



Newsletter



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

SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2021

116

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“Religious Literature and Heritage”

coordinated by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Indonesia, Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University, Malang, and IRCICA

“Islamic Civilization in Central Asia: Past and Present”

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Editorial

The present issue of the Newsletter reflects the activities conducted by IRCICA during the last quarter of 2021. Despite the continuing pandemic, our Centre has been able to carry out various activities in different countries. Some of our conferences and publications introduced new topics or fresh approaches to existing fields of research. The symposium on “Religious Literature and Heritage” organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Indonesia and Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University, Malang, Indonesia, underlined the significance of religious literature and heritage for tackling the challenges of life which is valid for all peoples, at all times. It was affirmed, however, that this literature and heritage acquire added importance in crisis situations, such as the present pandemic, where they can be sources of moral strength and social solidarity. The symposium highlighted the importance of studying, teaching, preserving and disseminating religious literature. It also reflected the world-wide diversity of local and regional traditions and forms of popular knowledge relating to the application of cultural literature and heritage for problem-solving, displayed through the studies presented by specialists attending from Africa, Central Asia, Europe, the U.S.A.

We also undertook new stages of research, conferences and publications within the framework of various projects. The conference on “Islamic Civilization in Central Asia: Past and Present”, organized by the IRCICA Chair for Islamic History and Source Studies at the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan in October, was the second conference on this theme to be held by the Chair within one year. Valuable collections of articles were published after each of these conferences. In the meantime, we continued to actively participate in academic meetings dedicated to prominent figures of the cultural history of the Islamic world. One of them was the “Nizami Ganjavi International Forum” organized by the Ministry of Culture of Azerbaijan in November where the

contributions of Ganjavi’s poetry to cultural relationships between peoples were highlighted.

During the period under review, IRCICA’s Architectural Heritage Department participated in two international meetings of experts where it had the opportunity to introduce its activities to the circles concerned. The first meeting was the International Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations”, held in Uzbekistan, in September. IRCICA’s presentation in this forum analyzed the impact of cultural heritage preservation as a process that contributes to social and cultural development; it evaluated this process from a general theoretical perspective and with specific examples from IRCICA’s projects. The second one was the conference on “Post-Trauma Reconstruction and Recovery” which was organized by UNESCO and the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage based in Bahrain, in November. IRCICA’s paper presented in this conference communicated the gist of its experiences from studies and practical programs on reconstruction of heritage in places of conflict; it also described the Centre’s outlook on promoting international consultancy and cooperation for post-trauma recovery and reconstruction in the context of the OIC’s agenda for the preservation of cultural and architectural heritage in the Member States.

In the context of arts, our 12th International Calligraphy Competition is in progress. We received hundreds of applications from all over the world. We are pleased to note that the number of applications received from some regions, in particular Southeast Asia and West Africa, have increased substantially compared to previous competitions. According to the competition calendar, the registration period is now over and the entries are expected to flow in. The Jury will meet in mid-2022 to evaluate the works presented and select the prize-winners.

Finally, our newly published books are announced in the last section as usual; we hope they will meet your interest.

Prof. Dr. Mahmud Erol KILIÇ
Director General, IRCICA



The 38th Session of IRCICA Governing Board

29 November 2021

IRCICA Governing Board held its 38th session on line, on 29 November 2021, under the Chairmanship of Prof. Amadou Cissé Ndiéguène, representative of the Republic of Senegal. The session examined and approved IRCICA's proposed work program and budget for 2023. The following members of the Board attended the session: Dr. Lhoucine Rhazoui, Director of Cultural Affairs at the OIC General Secretariat, representing H.E. Ambassador Hissein Brahim Taha, Secretary General of the OIC; Prof. Amadou Cissé Ndiéguène, Chairman of the Governing Board (Republic of Senegal); Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA;

Prof. Dr. Mustafa Sait Yazıcıoğlu (Republic of Turkey); Ambassador Dr. Shaazim Shaislamovich Minovarov (Republic of Uzbekistan); Dr. Astadjam Haman Saoudi (Republic of Cameroon); Dr. Sallama Al Khafaji (Republic of Iraq); Sheikh Dr. Boureima Abdou Daouda (Republic of Niger); Mr. Abdulmoteleb Salem Abousalem (State of Libya). Dr. Abdulaziz Abdullah Turki al-Subaie, Vice-Chairman of the Board (State of Qatar), apologized for being unable to attend as he was abroad without Internet access. Dr. Astadjam Haman Saoudi (Republic of Cameroon) was in attendance, but was not heard due to connection problems. Welcoming the attendees, the

Director General of IRCICA, Prof. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, recalled that the previous, 37th session of the Governing Board, held at IRCICA on 19 August 2021, had adopted the Activity Reports for 2020 and 2021 and approved the proposed work program and proposed budget for 2022. These documents, together with those proposed for 2023, were going to be submitted to the 44th Session of the OIC Islamic Commission for Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs acting as the Joint General Assembly of the OIC's Subsidiary Organs at its session in January 2022.

Prof. Amadou Cissé Ndiéguène (Republic of Senegal), the Chairman of the Governing Board,

greeted the Board members and welcomed Dr. Lhoucine Rhazoui, Director of Cultural Affairs at the OIC, the representative of the Secretary General of the OIC H.E. Ambassador Hissein Brahim Taha. The Chairman conveyed his deferential congratulations to H.E the Secretary General on his taking the office. The Chairman also conveyed his thanks to the outgoing Secretary General, Dr. Youssef bin Ahmed al-Othaimeen, for his consistent support and special attention to IRCICA activities. He commended the Centre's continued efforts to produce brilliant results in order to bring greater happiness to the Muslim Ummah. He extolled the efforts of IRCICA Director General Ambassador Prof. Mahmut Erol Kılıç and his colleagues.

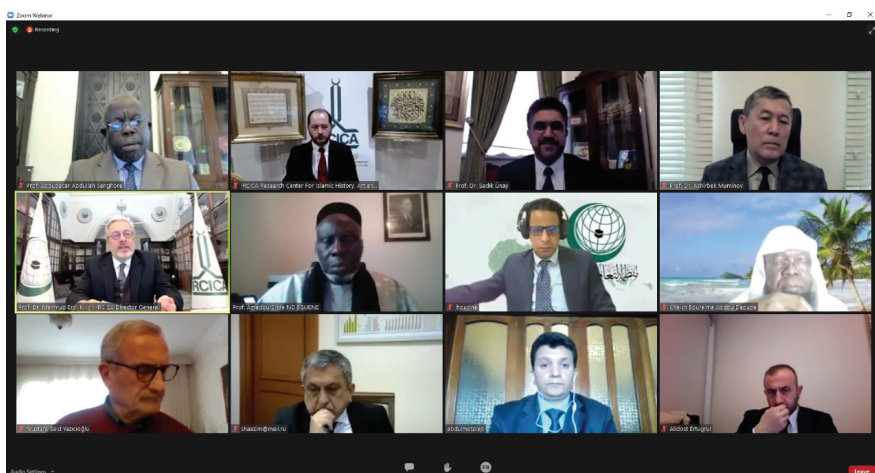
Representing the Secretary General of the OIC H.E. Ambassador Hissein Brahim Taha, Dr. Lhoucine Rhazoui, Director of Cultural Affairs at the OIC, conveyed the greetings of the Secretary General to the session. He stated that the General Secretariat bears witness to IRCICA's efforts in promoting the image of Islam throughout the world and in communicating the noble values of openness, tolerance, moderation, and mutual understanding taught by Islam through cultural activities at the international level. He commended IRCICA for organizing events and conferences that contribute to the achievement of overall OIC objectives, including the goal of greater coordination in collective action and mutual support among OIC subsidiary and

affiliate institutions. Dr. Rhazoui stated that he hoped this meeting would lead to discussions related to enhancing IRCICA initiatives in the fields of culture, history and art while also providing solutions and strategies towards the goal of projecting the true image of Islam and its rich, inspiring heritage.

Then, the Director General of IRCICA presented the proposed work program to which new editions of books or stages of research were added. The continued projects include the research works on archive documents on the history of Arab countries; manuscripts and archeological materials in Central Asia and Caucasia; editions of important manuscripts of Islamic scholars; reference books on Islamic arts; and the preparation of congresses on the history of Islamic scholarship and learning in different regions of Africa. The Director General mentioned some of the newly planned activities in the fields of history studies, architectural preservation and promotion of the arts. The Director General also mentioned the count that was done recently in the library, which allowed for a needs assessment and aided in setting objectives for the coming period in order to benefit from

this special library for IRCICA projects and outside researchers. The Board members discussed and adopted the proposed work program together with the corresponding budget proposal.

During the discussions, it was mentioned among others, that the Centre's addressing the cultural dimensions of global challenges facing humanity through its various activities can contribute to strengthening the ties that bind communities in coping with those challenges (the representative of Turkey); the large number of countries covered through the activities was commended (the representative of Libya); the number and variety of the projects was praised (the representative of Niger); the importance of the proposed gatherings of historians and experts in cultural heritage preservation in places of conflict such as Syria and Iraq was underlined (the representative of Iraq); the projects were qualified as up-to-date and likely to provide not only scientific contributions but help the formation of a common cultural heritage and reinforce bonds among the Muslim communities (the representative of Uzbekistan). 🇺🇿



OIC Honorary Day: the OIC's 51st Anniversary Ceremony

The Director General of IRCICA, H.E. Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, took part in the OIC Honorary Day Ceremony which was organized within the framework of the Expo 2020 Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, on 2 November 2021; the ceremony was addressed by the Secretary General of OIC, Dr. Youssef Ahmad Al Othaimen (www.oic-oci.org). Following the ceremony, the Director General, together with the other guests, visited the country stands at Expo Dubai 2020.

The same day, on invitation by His Highness Sheikh Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the U.A.E. and Ruler of Sharjah, Prof. Kılıç attended the Official Opening of the 40th Sharjah International Book Fair organized by the Sharjah Book Authority. The event, one of the world's largest book fairs, featured millions of books in

over 210 languages and hosted hundreds of cultural and literary events (<https://www.sibf.com/en/home>).

On 3 November 2021, Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç was invited by His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Al Murr, Chairman of Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Library Foundation, former Speaker of the Federal National Council of the U.A.E., and member of IRCICA Governing Board during 2003-2014, to visit the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Library and Cultural Center. The establishment contains several specialized libraries together with the main library; it is equipped with restoration laboratories, digitization systems and the latest library technologies, and represents one of the biggest cultural projects in the world. Director General Prof. Kılıç



also visited the Juma Al-Majid Center for Culture and Heritage, Dubai, which is well-known for its scholarly activities in support of research and learning and particularly its studies and preservation of historical manuscripts (www.almajidcenter.org)



IRCICA's art exhibitions, workshop and lecture

IRCICA held a series of activities at Expo 2020 Dubai within the framework of the OIC's participation in the event. IRCICA's pavilion, coordinated by Mr. Said Kasimoğlu, Head of the Islamic Arts Department, representing the Director General of IRCICA, highlighted two major areas of the Centre's activities, "Arts" and "Cultural Heritage".

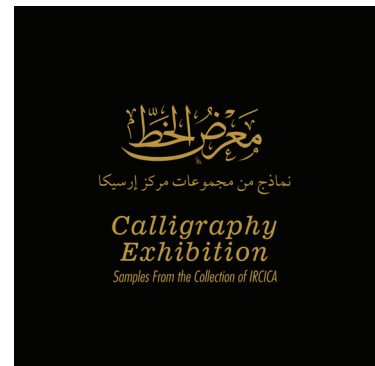
The Centre's pavilion featured two digital exhibitions. One of them presented the calligraphy works which had won awards in the first ten international calligraphy competitions organized by IRCICA from 1986 to 2016. Along with the digital display, some plates of calligraphy were also presented in the pavilion. The other digital exhibition showed historical photographs of the sacred places of Islam: Makkah al-Mukarramah and Madina al-Munawwara, selected from the archives of IRCICA.

In the same context, a workshop on Islamic Calligraphy was conducted by Master Calligrapher M. Efdaluddin Kılıç, calligraphy

expert at IRCICA, from 26 December 2021 to 2 January 2022. The workshop was attended by a large number of people wishing to learn about this art, its rules and principles, theoretical and practical aspects. The attendees had the opportunity to follow Mr. Kılıç's lectures and see his demonstrations on the various styles, the tools and materials, and other aspects of this authentic art.

On the occasion of the calligraphy exhibition, IRCICA published a booklet containing the reproductions of 40 works of calligraphy chosen from among award-winners in the competitions organized by IRCICA. The booklet, titled "The Art of Calligraphy: Samples from the Collection of IRCICA", was appreciated by the visitors when presented as a souvenir of the event.

Finally, a lecture was given by IRCICA on 2 January 2022, relating to the Centre's studies on Islamic cultural heritage that is threatened, damaged or destroyed in places of conflict around the



world. The paper was read by Mr. Taha Z. Özdemir from IRCICA's Department of Architectural Heritage, accompanied by a screen projection of photographs of historical sites and monuments.



International Symposium on “Religious Literature and Heritage”

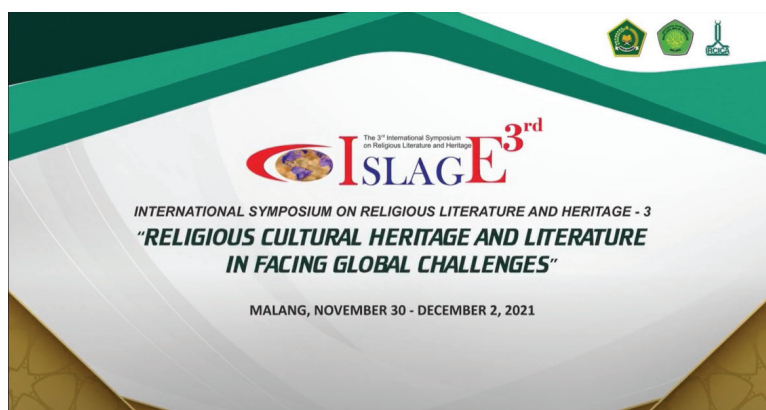
coordinated by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Indonesia,
UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University,
Malang, and IRCICA

30 Nov. – 2 Dec. 2021

IRCICA cooperated with the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Indonesia and UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University, Malang, to organize the “International Symposium on Religious Literature and Heritage” on the theme “Religious Cultural Heritage and Literature in Facing Global Challenges”. The symposium was held on 30 November – 2 December 2021 in hybrid format: in person in Malang and through international videoconferencing. The Ministry of Religious Affairs of Indonesia conducted the preparation and implementation of the symposium through the Center for Research and Development for Literature, Religious Treasures and Organization Management attached to its Research and Development and Training Agency.

The Chancellor of UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University, Prof. M. Zainuddin gave a welcoming address thanking the participants for their interest and expressed the hope that the symposium will be beneficial for the whole world.

IRCICA Director General Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç underlined, in his opening address, the significance of religious literature and heritage for all peoples, past and present.



The Director General pointed out that religious literature has provided the most needed spiritual, intellectual and moral refuge to peoples during good and hard times in their histories. Religious literature also assumes a crucial function in regulating human relations at communal, national and international levels. For all these considerations, said the Director General, the heritage and development processes of religious literature never failed to draw academic interest. The subject is also incorporated into the mandate of IRCICA. Prof. Kılıç then outlined the projects carried out by IRCICA to study and promote religious literature including the studies on the manuscript copies and translations of the Holy Quran in world languages, the digitization and restoration projects relating

to the collections of historical manuscripts in the OIC Member States, and the editions of the classical works of the great scientists and philosophers of the Muslim world.

In his opening words, the Head of the Research and Development and Training Agency of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Prof. Achmad Gunaryo said that “With the current global disruption of the Covid-19 pandemic, discussions about religious and cultural heritage — especially those related to ancient ways of dealing with similar challenges — find momentum”. Prof. Gunaryo gave examples of his Agency’s projects that are connected to the symposium theme such as disaster mitigation based on scriptures, assessment of religious education books, and publication



of the Heritage journal. He expressed this symposium will be the beginning of a sustainable academic collaboration, adding, "We are fortunate to partner with IRCICA, whose interest and commitment to religious arts and culture are exceptional. We welcome colleagues from IRCICA to conduct studies or publish the results together".

Mr. Mahmud Syaltout, expert at the Ministry of Religious Affairs, addressed the opening session on behalf of the Minister of Religious Affairs of Indonesia Mr. Yaqut Cholil Qoumas. Underlining the tripartite international cooperation between the Ministry, the University and IRCICA, he expressed the hope that there would be further cooperation between the Ministry of Religious Affairs and IRCICA regarding research and publications. Recalling that currently the world is experiencing the problem of global warming and destruction of the environment by humans, he said that norms, values, and religious beliefs can be a solution to these problems. Mr. Syaltout pointed out that "Religion should be a great inspiration, not just an aspiration. ... Religion must be higher than worldly affairs. The

way to respect religion is to use it as an inspiration to respect others. ... So the more religious we are, the more solidarity we have with humanity."

Prof. Dr. Arskal Salim, Head of the Center for Research and Development for Literature, Religious Treasures and Organization Management, said, in his address, that they were privileged to be cooperating with IRCICA. Prof. Arskal Salim expressed the hope that this event would be a beginning for further academic collaboration, in addition to being an opportunity of knowledge and experience sharing. He elaborated upon the theme of the symposium, namely the significance of religious literature and heritage in facing global challenges.

A total of 88 papers were presented in parallel sessions arranged under the following seven sub-themes:

- * Religious Literature and Oral Traditions Across the Muslim World: Research and Teaching;
- * Religious Literary Heritage: Preservation, Promotion and Digitization;
- * Epidemics and Disasters in

Islamic History: Experiences, Studies, Lessons Learned;

- * Management and Preservation of Cultural Heritage in Post Disaster Recovery Processes;
- * Traditional Medication and Popular Wisdom in Facing Global Challenges;
- * The Role of Cultural and Religious Heritage in Enhancing Interfaith Harmony;
- * Religious Literature and the Challenges of Radicalism.

The symposium was attended online by speakers from The Netherlands, Nigeria, Sudan, Turkey, U.S.A. and Uzbekistan, with online and offline participation from Indonesia. It is noteworthy that with its comprehensive theme, the symposium achieved its desired outcome by receiving region-specific papers highlighting the written and other sources of religious and traditional knowledge and the various uses and functions of this knowledge in different cultural and geographical contexts.

The papers of the symposium will be published by the co-organizers in books and journals.

International Conference on “Islamic Civilization in Central Asia: Past and Present”

organized by the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan and IRCICA through the IRCICA Chair for Islamic History and Source Studies

Tashkent, 14 Oct. 2021

The International Conference on “Islamic Civilization in Central Asia: Past and Present” was organized by the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan and IRCICA through the IRCICA Chair for Islamic History and Source Studies at the Academy. The conference was held in hybrid format on 14 October 2021. It was attended by scholars, researchers and students from the OIC-IRCICA Member States. The conference received more than 100 research papers and concluded with discussions on topics covered. In addition to generating new papers in the field, it also contributed to the continuity of scholarly interactions in the field and the follow-up of the international conference on “Culture, Religious Traditions and Customs of the Central Asian Peoples” which was coordinated by the Chair exactly one year before.

The opening session heard the addresses of: Ambassador Dr. Shoazim Minovarov, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Cooperation with Public and Religious Organizations and Director of the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan; Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA; Prof. Dr. Komilov Muzaffar Murotovich, First Deputy Chairman of the



Committee on Religious Affairs under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Rector of the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan. The conference was moderated by Prof. Dr. Nematullo Muhamedov, Head of the IRCICA Chair for Islamic History and Source Studies.

Ambassador Dr. Shoazim Minovarov underlined the importance of promoting studies on the history and heritage of Central Asian contributions to Islamic civilization and the role assumed by the institutions in charge of these studies. Referring,

in this regard, to the activities of the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan particular, Ambassador Minovarov said that towards this noble goal, the Center is open to cooperation with other institutions working in the field, among them IRCICA and the IRCICA Chair for Islamic History and Source Studies at the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan.

Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç stated that the academic study of Islamic civilization in Central Asia constitutes one of the main areas of cooperation between the International

Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan and IRCICA. This cooperation, implemented through the IRCICA Chair for Islamic History and Source Studies, is an important dimension of IRCICA's overall cultural cooperation with the Republic of Uzbekistan. With reference to the theme of the conference, Prof. Dr. Kılıç underlined some characteristics of Islamic civilization in Central Asia which are also observable in other regions of the Muslim world, among them the commonness versus diversity of cultures within the Islamic civilization which resulted from the fruitful interaction of Islam with local cultures in the respective regions. Prof. Kılıç also underlined the importance of the legacy of the prominent Islamic scholars of Central Asia as written cultural heritage and the historical monuments and artifacts as architectural heritage which are both subjects of study and sources of historical information.

Prof. Dr. Komilov Muzaffar Murotovich said that the themes of Islamic civilization and social and economic history of Central Asia carry a high potential for academic research and engage a large number of scholars. He underlined the contribution of the conference to the advancement of these studies and said that it was also an opportunity to highlight the cultural interdependences between Central Asia and other regions of the Muslim world. Professor Murotovich also pointed to the role of the conference in addressing current issues of research and enhancing international scientific cooperation, underlining in this regard, the importance of cooperation between IRCICA and the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan.

Over 100 papers were presented, the majority during the working sessions held in the halls of the



International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan, Tashkent. The following papers were presented online:

- "The Central Asian Civilization and Characteristics of its Architecture", by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aras Neftçi, Faculty of Architecture, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul
- "Scientific Cultural Centers of Mawaraunnahr", by Prof. Dr. Zahidullo Munavvarov, Professor, Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, Doctor of Political Sciences, Tashkent
- "The Significance of al-Hasiri in Studying the History of Science in Samarkand and Bukhara", by Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and Publications Department, Doctor of Historical Sciences, IRCICA, and Mr. Veysel Bulut, Researcher, IRCICA
- "New Findings on the Scientific Legacy of Mahmud al-Zamakhshari", by Prof. Dr. Zohidjon Islomov, Vice-Rector, International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan, Doctor of Philological Sciences, Tashkent
- "The Place and Importance of Calligraphy in the History of Islamic Civilization and IRCICA's Contribution to the Field", by Mr. Said Kasımoğlu, Head of IRCICA Islamic Art Program
- "History and Traditions of Librarianship in the Muslim East", by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shovosil Ziyodov, Director, Imam Bukhari International-Scientific Research Center, Samarkand
- "Central Asian Sufi and Poet Salah al-Din Saqib Oshi (1843-1910)", by Prof. Dr. Necdet Tosun, Marmara University, Istanbul
- "Role of Imam Maturidi International Scientific-Research Center in the Promotion of Moderate Islam", by Prof. Dr. Davronbek Maxsudov, Director, Imam Maturidi International Scientific-Research Center, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Tashkent
- "History of the First Book Museum in Kazakhstan", by Dr. Gulshat Abikova, Director, Central Scientific Library, Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan, Almaty
- Role of Termez Scholars in the Development of Islamic Civilization", by Dr. Shukurillo Umarov, Director, Imam Termezi International Scientific-Research Center, PhD in History, Termez
- "Features of the Study of Islamic Culture and Art in Central Asia", by Prof. Dr. Saidakbar Agzamkhojaev, IRCICA Chair for Islamic History and Source Studies, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Tashkent.

Launching of IRCICA's joint publication with Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies, Uzbekistan, during the Institute's conference with European institutes in manuscript studies

Tashkent, 16 November 2021

The book *New Perspectives for the Study of Islamic Culture, History and Art in Uzbekistan*, published jointly by Abu Rayhan Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan and IRCICA, was launched during the opening ceremony of the international conference “Central Asian Islamic Manuscripts: Cultural Heritage and Historical Source” coordinated online from Tashkent on 16 November 2021. This conference was organized by Al-Biruni Institute together with the Institute of Iranian Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, the British Institute of Persian Studies, and Leiden University. The book which was presented at the opening of the conference consists of a collection of papers presented during the international conference on “New Perspectives for the Study of Islamic Culture, History and Art in Uzbekistan” Dedicated to the Memory of Academician Ubaydulla Karimov which was organized by Al-Biruni Institute and IRCICA online and offline on 28 May 2021. Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA, gave an address at the opening session of the conference “Central Asian Islamic Manuscripts: Cultural Heritage and Historical Source” and presented the book to the participants. The book includes a total of 84 articles in the Uzbek, Russian and Turkish languages,



each with an abstract in English.

In his opening speech, Prof. Bakhrom Abdukhalimov, Director of Abu Rayhan Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies and Vice-President of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan, said that the Institute gives importance to cooperating with institutions around the world and has organized dozens of academic conferences with the aim of promoting the academic study of Islamic manuscripts, particularly Central Asian manuscripts. Prof. Abdukhalimov expressed thanks and appreciation, on behalf of his Institute's staff and his own, to Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA, for the academic support and cooperation extended to the Institute. Prof. Florian Schwarz,

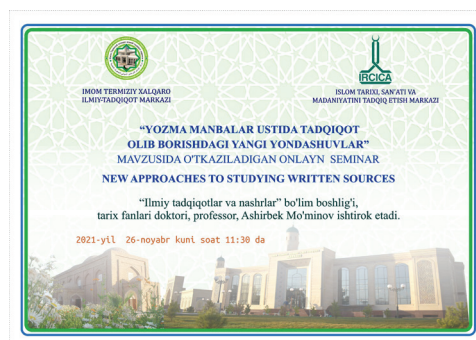
Director of the Institute of Iranian Studies, Austrian Academy of Sciences, said, in his speech, that one of the most dynamic fields is that of studies on manuscripts and manuscript cultures; he pointed to the significance of these materials as sources of historical, literary, artistic and other information and also as cultural heritage. Prof. Gabrielle van den Berg from Leiden University spoke of the development of Central Asian studies at Leiden University, past and present, and evoked the expanding cooperation between Central Asian and European universities. Prof. Charles Melville, President of the British Institute of Persian Studies, pointed to the term “Persian manuscripts” which designates a field that historically extends beyond the frontiers of modern Iran.

Speaking of the developments in manuscript studies, he described the association of researchers with manuscripts as a lively, active and genuine one.

In his address, Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç underlined the importance of studies on Islamic manuscripts from the viewpoint of IRCICA. Presenting the new book, the Director General said that it covers a remarkably wide spectrum of topics in Islamic studies, manuscript studies in particular, approached from different perspectives. With this diversified coverage, it will benefit academics and administrators involved in research and curriculum development as well as specialists and researchers in various disciplines of cultural studies. Prof. Kılıç also spoke of the

engagement of IRCICA in promoting studies on Islamic history and culture and the sources of this culture including manuscripts, and described the geographical coverage of IRCICA's activities over the OIC membership area that includes Central Asia, Caucasia, South and Southeast Asia, the Middle East, the Mediterranean, Eastern Europe, and Africa. The Director General thanked Professor Abdukhalimov and his colleagues for their cooperation which resulted in the new publication.

21 papers were presented during the conference by specialists of Islamic manuscripts from



Asian and European countries. The sessions were titled: “Preserving the written cultural heritage”; “Manuscript evidence and historical interpretation”; “Manuscript collections: past, present, and future”; “Visual dimensions of manuscripts”; “Beyond the codex”; “Producing, publishing and studying texts: From manuscript cultures to the digital age”.

Online Seminar on “Studies on Manuscript Sources: New Methods of Implementation”

conducted jointly with Imam Tirmizi International Scientific
Research Centre, Tirmiz, Uzbekistan

26 November 2021

Imam Tirmizi International Scientific Research Centre, Tirmiz, Uzbekistan, and IRCICA cooperated through the Online Seminar on “Studies on Manuscript Sources: New Methods of Implementation” on 26 November 2021. The seminar was coordinated on behalf of IRCICA by its Head of Research and Publications Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov.

The seminar addressed current issues and challenges involved in the study of historical sources in

general and manuscript works in particular. Factors influencing the state of research in this field were discussed. Prof. Muminov said that researchers involved in Islamic studies in the countries of Central Asia possessed a good knowledge and understanding of the local cultures and languages, but that research, and discovery of the sources, needed to be developed further. He elaborated upon the issues of compilation, plagiarism, the rules and ethics of quoting, the engines suitable for scholarly search on Internet, among other

subjects of current interest for researchers and publishers.

The seminar opened up new vistas in the collaboration between IRCICA and Imam Tirmizi Center. In the past years, the two centers had jointly organized the international online conferences on “The Place of Tirmiz in the History of Islamic Civilization” (16 December 2020) and “The Contribution of Tirmiz Scholars to the Development of Islamic and World Civilization” (23 June 2021).



THE AMBASSADOR OF BANGLADESH PRESENTED AN ARTWORK FROM BANGLADESH TO IRCICA DIRECTOR GENERAL AS A SOUVENIR OF THE CONFERENCE

Conference on the Golden Jubilee of the Independence of Bangladesh and the Birth Centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman: highlights of Bangladesh's international relations

Istanbul, 6 December 2021

The Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Ankara and the Presidency of Istanbul University jointly organized a commemorative program for the Golden Jubilee of the Independence of Bangladesh and the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Bangladesh Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, on 6 December 2021. The program consisted of a conference on «Social, Cultural and Historical Relations between Bangladesh and Turkey» and a photography exhibition titled «Bangabandhu and Bangladesh». A documentary on the life and achievements of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman prepared by the Bangladeshi film director

Mr. Shakil Reja Efty was also presented.

The event, hosted by Prof. Dr. Mahmut Ak, President of Istanbul University, was officiated on the Bangladeshi side by Ms. Sultana Afroz, Secretary to the Government of Bangladesh; Ambassador Mosud Mannan, Ambassador of Bangladesh in Ankara; Mr. Mohammad Monirul Islam, Consul General of Bangladesh in Istanbul and on the Turkish side, by Mrs. Özlem Bozkurt Gevrek, Deputy Governor of Istanbul. The event was attended by the Heads of Diplomatic and Consular Missions, university Presidents, heads and representatives of business

councils. The Director General of IRCICA Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç was invited to the event and also to give an address during the opening of the conference.

The Ambassador of Bangladesh in Ankara, Ambassador Mosud Mannan briefed the audience on the life and political struggle of the «Father of the Bangladesh nation» Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The Consul General of Bangladesh in Istanbul Mr. Mohammad Monirul Islam spoke of the development of business relations and cooperation between Bangladesh and Turkey. Other speakers appraised the achievements made in various sectors of Bangladesh's

commercial and industrial international relations.

In his address at the conference, IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç highlighted the multilateral framework of the OIC and its cultural organ IRCICA which offers possibilities to promote cultural relationships between all OIC Member States. Director General Kılıç underlined the active membership of Bangladesh in the OIC, its cultural and academic cooperation with IRCICA in

particular. Some of the outcomes of this cooperation were: the international symposium on “Islamic Civilization in South Asia” organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh in association with Dhaka University and IRCICA in 2008; the establishment of the “IRCICA Chair for Studies on Islamic Civilization” under the University’s Department of Islamic History and Culture in 2018; the session on the history of Islamic waqfs in Bangladesh as part of

the conference on “History and Governance of Awqaf in South and Southeast Asia” co-organized by the OIC-affiliated International Islamic University Malaysia and IRCICA in 2018, among others. Currently, other conferences are planned in the context of the IRCICA Chair at Dhaka University. The Director General added that the IRCICA Library has a rich collection of books and articles on the arts, architecture, languages and literature of Bangladesh.



Participation of IRCICA Director General in the “Nizami Ganjavi International Forum” organized by the Ministry of Culture of Azerbaijan

Baku, 24-26 November 2021

Inizami Ganjavi International Forum on the theme “Nizami Ganjavi: Bridge between Cultures” was organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan in Baku, on 24-26 November 2021. The Forum took place within the framework of the Nizami Ganjavi Year 2021 marking the 880th anniversary of the great Azerbaijani thinker and poet. It was held at Nizami Ganjavi International Center in Baku.

The event was attended by the Deputy Prime Minister of Azerbaijan Mr. Ali Ahmadov, the Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan Mr. Anar Karimov, the Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey Mr. Mehmet Nuri Ersoy, the Minister of Culture of Uzbekistan Mr. Ozodbek Ahmadovich Nazarbekov, and the Special Representative of the President



of the Russian Federation for International Cultural Cooperation Mr. Mikhail Shvidkoy. The Organizing Committee of the Forum was chaired by Mr. Elnur Aliyev, First Deputy Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan. More than forty scholars and researchers from fifteen countries took part in the Forum. The Director General

of IRCICA, Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, was invited to present a paper in the Forum.

Panel discussions took place on the following topics: “Nizami’s impact on the political and social traditions in the Medieval Orient”, “Nizami Ganjavi: a view of the modern world”, “The influence of the Khamsa by Nizami on

World Literature and Culture”, “The didactic role of the Khamsa dialogues”, “Nizami studies in the Soviet period”. The paper by Prof. Mahmut Erol Kılıç presented in the context of the aforementioned second theme, was titled “What the Symbolism of Nizami Says to Today’s World”. The paper underscored the Sufi concept of the human being which is inherent in this symbolism and the conception of a just ruler and hero; Nizami used the name of Alexander the Great to designate a mystical, ethical and warrior man and highlighted this symbol in his Iskandarnama; also, in his Haft Peykar, he used the symbolism of the “Septenary Constitution of the Human Being” as did Farid ud-Din Attar in his Haft Vadi.

The panel was accompanied by various cultural events, including exhibitions and bilateral meetings. During the period of the Forum, IRCICA Director General also met with H.E. Mr.

Anar Karimov, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and H.E. Mr. Ozodbek Akhmadovich Nazarbekov, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Forum participants adopted the “Nizami Ganjavi Communique” where they acknowledged that the immortal ideas and values of Nizami, along with inspiring prominent poets and thinkers of the Eastern world such as Mevlana Jalaluddin Rumi, Yunus Emre, Amir Khosrov Dahlavi, Abd ar-Rahman Jami, Alisher Navai and Muhammad Fuzuli, as well as others, influence the formation of literary and poetic traditions in the region, the development of philosophical, socio-cultural and political life, as well as the progress of literary thinking. Researchers who studied Dante, Boccaccio, W. Shakespeare, Goethe, Sh. Rustaveli and other great classics of Western literature found traces of Nizami's influence in their

works. The Communiqué also states that the ideas contained in Nizami's work Khamsa play a key role in promoting universal values such as humanism, equality, justice, sustainable cooperation for peace and good neighbourly relations which continue to be global priorities in the modern world. It emphasizes that the ideas of Nizami are important in terms of the formation of opinions about different cultures and civilizations on a global scale; “the rich heritage of Nizami's genius is a source of inspiration that heralds a tradition of diversity and inclusion and thus serves as a unique platform for universal dialogue. The ideas and messages in Nizami Ganjavi's works promote the concepts of multiculturalism, tolerance and peaceful coexistence.”

(<https://apa.az/en/xeber/culture-policy/nizami-ganjavi-communique-adopted-362515>).

Participation in the Azerbaijan Investment and Culture Summit

Baku, 27-28 October 2021

The Director General of IRCICA Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç addressed the Opening Ceremony of the Azerbaijan Investment and Culture Summit, which was organized by the Small and Medium Business Development Agency (SMBDA) of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the OIC-affiliate Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF), with the support of the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, on 27-28 October

2021. Prof. Dr. Kılıç also took the floor in the Panel titled “Main Social and Economic Challenges of the Region: Prospective from Nizami Ganjavi”.

The Summit was dedicated to the 880th anniversary of the well-known Azerbaijani intellectual and poet Nizami Ganjavi. It offered a platform for economic cooperation among the OIC Member States towards enhancing investments in Karabakh region and with focus on promoting

youth entrepreneurship. The event brought together ministers, representatives of governmental and non-governmental economic and cultural institutions, international organizations, business and investment circles and youth economic associations from over 20 countries. The sessions were held in hybrid format.

The opening ceremony was addressed by: the Minister of Economy of Azerbaijan Mr.

Mikayil Jabbarov; the Head of the Finance Office of the Presidency of Turkey Prof. Dr. Göksel Aşan; the Minister of Youth and Sports of Azerbaijan Dr. Farid Gayibov; the Head of the Investment Office of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey Mr. Burak Dağlıoğlu; the President of the World Ethnosport Confederation Mr. Bilal Erdoğan; the President of the National Confederation of Entrepreneurs Organizations of Azerbaijan Mr. Mammad Musayev; the Deputy Minister of Industry and Technology of Turkey Mr. Çetin Ali Dönmez; the Director General of IRCICA Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç; the Chairman of SMBDA Management Board Mr. Orkhan Mammadov; the President of ICYF Mr. Taha Ayhan. Following these addresses, the Keynote Speech (pre-recorded) was delivered by Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, the Fourth and Seventh Prime Minister of Malaysia.

The Director General of IRCICA Prof. Dr. Kılıç evoked, in his address, the role of the cultural environment as a determining factor of international cooperation in general and investment promotion in particular. Outlining the mission and activities of



IRCICA that help to reinforce the cultural sphere of cooperation among OIC Member States, the Director General cited as examples, some events conducted by IRCICA jointly with the Republic of Azerbaijan and which cover both the cultural and the economic aspects of development such as the conference on “Karabakh: history and heritage” held in Baku in 2016 and the “Baku International Festival for Crafts” organized in Baku in 2019.

The Summit program comprised eight panels, titled, respectively: “Potential Investments in Karabakh: Foreseeable Prospects”; “Resilient Start-up Ecosystem for Effective Post-Covid 19 Economic Recovery”; “Future Economic and Trade Prospects of the OIC Region: Challenges and Opportunities”; “Main Social and Economic

Challenges of the Region: Prospective from Nizami Ganjavi” (in partnership with Nizami Ganjavi International Center, Baku); “Cultural Dimension in Future Investments”; “Investment Boom for Start-ups; Financing Newly Developing Ventures”; “Sustaining Peace in the Region: Rebuilding Karabakh”; “Role of Technology Investment in Achieving SDGs”. Various exhibitions accompanied the panels.

Speaking at the Panel on “Main Social and Economic Challenges of the Region: Prospective from Nizami Ganjavi”, Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç said that references to illustrious intellectuals such as Nizami Ganjavi, who emphasized universally shared human values, contribute to building a conducive environment for cooperation in any area. Prof. Kılıç illustrated this relationship by giving examples of intra-OIC cooperation projects coordinated by IRCICA that encourage advancements in innovative production sectors such as arts, handicrafts and heritage preservation by drawing inspiration and sustainability from their linkages and references to the common culture, shared history and civilization of the countries.



International Cultural Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations” and Week of Cultural Heritage, Uzbekistan

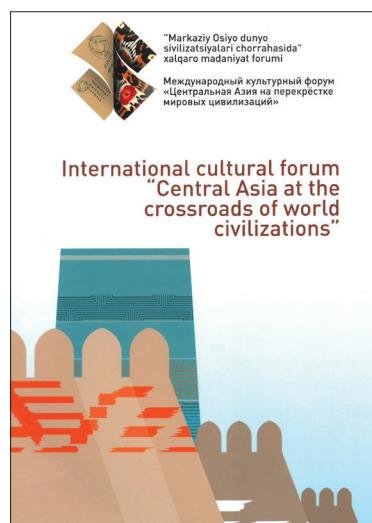
13-20 September 2021

The Republic of Uzbekistan hosted the Week of Cultural Heritage comprising a series of international cultural events held in the cities of Tashkent, Khiva, and Nukus during 13-20 September 2021. The Week's Program included the following events: Vth Congress of the World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan on the theme “The Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan is the Foundation of a New Renaissance”; International Forum “Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations”; Archaeological Conference “Archeology and Tourism: Identification of Capacity and Heritage Management”. Various exhibitions were opened on the occasion of the Week of Cultural Heritage, displaying the works of prominent figures in Uzbekistan's scientific and literary history, artifacts and archeological materials located within and outside Uzbekistan, illustrations of architectural sites and monuments. Documentary films were shown, on progress achieved in the context of the publication and popularization projects relating to the cultural heritage of Uzbekistan located in world collections. New publications resulting from these projects include the 15 new volumes in the series “Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in World Collections”. The Week's events were organized by the World

Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan and the National Association of Electronic Media of Uzbekistan with the assistance of UNESCO, the Ministry of Tourism and Sports, the Ministry of Culture, and the oil service company “Eriell Group”.

More than 300 professionals, administrators, experts, scholars and researchers from around 40 countries participated in the events.

* The Grand Opening of the Week of Cultural Heritage started with the address of Prof. Dr. Firdavs Abdulkhalikov, Chairman of the Board of the World Society and Academician of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan. His address was titled “The Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan is the Basis of a New Renaissance: Results of 5 years of work of the World Society”. Greeting addresses were delivered by the following personalities: Prof. Dr. Akmal Saidov, Academician of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic Uzbekistan; Dr. Shoazim Minovarov, Advisor to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, member of the Board of the World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan; Mr. Sadik Safayev, First Deputy Chairman of the Senate of the National



Assembly of Uzbekistan; Mr. Aziz Abdulkhakimov, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Member of the Board of the World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan; Mr. Alexandros Makarigakis, Acting Representative of UNESCO in Uzbekistan; Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, Director General of IRCICA; Ms. Gayane Umerova, Secretary General of the National Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan for UNESCO, and some members of the World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in different countries. The scientific significance of the “Project Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in World Collections in the context of modern science” was described

by Prof. Dr. Edward Rtveladze, Academician of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Scientific Supervisor of the project "Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in World Collections" and Chairman of the Scientific Council of the World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan.

In his address at the Grand Opening, the Director General of IRCICA Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç said that IRCICA as the OIC's subsidiary in charge of the study and preservation of the cultural heritage of the Muslim world, had established a fruitful cooperation with its Member States in Central Asia including Uzbekistan, particularly regarding research on scientific and literary manuscript works and their editions. The Director General expressed IRCICA's intention to further expand the scope of its long-term program on the cultural and architectural heritage of the Muslim world.

* The Vth International Congress of the World Society for the Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan on the theme: "Study, Preservation and Popularization of the Cultural Legacy of Uzbekistan at the Present Stage", Tashkent, 13-14 September 2021: The Congress had the following sections, each with around 15 paper presentations:

1. "New directions of publishing activity within the project Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in World Collections": studies were presented by experts from various countries about historical books and manuscripts, products of classical, decorative and applied arts, numismatic, ethnographic and archeological materials of the cultural heritage of Uzbekistan that are preserved in



MR. ALIDOST ERTUGRUL, HEAD OF THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE DEPARTMENT OF IRCICA

world's collections and the state of projects conducted about these materials

2. "New directions of publishing work within the project Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in World Collections". Republican Collections
3. "Current issues in architectural history of Central Asia"
4. "Modern world experience in conservation and popularization of cultural heritage"
5. "New directions of publishing work within the project Cultural Heritage of Uzbekistan in World Collections". Foreign Collections"
6. "The legacy of Ali Shir Nava'i. A new look at the creativity of the genius' world"
7. "Manuscript monuments of Uzbekistan: light from the depth of ages"
8. "Cultural heritage of Central Asia as a factor for unity of peoples".

A wide range of specialized papers were presented during the sessions describing the subjects, outcomes, methods and techniques and evaluating the future prospects of research and conservation projects conducted

in various countries.

* International Forum "Central Asia at the Crossroads of World Civilizations", Khiva, 15 September 2021: Following the plenary session which heard speakers from different countries highlighting the significance of the cultural heritage of Central Asia in historical and present perspectives, the following sections were conducted, each with around 20 papers:

1. "Contributions of commercial, scientific, and cultural exchanges to the development of Central Asian Heritage". IRCICA was represented at this session, by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alidost Ertugrul, Head of the Architectural Heritage Department, with a paper titled "Contributions of Cultural Heritage Preservation Phenomenon to Uzbekistan and Central Asia"
2. "Contributions of the cultural and scientific heritage of Central Asia to the modern sciences/social and human sciences"
3. "Cultural Heritage of Central Asia, a solid basis for dialogue and collaboration in the region"
4. "Collaboration and exchanges through social and human sciences for countering the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the sustainable development of Central Asia".

* The Archaeological Conference "Archeology and Tourism: Defining Potential and Heritage Management" was conducted in Nukus under UNESCO auspices, on 16 September 2021. The participants made visits to ancient settlements and also took part in the opening of the international conference "The Role of Bakhshi Art in the Civilization of World Culture" at Nukus Bakhshi School and the International Bakhshi Art Festival.

Participation in the International Conference on “Integrated Reconstruction and Post-Trauma Impact on Communities and Socio-Economic Aspects of Recovery”

Manama, Bahrain / online, 8-10 November 2021

UNESCO and the Bahrain-based Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) organized the International Conference on “Integrated Reconstruction and Post-Trauma Impact on Communities and Socio-Economic Aspects of Recovery”. The conference was directed from Manama in hybrid format through 8-10 November 2021. It brought together specialists of heritage conservation and post-trauma recovery from universities in all continents, international organizations and NGO’s including ICCROM, ICOMOS, the World Bank, the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas - ALIPH, the International Forum Bosnia, and others. The speakers shared their experiences from heritage recovery projects in various conflict or natural disaster areas and presented case studies on heritage preservation all over the world. The opening session was addressed by H.E. Shaikha May Bint Mohammed Al-Khalifa, President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities and Chairperson of the Board of the ARC-WH. 22 papers were presented in five sessions, under the following themes: “Coming to terms with past conflict and socio-economic distress through the reconstruction of cultural heritage and post-trauma recovery”;

“Building resilience in recurrent and mutually superimposed trauma”; “Inclusive heritage reconstruction discourse and social trauma processing”; “People-centered post-trauma reconstruction and the recovery of cultural heritage”; “The global response to the challenges of integrated heritage reconstruction in post-trauma recovery”. The Final Document of the Conference read at the closing session summarized the positions expressed in the papers and the discussions on the scope, objectives, models, etc. of/for “the integrated reconstruction and recovery of heritage that should be participative, people-centered, cost-benefit-attentive, inclusive, and prosperity-oriented” (<https://www.arcwh.org/filePdfs/Manam-conference-Concept-Program-Speakers-and-Abstracts.pdf>) Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alidost Ertuğrul,



Head of the Architectural Heritage Department of IRCICA, participated in the conference, with a paper titled “The Approaches of IRCICA to Integrated Heritage Reconstruction in a Social Post-trauma Recovery” in which he sketched out the past experience and evolving approaches of IRCICA in the coordination of international studies and efforts for post-trauma heritage reconstruction.

Ethno-Folklore Festival “Ozgon-Munara-2021” of the Kyrgyz Republic

Ozgon, 17 September 2021

The international Ethno-Folklore Festival “Ozgon-Munara-2021”, Kyrgyzstan, was opened in the presence of H.E. Sadir Japarov, President of the Kyrgyz Republic, in Ozgon/Uzgen (historically Uzjand) on 17 September 2021. The Festival took place in the context of the “Madaniyat Munarasy” project dedicated to the 30th anniversary of Kyrgyzstan's Independence.

The ceremony was addressed by Mrs. Kasymalieva Aida Kamchibekovna, Vice-Speaker of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic; Mr. Zhamaldinov Ziyadin Islamovich, Plenipotentiary of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic in Osh Province; Mr. Rysbai Isakov, Honored Cultural Worker (Manaschi – teller/specialist of Manas Epic); Writer and Playwright Mr. Sultan Raev.

The pre-recorded greeting address of the Director General of IRCICA Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç was presented at the opening ceremony. The Director General underlined that the Festival program reflected the many significant features of Kyrgyz history and culture. Ozgon, the capital city of the Karakhanid State (992-1212), houses the mausoleum of the great 11th-century Islamic scholar Muhammad bin Ahmad bin Abi Sahl Imam al-Sarakhsi, author of the voluminous work on jurisprudence al-Mabsût and



many other works of Islamic scholarship. The tradition of epic story-telling, and the various arts and traditional handicrafts including music, painting and textiles, are some outstanding features of Kyrgyz cultural heritage highlighted in the Festival. Alluding to the cooperation established between the Kyrgyz Republic and IRCICA, Prof. Dr. Kılıç said that this is a wide-ranging cooperation concordant with the diversity of the cultural heritage of Kyrgyzstan; its outcomes varied from academic congresses on history (2012, 2018, 2020) to exhibitions of archeological artifacts during the “Kyrgyzstan Cultural Week” organized at IRCICA (2006).

The Ozgon Festival program comprised a number of events, including:

- The international scientific and practical conference

on “Historical and Agro-Ecological Tourism: Strategies of Development and Ways of Solving Problems” organized by the Uzgen College of Technology and Education at Osh Technology University named after academician B. Murzubraimov

- Visit to the Mausoleum of Imam al-Sarakhsi
- Exhibitions of photographs and artifacts
- Folk Singers Competition
- Theatrical Performance “My Ozgon”
- Presentation of the translation of the work of Imam al-Sarakhsi al-Mabsût in 31 volumes to the President of the Kyrgyz Republic (Translator: Prof. Dr. Mustafa Cevat Akşit).

MEETINGS, VISITS, COOPERATION

● The Governor of Istanbul Mr. Ali Yerlikaya visited the Director General of IRCICA Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç at the Centre's headquarters on 27 September 2021 to congratulate the Director General on his assuming the office.



● Mr. Ömer Arısoy, Mayor of Zeytinburnu, Istanbul, paid a visit of congratulation to Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç on 13 September 2021.



● The Mayor of Fatih Municipality in Istanbul, Mr. Mehmet Ergün Turan, paid a visit of congratulation to IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç on 22 September 2021.



● Mr. Francesco Bandarin, former Assistant Director General for Culture, UNESCO, member of the Heritage Commission, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, visited Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç at IRCICA headquarters on 6 September 2021.



● The Director General of IRCICA Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç attended, at the invitation of UNESCO, the opening of the 41st Session of the UNESCO General Conference (9 Nov. 2021) which was chaired by Ambassador Altay Cengizer, President (outgoing) of the 40th Session of the UNESCO General Conference and Permanent Delegate of Turkey to UNESCO.



● Mr. İhsan Övüt, Secretary General of the Standards and Metrology Institute of Islamic Countries (SMIIC), paid a visit to IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç on 10 September 2021. SMIIC is an affiliated organ of the OIC based in Istanbul. Mr. Övüt was accompanied by experts from the Institute.



● An Algerian delegation working for the promotion of international cooperation for studies on Islamic cultural heritage visited Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç at IRCICA on 15 September 2021. The delegation was composed of Sheikh Mohamed Al-Mamoun Al-Qasimi Al-Hassani, Sheikh of Al-Hamel Zawiyah, Head of the Rahmania League of Scientific Zawiyas, Head of Sidi Abu Madyan Forum for Algerian-Palestinian Friendship and member of the Supreme Islamic Council of Algeria; Dr. Idriss Rabouh, Chairman of the Governing Board of the International Association of Algerians; Mr. Mohamed Fouad Al-Qasimi Al-Hassani, Librarian, Al-Qasimiyah Library and Director of Dar Al-Khalil Publishing and Distribution. The Algerian researcher at IRCICA, Mr. Fayçal Benaissa, participated in the meeting. The talks focused on possibilities of cooperation between Algeria and IRCICA in the study of Islamic manuscripts which abound in many historical cities of Algeria. The experience of Al-Qasimia Library in Algeria in the preservation of manuscripts was alluded at and the Catalogue of Al-Qasimia Library Manuscripts was offered to IRCICA.





● IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç received, on 13 October 2021, chief executives from the Institute of Philosophy, Political Science and Religious Studies, Ministry of Education and Science, Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan: Dr. Laura Toktarbekova, Chief Scientific Secretary, and Dr. Madina Bektenova, Chief Researcher, Institute of Philosophy, Political Science and Religious Studies. Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and Publication, IRCICA, was also present. Views were exchanged on academic cooperation between the Institute of Philosophy, Political Science and Religious Studies and IRCICA. A Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation was established.



● Dr. Khilola Nazirova, the Chairperson of the Council of Young Scientists, Al-Beruni Institute of Oriental Studies, Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences, Tashkent, was received by IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç on 21 October 2021. The talks focused on the development of research in Islamic studies in Uzbekistan and in the world.



● Dr. Shovosil Ziyodov, Director of the Imam Bukhari International Scientific Research Center, Samarkand, and Dr. Davronbek Makhsudov, Director of the Imam Maturidi International Scientific Research center, Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, visited IRCICA on 4 November 2021. The delegations included Dr. Oybek Sotvoldiev, Head of Department, Imam Maturidi Center, and Dr. Askar-Ali Kosimov, Representative of Imam Bukhari Center and Imam Maturidi Center in the Republic of Turkey. On behalf of IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, who was

attending the OIC Day commemoration in Dubai, U.A.E. that day, the guests were welcomed by Assist. Prof. Dr. Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore, Assistant Director General, IRCICA, together with Prof. Dr. Sadik Ünay, Consultant to the Director General of IRCICA, and Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA. Sets of publications were offered to IRCICA including translations and editions of the works of Imam al-Bukhari, Imam al-Maturidi and Burhan al-Din al-Marghinani, as well as newly authored books.





● A delegation chaired by Prof. Dr. Kenzhekhan Matyzhanov, Director of the Institute of Literature and Art named after M. O. Auezov, Committee of Science, Ministry of Education and Science, Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan, and comprising the Institute's officials Prof. Torali Kydyr, Messrs. Almas Oralbek, Nurzhuma Yelesbay, Nurbek Yedilbay and Olzhas Zholdybayev visited IRCICA on 2 November 2021. In the absence of Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç, the delegation was received by Assist. Prof. Dr. Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore, Assistant Director General, IRCICA, together with Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA. A Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation was signed between the Institute and IRCICA.



● Experts from Nazarbayev Center for Development of Interfaith and Intercivilization Dialogue, Nur-Sultan, Republic of Kazakhstan namely Ms. Dianna Esenova, Department Director, and Ms. Saltanat Alimkulova, Chief Expert, were received by Assist. Prof. Dr. Aboubacar Abdullah Senghore, Assistant Director General of IRCICA, in the absence of the Director General, on 25 November 2021.



● The Director General of IRCICA Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç received a delegation of experts from the Nazarbayev Center for Development of Interfaith and Intercivilization Dialogue, Nur-Sultan, Republic of Kazakhstan, on 29 November 2021. The delegation members were Dr. Elmira Birali, Director of the Department of Religious Expertise of the Institute for Religious Situation and Religious Expertise, Mr. Talgat Temirbayev, Chief Expert and Guldara Assylbekova, Expert in the same Department. Prof. Dr. Ashirbek Muminov, Head of Research and Publications, IRCICA, was present during the meeting.



● H.E. Mr. Mouhamed Khouraiichi Niass, Secretary General of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States (PUIC), accompanied by Deputy Secretary General, Ambassador Ali Asghar Mohammadi Sijani and officials from PUIC, paid a courtesy visit to IRCICA Director General Ambassador Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç on 7 December 2021.

● A Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation between IRCICA and R.B. Suleimenov Institute of Oriental Studies attached to the Committee of Science, Ministry of Education and Science, Republic of Kazakhstan was signed on 8 December 2021. The signing of the MOU and exchanges of views on the expanding cooperation between the Institute and IRCICA took place during the visit of Mr. Galymdzhan Mustakhimuly Duisen, Deputy Director of the Institute representing the General Director Mr. Duken Masimkhanuly, to IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç at IRCICA headquarters. The Institute's delegation included Ms. Aitzhanova Dina Albievna, Chief Researcher, and Mr. Bekmurat Rahat Begimkyzy, Researcher.



● IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç received, on 16 December 2021, the poet, playwright, Honored Worker of Kazakhstan Mr. Bayangali Alimzhanov, together with Prof. Dr. Abdulvahap Kara from Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University and members of the delegation from the National Academic Library of Kazakhstan visiting Turkey. A welcoming meeting was held, with the participation of senior staff from IRCICA. Director General Prof. Kılıç informed the guests of IRCICA's areas of cooperation with the Republic of Kazakhstan. A set of books on literature, international relations and history were offered by the delegation to IRCICA Library.



● Visit from Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, London: IRCICA Director General Prof. Dr. Mahmut Erol Kılıç received Mr. Sali Shahsivari, Managing Director of Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation, London, together with Mr. Mohamed Drioueche, Head of Projects and Publications, and Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Member of the Board of Directors, on 1 November 2021. The two parties affirmed their wish to maintain and further expand cooperation in their main common field of interest, namely the study and preservation of the manuscript heritage of Islamic culture. Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation and IRCICA cooperated in several projects, including the training courses on the restoration and conservation of historical manuscripts conducted jointly during the 1990s.



Prof. Dr. Doğan Kuban, IRCICA's first Director General, passed away

Prof. Dr. Doğan Kuban, an internationally recognized scholar of architectural history and IRCICA's first Director General (June 1979 – May 1980) passed away on 22 September 2021. Professor Kuban will always be remembered with gratitude and esteem. May Allah bless his soul.

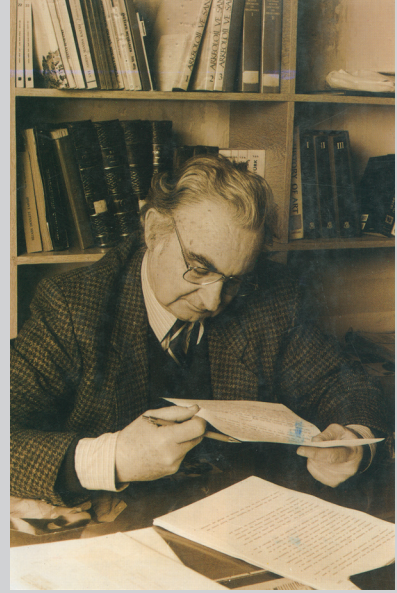
A short biography of Doğan Kuban follows, as yet another record of his achievements alongside the many articles published about him in international journals of architecture and art history.

Born in Paris in 1926, Doğan Kuban graduated from Istanbul Technical University, Faculty of Architecture in 1949. He started to work as research assistant to the Chair of History of Architecture of the same university. He obtained his doctorate degree with his thesis titled "An Essay on Ottoman Baroque Architecture". He stayed in Italy during 1954-55 to study Renaissance architecture. He became Associate Professor in 1958 with his work titled "Interior Space Formation in Ottoman Architecture: A Comparison with Renaissance". Kuban was Fulbright Fellow at the Department of Islamic Art, Michigan University, during 1962-63 and conducted studies on Anatolian Byzantine architecture at the Byzantine Studies Center, Dumbarton Oaks with Harvard scholarship during 1963-64. After these studies, he became full professor in 1965 with his book *The Resources and Problems of the Turkish Architecture in Anatolia*. After

1967 he gave courses on Islamic Art and Architecture at the Universities of Michigan and Minnesota and during 1980-81 he taught History of Islamic Architecture as Agha Khan Professor at M.I.T.

Within the framework of his academic career, Doğan Kuban worked as researcher and consultant in numerous excavation and restoration projects within and outside Turkey. From 1968 to 1983 he served as member of Turkey's High Council for Immovable Antiquities and Monuments.

While teaching as an academician, Kuban also fulfilled leading roles in the establishment and management of certain institutions. Between 1968 and 1978 he endeavored towards the establishment of the Turkish branch of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS); he founded the Institute of History of Architecture and Restoration at the Faculty of Architecture of Istanbul Technical University in 1974 and became its Chairman. From 1958 to 1993, Kuban was at the head of the Chairs of History of Architecture and Restoration affiliated to the Faculty of Architecture of Istanbul Technical University and during 1974-77 he was Dean of the Faculty of Architecture. Doğan Kuban was appointed Director General of the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), and carried out the foundation process of this Centre



from July 1979 until May 1980.

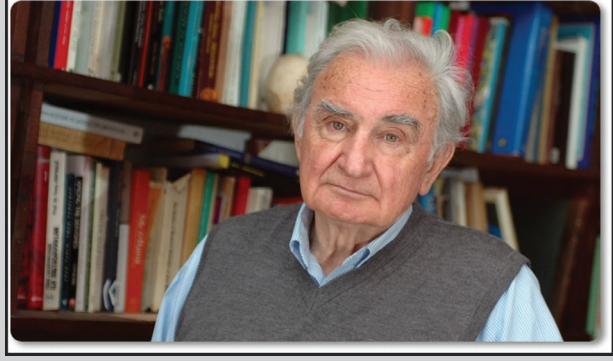
With his teaching, research, publications, and administrative functions, Doğan Kuban made important contributions to the fields of history of architecture and architectural preservation.

Some of his publications:

- » *Türk Barok Mimarisi Hakkında Bir Deneme* (An Essay on the Turkish Baroque Architecture), Istanbul: İTÜ Faculty of Architecture, 1954.
- » *Osmanlı Dinî Mimarisinde İç Mekân Teşekkülü. Rönesansla Bir Mukayese* (Space Formation in the Ottoman religious Architecture. A Comparison with Renaissance Architecture), Istanbul: İTÜ Faculty of Architecture, 1958.
- » *Bir Batı Anadolu Gezisi İzlenimleri* (Impressions from a Tour in

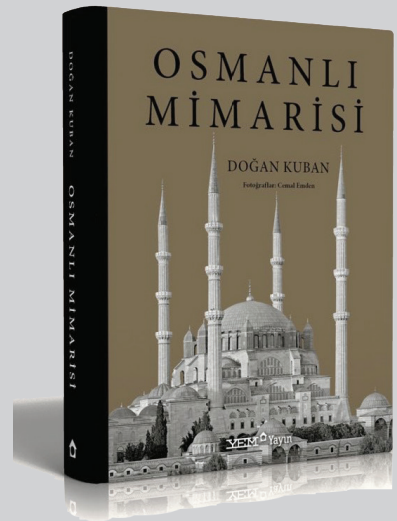
Western Anatolia), Istanbul, 1961.

- » *Anadolu-Türk Mimarisinin Kaynak ve Sorunları* (The Source and Problems of the Anatolian-Turkish Architecture), Istanbul: İTÜ Faculty of Architecture, 1965.
- » *Türkiye Sanatı Tarihi* (A History of Art in Turkey), Istanbul: Çağdaş Publ., 1970; 7th ed. 1996, Gerçek Publ.
- » *Mimarlık Kavramları* (Concepts of Architecture), Istanbul: YEM Publ., 1973; 4th ed. 1998).
- » *Muslim Religious Architecture*, Part I. Leiden: Brill Publications, 1974; Part II, Leiden, 1985. (Iconography of Religions, XXII, 2, 3.)
- » *Sanat Tarihimizin Sorunları* (Problems of Our History of Art), Istanbul, 1975.
- » *Türk ve İslam Sanatı Üzerinde Denemeler* (Essays on Turkish and Islamic Art), Istanbul: Arkeoloji ve Sanat, 1982; 2nd ed. 1995.
- » *Turkish Culture and Arts*, Istanbul: BBA, 1985.
- » *Batiya Göçün Sanatsal Evreleri. Anadolu'dan Önce Türklerin Sanat Ortaklıkları* (Artistic Stages of the Migration to the West: Turks' Pre-Anatolian Artistic Partnerships), Istanbul: CEM, 1993.
- » *İzmir ve Ege'den Mimari İzlenimler* (Architectural Impressions from the Aegean and İzmir), İzmir: Çimentaş, 1994 (with D. Goffman).
- » *The Turkish Hayat House*, Istanbul: Eren Publ., 1995.
- » *Istanbul, An Urban History. Byzantion, Constantinopolis, Istanbul*, Istanbul: Tarih Vakfı, 1996.
- » *İstanbul, Bir Kent Tarihi. Bizantion, Konstantinopolis, İstanbul, İstanbul*:



- Tarih Vakfı*, 1996; 2nd ed., Istanbul, 2000.
- » *Sinan'ın Sanatı ve Selimiye* (Sinan's Art and Selimiye), Istanbul: Tarih Vakfı, 1997; 2nd ed. 1998.
- » *Kalenderhane in Istanbul, The Building*, Mainz: Verlag Philip Von Zaben GmbH, 1997 (with C.L. Striker).
- » *Mimarlık ve Kent Üzerine İstanbul Yazıları* (Istanbul Texts on Architecture and the City), Istanbul: YEM Publ., 1998.
- » *Mimarlık Kavramları* (Architectural Concepts), Istanbul: YEM Publ., 1998; 2nd ed. 2002.
- » *İstanbul Yazıları* (Istanbul texts), Istanbul: YEM Publ., 1998.
- » *Divriği Mucizesi, Ortaçağ İslam Bezemesi Üzerine Yorumlar* (The Miracle of Divriği, Observations on Medieval Islamic Ornamentation), Istanbul: Yapı Kredi Publ., 1999; 2nd ed. 2002.
- » *Sinan, An Architectural Genius* (Photographs: A. Ertuğ), Bern: Ertuğ, Borusan, 1999.
- » *İstanbul Bir Kent Tarihi* (Istanbul, History of A City), Istanbul: Tarih Vakfı Yurt Publ., 2000.
- » *Tarihi Çevre Korumanın Mimarlık Boyutu, Kuram ve Uygulama* (The Architectural Dimensions of Historical Environment, Theory and Practice), Istanbul: YEM Publ., 2000.

- » *Wooden Palaces of the Ottomans, Vanished Urban Visions*, Istanbul: YEM Publ., 2001.
- » *Türkiye'de Kentsel Koruma, Kent Tarihleri ve Koruma Yöntemleri* (Urban Conservation in Turkey, City Histories and Methods of Conservation), Istanbul: Tarih Vakfı, 2001.
- » *Selçuklu Çağında Anadolu Sanatı* (Anatolian Art in the Seljuk Period), Istanbul: Yapı Kredi Publ., 2002.
- » *Osmanlı Mimarisi* (Ottoman Architecture), Istanbul: YEM Publ., 2007.



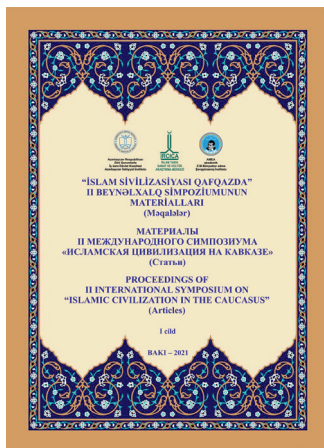
Proceedings of the II International Symposium on “Islamic Civilization in the Caucasus” (Articles)


CHIEF EDITOR: AGIL SHIRINOV, AZERBAIJAN INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY, VOL. 1: 495 PP., VOL. 2: 463 PP., BAKU, 2021.
ISBN 978-92-9063-064-7

These two volumes, each containing 39 articles, resulted from the International Symposium on “Islamic Civilization in the Caucasus” which was held in Baku, on 11-12 June 2019. The symposium was organized by the Azerbaijan Institute of Theology, IRCICA, and the Institute of Oriental Studies named after Academician Ziya Bunyadov of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS). This was the second symposium on this theme to be organized by IRCICA in cooperation with the governmental and academic institutions of Azerbaijan. The first International Symposium on “Islamic Civilization in the Caucasus” was conducted on 9-11 December 1998 under the patronage and in the presence of President Heydar Aliyev. 40 papers were presented by participants from 10 countries. The proceedings of the symposium were published by IRCICA in 2000.

The second symposium received 106 papers by scholars from 11 countries: Azerbaijan, Australia, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, U.S.A., Uzbekistan.

The majority of the articles



contained in these two volumes are in Azeri Turkish, with summaries in English. They were prepared for publication by a group of researchers from the Institute and IRCICA under the direction of Prof. Dr. Agil Shirinov, Rector of the Azerbaijan Institute of Theology. They are grouped under the following section themes: "The spread of Islam in the Caucasus", "The impact of Islamic culture on religious and socio-cultural life in the Caucasus", "Development of Islamic sciences in the Caucasus", "Islamic art, architecture and literature in the Caucasus", "Multiculturalism in the Caucasus", "The role of President Ilham Aliyev in strengthening tolerance and multicultural traditions in Azerbaijan", "The role of mosques, madrasas and khanagahs in religious education in the Caucasus", "Islamic policy of Tsarist Russia in the Caucasus", "The role of Caucasian scholars in the development of science and natural sciences"..

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

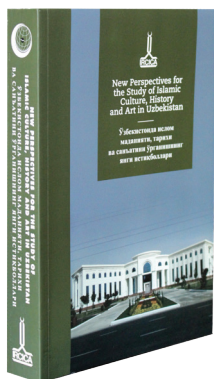
ED.: PROF. MAHMUD EROL KILIÇ, PROF. BAKHROM ABDUKHALIMOV; PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION BY: PROF. SURAYYO KARIMOVA, KHILOLA NAZIROVA, PROF. ASHIRBEK MUMINOV, FATMA YEKTA İNCİ ZÜLFİKAR. ABU RAYHAN AL-BIRUNI INSTITUTE OF ORIENTAL STUDIES OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN AND IRCICA, 2021, XXV+690 PP.: COL. ILL.; 24 CM.

ISBN 978-92-9063-064-7

This book contains the proceedings of the international conference on “New Perspectives for the Study of Islamic Culture, History and Art in Uzbekistan” Dedicated to the memory of Academician Ubaydulla Karimov which was organized by Abu Rayhan Al-Biruni Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Tashkent) and IRCICA on 28 May 2021. The book includes a total of 84 articles in the Uzbek, Russian and Turkish languages accompanied by their abstracts in English.

Academician Ubaydulla Karimov (1920-1997), to whom the conference was dedicated, is introduced at the beginning of the book with a comprehensive article by Surayyo Ubaydullaevna





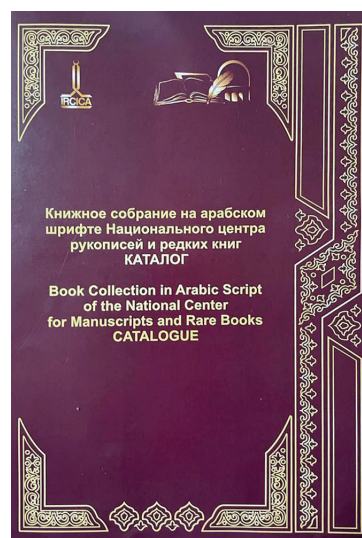
academic research in humanities and social sciences relating to the history and culture of Central Asia.

Book Collection in Arabic Script of the National Centre for Manuscripts and Rare Books. Catalogue

REPUBLICAN STATE INSTITUTION "NATIONAL CENTER OF MANUSCRIPTS AND RARE BOOKS" OF THE COMMITTEE FOR ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTATION MANAGEMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND SPORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN AND IRCICA. ED. ZHANDOS BOLDYKOV, MAHMUD EROL KILIÇ; COMPILERS: ASHIRBEK MUMINOV, NURLAN EREZHEPOV, KAMSHAT PARIMBEKOVA, SELAHADDIN UYGUR, ALMAT ABSALIKOV, ANUAR ARYKBAEV. NUR-SULTAN, KAZAKHSTAN, 2021. 346 PP., COL. ILL.; 21 CM. (ENGLISH, KAZAKH, RUSSIAN).

ISBN 978-92-9063-402-7

This catalogue is the outcome of a joint project that was conducted by the National Center for Manuscripts and Rare Books of the Committee for Archives and Documentation Management of the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the Republic of Kazakhstan and IRCICA. It is a systematic and annotated inventory of an important Arabic-script collection that is part of the written cultural heritage of Kazakhstan preserved by the National Center for Manuscripts and Rare Books. The works are recorded in the catalogue under three main sections: manuscripts, lithographic books, and rare printed publications. They are in Arabic, Persian, Chaghatay, Tatar and other languages. As indicated in the Summary included at the beginning of the catalogue, most of the books in Arabic script are Islamic literature published in



the 19th and early 20th centuries. These include works on Islamic jurisprudence (fiqh), Islamic theology (kalam), exegesis on the Holy Qur'an (tafsir), and traditions (hadith). There are also works on Arabic grammar, rhetoric, prose, poetry, and dictionaries. The works in Persian consist mainly of poetry. Those in Turkic languages encompass a wide range of subjects, from Qur'anic studies to chronicles on history and poetry. On the whole, the catalogue reflects a significant segment of the cultural history of Kazakhstan and its region. It will serve as a reference for studies in codicology and palaeography, as well as on philosophy and literature.

The main part of the catalogue with its three sections is followed by indices of titles and authors, the glossary, the bibliography, and the paleographic album. 📖

Karimova. Both a chemist and an Orientalist, Karimov produced leading research works that provide scholarly evidence on many important aspects of Central Asian contributions to science and civilization.

The first chapter, on "History and Source Studies" contains forty-one articles addressing a variety of themes, from science and medicine to economy and waqfs, from influential persons and institutions to international relations, from the discovery of previously unknown works to emerging topics and methods in Islamic studies. The twenty-nine articles presented in the second chapter are devoted to "Islamic Studies". They result from recent research on specialized topics regarding the history of Qur'anic sciences, philosophy, natural sciences, architecture and archeology, and preservation of the written heritage of medieval scientists and scholars. The third chapter contains fifteen articles in "Philology" contributed by specialists and researchers working on linguistic and literary processes in Central Asia.

Considering the remarkable thematic diversity of the articles, the collection constitutes a representative sample of current

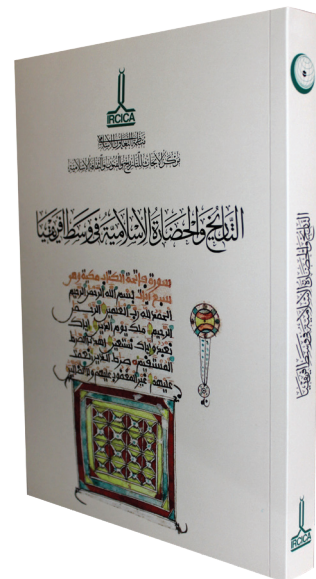
Islamic History and Civilization in the Central African Region. Papers of the International Conference organized in Chad on 13-14 December 2019

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF ABOUBACAR ABDULLAH SENGHORE AND ABAKR MODOU, PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION BY FADEL BAYAT AND AMNA MEDDEB. IRCICA, ISTANBUL, 2021, 466 PP., 24 CM. (IN ARABIC).

ISBN 978-92-9063-401-0

The International Conference on “Islamic History and Civilization in the Central African Region” was organized by IRCICA jointly with King Faisal University of Chad under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Chad H.E. Idriss Deby, in N’Djamena, on 13-14 December 2019. The conference brought together 55 scholars and researchers from 19 countries: Algeria, Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Morocco Niger, Nigeria, Mauritania, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia and Turkey. The wide range of topics discussed during the congress included: the spread of Islam in Central Africa, Islamization of the Saharan region, the history of science and civilization in Central Africa, traditional religious education in Central African societies, the impact of Arabic culture and language, the evolution of intellectual and Islamic traditions, early manuscripts of Holy Quran in Central Africa, the impact of colonialism, Sufi orders, relations between Central Africa and the Middle East, relations between the Ottoman Caliphate and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Twenty-two papers, all in Arabic, are published in this volume. Their titles are: “The impact of the Arabic language on the kingdoms and sultanates in Central Africa” (Afaf Muhammad Alish Awada); “The cultural impact of centers for the dissemination of Arab and Islamic culture in sub-Saharan Africa” (Ahmed Qassem Ahmed); “The impact of scholars on spreading Islam and the Arabic language in the Kingdom of Bagrami, Sheikh Wali Muhammad bin Suleiman as a model” (Abdul Qadir Abaker Adam); “Contributions of the role of Islamic culture in the dissemination of the Arabic language in Chad” (Abakr Walar Modou); “The impact of the scientific and cultural movement on the establishment of Islamic civilization in the African coast” (Ahmed Mortada); “The economic effects of colonialism in Central Africa” (Ibrahim Barama Ahmed); “The cultural and economic effects of colonialism on Muslims in Central Africa - Chad as a model” (Osman Ahmed Osman); “Ways of entering Islam and the factors of its spread in the Koura Lake Basin area” (Daoud Talaf Issa); “The idea of Mahdia and the nature of the stage - The Lake Chad Basin region as a model” (Mahmoud Sherif Mohamed Nour); “The history and development of Sufism in Central Africa and the most Important Sufi orders” (Hamed Abdullah Ahmed); “The impact of Sufism on the dissemination of Arabic literature in Central Africa, the poet Ali Adam Bahr as a model” (Ahmed Al-Rifai Mahmoud); “Learning and teaching the Arabic language as a foreign language in Equatorial Guinea, between reality and aspiration” (Libn François); “The Arabic language in Cameroon before and after colonialism” (Michael Saleh); “The development of the traditional Islamic educational system, its curricula, and its role in the dissemination,



protection and development of Islam” (Abdel Samad Abdel Karim Tijani); “Conservation and rehabilitation institutes in Chad and their role in spreading the Arabic language” (Abdul Rahman Ahmed Issa); “Memorizing the Noble Qur’an in Chad: A study in early childhood and curriculum” (Abu Bakr Daoud Saleh); “The Sheikh Ibrahim Al-Tayyeb Institute and its contributions to spreading the culture of the Arabic language in Central Africa” (Amna Abdullah Naibi); “Islamic Education in Kanem Brno through the Royal Courts (1086-1806 AD)” (Mohamed Saleh Ayoub); “Sultanate letters in the era of Islamic kingdoms in Chad, the Sultanate of Dar Wadaya as a model literary study” (Al-Habbo Tijani Mustafa); “Privileges of scholars in Kanem-Brno from the Eleventh Century to the Seventeenth Century AD” (Abd Al-Bashara Moussa); “Higher educational institutions and their role in spreading Islamic culture in Central Africa (King Faisal University, Chad as a model)” (Muhammad Ali Issa Hmida); “The role of women’s centers in spreading Islamic culture in Chad (Kanem as a model)” (Aisha Amin Asher).📖

