
4. Promoting the publication of collective volumes of studies arising from scholarly meetings, and essential works of reference relating to the Islamic intellectual tradition in Africa.

The Institute has Prof. John Hunwick, Professor of History and Religion, Northwestern University as its Director, Prof. Sean O. Fahey, Professor of Non-European History, University of Bergen, Norway and Adjunct Professor of History, Northwestern University, as Co-Director. Its Executive Committee has members from various universities in the U.S.A., Europe and Africa. For further information, please contact the ISITA Program Coordinator, Matthew Cencer; e-mail: m-cencer@northwestern.edu, Fax: (847) 491-3739. Address: Program of African Studies, Northwestern University, 620 Library Place, Evanston, IL60208. Web site: <http://www.northwestern.edu/isita>.

Civilisational Role of the Muslim Nation in the World of Tomorrow. A selection of scholars and authors, Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Doha, 2000 (English, French, Arabic separately)

This book has been prepared by the Research and Study Center of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of the State of Qatar on the occasion of the holding of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference in the capital city Doha (November 2000) under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar. It is a collection of scholarly articles published in English, French and Arabic in separate volumes. The articles were selected on account of their relation to the publication's main purpose, which is to "revive the process of *ijtihad* (independent judgement of legal or theological questions based on the interpretation of the basic fundamentals of Islamic jurisprudence) and innovation" over a range of international and global issues concerning the Muslim world. Contributions were obtained from authors from diverse disciplines and geographical locations. On the whole, the collection represents an effort to put up a debate and seek agreements between scholars/researchers and decision-makers, on contemporary subjects of current and future concern for the Muslim world within the global environment. "Unless ye do this (protect each other), there would be tumult and oppression on earth, and great mischief" [The Quran, *Al-Anfal*: 73]; this verse is cited as the title of the first article, by Sheikh As-Sayid Abul-Hasan An-Nadwi, the late Chairman of Scholars' Symposium in Lucknow, India. Then come inspiring research papers by academics and authors from Bahrain, Egypt, France, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. The reader finds in them a variety of ideas related to the universal applicability of the fundamental principles of Islam in tackling with the facts and issues of today's world and in developing future outlooks for Muslim countries. The book also contains a number of studies relating to the place of Islamic civilisation in world civilisation today and its future prospects, the cultural and

economic development of the Muslim world, its capacities and capabilities in keeping up with the age of information, human rights issues, theoretical and practical conformities and differences of the main faith systems in the face of contemporary problems, and numerous other subjects that would be relevant for policy-makers, researchers, students and all those interested in international politics and development in connection with Muslim countries.

Caesar E. Farah, **The Politics of Interventionism in Ottoman Lebanon, 1830-1861**, Centre for Lebanese Studies, Oxford in association with I.B. Tauris Publishers, London, 2000

This extensive study depicts and analyses the events related to domestic turmoil and foreign intervention over a critical thirty-year period in nineteenth-century Ottoman Empire. The book is known to be the only detailed study up to the present to look into the mechanics of foreign intervention in the internal affairs of the Ottoman Empire with special reference to Mount Lebanon in the nineteenth century. It is considered as a standard work on the "Eastern Question". It points out, on the basis of research on extensive archival materials, the tragic results of foreign powers' manipulating sects of the Empire to serve their own policy interests without regard to the consequences affecting negatively their so-called "protégés". Caesar Farah explores the events that "affected the relationships between the country's contending clerical and feudal factions, in a society strongly divided along sectarian lines..." He investigates "the impact of Franco-British rivalries on the inter-sectarian tension and strife and the resistance of the Ottoman authorities to having this important Ottoman province succumb to European domination." The study is based on the archives of the major European and U.S. powers and the Catholic and Protestant missions in the region, as well as unpublished documents and records from Turkey and Lebanon. Caesar Farah is Professor of Middle Eastern and Islamic History at the University of Minnesota and currently directs the Arabic and Islamic Studies Program.

Orijentalni Institut u Sarajevu 1950-2000. The Institute for Oriental Studies in Sarajevo.

Editors: Amir Ljubović, Lejla Gazić, Institute for Oriental Studies, Sarajevo, 2000

"In speaking of the history of an institution, especially when it is one of the most significant research bodies ... it is difficult to single out what is of the greatest importance, what has left a special imprint over these past fifty years" writes Behija Zlatar, the Institute's Director. As this illustrated book marking the Institute's fiftieth anniversary lays it out, the Institute for Oriental Studies stands out in its fields for the value and diversity of its collections, the quality of its scholarly activities, and the contributions of researchers having worked in association with it over the past fifty years ... Lejla Gazić points out in the book that before it was burnt down in 1992 during the aggression on Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Institute had a large collection of manuscripts in Arabic, Turkish and Persian dating from the early 11th to the early 20th century, which was second only to Gazi Husrev Begova Library as one of the richest collections of manuscripts in the Balkans. Besides, the Institute's Archives housed collections comprising hundreds of thousands of documents classified into four groups: the Manuscripta Turcica collection (16th-19th centuries), the Sigil collection (local court registers), the provincial archives, and the land ownership deeds. All these collections were totally destroyed, but they have been replenished in recent years with the help of governments and institutions, by acquisitions, collection of earlier publications and duplicates and other means. This book has a list of the Institute's publications with extensive information on their contents, including the various issues of the well-known *Prilozi za Orijentalnu Filologiju* (Journal of Oriental Philology), and a highly useful section presenting the scholars and researchers who served for the Institute since its establishment, with their biographies and a detailed coverage of their research work and publications. This commemorative book will be a valuable addition to the collections of the libraries concerned, especially because it contains a record of an important part of the research work in Oriental studies conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Crimes in Stolac Municipality (1992-1996).

prepared by the Presidency, the Party of Democratic Action Board, Preporod Cultural Society, Muslim Community Board, Merhamet Charitable Association, Association "Renewal of Civil Trust in the Stolac Municipality" and citizens, Sarajevo, first edition: 1996, reprint with additions: 2001

This publication is a first-hand and complete source of information attesting the atrocities which were committed in the Stolac municipality throughout the period of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Revealing the realities and keeping the attention of the world opinion alive on the outrageously inhumane part of human history that befell Bosnia is a task to which no morally or politically responsible person can remain indifferent. The horror of what happened in Stolac and everywhere else in the country calls upon the conscious mind to answer the victims' appeal towards punishing the perpetrators of those crimes. The 541-sq. km. wide Stolac municipality located in the south-east of the country is one of the important centres of Bosnian culture. Its monuments are proposed for inclusion in the UNESCO list of world heritage sites. The book notes that since 1993, around 6,100 of the approximately 8,100 Bosniaks from Stolac municipality (which represented 43.6 % of its population before the war) have been living in the area between Blagaj and Tuzla in extremely difficult conditions, and that another 2,000 are living in other countries world-wide. The documented and illustrated facts contained in this book are presented under the following headings: Indictment for Crimes Committed in Stolac Municipality, Preparations for and Beginning of War of Conquest and Rebellion, Expulsion, Detention, Looting, and Forced Displacement of Bosniaks (detention of men of military age, torture of detainees, forcible displacement of Bosniaks from Dubrave, robbery of detained civilians from Dubrave, forcible displacement of inhabitants of Stolac town, robbery of detained civilians from Stolac town, looting of Bosniak houses and estates, torture of detained Bosniaks, deportation of Bosniaks to detention camps), killed and missing persons, destruction of cultural and historical heritage (architectural heritage, moveable heritage items), and list of the perpetrators of crimes. The detailed appendix contains the list of the destroyed houses and urban complex, titles of other references, the list of leading political figures and organisations who were presented with this book and some responses received. Still another appeal to the world community to do justice, hoping that this time it will be answered.

Ibn Sino/Avicenna Scientific and Practical International Journal, no. 1, 2000, published by the Ibn Sina International Foundation, Tashkent, 2000 (in Uzbek, Russian, and English)

The first issue of *Ibn Sino/Avicenna* trilingual quarterly is remarkable for its purpose and its contents. The Ibn Sino International Foundation, established in 1999 at the decision of H.E. Islam Karimov, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, publishes this journal so that it may serve as a communication link in the study of the life and the innovative achievements of the illustrious scientist Ibn Sina. Professor Shuhrat Irgashev, Chairman of the Board of Ibn Sina International Foundation and Editor-in-Chief of the journal, writes in his Address to the Readers that one of the main tasks of the Foundation is to contribute in boosting interest in the study of Ibn Sina's scientific heritage and promoting international collaboration in this field. This journal will be one of the main tools in this endeavour. It will reflect the personality of the scholar, his versatile creative activity and the influence of his teachings on modern science. Prof. Irgashev notes that "Enormous scientific heritage left by the scholar more than one thousand years ago in different branches of science challenges the intellect of contemporary mankind and calls for further intensive study at present and in the new millennium..." In many countries 'The Canon of Medicine' of the scholar used to be the main source of knowledge in medicine for six centuries. This first issue is beautifully illustrated with material of academic interest. Some of the articles it contains are: "Life and creative work of Abu Ali Ibn Sino" by U. Karimov; "A scholar encyclopaedist" by M. Hayrullaev, B. Abduhalimov; "A great doctor" by Sh. Irgashev, S. Bahramov, N. Madjidov; "The theoretical bases of the work on the Laws of medical science" by V. Jumaev; "Philosophical outlook of the scholar" by M. Baratov; "Ibn Sina – pharmacologist" by S. Iskandarov, H. Holmatov; "Ibn Sina and alchemy" by S. Karimova; "Ibn Sina – musicologist" by A. Nazarov; "Ibn Sina's manuscripts" by B. Vahabova; "Abu Ali Ibn Sino's medical heritage" by A. Kadirov, A. Usmonhodjaev; "The image of the illustrious doctor in the memory of descendants" by N. Sadikova; "The heritage of ancestors and spiritual life of the youth" by Z. Botirova. There is also a section on "Ibn Sina International Foundation News". The journal welcomes contributions. For subscriptions and complementary information, please write to: Ibn Sino/Avicenna journal, 51-A, Parkent Str., Tashkent, 700007, Uzbekistan; tel.: (998+371) 68-72-97, 68-73-21; tel./fax: (998+371) 169-17-26; e-mail: uzsinofd@freenet.uz.

Asas al-iqtibas fi'l mantiq (The Essence of Logical Excerpts) by Nasir al-Din al-Tusi, first volume, translation into Arabic by Molla Husrev, critical edition by Hasan al-Shafi and Mohammed al-Said Jamal al-Din, published by the Supreme Council for Culture, Cairo, 1999 (in Arabic)

The Supreme Council for Culture of Egypt has published the first volume of a critical edition of the major work on logic by the illustrious scholar Nasir al-Din al-Tusi (597-672 H/1201-1274 AD). This critical edition has been produced by Dr. Hasan al-Shafi and Dr. Mohammed as-Said Jamal al-Din. *The Essence of Logical Excerpts* was translated into Arabic by the well-known Turkish scholar Mohammed bin Faramerz ibn al-Hawaja Ali known under the name of Molla Husrev (d. 885 H/1480 AD). The editors say there exists another Arabic translation that not been located to this day. The three comprehensive introductions they included in this edition are related to: the life and works of al-Tusi and his place in the history of science; Molla Husrev; and, the methodology followed in this book. *Asas al-iqtibas fi'l mantiq* is one of the most important works of al-Tusi and it is also one of the most important of the entire literature of logic. The book was completed in 642 H. It has nine articles, each one dealing with one of the parts of logic as adopted in Islamic science in the classification and enumeration of sciences. Seven of these parts correspond to those that were adopted by Aristotle. These parts are: "categories", "interpretation", "prior analytics (syllogisms)", "posterior analytics", "topics", "sophistic refutations", "rhetoric", "poetics". Al-Tusi's work has, in addition, an article on "introduction to logic" preceding these and an article on "eloquence". This classification is the same as the one adopted by Ibn Sina in his work *Shifa*. Al-Tusi wrote in his introduction that he included in his work "all that in this art of logical science is useful, according to the rules and principles of this art." Al-Tusi was one of the most prolific authors in sciences. He wrote in both Arabic and Persian and dealt with both religious topics and non-religious or secular subjects (the ancient sciences). Originally from Khorasan, he was in contact with the Ismailites, then with Mongol sovereigns after the conquest of Alamut in 1256. He was a Minister to Hulagu Khan, founded and directed the Meragha observatory, established libraries, and had a lasting effect on the sciences of the subsequent centuries up to modern times with his treatises on astronomy, mathematics, philosophy, logic, theology and ethics.

Nasir al-Din al-Tusi. Philosophe et savant du XIII^e siècle, studies compiled and presented by N. Pourjavady and Ž. Vesel, series of Bibliothèque Iranienne 54, Institut Français de Recherche en Iran, Presses Universitaires d'Iran, Tehran, 2000 (presented in French and Persian, articles in English, French and Persian)

This volume contains the papers which were presented during the colloquium held on the theme "Science and philosophy in the work of Khwaja Nasir al-Din Tusi" at the University of Tehran on 6-9 March 1997. The colloquium was organised jointly by the Centre for Research on the History of Science and the French Research Institute in Iran. About half of the papers presented dealt with al-Tusi's scientific works and the other half with subjects such as philosophy, logic and mysticism. Prof. Nasrollah Pourjavady notes in the preface that the two bibliographies contained in the book were prepared for this publication; one of them is on the published works of al-Tusi and those that are related to him, in Persian and Arabic, and the other, on books about al-Tusi written in European languages. Following is a list of the articles contained in this book: W. Madelung, "To see all things through the sight of God: Nasir al-Din al-Tusi's attitude to Sufism"; H. Landolt, "Khwaja Nasir al-Din al-Tusi (597/1201-672/1274), Isma' ilism, and *Ishraqi* philosophy"; C. Jambet, "Idéale du politique et politique idéale selon Nasir al-Din al-Tusi"; F. Daftary, "Nasir al-Din al-Tusi and the Isma' ilis of the Alamut period"; A.S. Melikian-Chirvani, "Khwahe Nasir and the Iranian Past"; G. Saliba and E. S. Kennedy, "The spherical case of the Tusi couple" (reprint from *Arabic Sciences and philosophy* I, 1991); F. J. Ragep, "The Persian context of the Tusi couple"; E. Kheirandish, "A report on Iran's 'Jewel' codices of Tusi's *Kutub al-Mutawassitat*"; Ž. Vesel, I. Afshar and P. Mohebbi, "Le livre des Pierres pour Nezam [al-Molk] (*Jevaher-name-ye-Nezami*)" (592/1195-6); La source présumée du *Tansukh-name-ye Ilkhani* de Tusi"; S. Tourkin, "Copies of Nasir al-Din al-Tusi's treatise on the astrolabe and commentaries on it in the manuscript collection of the Institute of Oriental Studies, St. Petersburg"; S. Sadjed-Orsini, "La

lettre de Nasir Tusi à Malik al-Nasir"; F. Richard, "Les portraits de Nasir al-Din Tusi"; E. Alexandrin, "Eléments de bibliographie sur Nasir al-Din Tusi"; S. Tourkin, "Bibliography on al-Tusi (works in Russian)".

Hikmet Barutçugil, **The Dream of Water. Ebru. The Living Tradition**, Ebristan Publication, Istanbul, 2001

"The objective of the art of marbling, as in all Islamic arts, is the search for "divine beauty". As there is no end to divine beauty, there is no end to art..." says Hikmet Barutçugil, a leading master of marbling in Turkey and author of this book; when the artist reaches his own final point, that is when his desire is satisfied, then art surpasses itself, becomes non-art, and purity begins. This elegant publication is also the expert's means of imparting his knowledge and experience to all those who gave their hearts to this particular form of art. Decorated with exquisite samples of classical and modern *ebru*, the book reviews the history of the art of marbling starting from its origins in Central Asia, cites the great masters and their contributions, describes the techniques and materials. It also discloses solutions to common problems faced in marbling: "too liquid", "too much gall" and many other situations, all of them beautifully illustrated. The colourful motifs reproduced in this book appeal to the soul, while the generosity of Barutçugil's text reflects his commitment to teaching his art. His workshop – "Ebristan", the house of *ebru* – in the Üsküdar district of Istanbul is a meeting place for artists and a school where students from Turkey and abroad are trained. Barutçugil also teaches at Mimar Sinan University's Traditional Turkish Handicrafts Department and in various countries. He held 46 exhibitions and participated in 63 conferences abroad, in addition to 34 exhibitions and 46 seminars and courses in Turkey. Previously, he published three books and a number of articles on marbling. This book has been published in English and Turkish editions.

IRCICA ACTIVITIES

THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CALLIGRAPHY COMPETITION IN THE NAME OF THE EGYPTIAN CALLIGRAPHER SAYYED IBRAHIM AND THE IRCICA AWARD FOR DISTINCTION IN CALLIGRAPHY

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RESULTS

IRCICA has announced the results of two international events devoted to the art of calligraphy: the Fifth International Calligraphy Competition dedicated to the renowned master of calligraphy Sayyed Ibrahim (1897-1994) and the IRCICA Award for Distinction in Calligraphy organised on the occasion of IRCICA's twentieth anniversary commemorated in 2000.

IRCICA periodically organises calligraphy competitions in the framework of its activities related to the protection and promotion of the Islamic artistic heritage. The purpose of these competitions is to preserve, foster and develop the classical art of Islamic calligraphy by maintaining its original principles and traditional spirit, and to protect it from trends that emerge under foreign influences and which are not in conformity with its traditional spirit.

The following competitions were organised before the present one:

- The first, dedicated to Hamid Al-Amidi (1891-1982), in 1986
- The second, dedicated to Yaqut Al-Mustasimi (?-1298), in 1989
- The third, dedicated to Ibn Al-Bawwab (?-1022), in 1992
- The fourth, dedicated to Sheikh Hamdullah (1429-1520), in 1997.

The Jury of the Fifth International Calligraphy Competition and the IRCICA Award for Distinction in Calligraphy met from 30 April to 8 May 2001 at the headquarters of IRCICA, in Yıldız Palace, Istanbul, under the Chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA and Chairman of the Organising Committee of the competition. The competition jury was formed of the following recognised specialists of calligraphy:

1. Mr. Ahmed Ziya Ibrahim, Professor of Calligraphy, Saudi Arabia (Alternate Chairman);
2. Prof. Dr. Muhammed Cherifi, Professor of Calligraphy, Algeria;
3. Mr. Gholam Hossein Amirkhani, Professor of Calligraphy, Iran;
4. Mr. İhsan İbrahim Edhem, Professor of Calligraphy, Iraq;
5. Mr. Mus'ad Khudair Al-Borsaidi, Professor of Calligraphy, Egypt;
6. A. R. Butt, Calligrapher, Pakistan;
7. Prof. Dr. Ali Alparslan, Professor of Calligraphy, Turkey;
8. Prof. Dr. M. Uğur Derman, Expert of Calligraphy, IRCICA;
9. Mr. Hasan Çelebi, Master of Calligraphy, Turkey;
10. Mr. Osman Taha, Professor of Calligraphy, Syria (absent).

Mr. Mohammed Tamimi and Mr. Said Kasımoğlu (from the Competition Secretariat) also participated in the meeting.

The competition covered fourteen major styles of calligraphy that are widespread among the practitioners of this art, namely jaly thuluth, naskh, jaly taliq, jaly diwani, diwani, qufi, muhaqqaq, reyhani, riq'a' (ijaza), riq'a, maghribi and hurde ta'lik.

Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu opened the Jury meeting with an address in which he outlined the activities that were undertaken by the Centre in the field of arts during the last three years, i.e. since the last competition. Then, the Competition Secretariat presented to the Jury the 1885 works that were submitted by 909 participants from 37 countries for the fifth calligraphy competition, having classified and numbered them beforehand. The Jury examined and evaluated the entries, proceeding in stages in

accordance with the conditions and regulations of the competition and keeping in mind a set of minimum quality standards befitting an international competition of this scope. It kept the best works in hand at each stage discarding the others, until the very best, corresponding to the number of prizes allocated in each category, were selected.

The Jury judged independently from the rules and practices of any particular school, which will be reflected clearly in the catalogue of winners' works to be published soon. It took into consideration the following criteria, among others: conformity with the rules of calligraphy, creativity in the composition, and observance of the conditions of the competition, disregarding small deficiencies as regards the last one.

The jury noted that some entries were received from countries where the art of calligraphy had just started to flourish and agreed that the artists of these countries deserved to be encouraged. Therefore, the jury recommended to allocate incentive awards for some entries from Korea, Japan, Thailand, especially China, from where five calligraphers participated in the various styles of calligraphy. The Jury also noted that the rate of participation of women calligraphers had increased and that some female participants won awards; it decided to give some additional incentives to reward their efforts and encourage them.

Moreover, the Jury recommended that incentives be given to some works which remained under consideration until the final stages of the selection process but were finally discarded due to obvious mistakes they contained or to failure in conforming to the rules of this art in general and the rules of the competition in particular, including such conditions as those related to the width of the pen. The Jury also took into consideration the observations made by the Competition Secretariat concerning some calligraphers who had participated regularly in the competitions and improved their performance through the years, and recommended that they be given incentive awards.

As shown in the attached list, 24 awards, 55 mentions, and 53 incentive prizes were distributed (the latter a copy of IRCICA's publication *The Art of Calligraphy* – a reference work published in 1990 and worth US\$ 150,-) to 111 calligraphers from 33 countries. In addition, as mentioned above, incentive prizes have been given to five calligraphers from China, namely Messrs. Abdulkarim Omer, Yusuf Chen Jinhui, Şark Oğlu, Haj M. H. Ş. Cubug Şaan, Niyazi Kerim Şarkı, in encouragement of their efforts and their writing which reflects the particular stylistic traits of their region. Thus on the whole, 116 calligraphers from 34 countries received awards and incentives totaling US\$ 48,850.-.

Having examined the works submitted for the IRCICA Award for Distinction in Calligraphy, the Jury took note of the fact that none of the entries satisfied the expectations and quality requirements concerning this award which aimed to reward excellence in the performance of this art. Therefore, the Jury decided not to allocate the awards which were announced originally, but to distribute 3 mentions. Thus, the Jury's mentions were given to Mr. Nabil Nour Al-Sharifi from Iraq in the thuluth naskh style, Mr. Adnan Al-Sheikh Othman from Syria in the jaly thuluth style, and Mr. Ali Toy from Turkey in the jaly taliq style.

The results of the fifth competition have shown that while the number of participants and the diversity of their national, professional and educational backgrounds continued to increase, the average quality of the works submitted also improved considerably. Furthermore, young calligraphers, who were trained by some award-winners of the previous competitions, participated successfully in this competition, and it is noteworthy that this teacher-student relationship between calligraphers takes place across continents. These and other positive developments confirmed that the efforts deployed by IRCICA over the last decades to promote the art of calligraphy have culminated in successful achievements on a global scale.

The winners were announced during a press conference which was held on 8 May 2001 at IRCICA. The wide audience present at the press conference comprised the Consuls General of the countries of origin of the winners, members of the faculties of arts, a number of artists and specialists of art, and the representatives of major press and TV institutions. An exhibition of the award winning works was opened that day, to last for three

more days. IRCICA plans to display them in some OIC member countries whenever opportunities arise. It will also publish a catalogue of their reproductions accompanied by short biographies of the artists. IRCICA takes this opportunity to congratulate the winners and thank all the participants for their interest and their efforts invested in this competition.

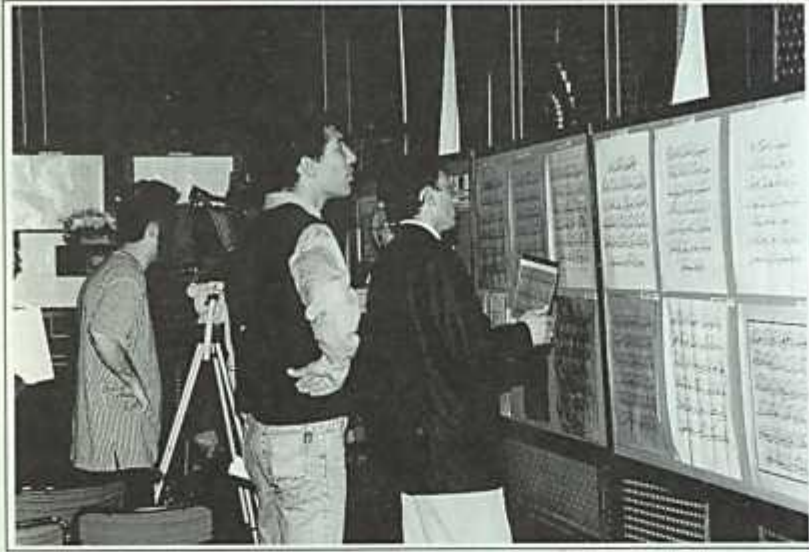
Calligrapher Sayyed Ibrahim

Sayyed Ibrahim was born in Cairo, in 1897. He was educated at Al-Azhar and the National University of Egypt. He studied the art of calligraphy from Turkish and Persian exercise books. Jointly with the Turkish master Kamil Akdik, he wrote the inscriptions in the mosque of Prince Mohammed Ali Palace in Al Manyal. Sayyed Ibrahim taught calligraphy at the School for the Development of Calligraphy, Cairo, for more than fifty years from the 1920s to the 1970s, and also at the Department of Arabic Studies of the American University of Cairo and the Institute of Arabic Manuscripts of the League of Arab States. Among his students are Muhammed Cherifi (Algeria), Abdul Ilah Al-Arab (Bahrain), Riyadh Jawhariya and Muhammed Siyam (Palestine), Hashim Al Baghdadi, Farah Adnan and Janeh (Iraq), Mustafa bin Nakhi (Kuwait), Abu Bakr Sasi (Libya), Ahmed Ziya Ibrahim and Nasr Al Meymun (Saudi Arabia), Sheikh Beshir Al Edlbi (Syria), Muhammed Mandi and Hussain Al Seri (United Arab Emirates), Anne Royal and Louis Oryan (U.S.A.).

Sayyed Ibrahim was known as the Dean of Arab calligraphers. He wrote an essay on the history of calligraphy and an exercise book for all styles of calligraphy, the sixth edition of which was published in Jeddah. His book on Masterpieces of Calligraphy was published in the U.S.A. He produced a great number of calligraphic works. His inscriptions on the walls of Jamia mosque in Bangalore, India, and a great number of book and magazine titles are well known. He died in 1994.



Opening of the Jury meeting



Exhibition of the winners' works



Announcement of the results at a press conference on 8 May 2001. From left, Mr. Ahmed Ziya İbrahim, professor of calligraphy and Alternate Chairman of the Jury; Prof. Dr. E. İhsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA and Chairman of the Organising Committee, Mr. Mohammed Tamimi, Head of the Heritage Section and Secretary of the Competition



Mr. Gholam Hossein Amirkhani, Professor of Calligraphy (Iran) and member of the Jury, speaking at the press conference



Portrait of Calligrapher Sayyed Ibrahim

LIST OF THE AWARD-WINNERS IN THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CALLIGRAPHY COMPETITION

1- JALY THULUTH

AWARDS		Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1 st Award (shared by two):	(1250 \$)	Ferhat Korlu	Turkey	Turkish
	(1250 \$)	M.F. Al-Homsi	Syria	Syrian
2 nd Award (shared by two):	(750 \$)	M.A. Behiri	Turkey	Algerian
	(750 \$)	Adem Sakal	Turkey	Turkish
3 rd Award (shared by two):	(500 \$)	A.F. Awadallah	Egypt	Egyptian
	(500 \$)	Adnan Mohammed	Netherlands	Iraqi

MENTIONS (250 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
A. Kareem Thabet	Jordan	Iraqi
M.R. Abd Ali	Iraq	Iraqi
Abdul Rahman	Pakistan	Pakistani
M. Nour Amjad	S.Arabia	Pakistani
Bilal Sezer	Turkey	Turkish

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Jassem Al-Najafi	Iraq	Iraqi
M.M. Al-Shami	Syria	Syrian
Mahfooz Ahmad	Pakistan	Pakistani
A. Madaki	USA	Indian
I.H. Al-Masri	Egypt	Egyptian
M.I.Khalfan	U.A.E.	U.A.E.
Losseney Sheriff	Guinee	Guinean

2- THULUTH

AWARDS		Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1 st AWARD:	(2500 \$)	A.Kareem Thabet	Jordan	Iraqi
2 nd AWARD:	(1500 \$)	M.Z. Al-Obaidi	Iraq	Iraqi
3 rd AWARD:	(1000 \$)	M.F. Al-Homsi	Syria	Syrian

MENTIONS (250 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
M.H. Al-Mohamadawi	Iraq	Iraqi
Ubaidah Al-Banki	Syria	Syrian
Z.H. Al-Muhandis	Turkey	Iraqi
A.R. Al-Rikabi	Iraq	Iraqi
N.A. Ansari	Yemen	Yemeni

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
N.el-Maymon	S.Arabia	Saudi
Doğan Çilingir	Turkey	Turkish
Bijar Erbilli	Germany	Iraqi
M. Zakariya	USA	American
Anang Hidayet	Indonesia	Indonesian

3- NASKH

AWARDS		Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1 st AWARD:	(2000 \$)	A.R. Al-Rikabi	Iraq	Iraqi
2 nd AWARD:	(1250 \$)	Ubaidah Al-Banki	Syria	Syrian
3 rd AWARD:	(750 \$)	Y.I. Sulaiman	Jordan	Jordanian

MENTIONS (250 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
S.A. Al-Husaini	Iraq	Iraqi
Tajessir S. Ahmad	U.A.E.	Sudani
Bijar Erbilli	Germany	Iraqi
Matin J. Ali	Iraq	Iraqi
S. K. Hussein	Iraq	Iraqi

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Adnan Mohammed	Netherlands	Iraqi
O.F. Al-Azami	Iraq	Iraqi
Ayten Tiryaki	Turkey	Turkish
Asedov Şahsuvaroğlu	Azarbaijan	Azari
Abdul Malik Djenebo	Burkina Faso	Burkinabe
Ali Kaddugala	Uganda	Ugandan

4- JALY TA'LIK

AWARDS		Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1 st AWARD:	(1500 \$)	M. Yaghmour	Syria	Syrian
2 nd AWARD:	(1000 \$)	A.R. Özcan	Turkey	Turkish
3 rd AWARD:	(600 \$)	S. Shirzad	U.A.E.	Iraqi

MENTIONS (250 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Ali Asghari	Iran	Iranian
Rasoul Moradi	Iran	Iranian
Mahdi Atriyani	Iran	Iranian
A.F. Awadallah	Egypt	Egyptian
M. Emzil	Morocco	Moroccan

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
A. Rida Al-Qirmlı	Iraq	Iraqi
M.Y. Al-Abbar	Syria	Syrian
H. Al-Uaydi	Egypt	Egyptian
Mayumi Kobayashi	Japan	Japanese
A. Embong	Malaysia	Malaysian

5- TA'LIK

AWARDS		Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1 st AWARD:	(1000 \$)	Ali Asghari	Iran	Iranian
2 nd AWARD:	(750 \$)	U.M. Al-Hamzawi	Syria	Syrian
3 rd AWARD:	(500 \$)	Rasoul Moradi	Iran	Iranian

MENTIONS (250 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
M. Al-Sai	Syria	Syrian
A. Zarouri	Iran	Iranian
M. Yaghmour	Syria	Syrian
A.R. Özcan	Turkey	Turkish
S.A. Al-Khuaitir	Iraq	Iraqi

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
H.A. Al-Shibani	Iraq	Iraqi
S. Zamani	Iran	Iranian
A.S. Zaghdani	Libyan	Libyan
Jamal Naja	A.Jam Lebanon	Lebanese

6- JALY DIWANI

AWARDS		Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1 st AWARD:	(1000 \$)	M.F. Al-Homsi	Syria	Syrian
2 nd AWARD:	(750 \$)	M.A. Behiri	Turkey	Algerian
3 rd AWARD:	(500 \$)	O.H. Ibrahim	S.Arabia	Egyptian

MENTIONS (250 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
H.A. Al-Sadi	Iraq	Iraqi
H. Al-Sai	Syria	Syrian
W.S. Matti	Iraq	Iraqi
M. A. Al-Khattat	Iraq	Iraqi
M. F. Al-Hamdani	Jordan	Jordanian

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
A.J. Al-Kanani	Iraq	Iraqi
M. J. Al-Sai	Syria	Syrian
Salman Akbar	Bahrain	Bahraini
M.A. Balliawi	India	Indian

7- DIWANI

AWARDS		Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1 st AWARD:	(800 \$)	M. Said	Syria	Syrian
2 nd AWARD:	(600 \$)	M. Yaghmour	Syria	Syrian
3 rd AWARD:	(400 \$)	Tajessir S. Ahmad	U.A.E.	Sudani

MENTIONS (250 \$)

<u>Name, Surname</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Nationality</u>
Haidar Rabi	Iraq	Iraqi
M. Q. Al-Shimali	Syria	Syrian
S. Al-Battati	S.Arabia	Yemeni
M. Al-Sai	Syria	Syrian
F.S. Mohammad	Syria	Syrian

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

<u>Name, Surname</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Nationality</u>
Z.M. Al-Barazanji	Iraq	Iraqi
A.R. Awwad	Iraq	Iraqi
F.A. Bulad	Jordan	Jordanian
S.A. Ghazal	Egypt	Egyptian
Saleem Can	Uzbekistan	Uzbek
Nirun Khuntavithi	Thailand	Thai

8- QUFI

MENTIONS (400 \$)

AWARDS

<u>Name, Surname</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Nationality</u>
S.M. Abdul Haliq	Egypt	Egyptian
O.H. Ibrahim	S.Arabia	Egyptian
M. Al-Khaleel	Syria	Syrian

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

<u>Name, Surname</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Nationality</u>
M. Mandi	U.A.E.	U.A.E.
W.A. Ramadan	Iraq	Iraqi
A. Mohammed	Algeria	Algerian
I.S. Milad	Tunisia	Tunisian
Ir. Achmad Noeman	Indonesia	Indonesian

9- MUHAQQAQ

MENTIONS (400 \$)

AWARDS

<u>Name, Surname</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Nationality</u>
M. Kashani	Iran	Iranian
Z.H. Al-Muhandis	Turkey	Iraqi
H. A. Al-Sadawi	Iraq	Iraqi

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

<u>Name, Surname</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Nationality</u>
Amin R. Haji	Iraq	Iraqi

10- REYHANI

MENTIONS (400 \$)

AWARDS

<u>Name, Surname</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Nationality</u>
U. Al-Hamzawi	Syria	Syrian
H. Faleh	Iraq	Iraqi

11- IJAZA

MENTIONS (400 \$)

AWARDS	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
	Matin J. Ali	Iraq	Iraqi
	A.A. Al-Nakkash	Iraq	Iraqi
	A. Al-Gharbi	Tunisia	Tunisian

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
M.M. Rahman	S.Arabia	Bangladeshi
A.N. Amjad	S.Arabia	Pakistani
S.Z. Bin Said	Oman	Omani

12- RIQAA

MENTIONS (400 \$)

AWARDS	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
	A.A. Shamta	Syria	Syrian
	A.F. Ahmad	Palestine	Palestinian
	A. Karkash	Syria	Syrian

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
A.M. Hafni	Egypt	Egyptian
H. Emzil	Morocco	Moroccan
M. Y. Mutair	Tunisia	Tunisian
Pras. D. Asselina	Netherlands	Dutch
Kim Kyung Sim	S.Korea	S.Korean

13- MAGRIBI

MENTIONS (400 \$)

AWARDS	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
	Belaid Hamidi	Morocco	Moroccan
	M. Muallimin	Morocco	Moroccan
	I. Y. Boududah	Algeria	Algerian

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
M. Tafrant	Morocco	Moroccan

14- KHURDE TA'LIK

MENTIONS (400 \$)

AWARDS	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
	H. Nematullah	Iran	Iranian
	Mahdi Atriyani	Iran	Iranian
	Tahire Khorasani	Iran	Iranian

INCENTIVE PRIZES (A BOOK WORTH \$ 150)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
A.A. Mogaddam	Iran	Iranian

The University of Sofia conferred the Honorary Doctorate to Prof. İhsanoğlu

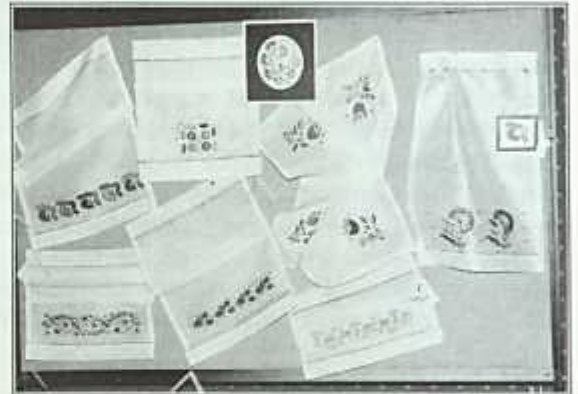


Prof. Dr. Maya Pencheva (at right) and Prof. Dr. Angel S. Popov, Vice-Presidents of Sofia University, with Prof. İhsanoğlu after the ceremony of the Honorary Doctorate

The University of Sofia "Saint Kliment Ohridski", in Sofia, Bulgaria, conferred the Honorary Doctorate degree upon Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA, in recognition of his services in the fields of international cultural studies and research on history of science. A ceremony was held in the University's Aula on 5 February 2001 where Prof. Dr. Phil. Boyan Biolchev, Acting President of the University of Sofia, presented the Honorary Doctorate to Prof. İhsanoğlu. The ceremony was attended by the Vice-Presidents of the University, the Deans of the faculties, the Director of the Center for Oriental Languages and Cultures Prof. Dr. Phil. Alexander Fedetoff, and faculty members from various departments. On this occasion, Prof. İhsanoğlu gave a lecture entitled "Cultural Interactions: the Place of Islamic Culture in Europe" in which he reviewed the intellectual and scientific activities carried out during the two specific periods of Muslim rule in Europe, that is, during the period of the Arab rule in Spain (8th-15th centuries) and the Ottomans' rule in southeast Europe and the Balkans (14th-beginning of 20th centuries). The scientific and literary works which were produced by Muslim, Christian and Jewish scholars and scientists during Muslims' reign in Spain were translated into Latin during and after that period and gave inputs to the Renaissance in Europe. Centuries later, within the second context of Muslims' rule in Europe, that is, the Ottoman presence in southeast Europe, a teaching and translation activity took place which contributed to the transfer of modern western science to the Muslim world. Prof. İhsanoğlu summarised the scientific activities conducted during each of these periods, citing the important scholars and scientists who contributed to advances in various disciplines. He said that these scientific and cultural developments illustrate that in each of the above two geographical and historical contexts, the mainstream Muslim culture has cultivated an intellectual progress and established itself as an active civilisation. The products of this civilisation constitute what represents the share of Islamic culture in the cultural heritage of Europe, testifying to the fact that Islam has been present in that continent as one of the indigenous religions and cultures of the European peoples.

Exhibition of Ottoman-style embroideries and Sındırgı carpets and kilims

IRCICA hosted exquisite exhibits of embroideries in the Ottoman style and carpets and kilims from the Sındırgı town of the city of Balıkesir (western Anatolia), in its hall at Çit Qasr, from 13-28 April 2001. The embroideries were made or collected by Mrs. Tülin Işık and Mrs. Şengül Kırılı, who are running a workshop and gallery in the Üsküdar district of Istanbul. The collection of carpets and kilims was brought by Mr. Ahmet Can, district administrator of the town of Sındırgı, and his assistants, directly from the weavers.



Documentary film on Bosnia and Herzegovina

A concise but instructive documentary film entitled "Mostar 2004: Bridging the Divide", relating to the destroyed architectural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina, has been prepared by MBC Heritage of Islam Trust (London). The film, produced in English, French and Arabic, is connected with the appeal launched by the Director General of IRCICA for international assistance towards restoration programs, as well as with IRCICA's Mostar 2004 project and reconstruction activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The idea of the film was formulated by H.E. Dr. Abdullah H. Masry, Chairman of MBC Heritage of Islam Trust, during his membership of IRCICA Governing Board (1986-1998) and realized under his auspices. The documentary will be distributed to major TV channels across the world. Copies can be obtained by writing to MBC Heritage of Islam Trust, 204-206 Queenstown Road, Battersea, London SW8 3NR; tel.: 44.171.501 1000; Fax: 44.171.501 1063.

IRCICA PUBLICATION

History of Ottoman Geographical Literature, 2 vols., prepared by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Ramazan Şeşen, M. Serdar Bekar, Gülcan Gündüz, A. Hamdi Furat, edited by E. İhsanoğlu, *History of Ottoman Scientific Literature* Series no. 3, Istanbul, 2000, lxxxix+912 p.

Price: set of 2 vols.: US\$ 80

This two-volume work is third in the series titled *History of Ottoman Scientific Literature* after the *History of Ottoman Astronomy Literature* (1997) and the *History of Ottoman Mathematical Literature* (1999). It follows the same methodology as the first two works. It contains entries for 1629 printed and manuscript works produced on Ottoman lands, during the Ottoman period, on scientific subjects relating to geography, cosmography and cartography. The authors of 727 of these works are known, whereas those of 901 are not. The latter figure is inflated by the printed maps numbering 741. The number of authors whose identity is not known is 441. Of these, 6 are known to have been produced in the 15th century, 29 in the 16th, 20 in the 17th, 30 in the 18th, 176 in the 19th (almost 230 including those written by authors who died in early 20th century), and 167 in the 20th. As to the works whose authors are known, 4 were written in the 15th century, 42 in the 16th, 24 in the 17th, 47 in the 18th, 244 in the 19th (the majority of works written by authors who died at the beginning of 20th century were written in the 19th), and 335 in the 20th. Except a few, the works produced between the years 1398 and 1800 are manuscripts and those produced between 1800 and 1923 are printed. The number of copies of manuscripts covered in this bibliographical compendium is 969. There are 941 maps, atlases and plans, 255 works on the geography of continents, 81 travelogues, 73 works on the Ottoman lands, 61 on the geography of regions, 39 land surveys, 32 works on navigation, 32 on economic geography, 18 on cosmography, 16 on military geography, 11 ambassadorial reports, and 9 dictionaries and glossaries of geographical terms. The number of translated works is 75; 39 were translated from French, 24 from Arabic, 14 from English, 3 from Latin and 3 from Persian, into Turkish. The findings of this comprehensive survey show that advances were made in both Western- and Eastern-oriented geographical sciences throughout the Ottoman period. Their parallel progress continued until Western-type geographical science became dominant in the 19th century following the establishment of universities which included geography in their curricula. The main centre of geographical research was Istanbul. Future volumes to appear in the *History of Ottoman Scientific Literature* series will deal with the literature produced in natural sciences and translations of scientific works from Western languages into languages of Muslim nations.

Views of some scholars on the *History of Ottoman Geographical Literature*

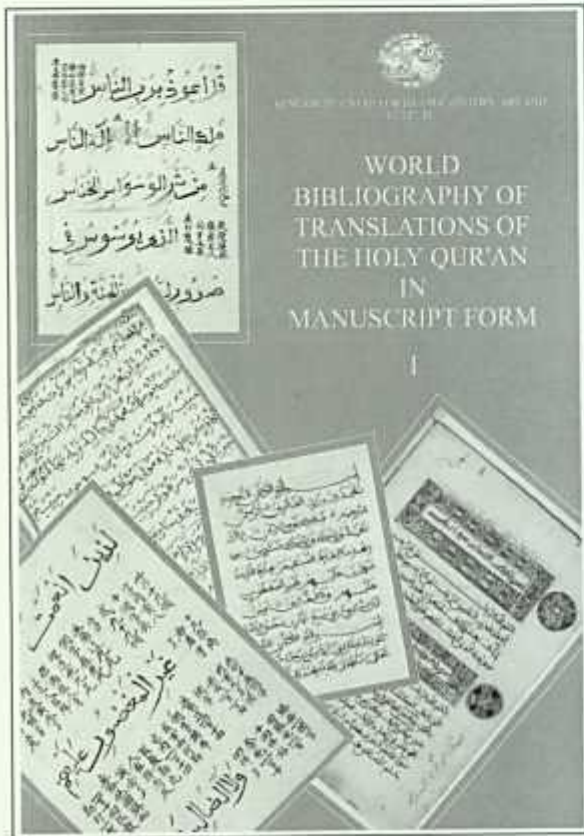
"The excellent series, *History of Scientific Literature during the Ottoman Empire*, has been enhanced by these two new volumes on the history of geographical literature. They provide a remarkable insight into the achievements of a great civilization and they belong on the bookshelf of any scholar interested in the development of Ottoman science and its relation to the West. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and his collaborators have produced an essential tool that will encourage further research and may be compared to a map that tells where to go and how to get there. It cannot be too highly commended."

Prof. William Shea, Institut d'Histoire des Sciences, Université Louis Pasteur de Strasbourg, President of the International Academy of History of Science, France

"Worthy successors to the splendid bio-bibliographical reference works on Ottoman astronomical and mathematical literature already published by Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and his colleagues at IRCICA, these two volumes cover in the same meticulous fashion the geographical literature of the Ottomans. They deal with approximately 1000 treatises on descriptive geography, cosmography and cartography attributed to over 450 authors and anonymous works, and they include reports of Ottoman ambassadors and travel literature, as well as Turkish translations of Arabic, Persian and European works. They document yet another aspect of the highly literate Ottoman society, and together with the earlier volumes dealing with astronomy and mathematics, they constitute a major contribution both to Ottoman studies and to the history of science. The authors are to be commended for their dedication, insights, thoroughness and tenacity, for they have produced an indispensable key to future research in a much neglected subject."

Prof. David A. King, Institute of History of Science, Frankfurt University, Germany

World Bibliography of Translations of the Holy Quran in Manuscript Form, Vol. I, compiled by Dr. M. Nejat Sefercioğlu, edited and introduction by E. İhsanoğlu, Istanbul, 2000

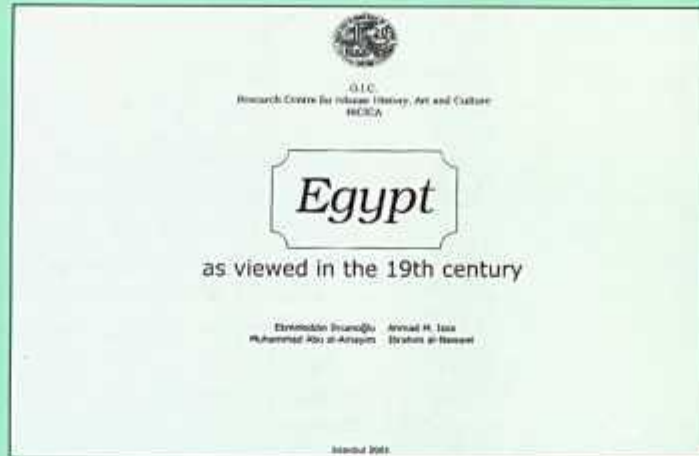


One of the major research projects of IRCICA is aimed at compiling and publishing bibliographic data on translations of the Holy Quran in all languages of the world. The project is carried out in three parallel sections, covering printed, manuscript and oral translations and interpretations of the Holy Quran. The first bibliography resulting from this project, the *World Bibliography of Translations of the Holy Quran, Printed Translations 1515-1980*, was published in 1986.

The Centre now has the pleasure and pride of presenting the first volume of the *World Bibliography of Translations of the Holy Quran in Manuscript Form*. It contains the data and information that has been collected and collated by Dr. M. Nejat Sefercioğlu, an eminent specialist and IRCICA's expert in bibliography. On the whole, about 5,000 manuscript translations and exegeses of the Quran in 61 languages and dialects have been recorded until now within the framework of this project. This first volume contains entries for 293 translations and exegeses found in manuscript form in 58 languages and

dialects. Translations and exegeses in Persian, Urdu and Turkish are not included, because they are too numerous to fit into a single volume. The volume has indexes of personal names, book titles and place names. The second volume, planned to appear in 2001, will contain entries for 1,600 manuscript translations and exegeses in Turkish. It will be followed by a third volume to cover the manuscript works in Persian and Urdu numbering slightly more than 2,500 according to the present estimates.

Egypt As Viewed in the 19th Century, prepared by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Ahmad M. Issa, Mohammed Abu Al-Amayim, Ibrahim Al-Nawawi, edited by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, xiii, 223 [6] p., 140 illustrations, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2001 (in English and Arabic)



This elegant annotated album contains 140 historical photographs of architectural monuments, namely mosques, madrasas, palaces, fountains, citadels, gardens and cemeteries, as well as some of the landmarks of ancient Egypt such as pyramids, temples and sphinx statues. 100 of the monuments date from the early Islamic, Tulunid, Fatimid, Ayyubi, Mamluk and Ottoman periods, while 40 are from Pharaonic times. The majority of the photographs are related to Cairo, an eleven-century old city of universal importance, but there are also a number of photographs that duly reflect the historical significance of cities such as Alexandria and Port Said. These pictures were selected from the Yıldız Photograph Albums which were put together in Istanbul during the reign of Sultan Abdulhamid II, at the end of 19th and beginning of 20th century. The nucleus of the collection contains 35,000 photographs taken by a number of professional photographers such as P. Sabah, H. Béchard, H. Arnox, J. Sandoz, Abdullah Frères, T. R. Dumas, L. C. Müller, as well as amateurs and travelers aiming to record the important scenes in the vast Ottoman scene.

The Centre is grateful to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt for the assistance extended during the preparation of this book. With the contributions of all those who joined their efforts and helped in producing it, the book has come out as an informative reference that would be useful for researchers interested in history and cultural heritage. Under the editorship of Prof. E. İhsanoğlu, Architect M. Abu Al-Amayim drafted the texts on Islamic monuments and Prof. Dr. I. Al-Nawawi, those on the Pharaonic antiquities; Dr. Tahsin Ö. Tahaoğlu prepared the book for publication. The late Prof. Ahmad Issa, member of IRCICA Governing Board, contributed during the first stages of its preparation. At the end of the book, there is a list of the monuments and sites, with their code numbers in IRCICA's archive and the names of the photographers. This is the third volume issued by IRCICA in the series of its publications from the archives of the Yıldız Palace Albums, the previous ones being the first and second editions of an album containing selected historical photographs of Istanbul.

Some of the illustrious monuments shown in this volume are the Amr b. al-As Mosque, Ahmed b. Tulun Mosque, Al-Hakim Mosque and Al-Gyushi Mosque from early Islamic periods, the Sultan Hasan Madrasa and the Qaytbay Mosque from Mamluk times; there are a number of fountains and palaces dating from the Ottoman period, such as the Sabil-Kuttab of Abd Al-Rahman Katkhuda and the Shubra Palace. Also noteworthy are the city walls, marketplaces and views of various districts illustrating the panorama of Cairo.