



O.I.C.

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# NEWSLETTER



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**Editorial Board:**

Zeynep Inal  
Mohammed Tamimi  
Ahmed Ladjimi  
Acar Tanlak

Published by:  
The Research Centre  
for Islamic History,  
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Mailing Address:  
P.O.B. 24,  
Beşiktaş  
Istanbul, Turkey

Telex: 26484 isam tr  
Phone: 160 59 88 - 89

Location:  
Yıldız Sarayı,  
Seyir Köşkü,  
Beşiktaş, Istanbul,  
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## IRCICA PUBLICATIONS

**CATALOGUE OF ISLAMIC MEDICAL MANUSCRIPTS IN THE LIBRARIES OF TURKEY**, edited by Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU; prepared by Ramazan ŞEŞEN, Cemil AKPINAR and Cevat İZGİ, History of Science Series no. 1, Istanbul, 1984; 24, 525 p.; 24 cm. (Arabic) Price: US \$30 post and package included.

This catalogue has been published on the occasion of the Third Congress on Islamic Medicine (Istanbul, 1984). It presents approximately 1000 original manuscripts and lists their copies available in the collection of 129 major libraries of Turkey. About 5000 items are covered.

**L'ENSEIGNEMENT ARABO-ISLAMIQUE AU SENEGAL (ARAB-ISLAMIC EDUCATION IN SENEGAL)**, by Mamadou NDIAYE, Istanbul, 1985; VII, 253,9 p.; 24 cm. (French) Price: US \$10, post and package included.

This work is one of the first objective studies on the introduction and preservation of the Arabic language in Black Africa and especially in Senegal. It also sheds light on the archive documents belonging to the colonial period and which restricted the teaching of the language of the Holy Qur'an in these countries. Enriched with statistics, the book gives the history of the evolution of the teaching of this language and the difficulties and problems encountered during this process.

**INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS**, prepared by Acar TANLAK and Ahmed LAJIMI, Istanbul, 1984; VII, 337,4 p.; 24 cm. (English) Price: US\$10, post and package included

The Directory gives the addresses of 3579 institutions in 106 countries, working in the fields of Islamic culture, civilisation, history and art.

**CATALOGUE OF MANUSCRIPTS IN THE KÖPRÜLÜ LIBRARY**, by Ramazan ŞEŞEN, Cevat İZGİ, Cemil AKPINAR, Istanbul, 1986, 3 vols. (XII, 609, 34; 647, XII; 639, XII, 22 p.); 24 cm. (Ar.) Price: US \$60 plus package and postage (US \$10 for America, USSR, Japan and China; US \$5 all others).

The Köprülü Library in Istanbul contains an important collection of manuscripts: nearly 2773 volumes under 3500 titles in the fields of history, philosophy, natural sciences, mathematics, etc. The catalogue provides full bibliographic information about them. The Preface gives the history of the collection.

**WORLD BIBLIOGRAPHY OF TRANSLATIONS OF THE MEANING OF THE HOLY QURAN: PRINTED TRANSLATIONS 1515-1980**, prepared by İsmet BİNARK, Halit EREN; edited and prefaced by Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, Istanbul, 1986; XCIX, 880, 34 p.; 24 cm. (English) Price: US \$80 plus package and postage (US \$20 for America, USSR, Japan and China; US \$10 all others)

Gives information about 2672 works which are the originals, copies and different editions of 551 complete and 883 incomplete translations and selections in 65 languages. The Preface gives the history of Quran translations from the beginnings of Islam to our time.

**UNION CATALOGUE OF PERIODICALS IN ARABIC SCRIPT IN THE LIBRARIES OF ISTANBUL (1828-1928)**, compiled by Hasan DUMAN, Istanbul, 1986; 664 p.; 24 cm. Price: US \$25 plus package and postage (US \$10 for USSR, America, Japan, China; US\$5 others)

Contains information about 1804 titles of periodicals in different languages printed in Arabic script. The Preface, the bibliographical explanations and indications for indexes are trilingual in English, Arabic and Turkish.

## EDITORIAL

I am sure you noted, Dear Readers, that the present issue of our Newsletter is dated August-September 1987. We extended the coverage of our August issue for once to include news pertaining to the first half of September. The reason is that the first week of September was marked by an important activity of our Centre, the International Symposium on "Modern Science and the Muslim World", on the theme of "Science and Technology Transfer from the West to the Muslim World from the Renaissance to the Beginning of the 20th century". Instead of delaying our account of this event until the December issue, we preferred to cover it here so that you might be informed of the event as soon as it is over.

This symposium was organised jointly with the Department of History of Science, Faculty of Arts of Istanbul University, as the first international meeting in a series. The subject of the contacts and relations that Muslims had with modern Western sciences throughout the centuries is vast and multidisciplinary. Furthermore, throughout the history of science, the transfers of scientific knowledge between the Muslim world and the West showed reciprocity; the great scientific achievements made by Muslims in the first centuries of Islam found their way to Europe and contributed to the scientific developments of the Renaissance period. This is one facet of the process on which most of the existing studies and literature concentrate. On the other hand, starting with the 17th century, the new sciences of the West were introduced to the Muslim world by various means and channels. As it

was not possible to cover all aspects of these transfers in the period of one meeting, the theme of the symposium was limited to cover the transfers of science and technology from the West to the Muslim World, the attitudes of Muslim scientists towards the new sciences and their successes and failures. Thus we aimed to give a new flavour to the subject, broaden the fields of interest of scholars and researchers and help them draw conclusions from the historical experience, which could also be useful for the present and the future.

The period covered in this issue of the Newsletter also saw the Fifth Meeting of the Governing Council of IRCICA and an extraordinary meeting of the Islamic Heritage Commission (ICPICH) in Damascus. Turning the pages of this Newsletter, our readers will also find out that there have been new developments concerning our research projects. We are pleased to report here on progresses achieved in the works of IRCICA and ICPICH as well as about the accomplishments of other institutions dealing with subjects related to Islamic culture. A number of research centres, scholarly establishments and similar institutions sent us information about their activities and we included part of this information in this issue; we hope other institutions will do the same. In publishing such information, we aim to contribute to increase general awareness about Islamic cultural activities taking place all over the world.

Prof.Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu

## **FIFTH MEETING OF IRCICA GOVERNING COUNCIL, 13-15 JUNE 1987, DAMASCUS**

The Fifth Meeting of the Governing Council of IRCICA was held in Damascus, Syria on 13-14 June 1987.

The meeting was inaugurated in Al-Assad National Library in the presence of H.E.Dr. Najah Al-Attar, Minister of Culture of Syria and members of diplomatic missions and local dignitaries, including experts in the fields of culture and literature. Mr.Hassan Mohammed Daoud, Director of Cultural and Social Affairs at the General Secretariat of OIC attended the meeting as the representative of H.E. the Secretary General of the OIC. Present at the Governing Council Meeting were the following members:



- Prof.Dr.Abdullah Hassan Masry, Under Secretary, Ministry of Culture and Director General of Archaeology, Saudi Arabia
  - Dr.Mahmoud Zouber, Director, Regional Institute of Islamic Studies and Research, Tombouctou, Mali
  - Prof.Dr.Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Director General of IRCICA.
- At the inauguration, the Director General of the Centre thanked the Government of Syria for extending an invitation to the Governing Council to hold its meeting in the historic city of Damascus. He briefed the audience regarding the work and achievements of the Centre, particularly the work accomplished during the last year. He invited scholars and intellectuals of the Islamic world to cooperate with the Centre in developing its research work. Then, the Chairman of the Governing Council took the floor; he expressed appreciation over the achievements accomplished by the Centre and emphasized the importance and usefulness of its future work plan. Dr.Javed Iqbal, Vice-Chairman of the Governing Council also addressed the ceremony and referred to the importance of works undertaken by IRCICA and ICPICH for the preservation and promotion of Islamic culture and heritage. He was followed by the Minister of Culture of Syria who commended the achievements of the Centre and said that she had closely followed its activities; these activities are evidences of the great work done by the Centre so far, she said.
- During the working sessions, the Governing Council reviewed and discussed the items on the agenda. Recommendations were made as follows:
- Dr.Afif Bahnassi, (Chairman) Director General of Antiquities and Museums, Damascus, Syria
  - Sheikha Husa Al-Sabah, Director of Dar Al-Athar Al-Islamiyya, Kuwait
  - Justice Dr.Javed Iqbal, Federal High Court of Lahore, Pakistan (Vice-Chairman)
  - Prof.Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Tayyib Al-Ansary, Head of Monuments Division, College of Literature, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- The Council conveyed its high appreciation for the achievements that were made by the Centre, which had led it to become one of the successful centres dealing with scholarly subjects and which the Islamic world should be proud of.
- The Council took note of the fact that the major part of the budget had been spent on research programmes and activities. It congratulated the Centre for reducing the expenses and encouraged it to continue with the same system.
- The Council adopted the report and the work programme for 1987-88 submitted by the Director General.
- The Council welcomed the method introduced by the administration of the Centre regarding the publication of its works and encouraged it to continue to cooperate with relevant institutions.
- Concerning scholarships, the Council recommended that the Director General continues efforts to develop the scholarship program and to invite universities and research institutions in the Member States to offer the Centre more scholarship facilities.
- Recognizing that the Centre since its inception has accumulated a significant body of research and publication works that is worthy of being shared with other research institutes in the world; realising that in contemporary research environment, no institution can function to its maximum potential without an active information and communication network, and further realising that the research efforts of a unique research centre established by the common will of the Muslim world and which is exclusively staffed by scholars from Member States deserves projection at the international level, the Governing Council resolved that a public relations program be initiated to disseminate information about

the work completed, in progress and anticipated in future.

- The Council urged the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and Member States to take the necessary steps to ensure that contributions due to the Centre are met regularly for the Centre to implement its programme and activities.

IRCICA would like to take this occasion to extend its heartfelt thanks to the Government of Syria for hosting the Fifth Meeting of the Governing Council, first meeting held outside of IRCICA's headquarters in Istanbul. The Centre would also like to thank Dr. Afif Bahnassi, Chairman of the Governing Council, who had invited the Centre to hold the meeting in Damascus, as well as his colleagues at the Directorate General of Antiquities and Museums of Syria for their valuable assistance. IRCICA's thanks go also to the Syrian press and mass media which gave a special attention to the event.

During the meeting period, members of the Governing Council had contacts with the local authorities to exchange ideas on issues of concern for the Islamic world as well as subjects related to culture and scholarly researches. Governing Council members also visited the historical sites and monuments in Syria, including the Omeiad Mosque and the old parts of Damascus, as well as the National Museum and Al-Assad National Library, where they were informed of the modern techniques used in this library, especially for the restoration of old books and manuscripts.

Among the events that took place during the meeting period, there was also a lecture by Justice Dr. Javed Iqbal about his father Dr. Muhammed Iqbal, the great poet of Islam. A separate section of the present issue of the Newsletter is devoted to Muhammed Iqbal.

## IRCICA ACTIVITIES

### INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON MODERN SCIENCE AND THE MUSLIM WORLD

"SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER  
FROM THE WEST TO THE MUSLIM WORLD  
FROM THE RENAISSANCE TO THE  
BEGINNING OF THE XXth CENTURY"  
2-4 September 1987, Istanbul

The first meeting in the series of international symposia on "Modern Science and the Muslim World" took place on 2-4 September 1987 at Çit Qasr at IRCICA's premises.

sent research papers and discuss on the great variety of topics offered. It was satisfactory for IRCICA to observe that the participants were of various disciplines: there were historians, archaeologists, economists, medical doctors, chemists, architects, writers and editors of scientific journals, among others; they all made valuable contributions in their respective fields within the



The theme of the meeting was "Science and Technology Transfer from the West to the Muslim World from the Renaissance to the Beginning of the XXth Century". IRCICA and the Department of History of Science of the Faculty of Letters, University of Istanbul jointly organised the symposium.

80 scholars, researchers and representatives of institutions from 17 countries came together to pre-

framework of the meeting's theme. Most of the papers dealt with subjects not explored before or not fully studied previously; they were based on direct references some of which had escaped notice. Space limits prevent us from including here the abstracts of the 35 papers presented; we content ourselves by providing the list of the papers and their contributors, believing that this would at least give an idea of the subjects covered at the

meeting. A collection of abstracts was distributed during the symposium; IRCICA and the Department of History of Science of Istanbul University will collaborate to publish the papers and proceedings of the symposium in the form of a book, so that all those interested in this field or dealing with related issues could benefit from the results of this symposium which proved to be a fruitful gathering of high scientific standing.

The meeting was inaugurated at Çit Qasr on Wednesday, 2nd September. Present at the inauguration were H.E.Mr. Nevzat Ayaz, Governor of Istanbul, members of diplomatic missions in Turkey, participants at the meeting, guests and journalists. IRCICA Director General pronounced a welcome speech; he thanked the participants for the interest they had shown toward the meeting and said that this interest had surpassed the expectations, with respect to both the number of participants and the variety of the paper topics. He said this was relevant for IRCICA in determining the future guidelines and objectives of its history of science project. He was followed by Prof. Dr.Cem'i Demiroğlu, Rector of Istanbul University who gave the inaugural speech; he expressed his belief that the meeting would give fruitful results and throw light upon the problems that were encountered in the transfer of knowledge to the Muslim world.

Then, the message sent by H.E. Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, Secretary General of the OIC was read; the Secretary General could not attend the symposium because of previous engagements. He underlined the importance of the subject matter of the symposium and wished success to the participants. The keynote inaugural speech was given by Prof. Dr. Halil İnalçık from the Department of History of the University of Chicago, who focused on the relationship between culture and



*Prof.Dr.Halil İnalçık receives the plaque from H.E. the Governor of Istanbul*

science and touched upon the social and cultural factors which influence the attitudes toward new scientific knowledge. Prof. İnalçık pointed out that the Muslim world's transfers of science and technology from the West had been governed more by rational choices and motives than by value judgments.

The inaugural ceremony ended with the presentation of a plaque to Prof.Dr. Halil İnalçık, well-known historian and author of several books and articles, in recognition of his services and contributions to Muslim history and particularity Ottoman history. The plaque was presented to the scholar by H.E.Mr. Nevzat Ayaz, Governor of Istanbul.

The meeting took three days; there were three working sessions every day, with three or four paper presentations in each. Each presentation was followed by a question-answer debate. In some cases, the discussions could not be concluded within the limited time allowed for each session and they had to be continued during the breaks, what was an indication of the importance of the issues raised during the meeting and the fact that they require further discussion and research.

Below is the list of contributors and papers, in the order of presentation during the sessions:

- Halil İnalçık, (Dept. of History, University of Chicago, USA), Some Remarks on the Ottoman Cultural Borrowings from the West
- Kemal Karpat (University of Wisconsin, USA), Rational Scientific Plans for Economic Development During the Reign of Abdulhamid II; 1876-1909
- Yakov Rabkin (Dept. of History, University of Montreal, Canada), Conceptual Challenges to the History of Science in the Muslim World
- Mehmet İpşirli (Fac. of Letters, Istanbul University), On the European Science and Techniques as Conceived in the Layihâs Submitted to Selim III
- Adnan Şişman (Fac. of Education, Uludağ University, Turkey), Establishment and First Teaching Years of the Galatasaray Lycee (1868-1871)
- Esin Kâhya (Fac. of Language, History and Geography, Ankara University, Turkey), The First Railways in the Ottoman Empire
- Georgy G. Hazai (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary), Hungaro-Ottoman Contacts in the Field of Aviation before the First World War
- Roshdi Rashed (Centre d'Histoire, des Sciences et de la Philosophie Arabes, Paris, France), Problems of the Integration of the European Science in Iran at the Beginning of the 19th Century
- Joseph Szyliowicz (Graduate School of International Studies, University of Denver, USA), Functionalist Perspectives on Technology: The Case of the Printing Press in the Ottoman Empire
- Orhan Koloğlu (Researcher and writer, Turkey), The Penetration and the Effects of the Printing Techniques in the Muslim Societies
- Caesar E. Farah (Prof. of Middle Eastern and Islamic History, University of Minnesota, USA), Transfer of Scientific Learning from Europe via the Syrian Press 1875-1915
- Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu (IRCICA Director General and Head, Dept. of History of Science, Fac. of Letters, Istanbul Univ.), Introduction of Modern Astronomy to the Ottoman World (1660-1860)
- S.M.R. Ansari (Aligarh Muslim University, India), Modern Astronomy in Indo-Persian Sources
- George Saliba (Prof. of Arabic and Islamic Science, Columbia University, USA), Copernican



*Inauguration: left to right: Prof.Dr.Halil İnalçık; Prof.Dr.Cem'i Demiroğlu, Rector of Istanbul University; IRCICA Director General*

- Astronomy in the Muslim East-Theories of the Motion of the Earth
- Ahmed Güner Sayar (Fac. of Political Sciences, Istanbul University), Introduction of the Modern Conception of Economics to Ottoman Turkey and its Areas of Expansion
  - Murat Çizakça (Dept. of Economics, Bosphorous University, Istanbul), Techniques and Know-How of the Business Partnerships from one Civilisation to the Other
  - Syed Zaher Haider (Dept. of Chemistry, Dhaka University, Bangladesh), The Socio-Economic Consequences of the Transfer of Technology From the West to a Colonial Muslim Country and its Impact on Development
  - Mehmet Saray (Fac. of Letters, Istanbul University), Scientific Life of the Turkish Communities living under the Russian Administration
  - Nil Sarı/Mükerrem Bedizel Zül-fikar (Cerrahpaşa Fac. of Medicine, Istanbul University), Influences of Paracelsus on Turkish Medicine
  - Adel Ziadat (Dept. of Mass Communication, Yarmouk University, Jordan), The Church Missionary Society and the Introduction of Western Medicine in the East of Jordan, 1883-1945
  - Michael W. Dols (Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Oxford University, England), Medicine in 16th Century Egypt
  - Gül Russell (Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, England), Itaqi, Shanizade, and the Origins of Scientific Anatomy
  - Osamah al-Gohary (College of Architecture and Planning, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia), Transference of Modern Architecture Technology to the Muslim World and its Problems
  - Uğur Tanyeli (Fac. of Architecture, Istanbul Technical University), Introduction of the Western Conception of City Planning to Turkey (18th-19th centuries)
  - Ramazan Şeşen (IRCICA), Osman b. Abdülmennan as the Translator of the Belgrade Divan and his Place in the Translation Activity
  - Halil Sahillioğlu (Fac. of Economics, Istanbul University), Application of the Modern Minting Techniques by the Ottomans
  - Feza Günergün (Dept. of History of Science, Fac. of Letters, Istanbul University), Introduction of the Metric System in the Ottoman State
  - Zafer Toprak (Dept. of History, Bosphorus University, Istanbul), Agriculture and Technology Transfer in the Late Ottoman Society
  - William M. Blair (Dept. of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, USA), The Modernization of the Ottoman Navy in the Nineteenth Century
  - İhsan Süreyya Sırma (Fac. of Theology, Atatürk University, Erzurum, Turkey), Essay on a New Approach to the Science of History
  - Nadia Muhammad abu Zahra (Dept. of Anthropology University of British Columbia, Canada), Al-Tahtawi as a Translator of French Culture
  - Mehmet Genç (Fac. of Science and Letters, Marmara University, Istanbul), Introduction of the Steam Engine to Turkey and its First Quarter Century
  - Mahmut Kaya (Fac. of Letters, Istanbul University), Thinking of 18th Century Scholars on Esat Efendi and Some Remarks about his Fizika Translation
  - Attallah Dhina (Head of Dept. of Muslim History, University of Algiers, Algeria), L'enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique en Algérie: L'expérience Algérienne
  - Maherzi Aicha (University of Algiers, Algeria), Introduction de la Technologie dans les Pays Musulmans et Changement Social.

There were ten sessions altogether over a period of three days. The sessions were chaired by the following personalities: first ses-



Question-answer debates. Speaking:  
Prof.Dr.E.Kadri Unat from  
Cerrahpaşa Faculty of Medicine,  
Istanbul University

sion, Prof.Dr.Khaled Maghout (Director, Institute for the History of Arabic Science, Vice-President of Aleppo University, Syria); second session, Prof.Dr. Kâzım Çeçen (Fac. of Civil Engineering, Istanbul Technical University); third session, Prof.Dr.Kemal Karpaz (University of Wisconsin, USA); fourth session, Prof. Dr. Nüzhet Gökdoğan (Prof. of astronomy, Turkey); fifth session, Prof.Dr. Georgy Hazai (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary); sixth session, Prof.Dr. E.Kadri Unat (Cerrahpaşa Fac. of Medicine, Istanbul University); seventh session, Prof.Dr. Gündüz Gökçe (Rector of Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul); eighth session, Prof.Dr. Caesar E. Farah (University of Minnesota, USA); ninth session, Prof.Dr. Halil Sahillioğlu (Fac. of Economics, Istanbul University) and tenth session, Prof.Dr. Ekmel-eddin İhsanoğlu.

Two exhibitions were organised on the occasion of the symposium: "Ottoman Sultans' Books of Western Origin" and "Ancient and New Astronomical Instruments". The first exhibition was organised by the Library of Topkapi Palace Museum, as a contribution to the Symposium; the participants visited this ex-

hibition on the second day of the meeting. It consisted of the books that had been published in Europe and gifted to the Ottoman Sultans on various occasions throughout centuries. Especially the Treasury section of the Library contains many such books, which were relevant in the context of the meeting since they indicated what kind of scientific and other books were introduced to the Ottoman State.

As to the second exhibition, it was organised at the Kandilli Observatory of Bosphorus University; it was opened on 5 September, after the meeting was closed. Participants at the meeting could see samples of classical astronomical equipment as well as those that were made under Western influence.

It was a pleasure for IRCICA to hear the participants expressing satisfaction and appreciation with respect to both the academic quality, usefulness and importance of the papers and discussions and the organisational aspects of the Symposium. Some said it had been beneficial in providing new insights into issues of common interest others pointed out that it had in created awareness among scholars, scientists and researchers working on various aspects of the history of science, about each other's work. The event was closely followed and reported by the Turkish radio and television and various press organs.



Exhibition at Kandilli Observatory

## MEETINGS

### RESEARCH PROJECT ON ISLAMIC CIVILISATION IN THE MALAY WORLD:

FIRST REGIONAL WORKSHOP  
in cooperation with the Governments  
of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia  
and Malaysia

The meeting was inaugurated by the Hon. Anwar Ibrahim, Minister of Education of Malaysia. In his speech, the Minister welcomed re-



*Inauguration by H.E. the Minister of Education, Malaysia*

A new research project on the History of Islamic Civilisation in South East Asia was launched with the convening of the First Regional Workshop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 13-15 April 1987. The project is to be conducted by the relevant institutions of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and Malaysia with IRCICA as the coordinator.

The regional workshop brought together scholars and experts who were the delegates of the three concerned countries; IRCICA was represented by Director General Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and Deputy Director General Raja Fuziah bt. Raja Tun Uda.

search projects on Islamic culture and civilisation and pointed out there was a need to check facts on the growth of Islam in South-East Asia and to make corrections were necessary. Then, IRCICA Director General briefed the participants about the project, explaining that the project was aimed at providing new data on the history and growth of Islamic traditions and civilisation in South-East Asia. He expressed the hope that this will help future historians and researchers interpret historical events pertaining to the spread of Islam and the emergence of Islamic Civilisation in this region. The meeting then heard the background

paper by Prof. Dr. Syed Naquib Al-Attas, Head of the Malaysian delegation, proposing the basic concepts and principles of the project as well as its scope and coverage.

During the working sessions, the methodology of implementation and guidelines of execution of the project were determined. Prof. Dr. Syed Naquib al-Attas was appointed as the Editor-in-Chief. The meeting also agreed that the "Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka" (Malay Language Centre) under the auspices of the Ministry of Education of Malaysia be set as the Regional Project Secretariat.

#### Participation at the Religious Summit on Mount Hiei, Japan

Mount Hiei near Kyoto has been the setting for a Religious Summit recently, where scholars and high-level representatives of different religions around the world came together. IRCICA Director General had been invited to participate at this meeting as a member of the Muslim delegation. The Summit took place on 3rd-4th August 1987, under the auspices of the Japan Conference of Religious Representatives (a body represented by five organisations supporting the Japan Federation of Religion) with the collaboration of the Japanese Committee of the World Conference on Religion and Peace and the Japan Religious Committee for the World Federation. The aim and spirit was to pray and work together for world peace and strengthen the bonds of

friendship and understanding among different religions. The prayer for world peace was motivated by the same spirit engendered by the day of prayer held in October 1986 in Assisi, Italy through the initiative of His Holiness Pope John Paul II.

Around 500 delegates present at the Summit and hundreds of people gathered in the oldest Buddhist temple on top of Mt. Hiei to pray for peace in their own ways of expression.

Each religion was represented at the Summit by a group composed of scholars and religious leaders or their representatives. The Muslim group included Sheikh Mohamed Badr Eldin Hossem Eldin, the personal representative of the Sheikh of Al-Azhar; Dr. Musa M. Omar, the personal representative of H.E. Dr. Abdullah Omar Nasseef, Secretary General of the Muslim World League; Dr. Muhammed Abdul Rauf, President of the International Islamic University in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Dr. Shamsuddin Z. Babakhanov, Chairman of the Muslim Religious Board in the U.S.S.R., Yahya Sheikh Munir from Kobe Mosque, Japan and the Director General of IRCICA. The group representing Christianity included Francis Cardinal Arinze from the Secretariat for Non-Christians, Vatican; the representative of the Russian Orthodox Church; Special Envoys of Anglican Archbishops; the Secretary General of WCRP International in Switzerland and the President of Temple of Understanding in the U.S.A. as the representatives of multi-religious organisations, among others.

The Summit was inaugurated on 3rd August; IRCICA Director General was invited to deliver a speech on behalf of the Muslim delegation at the inauguration of the Summit. We reproduce below the main parts of this speech:



*IRCICA Director General at the Summit*

"It is a great pleasure and honour for me and all the Muslim scholars and personalities attending this august meeting to salute all of you in our own way: "Esselamu Aleykum wa Rahmetullah wa Berekatuh". That is to say, "Peace be upon you and the Mercy of God be for you". Islam, just as its salute "Salaam", derives its name from the very word "Peace". Perhaps this is what makes Muslims very keen to achieve Salaam, i.e. Peace as a target, which is an ambition shared by other religions too. No doubt, there has already been several attempts, around the world, to establish dialogues among different religions. But as I do understand, it is the first time we have a meeting on such a grand scale and with such a large representation of different religions from various parts of the world.

So I must express here my and my colleagues' deepest gratitude and thanks to the Chairman and the members of the Committee for the Religious Summit on Mt. Hiei, the Japan Conference of Religious Representatives, the Japan Federation of Religion, the Japanese Committee of the World Conference on Religion and Peace, the Japan Religious Committee for the World Federation; I would like to pay a special tribute to His Eminence Etai Yamada,

Honorary President of the Japan Conference of Religious Representatives, to Rev. Yasumi Hirose, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Japan Religious Committee for World Federation and in particular to our Muslim brother in the Committee, Professor Abdul Karim Saito, Aman whose services to Islam and to the cooperation among different religions are greatly appreciated by all of us the Muslims.

As I pointed out in my paper "Islam and Peace", one can hardly claim that the history of religions has no examples of mischief on record, but we believe that these were committed against the essence and spirit of religions, their real purpose being dissembled under the mantle of religion. We are all convinced that the existing measures for world peace would gain much from a theoretical and practical action programme that would derive its essence from the fundamental teachings of religions. A necessary condition for the success of such collaboration among religions is that an agreement on the principles be reached. On the basis of such an agreement, the methods and procedures that are relevant in the context of each religion can be set to work. One of these principles is, according to me, that we all agree on the idea that we



*Representatives of different religions*



*The Muslim delegation*

have gathered here not to preach or teach but to learn more about each other. A second issue which we must agree upon is that it would not be an easy task to overcome in a short time the misunderstandings accumulated and established in different parts of the world throughout the centuries. Third, we all do know that cooperation among us is not meant to entail concessions from our own beliefs and we should make our people aware of this fact. Finally, a sincere desire shared by all of us is to agree on a common ground which, I believe, is vast and wide, and we must always emphasize our common aspiration for world peace. I would like to conclude by greeting you with a prayer from the Holy Quran: "O Believers, enter the peace, all of you".

Earlier the same day, a ceremony had been held on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the foundation of the Japan Religious Committee for the World Federation. At this ceremony, IRCICA Director General had presented his paper titled "Islam and Peace" in which he emphasized that Islam guides the individual towards the attainment of inner peace and tranquillity, which would then expand to cover the community, the society and whole mankind.

The Religious Summit closed with the adoption of a final declaration titled "Message From Mount Hiei" which recognized and affirmed that the search for peace is a fundamental aspect of every religion and therefore, the desire for peace must be sincerely fostered by the followers of all religions. The final declaration also expressed the participants' wish that their example of coming together to pray for peace be followed and multiplied elsewhere in the world.

Participation in the Third Inter-Religious Dialogue, U.K.

Scholars, businessmen and clericals of the three monotheistic religions - Islam, Christianity and Judaism came together at the Third Inter-Religious Dialogue held in Saint George's House in Windsor Castle, United Kingdom on 29-31st May 1987. The meeting like the two earlier rounds in the series (1984, 1986) took place under the joint patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan bin Tallal of Jordan and His Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. It was organised by the Arab Thought Forum (Amman) and Saint George's House (U.K.).

H.R.H. Prince Hassan bin Tallal chaired the meeting, which has been

a forum of fruitful discussions characterized by mutual goodwill and understanding. This year's theme was "Business Ethics and Monotheistic Religions in the Contemporary World". Four background papers were presented, by Dr. Abdel Aziz M. Hegazi, former Prime Minister of Egypt, Dr. Ahmad Kamal Abdulmajd, former Minister of Information of Egypt and professor of Law at Cairo University, the Rt. Revd. Michael Mann, Dean of Windsor and Sir Monty Finniston, F.Eng., Industrial Consultant. These and the other papers presented, as well as the discussions that took place expounded the stand of the three monotheistic religions on trading and financial transactions. IRCICA Director General had been invited to the meeting. He read a paper on "Business Ethics in Islam with Special Reference to Acquiring Property", pointing out that apart from norms regulating the relations between God and men, Islam has equally important norms to govern relations between men, i.e. the social life; among the latter, business ethics occupy an important place. After examining briefly the issue of property and ways of acquiring it and the principles for running business in the form of partnerships, he dealt with business in Islam from both legal (as related to fiqh) and ethical points of view.

The dialogue provided an opportunity for the representative groups of different religions to express their belief that dissensions arise because of differences in political rather than religious outlooks and that the essential principles they all share may form the basis for joint action towards World peace and harmony.

## LECTURES

### Lecture on the Library and Museum of Alexandria

A public lecture given at IRCICA on 6th June was related to the Library of Alexandria and the accident of its destruction. The lecturer was Mr. Mithat Sertoğlu, historian and former Director General of the Turkish Prime Ministry's Archives. He first dwelt upon the establishment of Alexandria Library and Museum by Ptolemy II in the 3rd Century B.C. and its importance. The Library and Museum of Alexandria were a monumental scientific achievement of the Antiquity. The main theme of the lecture was the destruction of this centre of scientific learning at repeated revolts and wars starting with the end of the 4th Century. Based on historical writings, the lecturer affirmed that the Library and Museum were not destroyed and fired by Muslims as it is often claimed, but by some Christian fanatics.

### Commemoration of Calligrapher Mehmed Şevkî Efendi

Late calligrapher Mehmed Şevkî Efendi (1829-1887) was commemorated at a meeting held at IRCICA's conference hall on 2nd May. As usual, a large audience of artists, researchers and students attended the meeting to hear Prof. Uğur Derman's lecture on the calligrapher's life and works. A slide show accompanied the lecture. Below is a short biography of the artist.

Mehmed Şevkî Efendi was born in the North Anatolian city of Kastamonu; soon after, he was brought to Istanbul by his uncle Hulusi



"Reve'l-Hasenü, anî'l Haseni, an ebi'l-Haseni, an ceddi'l-Haseni: Inne ahsene'l-haseni el-hulku'l-hasenü"/Hasen (Hasenü's-Seymiti) reported from Hasen (Grand-son of the Prophet S.A.W.) and the latter from Hasen's father (Hz.Ali) and him from Hasen's Grandfather (the Prophet S.A.W.) that: "Certainly, the best of beauty is the beauty of character" - by Mehmed Şevki

Efendi. It was his uncle who taught him calligraphy in the thuluth-nasih style and gave him ijazet (graduation) when he was fourteen. Mehmed Şevki Efendi is credited with numerous works including Quran copies, Hilyes and djali-thuluth plates. He wrote meticulously, with a very particular style which was named after him as the "Şevki Efendi style". He was very careful too in the preparation of the "mashqs" (writing guides) for his students; he taught calligraphy until the end of his life, at military schools as well as privately, in addition to his main post at the "Harbiye Nezâreti Mektûbî Kalemi" (Secretarial Cabinet of the Ministry of War).

#### IRCICA LIBRARY

##### Donation of books by the Arab Republic of Egypt

The Ministry of Higher Education of Egypt recently offered to the Centre's library a valuable collection of books on a variety of subjects, in the fields of history, literature, religious sciences and culture. There are 371 books altogether, all in Arabic.

The collection was forwarded to IRCICA by the intermediary of the Embassy of Egypt in Ankara. The Centre started to classify the books so that they may be put on the shelves soon, for the use of the researchers.

IRCICA would like to take this occasion to express its deep gratitude to the Ministry of Higher Education for this generous donation which has been an important contribution to its library. The Centre also dares to hope that this example will be followed by other Member States.

**Not farewell but greetings  
to Prof. Ahmad Issa**

Prof. Ahmad Mohammad Issa joined IRCICA towards the end of 1984. At the beginning, he was in charge of the classification work in the library; he developed library administration at IRCICA. Within the period of two years that he worked with us, he has been the example of a dynamic and diligent personality on whom our young colleagues can model themselves. He himself made efforts to upgrade the knowledge and skills of the young librarians, who now carry on the methodology he established.

Prof. Issa is also a specialist in the field of Islamic arts. He contributed to IRCICA's projects in this area and translated the work of Prof. Dr. Oktay Aslanapa, "Turkish Arts and Architecture" into Arabic; the outcome is a book comprising 442 pages. It will certainly be an invaluable contribution to the library collections in the Arab countries. Another contribution of Prof. Issa is the editing of the papers presented at the International Symposium on the "Common Principles, Forms and Themes of Islamic Arts" which was organised by IRCICA in 1983. This collection of papers is presently being printed in Syria. He also directed the translation of the works titled "Islamic Swords and Swordsmiths" and "Keys and Locks of the Holy Ka'ba" into Arabic. These are only some of the projects to which he contributed with his knowledge and experience. Despite his high qualifications, Prof. Issa is modest and takes pleasure in sharing his knowledge with others.



Never hasty in the process of taking a decision, he foresees the consequences of making alternative choices and adopting different approaches in the course of executing the work.

IRCICA normally includes in its Newsletter a note of welcome to new staff members. Although Prof. Issa left "his children at IRCICA", so to say, last June to join his children and grand-children in Cairo, we would like to express our greetings in this column, but will not say goodbye. We convey to him our highest esteem and wish him good health, success and prosperity.

## EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF ICPICH 14 JUNE 1987, DAMASCUS, SYRIA

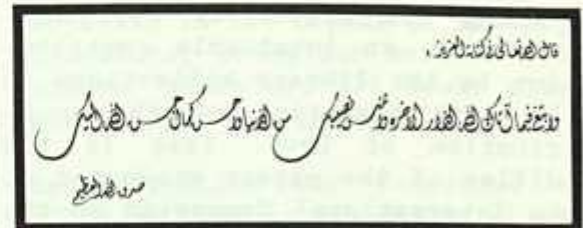
As mentioned on various occasions previously, the members of the Governing Council of IRCICA are members ex-officio of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH). Taking the opportunity of their gathering in Damascus for the Fifth Meeting of the Governing Council of IRCICA, ICPICH members held an extraordinary session to discuss issues and projects concerning the Commission. Mr. Hassan Daoud, Director of Cultural and Social Affairs at the General Secretariat of OIC, who represented the Secretary General of OIC at the meeting of IRCICA Governing Council, attended the meeting of ICPICH too. Dr. Mohammed Saleh Gazdar from the Office of H.R.H. the Chairman of ICPICH was present at the meeting.

The meeting was inaugurated simultaneously with the meeting of IRCICA Governing Council, at Al-Assad National Library. Speeches were pronounced at the inauguration by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary of the Commission, Dr. Afif Bahnassi, Chairman of IRCICA Governing Council and member of ICPICH, Justice Dr. Javed Iqbal, member of ICPICH and H.E. Dr. Nejah Al-Attar, Minister of Culture of Syria, to highlight the importance of the task of ICPICH and the support it needs to realise its objectives in the service of Islamic cultural heritage.

Working sessions of the Extraordinary Meeting started with the election of Sheikha Hussa Al-Sabah as the meeting Chairman. Then, the Secretary of the Commission presented a report on completed and on-going projects. It will be recalled that two Committees had been established within the framework of the Heritage Commission upon decision of its Third Meeting (November 1986), namely the Technical Committee and the Fund-Raising Committee. These two Committees

too met separately in Damascus under their respective terms of reference. Each Committee prepared its own report about the guidelines of its work programme.

The members of the Commission examined and adopted the reports of the Secretariat and the two Committees. They made recommendations concerning the execution and further progress of the Commission's projects. They recorded their satisfaction of the Special Issue of "Arts and the Islamic World" on Islamic heritage and their deep appreciation for H.R.H. the Chairman for his generosity in sponsoring the project; they thanked all those who contributed to the successful finalisation of this project. The Commission also recorded its appreciation to the Government of Syria for the warm hospitality and assistance extended during the meeting period.



*Writing in Diwani (third mention at the Calligraphy Competition) by H. Ali Al-Sirri, U.A.E.*



## CALLIGRAPHY COMPETITION AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY



*Inauguration: Speakers: In front, Mr. Ahmed Ziya Ibrahim, Chairman of Competition Jury; in the background, Mr. Hikmet Bozanoğlu, Deputy Metropolitan Mayor of Istanbul (presently Mayor of Eminönü)*

The Award Presentation Ceremony of the First International Calligraphy Competition in the name of Hamid al-Amidi took place on 16 May 1987 at Çit Qasr within the premises of the Secretariat of the Commission. Winners in the upper part of the prize list received their awards before an audience consisting of members of the Competition jury, local authorities, members of foreign diplomatic missions, art-lovers and journalists.

The Director General of IRCICA and Secretary of ICPICH opened the ceremony; he underlined that the competition had been an event of special importance and the first of its kind. He pointed out that as an international activity to take place once every three years, the calligraphy competition had already met great interest and appreciation world-wide; it had not only been a success, but also a useful experience that would guide the Commission in the organisation of future competitions. Most importantly, the rate of participation had been higher than expected; the competition results had shown that this art was alive and interest in it was continuously growing. This interest was not limited to the Islamic world but went beyond it and one could observe that calligraphy was recognized at an

universal level. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu also gave information about activities and projects undertaken by IRCICA in the field of calligraphy. Then, Mr. Hikmet Bozanoğlu, Deputy Mayor of Istanbul and Guest of Honour of the ceremony took the floor and expressed his appreciation for the competition organised by ICPICH; he emphasized the importance and necessity of the efforts aiming to protect and promote Islamic calligraphy. After the inaugural speeches, Mr. Ahmed Ziya Ibrahim, Chairman of the Competition Jury addressed the audience to express his remarks about the competition.

The ceremony continued with the presentation of the prizes to the winners; in the afternoon, the guests, the Jury members and the winners paid a visit to the tomb of Hamid al-Amidi, went to prayers and had an Iftar dinner together.

This marked the successful finalisation of the First International Calligraphy Competition. The Secretariat of ICPICH hopes that the next competition will be even more successful and that the whole activity will contribute to better introduce, promote and develop this authentic art of the Islamic civilisation.

## "ARTS AND THE ISLAMIC WORLD'S SPECIAL ISSUE ON ISLAMIC HERITAGE

We have the pleasure to announce that Vol.4, no.3 dated Spring-Summer 1987 of the journal "Arts and the Islamic World" appeared as a "Special Issue on Islamic Heritage". This is a well-known quarterly journal published in London by the Islamic Arts Foundation.

The initiative to publish a Special Issue on Islamic heritage in an international journal specialised in this field was taken by the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) as one of its major projects. The objective of the project launched a couple of years ago was, as stated by H.R.H. Prince Faisal bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz, Chairman of ICPICH in his Introduction to the issue, "to identify and locate the important items of our cultural heritage and to clarify the objectives and achievements of the Commission". H.R.H. the Chairman also emphasized that this is a pioneering publication and that the subject matter will broaden as progress is made in the preservation of our great heritage.

As the contents reproduced here indicate, the issue brings together 19 research articles by eminent professionals, dealing with different aspects of Islamic culture and heritage. In addition to these papers, the Special Issue features the activities of ICPICH in general and its two international competitions in particular, namely the King Fahd Awards Competition for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture and the Hamid Al-Amidi Calligraphy Competition.

## C O N T E N T S

SPECIAL ISSUE ON ISLAMIC HERITAGE  
PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE  
PRESERVATION OF ISLAMIC CULTURAL HERITAGE  
RIYADH

GUEST EDITOR  
Dr. Afif Bahnassi

COORDINATING EDITOR  
Azra J. Ahmed

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The successful implementation of the project was made possible through the generous sponsoring of H.R.H. the Chairman of ICPICH, to whom the Commission is grateful. Much is owed to Dr. Afif Bahnassi, art historian, Director General of Museums and Antiquities in Syria and member of ICPICH, who undertook the task as the Guest Editor of the Special Issue, to Mr. Jalal Uddin Ahmed, Executive Editor of "Arts and the Islamic World", as well as to all distinguished scholars and researchers who contributed articles. It is hoped that this publication will perform the mission it was conceived for.

**AL-BENAA ISSUE DEVOTED TO THE KING FAHD AWARDS**

"Al-Benaa", an eminent architectural magazine published in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia devoted the largest part of its issue no. 32-33, Vol. 6 dated December-March 1987, to the King Fahd Awards for Design and Research in Islamic Architecture. The issue is bilingual in English and Arabic. It was realised thanks to the valuable efforts and guidance of Architect Ibrahim Aba Al-Khail, Publisher and Editor.



*Calligraphy in Djali Diwani by Muhammed Al-Kadi, Syria (2nd mention)*



*Thuluth-Nasih calligraphy by Hüseyin Öksüz, Turkey (2nd mention)*

## UNESCO

### Restoration of monuments in Al-Quds

Mr. Amadou Mukhtar M'Bow, Director General of UNESCO reaffirmed their concern for the preservation of the cultural, historical and spiritual heritage of Al-Quds. During an interview for the Egyptian al-Ahram, the Director General of UNESCO made a call, as decided by the General Assembly, to launch a world-wide fund-raising campaign to support efforts made by various foundations and concerned Jordanian authorities to preserve these monuments.

## AUSTRALIA

### World Crafts Council Conference 1988

The 1988 Conference of the World Crafts Council will be organised by the Crafts Council of Australia in Sydney, on 8-13 May 1988, on the theme "The Crafts: Theory and Practice in the late 20th Century". This international conference is to be accompanied with a series of symposia and a national and international crafts expo where individual works will be presented to agents, participants and the general public. The conference will be a forum for paper presentations by professionals working in the field of crafts, while the series of symposia to run in Canberra over two weeks will focus on gold and silversmithing, wood, textiles, ceramics, painting, leather, art history, sculpture, printmaking, glass, graphic work and photography. On the other hand, in the National Craft Expo held annually will participate this time crafts persons to be selected by each national entity of the World Crafts Council.

The World Crafts Council is a non-governmental and non-profit orga-

nisation affiliated with the UNESCO in consultative status. It dedicates itself to crafts people. It deals with different aspects of crafts- traditional, developmental, economic, creative, etc.- and offers service and support to artists and craftsmen. 22 OIC Member States are members of the Council.

## EGYPT

### Exhibition on Ottoman Heritage

An exhibition of Ottoman Heritage is to accompany the Eighth International Congress on Turkish Arts to be held in Cairo from 26 September to 1st October (Newsletter no. 14, p.20). The artefacts will include a collection of rare manuscripts, art objects and other historical material from Turkish Museums.

## U.S.A.

### Conference on Suleyman the Magnificent, Chicago

The series of exhibitions related to the age of Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent continue according to schedule, as reported in the Newsletter no:14, Islamic Heritage Commission section. In conjunction with the exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago, being held from the 13 June-6 September, an international conference on "The Age of Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent" was organised by the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies (University of Chicago) and the Art Institute on 20-22 June. Scholars from Turkey, Europe and the U.S.A. presented papers on the history and culture of the Ottoman State at the 16th Century. The Newsletter of the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies reported that they were also co-sponsoring with the Art Institute a series of lectures on Ottoman art and architecture.

## OBSERVATIONS ABOUT IRCICA

### DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

\* H.E.Dr. Ahmed Heikel, Minister of Culture of Egypt visited IRCICA on 24 April; he was accompanied by a delegation composed of high officials. The Minister received information on the Centre's latest and future activities. The Centre's motto was presented to the Minister, who recorded his impressions as follows:

"It is a pleasure for me to record my appreciation and my happiness to visit the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture. I observed here all that the Muslim world could be proud of, including the planning and organisation of the work, the use of most modern research techniques and the publication of original works which illuminate the path of those interested in studies on Islamic history, culture and thinking.

I salute the Centre's staff and pay tribute to my friend Dr. Ekmel, who is a distinguished representative of the modern Muslim scholars and who stands among the elite of great contemporary Muslim scholars ... I wish success to him and his colleagues" (translation).

\* H.E.Mr. Abdi-Qassim S. Hassan, Minister of State for Political Affairs of the Presidency of Somalia visited IRCICA on 14 June. He was a member of the high-level delegation accompanying H.E.Mr. Mohammed Syed Barre, President of Somalia in his official visit to Turkey (11-15 June). The Minister was briefed on the research projects and publications of the Centre; he visited the library and documentation sections. He recorded the following in the Centre's book:



*H.E.Dr. Ahmed Heikel (first on the left) and his delegation visiting IRCICA premises*

"On behalf of H.E. the President of Somalia, I am happy to represent him and visit the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture in Istanbul" (translation).

\* A group of 60 teachers from the religious secondary schools in Turkey visited IRCICA on 16 July; they were headed by Mr. Ahmet Bedük, Advisor to the Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sports of Turkey. The group was briefed on IRCICA's activities, especially on those related to calligraphy, since the purpose of their presence in Istanbul was to receive training in calligraphy; they were pleased to see the exhibit of the calligraphies of winners of the International Calligraphy Competition organised last year by ICPICH.

\* The Foundation for Studies on Turkish-Arab Relations (TAIV), Istanbul, organised a two-month summer course on Ottoman Turkish for Arab scholars and historians, to help them in the researches they would conduct in the Ottoman archives. The group

of trainees visited IRCICA on 24 July and received information about its research projects, particularly those related to the Ottoman archives. Later, some of them visited the Centre again during the period of their stay in Istanbul, for research purposes.

There were 15 scholars altogether in the group, one from each of Egypt, Iraq, Oman, Qatar, Syria and Tunisia, two from Algeria, Jordan and Morocco and three from Lebanon. The summer course was held during July-August, with three scholars from Marmara University in Istanbul as the teaching staff. TAIV envisages to organise other courses in future for historians who have some knowledge of Turkish.

\* H.H. Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan Al-Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates received IRCICA Director General on 5th September 1987, while he was in Istanbul. A number of issues in the context of Islamic culture were taken up at the meeting. H.H. the President underlined



*H.E.Mr. Abdi-Qassim S. Hassan, Minister of State of Somalia at IRCICA (third from the right)*



*U.A.E. delegation at IRCICA. From the right: H.E. Sheikh Al-Suwaidi, H.E. Al-Ramithi and H.E. Al-Migerbi*

the role played by IRCICA in the promotion of Islamic culture and reaffirmed his support to the Centre. He appointed a committee to visit the Centre, composed of H.E. Sheikh Ahmed Khalifa Al-Suwaidi, personal representative of the President, H.E. Khamis Al-Ramithi, Director of the Court and H.E. Al-Safir Bashir Al-Migerbi, Advisor to the Court. The delegation visited the Centre the next day, 6th September, and were briefed on the Centre's research projects and other accomplishments. Co-operation between IRCICA and the relevant institutions of the U.A.E. was discussed. The delegation recorded the following on the Centre's book:

"We are happy to visit the Islamic Centre today, for the second time after our first visit in 1984. We are delighted to observe that great progress has been made since then. We take this occasion to express our appreciation and our thanks

to the officials of this Centre for their efforts which we wish God will see and lead to success" (translation).

- \* Datuk Haji Hanafiah bin Haji Ahmad, Director General of the Pilgrims Management and Fund Board of Malaysia was received at the Centre on 18 June. He was briefed about the Centre and its activities; at the end of his visit, he recorded his impressions on the Centre's book as follows:



*Datuk Hanafiah Haji Ahmad signing the Centre's book*

"..... The efforts undertaken by the Centre are of outmost importance for future generations, in particular to the Islamic world. It is our hope that God will give His Blessings on the fine work and that the Centre will also receive support from Muslims worldwide" (translation).

IRCICA would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Datuk Haji Hanafiah who has been named the winner of the 1987 Magsaysay Award (Philippines). The award is given every year to Asians who have excelled in their respective fields and to non-Asians whose work helps Asians.

\* IRCICA was honoured to host H.E. Dr. Ismet Abdul-Majid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt on 4th September 1987. H.E. Dr. Ismet Abdulmajid was on an official visit in Turkey. At IRCICA, he received information on the latest achievements, examined the Centre's publications and expressed his appreciation for the level of qualification the Centre had reached as a scholarly research institution of the Muslim world. His impressions were as follows:

"It is a great pleasure to visit the Centre today. This is a monumental Islamic establishment worthy of esteem. We are proud of all its books and manuscripts and the abundant and beautiful scholarly material it contains. I thank God Almighty and wish continuous success to Dr. Ekmeleddin " (translation).



*The Centre had the pleasure to present to H.E. Dr. Ismet Abdul-Majid a photograph from the Centre's archives showing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt early in this century*

## IRCICA IN THE INFORMATION MEDIA

- \* An article by Dr. Muhamed Mufaku published in the journal *Rilindja* of Yugoslavia dated 1st January 1987 introduced IRCICA's researches with special emphasis on the World Bibliography of Translations of the Meaning of the Holy Qur'an and the Catalogue of Periodicals in Arabic Script published by the Centre, as well as its future publication on Islamic monuments in Albania.
- \* The well-known Egyptian journal "Ahir Saa" (the last hour) published, in its 7 June 1987 issue, an article titled "The Islamic Aspect of the Bosphorus" about the Centre, by Mr. Hassan Allam. The article featured the researches, publications, exhibitions and conferences and symposia of the Centre. It put the emphasis on the Centre's role in fostering cultural relations among the institutions of OIC member countries.
- \* During the Damascus meetings of IRCICA Governing Council and ICPICH, the Director General of IRCICA was interviewed by Mr. Mohammed Abdul Rahim, correspondent of the Kuwaiti newspaper "Al-Rai Al-Aam" (Public Opinion). The detailed interview covered almost all activities of the Centre and the Heritage Commission (ICPICH) as well as cultural relations among Islamic countries. About the decisions of the Fifth Meeting of the Governing Council of IRCICA, the Director General pointed out that the Council had approved the work programme for the coming year and expressed its conviction that the Centre is a pioneering scholarly institution of the Islamic world. As the Secretary of ICPICH, he gave explanations about the projects undertaken by ICPICH for the protection of Islamic cultural heritage. Concerning his wishes and hopes for the future, he said : "I hope each Muslim understands the reality of his heritage and civilisation. Our heritage and civilisation were and still are sources of illumination from which the Western world had imported knowledge to create its works. I thank God for the great interest shown to our work and this is what encourages us for more success".
- \* On the occasion of the Damascus meetings, the Director General was also interviewed by Mr. Walid Hassan Said from the Syrian daily "Teshrin". The interview was published on 18 June under the title "The Centre works to enrich Islamic culture with unique and genuine studies". The interview covered the objectives and achievements of the Centre, its library, meetings it organises and in particular, the International Symposium on Modern Science and the Muslim World (2-4 September 1987). Objectives and activities of the International Commission for the Preservation of Islamic Cultural Heritage (ICPICH) were mentioned too; in this context, IRCICA Director General as the Secretary of the Commission gave information on the two competitions organised by this Commission. He took the opportunity to emphasize the fruitful cooperation existing between IRCICA and ICPICH and the relevant Syrian institutions.
- \* IRCICA and its activities are to be featured in the Kuwaiti Television within a programme introducing Turkey and prepared upon the agreement of Kuwaiti and Turkish authorities. A team from the Kuwaiti Television visited IRCICA on 17 August to interview the Director General about the Centre's work as well as on his views on cooperation between Arab countries and Turkey.

## SURVEY OF BOOKS

- \* Juan Vernet, Ce que la Culture Doit aux Arabes d'Espagne (What culture owes to the Arabs of Spain), translated from Spanish by Gabriel Martinez Gros; Sindbad, Paris, 1985

A synthesis of medieval scientific developments, this book describes the historical panorama of the transmission of ancient sciences to the Renaissance world. This is the process through which scientific works of the Antiquity were translated and introduced to the Muslim world, which re-evaluated this knowledge and enriched it with original contributions. In subsequent centuries, works written by Muslims found their way to Europe and nourished and stimulated the scientific mind of the Renaissance, this by their translation into Western languages. The book analyses the important role played by Muslim Spain in the advancement of all branches of science - such as medicine, logic, arithmetics, geometry, astronomy, mechanics, music and alchemy as well as theology, administration and literature - especially during the three centuries of the apogee of scientific activities in Spain, starting around the year 1000 A.D. The accumulated knowledge of this period influenced not only subsequent Western sciences but also those of the East as well as North Africa, and this is the reason why the original title of the book in Spanish was "La Cultura Hispano-arabe en Oriente y Occidente" (Spanish-Arab Culture in the East and the West). The word "Arabs" in the title of the book is meant to indicate the language, which was used not only by Arabs, but also

by Persians, Turks from among the Muslim peoples and the Jews and Spaniards from non-Muslim peoples; Arabic was the language of transmission of the knowledge of Antiquity and Islam to medieval Europe.

There are eleven chapters in the book: the first chapter provides the historical background; the second deals with different aspects of the heritage of Antiquity. The subsequent chapters are devoted to translations, scientific developments made in various fields in the 10th-13th centuries and later and art and literature in Muslim Spain. The book is a substantial contribution to studies on the history of science and a valuable reference for researchers and students.

- \* Muammer Dizer, Rubu Tahtası (The Quadrant), Bosphorus University, Istanbul, 1987

Not all equipment used by Muslims in their astronomical observations of the Middle Ages reached us; however, samples of portable instruments such as the quadrant can be found today in museums. The quadrant can be considered as one of the first examples of the calculator. At the beginning, it served to determine prayer times; later, in the 12th-13th centuries which saw the peak of Muslim trigonometry, the quadrant was devised to show the sine on one face, in order to facilitate the solution of trigonometric equations. On the other face, there were tables used in calculations, and projections related to the astrolabe, another important astronomical instrument.

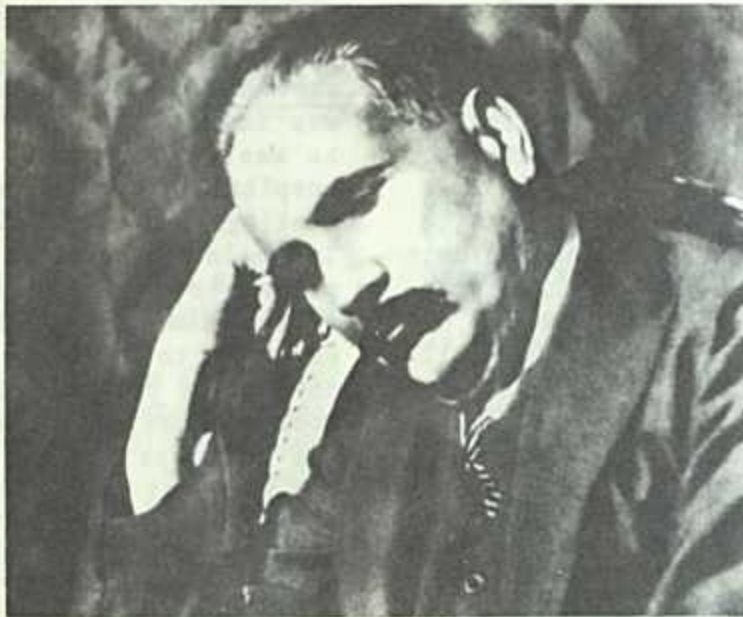
In the first part of the book, the author gives general information about the quadrant and its use in astronomical observations. This is followed by a full description of the cosine face of the instrument and its practical use, as well as examples of trigonometric problems which had led to the invention of the instrument. Another section deals with the sine face of the quadrant and its functions as a computation scale. Altogether, the descriptions and analysis show the scientific importance of the quadrant and its value from the point of view of the history of astronomy and mathematics. Those dealing with the history of astronomy will find this study interesting. The author Professor Muammer Dizer is the Director of the Observatory of Bosphorus University in Istanbul.

\* The Turkish Presence in Bulgaria, Publication of the Turkish Historical Society, Serial VII, no: 87a, Ankara, 1986 (English, published in Arabic separately, 1987)

This work is a scholarly answer to many issues raised about the history of the Turkish settlement in the Balkans. It is a collection of four valuable research papers by eminent scholars.

The communication "Bulgarians and the Turkish language" by Prof. Dr. Hasan Eren (President of the Turkish Linguistic Institute) deals

with the subject from the language point of view, based on an onomastic and toponymic analysis. Prof. Dr. Yaşar Yücel's (President of the Turkish Historical Society), paper "Turkish Settlement in the Balkans and its consequences" delineates the political, social and economic features of the Ottoman State and its institutions and deals with various aspects of the Ottoman presence in the Balkans within the said context. The third article is "The Turks of Bulgaria and the Immigration Question" by Bilal N. Şimşir, member of the Turkish Historical Society; based on statistics and official sources, it gives an overview of the history of the Turks of Bulgaria as an unending process of emigrations and immigrations. The last paper is by Prof. Dr. Hamza Eroğlu, member of the Atatürk Supreme Council of Culture, Language and History; it is titled "The Question of Turkish Minority in Bulgaria from the perspective of International Law". After giving an account of the means of assimilation and oppression practiced on Turks and the reactions they aroused world-wide, the author examines the situation of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria from the point of view of the protection of minorities as stipulated in international agreements, international custom and tradition principles, general principles of law and the Bulgarian Constitution itself. By publishing this work, the Turkish Historical Society contributed greatly to shedding light on the most important issues related to the plight of Muslim in Bulgaria.



*Dr. Muhammed Iqbal (1873-1938)*

### **LECTURES BY DR. JAVED IQBAL, SON OF MUHAMMAD IQBAL**

Justice Dr. Javed Iqbal, member of the Supreme Court of Pakistan and member of IRCICA Governing Council visited Turkey to give a series of lectures about his father, the great poet of Islam Dr. Muhammed Iqbal (1873-1938). The first conference took place on 27 April 1987 at the Faculty of Letters of Istanbul University, in the presence of Prof. Dr. Cem'i Demiroğlu, Rector of the University. It was opened by Prof. Dr. Sencer Tonguç, Dean of the Faculty. Following addresses by H.E. Mr. Altaf Sheikh, Ambassador of Pakistan in Turkey and by the Director General of IRCICA, Dr. Iqbal lectured around the theme of "Muhammad Iqbal and Turkey as viewed by him". A second conference was given the following day at Bosphorus University, on the same subject. Then Dr. Iqbal went to Konya, where he presented his paper "Iqbal and Mawlana" at the International Mawlana Congress held in that city. These lectures in Turkey were met with great interest in scholarly circles and the general public, as was still another lecture Dr. Javed Iqbal gave in Damascus, Syria on 14 June, during the Fifth Meeting of the Governing

Council of IRCICA. The latter was about Muhammad Iqbal, his creativity and influence in Islamic thought; it was largely quoted in various journals.

We include below a short biography of the great thinker, in order to refresh the memories of our readers; hundreds of pages could be devoted indeed to this eminent personality of the Islamic World.

Dr. Muhammad Iqbal was born on 22 February 1873 in Sialkot, in the north-west of Punjab. He received his early education in Arabic and Persian in his home town. It was his teacher at the Intermediate College in Lahore, Shamsul Ulema Mir Hasan who imparted him literary taste and drawn him to Islamic studies; Iqbal was to remain grateful to him.

Iqbal acquired fame as a poet while he was a student. He graduated in English literature, philosophy and Arabic from the Government College, Lahore. He had his M.A. degree in philosophy and was appointed as lecturer at the Oriental College, Lahore. In 1905, Iqbal went to England, where he had honours in philosophy and economics from Cambridge University. Then, he obtain-

ed his Ph.D. in philosophy from Munich University in Germany and returned to London to study law, where he completed his Bar-at-Law. By that time, Iqbal had won a fame and popularity in literary circles with his writings and lectures. Returning home in 1908, he was welcomed back enthusiastically. He practiced law but at the same time, he continued to write and lecture. It was in one of the meetings of Anjuman-i Himayat-i-Islam (Council for the protection of Islam) in Lahore that the first read his famous Shekwa (The Complaint), which was followed, one year later, by the Jawab-i-Shekwa (Answer to the Complaint).



*Justice Dr. Javed Iqbal*

These were masterpieces of poetry but also a daring new attempt to use poetry as a vehicle for social reform. However, as explained by his son Dr. Javed Iqbal during a talk, Iqbal did not consider himself a poet; poems were to him a means to communicate his thoughts to others. And this is the way he assigned a new role to poetry in his country, what was perhaps an unprecedented endeavour. Briefly, his philosophy helped to shape the idea of Pakistan.

Conflicts and injustices in international relations deeply hurt Iqbal. He fought in his writings for the cause of Muslim nations and emphatically called for their unity and revival. In 1927, he was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Punjab and made important contributions to the social uplifting of Muslims in this area. In 1930, he

chaired the annual conference of All India Muslim League. There, in his presidential address, he elaborated upon the idea of Pakistan for the first time. In 1930-31, he was invited to Spain and Italy and he was greeted with enthusiasm and hospitality; he gave lectures and meetings were held in his honour. In Spain, he visited Andalusia and prayed in the Cordoba Mosque, what filled him with emotion. In 1932, he went to Afghanistan, upon the invitation of Nadir Shah. Iqbal had become known and recognized all over the world as one of the philosophers who best understand man and try to guide him towards the betterment of his moral, intellectual and social life.

Iqbal's frequent illnesses in his last years did not lessen his productivity. Confined to bed, he continued to follow the events and to compose poems. A few minutes before his death on 21st April 1938, he recited the following:

"The departed melody may return  
or not,  
The Zephyr may blow again from  
Hijaz or not!  
The days of this Faqir have come  
to an end,  
Another Seer may come or not!"

Iqbal's first collection of poems in Urdu "Bang-i Dera" (Caravan Bell) was published in 1929; poetry and philosophy are perfectly wedded in this work. Other works in Urdu include "Bal-i Gabriel" (Wing of Gabriel) and "Zarb-i Kalim" (Stroke of Kalim). As Persian was commonly read in India and known as the cultural language, Iqbal wrote his poems mostly in Persian; his works in this language include "Asrar-i-Khudi" (Secrets of the Self), "Peyam-i-Mushriq" (Message of the East), "Zabur-e-Ajam" (Persian Psalm) and "Javid Name" (Song of Eternity). The latter is a masterpiece of symbolism reflecting his moral views and intellectual thoughts, dedicated to his son. Iqbal's works were translated into numerous languages.

## SPOTLIGHT ON CULTURAL EVENTS

### EGYPT

#### Islamic Information, Study and Documentation Centre in Cairo

An international Islamic Centre for Information, Studies and Documentation has been established under Al-Azhar University. The Centre focuses on education; it is to organise meetings of Muslim scholars and various educational activities in different Islamic countries as well as to undertake analytical studies about the present systems of education. IRCICA Director General has been appointed member to the Board of this Centre.

#### The Quran Printed on Papyrus

For the first time, a Quran copy printed on papyrus appeared in Cairo. It has 618 pages in size 29,5 to 19,5 cm. The project required five years of studies and trials, it is reported, as to how modern printing techniques would be applied on papyrus to produce this high quality publication. The pages are printed on both faces of the paper and decorated with gildings in five different colours.

### INDIA

#### Islamic Metalware at Salar Jung Museum

The famous Salar Jung Museum in Hyderabad is being reorganised; a metalware gallery displaying a rich variety of items has been opened. According to the information provided by Mr. Maqbool Siraj, staff correspondent of "Arabia" in Bangalore, the new metalware gallery comprises rare objects belonging to the 16th-19th centuries and fashioned in different countries;

they include household utensils like boxes and vases, as well as decorative items in the shape of animals, flowers and fruits. The Islamic metalware section is reported to display a wide variety of such objects made in Syria and Persia during the Moghol rule in India, having the name of their owner, the date of manufacture and verses inscribed on them.

#### "The Children Festival of Islam" to be held soon

The Imam ul-Uloom Educational Society in Hyderabad is to hold "The Children Festival of Islam" in October-November 1987. The aim of the activity is to instruct the young Muslims about the 14-centuries old history and heritage of Islam; it is planned to take five days.

The said Society is one of the leading Muslim educational and research institutions of India; its objective is to provide, encourage and support modern educational facilities to poor Muslims and at the same time, to undertake and promote researches on Islamic culture by organising lectures, conferences, exhibitions and competitions. The Society has a multi-language audio-visual library and a Computer and Documentation Centre. It has been publishing books and a quarterly in English, titled "Treasur-Hunt".

### JORDAN

#### Sixth Conference of Al-Albait Foundation

The Sixth Annual Conference of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al-Albait Foundation) was opened by His Majesty

King Hussain bin Tallal on 21st May in Amman. H.R.H. Crown Prince Hassan bin Tallal chaired the working sessions throughout the period of the conference. H.E.Prof.Dr.Nassir Al-Din Al-Assad, President of the Academy and Minister of Higher Education pronounced a speech whereby he gave an overview of the accomplishments made by the Academy in the past years. More than 150 scholars and specialists from different Islamic countries attended the meeting; IRCICA Director General who is a member of the Royal Academy was also present. The conference discussed the projects of the Academy and other issues on the agenda, such as problems facing the Muslim world in the face of contemporary changes in the social environment and educational programmes of Islamic countries. This well-organised conference of high scholarly standing attracted great interest, just as the previous years' sessions did.

## KENYA

### Establishment of Islamic Centres

It is reported that the Islamic Foundation of Kenya established a number of Islamic centres for various purposes. One is a centre with a children's school, in the North of Nairobi; another school with a capacity of 600 pupils was built in Nairobi, with a Mosque; still others are an Islamic centre for women, a medical centre, and an institution that would be in charge with translating the Quran in local African languages.

## PAKISTAN

### Exhibition at the National Museum

A Special Exhibition on "Islamic Art and Culture" will be organised at the National Museum of Pakistan in Karachi, from 15 November-25 December 1987. The 250 artifacts of the Special Exhibition will be composed of wooden and metal works, ceramics, objects made of glass and stone, coins, textiles, carpets, manuscripts and samples of book-binding. Catalogues of the exhibition are in preparation. The Special Exhibition will be followed by a National Seminar on "Islamic Art and Culture through the Ages".

### Proceedings of Seminar on Al-Khwarizmi published

The Centre for the Study of the Civilisations of Central Asia affiliated to Quaid-i Azam University in Islamabad had organised a national seminar on Al-Khwarizmi last year, with the collaboration of the Department of Mathematics of the same university. The papers presented in this seminar are published in the said Centre's "Journal of Central Asia", Vol.10, no.1 dated July 1987. In addition to this academic journal, the Centre published a number of books until now, as well as proceedings of meetings, including those of the First Congress of Pakistan History and Culture (1975) and the National Seminar on the History of Science in the Central Asian Civilisations (1978).

## SAUDI ARABIA

### International Conference on the Scientific Miracles in the Quran

This conference is scheduled to be held in October 1987 in Mecca, through the joint efforts of the Islamic University, Islamabad, Pakistan and the Muslim World League, Mecca. The themes of the meeting are determined as follows:

presentation of the subject of scientific miracles in the Holy Quran and Sunna; the history of science in the Muslim world; aspects of the scientific miracles in the fields of astronomy, geology, physics, biology, botany, chemistry, medicine, psychology, mathematics; Quranic verses and the Hadith related to science; the attitude of Islam and other religions toward science; new ideas as to the secrets of the universe based on the Quran and Sunnah.

#### Islamic Encyclopedia in preparation

The King Faisal Centre for Research and Islamic Studies based in Riyadh started the preparation of an Islamic Encyclopedia on education and culture. Other projects of the Centre include the preparation of a catalogue of heritage books and two dictionaries, one on Islamic terms (Arabic-English) and the other on synonymous and opposite words.

#### Distribution of the Quran to blind people

The first volume of a Quran copy printed with the Braille method started to be distributed by the Middle East Commission in Riyadh of the International Federation of the Blind. All blind people in public and private institutions and societies are to receive the copy.

#### Films about Pilgrimage practices

The Ministry of Pilgrimage and Waqfs prepared a number of films about the practices to be performed during pilgrimage. The films also include interpretations of the Quran, and it is reported that they would be translated into fifteen languages, recorded on video tapes and distributed to concerned institutions throughout the world.

### SWITZERLAND

#### "Islam and the West" Association's project on institutions dealing with Islamic culture

An extensive research project is being conducted by the "Islam and the West" Association based in Geneva, Switzerland. This is a survey of research and educational institutions in Europe, dealing with subjects related to Islamic culture. Separate directories are being prepared for each country. They will cover academic institutions which provide courses on Islamic culture and learning or the languages of Muslim countries, as well as cultural foundations, unions, associations and research institutions, and provide information on their fields of specialisation, various programmes and activities, publications, etc. This important project was undertaken upon the decision of the General Assembly of the Association held in 1981 in Paris.

### TURKEY

#### The Fourth Conference on Turkish-Arab Relations

The Fourth Conference on Turkish-Arab Relations was organised jointly by the Faculty of Letters of Hacettepe University in Ankara, the Bosphorus University in Istanbul and the Foundation for Studies on Turkish-Arab Relations (TAIV) in Istanbul, from 7-9 September 1987.

Around 100 scholars and researchers from various Arab countries and Turkey participated in the conference. H.E.Mr. Vahit Halefoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey inaugurated the meeting; in his speech, he emphasized that objective studies on the history of Turkish-Arab relations would

bring about a better understanding between the Turkish and Arab nations and thus contribute to the positive environment which is crucial to the rapidly growing relations between them. He pointed out that undertaking such studies based on authentic sources was not an easy task but that it was worthy of every effort. During the working sessions of the meeting, thirteen research papers were presented and discussions held under the following topics:

- Studies on the history of Arab provinces in the Ottoman Era
- Turkish-Arab relations and history school books
- Current Turkish-Arab economic relations
- Current Turkish-Arab political relations
- Nationalist movements and the Turkish-Arab relations at the 20th century
- Turkish-Algerian relations in the past.

The First Conference on Turkish-Arab Relations had been organised in Ankara in 1979 by the Faculty of Letters of Hacettepe University, through the initiative of Prof. Dr. Emel Dođramacı, Dean of the Faculty. The second conference was held in Tripoli, Lybian Arab Jamahiriya while the third took place in Amman, Jordan (see Newsletter no.9, August 1985, p.15). IRCICA Director General has been actively participating in this series of conferences since 1979 and has been a member of the organising committee. Upon the invitation of Prof. Dr. Abdulaziz Nawar, Dean of the Faculty of Letters of Ain Shams University who attended the meeting, it was decided that the Fifth Conference on Turkish-Arab Relations be held in Cairo, Egypt in 1989.

### Third Dentistry Week of Islamic Countries

19-26 September 1987 has been fixed as the Third Dentistry Week of Islamic Countries. The activity is organised annually by the Islamic Dentistry Association (the Union of Dentists from Islamic Nations), with the aim of establishing close bonds of friendship among Islamic dentists and helping them to establish exchanges of knowledge and experience. The venue is Istanbul, as decided at last year's meeting. Dentists from Islamic countries in Africa, the Middle East and South-East Asia are to attend the meeting to present scientific papers. H.E. Dr. Abdurrahman Abdullah Al-Awadi, Minister of Public Health of Kuwait will address the opening ceremony.

The initiative to establish the Islamic Dentistry Association had come from the Faculty of Dentistry of Marmara University in Istanbul; Prof. Dr. İlhan Çuhadarođlu, Dean of the Faculty chairs the Association.

### Joint cultural activities with Pakistan and Saudi Arabia

Two programmes of activities to better introduce Saudi Arabia and Pakistan were held during the month of June in Istanbul and Ankara and met great interest.

An exhibition titled "Contemporary Art of Saudi Arabia" took place first in Istanbul and then in Ankara, from 5-14 June and 17-30 June respectively. The exhibition was organised with the initiative of the General Presidency of Youth Welfare of Saudi Arabia. Aiming to reinforce friendship and strengthen cultural ties between the two countries, the exhibition comprised samples of the cultural heritage

and contemporary plastic arts of Saudi Arabia, including children's drawings.

On the other hand, a "Pakistan Cultural Week and Commercial Fair" was instrumental in providing recent information on both economic and cultural aspects of Pakistan; possibilities for further cultural and commercial exchanges with Turkey were explored. Products of traditional arts and handicrafts of Pakistan were displayed, such as hand-made carpets and rugs, wood-work, leather products, traditional textiles and jewellery. The exhibition was opened on 22 June in Istanbul.

#### U.S.A

##### 21st Annual Conference of MESA scheduled for November

The 21st Annual Conference of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) of the Department of Oriental Studies, University of Arizona, is to be held on 14-17 November 1987 in Baltimore, Maryland. In addition to the plenary sessions, the conference program also includes over 100 panels on language, literature, history, politics, religion, women's studies, art and architecture. As usual, various social activities will be held in the meeting period, such as book exhibitions, art exhibitions and a Middle Eastern Suq. Last year's conference (10-23 November 1986, Boston, Massachusetts) was attended by around 1800 people. It marked the 20th Anniversary of MESA (see Newsletter No. 13, December 1986).

##### Forthcoming Workshop of the Social Science Research Council Committee on the Study of Muslim Societies

The Social Science Research Council, New York, has established a Committee on the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies; the Committee was appointed late 1985 jointly by the said Council and the American Council of Learned Societies. It

took as its purview Muslim societies all over the world; it endeavours to encourage interdisciplinary and comparative research into Islamic faith and knowledge and the social lives of Muslims. To this aim, the Committee organises, among other activities, series of thematic and dissertation workshops which are attended by scholars, researchers and students of different countries and disciplines. A substantial article about the Committee by its Chairman, Prof. Barbara Metcalf from the University of California, appeared in the Council's newsletter "Items" vol. 40, No. 1 dated March 1986.

The Committee will convene its Third Annual Dissertation Workshop in Istanbul in June 1988. This workshop is intended to bring together graduate students working on various aspects of Muslim societies and related issues; discussions will focus on the substantive and methodological issues raised by their research projects, in a comparative perspective. Mid-November 1987 is the deadline for sending the required application documents to the Social Science Research Council for participation in the workshop. The said documents consist of a copy of the dissertation research proposal or, if the research is completed, an abstract of the project; a curriculum vitae and an indication of the funding source for the project. The address is: Social Science Research Council, 605 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10158, U.S.A. The Committee also developed a new Post-Doctoral Grant Program to support comparative research projects and/or the training necessary for such projects.

The Social Science Research Council is a non-profit scientific and professional organisation founded in 1923 to promote and advance research in social sciences. It has several committees specialised in different fields or in studies on different geographical areas.

## A CULTURAL INSTITUTION

### THE ISLAMIC FOUNDATION, LEICESTER, UNITED KINGDOM

We introduce this time an Islamic institution located in the West: the Islamic Foundation in Leicester, United Kingdom, which was established with the dynamic efforts of Prof. Khurshid Ahmed (President) and his colleagues. We present here the information obtained from the most recent brochures and pamphlets of the Foundation.

This is an institution of learning and education established in 1973. It is international in nature; scholars, researchers and students come to the Foundation from all over the world, as does its staff. The results of its researches are disseminated in Europe, the U.S.A., the Middle East and Africa. It also plays a role in meeting the educational and religious needs of Muslims in the West.

The Islamic Foundation undertook several research projects in different fields. Studies on Islamic Economics led to fourteen publications until now, dealing with issues and problems connected with the implementation of the Islamic economic system in the modern age. Another important area of study is Christian-Muslim relations; one book and seventeen papers and reports have been published in this area and others are in preparation. Other series of publications can be grouped under the subject headings of: the Quran, Hadith and Seera; basic teachings of Islam; Islamic Society; Islam in the con-

temporary world. The total number of titles published reached 120; they are mostly in English. In addition, the Islamic Foundation publishes since 1980 a quarterly titled "The Muslim World Book Review". This periodical appears in Autumn, Winter and Spring/Summer and contains lists of recent publications about different aspects of the Muslim World and reviews of important books by eminent scholars, as well as classified indexes about books, monographs and articles dealing with issues of relevance to Muslim researchers. Other periodical publications of the Islamic Foundation are the monthly newsletter "Focus on Christian-Muslim Relations" and the bi-monthly "Soviet Muslims Brief".

Another useful activity has been the launching of a series of books for children, through which the institution aims to help increase Muslim children's knowledge and consolidate the development of their personality. The Foundation also undertook to prepare audio-visual material for both adults and children. A number of maps, charts and posters have already appeared.

In the field of education, regular seminars and lectures are being organised either at the Foundation or at university or school campuses; the foundation also holds short-term courses on Islamic culture and sponsors research students working on themes relevant to Islam in the contemporary world. Its address is: 223 London Road, Leicester LE2 1ZE, United Kingdom.

## IRCICA PUBLICATIONS

**OTTOMAN ARCHIVES**, prepared by Necati AKTAŞ, İsmet BİNARK; translated by Salih Sadawi SALİH; edited and prefaced by Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, published by IRCICA and the Centre for Archives and Manuscripts, University of Jordan, Amman, 1986; 14,251 p.; 24 cm. (Arabic) Price: US \$30 post and package included.

The Ottoman Archives is a unique and authentic source for the history of many Islamic countries. This work contains a brief history of the Ottoman Archives, a description of the present classification systems used in the archives and explanations of archive regulations and procedures. A glossary of Ottoman archival terms and a bibliography are included.

### **TURKISH ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE**

by Oktay ASLANAPA, translated by Ahmed ISSA, Istanbul, 1987; 21, 442, 282 p.; pictures, 1 map; 28 cm. (Arabic) Price: US\$ 60 post and package included.

A comprehensive encyclopaedic work covering the history of Turkish-Islamic architecture and various branches of art such as carpet-making, the arts of the book including calligraphy, miniatures and binding, etc. Originally published in English. A glossary of 600 art terms has been added.

**ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF EARLY TURKISH WORKS ON CHEMISTRY** (Printed works, 1830-1923), prepared by Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, History of Science Series no. 2, Istanbul, 1985; IX, 148 p.; 24 cm. (Turkish) Price: US\$ 10 post and package included.

Gives the results of researches conducted on more than 250 references assessed through the scanning of numerous sources and about 20 library collections. There are 259 entries of works published between 1830-1928 given in chronological order according to the date of publication and indexes of authors, educational institutions and the names of printers and publishers.

**THE OTTOMAN SCIENTIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**, First National Symposium on Turkish History of Science, 3-5 April 1987, edited by Ekmeleddin İHSANOĞLU, published by IRCICA and the Department of History of Science, Faculty of Letters, Istanbul University; History of Science Series 3, 1987; VIII, 264 p.; 24 cm. (Turkish) Price: US \$5 post and package included.

A collection of papers presented at the symposium which was jointly organised by IRCICA and the Department of History of Science, Faculty of Letters, University of Istanbul. The introduction gives information on some of the scientific and professional associations which were established in the Ottoman State. Two essays on the subject were prepared before the symposium. Some associations which were not known before were introduced in these papers and the establishment of the Ottoman associations, their problems, activities and accomplishments were discussed.

**THE MUSLIM PIOUS FOUNDATIONS AND REAL ESTATES IN PALESTINE**, by Mehmet İPŞİRLİ, Mohammed Al-Tamimi, Istanbul 1982; 30, 235, 4 p.; 27 cm. (Arabic) Price: US \$50 post and package included.

A publication containing information deciphered and processed from a 16th-Century Ottoman State Tahrir Register pertaining to Waqfs and Muslim properties in five regions of Palestine: Al-Quds, Gaza, Safad, Nablus and Ajlun. There are indexes for names, places and terms.

These books can be ordered by writing to the "Book Sales Section" of IRCICA.

## IRCICA PUBLICATIONS

**ISTANBUL, A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST** (Photo-Album), by Ekmeleddin İHSAN-OĞLU, Istanbul, 1987; 97 p., 1 map; 22 cm. (English, Arabic and Turkish)  
Price: US \$20 post and package included.

This album contains a collection of the rare photographs of Istanbul almost one hundred years ago, which were chosen from the archive of the Centre. The photographs introduce different sectors of life in Istanbul at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century. Each photograph has an explanation. This album was published by the Centre in cooperation with the Arab-Turkish Bank in Istanbul on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of their foundation.

### BOOKS IN THE PRESS

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE COMMON PRINCIPLES, FORMS AND THEMES OF ISLAMIC ART**, edited by Ahmad İSSA

This book contains thirty-nine research papers presented by scholars from various countries to the International Symposium on the Common Principles, Forms and Themes of Islamic Art which was organised by IRCICA and held in April 1983, in Istanbul.

The papers of the symposium were given in Arabic, English and French and cover all fields of Islamic arts, such as architecture, decoration, calligraphy, carpet making, miniature painting and others. The book contains black and white and colour photographs.

**ISLAMIC SWORDS AND SWORDSMITHS**, prepared by Ünsal Yücel

This book includes a descriptive study of 114 swords chosen from the Topkapı Palace Museum and the Military Museum in Istanbul. These swords were used between the first to the tenth century Hijra (7th-16th centuries A.D.). The book includes photographs. The chapters are on the following subjects:

Blessed swords related to the Prophet, the Four Khalifas and the companions of the Prophet (Peace be upon Him);

Characteristics of the Islamic swords and their forms;

Information about the Muslim swordsmiths and abbreviated translations of the engraved inscriptions on the swords, and archival documents.

**HOLY KA'BA KEYS AND LOCKS**, prepared by Tercan Yılmaz

The catalogue contains the description of 56 pieces of locks and keys kept in Topkapı Palace Museum in Istanbul, with photographs in colour. The introduction gives information on the method of manufacturing of the keys and locks and materials used as well as explanations on inscriptions and decorations they bear.

### VIDEO CASSETTES

The following documentary films prepared by the Centre are available on a single cassette in Arabic (English text enclosed with the cassette). Diffusion system is PAL. Cassette type to be specified (VHS/BETAMAX). Price: US\$ 30.-.

- \* "Life and Works of the Late Calligrapher Hamid Al-Amidi (Aytaç) and Calligraphic Arts"
- \* "Arts of Illumination and Gilding".