



Newsletter



OIC RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE

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Activities within the framework of "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" program of architectural studies and workshops

The First International Conference for Urban Heritage in the Islamic Countries convened in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,

Inter-cultural relations: IRCICA's participation in the Third Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilisations in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Results of the Eighth International Calligraphy Competition. Award Ceremony held in Abu Dhabi

Activities: Exhibitions, lectures

In cooperation with the Ministry of Information, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: "Historical photographs of Mecca and Medina" exhibition

Co-organisation of the 6th Dubai International Exhibition of Arabic Calligraphy

Participation in the "Mushaf Qatar" Release Ceremony held in Doha

Art exhibitions at IRCICA

Meetings, cooperation

Forthcoming events

Newsletter



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Editor in Chief

Halit Erar

Editorial Board

Zeynep Durukal
Mohammed Tamimi
Mihin Lugal
Fayçal Benaissa
Nurcan Toprak

Address

Yıldız Sarayı, Seyir Kışkığı
Barbaros Bulvarı,
Beşiktaş 34349
İstanbul, Turkey

Tel: (90 212) 259 17 42
Fax: (90 212) 258 43 65

www.ircica.org
ircica@ircica.org

Graphic Design

Said Kasımoğlu

Printing

Ultra Grafik
100. Yıl Mh. Matbaacılar St.
5. Cadde, No:69 34560
Bağcılar - İstanbul - Turkey
Tel: +90 (212) 629 26 31

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Editorial

Our readers will note that the time coverage of the present issue has been extended by one month to also include the news of May, such as: the finalisation of the calligraphy competition with its award ceremony held on 2 June as this issue was put to press; and, the First International Conference for Urban Heritage in the Islamic Countries (23-28 May). The next issue will come out in three months as usual. The first half of this year was a remarkably busy period which we shall try to reflect as fully as possible in the coming pages. The first large-scale event of the year was the multi-dimensional program organised within the framework of "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015", a long-term program that benefits from the experience of the earlier program, which was titled "Mostar 2004". It will be remembered that the latter, completed in 2004, had drawn more than 850 professors and students from 68 universities in 31 countries to the workshops, studios and courses that were conducted over ten years. The participants produced proposals of plans and guidelines for restoration and conservation. The program concerning Al-Quds/Jerusalem, now already in its fifth year, is directed with the same concept and method: one of its key features is the partnership of faculties of architecture from around the world. Also relating to urban and architectural preservation, the First International Conference for Urban Heritage in the Islamic Countries mentioned above was held under the patronage of The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques H.M. King Abdallah bin Abdulaziz, in Riyadh. The conference, convened at the initiative of H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, President of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities, comprised multifarious activities organised with the contribution of a large number of organisations, including IRCICA, and public and private establishments.

Our involvement in these activities come within the framework of our various programs and projects relating to heritage preservation. One of the principal missions assigned to IRCICA within the OIC system is to coordinate research and international collaborative projects for the study, recording, restoration and preservation of heritage, heritage

to be covered under all its aspects including the written, the built / the tangible and the intangible assets. Towards these objectives, we are conducting different types of activities, which were expanded in scope and strengthened in substance over time by enlisting multicultural participation from around the world in practical projects, implemented on the spot wherever applicable. Examples of such activities are the architectural workshops and field missions relating to the urban and built heritage and the training courses we have been conducting on the restoration and conservation of the written cultural heritage, including historical documents, manuscripts and the other written sources and products of culture, sciences and arts. It is worth noting here that regarding one of the important projects concerning written cultural heritage, namely the joint project of the Ministry of Culture of Turkey, UNESCO and IRCICA to set up "Book Hospital" at Süleymaniye Library in Istanbul for the conservation of old books and manuscripts, the preparations are now complete and its implementation will begin soon. Realisation of the project will contribute in repairing and preserving an important part of the written and printed cultural heritage of the Muslim world.

Another event announced in this issue is the International Calligraphy Competition. The competition, eighth in the series that was launched in 1986, is now finalised. It was the first for the organisation of which contributions were received from a Member State: the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage sponsored the competition and hosted its award ceremony and exhibitions. We are grateful for it; the importance and support accorded to the competition is a reward for IRCICA. It is also a source of encouragement for us that this competition has for years now been followed with enthusiasm by calligraphers and lovers of the Islamic art of calligraphy around the world. I take this opportunity to congratulate the winners once again and wish success to all participants in the next competition.

Dr. Halit Eren



The 37th Session of the OIC's Council of Foreign Ministers

held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan

The Council of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the OIC held its 37th session in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan, on 18-20 May 2010. The conference adopted for itself the motto "Session of Shared Vision of a More Secure and Prosperous Islamic World".

H.E. Emomali Rahmon, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, delivered a comprehensive address at the opening of the conference. H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, highlighted the major issues and activities of the OIC during the year that passed since the 36th session, which was held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic.

The conference discussed a wide range of issues of interest to the OIC Member States and adopted resolutions on numerous subjects relating to Palestine and the Middle East, Political Affairs, the OIC's Ten-Year Programme of Action, the Conditions of Muslim Minorities and Communities in non-OIC Member States, Information Affairs, Humanitarian Affairs, among others. On the occasion of the conference, the Government of Tajikistan organised a special brainstorming session on the theme of "Central Asia and the Muslim World: Strategic Vision for Solidarity" on basis of the concept paper presented by the OIC Secretary General and with active participation of the Member States.

In their "Dushanbe Declaration", the Member States stressed that the OIC as the second largest intergovernmental organisation after the UN, should play a key role in strengthening the mutual coordination and cooperation to confront the challenges and threats facing the Islamic countries. Forty years after its establishment, the OIC has undergone major changes, and so still has to cope with issues of resolution of conflicts and disputes. It has to address these by remaining loyal to its founding values and principles like the ones expressed in the OIC Charter and the Ten-Year Programme of Action to Meet the Challenges Facing the Muslim Ummah in the 21st Century. They reaffirmed that this is precisely the purpose of the OIC, which draws above all on their political resolve and their belief that security is their "common concern".

In dealing with the various political questions on their agenda, the Member States reaffirmed a joint position in favour of a long-term commitment to Afghanistan that will bring it peace, stability and socio-economic rehabilitation; they underlined the importance of offering technical assistance

to relevant Member States on construction of transit roads connecting the countries of Central Asia with Afghanistan.

On the aggression of Armenia against Azerbaijan, they condemned the aggression and called for the resolution of the conflict on the basis of respect for the territorial integrity and inviolability of the borders of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The states welcomed with appreciation the Joint Declaration signed in Tehran on 17 May 2010, by the Foreign Ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey and Brazil on the exchange of nuclear fuel. They strongly called on the international community to support the Joint Declaration and to build up on the positive atmosphere created thereafter for future comprehensive agreements on all aspects of the issue.

The Member States stressed in their Declaration that terrorism continues to pose a serious threat to international peace and security. They reaffirmed that terrorism should never be associated with any religion, race, faith, values, culture, society or group and that in the increasingly globalised world, understanding, harmony, mutual respect, and building of bridges among all cultures and peoples are needed more than ever before. They welcomed the proposal of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdallah Bin Abdulaziz on the establishment of an international center for combating terrorism under the umbrella of the United Nations for the immediate exchange of information and for cooperation and coordination among the Member States, with a view to reinforcing the efforts aimed at combating this serious plight, in accordance with the recommendations of the International Counter-terrorism Conference (Riyadh, February 2005) and with the resolutions of many international and regional organisations.

Regarding armed conflicts, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and other threats that continue to challenge the foundations of international peace and security, the Member States called upon participants in the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (New York, 3-28 May 2010) to engage in constructive exchange of views on further strengthening the non-proliferation regime and disarmament. They reaffirmed the continuation of consultations on practical implementation of Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, which entered into force on 21 March 2009.

With reference to the Ten-Year Programme of Action of the OIC which is half-way its implementation since its adoption by the Third Extraordinary Summit (Makkah, 7-8 December 2005) and also recalling the OIC's Vision 1441H for Science and Technology, the Declaration stressed that efforts need to be made to support human development and improve the inadequate education systems.

The participating states welcomed the initiative of Tajikistan to declare the year 2012 as the International Year of Water Diplomacy, in order to undertake further coordinated efforts on better use of water resources at the national, regional and international levels. They also welcomed the High Level International Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015", to be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan 8-10 June 2010 and encouraged all Member States and relevant OIC institutions to actively participate in it.

The Member States, while considering the importance of dialogue among civilizations and expansion of relations between the Islamic World and other cultures and civilizations, reiterated their commitment to continue efforts in engaging with the West in projecting the true image of Islam. They reaffirmed their support of the Initiative of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdallah Bin-Abdulaziz for Interfaith and Intercultural Dialogue on which conferences were held in Makkah, Madrid, New York and Geneva, convinced that such initiative will promote moderation, tolerance and will encourage dialogue for shunning violence and extremism.

In their Declaration the participating states also condemned the mounting trend of Islamophobia and systematic discrimination against Muslims. They called upon the international community to prevent incitement on hatred and discrimination against Muslims and to take effective measures to combat the defamation of religions and negative stereotyping of people on the basis of religion, faith or race. They requested the Secretary General to continue the OIC initiatives in order to effectively counter Islamophobia through discussions and deliberations in various international fora.

The states expressed their profound gratitude to the Secretary General, Professor Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, for promoting and supporting the causes of the Muslim world and for adopting the best international practices in the Organisation's rendering of services and advancing the role of the OIC as an active and important actor at the global level.

In its resolutions relating to Political Affairs, the Council expressed full solidarity with Somalia, Iraq, The Sudan, Yemen, the Comoros, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Djibouti, Jammu and Kashmir, the Turkish Cypriot State and the Kosovo people. (www.oic-oci.org/37cfm)

The 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers will be held in Astana from 28-30 June 2011.

IRCICA's report presented to the 37th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers covered its activities accomplished during 2009 and those in implementation within the framework of the current 2010 work program. Research projects, publications, congresses, art and documentary exhibitions, and other public and promotional events conducted by the Centre in the context of all its main programs were highlighted, in particular, the long-term programs on: Islamic civilisation and inter-cultural relations, the history and cultures of Muslim nations, bibliographic studies on sources of history and culture, studies on copies and translations of the Holy Quran, studies on history of science and culture, architecture, archaeology, arts and history of arts, craft development program, and the library and archives.

In its resolution no. 6/37-C relating to the OIC's subsidiary organs, the Council of Ministers adopted the following operational paragraphs about IRCICA:

A) THE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE (IRCICA), ISTANBUL:

1. **Notes** with appreciation the production of a number of reference books and organization of congresses on subjects relating to history, history of science and learning, architectural heritage, arts and traditional handicrafts of the Muslim world in the context of the Centre's various programs and research projects.
2. **Commends** the Centre's diverse activities, including coordination of intergovernmental academic projects, aimed at promoting correct knowledge and awareness, positive understanding and dialogue among civilizations, projecting the true image of Islam and Muslim cultures, correcting references to these subjects in publications and textbooks which also help combating Islamophobia, and notes with appreciation in this regard the launching and coordination, jointly with the Council of Europe and its North-South Centre, of a project on "Interactions between cultures within and around the Mediterranean and between the Mediterranean and Other Cultures and Regions of the World", also adopted among UN Alliance of Civilizations projects by the Second Summit held in Istanbul in April 2009, and IRCICA's partnership with the Council of Europe in the project on "The Image of the Other in History Teaching" involving symposiums, research and publishing.
3. **Takes note** of the series of regional congresses on Islamic civilization organized jointly with governments and universities within and outside the Member States with participation from around the world, **records** in this respect

the holding of the congress on history titled "The Maghreb and Western Mediterranean during the Ottoman Period" held under the patronage of H.M. King Mohammed VI of Morocco (Rabat, 12-14 November 2009) and the congress on the History of Yemen held under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Yemen H. E. Ali Abdullah Saleh (Sana'a, 16-17 December 2009) as well as the publication of the books resulting from the congresses on "Islamic Civilization in Volga-Ural Region" (Kazan, 2005), "Islamic Civilization in Southern Africa" (Johannesburg, 2006) and "Islamic Civilization in the Balkans" (Bucharest, 2006), and expresses its appreciation that these congresses and the resulting publications help to strengthen scholarly bonds between the Member States on one hand, and the Muslim communities and the Islamic cultural heritage located outside the Member States as well as scholars of the world, on the other.

4. **Commends** the continuing studies on copies and translations of the Holy Quran in printed and manuscript forms and **takes note** in this regard of the bibliography of translations in Urdu language published in the series on manuscript translations of the Quran and the facsimile edition of the Quran copy attributed to the time of Caliph Othman which belongs to the collection of Mashhad Imam Hussain in Cairo published in the series of editions of the oldest known copies.

5. **Commends** the activities aiming to highlight and preserve the Islamic heritage of Al-Quds and Palestine, especially the Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015 program which produced an architectural report, the publication of an annotated documentary album of historical photographs of Al-Quds in three language editions, and the holding of a congress on "Al-Quds during the Ottoman Era" (Damascus, 22-25 June 2009) in cooperation with the Syrian Ministry of Culture.

6. **Notes** the progress made in the establishment of the Islamic Architectural Heritage Database sponsored by H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, President of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, **praises** the activities relating to the study and recording of Islamic architectural heritage, in particular IRCICA's participation in the organization of the International Congress for Urban Heritage in Islamic Countries (Riyadh, May 2010) placed under the patronage of the Custodian of The Two Holy Mosques H.M. King Abdallah bin Abdulaziz and organised at the initiative of the Supreme Commission for Tourism and Antiquities of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and also, IRCICA's collaboration with international bodies concerned, such as the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and **requests** the Member States which have not done so yet, to provide IRCICA with the required data and information on their Islamic sites and monuments and designate their respective focal points to collaborate permanently with the Database unit at IRCICA in this respect.

7. **Takes note** of the events organized by IRCICA that promote the diversity of traditions in the Muslim world versus the factors of civilizational unity such as the triennial calligraphy competition currently on its eighth edition and the festival for arts, heritage and creativity planned in the context of the Muscat International Festival currently in preparation.

8. **Takes note** of the launching of the effective implementation of the project to set up a "Book Hospital" at Suleymaniye Library, Istanbul for the conservation of manuscripts, old books and documents and for serving the needs of the Member States in this area, in pursuance of the Memorandum of Understanding which was signed between the Government of Turkey, UNESCO and IRCICA on 29 November, 2006 at UNESCO headquarters.

9. **Expresses** its gratitude to the Prime Minister of Turkey H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdogan for allocation by the Turkish Government of a spacious building within the Yildiz Palace complex for IRCICA's library and for the Prime Minister's inaugurating the library on 17 May 2009 upon completion of the Library Expansion and Development Project undertaken by IRCICA, and also **expresses** its gratitude to H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Emir of Dubai, for the generous funding which made possible the re-arrangement and furnishing of the building and establishment of a Digital Library for Research on Islamic Civilization within IRCICA library.

10. **Thanks** the Member States for the moral and material support extended to IRCICA, in particular the host country of IRCICA, the Republic of Turkey, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the host country of the OIC General Secretariat; **expresses its gratitude** for the support and patronage extended by the Sovereigns, Heads of State and Government of the Member States to IRCICA: to H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, for having visited the Centre and extending a generous donation to IRCICA in support of its various long-term programs; H.E. President Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal, President of the Eleventh Islamic Summit and Chairman of COMIAC for issuing a comprehensive message to IRCICA in support of its activities on the occasion of the opening of its Governing Board session coinciding with the OIC Economic Summit held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 8-9 November 2009, and to H.E. Malal Bacai Sanha, President of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, for attending the opening ceremony of the Governing Board session.

11. **Approves** the suggestion of IRCICA on declaring the Year 2010-2011 as a year for the Commemoration of the passage of fourteen centuries on the revelation of the Holy Koran, and invites the Member States and the OIC subsidiary and affiliated institutions to commemorate this anniversary with all means.

Activities within the framework of "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" program of architectural studies and workshops: the 2010 Meeting

IRCICA organised the 2010 Annual Meeting of its "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" Architectural Program on 2-9 January 2010. The program of the Annual Meeting comprised different types of activities, including a workshop session, the annual meeting of the Advisory Board, study visits and consultative discussions. These activities brought together professors and students from a total of ten universities in Palestine, Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Italy, Turkey and the USA. Nine lectures and project presentations were organised, related with different research topics on Al Quds/Jerusalem such as architectural characteristics, preservation of monuments, use of new technologies for the improvement of housing and heritage preservation, documents on urbanism and architecture contained in libraries and archives. Architects, professors and students, exchanged views on how to conduct studies and produce reference materials relating to the conservation of urban structures and historical monuments of the region.

The following study missions and meetings were held under this program:

- The first seminar, at IRCICA, on 25 November 2006.
- A study mission to the historic city of Al-Quds, on 1-5 June 2007. A comprehensive report was issued at the end of the visit, detailing the conditions of the city and the buildings, and proposing architectural and academic activities designed to help preservation efforts.
- The first academic workshop held in Al-Quds from 18 to 27 January 2008, with 34 architects and their assistants from Istanbul Technical University; Yıldız Technical University; Politecnico di Bari, Temple University of Philadelphia, the University of Sarajevo, under IRCICA's coordination. The participants focused on separate projects on the major sites and monuments. Lectures were given by local experts and meetings were held with experts at Al-Quds University.
- The academic workshop held at IRCICA on 12-13 June 2008. Scholars and specialists from universities of Europe and Turkey, Al-Quds University, and the International Peace and Cooperation Centre of Palestine participated in the workshop.

The program's opening session on 8 January was held in presence of university rectors, deans, authorities concerned with urban planning, experts of architectural conservation interested in the urban heritage and monuments of Palestine, scholars and students of architecture. Among those present were Prof. İsmail Yüksek, Rector of Yıldız Technical University, Prof. Azmi Özcan, Rector of Bilecik University, Prof. Niyazi Eruslu, Rector of Yalova University, Prof. Mustafa Aykaç, Rector of Kırklareli University; Prof. Ahmet Hadzovic, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo; the governor of Bakırköy district of Istanbul Mr. Dursun Ali Şahin, the governor of Küçükçekmece district of Istanbul Mr. Orhan Öztürk, the governor of Güngören district Mr. Seyfettin Azizoglu. IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren welcomed the participants and briefed them on IRCICA's engagement in urban and architectural preservation in general and the Al-Quds/Jerusalem long-term program in particular. He said that "The Centre aims to promote international collaboration of organisations, universities and professionals for the study, preservation, revival and reuse of architectural and written cultural heritage and develop multicultural understanding around the common and diverse aspects of world cultures. Al-Quds 2015 was established in this spirit. The sui generis initiative realized through this program is well reflected in its definition, conduct, and presentation to concerned policy-makers, public opinion as well as academia. This initiative is a purely multidisciplinary scientific and technical one but the first to engage worldwide expertise and collaboration focusing on Al-Quds/Jerusalem city conditions, preservation of its heritage and improvement of its urban quarters". Dr. Eren expressed his belief that the program progressed remarkably well with the holding of seminars, publication of reports, and the two field missions. "One of the special features of this program is the international support network of universities worldwide through which it is conducted. We have agreements with universities in OIC member countries, in Europe, America and in Turkey. This is a crucial aspect of the initiative." He also cited some of the other activities concerning Al-Quds and Palestine which highlight the Islamic written and arts heritage of the region. Then, Prof. Azmi Özcan, Rector of Bilecik University, spoke on behalf of the university rectors

present. He recalled that Al-Quds/Jerusalem is a sacred place in the eyes of at least half of world's population, but that since the 20th century it is unfortunately undergoing damage; the present project of IRCICA and all similar efforts aiming to document and preserve this land therefore carry utmost importance. He affirmed that as rectors they are ready to provide every possible support in order to help these efforts.

The opening session continued with a scholarly address by Dr. Mohammed Ghosheh, a scholar and specialist of Al-Quds whose book on the waqfs of Al-Quds has recently been published by IRCICA. Dr. Ghosheh spoke on the historic city of Al-Quds. He gave detailed information on various monuments in the Old City; the periods they date from, and the founders of the waqfs they belong to, their present state, functions, etc.

This was followed by the launching of the website specially created for the Al-Quds 2015 program. Arch. Prof. Amir Pasic, Head of the Department of Architecture, IRCICA, briefed the audience on the program's objectives and presented the website.

The opening session was followed by the Advisory Board meeting of the "Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015" program. The program of the next day, January 9, comprised several presentations by the architectural faculties partners in the program where studios and projects are being conducted in conjunction with this program. These included presentations by Temple University (Prof. Jonathan Brooke Harrington), Politecnico di Bari (Dr. Annalinda Neglia) and FH-Joanneum University of Applied Science (Prof. Alfred Bramberger).

Preparations for a third academic workshop were initiated in this meeting. The main topics of the workshop were proposed to be: research in the Ottoman Archives on the subject of Al-Quds urban structures, rehabilitation of the Muslim quarter, and preparation of restoration projects for the chosen sites. Furthermore, the sites and monuments that would be studied in the context of architectural lectures, projects and studios in the partner faculties were chosen. It was planned that a total of ten projects would be distributed among them. Those who were already conducting such work exchanged views and information.



The participants visited the libraries and archives holding collections relating to the history of Al-Quds/Jerusalem including the Turkish Prime Ministry's Ottoman Archives



The audience at the opening university presidents and members of faculties of architecture from different countries

The First International Conference for Urban Heritage in the Islamic Countries convened in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

on 23-28 May 2010



From the opening ceremony (L-R): H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, OIC Secretary General; H.R.H. Prince Mansour bin Motab, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Saudi Arabia; H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz; H.E. Mr. Taleb Rifai, Secretary-General, UNWTO; Mr. Francesco Bandarin, Director General, UNESCO World Heritage Center.

About 800 participants from 60 countries, 34 ministers of tourism and culture, 10 international organisations, 42 prominent specialists of the field and 165 research scholars and researchers participated in the First International Conference for Urban Heritage in the Islamic Countries. Under the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques H.M. King Abdallah bin Abdulaziz, the conference was opened by H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, President of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities (SCTA) and Chairman of the Higher Steering Committee of the conference. The conference took place in the King Faisal Hall, which was transformed into a "heritage village" for the event. H.R.H. Prince Mansour bin Motab bin Abdul Aziz, the Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs, was present at the opening ceremony. The audience watched a presentation on urban heritage sites in the Muslim countries.

In his address, H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman said that the Islamic urban heritage symbolizes Muslims' attention towards architectural science; it gives concrete evidence of Muslims' advances in knowledge and scientific areas as well as representing lasting evidence of their distinction in the field of art and culture. The President of SCTA stated that "The government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with the participation of Saudi citizens and the private sector, undertakes hard and comprehensive work towards bringing out the civilization dimension of the country, especially the Islamic and national urban heritage." Prince Sultan bin

Salman underlined the importance given by his country to this conference. "We see this great demonstration as an important initiative to focus our attention on the issues of urban heritage in our Islamic countries, and as an opportunity to bring out the role of this great heritage in economic and cultural development, as well as an important tributary for modernization, besides its embodiment as a source of lasting pride."

The opening ceremony also heard the addresses of H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC; Mr. Francesco Bandarin, Director of the World Heritage Centre,



UNESCO, Mr. Taleb Rifai, Secretary General, UNWTO, and Dr. Halit Eren, IRCICA Director General.

A large number of public and private sector establishments, universities, schools, chambers of commerce, local municipalities of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as well as specialised institutions and information media from various countries contributed in the organisation of the conference and participated actively in its various events.

Activities relating to the conference included, among others, the revision of 1000 abstracts submitted for presentation during the sessions; 24 presentations of municipal practices worldwide in the field of urban heritage; redevelopment projects presented by mayors and municipal professionals and over 60 exhibitions by redevelopment and urban heritage societies; 5 sessions of panel discussions on timely issues; about 65 artisans demonstrating their art or craft related to architectural preservation and restoration, in an exhibition titled "Wonders of Islamic Heritage"; news reports starting one month before the conference and continuing during and after it in national channels; live broadcasting of the conference and its various activities; 14 workshops organised jointly with major national universities; classes at schools in Saudi Arabia; photography and drawing contests engaging 5,000,000 students nationwide; school fieldtrips to regional urban heritage sites in 14 regions.

IRCICA was one of the co-organisers of the conference. Its participation in the organisation and the proceedings of the conference: Dr. Halit Eren was a member of the Steering Committee; Professor Arch. Amir Pasic was the Conference Coordinator and member of the International Scientific Committee.

Three exhibitions were prepared by IRCICA: on the Prince Sultan bin Salman Architectural Heritage Database conducted by IRCICA (displayed at the Conference Hall),



H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman visited the exhibition stands; IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren greets His Royal Highness

Photographs by Orhan Durgut (in the National Museum) and Calligraphies by Hasan Çelebi (in the National Museum).

In his address at the opening, Dr. Eren referred to urban heritage as one of the most expressive tangible dimensions of civilisation. He expressed gratitude for the patronage extended by The Custodian of The Two Holy Mosques H.M. King Abdallah bin Abdulaziz which was another indication of the importance given to the preservation and promotion of historical heritage parallel to modernization and development. He recalled that His Majesty had accorded his patronage to earlier activities undertaken in conjunction with IRCICA such as the International Congress on Tourism and Traditional Crafts which was organised jointly by the



The first panel: Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Mugren (Chair), Prof. Amir Pasic (Moderator), panelists: Dr. Halit Eren, Prof. Saleh Larnei, Prof. Attilio Petruccioli, Prof. Khan, Prof. Saleh Al-Hathloul, Prof. Jamel A. Akber, Prof. Nader Ardalan



Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities and IRCICA in 2006. He also recalled with gratitude that His Majesty King Abdallah had visited IRCICA on 10 August 2006 during the period of his official visit to Turkey. Dr. Eren also conveyed his gratitude to H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman and his colleagues for the valuable cooperation and the shared commitment with which the conference was organised.

The conference included various types of events, among them panel discussions on the following themes:

- The urban heritage: issues, perspectives and outlooks
- Heroes of heritage
- Investing in urban heritage: adaptive reuse
- Operating hotels of heritage value
- Urban heritage conservation workshops: city experiences

In addition, there were parallel sessions covering: economic aspects; preservation aspects; current state of urban heritage; successful urban heritage projects; training and education; environmental variables; quality, research and innovation. Study visits were conducted to various heritage sites.



The conference concluded with a number of recommendations, focused on preserving and developing the urban heritage economically and culturally. The recommendations were grouped under the following themes: "The cultural perceptions of the architectural heritage in Islamic countries: reality and challenges"; "Economic and social dimensions of the preservation of urban and heritage buildings"; "Investment in heritage hotels"; "Rehabilitation of heritage buildings and sites"; "Building, repairing techniques, and urban heritage related crafts"; "Research,

education, training and awareness in the field of urban heritage" (for the full list of recommendations, www.islamicurbanheritage.org.sa).

Photograph exhibition: Cities of the Muslim world

On the occasion of the First International Conference for Urban Heritage in the Islamic Countries convened in Riyadh, IRCICA organised an exhibition of panoramic photographs of 21 cities selected from the portfolios of photographers Mr. Orhan Durgut and Mrs. Fatma Durgut.

Each panoramic photograph was supported by five photographs of major buildings in the area. The exhibition was enriched with historical photographs of Islamic sites and monuments selected from the archives of IRCICA and containing the Yıldız Palace Albums.

The cities in the exhibition were: Al-Quds, Agra, Afyonkarahisar, Aleppo, Amman, Bursa, Cairo, Damascus, Delhi, Fez, Gaziantep, Istanbul, Konya, Makkah, Madina, Mostar, Qairouan, Sarajevo, Sinop, Şanlıurfa, Travnik.



Inter-cultural relations: IRCICA's participation in the Third Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilisations in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The third annual forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOc) was held on 27-29 May 2010 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The Forum, titled "Bridging Cultures, Building Peace" brought together over 2,000 participants: political and corporate leaders, civil society activists, youth groups, faith communities, research centers, foundations and journalists, met together to agree on joint actions to improve relations across cultures, combat prejudice and build lasting peace. The Forum hosted a number of working sessions focusing on every aspect of life from education to poverty, human rights to migration.

The opening ceremony of the Forum on 28 May was addressed by H.E. Mr. Lula da Silva, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil; H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of Turkey, H.E. Mr. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, President of the Government of Spain, H.E. Mr. Jorge Sampaio, High Representative for the UN Alliance of Civilisations, former President of Portugal. Then H.H. Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser Al-Missned, Chair, Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, gave a speech, which was followed by the presentation of the "Dialogue Café", a virtual round table with persons from several countries.

The Summit Plenary on the theme: "Cultural Diversity as the Path to Peace" heard statements by several Heads of State and Government including the President of Argentina H.E. Ms. Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, the Prime Minister of Portugal H.E. Mr. José Socrates, the President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia H.E. Mr. Evo Morales, the President of Cape Verde H.E. Mr. Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires; the message of H.M. King Abdallah bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud which was read by Foreign Minister H.R.H. Prince Saud Al-Faisal. The session also heard heads of international organisations including the OIC Secretary General H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, the Secretary General of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) H.E. Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, the President of the UN General Assembly H.E. Mr. Ali Abdusselam Trekki, the Secretary General of the League of Arab States H.E. Mr. Amr Moussa, the Secretary General of the Ibero-American General Secretariat H.E. Mr. Enrique Iglesias, and the Director General of UNESCO Ms. Irina Bukova.

The Fourth Forum of the UNAOc will be hosted next year by the State of Qatar.

The AoC initiative was established in 2005 by the Governments of Spain and Turkey under the auspices of the United Nations. It aims to "improve understanding and cooperative relations among nations and peoples across cultures and religions and to help counter the forces that fuel polarization and extremism." The AoC's first forum was held in Madrid, in January 2008, and its second forum, in Istanbul, in April 2009.

IRCICA a member of the "Group of Friends" of the AoC

IRCICA is one the "Group of Friends" of the AoC. The Friends - numbering 120 - consists of governments and multilateral organisations that support the efforts of the Alliance of Civilisations. On the margin of the Forum sessions, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the AoC and IRCICA, by H.E. Mr. Jorge Sampaio, High Representative for the UNAOc, and Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA. The MoU lays the foundations and defines several areas of cooperation between the two sides and points to IRCICA's existing and potential, direct and indirect contributions to the AoC objectives. Another principal aspect of IRCICA's participation in the Forum was its co-organising one of the twelve thematic sessions of the Forum.



MoU signed between AoC and IRCICA:
UNAOc High Representative Mr. Sampaio and Dr. Halit Eren

Thematic Session co-organised by IRCICA, the Council of Europe and North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

Thematic Session 7 on "History as a Tool for Cultural Cooperation" was co-organised by the Council of Europe, IRCICA and the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe (for the other thematic sessions and round tables of the Forum, see www.rioforum.org).

The session was co-moderated by Mr. Denis Huber, Executive Director of the Council of Europe North-South Centre (Lisbon) and Mr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA. The panelists at this session were: Mr. Joao Carlos Nogueira from the Secretariat of Policies of Promotion of Racial Equality, Brazil; Mr. Gaspar Zarrias, Secretary for Institutional Relations and Political Autonomy of the PSOE, Spain; Prof. Thomas W. Zeiler, Director of the Global Studies Academic Program of Colorado University, and executive editor of the journal *Diplomatic History*, USA; Netherlands; Prof. Mustapha Tlili, Director, Center for Intercultural Dialogue, New York University, USA.

The session aimed to generate recommendations by historians and school teachers of history on examining history as an integral dimension for cultural cooperation. Thus reference was made to questions such as: What are the ways in which elements of history can be reexamined to be useful pedagogical tools in educating people about the constant and often peaceful interactions between civilizations, cultures, regions, religions? How can technology be a way to provide access to sources of history for students from different regions? How should teachers and students be trained to use all the potential of new technologies – in particular the internet- and to be able to prevent any misuse?

Some hundred participants attended the session. At the end of the session, Mr. Jean-Pierre Titz, Head of the History

Education Division, Council of Europe, gave the conclusion, highlighting the main points of the deliberations. He said that all the speakers had confirmed that there is generally an increasing interest for history and more particularly for history teaching in public opinion in the world in general.

They also confirmed that history plays a fundamental role in any intercultural dialogue, whatever the substance, the form or the level. Consequently, the question of learning and teaching history appears as an essential political requirement whenever intercultural dialogue is promoted. In that sense, history is indeed an instrument of cultural co-operation, but the objectives and the choices made in the field of history teaching policy should be transparent. In view of this, although it is not advisable, quite to the contrary, to avoid the sensitive questions and the histories of conflicts, it is necessary also to highlight the interactions and convergences between the cultures.

Mr. Titz said that all the speakers had stressed that the academic knowledge concerning interactions and exchanges between cultures is well established but that the difficulty consisted in transferring this knowledge to teachers and - through them - to pupils and to public opinion in general. In that respect, one regrets the lack of suitable teaching material put at the disposal of teachers in the classrooms. He summarised the proposals and recommendations of the participants, particularly that they:

- encouraged the Alliance of Civilisations to continue in a pragmatic way the development of the network of historians and history teachers which was started at the 2nd Forum in Istanbul (April 2009);
- recommended to the actors responsible for teaching and learning history to support the development of the use of new technologies with a view to put historical sources showing the interactions between the countries, the



cultures, civilisations, etc., at the disposal of an audience as large as possible;

- encouraged the Ministries of Education to develop active pedagogical methods with a view to acquire a capacity for dialogue, research, critical analysis of sources and the implementation of activities between schools of different countries or continents;
- encouraged the development of history teaching as a means to claim and show solidarity of cultures rather than to highlight their differences, their tensions even their oppositions.

The session also encouraged the international organisations represented in this seminar, namely IRCICA, ALECSO, the Council of Europe, the North-South Centre, UNESCO, Anna Lindh Foundation and non-governmental organisations to reinforce their cooperation in the field. The project that is being conducted by the three co-organisers of the session, which is related to the history of interactions in the Mediterranean and was introduced at the 2nd Forum of the AoC, was quoted as an example in this respect.

At the end of its discussions, the Thematic Session 7 welcomed a recommendation which was presented to it by Mr. Aime Sindayigaya, Coordinator of one of the projects run in the context of the AoC Youth Event held in the margin of the Forum (a number of youth meetings were held, issuing recommendations to statesmen, public and non-governmental organisms on various subjects within the AoC's areas of concern). The recommendation issued by his project group pointed to the need for the learning and teaching of history to be "inclusive" of all peoples and cultures.



Visit of H.E. Mr. Jorge Sampaio, the High Representative of the UN AoC, to IRCICA



H.E. Mr. Sampaio, Mrs. Barroco, and Prof. Bekir Kariaga, Head of the Istanbul Office for the AoC, saw samples of the publications

IRCICA was honoured to welcome H.E. Mr. Jorge Sampaio, the High Representative of the UN Alliance of Civilisations, at its headquarters on 26 April 2010. Mr. Sampaio, accompanied by Ms. Helena Barroco, Special Adviser, was visiting Turkey in the context of preparations for the Third Forum of the AoC. The meeting with Director General Dr. Halit Eren dealt basically with issues of cooperation and IRCICA's contributing, through its various projects and programs, in international efforts towards realizing the AoC objectives. Developments recorded since Mr. Sampaio's first visit to IRCICA on 27 June 2008 were reviewed, including the Centre's activities in the context and the follow-up of the AoC's Second Forum which was held in Istanbul in April 2009 and those that were forthcoming within the framework of the Third Forum, to be held in Rio, Brazil end of May. Mr. Sampaio expressed his hopefulness that the cooperation between the Alliance of Civilisations (AoC) on one hand and IRCICA will develop in future; he pointed out that "all contributions and projects viewing cultural diversity and trying to address the most relevant issues with which we are confronted today are essential for a better future."

The same day, Dr. Eren and IRCICA staff concerned attended the lecture that Mr. Sampaio delivered at the AoC's Istanbul Office, relating to the AoC's objectives and activities. The comprehensive lecture was followed with interest by a mixed audience from governmental bodies, NGOs, universities, and the information media.

Results of the Eighth International Calligraphy Competition dedicated to the late Syrian Calligrapher M. Badawi Al-Dirani and sponsored by the Abu Dhabi Culture & Heritage Authority

The results of the Eighth International Calligraphy Competition, organised by IRCICA and sponsored by the Abu Dhabi Culture and Heritage Authority, have been announced in Abu Dhabi and Istanbul on 15 April 2010. In accordance with the tradition established at IRCICA to dedicate each competition to one of the masters of this art, the eighth competition was dedicated to the late Syrian calligrapher Muhammad Badawi al-Dirani (1312-1387 H./1894-1967). It was conducted in ten categories, corresponding to the following ten styles of writing: jaly thuluth, thuluth, naskh, jaly taliq, taliq, jaly diwani, diwani, qufi, riqa and maghribi. The Jury's meeting took place between 5 - 15 April 2010 at the headquarters of IRCICA in Yıldız Palace, Istanbul, with the participation of following members: Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA, Chairman of the Organizing Committee; Mr. Mustafa Uğur Derman, Expert of Calligraphy, IRCICA; Mr. Mus'ad Khudair Al-Borsaidi, Professor of Calligraphy, Egypt; Mr. Ubaida Muhammad Al-Banki, Professor of Calligraphy, Syria; Mr. Belaid Hamidi, Professor of Calligraphy, Morocco; Dr. Abdul Reza Bahia, Professor of Calligraphy, Iraq; Mr. Jalil Rasouli, Master of Calligraphy, Iran; Mr. Mehmet Özcay, Master of Calligraphy, Turkey; Mr. Davut Bektaş, Master of Calligraphy, Turkey.

The Jury was presented with the 969 works, encoded beforehand, submitted by 683 participants from 31 countries. Mr. Muhammed Tamimi, Coordinator of the competition, his assistant Mr. Said Kasimoğlu, and Mrs. Özlem Bulut from the Competition Secretariat, assisted the Jury for services. After a selection and evaluation process, the remaining best works were chosen for the final decision. The works were examined from all aspects and those worthy of awards and mentions were selected, as shown in the attached table.

The Jury focused on precision in writing and did not comply with any particular school. This will be reflected clearly in the catalogue of winners' works that will be published. It also took into consideration criteria such as conformity with the rules of calligraphy, performance in writing, creativity of the composition, and observance of the conditions of the competition, disregarding some small deficiencies noticed in some of the relatively good works.

The Jury noticed that the level in jaly taliq style was not as satisfactory as required; and decided to withdraw the first and second awards in this style. The level of some of the

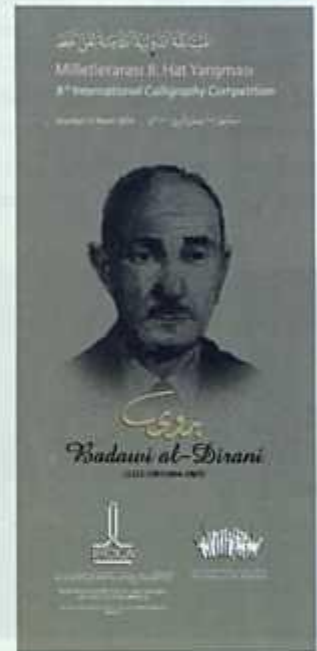
works being high in jaly thuluth, thuluth, naskh and diwani styles, the Jury decided to allocate eight incentive prizes, US\$1000 each, for these styles. The awards are classified in the list: 28 awards, 32 mentions and 8 incentive prizes, i.e. a total of 68 prizes and mentions amounting to US\$ 126.500 in total, won by 64 participants from 15 countries.

The winners' works were displayed at IRCICA's headquarters in Istanbul for a few days. A catalogue of the winners' works will be published.

Announcement of the results

At the press conference held at Hilton Abu Dhabi on 14 April, Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA and Chairman of the Organizing Committee, explained the efforts made by the Centre in during the last three years to implement this competition at an international level. He expressed gratitude to the Abu Dhabi Culture and Heritage Authority for sponsoring the event and for the forthcoming hosting of its award ceremony. He recorded that the eighth competition had seen a high rate of participation, with 969 works submitted by 683 participants from 31 countries. 68 awards, mentions and incentive prizes were distributed to 64 participants from 15 countries. Dr. Eren pointed to the tangible indicators of growth of interest in this art around the world since this competition series was launched in 1985.

The press conference held on 15 April at IRCICA's headquarters in Istanbul was attended by calligraphers, specialists and lovers of calligraphy as well as press representatives. Dr. Halit Eren briefed the audience on the Centre's activities in the field of calligraphy which made it a focal point known world-wide for this art. These activities were established as long-term programs starting from the 1980s, under the



direction of H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC, who was the founding Director General of IRCICA and extends advice towards the competition as the Honorary Chairman of its Jury. Dr. Eren also cited the book entitled *The Art of Calligraphy in Islamic Heritage*, published in English, Arabic, Japanese and Turkish, the symposiums on arts (Istanbul, 1983 and Isfahan, 2002) and the numerous exhibitions organised by IRCICA. He referred to the results of the earlier calligraphy competitions and the present one which indicate a steady pace of development of both participation rate and quality of works.

Addressing the press conference, Mr. Abdallah al-Amiri, Director of Culture and Arts, Abu Dhabi Culture and Heritage Authority, declared that through its sponsorship of the competition his institution aimed at contributing to reviving this art, preserving its values and techniques and encouraging present and future calligraphers. He said that the United Arab Emirates' sponsoring cultural and art

activities by way of intellectual exchanges and open cultural dialogue and encouragement of artistic production and innovation reflects the artistic development and professional level attained by the country, which was achieved thanks to H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahayan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, the sponsor par excellence of the cultural movement. At the press conference held in Istanbul, at IRCICA, Mr. al-Amiri informed the audience of the Authority's objectives and activities, pointing out that it had achieved regional and international extension and aimed to reach all cultures of the world. The Authority considers the process of cultural exchanges as a key component of the cultural strategy of the Abu Dhabi Government and an essential element in the development of civilisation, including means to provide the potential that allows the promotion of local and Arab culture. He affirmed their understanding that this cooperation would be continual.



Mr. Abdallah al-Amiri, Director of Culture and Arts, Abu Dhabi Culture and Heritage Authority (second R) and Dr. Halit Eren at the press conference, with Mr. Hasan Çelebi, Chairman of the jury's sessions (first L) and Mr. Mohammed Tamimi, Competition Secretary

1- JULY THULUTH

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award	7.500 \$ Muhammed Yaman	Turkey	
2nd Award	5.000 \$ Abdurrahman Depeler	Turkey	
3rd Award	2.500 \$ Ahmed Fares Rezaq Awad	Egypt	

MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Muhammad Ali Zahid	Pakistan	
Ali Mamdouh A. M. Ahmed	Egypt	
Khalid M. El-Seyyid Mujahid	Egypt	

INCENTIVE PRIZES (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Ahmed N. M. Asmar	Palestine	

2- THULUTH

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award	7.500 \$ Sabah Erbilli	England	
2nd Award	5.000 \$ Ayman Hassan	Kuwait	Syrian
3rd Award	2.500 \$ Mahfooth Dhannoon Younus	Iraq	



MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Nuria Garcia Masip	Germany	Spanish
Ahmed M. Sayd Mostafa	Egypt	
Jassim Mohamed Meraj	Kuwait	

INCENTIVE PRIZES (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Fatih ÖZKAFA	Turkey	
Ahmed Fares Rezq Awad	Egypt	
Abdu M. Hasan Jamal	Egypt	

3- NASKH

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award 7.500 \$	Sabah Erbilli	England	
2nd Award 5.000 \$	Hadi Kazim Naif Deraja	Iraq	
3rd Award 2.500 \$	Khalil Omar Dabab	Syria	

MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Ihap Ibraheem A.Thabet	Palestine	
Saman Kake Dewane Husein	Iraq	
A. Al-Abde b. Ahmed	Syria	

INCENTIVE PRIZES (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Mahmoud Alban	Syria	

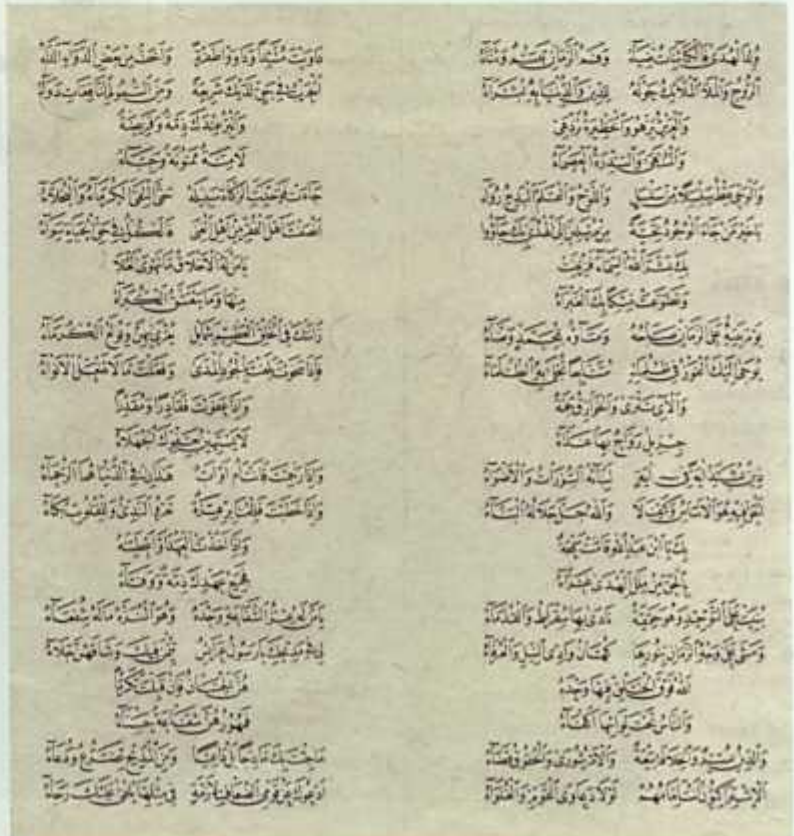
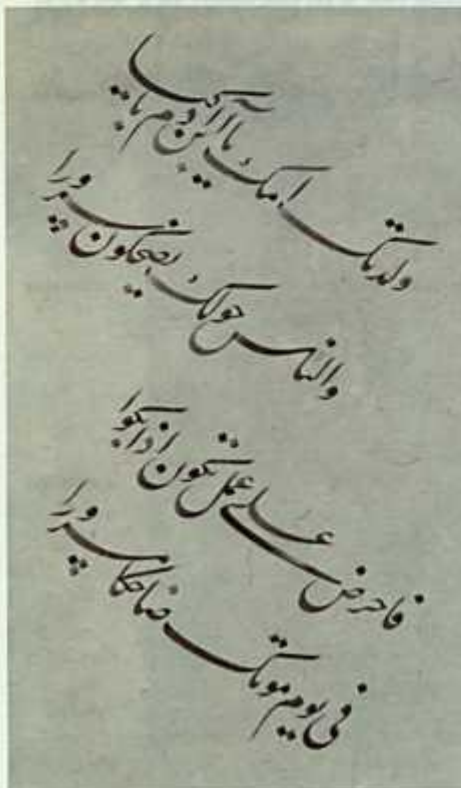
4- JALY TALIQ

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award	Withdrawed		
2nd Award	Withdrawed		
3rd Award 2.000 \$	Ayman Hassan	Kuwait	Syrian



MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Mamoun Yaghmour	Kuwait	Syrian
Ferhat Kurlu	Turkey	
Mohamed Kana	Syria	
Shaikh Mohammad Ishaq	England	
Jaylani Gharbi	Tunusia	



5- TALIQ (Nastaliq)

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award - 5.000 \$	Alirez Mohebi Sheikhlari	Iran	
2nd Award 3.000 \$	Ghasem Memazadeh Ghafari	Iran	
3rd Award 2.000 \$	Mahdi Forouzandeh	Iran	

MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Ali Reza Taljangani	Iran	
Mohammadreza Rahimpour	Iran	
Rezaee Mostafa	Iran	

6- JALY DIWANI

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award 5.000 \$	Mohanad Al-Saai	Syria	
2nd Award 3.000 \$	Abdulrazzak Mohamad Mahmod	U.A.E	Syrian
3rd Award 2.000 \$	Gamal Mahmoud M. Afify	Egypt	

MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Moaead Al-Saai	Syria	
Hüseyin Hüsnü Türkmen	Turkey	
Seyit Ahmet Depeler	Turkey	

7- DIWANI

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award 3.000 \$	Abdulrazak Karakash	Syria	
2nd Award 2.000 \$	Husain Ali Shaqule	Syria	
3rd Award 1.000 \$	Abdulrazzak Mohamad Mahmod	U.A.E	Syrian

MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Mohamed Iyd Nasif	Syria	
Ihap Ibraheem A.	Palestine	
Mohamed Ali Mostafa	Syria	

INCENTIVE PRIZES (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Abdussamed Mahfad	Morocco	
Ahmed Fares Amry	Syria	
Ahmed Abid Abu Naif	Kuwait	

8- KUPI

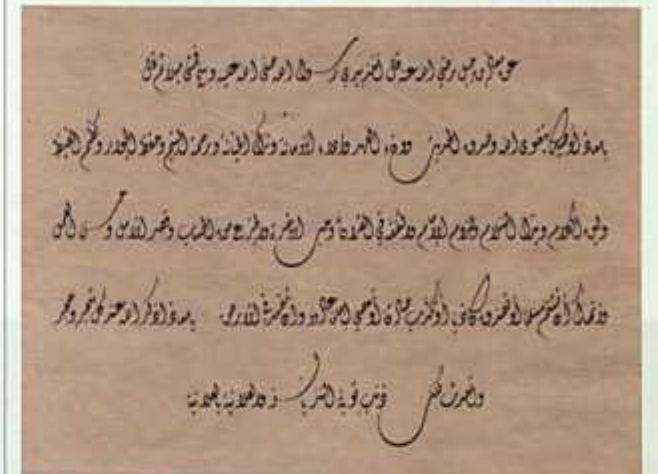
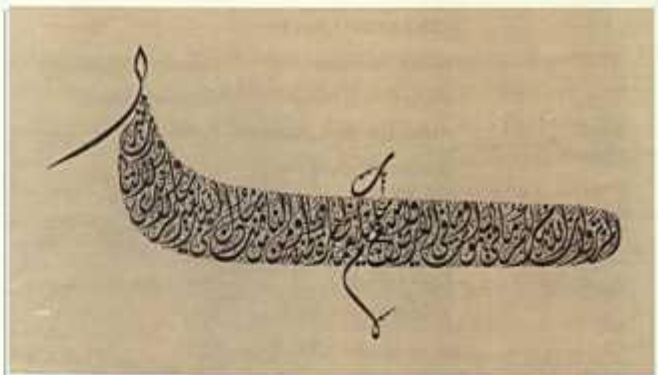
	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award 2.000 \$	Muhammad Ashraf Heera	Pakistan	
2nd Award 1.500 \$	Kamel Bahri	Tunisia	
3rd Award 1.000 \$	Amer Ben Jeddou	Tunisia	

MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Uthman H. Ibraheem	Egypt	
Mohammed Lemaalmine	Morocco	
Moustafa Ben Aek Kouadri	Algeria	

9- RIQA

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award 2.000 \$	Ahmed Majid Khayate	Syria	
2nd Award 1.500 \$	Mahmoud A. Dosh	Egypt	
3rd Award 1.000 \$	Fatma Juma Ibraheem	Syria	



MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Waleed Ali Mohamed	Egypt	
M. Farhan Trablusi	Syria	
Mohamed Bahsiti	Syria	

10- MAGHRIBI

	Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
1st Award 2.000 \$	Jamal Bensaid	Morocco	
2nd Award 1.500 \$	Nur Khamidiyah	Indonesia	
3rd Award 1.000 \$	Mohieddine Khcharem	Tunisia	

MENTIONS (1.000 \$)

Name, Surname	Country	Nationality
Mohamed Tafrent	Morocco	
Hasanin Mukhtar A. Salim	Egypt	
Mahdi Ramiz H. Turqavi	Egypt	French

Award distribution ceremony

The award distribution ceremony took place on 2 June 2010 at Emirates Palace Hotel in Abu Dhabi. Two exhibitions were organised on the occasion. The first one was an exhibition of the works which won awards in the eighth competition, titled "Gifts of the Pen." The second one was a special exhibition; it displayed 92 calligraphies by 52 calligraphers who were among the winners of the earlier seven competitions organised by IRCICA over the last 25 years. This exhibition, to continue for one month, was titled "The Will of the Reed". Both exhibitions were opened by Sheikh Sultan bin Tahnoon Al-Nahyan, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage.

In his opening address at the award ceremony, Sheikh Sultan bin Tahnoon Al-Nahyan said his country is committed to safeguarding the cultural heritage of the Arab world. He pointed out that by supporting this competition, they were affirming their continued support for the building of cultural and humanitarian bridges, to be effective throughout Abu Dhabi and the U.A.E.: "We hope that this can be achieved through a combination of better communication, the transcending of geographical boundaries, and the offer of access to a wide variety of cultures." Dr. Halit Eren, Director General, IRCICA, and Mr. Mohammed Khalaf Al-Mazroui, Director General of the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, were present at the ceremony, which was attended by cultural, artistic and media circles. In his address at the ceremony, Dr. Halit Eren briefed the audience on the aims and procedures of IRCICA's calligraphy competition, renewed once every three years, and acknowledged worldwide as a reference certifying performance in the different styles of artistic writing. He expressed his thanks and appreciation for the cooperation between IRCICA and the Authority,

underlining the importance of joint initiatives in the context of cultural and artistic rapprochement. This had been made possible with the support and encouragement of H.H. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, the support of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces. He also thanked the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, its Chairman Sheikh Sultan bin Tahnoon Al-Nahyan, and its Director General Mr. Al-Mazroui, for the valuable cooperation extended in the organisation of the competition and its award ceremony.

Five documentary films were shown during the ceremony, relating to the history of the U.A.E., the history of the art of calligraphy, the life and works of Badawi al-Dirani to whom the eighth competition was dedicated, the life and works of the Turkish master of calligraphy Hamid Aytac (Al-Amidi) to whom the very first competition was dedicated, and the proceedings of the competition jury.



Sheikh Sultan bin Tahnoon Al-Nahyan receives information on the catalogue of award-winning works presented by Dr. Halit Eren and his colleagues



The winners of the first three prizes in each category

Exhibitions, lectures

In cooperation with the Ministry of Information, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: "Historical photographs of Mecca and Medina" exhibition

More than 100 photographs of the cities of Mecca and Medina were displayed at "The Two Holy Mosques Photograph Exhibition" organised by IRCICA and the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The exhibition was opened in Jeddah on 10 February 2010, in the old Customs building which is used today as a museum. The exhibition was opened for a period of two months and to travel to other cities in the Kingdom.

The opening was officiated by the OIC Secretary General Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, the Minister of Culture and Information Mr. Abdul Aziz M. bin Khoja, IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren, Consul Generals in Jeddah of many countries, and personalities from cultural and academic circles.

The photographs, dating from the end of the 19th-beginning of the 20th century, were chosen from the collections of IRCICA including the collection belonging to. On display were photographs of the Holy Ka'ba and many and varied events such as developments relating to the Hejaz Railway and the flood that hit Medina in 1916-18.

Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA, said that IRCICA's photograph archive includes 518 photos of the holy sites at the Two Holy Mosques Mecca and Medina (150 in total), Jeddah, Yanbu Al-Bahr, Tabouk, Abha, and other places in the Kingdom. Among the most important of these collections are the Yıldız photograph collection which includes 232 photographs of these places and the collection of Fahreddin Pasha, Ottoman army commander and "Defender" of Medina during World War I, which contains 201 photographs.



(R-L): OIC Secretary General Prof. İhsanoğlu, the Minister of Culture and Information of Saudi Arabia Mr. Abdul Aziz M. bin Khoja, IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren

Co-organisation of the 6th Dubai International Exhibition of Arabic Calligraphy

Under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Muhammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, IRCICA and the Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing of the Government of Dubai have jointly organised the Dubai International Arabic Calligraphy Exhibition, on 24-28 February 2010. This was the 6th Edition of the exhibition, and part of the Dubai Culture and Science Forum. The exhibition was officially inaugurated on 24 February jointly by Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA; Mr. Khalid Ahmed bin Sulayem, Director General of the Dubai Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM), and Mr. Mohammed Al-



Murr, Chairman of the Dubai Cultural Council. 47 calligraphers from various countries, including Bosnia Herzegovina, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Syria, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates participated in the exhibition.

The latter was arranged in two large halls, one of which was for the 17 calligraphers from Turkey as special guests and the second one for the 30 other participating artists. Workshops and seminars on calligraphy and gilding were organised at the sidelines of the event.



Participation in the "Mushaf Qatar" Release Ceremony held in Doha

The Release Ceremony of the "Mushaf Qatar", a special copy of the Holy Quran resulting from a decade-long project, was held under the patronage of the Deputy Emir and Heir Apparent of the State of Qatar H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, on 10 March 2010 at the Museum of Islamic Art, Doha. Also present at the ceremony were H.E. Ahmed Abdullah Sambu, President of Comoros, H.E. Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr Al-Thani, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Qatar, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC and Chair of the Jury of the Competition for the calligrapher to copy the "Mushaf Qatar",



H.E. Mr. Amr Moussa, Secretary General of the Arab League, heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Qatar, scholars and religious figures from the Arab world and the whole Islamic world. The audience watched a documentary reviewing the entire process of preparation of the copy. H.E. Mr. Ahmad bin Abdallah Al-Mirri, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of Qatar, said, in his address at the ceremony, that the edition is a masterpiece in the service of The Word of God; he recalled with gratitude the patronage and support of H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, to this project. In his speech OIC Secretary General Prof. Ihsanoğlu expressed gratitude to His Highness



The Deputy Emir and Heir Apparent of Qatar H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani and Dr. Khalifa al-Quwary, Coordinator of the competition that was held for the "Mushaf Qatar", at the exhibition of reproductions from the copy



the Emir of Qatar for the outstanding patronage accorded towards this edition which concretised as a historical undertaking and was implemented enlisting the efforts of the best calligraphers of the Muslim world.

After the ceremony, H.H. the Deputy Emir and Heir Apparent opened an exhibition reflecting the various stages of development of the project. Alluding to those stages he recalled the role played by IRCICA through its cooperation. The special copy, set in exquisite calligraphy and made into templates for large-scale printing, was copied by calligrapher Mr. Ubaida Saleh Al-Banki, as a result of a competition that was conducted for the purpose.

On the eve of the ceremony, a press conference was held on the event where IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren briefed the media and circles concerned about the development and accomplishment stages of this pioneering project.

On the occasion of the release of "Mushaf Qatar", the Qatar Islamic Culture Centre (FANAR) organised an exhibition where the works of 22 calligraphers from various countries were displayed together with samples from the works of Mr. Sabah al-Arbili (the second calligrapher who was selected, together with Mr. al-Banki, at the end of the competition), including his works in other branches of the arts of the book such as gilding, marbling, applications on cloth, etc.) as well as his calligraphies.



Mr. Ubaida Saleh al-Banki, calligrapher of the "Mushaf Qatar" (middle), OIC Secretary General Prof. Ihsanoglu, Dr. Khalifa al-Quwary (3rd from left), Mr. Sabah al-Arbili (2nd from right)



H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani presented an order of merit to Mr. Ubaida al-Banki



H.E. Mr. Ahmad bin Abdulah Al-Miri, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs of Qatar, at the calligraphy exhibition at FANAR

Art exhibitions at IRCICA

Mr. Jahongir Ashurov's Miniatures Exhibition

IRCICA hosted the first personal exhibition abroad of the Uzbek miniature-painter Mr. Jahongir Ashurov. The exhibition was opened by the Ambassador of Uzbekistan in Ankara H.E. Mr. and IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren on 16 November, for a period of ten days. The 65 miniature paintings won the admiration of art lovers and guests from Turkey and abroad. It was publicised on TV channels.

Ashurov was born in Bukhara in 1974. He graduated from the Benkov School of Art in Tashkent and received his training in miniature painting under the direction of the master artist Mr. Shahmahmud Muhammadjanov. Ashurov's miniatures are inspired mostly by stories from oral tradition and particularly by the humanist philosophy they carry. His paintings are generally in the Bukharian and the Iranian styles. He often follows Mehmet Siyahkalem's style of minimalism in the use of objects and colours.

Miniature painting is one of the most favoured arts of Bukhara; it was widespread until the beginning of 20th century especially as gildings on manuscript works. Bukhara miniatures usually draw their themes from history, folklore, sufism and mythology; ceremonials, celebrations, wars, are frequent themes.

Ashurov is one of the few artists who are reviving the classical Bukharian style of miniature painting. His paintings were displayed in major galleries in many cities of Central Asia, Europe and USA. He has works in the collections of British Museum and Victoria & Albert Museum.



"Paper Garden": an exhibition of paper cuttings by Ms. Safiye Morçay Gülen

Safiye Morçay Gülen's paper cuttings exhibition named "Paper Garden" was opened on 21 May at IRCICA. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, who was on mission in Istanbul, was invited to open the exhibition, accompanied by IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren and paper cutting artist Ms. Dürdane Ünver. 62 works were displayed.

The works consist of motifs and figures cut in paper or leather and applied on a sheet. As an art this practice has a 2000-year old history. It saw a remarkable development in the Muslim world, reaching a peak during the reign of Sultan Süleyman the Lawgiver. In this classical style it continued to flourish until the beginning of 19th century. Among its important representatives are Sheikh Muhammed Dost, Fahri of Bursa, Mahmud of Ghazne. It is being revived today, as exemplified by this exhibition. Among the works displayed were paper cuttings as ornaments to calligraphy or marbling, as well as composite designs and imitations of selected old works. The artist, Ms. Safiye Morçay Gülen, was born in Istanbul in 1961. She graduated from Bosphorus University, Department of Business Administration. She learnt the art of gilding first, and engaged in paper cutting from 1998 onwards.



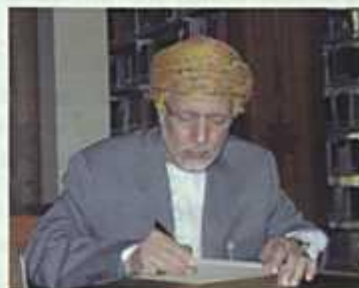
Meetings, cooperation

H.E. Mr. Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman, visited IRCICA

On 11 April, IRCICA was honoured to receive on its premises H.E. Mr. Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman. After the meeting with Dr. Eren, Director General, the Minister and his entourage were guided to the research departments and the library, where they were briefed on the various activities. Mr. Alawi bin Abdullah wrote his impressions about the Centre in the Visitors' Book, commending the Centre's work related to the immense Islamic



heritage which render this Centre's presence a blessing for humankind. "No



doubt, the tremendous efforts deployed by the Centre in the service of the Muslim nation have transmitted to the entire world the message of IRCICA which is supported by the OIC and at its head, the Secretary General Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, who has spared no effort in this support and whom we thank warmly."

After this visit and as follow-up of the discussions held on proposed specific joint projects, IRCICA's cooperation with the government authorities and cultural and academic institutions of Oman will progress sensibly.

Visit to IRCICA of Dr. Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al-Quwary, Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage, Qatar

Dr. Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al-Quwary, Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage of the State of Qatar, visited IRCICA on 16 January. The Minister and his colleagues were briefed by Director General Dr. Eren about recent developments in the Centre's activities. Talks were held on possible participation by the Centre in the programs of "Doha Capital of Arab Culture 2010". The Minister recorded his impressions in the Visitors' Book, qualifying the Centre as an "innovative institution which assumes an efficient role



through its diverse and noble activities as reflected by its name". The Minister also recorded that in accordance with the instructions of H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, after his visit to IRCICA (9 Nov. 2009), they will join efforts with the Centre in order to work together in the service of the Islamic history, the Islamic arts, and the Islamic culture in general.

Forthcoming events

Fourth International Congress on "Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans" to be organised jointly with the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, in Skopje

IRCICA and the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Skopje) are jointly organizing the fourth international congress on the theme "Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans", to be held under the patronage of H.E. Gorge Ivanov, President of the Republic of Macedonia. The congress will take place in Skopje, capital of Macedonia, on 13-17 October 2010. The congress will highlight the history and the heritage of Islamic and civilisation in the Balkans under their past and present aspects. It will encourage inter-disciplinary and cross-cultural approaches. Topics to be covered include: trends and processes of the development of Islamic culture, multi-cultural coexistence, social administration, cultural and educational institutions, science and learning, architecture and urbanism, arts, language and literature, social life and traditions, tangible and intangible Islamic heritage - their present state and issues of their preservation, sources of reference in studies relating to Islamic history in the Balkans.

In the context of its research program on "Islamic Civilisation in the Balkans" IRCICA gave importance to instituting a congress on a periodical basis in order to maintain a constant forum of scholarship and cooperation. The earlier three congresses in the series were held in Sofia, Bulgaria (2000), Tirana, Albania (2003) and Bucharest, Romania (2006) respectively. Their papers were published by IRCICA.

"Islamic Civilisation in the Mediterranean" symposium to be jointly organised with Near East University, Nicosia

IRCICA and the Institute for Islamic Research and Intercultural Dialogue, Near East University (Lefkoşa/Nicosia, North Cyprus) will jointly organise an international conference on "Islamic Civilisation in the Mediterranean" to be held at Near East University, on 1-4 December 2010. The symposium aims to highlight the role and significance of Islamic civilisation in the process of evolution of Mediterranean civilisation. Its themes will be: History of expansion of Islamic civilisation in the Mediterranean: political administration, inter-state and inter-regional relations; The role of Islam in civilisational process: theological and philosophical aspects, relations with other religions in the Mediterranean; Science and technology in Islamic civilisation in the Mediterranean; Architecture

and urbanism in Islamic civilisation in the Mediterranean; The development of Islamic arts in the Mediterranean and relations with the arts of other cultures; "Islamic civilisation in the Mediterranean" as an area of research and teaching: promoting the studies and sources

The Institute for Islamic Research and Intercultural Dialogue, Near East University, has the objective of studying of Islam and its relationship with other religions in order to promote a closer understanding between them. The Institute is located in Cyprus, which historically has been a cradle of Mediterranean as well as Islamic civilisation.

The Fourth International Congress on "Islamic Civilisation in the Volga-Ural Region" Ufa, Bashkortostan, 21-22 October 2010

IRCICA and the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Bashkortostan (Ufa) are jointly organising the fourth international congress on the theme "Islamic Civilisation in the Volga-Ural Region" to be held in Ufa, capital city of Bashkortostan, on 21-22 October 2010.

The symposium will be held under the high patronage of His Excellency M. G. Rakhimov, President of the Republic of Bashkortostan. It will be the second international event to be co-organised by IRCICA and Bashkortostan State University, Faculty of History. The congress aims to keep alive and further expand the forum of scholarly exchange among specialists and researchers of the subject that was established through previous congresses held in Kazan (Tatarstan, 2000, 2005) and Ufa (Bashkortostan, 2008).

The congress will cover the history of Islamic civilization in the Volga-Ural Region under its diverse aspects: Developments in the fields of science, philosophy, technology, arts, language, literature and other fields of intellectual activity; interactions with others cultures within and around the region; The legacy of Islamic civilization, in terms of both material culture (architectural heritage, written heritage and other tangible assets) and intangible and spiritual culture (oral, ritual and other intangible aspects of culture), as well the stages and trends observable in process of cultural development. The congress is expected to throw light on the role and place of Islamic civilization in the region and its past and prospective contributions to cultural dialogue among the peoples of the region. At the same time, it will be an occasion to appraise the state of research and the problems and prospects of studies on the theme of Islamic civilization in the Volga-Ural region. The languages of the symposium are the Bashkir language, Russian and English.

IRCICA Publications

Mohammad Ghosheh,
The Islamic Endowments of Jerusalem,
preface by Dr. Halit Eren, 2 vols., IRCICA, 2009

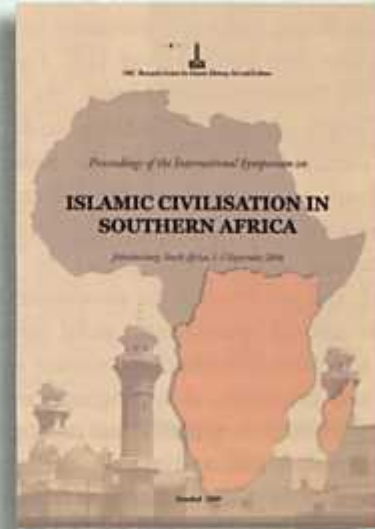


This book on the Islamic waqfs (endowments) of Jerusalem is the largest documentary work on the subject. It contains three main chapters: Chapter I deals with the waqfs of the Ayyubid period, specifically 36 Ayyubid waqfs. Chapter II deals with those of the Mamluk period, and cites 107 waqfs, while the last chapter of the book is on the waqfs of the Ottoman period and covers more than 1800 waqfs. The book sets the history of the endowments in the context of the architectural and historical events and important stages of the Islamic history of Jerusalem. It is a comprehensive and highly detailed study. The tables on the number and geographical distribution of the waqfs add to its informative and documentary value.

The research is based on a primary sources including law court records, inscriptions, Ottoman archive documents and European sources. The book was awarded the Abdul Majeed Shoman International Prize in 2005 after being examined by leading specialists of the subject which certifies to its scholarly value.

Proceedings of the international symposium **Islamic Civilisation in Southern Africa**

Johannesburg, South Africa, 1-3 September 2006,
Editors: Mahomed Haroon, Suleman Essop Dangor,
IRCICA, Istanbul, 2009



This book resulted from the symposium on "Islamic Civilisation in Southern Africa" which was held in Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa, on 31 August-3 September 2006. It was co-organised by IRCICA, Awqaf Foundation of South Africa (Awqaf SA) and the University of Johannesburg. The symposium was a landmark event, first to be co-organised by the OIC and IRCICA in the region. It aimed, among others, to increase knowledge on the history and heritage of Islam in the OIC Member States and their neighbours in the region, and to promote dialogue amongst Muslim peoples in the region and with peoples of other faiths and cultures.

The book contains the opening addresses of OIC Secretary Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren, Dr. Essop Goolam Pahad, Minister at the Presidency of South Africa, Mr. Ebrahim Rasool, Premier. These are followed by the keynote article by Dr. Mahomed Haroon, titled "Southern African Muslim Communities in Context and Scholarship". Then come six articles under the section title Historical Background, five articles under Challenge of Racism and Response in Politics, seven articles under Spiritual Culture and Learning, and seven articles under Miscellany. The papers have been edited and prepared for publication by Mahomed Haroon and Suleman Essop Dangor, specialists of Islamic history and culture in Southern Africa.

Globalisation and Images of the Other. Challenges and New Perspectives for History Teaching in Europe

Report and presentations of the international symposium organised jointly by the Council of Europe and Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA), Istanbul, 30 November – 1st December 2008.

Mondialisation et images de l'autre. Défis et nouvelles perspectives pour l'enseignement de l'histoire en Europe

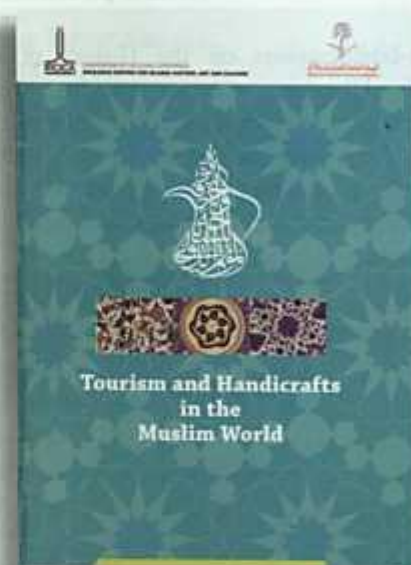
Rapport et présentations du symposium international organisé conjointement par le Conseil de l'Europe et le Centre de Recherches sur l'Histoire, l'Art et la Culture Islamiques (IRCICA), Istanbul, 30 novembre – 1er décembre 2008, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2009



Within the framework of the Council of Europe's project titled "The Image of the Other in History Teaching", the symposium on "Globalisation and Images of the Other: challenges and new perspectives for History teaching in Europe" was organised by the Council of Europe and IRCICA on 30 November - 1st December 2008 at Yıldız Palace, Istanbul. With nearly one hundred participants, the meeting was conducted in three parallel sessions of working groups and round-tables. The themes of the round-tables, which heard country papers, were "Globalisation and the role of History Teaching in a new context" and "Pedagogical innovations and reforms strategies with a view to taking into account globalisation in history teaching". The Plenary session dwelt upon the issue of "Training actors of history learning" and adopted the conclusions of the meeting. The book begins with the texts of the welcoming address delivered at the opening ceremony by IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren and the address by Ms. Gabriela Battaini-Dragoni, Director General of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport, Council of Europe, outlining the background and the objectives of the project. Then follows the overall Report of the symposium, in the English and French languages, prepared by Mr. Brian Carvell, the General Rapporteur. This is followed by the texts of fourteen studies and presentations.

Tourism and Handicrafts in the Muslim World

Proceedings of the International Congress on Tourism and Handicrafts, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 16-23 Shawal 1427 H/7-14 November 2006, prepared for publication by Nazeih Taleb Maarouf, Preface by Dr. Halit Eren, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2009



The First International Congress on Tourism and Traditional Crafts was organised jointly with the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities. It was held in Riyadh, on 7-14 November 2006. The congress highlighted the handicrafts of the Muslim world in their great diversity. It included a folkloric parade, exhibitions of artisans-at-work, exhibitions of products, and an Award for creativity in crafts for innovative works of artisans of the Muslim world.

This book contains the papers of the congress. At the beginning are the inaugural addresses delivered at the congress by H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, Chairman, Supreme Commission for Tourism and Antiquities, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA, and Dr. Abdulaziz Othman Altwajiri, Director General of ISESCO. The thirty-two papers are arranged under the following section titles: Globalization and the Role of Media in Raising Awareness; Interaction between Tourism and Handicrafts; Craft Villages and Tourism Activation; Handicrafts as Tourism, Social, Economical and Cultural Necessity; Preservation of Arts and Crafts; Textiles and Quality: Creating New Ornamental Designs; Tiles, Ceramic, Ebru and Bookbinding; Education, Research and Documentation; Patronage and Government Efforts; Marketing Opportunities; Heritage Identity and Cultural Tourism. The Report and Recommendations of the congress and the Riyadh International Declaration it adopted are also included.

Osmanlı Tıbbi Bilimler Literatürü Tarihi (History of the Literature of Medical Sciences during the Ottoman Period)

prepared by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Ramazan Şeşen, M. Serdar Bekar, Gülcan Gündüz, Veysel Bulut, edited by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, 4 volumes: p. CLXXXI+556, 557-1304, 1305-2036, bibliographies and indexes 2037-2380, IRCICA, İstanbul, 2009

The bio-bibliographies on the History of Ottoman Scientific Literature, a series resulting from about twenty-five years of research, of which the first two volumes appeared in 1997, now reached its fifteenth volume. The preceding eleven volumes were related to astronomy, mathematics, geography, music, military arts, and natural and applied arts, respectively.

The work begins with a Preface by Prof. İhsanoğlu that sketches the main features of the history of medical sciences starting from early Islam and with emphasis on the Ottoman period, describing the landmark developments in theory and practice and those relating to the establishment of hospitals, qualities of the physicians, and translations of medical works from other languages. The Introduction by Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and Prof. Ramazan Şeşen is an instructive study on the history of medicine – including dentistry, pharmacological sciences and veterinary sciences, the various schools and traditions, and the medical institutions, throughout the Umayyad, Abbasid and Ottoman periods. This section evaluates the results of the research and draws statistical figures from the content of the four volumes, thus describing the characteristics of scientific activity, theory, and authorship in the above medical fields. The main body of the book lists the medical works in chronological order under the names and biographies of their authors. The last section lists the books of which the authors and/or translators are not known. The first three volumes have illustrations at the end, such as reproductions of manuscripts, drawings or photographs of hospital buildings, laboratories, etc., and the fourth volume ends with indexes of personal names, book titles, place names, names of institutions, names of copyists, names of places mentioned in colophon, book ownership registers and waqf registers.

In the Ottoman period, authorship of original treatises began in the 14th century with Jamaledin al-Aksarayi and Haji Pasha. Hospitals were built starting from the reign of Yildirim Beyazıt (1389-1402). Ottoman medicine was for its greatest part directed to practice and treatment and so were Ottoman contributions to medical science. Ottoman medical scientists wrote treatises and made translations in all branches of medicine, however as it was the case in previous periods, studies on anatomy were relatively less. These, together with works in other medical sciences, gained pace in the 19th century especially with the opening of modern medical schools and later of other related institutions.



Western professors, physicians and veterinarians were invited to the Ottoman state and Ottoman graduates of the modern schools were sent to Europe for specialisation; some of them were taught by founders of modern medicine such as Pasteur, R. Koch, and Claude Bernard. From the 1880's onwards Ottoman physicians closely followed the medical progresses in Europe and America. Some of them taught and practiced in Arab countries. As in other fields of science, the improvement of health services and the quality of medical literature were remarkable in the 19th century.

The book covers 5607 treatises and articles on medicine, dentistry, pharmacology and veterinary sciences by 1430 authors. 1437 out of the total are either manuscripts or have manuscript copies. Again out of the total, 4558 are medical books, 544 on pharmacology, and 546 on veterinary sciences. 4560 are in the Turkish language, 821 in Arabic, 114 in French, 39 in Persian, 17 in Armenian, and 14 in German. 36 of them are in more than one language. There exist a large number of translations. Until the 18th century, Ottoman medicine practically followed Islamic medicine, and thus until the 17th translations were made mostly from Arabic and Persian, while after that time translations from Western languages increased. The number of translated works included in the book is 723; 262 of them were translated from French to Turkish and 106 from Arabic to Turkish.

It is estimated that this publication adds considerably to the data available on medical literature in the Muslim world.

Mushaf Al-Sharif Attributed to 'Uthman bin 'Affan (The copy at al-Mashhad al-Husaini in Cairo)

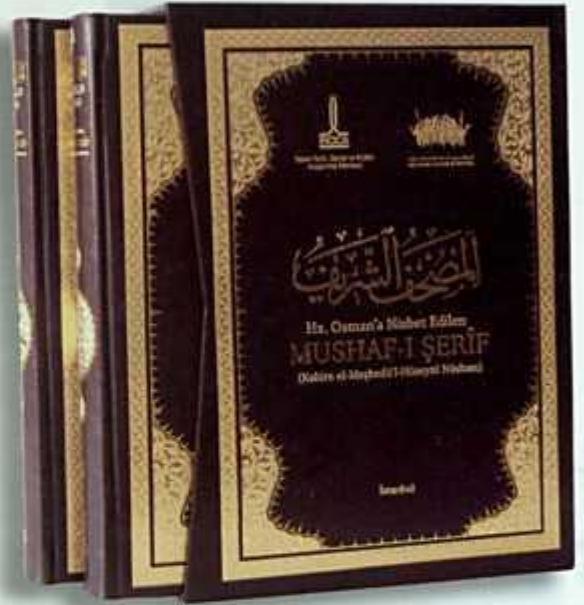
prepared for publication and Introduction by Tayyar Altıkulaç,
Foreword by Halit Eren, Istanbul, 1430/2009
(Introduction in Turkish, English and Arabic)

This book contains the facsimile edition, accompanied by a scholarly study, of a copy of the Holy Quran which is located in Cairo and attributed to the time of Caliph Othman. Thus among the copies dating from that period, this one is known as the "Cairo Mushaf". It belonged to the collection of the Library of Imam Hussain in Cairo but it was later transferred to the Central Library of Islamic Manuscripts affiliated to the Ministry of Awqaf of Egypt for restoration purposes. The study of this copy, accompanying the facsimile edition, and its preparation for publication, have been done by a leading scholar in Quranic studies, ex-President of Religious Affairs in Turkey, Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç.

This publication comes in the same line of editions the first of which was a facsimile edition of the copy attributed to the same period, that of Caliph Othman, and located in the library of Topkapı Palace Museum in Istanbul, accompanied, similarly, by a study by Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç, published in 2007. A similar work, relating to the copy of the Quran attributed to the same period and kept at the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum (Istanbul), by the same author, was published in 2008 by ISAM (Istanbul).

The study on the Cairo copy is a meticulous analysis of the copy comparing it to the other copies which date from the same period and are preserved in different cities of the world, namely the Topkapı copy, the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum copy, the Tashkent copy (preserved at the Khazrati Imam Mosque in Tashkent, Uzbekistan) and the copy of the Great Mosque of Sana'a (Yemen).

IRCICA is thankful to the Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage for the financial contribution to the printing of the book and to the Ministry of Awqaf of Egypt for facilitating the work conducted on basis of the copy.



Earlier, IRCICA had published two other historical copies of the Quran. The first one was the copy known as the "Fazıl Pasha Mushaf", written in the name of the Seljukid Sultan Tugrul Bey in the year 1186 and kept in Gazi Hüsrev Bey Library in Sarajevo, which was published by IRCICA in a facsimile edition. The second one was the reprint of the first Quran copy printed in the Muslim world, that is, the copy printed in Kazan, Tatarstan, in 1803; this copy was reprinted in Istanbul in 2005 at the initiative of the Municipality of Kazan, on the occasion of the millennium of Kazan City, following a technical revision by IRCICA in preparation for printing.

Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Darülfünun. Osmanlı'da Kültürel Modernleşmenin Odağı (Darülfünun: the focus of Ottoman cultural modernization)

Istanbul: Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture, 2010, 2 v., 1126 pp., ill.



This is a comprehensive book on the history of the modern university which emerged as part of the cultural modernization process that followed the Tanzimat reforms. It records and evaluates on basis of first-hand sources the stages of formation of the university from realisation of its concept until its institution as the University of Istanbul. It is the result of many years of research by Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, a leading figure of the history of science, education and culture.

The formation of a European-type university represented a transformation in Ottoman cultural and educational life. In addition to building the university's legal, administrative and financial structures, it necessitated policy decisions on such subjects as the university model to be followed, the curricula and the faculty.

The present work reviews the process extensively. It is comprised of three books laid out in two volumes.

The first book examines the emergence of the idea of the modern university beginning from the period of the Tanzimat and its establishment after three attempts, and analyses its evolution in stages, until the 1933 university reform.

The second book looks into the development of the Darülfünun in the light of evolving concepts and trends in cultural, social and scholarly life.

As to the third book, it describes in detail the development of each of the Faculties of Science, Letters, Theology, Law and Medicine with respect to curricula, faculty, institutes affiliated, among other aspects of their activities.



World Bibliography of Translations of the Holy Quran in Manuscript Form-II

Translations in Urdu, Prepared by Ahmad Khan,
Foreword by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Preface by Halit Eren,
IRCICA, İstanbul, 2009

One of the Centre's major research programs, titled "Studies on copies and translations of the Holy Quran" is aimed at recording the translations and exegeses/ commentaries of the Quran published in various languages of the world in printed or manuscript form. To this aim the Centre compiles comprehensive bibliographies. The first book resulting from these studies was the world bibliography of printed translations published in 1986. A revised and updated edition to cover the translations printed until the present. A parallel research has been conducted on translations existing in manuscript form. This work is yielding four bibliographies: one for each of the Turkish, Persian, and Urdu languages, in which the translations are most numerous, and one bibliography, which was the first published, covering the translations in all languages excluding these three. The latter appeared in

2000, with an Introduction that reviews the history of development of Quran translations in general and manuscript translations in particular with regard to some major languages of the Muslim world. The future volumes, in preparation, will cover the translations in Turkish and in Persian.

The present, second volume in the series and the first to be published among those for each of the said three languages is devoted to translations in the Urdu language. It has been compiled by Dr. Ahmad Khan, a leading expert of manuscript studies in Pakistan and Director of the Centre for the Protection of Arabic Manuscripts, Islamabad, Pakistan. While compiling the bibliography, Dr. Khan did not content himself with collecting the data contained in available catalogues, but visited the various libraries where the works are preserved and obtained the necessary information first hand. Moreover, his Introduction to this volume is a valuable study which surveys and examines various aspects of the translations and exegeses of the Quran in Urdu language. Urdu language played an important role in the development of Quran translations. The comprehensive volume, combined with the information on printed translations in Urdu language contained in IRCICA's 1986 bibliography, it will reflect the overall contribution of Urdu language to translations of the Holy Quran.

