



Newsletter



OIC RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC HISTORY, ART AND CULTURE

The 38th Session of the OIC's Council of Ministers
convened in Astana, Kazakhstan

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received the Director General of IRCICA

H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas,
President of the Palestinian Authority, at IRCICA

United States Secretary of State H.E. Mrs. Hillary R. Clinton
visited IRCICA attending OIC ministerial meeting

IRCICA Activities

Urban heritage study and preservation program:
the first "Islamic Urban Heritage" Summer School

Art exhibitions

Meetings, cooperation

Book survey

Newsletter



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Art and Culture (IRCICA)

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EDITORIAL

Memorable days have marked the last couple of months at IRCICA. Renewed expressions of support and interest by Heads of State of the Member States towards our Centre have greatly honoured us. One of these was the audience granted to me by H.E. Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey, on 24 August, on which a brief report is included here. I am happy I am able to record here while the issue is already at the printers, the news that after the said meeting, His Excellency President Gül visited IRCICA on 16 September 2011 and saw its activities on the spot. Another source of honour and pleasure was the visit of the President of the Palestinian Authority H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas to IRCICA; it was an excellent and a special occasion whereby we presented H.E. Abbas with results of our Centre's work.

The same period also saw activities with special highlights: the United States Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary R. Clinton paid a visit to IRCICA before attending, as Co-Chair, the ministerial meeting on the implementation of UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18 on "Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence, and violence against persons based on religion or belief" which the OIC General Secretariat convened on IRCICA's premises last July.

Our readers must have noticed the name of our Organisation in its new formulation, on the cover of this issue: the 2011 annual session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States decided to change its name from "Organisation of the Islamic Conference" to "Organisation of Islamic Cooperation". The new name better reflects the functions and objectives of the Organisation; meanwhile, the acronym "OIC" by which the Organisation has been known throughout its forty-two year history has been maintained. This was one of the numerous subjects on the agenda of the said session of the Council of Foreign Ministers. The session reviewed the OIC's activities during the past year and took note of progress achieved in international cooperation in the OIC context with respect to the various chapters of the Ten-Year Program of Action. This Program, which was adopted and put to implementation by the Third Extraordinary Islamic Summit Conference (Makkah al Mukarramah, December 2005) is one of the pillars of the OIC's reform package, which was launched by that Summit. The proceedings of the Council of Foreign Ministers session are outlined in our first article here.

Recently a major program was conducted by IRCICA jointly with Al-Thurath Islamic Heritage Foundation (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia), namely the Summer School on "Islamic Urban Heritage. Research, Preservation and Management".

This school of month duration was implemented with the participation of 45 lecturers and more than 120 students from different countries. The courses and field studies to heritage cities focused on technical aspects of management of heritage for tourism purposes. We are planning to organise similar programs in other countries every year. One of the most important features of the program is its relevance for tourism and cultural tourism. In recent years IRCICA has devoted increasing attention to cultural tourism in the context of more than one of its projects. In particular, the Database of Islamic Architectural Monuments maintained by IRCICA with sponsorship from Al-Thurath, is a rich and potentially comprehensive repository of information on the sites and monuments of Islamic heritage. It will serve purposes of record and documentation, as reference for conservation and restoration, research and education, and especially for cultural tourism. The Database was launched at the request of the OIC's Tourism Ministers Conference in its sessions in the mid-2000s. It became operational in 2008, as the first of its kind to be set up in the Muslim world.

As you would recall, an Inaugural Conference of the "1400th Year of the Revelation of the Holy Quran" was organised by IRCICA and opened by the Prime Minister of Turkey exactly one year ago, on 26 Ramadan 1431 H/5 September 2010 corresponding to Laylat ul-Qadr. The said Year, running through 2010-2011, has now ended, as of Ramadan 1532 H/August 2011. The Year, which had been adopted as such by the OIC's Council of Foreign Ministers in 2010 at the suggestion of IRCICA, has been commemorated by governmental and non-governmental authorities, educational and cultural establishments in OIC member countries and by Muslims' associations and institutions world-wide with a variety of events and activities. Occasions arose during the Year whereby IRCICA introduced its work programs and projects relating to studies on the Holy Quran to cultural circles in the Member States and abroad, and displayed its publications concerning the copies and the translations of the Holy Quran at meetings within and outside the OIC. Our Centre also re-scheduled some of its projects in a way to be completed during the year, in commemoration of the anniversary. One such project was the publication of a facsimile edition of the copy of the Holy Quran that is attributed to the time of Ali b. Abi Talib and located in the Great Mosque in Sana'a, Yemen. The edition is supplemented by an expert study of the copy within the framework of an overview of the history of the copying of the Holy Quran throughout centuries and related subjects. We are introducing this publication in this issue of the Newsletter together with other recent publications of our Centre.

Dr. Halit Eren



The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation: the 38th Session of the Council of Ministers convened in Astana, Kazakhstan

The Thirty-eighth Session of the OIC's Council of Foreign Ministers was hosted by the Republic of Kazakhstan on 28-30 June 2011. The session was addressed by H. E. Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary General of the OIC, delivered an address in which he reviewed the situation in the Muslim world and highlighted the main activities of the OIC during the previous year. Then, H.E. Mr. Kazykhanov, Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan gave a welcoming address in which he expressed his gratitude for the election of his country as the Chair of the 38th Council of Foreign Ministers and reaffirmed the determination of Kazakhstan to use its chairmanship to promote peace and development of the Muslim world and strengthen solidarity and cooperation among OIC Member States.

The session, which adopted the motto "Peace, Cooperation and Development", took major decisions, among them the changing of the name of the Organisation from "Organisation of the Islamic Conference" to "Organisation of Islamic Cooperation". In its final declaration the Council "reaffirmed the Member States' determination to give a new impetus to the OIC, to strengthen its role as a means of promoting cooperation among themselves, and implementing the new vision and goals for the Muslim world that requires reform, good governance, and human rights in a way that meets the hopes and aspirations of the Muslim world in the 21st century". Within this context, the Council "heartily welcomed the transformation of the organisation to a more cohesive and effective body under the

new name of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation with a new logo".

A wide range of issues of interest to the Member States were discussed by the Council. Resolutions were adopted on the Cause of Palestine and the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, Political Affairs; Cultural and Social Affairs, Information Matters, Higher Education, Science, Technology, Health and Environment, Legal Affairs; the Situation of Muslim Minorities and Communities in non-OIC Member States; Humanitarian Affairs, among others. The Council reviewed the implementation of major schemes of cooperation and development in the OIC context, particularly the comprehensive Ten-Year Program of Action, of which it noted the successful implementation both for the benefit of the Muslim world and in contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Among the numerous organizational matters, the Council adopted the rules governing the Observer Status at the OIC which will permit eligible states to apply for Observer Status. The Council also adopted a cooperation agreement between the OIC and the African Union which will allow the strengthening of cooperation between the two organisations. The Council welcomed the signing of the OIC Charter by Guyana, Benin, Kyrgyz Republic and Suriname as well as the signing of the Statute of the OIC Women Development Organization by the United Arab Emirates during the Session.

The Council commended the Government of Kazakhstan for organising a special brainstorming session on the theme of



“Consolidating Political Stability and Economic Development in the Muslim World”, with active participation of the Member States. It appreciated the Secretary General for his initiative and the rich concept paper he presented to the session which served as a basis for a thorough discussion. The participants highlighted the vital linkage between the need for the Member States to ensure political stability and socio-economic development. In this regard, they recognized the importance of accelerating the implementation by OIC Member States of the relevant provisions of the OIC Charter and the Ten-Year Program of Action dealing with the numerous challenges facing the Muslim world especially in the fields of political reform, good governance, human rights, rule of law, democracy, inclusive political participation, education reform, women and youth empowerment as well as employment and job creation, eradication of poverty and economic reform. They noted that the prevalence of conflicts, foreign occupation, injustice as well as terrorism continue to undermine stability in some parts of the Muslim world. They stressed the need for the OIC Member States to demonstrate the necessary political will for collective and concerted action and cooperation, strengthen the role of the OIC in the areas of mediation, conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and post-conflict peace building. They further emphasized the importance for the Member States to sign, ratify and implement the various OIC legal instruments that seek to enhance the Joint Islamic Action, boost intra-OIC trade, regional integration, economic cooperation and further raise the visibility of the OIC. The detailed report of the session can be found at oic-oci.org. At the end of its deliberations the Council expressed profound gratitude to the Secretary General, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, for effectively promoting the causes of the Muslim world, for disseminating the Muslim world's values and for raising the profile of the OIC as a significant player and important actor on the global scene.

The 39th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers will be held in Djibouti, in 2012.



The President of Kazakhstan H.E. Nursultan Nazarbayev and OIC Secretary General H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu presenting the new OIC logo

Regarding IRCICA in particular, in its Resolution on the subsidiary organs of the OIC the Council adopted the following:

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. Praises the launching of the program titled “1400 Year of the Revelation of the Holy Quran” commemorating the passage of fourteen centuries since the beginning of the revelation with an International Inaugural Conference held in Istanbul on Laylat ul-Qadr corresponding to 26 Ramadan 1431/5 September 2010; expresses its appreciation to H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey, for giving his patronage and inaugurating the conference and to H.E. Maitre Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal, Chairman of the Eleventh Islamic Summit and Chairman of COMIAC for his Message addressed to the conference, and to all Member States having participated in the event at ministerial and/or scholarly levels, and invites all Member States to devote activities to this commemoration.
3. 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 also, 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 which is published in the series of editions of the oldest copies.
4. Praises the activities aiming to highlight and preserve the Islamic heritage of Al-Quds and Palestine, especially the “Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015” program which produced scholarly and architectural reports and which is carried out through multidimensional Annual Programs with participation of professors and students from world universities; lauds the publication of an annotated documentary album of historical photographs of Al-Quds in three language editions.
5. Commends the Centre's diverse activities, including coordination of intergovernmental academic projects, aimed at promoting correct knowledge and awareness of Islam and its civilization, positive understanding and dialogue among civilizations, correcting references to these subjects in publications and textbooks which also help combating Islamophobia, and notes with appreciation in this regard the launching and on-going 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” and its active participation in the Third Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 27- 30 May 2010 by organizing a Thematic Session on “History as a Tool for Cultural Cooperation” during the Forum.

6. Notes the series of regional congresses on Islamic civilization and history organized jointly with governments and universities within and outside the Member States with participation from around the world, including the congresses focusing on the Balkans (fourth congress, Skopje, 2010), Volga-Ural (fourth congress, Ufa, 2010), the Mediterranean (Nicosia, 2010) as well as the publication of congress proceedings and of research works on history of Muslim peoples such as the book on Tatar History and Civilization, which is the first book in English on this subject, and expresses its appreciation that these congresses and the resulting publications help strengthen scholarly bonds between the Member States on one hand and the Muslim communities and the Islamic cultural heritage located outside the Member States on the other.
7. Takes note with appreciation of the holding of the Second International Congress on Islamic Archaeology in Islamabad, Pakistan, in cooperation with the National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research, in January 2011.
8. Takes note of the progress made in the Islamic Architectural Heritage Database sponsored by H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, Secretary General of the Supreme Council for Tourism and Antiquities, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; 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 Abdullah bin Abdulaziz and organized 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.
9. Notes with appreciation the successful organization of multidimensional events in the context of the Craft Development Program, namely the Doha International Festival on Arts, Heritage and Creativity organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of Qatar which included the international seminar on Innovation and Creativity in Arts and Crafts, the International Doha Award

for Innovation in Crafts and the International Exhibition of Artisans-at-Work held in Doha on 5-9 December 2010; the Muscat International Festival for Arts and Crafts in Muscat on 27 January-24 February 2011 in cooperation with the Muscat Municipality, Oman, and included the organization of the Muscat International Award for Creativity in Crafts, the International Symposium on Innovation in Arts and Crafts, and the International Exhibition for Artisans which gathered 150 artisans from 30 countries.

10. Takes note of the implementation of the Eighth International Calligraphy Competition which was dedicated to the Syrian calligrapher the late M. Badawi Dirani (1312-1387 H/1894-1967) and sponsored by the Abu Dhabi Culture and Heritage Authority with ceremonies held in Abu Dhabi and Istanbul on 15 April 2010.
11. Also takes note of the activation 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.
12. 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, most recently 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.

Another resolution in which the Council of Foreign Ministers referred to IRCICA is on General Cultural Matters, part A on Dialogue Among Civilizations, which “Calls on the OIC General Secretariat, UNESCO, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) to continue to strengthen inter-cultural and inter-civilisational dialogue through concrete and sustainable initiatives, conferences and symposia; and appeals to all Member States, the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), and the Islamic Solidarity Fund (ISF) to provide all possible moral and financial support for the success of these dialogues”, and “Applauds the initiatives, programs and activities taken by the General Secretariat and those by the relevant OIC Specialized and subsidiary bodies in particular the ISESCO and IRCICA for celebration of 2010 as the International Year for Promotion of Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, Understanding and Cooperation for Peace.”

The President of Turkey H.E. Abdullah Gül received Dr. Eren

On Wednesday, 24 August 2011, IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren was received by H.E. Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey, at the Presidential Office in Istanbul. The meeting was an excellent opportunity for Dr. Eren to present H.E. the President with information on latest developments in the activities and with samples of the resulting publications. Among the recent publications which were brought to the attention of President Gül were the facsimile editions of oldest copies of the Holy Quran, the editions of the album of historical photographs of Al-Quds in different languages, an album of photographs of the heritage city of Bursa selected from the Centre's archives, among others. Dr. Eren expressed his gratitude to the President for the support extended to IRCICA's activities by the host country the Republic of Turkey. President Gül showed keen interest and expressed his appreciation of the Centre's work and the publications presented.



President Gül was presented with samples of the publications

H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the Palestinian Authority, at IRCICA

IRCICA was honoured to receive H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the Palestinian Authority, at its headquarters on 23 July 2011. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas was in Istanbul attending the Palestinian Ambassadors' Conference which was held on 23 July 2011 in Istanbul to launch a campaign aiming to bolster international support for the acknowledgment of Palestine's statehood. The conference was opened by the Prime Minister of Turkey Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

The same day, Mr. Mahmoud Abbas and the accompanying delegation visited IRCICA. Mr. Abbas was received at the entrance of the Palace by Director General Dr. Halit Eren. He was invited to the Directorate General where he

was briefed on the Centre's activities, in particular, those relating to Al-Quds. These activities include the long-term program of seminars on the Islamic architecture and monuments of Al-Quds and Palestine and the resulting reports, as well as the publications of the Centre including the album of historical photographs of Al-Quds during the Ottoman period. Then, Dr. Eren guided the distinguished guest and his entourage to the library and other departments of IRCICA where he briefed them on

the various activities carried out in the context of other programs and projects including the editions of the oldest copies of the Quran published by the Centre.

At the end of his visit to the Centre Mr. Mahmoud Abbas signed the Visitors' Book with the following words:

"As we visit the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA) we feel with pride the presence of this history and this civilization that were formed all along the centuries under the reign of the Ottoman Empire, which has marked diverse places of the world. It is an honour for us to learn about the efforts and the accomplishments of this Centre in the service of Islam and Muslims and their history.

*Mahmoud Abbas
President of the Palestinian Authority
23.7.2011"*



H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas was guided to the library of IRCICA

United States Secretary of State H.E. Mrs. Hillary R. Clinton visited IRCICA attending OIC ministerial meeting

The U.S. Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton paid a visit to IRCICA on 15 July 2011. The visit took place before the commencement of the Ministerial Meeting on UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18 which the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) hosted on IRCICA's premises the same day. Mrs. Hillary Clinton met with the OIC Secretary General Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren at the Director General's office.

Mrs. Clinton had visited IRCICA for the first time on 28 March 1996 as the First Lady of the U.S.A., during the period of a series of visits she was conducting in Eastern Europe and Turkey in contribution to international peace and understanding. During this second visit Mrs. Clinton received information from Dr. Halit Eren on the developments achieved in IRCICA's activities since that time. Dr. Eren presented her with a souvenir photograph album of her first visit and a copy of the album of Historical Photographs of Al-Quds/Jerusalem during the Ottoman Period which was published by the Centre.

Mrs. Clinton signed the Visitors' Book:

"It is an honour to return to continue our important conversation, and to appreciate the warm hospitality and sincere efforts to promote interfaith tolerance and understanding.

With best wishes,
Hillary Rodham Clinton
U.S. Secretary of State
July 15, 2011"



The Secretary of State Mrs. Clinton was presented with a photograph album of her first visit to IRCICA

The Ministerial Meeting on the implementation of UN Human Rights Council Resolution 16/18 on "Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence, and violence against persons based on religion or belief" held at IRCICA was co-chaired by the OIC Secretary General Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and US Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary Clinton. Foreign Ministers and high-ranking officials from OIC Member States and other countries and international organizations - Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Pakistan,

Poland, Romania, Senegal, Sudan, United Kingdom, the Vatican (Holy See), UN OHCHR, Arab League, and African Union- as well as the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Lady Ashton were present at the meeting.

The meeting reaffirmed the commitment of the participants to the effective implementation of the measures set forth in UN Resolution 16/18. In his statement, OIC Secretary General İhsanoğlu said that the



Meeting at the IRCICA Directorate General, prior to the ministerial meeting

meeting, in addition to reflecting the requisite political will towards implementation of the Resolution, should also put in place a process of sustained and structured engagement that is geared towards evolving and implementing a common understanding on interrelated issues. The Secretary General proposed a three-pronged strategy to that end: the launch of a structured process of conducting a series of events at multiple venues to build on the consensus reflected in Resolution 16/18; this process of technical engagement would yield alternatives and policy options to be subjected to the inter-governmental process – preferably at the UN Human Rights Council – to further the consensus with emphasis on implementation in a result-oriented fashion; and the implementation will then be underwritten and monitored by the Human Rights Council through the available reporting mechanisms.

In her statement, Mrs. Clinton said that the gathering and the shared commitment it represents, are vitally important. “It is one of these events that has great ramifications far beyond this room.” She applauded the OIC for helping pass Resolution 16/18 at the Human Rights Council. “Together we have begun to overcome the false divide that pits religious sensitivities against freedom of expression, and we are pursuing a new approach based on concrete steps to fight intolerance wherever it occurs. Under this resolution, the international community is taking a strong stand for freedom of expression and worship, and against discrimination and violence based upon religion or belief,” said Mrs. Clinton. “Now is the need for implementation”, she said, and added that the United States intends to invite relevant experts from around the world to the first of what she hoped “will be a series of meetings to discuss best practices, exchange ideas, and keep moving forward beyond the polarizing debates

of the past; to build those muscles of respect and empathy and tolerance that the Secretary General referenced”.

A joint statement was issued by the Co-Chairs at the end of the meeting in which they called upon all relevant stakeholders throughout the world to take seriously the call for action set forth in resolution 16/18, which contributes to strengthening the foundations of tolerance and respect for religious diversity as well as enhancing the promotion and protections of human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world. The Co-Chairs of the meeting affirmed commitment to working together with other interested countries and actors on follow up and implementation of Resolution 16/18 and to conduct further events and activities to discuss and assess implementation of the Resolution.

The participants were encouraged to consider to provide updates, as part of ongoing reporting to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, on steps taken at the international level on the implementation of Resolution 16/18, building also on related measures in the other resolutions adopted by consensus on freedom of religion or belief and on the elimination of religious intolerance and discrimination.

The participants affirmed resolve to go beyond mere rhetoric. They reaffirmed their commitment to freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expressions by urging States to take effective measures, as set forth in Resolution 16/18, consistent with their obligations under international human rights law, to address and combat intolerance, discrimination, and violence based on religion or belief.

(Source: OIC)



The meeting co-chaired by the OIC Secretary General Prof. Ihsanoğlu and the U.S. Secretary of State Mrs. Hillary R. Clinton

Urban heritage study and preservation program: the first “Islamic Urban Heritage” Summer School covered five cities in Turkey

A Summer School on “Islamic Urban Heritage. Research, Preservation and Management” was organised through 27 June-29 July 2011 by IRCICA and Al-Thurath Foundation (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) in collaboration with: Yıldız Technical University, Istanbul (host university); King Saud University, Riyadh; Politecnico di Bari, Bari; Prince's School of Traditional Arts, London; University of Ferrara, Ferrara; University of Sarajevo, Sarajevo; Istanbul University, Istanbul; Marmara University, Istanbul; Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul; Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul; Kadir Has University, Istanbul; Istanbul Kültür University, Istanbul; Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul; Istanbul Şehir University, Istanbul; Bilecik University, Bilecik; Mardin Artuklu University, Mardin; Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Çanakkale; Uludağ University, Bursa; Istanbul Metropolitan Planning and Urban Design (BİMTAŞ) and several other departments of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality.

The Summer School represented a new initiative by IRCICA on one hand and Al-Thurath Foundation chaired by H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman on the other. For IRCICA it comes within the framework of its work programs on urban studies and architectural heritage which took into consideration the recommendations of the First International Conference for Urban Heritage in Islamic Countries which was held under the aegis of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities (SCTA) in May 2010, in Riyadh. The Program underscored the importance of preserving, promoting and encouraging the economic and cultural development of the urban heritage of Islamic countries.

The Summer School focused on:

- research and studies, and documentation of urban heritage sites and buildings, with contributions to further development

of the “IRCICA-Prince Sultan bin Salman Architectural Heritage Database” maintained by IRCICA.

- technical expertise and design of preservation and urban development projects
- management, planning and evaluation of the economic and social impact of urban heritage and its conservation, and provision of appropriate financial solutions.

The school aimed to prepare young educators and professionals capable to promote contemporary approaches of urban heritage preservation at different educational and governmental levels. In this respect, this program particularly addressed to tourism managers, local administrators in municipalities and universities, and professionals in the field of historic preservation. The program was accessible to 80 participants, having completed or about to complete BA programs in architecture, urban planning, art history, history, civil engineering and project management. The participants having successfully completed the program were awarded a certificate issued and signed by the coordinating partners: Research Centre for Islamic History, Art and Culture (IRCICA, Istanbul), Al-Thurath Foundation, and Yıldız Technical University (Istanbul) as the host university, together with the collaborating academic institutions.

The opening ceremony heard Dr. Osamah Al-Gohary, Director of Al-Turath Foundation, Riyadh, presenting the video message of H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, President of Al-Turath Foundation and President of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities (SCTA), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Prof. İsmail Yüksek, Rector of Yıldız Technical University; then spoke Professor Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC. In his welcoming address, Dr. Halit Eren, Director General of IRCICA expressed his pleasure that this



H.R.H. Prince
Sultan bin Salman



Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu



Dr. Halit Eren



Dr. Osamah Al-Gohary



Prof. İsmail Yüksek

program had been put up by a number of institutions including universities from all around the world. "As soon as the concept of the Program was formulated by IRCICA, we found support and cooperation from your Highness HRH Prince Sultan bin Salman, the President of the Al-Turath Foundation and the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities. This comes as another example of our continual cooperation."

Dr. Osamah Al-Gohary, Director of Al-Turath Foundation, said that "Our Foundation is a non-profitable organization that promotes culture through publication, education programs and other training courses. Also, our Foundation gives awards for excellence in architecture to students and institutions. It is without doubt that without partnership of Al-Turath with IRCICA and other institutions from all around the world that this gathering would not have been possible." H.R.H. Prince Sultan bin Salman, President of Al-Turath Foundation and President of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities, said: "It is, indeed, a very important and great event for all of us, the Al-Turath Foundation and IRCICA to be hosting and sponsoring this program. We all are putting a great emphasis on the preservation of our heritage, especially the Islamic heritage, throughout the Islamic world, in Saudi Arabia in particular. Two years ago, we emphasized the importance of Islamic heritage in Saudi Arabia where we are also carrying out tremendous programs to revive and revitalize our heritage sites in the country." Prof. Ismail Yuksek, Rector of Yıldız Technical University, welcomed the institutions, lecturers and participants from all around the world. He said "Istanbul combined the East with the West, not only geographically but also with its soul. The School of Islamic Urban Heritage will highlight the richness of Islamic civilisation throughout the history. It is our duty to protect our entire Islamic heritage and maintain our Islamic cities."

Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Secretary General of the OIC, pointed out that "The program is remarkable for being designed with both theoretical and on-site components. It is praise-worthy because it highlights the study and also brings together the management, conservation and planning aspects, which become more and more important as countries and world community at large increasingly recognize the relevance of heritage for economic activity and tourism as well as for culture. Urban heritage and architectural

heritage are both products and determinants of cultures and civilizations."

The Summer School was arranged as a five week program with lectures, studio work, individual research, and field trips, from 27 June 2011 to 29 July 2011. There were 47 lectures including 8 panels (70 hours in total), and studio work involving the development of selected projects in Istanbul (71 hours, excluding field trips). During the studio work the participants were organised in two groups each assigned to develop one proposal project for a heritage site. Seminar papers/individual research papers were developed by each participant either individually or in groups of two (23 hours of work with instructors). Three field trips were organised to important urban heritage sites in Turkey: Diyarbakır, Mardin, Şanlıurfa, Gaziantep and Antakya in the second week (6-9 July), to Bursa, Cumalıkazık, Bilecik and Söğüt in the third week (14-15 July) and to the World Heritage City of Edirne in the fourth week (22 July).

Lecture themes

- Relating to research: Overview of Islamic Architecture / Comparison among Istanbul, Jerusalem, Samarkand and Mostar / Modernization or Westernization of Islamic City / Sustainability - Autochthonous Symbiosis between Man and Water / Urban Code for the Contemporary Islamic City / Overview of Islamic Architectural Heritage Today / Documentation of Urban Heritage Sites and Buildings

Relating to preservation: Contemporary Approach to Preservation of Building Heritage / International Legislation / Planning in Historic Context / Design in Historic Urban Context/ Preservation of Urban heritage in Istanbul /



The opening ceremony

Structural Aspects of Preservation / Wooden, Stone and Adobe Architecture and their Preservation / Methods and Techniques in Active Preservation of Building Heritage / Environment and Adobe Architecture in Saudi Arabia Today

Relating to management: What we can learn from World Heritage Sites Management / Historic Urban Landscape Approach in the Preparation of the Management Plan / Management plan: Governing, Finance, Planning, Programming, Intervention / Tourism and Heritage / Management of Historic sites in Turkey: Istanbul, Bursa, Mardin, Safranbolu, Antakya.

The Summer School was coordinated by Amir Pasic, Professor of Architecture, Head of Department of Architecture and Heritage, IRCICA, and Faculty of Architecture, University of Sarajevo. Prof. Pasic was helped by a group of assistant coordinators from Saudi Arabia and Turkey. The weekly seminars comprising the above-mentioned lectures are outlined below.

The seminars

Seminar One: History and Theory

The initial week focused on the history and theory of urban

heritage conservation. It introduced international and national approaches to the research, preservation and management of Islamic urban heritage by the presentation of local, national and international cases and discussion of experiences.

In this respect, lectures were given by international lecturers highlighting the international experience, which were followed by lectures presented by experts focusing on the case of Turkey. Then the first panel took place raising the issues on World Heritage Sites in Turkey with an emphasis on the case of Istanbul Historic Peninsula. The week ended with the opening ceremony and the guided Bosphorus cruise where the heritage on the banks of the Bosphorus was presented.

Seminar Two: Management of Heritage

The second week was on the issue of management and heritage. In this context, the main economic, social, legal and architectural/urban elements of heritage management were expressed and successful management plans implemented in international cases were presented in order to identify effective management strategies for urban heritage sites varying in typology, size and location.

Initially, the case of Istanbul World Heritage Site was discussed, emphasizing the current situation with the development of management plan and the monitoring/reporting relation between Turkey and the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. Lectures were given, followed by a field trip to Southeast Turkey where five historical cities (Diyarbakir, Mardin, Sanliurfa, Gaziantep and Antakya) were visited and discussions took place about the management of their heritage sites.

Seminar Three: Documentation

The third seminar was about the documentation of urban heritage sites and historical buildings. The aim of the week was to implement technical expertise and design of preservation and urban development projects. It also intended to contribute to the further development of the "Prince Sultan bin Salman Architectural Heritage Database". Three studio work sessions were allocated to training for the elaboration of the Database. A field trip to Bursa took place where the historical sites within the province were visited and relevant management issues were introduced.

Seminar Four: Preservation practice

The fourth week focused on the practice of historic preservation. It created a platform to share national and international experience, and to promote employment of internationally acknowledged techniques and material in the preservation practice. In this context, five lectures were presented



Studio work

exhibiting preservation practice cases from all around the world. It was followed by the field trip to Edirne, a historic city recently inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, where historic districts of the province were also visited. Then the issue of management of this World Heritage Site was discussed, with the participation of local authorities and lecturers.

Seminar Five: Panels on Research, Presentation and Management

The final week covered the concluding remarks of the Summer School and presentation of the participants' work. After the last studio sessions and individual paper presentations, a concluding panel was held. The closing ceremony and delivery of certificates took place on 28-29 July.

The concluding panel recorded the participants' remarks and observations, which included the following: The Summer School represented a new stage in the field of historic preservation and development of Islamic urban heritage. It benefited from the three-decades-long experience of IRCICA, which involves several competitions, the Mostar 2004 Program, Al-Quds/Jerusalem 2015 Program, and IRCICA/Prince Sultan bin Salman Islamic Architectural Heritage Database.

The Program, equivalent to two PhD semesters based on European education standards, covered a broad range of topics organised in four seminars (history and theory; management of heritage, tourism and economy; documentation of heritage; and the preservation practice). In parallel with these seminars,

lecturers and participants completed practical work on the Suleymaniye area of Istanbul. This 35-days-long academic program involved 50 lecturers, 80 participants and more than 30 representatives of local administrative bodies from Istanbul and other visited cities in Turkey (Diyarbakir, Mardin, Sanliurfa, Gaziantep, Antakya, Bursa, Bilecik, Sogut, Cumalikizik, and Edirne).

During the program, many cultural heritage sites from Turkey and also from around the world (Jerusalem, Sana'a, Cairo, Baku, Mostar, Fez, and others) were discussed and the conclusion of these discussions led to the observation that all of these heritage sites urgently need to establish an integrated conservation system to preserve and develop their heritage and to use natural, manmade heritage, arts and crafts, authentic customs, which all promise to bring economic potentials especially for cultural tourism.

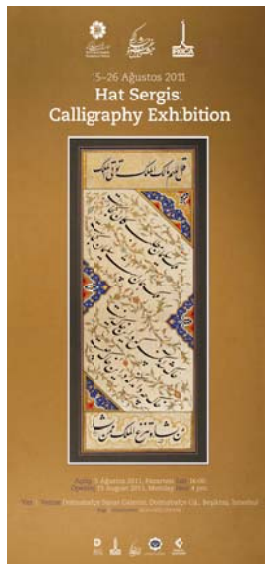
Another recommendation was that the Summer School program should continue, to connect heritage and people, every year in a different part of the Muslim world (e.g. Balkans, or Malaysia, or Central Asia, or Spain-Morocco). Furthermore, a 9-days Program should be organized for young professionals working in academia and state institutions dealing with the protection of heritage and tourism in different region of the Muslim world between two summers. Finally, in order to strengthen this process in long-term, it is necessary to establish a permanent international joint PhD Program aiming to fully elaborate all aspects of historic preservation and sustainable development in this field.



The participants at the opening ceremony

Art exhibitions

Cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization's Cultural Institute (ECI): calligraphy exhibition organized in Istanbul



A calligraphy exhibition organized jointly by IRCICA and the Cultural Institute (ECI) of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) was opened on 15 August 2011 at Dolmabahçe Art Gallery in Istanbul which functions under the supervision of the Directorate of National Palaces attached to the Turkish Grand National Assembly. The event was inaugurated by the Vice Prime Minister of Turkey Mr. Bülent Arınç, in the presence of Consul Generals of various countries, district governors from Istanbul, visitors from art circles and representatives of the cultural press. Dr. Halit Eren said, in his opening address, that the exhibition brought together a select sample of works by eminent calligraphers from the Member States of ECO all of which are at the same time members of the OIC. Mr. Hojatullah Ayyoubi, President of ECI addressed the audience expressing his pleasure to be opening this exhibition in a beautiful gallery within the Dolmabahçe Palace complex. He said that the exhibition was the first joint event realized by IRCICA and ECI within the framework of their cooperation agreement signed on 2 November 2010. Mr. Bülent Arınç, the Vice Prime Minister, delivered an address expressing his appreciation of this art event and



of the cooperation between IRCICA and ECI. He welcomed the members of ECI and the artists from Iran. After the addresses, plaques of appreciation were presented jointly by the two institutions to the masters of calligraphy Mr. Hasan Çelebi from Turkey and Mr. Gholam Hussein Amirkhani from Iran for their contributions to this art.



Opening of the exhibition by the Vice-Prime Minister of Turkey Mr. Bülent Arınç, the President of ECI Mr. Hojatullah Ayyoubi, Dr. Halit Eren



Mr. B. Arınç, Mr. H. Ayyoubi and Dr. Eren touring the exhibition

The exhibition hosted 65 calligraphers from ECO Member States, mostly from Turkey and Iran and also from Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan with a total of 110 works. Famous calligraphers whose works were presented included Ahmet Zeki Yavaş, Ali Şirazi, Ali Toy, Cevad Bahtiyari, Davut Bektaş, Emir Ahmed Felsefi, Fuat Başar, Gulam Hüseyin Emirhani, Hasan Çelebi, İlâhi Hatemi, Muhammed Haydari, Muhammed Salahşur, Osman Özçay and Savaş Çevik. This was the fourth of a series of exhibitions taking place within the framework of the ECI Calligraphy Festival that aims to promote the art heritage of the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

The first exhibition in the series was held at Behzad Art Museum in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 13-27 October 2010, featuring 300 works of calligraphy. Second in the series was the exhibition held at Babur Garden in Kabul, Afghanistan on 2-8 December 2010. As to the third one, it took place in the Gallery of Arts in Tehran, Iran, under the title “The Country of the Sun”, on 15-26 June 2011.



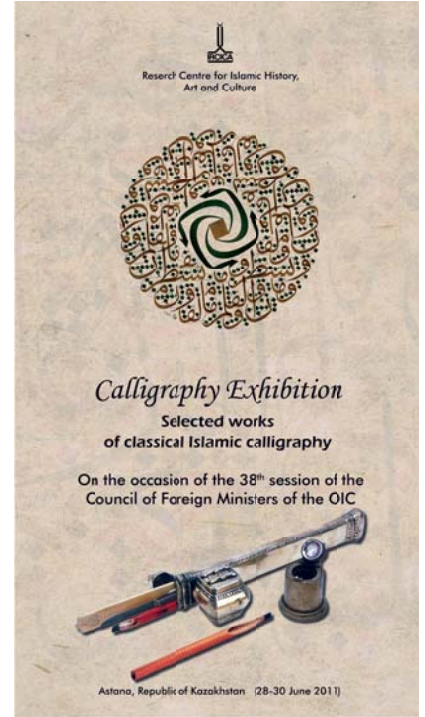
Honouring calligraphers Mr. Gholam Hussein Amirkhani and Mr. Hasan Çelebi



The opening at the exhibition hall

IRCICA's Exhibition of Calligraphy in Astana, Kazakhstan

IRCICA organized an exhibition of calligraphy on the occasion of the 38th Session of the Council of Ministers of the OIC which took place in Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan, on 28-30 June 2011. The exhibition, held at the Presidential Center of Culture, Astana, was opened by OIC Secretary General H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, accompanied by the Director of the Center Mr. Myrzatai Zholdasbekov, in the presence of the delegations participating in the meeting. More than thirty works of calligraphy were displayed, including works by renowned masters of the earlier generation such as Ahmed Karahisari, Mahmud Jalaluddin, Mehmed Aziz, Mehmed Nazif and Mustafa Halim Özyazici as well as by living artists such as Hasan Çelebi, Fuad Başar, Mehmet Özçay, Osman Özçay, Davud Bektaş, Mümtaz Seçkin Durdu, Ferhad Kurlu, Ayten Tiryaki, Adem Sakal, and Jassim Miraj.



Islamic arts exhibition at IRCICA

The Culture and Arts Foundation of Kubbealtı Academy, Istanbul, organized a large exhibition of calligraphy, gilding, marbled paper, tiles and paintings which was held in the exhibition hall of IRCICA on 3-4 July 2011. The event was marking the 41st anniversary of Kubbealtı Arts Foundation. On display were more than thirty works by well-known artists from Turkey. There were calligraphies by artists currently active such as Ahmet Kutluhan and Ali Toy as well as past masters such as Aziz Rifai, Suud Mevlevi, Mehmed Nuri Sivasi and Nuri Korman; marbled paper by Sadrettin Özçimi, Fuat Başar, Banu Mutlu, Seda Küçükşarp, Kamile Akdede, Nuran Öner and Deniz Kaplan; artistic tiles by Altın Çini Co., Mehmet Koçer and Kerim Keçecigil; gilding by Esra Karaduman, Ayşe T. Celasin and Ali Ersen Özyurt and paintings by masters such as Ayhan

Türker and Erol Deran.



Among the guests present were the Consul Generals of some OIC Member States, art specialists, and representatives of the cultural press in Turkey. IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren opened the exhibition with a speech in which he informed the audience that the majority of the works presented were borrowed from Ekrem Hakkı Ayverdi Collection. He recalled that the late professor Ekrem Hakkı Ayverdi, author of an 8-volume publication on the history of architecture, was at the same time a collector and restorer of art works.



Opening of the exhibition

MEETINGS, COOPERATION

The Minister of Foreign Relations, International Cooperation and Communities of Guinea-Bissau H.E. Mr. Adelino Mano Queta visited IRCICA

H.E. Mr. Adelino Mano Queta, Minister of Foreign Relations, International Cooperation and Communities, Republic of Guinea-Bissau, and Ambassador Joao Soares da Gama, Ambassador of Guinea-Bissau with the UN were received by Dr. Halit Eren at IRCICA on 12 May 2011. Following the talks on cooperation between Guinea-Bissau's cultural authorities and institutions and IRCICA and on cultural and educational issues in general, Dr. Eren guided the guest to some of the research departments and to the library where the Minister received information on the collections, especially those on African culture, languages and arts, and the library's modernization projects, including the digital library. The Minister recorded in the Visitors' Book that they were impressed by the quality of the researches and the library.

The Minister and his delegation were participating in the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries which took place on 9-13 May 2011 in Istanbul.



Visit of a parliamentary and ministerial delegation from Tatarstan

IRCICA received a high-level parliamentary and ministerial delegation from Tatarstan on 28 May 2011. The delegation comprised Mrs. Rimma Ratnikova, Assistant Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr. Razil Valeev, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Culture, Science, Education and National Matters, and Mr. Airat Sibgatullin, Minister of Culture of Tatarstan and other cultural dignitaries. The meeting with Dr. Halit Eren dealt with the various aspects of the collaboration going on between Tatarstan and IRCICA especially in the context of the Agreement for Cultural Cooperation which is in effect since 2007. Dr. Eren also briefed the guests on latest developments in IRCICA's activities and guided them to the library and research departments.



The Tatarstan delegation in the Centre's library

The Islamic University in Gaza: high-level visit from the Board of Trustees

Prof. Jamal Naji Al-Khadri, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Islamic University of Gaza, and Prof. Khaled Muhammad Al-Hindi, Secretary of the Board, visited IRCICA on 20 May 2011. The meeting with Director General Dr. Eren was a fruitful exchange of information on the activities and scholarly fields of common interest. The guests also visited the library of the Centre, saw the album of historical photographs of Al-Quds and other publications of the Centre, as well as the library's section of books on Palestine.



Visit of the Ambassador of Sudan in Ankara, Turkey H.E. Mr. Omar Haider Abu Zaid

The Ambassador of Sudan in Ankara, Turkey, visited IRCICA on 15 June 2011. The Ambassador met with Dr. Halit Eren, received information on activities of the Centre relating to the history of Sudan and development of cooperation between the Centre on one hand and universities and cultural institutions of Sudan on the other. The results of these activities include the book titled Ottoman Administration in The Sudan in the Light of Archival Documents (in Arabic) which was published by IRCICA in cooperation with the Department of Ottoman Archives affiliated to the State Archives of the Turkish Prime Ministry. Ambassador Abu Zaid recorded his impressions in the Visitors' Book, "Today I have the honour of visiting this great Islamic center. In fact, our Islamic nation really needs the work that the Centre does in as much as it aims at unity, solidarity and new prospects in order to have its place among other nations. I would also like to pay a tribute to the scholar Dr. Halit Eren who directs this immense work..."



The Ambassador of The Gambia in Turkey H.E. Mr. Gibril Joof visited IRCICA

Ambassador Gibril Joof, Ambassador of The Gambia in Ankara, Turkey, accompanied by the Deputy Ambassador Mr. Yakuba Brammeh, visited IRCICA on 21 June 2011. Following the talks addressing issues of cooperation between The Gambia and IRCICA, Dr. Eren guided the guests to the different sections of the Centre. Ambassador Joof recorded his impressions in the Visitors' Book, that "This work requires all the commendation and support of all Muslims the world over."



The Gambian Ambassador and his colleague visited the Centre's departments

Visit of Sheikh-ul-Islam Allahşükür Paşazade, Chairman of the Caucasian Muslims Office in Azerbaijan, at IRCICA

Sheikh-ul-Islam Allahşükür Paşazade, Chairman of the Caucasian Muslims Office, in Azerbaijan, visited IRCICA on 21 July 2011 within the framework of the program of his visit to Turkey. Mr. Paşazade was accompanied by a delegation comprising officials from the Caucasian Muslims Office and deputies from the Azerbaijan Parliament: Salman Musaoğlu (Vice-Chairman, Caucasian Muslims Office - CMO), Mukaddes Payizov (Director of External Relations, CMO), Rufet Hasanov (Head of the Cabinet, CMO), Cavanşir Paşazade (Deputy), Fettah Haydarov (Deputy), Hüseyinbala Miralamov (Deputy), Mr. Faiq Bagirov (Ambassador of Azerbaijan in Ankara) and Mr. Bünyamin Çil (Representative in Turkey of Caucasian Muslims).

The focus of the talks with IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren was on studies being conducted by the Centre on the written sources of Islamic culture and heritage. In this regard Dr. Eren informed the distinguished guest of the Centre's editions of the oldest known copies of the Holy Quran and its currently preparing an edition of the copy of the Holy Quran that is attributed to the time of Ali bin Abi Talib. Mr. Paşazade praised this work while signing the Visitors' Book as one that symbolized "a peak of the activities undertaken by this eminent institution". He also recorded that IRCICA also undertakes important cultural work in Azerbaijan. After the meeting, Dr. Eren told the media representatives present that Sheikh-ul-Islam Paşazade's and his delegation's visiting the Centre was important as an opportunity to review past cooperation projects and launch new ones. Mr. Paşazade said he had visited IRCICA earlier and commended the Centre's book collections qualifying them as a valuable treasure.

In the afternoon of the same day Sheikh-ul-Islam Paşazade was received by the President of Turkey Abdullah Gül and Prime Minister Erdoğan respectively. He was visiting Turkey at the invitation of the Presidency of Religious Affairs of Turkey.



Signing the centre's book

Visit of Mr. Nicholas Kotsiras, Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship, Victoria, Australia

On 26 July 2011 the Centre received Mr. Nicholas Kotsiras, Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship of Victoria, Australia. The Director General of IRCICA Dr. Halit Eren briefed the Minister and accompanying guests on the Centre's projects and activities, particularly those relating to interactions between cultures, past and present, the preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of the arts. He guided the visitors to the library building and the other departments. Mr. Kotsiras informed Dr. Eren on multicultural events and art activities implemented in Victoria responding to its remarkably diverse population.



The visit was a good opportunity for acquaintance on each other's cultural activities

BOOK SURVEY

»»» History of Science

- **Science and Religion around the World**, edited by John Hedley Brooke and Ronald L. Numbers, Oxford University Press, 2011

Research interest in the history of science and religions has grown remarkably in recent decades. Studies on religions and the status of religion in state and society around the world intersect with studies on science in its different socio-cultural environments which creates a vast research sector addressing the relationship between science and religion. This sector itself is now being explored with increasing attention, but mainly with a focus on the Western world. The picture can aim completion only when the diverse cultural and religious contexts around the world are taken into account. This book represents a pioneering effort to fill this lacuna by exploring the relations between science and religion as they took place over history in different environments, in regions as diverse as ancient China, India, and sub-Saharan Africa. Its chapters contributed by authoritative scholars discuss science in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam and its relationship with religious beliefs in each context. Altogether it opens a new horizon of inter-religious perspectives in the study of history of science by looking into how the perception of the natural and the understanding of the spiritual were accommodated by the different peoples. The editors are Prof. John Hedley Brooke (held the Andreas Idreos Chair of Science and Religion and was Director of the Ian Ramsey Centre at Oxford University from 1999 to 2006; currently President of the International Society for Science and Religion) and Prof. Ronald L. Numbers (Hilldale Professor of the History of Science and Medicine and of Religious Studies, member of the department of medical history and bioethics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison). Their Introduction is titled "Contextualizing Science and Religion". The chapter on Early Islam is by Prof. Ahmad S. Dallal (formerly chair of the Arabic and Islamic Studies Department, Georgetown University, currently Provost of the American University of Beirut) and the chapter on Modern Islam is by Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu (OIC Secretary General, ex-President of the International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science). The chapter on Early Chinese Religions is by Prof. Mark Csikszentmihalyi (University of California, Berkeley). Indic Religions are treated by Prof. B.V. Subbarayappa, and African Religions, by Prof. Steven Feierman (University of Pennsylvania) and Prof. John M. Janzen (University of Kansas). Finally, Prof. David N. Livingstone (Queen's University of Belfast) has chosen the

title "Which Science? Whose Religion?" for his concluding remarks, a title which could not be more eloquent in reflecting the extreme complexity of the cases and situations that plural perspectives advocated by the present work deal with which at the same further underscores the need for this work.

- **Almagest. International Journal for the History of Scientific Ideas**, by the Network of History of Science of Southeastern Europe, Brepols Publishers, 1/1, 2 (2010), 2/1 (2011)

Through this journal the Network of History of Science of Southeastern Europe has constituted a forum for historians of science from Southeastern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean which will promote their research and make it known to the international community of historians of science. Published twice a year since the beginning of 2010, *Almagest* has appeared in three issues of 190-200 pages each until now. It views the history of science both as a history of ideas and as a history of activities that have taken place in institutional and social contexts. Its perspective is defined in a way to contribute in developing interdisciplinary and comparative approaches in research on the history of science. It also aims to address the philosophical assumptions underpinning scientific ideas and developments, but also the reciprocal influence between historical context and these phenomena. With these objectives, the journal promises to be promoting history of science research that would be attune to the real conditions, context, period and socio-cultural environment in which scientific activity takes place. Such a perspective would also "contribute to a better understanding of major issues of the present day, such as those concerning cultural conflicts, multiculturalism, cultural fusions and globalization. ... Thus, the journal invites papers that examine and analyse the relations between scientific activity on the one hand and, on the other, the specific geographic locations, political context, social conditions, religious undercurrents, and the technology of a given era." Another objective of the editors is to promote the teaching of history of science at all levels of education.

Volume I, issue 1 includes articles on a variety of topics and a section on Science and Religion. Volume I, Issue 2, begins with a special section where the reader will find papers presented at the symposium on "Ideas and Instruments in the Social Context in the Ottoman Empire and the National States"

convened during the International Congress on History of Science and Technology which was held in 2009 in Budapest. It has a Foreword by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu (OIC Secretary General, A. Koyré Medal for the history of science), and papers by: Attila Bir, Mustafa Kaçar, "Evolution, Functioning, and Capacity of the Mediterranean Windmills"; Salim Ayduz, "The Ottoman Royal Cannon Foundry: 'Tophane-i Amire'; Sevtap Kadioglu, "Şemseddin Sami's Treatise of Astronomy, Gök (Sky): An Effort towards the Formation of Turkish Scientific Language and Popularizing Science"; Tuncay Zorlu, "Tracing technology through terminology: Ottoman nautical terminology as attested in the 18th century archival sources"; Kyriakos Kyriakou, Konstantine Skordoulis, Kostas Tampakis, "The Reception of Ernest Haeckel's Ideas in Greece". The "Varia" section in this issue has: Huang Huang, Ying Qin, "A new perspective on ancient technique communication of cosmetics between the east and the west, based on the analysis

of Chinese cosmetics—'Hu' powder", Catherine Karela, "Hilbert on different notions of completeness: a conceptual and historical analysis", Raffaele Pisano, "On Principles In Sadi Carnot's Thermodynamics (1824). Epistemological Reflections", followed by book reviews. The first issue of Volume 2 appeared in May 2011. It highlights specialized and specific themes: E. Kolchinsky, "History of science in Russia in the 20th century Russia: St. Petersburg as a case study"; E. Knobloch, "The notion of mathematics – An historico-epistemological approach using Kaspar Schott's Encyclopedia of all mathematical sciences"; G. Cornelis, "Against Chronological and Impersonal Accounts of the History of Science. Towards non-linear didactics"; J.A. Roberts, "Louis Agassiz on Scientific Method, Polygenism, and Transmutation: A Reassessment"; M. Vergara, "The Popularization of Science and the Idea of Territory in the Brazilian First Republic: the José Veríssimo Phase of the Revista Brasileira (1895-1900)".

OBITUARY

IRCICA has suffered the loss of a dear staff member Semiramis Çavuşoğlu

It is with deep and heartfelt sadness that IRCICA announces the demise of Dr. Semiramis Çavuşoğlu, senior researcher at IRCICA since July 1990. Ms. Çavuşoğlu lost her battle with cancer after many months of illness during which she nevertheless maintained her enthusiasm for work at the Centre, to which she was attached strongly and sincerely.

With her excellent professional qualifications and remarkable meticulousness Çavuşoğlu contributed importantly to the translation and editing of many scholarly publications of IRCICA. She had special, charming qualities which endeared her to friends and colleagues. Extremely considerate with graceful words and manners, she was a modest person who liked to do good for others.

Semiramis Çavuşoğlu was born in Istanbul, Turkey in 1956. She received her BA from Bosphorus University, Faculty of Administrative Sciences, Department of Sociology in 1978. During the academic year of 1977-78, she worked as a research assistant at the Humanities Department at Bosphorus University.

She obtained her MA (1982) and her PhD (1990) from Princeton University, New Jersey, U.S.A. Her PhD dissertation was on "The Kadizadeli Movement: an attempt of reform in the Ottoman Empire".

Her main hobby was poetry: she has several articles and poems that were published in literary magazines such as *Türk Edebiyatı* and *Yeni Defne*. A collection of her poems was published in 1999.

Semiramis passed away on 29 August 2011 corresponding to the last day of Ramadan 1432 and was buried on the first day of Eid al-Fitr. May God bless her soul.



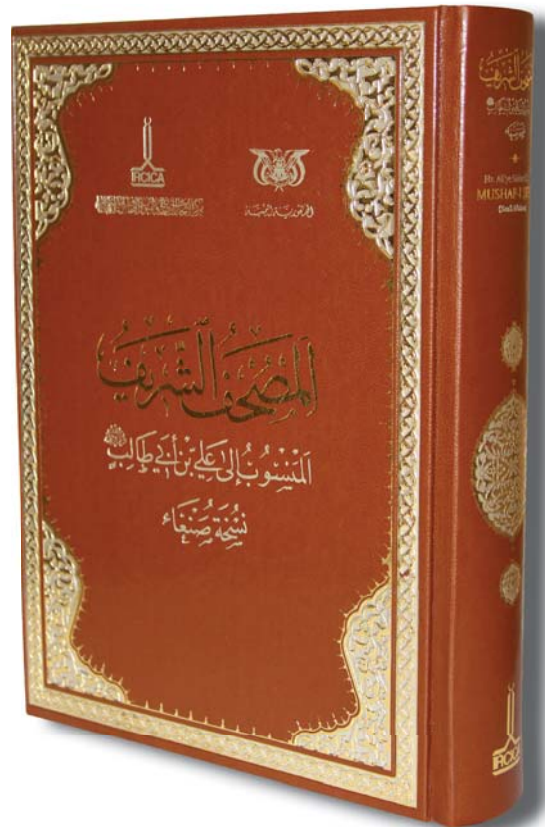
IRCICA Publications

Al-Mushaf Al-Sharif attributed to Ali b. Abi Talib (The copy of Sana'a)

prepared for publication by Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç, IRCICA, Istanbul, 2011

This is a facsimile edition of the copy (Mushaf) of the Holy Quran which is attributed to the time of Ali b. Abi Talib and located in Sana'a, Yemen. It comes out as a third publication in IRCICA's series of editions of oldest copies of the Quran. Earlier IRCICA had published editions, accompanied by descriptive and comparative studies, of two Quran copies that are attributed to the time of Othman b. Affan namely the copies of Topkapı, Istanbul and al-Mashhad al-Husayni, Cairo. The other copies attributed to the same period are in the following cities: Istanbul (the Museum of Turkish and Islamic Arts, edition published by ISAM, Istanbul, 2008); London; Paris; St. Petersburg, and Tashkent. There are other editions of Quran copies that IRCICA published outside this series. One of them is the copy dated 582 H/1186 and known as the Fazil Pasha (Sherifović) Mushaf, which is located in Gazi Husrevbegova Library, Sarajevo. Another edition, supervised by IRCICA, is the reprint of the Mushaf of Kazan dated 1803 which is known to be the first copy printed in the Muslim world; it was reprinted in cooperation with Kazan Municipality in the year 2005 corresponding to the millennium of Kazan city. By publishing these editions, with studies in the case of the former ones, IRCICA aims to contribute in preserving them and making them known and accessible to all.

The Sana'a copy is located at the Grand Mosque of Sana'a. The elaborate Introduction to the edition is a study by Dr. Tayyar Altıkulaç, specialist of the history of copies of the Quran and ex-Head of Religious Affairs in Turkey. The study is a concise history of the dissemination of the Holy Quran through its copies and of the developments relating to script, orthography, punctuation, locations, etc. of the copies. It examines, describes and analyses the characteristics of the Sana'a copy as to script, orthography, binding, etc. It also describes the other copies attributed to the period of Othman b. Affan as well as the copy printed by the King Fahd Complex for the Printing of the Holy Quran, Medina, which is known to be in conformity with the orthography of the time of Othman b. Affan.



IRCICA planned to publish this edition during the 2010-2011 period which, at the suggestion of IRCICA, was designated by the 2010 meeting of the OIC's Council of Foreign Ministers as the "1400th Year of the Revelation of the Holy Quran". The Council had invited all OIC member countries and Muslims' associations and institutions world-wide to commemorate this anniversary of the beginning of the revelation with cultural and scholarly activities that would contribute in diffusing a correct and deeper understanding of the Holy Quran. IRCICA for its part is honoured to have been able to record this publication among its activities related to the said Year.

IRCICA Publications

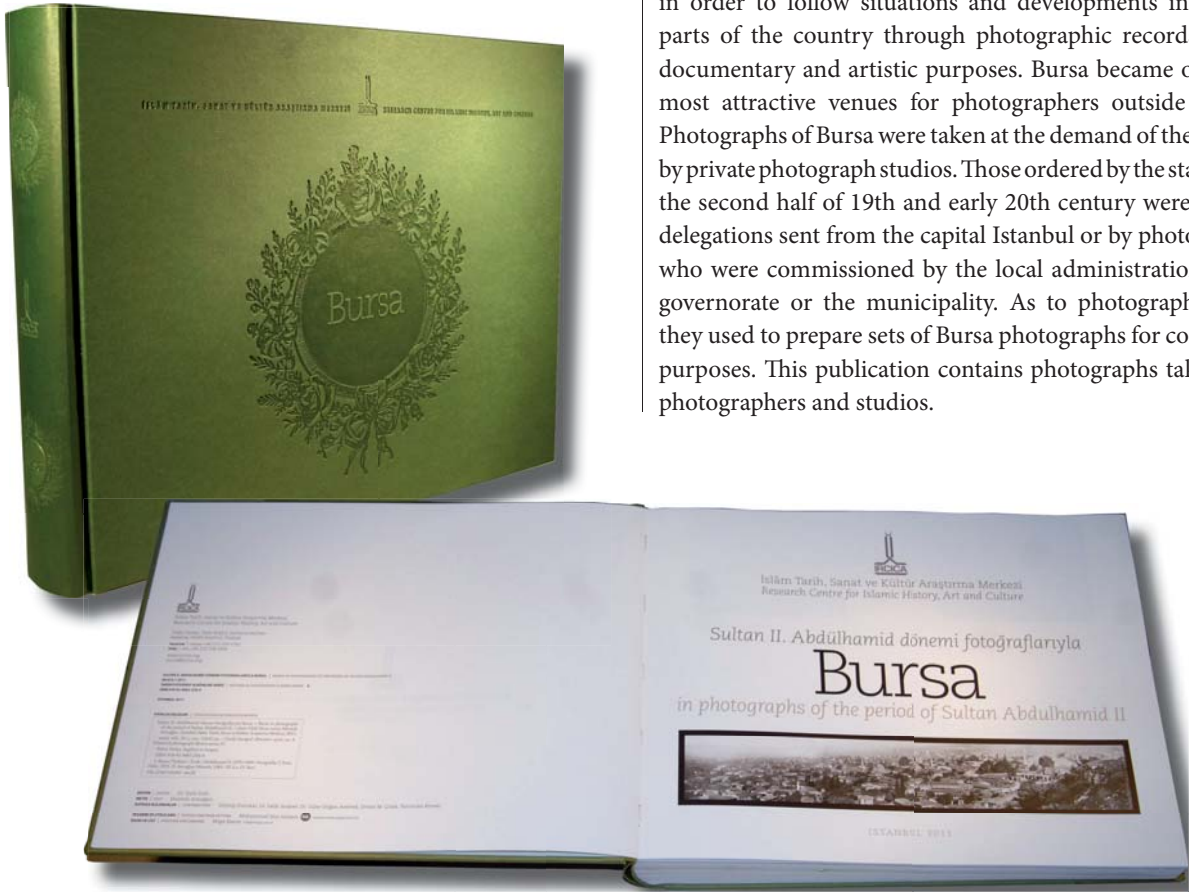
Bursa in photographs of the period of Sultan Abdulhamid II

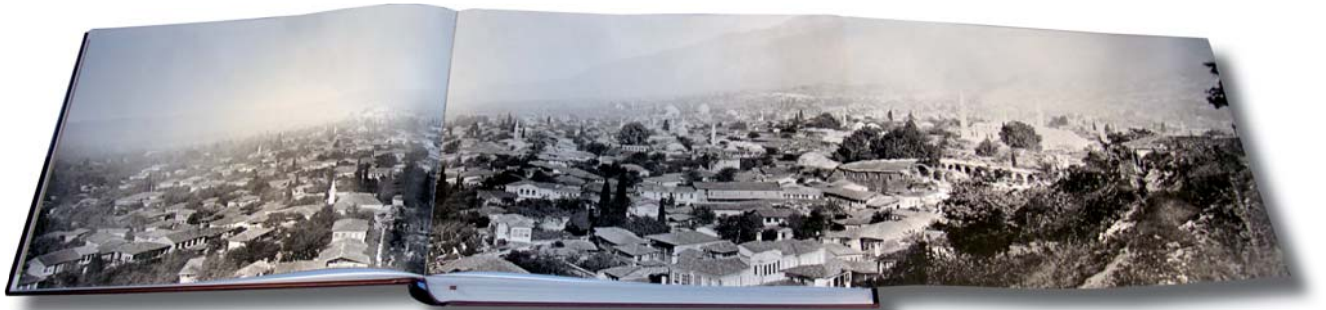
IRCICA, Istanbul, 2011 (in English, Arabic and Turkish)

The city of Bursa, situated in the north-west of Turkey, has been for millennia a settlement area at the intersection of travel and trade routes. From 1335 to 1363 it was the capital of the Ottoman State. Today a major industrial zone, it still maintains its importance as a center of tourism, history, arts and archaeology. IRCICA has published a deluxe album of photographs of Bursa dating from the period of Sultan Abdulhamid II, i.e. from the end of the 19th-beginning of the 20th century. The photographs were selected from the various collections contained in the archives of IRCICA namely the

Yıldız Palace Archives – which as a whole dates from that period, the collections of Fahreddin Pasha, Sabiha Darga, Salih Keramet Nigar, İbnülemin Mahmud Kemal İnal, Hidayet Yavuz Nuhoglu, Tefik Bıyıklıoğlu, Talip Mert, Hikmet Ögüt, and IRCICA's Miscellaneous.

After the introduction of the photography technique to the Ottoman State mid-19th century, photograph studios were established in the capital Istanbul and later in other cities. Interest in photography grew fast, encouraged by the State's effort to benefit from this technique to the maximum extent in order to follow situations and developments in different parts of the country through photographic records and for documentary and artistic purposes. Bursa became one of the most attractive venues for photographers outside Istanbul. Photographs of Bursa were taken at the demand of the state and by private photograph studios. Those ordered by the state during the second half of 19th and early 20th century were taken by delegations sent from the capital Istanbul or by photographers who were commissioned by the local administration, i.e. the governorate or the municipality. As to photograph studios, they used to prepare sets of Bursa photographs for commercial purposes. This publication contains photographs taken by 12 photographers and studios.



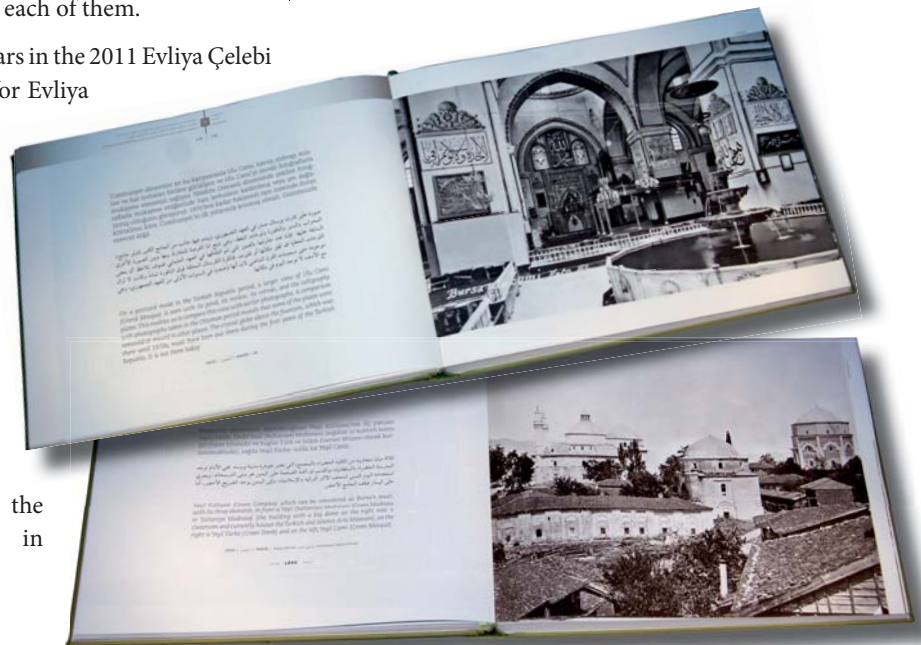


The contents of this publication show that great importance was attached to Bursa during the reign of Abdulhamid II, that this city which used to be the capital of the Ottoman State in its foundation stages was rehabilitated later not only with a nostalgic approach but with public works and investments on schools, factories, fountains and roads. The photographs in the album are grouped in ten sections: General Views; Neighborhoods and Districts; Gates; Mosques; Tombs; Fountains; Roads; Avenues and Bridges; Ceremonies; Personalities. The section on "Photographers and Photograph Studios" gives brief information on each of them.

separate English, Turkish and Arabic editions, an album on Egypt in the 19th century with annotations in English and in Arabic, albums of Istanbul and Erzurum with annotations in English and in Turkish, and the albums titled "A Century Old Turkish-Japanese Friendship in Historical Photographs" containing texts in Japanese, English and Turkish, "The Friendship Between Turkey and Yemen Throughout History" in Arabic, English and Turkish, and "Turkish-Afghan Friendship in Historical Photographs" with texts in Dari, English and Turkish.

It is significant that this album appears in the 2011 Evliya Çelebi Year declared by UNESCO, since for Evliya Çelebi (1611-1684) Bursa was of special importance. It was the first city that he visited outside Istanbul and one of the very few he traveled to specifically to learn about it. The chapters relating to Bursa are in the second volume of his ten-volume travelogue, after the first volume which is devoted to Istanbul.

Earlier, IRCICA had published the albums on Jerusalem/Al-Quds in



Sullam al-Wusul ila Tabaqat al-Fuhul
(The Ladder of Elevation to the Lives of the Great and Famous by Generation)
Katib Chalabi

Edited and Introduction by Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, in collaboration with Mahmoud Al-Arnaut and Saleh Sadawi Saleh,
Indices by Selahaddin Uygur, 2 eds.: Arabic-English and Arabic-Turkish, 6 vols.; IRCICA, Istanbul, 2010,
Vol. I: 501 p. Ar. + 50 p. English or Turkish; Vol. II: 439 p.; Vol. III: 473 p.; Vol. IV: 485 p.; Vol. V: 489 p.;
Vol. VI: Index, 420 p.

The present book is a critical edition of the major biographical work Sullam al-Wusul by Katib Chalabi (d. 1657), one of the most important Ottoman scholars of the 17th century. His most well-known works are Kashf al-Zunun (bibliographical), Sullam al-Wusul (biographical), Fezleke (general Islamic history) and Cihannuma (geographical). The first cited, an outstanding bibliography in history of science, and the last cited, were published many times. Sullam al-Wusul was not published until today (Fezleke either).

The book is arranged in two editions of 6 volumes each. The main body is in Arabic in both editions, whereby the comprehensive Introduction by Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and the Preface by Dr. Halit Eren are provided in also English in one of the editions and also in Turkish in the other edition. The sixth volume altogether is the Index.

Work towards this publication was conducted at the initiative and under the editorship and coordination of Prof. İhsanoğlu on the occasion of the 2009 Katib Chalabi Year proclaimed by UNESCO. It was conceived in the context of IRCICA's objective to publish major sources of culture and learning that are part of the Muslim world's heritage and render them available to researchers.

In the comprehensive Introduction, İhsanoğlu explores some features of Islamic literature in the area of biography as observed over the centuries. Historians of the Muslim world wrote hundreds of books in every branch of biography: "While some of these contained the biographies of scholars belonging to specific branches of science or to certain sects, others dealt with the life stories of statesmen, scholars and religious authorities who lived in specific places or specific periods of time. These kinds of biographies were usually arranged by category and by date. ... Another type of biographies contained information on important statesmen, scholars, religious figures, authors, artists, etc. having lived in history. ... This type of general biography was usually arranged alphabetically. ...



Katib Chalabi is the leading, or one of the leading personality among those who produced general biographies."

This biography records the lives and works of important statesmen and scholars in Islamic history and also of renowned personalities from pre-Islamic times who held a place in learning and literature. In the second part of the book Katib Chalabi gives information about the personalities' names derived from their places of origin or their genealogy. In the prologue, he explains the method he followed in the book, comments on the science of history, and adds information on names derived from places or genealogy. In this regard Sullam al-Wusul is also a book on genealogy.

The Index section has been added to the edition. It is composed of four parts: personal names, place names, publication titles, names of institutions.

IRCICA is pleased to render this major work on the history of science and culture available to researchers and interested readers.

TATAR

History and Civilisation

Edited by Damir Ishaqov, Project Director: Halit Eren, Project Advisors: M.A. Usmanov, R.S. Khakimov,
translated by Ilnur I. Nadirov, IRCICA, 2010

This is a rich and comprehensive book on the history and civilization of the Tatars and the first to be published in the English language. It is a collaborative work in which 35 scholars from Tatarstan participated. The book begins with the comprehensive Introduction by Dr. Damir Ishaqov titled “The Tatar World: Ethnos, Culture and Language”. It is followed by Part I on History, containing 10 chapters. This part evaluates the historical transformation of Tatar society and institutions from pre-Islamic times to the post-Soviet era. Part II on Social Structure and Economic Development in Tatar Society, which has six chapters, focus on the social structure, economic development and daily life of Tatar community. Part III on Culture, with 10 chapters, covers the evolution of Tatar language, educational institutions, arts and culture. Each part ends with a section of photographs. The book was originally prepared in the Tatar language under the coordination of IRCICA Director General Dr. Halit Eren and the scholarly advice of Professors Mirkasim A. Usmanov and Rafael S. Khakimov; it was translated into English by Ilnur Nadirov, and prepared for publication at IRCICA.

Knowledge of Tatar history and civilization around the world was until recently confined to a limited circle of specialists. However interest in the subject has been growing recently as is reflected through the IRCICA conferences on Volga-Ural history and civilization among others. The Conclusion by Prof. Rafael Khakimov points to the importance of the Tatar factor in understanding the history of Russia and the whole world. IRCICA believes that the present publication will contribute importantly in this direction. Research and learning interest about the Tatar factor in history and civilization will grow simultaneously with the process Khakimov describes concisely and meaningfully at the end of his Conclusion: “Today many things have fundamentally changed, but Tatar civilization leans on its own experience and values”. There is a great deal to draw from this experience and these values, as the published studies have already demonstrated.

