

YUNUS EMRE BULLETTİN

ENSTİTÜSÜ

JULY 2015

EDITION 25

Interview with
Prof. Nurhan Atasoy about
MATRAKÇI NASUH





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ONCE AGAIN, WE STAND BEFORE YOU WITH A NEW BULLETIN ISSUE OF THE YUNUS EMRE INSTITUTE.

Dear Readers,

With almost 50 centres in 30 countries worldwide, we continue to deliver the outstanding samples of the Turkish language, culture and arts to tens and thousands of individuals. With the summer months, we organised a six week Turkology Summer School programme in Turkey for 500 foreign students from our branches overseas. The scope of the 2015 Turkology Summer Schools event, which has been organised for the 5th time, has widened even further based on past experiences. Our student friends, who have been attending this programme, are able to attend conferences, panels, talks and tours and also have the opportunity to practice Turkish. Our programme, which will continue until August 22, will be finalised with a gala programme at the Istanbul Ülker Sports Arena Center. With this opportunity, I would like to personally invite all of you to our programme. In recent years, Turkey has also made an indelible impression with its projects in the fields of culture, art and literature. The encouragement to achieve higher standards in our work has become a more powerful desire during our visits to foreign countries and our branches overseas. We exhibited archaeological works belonging to the 16th century with our exhibition in Zagreb titled "Iznik



Yunus Emre Enstitüsü



Prof. Dr. Hayati Develi
Başkan

Ceramics - The Ottomans from the Depths of the Adriatic" for the archeology-lovers. The opening of the exhibition organised by the Astana Yunus Emre Institute titled "Gallipoli: The Centennial of the Gentlemen's War" was attended by the First Lady, Emine Erdoğan. The sound of the mahtar echoed in Japan with the "Mahtaran Concerts" that took place as part of The Commemoration of the Ertuğrul Frigate Disaster. In this bulletin, we have prepared a detailed profile on Matrakçı Nasuh, in which we had organised a miniature exhibition in Sarajevo in April. I would like to personally extend my appreciation to Professor Nurhan Atasoy for her support and contributions. With this issue, our Turkish-English bulletins will also be available in Turkish-Arabic. We will continue to unite you with the connoisseurs of the world of culture, art and literature in the upcoming bulletins.

As of this issue, we are becoming recognizant of our cultural centres that are the windows opening to the World. We share with you the expert staff and activities of our Budapest Yunus Emre Institute located in Hungary. With this opportunity, on behalf of the Yunus Emre Institute, I would like to wish you all happy and peaceful days.

Yours Truly,



YUNUS EMRE ENSTİTÜSÜ Culture Centers

A

- Afghanistan - Kabul
- Germany - Berlin
- Germany - Cologne
- Albania - Shkodër
- Albania - Tiran
- Austria - Vienna
- Azerbaijan - Baku

B

- Belgium - Brussels
- Bosnia Herzegovina - Mostar
- Bosnia Herzegovina - Foynitsa
- Bosnia Herzegovina - Sarajevo

C

- Algeria - Algeris

F

- Morocco - Rabat
- France - Paris

G

- South Africa - Johannesburg
- Gergia - Tbilisi

H

- Holland - Amsterdam
- Croatia - Zagreb

I

- England - Londra
- Iran - Tehran
- Italia - Rome

J

- Japan - Tokio

K

- Montenegro - Podgorica
- Kazakhstan - Astana
- Kosova - Prizren
- Kosova - Peć
- Kosova - Pristina
- Cyprus - Nicosia Northern

L

- Lübanon - Beirut

M

- Hungary - Budapest
- Macedonia - Skopje
- Egypt - Alexandria
- Egypt - Cairo
- Moldova - Comrat

P

- Poland - Warsaw

R

- Romania - Constanta
- Romania - Buncharest
- Russia - Kazan

S

- Serbia - Belgrade
- Sudan - Khartoum

U

- Jordan - Amman



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SERDAR KILIÇ IN TIRANA

Serdar Kiliç, the producer of the television programme Man in Nature, sportsman, academic trainer and motivational speaker, was in Albania as a guest of The Yunus Emre Institute.

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MARIO LEVI MEETS HIS READERS IN LONDON

The author, Mario Levi, has come together with his readers at a commune session titled "Being a Writer in Istanbul", at The Yunus Emre Institute London Turkish Cultural Center.





Emine Erdoğan

at The Sarajevo Cultural Centre



Emine Erdoğan, who accompanied President Erdoğan during his Bosnia Herzegovina visit, visited the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre. Emine Erdoğan, who was accompanied by Sebiya Izzetbegović, the wife of Bakir Izzetbegović, the Bosnia Herzegovina Presidency Council Member, visited the exhibition 'Mystical Light and Sufi Objects' at the Centre. At this event, Emine Erdoğan came together with the representatives of the Srebrenitsa and Zepa Mothers Association, the Medica Zenitsa Association, the Podrinje Women's Association and Istanbul Education and Culture Centre. Erdoğan, who listened to the painful war memories of the mothers, was informed about the works of the associations. Emine Erdoğan expressed that the Turkish people have shared the pains since the war and emphasised the importance of non-governmental organisations and the bravery of the Bosnian mothers.

Before her departure from the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre, Emine Erdoğan, who received information on the Turkish language courses and promotion projects of the Turkish culture, took photographs with the guests.





Our Windows
Opening to the World
CENTERS

Budapest



The Budapest Yunus Emre Institute, which had its opening with the attendance of Ömer Çelik, the Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey and Zoltan Balog, the Minister of Human Resources of Hungary and many other distinguished guests, continues to carry the culture agenda of Turkey to the world.

The Budapest Yunus Emre Institute is located on the Andrássy Road that is listed on the UNESCO World Heritage Culture List. The historical building was built by the famous archi-

tect Janos Bobula during the year of 1882. The building, which is considered to be a first-degree historical site, was restored by the Institute. The fascinating sculptures of Jozsef Rona at the entrance of the building greets its visitors. While the sculpture located on the right side symbolises hospitality, the sculpture located on the left side, on the other hand, symbolises family life and loyalty. The locals of Budapest had considered the palace to be the most magnificent building on Andrássy Road when it had been built.



The Institute currently offers Turkish language courses from beginner level to advanced level by qualified teachers within the scope of the European language standards. Furthermore, traditional handicrafts like felting, ceramics and marbling that reflect the rich culture of Anatolia as well as courses on Turkish traditional home meals, where the secret of Turkish cuisines are shared, are organised with master chefs in its field. The Turkish Coffee House Nights seminars delivered by Hungarian experts on the topics of Turkey and Turkish culture takes place on the first Wednesday of every month at the Culture Centre. This seminar, which has had approximately 100 attendees, received 200 during its programme themed The Turkish Kitchen. During the Yunus Emre Talks, which are held every fortnight with lovers of the Turkish language at the Turkish House, the attendees have the chance to converse in Turkish over tea and coffee. The Institute also organises the screening of Turkish movies every month as part of its programme Turkish Cinema Nights. The Budapest Yunus Emre Institute organises academic projects with universities, scientists and academicians with the purpose of promoting Turkey, the Turkish culture, history, language and es-

ablishing bridges between communities. With the books obtained through The 100 Turkey Libraries Project of the Ziraat Bank, the library is now open to public. Ever since the day the Budapest Yunus Emre Institute was opened, 200 students have graduated and 110 students are currently serving in Budapest, Hungary.



The Biography of

Yakup Gül

Yakup Gül, who was born in Rize in 1978, graduated from the Rize Imam Hatip High School and is a master in calligraphy. He travelled to Vienna in 2001 as the representative of the Önder Imam Hatip Alumni Association as well as for his tertiary education. After completing a two-year German language preparatory course, he decided to change his degree and undertook a preparatory class in Arabic. He graduated from Islamic Religion Pedagogy in 2011. Gül, who continues his postgraduate course at the Vienna University Faculty of Islamic Pedagogy, worked as the culture and arts co-ordinator for the Nun Magazine published under the Wonder Association. He worked as the Director of the Anatolian School Education Centre between 2008-2010, the Founding Director of the Islamic Institute Traiskirchen Branch between 2010-2012 and the General Manager of Educational Institutions at the Vienna Islamic Federation between 2012-2013. Gül also held teaching positions in primary and high school levels in Austrian schools as part of the Austrian Religious Affairs Directorate between the years of 2012-2014. He was appointed as the Director of the Budapest Yunus Emre Institute in 2014. He is married and has two children.





**Agnes Toth
(Culture and Arts Coordinator)**

She was born in Budapest in 1984, graduating from the Faculty of International Relations at Corvinus University. She has been working as the Culture and Arts Coordinator at the Yunus Emre Institute in Budapest since 2013.



**Zsuzsanna Kovacs
(Local Tutor)**

She was born in 1989 in Budapest. She graduated from the Faculty of Turkish Philology from ELTE University (Eötvös Loránd University) in 2013. She has been working as a local tutor at the Yunus Emre Institute in Budapest since 2014.



**Serdar Başutku
(Education Coordinator)**

He was born in 1987 in Ankara. He graduated from the Faculty of Turkish Literature at Başkent University. He has been working as the Education Coordinator at the Yunus Emre Institute in Budapest since 2014.



Bálint Gábor

He was born in Jászberény in 1990. He graduated from the Faculty of International Administration from the University of National Public Services in 2014. He has been working at the Yunus Emre Institute in Budapest since April 2015 as a secretary.



**Seda Kaya
(Tutor)**

She was born in Iskenderun in 1988 and graduated from the Faculty of Turkish Language Teaching at Cumhuriyet University in 2012. She has been working as a tutor in the Turkish language at the Yunus Emre Institute in Budapest since 2013.



20th Danube Carnival

The 20th Danube Carnival Budapest International Multicultural Festival, which will be organised by the Danube Art Union at one of the most important venues in Budapest, will host approximately 200 artists from all corners of the world for a week. The Budapest Yunus Emre Institute has also taken its position as one of the partners of the event and will be covering the expenses of the Turkish team consisting of 16 persons who have been invited to the event (The Aegean University State Turkish Music Conservatory Turkish Folk Dance Community which has won first place in two international competitions.

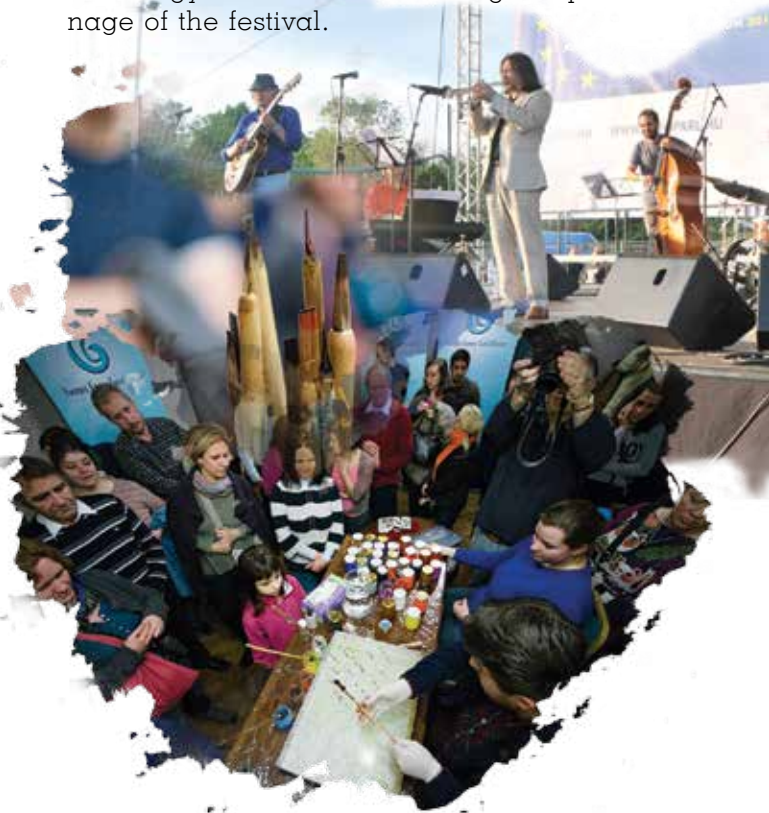
The Ambassador of the United Nations Katalin Bogyav will be undertaking the patronage of the festival.

Traditional

Turkish Cuisine

in Hungary

The Hungarian attendees of the "5th Traditional Turkish Cuisine Course" organised by the Budapest Yunus Emre Institute have learned to cook lentil soup, tomato and eggplant salad, lemon and coriander anchovies and chicken breast pudding. The Hungarians, who have a special interest in Turkish food and restaurants, not only have the chance to consume Turkish food through these courses but also learn how to cook them. "The Traditional Turkish Cuisine Course", which has received much attention, will continue its programme with "Gaziantep Days" that will be organised by the Budapest Yunus Emre Institute in the month of October.





“
Yun Hikaye
”
(A Long Story) in Montenegro



The Yunus Emre Institute Podgoritsa Turkish Cultural Centre has presented Osman Sinav's movie "A Long Story" to the movie lovers of Montenegro. The movie adapted from Mustafa Kutlu's novel "A Long Story", was screened at the Podgoritsa Delta-City Cineplexx on 25.04.2015 at 19:00pm. Osman Sinav, the director of the movie was also at the event during the screening of the movie. Following the screening, the movie lo-

vers of Montenegro had the opportunity to chat with Osman Sinav. After Sinav expressed his highest appreciation of the Yunus Emre Institute's efforts in promoting the Turkish culture, he also asked the audience for their opinion about the movie. On the other hand, Osman Sinav answered personal questions about himself, the source of inspiration for the movie "A Long Story" as well as his upcoming projects he plans to implement.

AHMET ÜMIT

in Skopje

Ahmet Ümit, a popular author of Turkey, came together with his readers at a book-signing event organised by the Yunus Emre Institute Skopje Turkish Culture Centre.

The Pro-za Balkan International Literature Festival in Skopje, the capital city of Macedonia, is organised for the purposes of strengthening the relations between the authors of the Balkan geographies, European publishers and the authors and publishers of Macedonia. Ahmet Ümit represented Turkey as part of this event that was participated by various literary figures from different countries. The author, whose books *A Memento for Istanbul* and *The Fog and the Night* that has been translated into Macedonian, was welcomed with a wave of interest by his readers and the press. Ahmet Ümit, who read a part from his novel *A Memento for Istanbul* to his readers, stated his joy in being in Skopje. The event came to an end with questions from Ümit's readers.



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Sanat Galerisi / Art Gallery

Interest in

World Language Turkish

On The Rise

The closing ceremony for "The Turkish Language Teachers for Second Language Certificate Programme" organised in cooperation with Istanbul University Language Centre and the Yunus Emre Institute has been finalised. As part of the Project, 18 teachers of the Turkish Language for Foreigners were able to attain an education and training course. 14 of the attendees received certificates following their success in delivering a lesson as part of the train-

ing programme. Professor Mahmut Ak, the Rector of Istanbul University, stated that Istanbul University supports all events promoting the Turkish language and continues to put all efforts in the promotion of it becoming a language of science throughout the World. He further stated that the Language Centre works as part of the migrants camps in providing Turkish courses as well as in projects including countries like Germany and Austria together in conjunction with the Yunus



Emre Institute. On the other hand, the President of Yunus Emre Institutes, Professor Hayati Develi, stated that there has been a significant rise in the interest in the Turkish language courses at their cultural centres and a demand significant for qualified staff members have also become a need with every passing year. Associate Professor Mehmet Yalçın Yılmaz, the Deputy Director of the Istanbul University Language Centre, has stated the following: "As part of the 2023 Turkey Vision, we aim to increase the current number of 72.000 international students to 250.000. Also, the number of branches of the Yunus Emre Institute worldwide has increased to 40. For this reason,

we need 5000 teachers to work in this field. We provide these educational courses in order to meet the need for teachers of the Turkish language for foreigners" Furthermore, a protocol was also signed as part of the ceremony for the purposes of training 200 Turkology students who will be sent by the Yunus Emre Institutes worldwide to the Language Centre of Istanbul University for a training programme. 200 students will be undertaking a Turkish and Turkish Culture course for a period of 6 weeks at the Turkish Summer School that will begin in July. Nadire Kara, who resides in Vienna and is a teacher of Turkish language and literature, stated that she has come to Istanbul for this training programme and that she desires to work in Vienna as a Turkish language teacher. She further stated that the training she received will be most beneficial.



Paris Literature Nights welcomed

*Şeyhmus
Dağtekin*

The writer and poet Şeyhmus DAGTEKIN was the guest of Paris Foreign Cultural Centers Platforms (PFCCP) Literature Nights which bring 18 writers together in 18 different locations.

The conservation was held in "Canal Saint-Martin" which is important place for Paris, with cooperation Yunus Emre Institute Paris and PFCCP.

Şeyhmus DAGTEKIN who won the most important poetry award in French "Mallarme Poetry Award" in 2007 and The French Academy of Theophile Gautier Poetry Award in 2008 with his work "Juste un pont sans feu", read some parts of his works and answered the questions of Parisian audience.

Traditional Turkish Desserts Course

in Bucharest

Yunus Emre Institute in Bucharest, held the third of traditional Turkish cuisine-themed course named "Traditional Turkish Desserts", with the purpose of passing on Turkish cooking and Turkish hospitality and drawing attention to common aspects in Turkish and Romanian cuisines. To the course held in one of decent restaurants, 11 Romanian trainees attended and they were taught 12 Turkish desserts for a month. From the first day of the course, TVR1 Romanian Public Television program manager Liliana VELCU and cameraman also learned how to make Turkish desserts, with the trainees.





“Welcome, Oh Month of Ramadan”

in Prizren

The Prizren Yunus Emre Institute has united the conductor Başkim Çabrat and the musicians of the True Path Association Sufi Group, which has a history of more than 60 years, as part of the Ramadan events. The concert, which took place at the Xhemjali Berisha Culture House, and had a religious theme was attended by the Minister of Public

Administration of the Republic of Kosovo Mahir Yağcılar, Member of Parliament Fikim Damka, the Prizren Mufti Lütfü Balık and many music lovers from the city of Prizren. The concert, which also attained much attention from the media, presented an enjoyable time to its audience with the lyrics written by Yunus Emre, Niyazi Misri, Alvarli Efe, Kuddusi and Hacı Ömer Lütfü.



The Ottomans

in the Depths of the Adriatic



The Ottoman ceramics, which have been hidden in the deep seas of the Adriatic for hundreds of years, is being prepared to come out into the open with the contributions of the Yunus Emre Institute. The archeological works taken from a sunken 16th century ship are on exhibition at the Mimara Museum in Croatia for the first time under the title of "Iznik Ceramics - The Ottomans from the Depths of the Adriatic".

The research undertaken by the Croatian Heritage Protection Institute's Archeology De-

partment since 2007 has been supported by a group of underwater archeologists from the Venice Ca' Foscari University between the years of 2010-2012. The various ministries under the Republic of Croatia has provided significant financial contributions in support all of the enduring and meticulous work spread over such a long period of time.

The exhibition inaugurated personally by Prof. Berislav Sipus, the Minister of Culture of Croatia, can be visited at the Mimara Museum in Zagreb until September 3, 2015.

Serdar Kılıç in Tirana

Serdar Kılıç, the producer of the television programme Man in Nature, sportsman, academic trainer and motivational speaker, was in Albania as a guest of The Yunus Emre Institute. Kılıç, who was welcomed by the Director of The Yunus Emre Institute of Tirana Tayfun Kalkan upon his first day in Tirana, came together for dinner with the staff of the Yunus Emre Institute in Tirana as well as the prominent mountaineers and nature-lovers of Albania. During the dinner that was spent in a warm atmosphere, the attendees from the Albanian mountaineers and Serdar Kılıç and his team discussed various projects in relation to the future.

During the second day of the visit, Kılıç and his team took an aerial ropeway to the Dajti Mountain close to Tirana with the instructors from the Yunus Emre Institute, and had an expedition. The same night, Kılıç along with the Director of the Yunus Emre Institute in Tirana Tayfun Kalkan, had a panel together with the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey Hidayet Bayraktar, his wife, the advisors and staff members of the embassy, together with the Albanian mountaineers and nature-lovers on the topics of survival in nature, the benefits of nature, and the place of nature within the Turkish culture. Prior to the panel, Kılıç screened his Sarıkamış Documentary, in which he had dressed and eaten like the soldiers in 1914 for the purposes of understanding their experiences and circumstances as well as their states of mind in Sarıkamış in 1914. The guests became very emotional during the screening of this documentary. At the end of the programme, The Yunus Emre Institute of Tirana presented gifts to Kılıç and his team.

On the third day of the visit, Kılıç, his team, the Ambassador Hidayet Bayraktar and his wife, the staff of the Yunus Emre Institute and its students undertook a small trip. The city of Berat, the Berat Castle and the Osumi Canyon close to the district of Berat were visited. During the visit to the Canyon, Kılıç and his team gave information on how to set fire, methods of warming up, and information on the types of plants, animals and survival techniques in nature.







The 2nd International

SARI SALTUK SYMPOSIUM

■ The Second International Sari Saltuk Symposium" was held at the Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre Art House between 6 - 9 May 2015, due to the 752nd anniversary of Sari Saltuk's arrival at the Balkans. The programme, which was organised with the cooperation of Trakya University Balkan Research Institute, The Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre and the Directorate of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency, was attended by many academicians and invitees. Approximately 30 edicts were presented at the event including, "Sari Saltuk, The Bosnians and Bosnia-Herzegovina", "Sari Saltuk as a Fighter", "The Sacred Sources of the Saltukname (The Legend of Sari Saltuk)", "The Oghuz State Established by Saltuk in Dobruja and its Conquests", "Sari Saltuk's Traces on North-West Anatolia on Route of

Anatolia-Balkans in Recent Documents", "The Role of Sari Saltuk in Forming Identities", "The Geography of Sari Saltuk in Power Struggles: From the Seljuks to the Ottomans", "Records of Sari Saltuk in the Travel Journey of Evliya Chelebi" and "The Babadağ Sari Saltuk Lodge in Light of Archives".



“A Forty-Years Sake”

Turkish Coffee

In the cultural context of programs 'Forty-Years sake' Turkish Coffee Culture and Exhibition were organised by Beirut Yunus Emre Institute. The exhibition consisted of photos and documents that reflect Turkish Coffee Culture as well as Turkish Coffee Cup, Coffee Pot, Trays and Barbecue.

The secretary of Beirut Embassy of Turkey Republic Arda ULUTAŞ, Lebanon Representative of Police Colonel Abdul Rahman ITANY, Beirut Consul General Muzaffer DOYAN, Beirut Turkish Airlines Director Adil HAMADE and a great number of Lebanese people participated.



Çanakkale Martyrs

Were Commemorated in Shkoder

Çanakkale Victory on its 100th anniversary was commemorated with a series of events organised in Shkoder. The first day series of events which began with the screening of the film “Çanakkale-End of Road”, the second day continued with the exhibition “The Road from War to Peace:Çanakkale” prepared by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Event ended with a concert after the presentation of Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Bülent ARI and after the speech of Bujar GILANI who is the son of a Gallipoli Ghazi. Republic Of Turkey Embassy in Tirana Undersecretary Cem BAŞ, Consul Celil TEKNECI, Religious Affairs Advisor Şaban ISLEK, Albanian Writer Fadil KRAJA and many academicians participated in concert that has works from Turkey and the Balkans.



The Art Exhibition

"The Power of Blue"

The famous musician and artist, Reşit İsmet's exhibition "The Power of Blue", has been presented to the art lovers at the Çifte Hamam Exhibition Hall located in the old Turkish bazaar in Skopje with the organisation of the Yunus Emre Institute. The exhibition in Skopje had 38 paintings depicting the works of Reşit İsmet who has reflected through his paintings the sense of tranquility the colour blue emanates. The opening of the exhibition of "The Power of Blue" of the artist Reşit İsmet, who has personally integrated himself with his art in music and painting, was attended by the Advisor of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Macedonia Behicüddin Şehapi, the Trade Consul of the Embassy of Turkey in Skopje Bünyamin Kutlu, the Economy Consul of the Embassy of Turkey in Skopje Nimet Oğuz, the Ambassador of Ma-

cedonia of the Republic of Kosovo Ülber Hüsa, the General Manager of Halkbank in Skopje Necdet Palakçı, the Deputy Director of Crisis Management of the Macedonian Government Mütahir Maksut, the Manager of Turkish Theatre Atila Klinçe, the Director of Diplomats Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia Adelina Marku, lecturer, philosopher and author of the Faculty of Philosophy Ferid Muhiç, the Former President of the Republic of Macedonia Hadi Nezir, the President of the National Turkish Union Movement Erdoğan Saraç, artists and many artlovers. At the end of the opening programme, the audience experienced an enjoyable time with the concert given under the Conductor Reşit İsmet and the musicians of "The Zübeyde Hanım Ata Women's Chorus" and "The Right Path Turkish Classical Music".



An interview was conducted with Author

Barbara Yurttaş

in Cologne Nippes Library

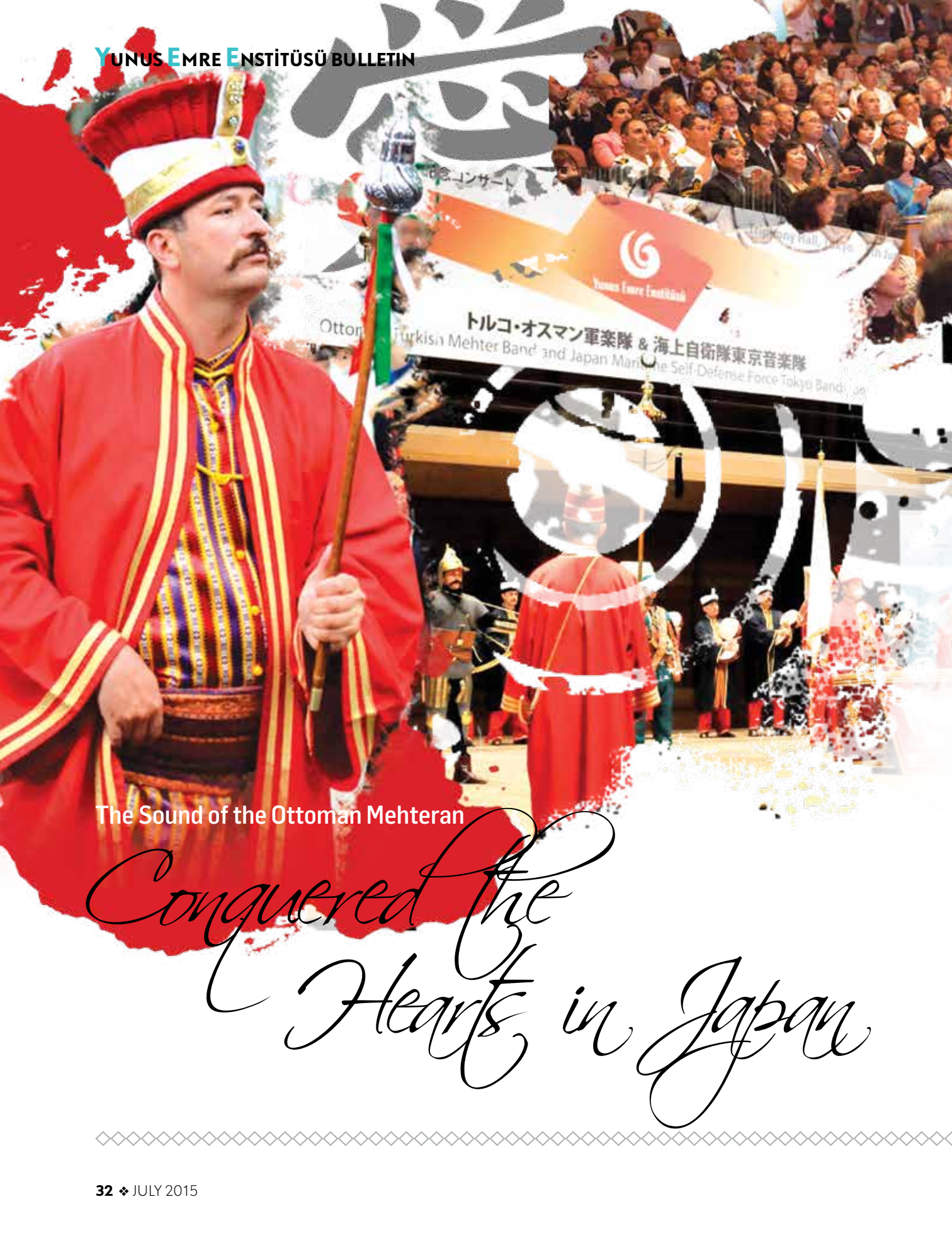
Barbara Yurttaş who has many books, novel and translations about Turkish - German Relations, was the guest of Cologne Yunus Emre Institute. The activity which was held with Cologne City Library. The subject "Life between two cultures" was discussed. In the program which Gabriele Ceseroglu moderated, common issues that unite the women who lived in Turkey and Germany, was discussed. The author read some works from the years that she had lived in Turkey.

Middle East, Africa and Asia Cultural Centers Consultation Meetings were completed

in Nicosia

The meeting that Institute Directors with Middle East, Africa and Asia Cultural Centers Directors attended, had begun with a vision speech of Prof. Dr. Hayati Develi. In the meeting that representatives from cultural center attended, the problems of cultural centers, cultural, artistic and educational activities, regional goals and strategies were discussed. During the meeting, the Ambassador of Nicosia Halil Ibrahim AKÇA shared his opinions and suggestions about activities to the participants.





The Sound of the Ottoman Mehteran

*Conquered the
Hearts in Japan*



The Ottoman Janissary Bands (Mehteran) concerts organized in cooperation with the Tokyo Yunus Emre Institute, The Prime Ministry Promotion Fund and the Turkish Armed Forces Mehteran Union, has ended as part of the 125th anniversary of the commemoration of the Ertuğrul Frigate Disaster and the initiation of the friendship between the Turks and the Japanese.

The union gave its first concert at the city of Kushimoto in cooperation with the Japanese Marine Defence Forces Band for an audience of 600 persons.

The concert that was held on June 3rd, 2015 was attended by the Japanese Princess Akiko Mikasa, the Turkish Parliamentary Speaker Mr and Mrs Cemil Çicek, the Commander of the Turkish Navy Forces Admiral Bülent Bostanlıoğlu, the Japanese Navy Forces Commander Tomohisa Takei, the Tokyo Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey A. Bülent Meriç, the former

Member of Parliament Mustafa Gazalçı and many other guests.

The Union of the Mehteran that travelled to Tokyo after Kushimoto also had a concert with the Japanese Navy Defence Forces Band on June 5, 2015 at the Sumida Triphoni Hall for 1800 people. A parade and concert was also held on June 6, 2015 at the busiest road of Tokyo, the Omotesando Road, with the attendance of many Turkish and Japanese individuals. Many people on the sides of the roads, which were closed off to traffic throughout the programme, had the chance to watch the parade.

Telat Aydın, the Director of the Tokyo Institute, stated that the mehteran activities that took place in both Kushimoto and Tokyo were able to reach thousands of people and the close attention by the Japanese media, particularly Mainichi, in regards to the programme has also resonated throughout the country.



Fikri Şişko's Paintings

in Prizren

The Prizren Printer Fahri SİSKO's personal exhibition which consists of 33 oil paintings, was held in Prizren Yunus Emre Institute.

Fikri SİSKO has not only great efforts for Kosovo-Turkish Literature and paintings but also he continues writing poems and stories in an intensive way.



Turkey through the Eyes of

Afghan

Students

Kabil Kabul Yunus Emre Institute held a conservation "Through the Eyes of Afghan Students" in Kabul University. Thanks to this conservation many Afghan students working in different areas and who have scholarship, had the chance to catch up with many students studying in Turkey, after many years.

There were many attendance to the conservation given by Kabul University Turkish Language and Literature Lecturer Abdullah DASHT.





The Spirit of Gallipoli

Sprang to Life in Astana

The Yunus Emre Institute Astana Turkish Cultural Centre has organised a photograph exhibition at the Astana National Art Gallery titled "Gallipoli: The 100th Anniversary of the War of the Gentlemen", in cooperation with the Astana Embassy of the Republic of Turkey and the Culture and Promotion Consultancy.

The First Lady, Emine Erdoğan, undertook the opening of the exhibition, which consisted of photographs depicting the difficulties and sacrifices experienced during the Gallipoli War. The President of the Yunus Emre Institute, Prof. Hayati Develi and the Editor in Chief of the

Sovereign Kazakhstan Newspaper, Mr. Saitbek Abdurahmanov both delivered a speech at the ceremony. Prof. Hayati Develi, in his speech, touched upon the importance of the Gallipoli Wars to the Turkish Nation and hoped that such disastrous events lead to the establishment of lasting peace, while Saitbek Abdurahmanov drew attention to the Turkish and Kazak friendship, and expressed his gratitude to the Yunus Emre Institute for carrying the spirit of Gallipoli to Kazakhstan. The event, which was closely followed by many Turkish and Kazak press members, gained much appreciation by its visitors while having wide media coverage.



Yunus Emre Enstitüsü Commences Donation Allocations

The EU-Turkey Intercultural Dialogue Project Workshop organized by the Yunus Emre Institute was carried out on June 17th in Ankara. The Yunus Emre Institute, which was decided to be an allocator of donations as a result of the initiatives taken place in 2014 in the presence of the European Ministry, has become the donator of 3 million Euros in total. The Directorate of Institute Projects organised a meeting to evaluate the ideas of the possible organisations that could apply to become an allocator of donations before organising the workshop. Damir Dzanko, the Ambassador of Bosnia Herzegovina to Turkey, the cultural attaches and representatives from the embassies of Italy, Serbia, Croatia,

Denmark, Romania, Greece, Austria, Kosovo, Hungary as well as representatives from the Turkey-Europe Union Delegation, the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of the European Union, Ministry of Family and Social Policy, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Ministry of Education, Public Diplomacy Coordination, General Directorate of Foundations, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency, Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities, Austria Cultural Office, Sarajevo Yunus Emre Institute, Belgium Yunus Emre Institute and the Deputy of the British Council of Ankara were amongst the attendees at the workshop. The appeal for donations are expected to be announced towards the end of the year.



Turkish Music

at the Vienna Peace Festival

The annual Peace Festival organised by the "Plattform Für InterReligiöse Begegnung" PFIRB (The Intercultural Solidarity Platform) and held in Vienna, was also supported by the Vienna Yunus Emre Institute this year. The Ashina Ensemble Turkish Music Community took the stage in the 7th and 15th districts of Vienna with the support of the Vienna Yunus Emre Institute.

The group, which took the stage with Turkish compositions from the 19th and 20th centuries, showered the audience with the rare Hijaz and Muhayyerkurdi style musics.

Thomas Fiedler, who is the President of the Intercultural Solidarity Platform, began his speech with the appreciation of the involvement of

the Vienna Yunus Emre Institute. Fiedler stated that it has been crucial that Turkish Culture and Music has taken its place at the festival, which hosts many different cultural groups, as such events help different cultures to meet one another and establish healthy relations. He further stated that the purpose of this event is to ensure that the different cultures in Austria have the opportunity to intermingle with new cultures. The Director of the Vienna Yunus Emre Institute, Mevlüt Bulut, also provided information about the projects of the Institute and stated that they, as an Institute, always support art and artists. The festival, which has been organised since the year 2011, is attended by many music and dance groups from different parts and different cultures of Austria.



'The Poet of Jerusalem'

in Brussels

The famous intellectual, who spoke at the programme "The Literature Panel with Nuri Pakdil, the Big Brother of the Seven Beautiful Men" that was organised at the Yunus Emre Institute Brussels Branch, stated the following: "Ever since our country has turned its face towards westerni-

sation, a cooperation has taken place with all western authors and poets and they have thus become the implementers of the initiatives in alienation. I believe that this alienation, which has come together with art and literature, can only rid itself from it through art and literature. The darkness that the Westerners have



formed over Turkey can only be won over through intense art and literature because the real purpose of art and literature is to stand up against all forms of exploitation". Pakdil, who expressed the sorrow he felt in all the existing tragedies within the Muslim geographies, further expressed himself with the following words: "When you take a look at all the Muslim countries, you will see that Turkey is the only hope and that, particularly in relation to the Middle East, Turkey has an indisputable function. I believe that the only movement that will save the world can only begin from Turkey". Pakdil, who stated that the sole reason as to why the Muslim world's current state is one of "complete disaster" is due to the fact that it is leaderless, also went on to state: "What ensured unity was the Caliphate. It was because of this that the single purpose of the enemies of

the Islamic unity was to ensure the elimination of the caliphate. Once the caliphate was destroyed, this unity fell apart and disappeared. However, an awakening within the Muslim countries can be seen now. This is particularly evident in Turkey. I am very hopeful and believe that all hope is in Turkey". Nuri Pakdil also asked families to firstly teach the love for the Prophet Mohammad to their children before anything else. Pakdil, who is also known as "The Poet of Jerusalem", expressed his love for the city as thus: "We love Jerusalem because Jerusalem was the last place our beloved Prophet Muhammad had stepped on the face of this earth during the miracle of Ascension (Miraj). My mother used to tell me stories of Jerusalem when I was a child. My love for Jerusalem began with my mother, Vecihe Hanım, instilling this love within me."

İBN ARABİ THOUGHT

Meets With The Viennese



The Yunus Emre Institute Vienna Turkish Cultural Centre has hosted a conference on "Ibn Arabi Thought and Modern Times". The conference, which was delivered by Professor Mahmud Erol Kılıç, lecturer at Marmara University, Secretary-General of the Parliamentary Union of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the Honorary Fellow at the Oxford Ibn Arabi Society, was welcomed by the Viennese with great interest.

The conference that took place in English explored the importance of Ibn Arabi to the Turks, and particularly for the Ottoman State. Kılıç, who stated that Ibn Arabi never used the term Wahdatul Wujood (Oneness of Being), further claimed that this term

was used by Ibn Taymiyya yet, the term was correct in its meaning. Kılıç, who further stated that the much debated Wahdatul Wujood understanding in fact expresses the actual percept of Islam, provided examples of how today has proven this very point. The Professor, who emphasised the reason for the increase of fundamentalism due to the abandonment of the Sufi perception, accentuated that such problems will decrease with the establishment of connections with Ibn Arabi and sufism.

Kılıç, who spared time in speaking with the doctorate students following the conference, informed them that research on Ibn Arabi in German speaking countries were limited but an interest was increasing as he further gave them some advice.



The Mawlawi Culture and Music United **with the People of Morocco**



The Yunus Emre Institute Rabat Turkish Cultural Centre has organised a Mawlawi ceremony as part of the 6th Maqamat Festival in cooperation with the Bouregreg Association in the city of Sale. The ceremony performed by the "Ayan Musical Society and Sama Council", addressed the hearts of the Moroccans while presenting the quality and elegance of Mawlawi music before the audience. The six person mutrib and six person whirling dervishes group performed the ritual ceremony with the works of one of the most prominent names of Turkish sufi music, Hama-

mizade Ismail Efendi. The programme, which was watched by 400 guests and took two hours, created an atmosphere of intense Sufi spiritualism. Most of the guests had the opportunity to take photographs with the group following the programme and expressed their gratitude. The programme was attended by the students and families of the Rabat Turkish Cultural Centre as well as the distinguished figures of the cities of Rabat and Sale. While the media had wide coverage of the programme, it was stated that such events strengthened the ties of brotherhood between both countries.



Vocational Training Education Seminars for

“The Volunteers of Turkish”

The Yunus Emre Institute (YEE), which has been undertaking hundreds of projects in easing the education and learning of the Turkish language overseas, will have two more recent projects in this area. In this regard, “The Turkish Volunteers Education Programme (TURGEP)” and “Turkish Training Educational Programme (TURSEP)” in cooperation with the MUSIAD Business Association will be implemented. “The Turkish Volunteers Education Programme (TURGEP)” encompasses the teachers of Turkish in Germany. In this regard, both YEE and MUSIAD are organising vocational training seminars for those multilingual teachers of Turkish as

part of non-governmental organisations located in Cologne. While in regards to “The Turkish Training Educational Programme (TURSEP)”, those successful teachers of Turkish working at the Yunus Emre Institute Turkish Cultural Centres, will have the opportunity to undergo apprenticeships in the MUSIAD member businesses in Turkey. The apprentices will choose the areas of interest that is most suitable for themselves. This year 30 students chosen by the 13 different Yunus Emre Institute Centres located overseas will have the opportunity to do an apprenticeship programme in Turkey. The costs and expenses of the apprentices will be covered by MUSIAD and the Yunus Emre Institute.



The Ottoman

Humour Newspapers



■ ■ The Ottoman Humour Newspapers Conference and Exhibition" organised by the Yunus Emre Institute Pristina Turkish Culture Centre has united the Kosovan historians, journalists and artlovers with Ottoman and Republican - era cartoons. Alperen Köseoğlu, a prominent cartoonist who has attained the approval of the masses with his drawings as well as the formation of the history and archive of cartoons and his efforts in its public accessibility, has shed light to the history of caricatures through his work "The Ottoman Humour Newspapers". The conference began with the opening speech of Agim Krasniqi, the President of the Kosovo Cartoonists Association. Agim spoke of the importance of this project, which covers a period of 150 years of Ottoman

Newspapers, in terms of understanding the Ottoman history and culture. He further stated; "These cartoons in this exhibition today are proof of the developed culture and art traditions of the Ottomans. Most of us here do not even know the names of our ancestors. This exhibition allows us to travel to history, perceive cartoons in the manner our ancestors did so and give us the opportunity to read the newspapers that they did". While Alperen Köseoğlu stated " the Ottoman humour traditions are closely analysed, we are faced with its first examples of Meddah, Karagoz and Light Comedy". He also emphasised that although the Ottoman state had published its first samples during the second half of the 19th century, humour within the Ottomans was traced back to earlier years.



Mario Levi

Meets His Readers in London



The author, Mario Levi, has come together with his readers at a commune session titled "Being a Writer in Istanbul", at The Yunus Emre Institute London Turkish Cultural Center. Levi, who comes from an Istanbulian family with roots of 520 years in the city, considers his relation with Istanbul a passionate one. In his speech, Levi informed his audience that the migration to Istanbul from the world and different parts of Anatolia for many centuries is what has formed the different facets of Istanbul and how this has shaped the history and culture of the city. Levi, who defined himself to be an author of Istanbul as the city is what he knows best, further

stated that he considers writing about this beautiful city to be his worship.

Levi, who was asked why he chose the Turkish language in his literary career when he also had the opportunity to do so in other languages, stated the following: "I played Turkish games, I fell in love in Turkish, I wrote in Turkish: my homeland is Turkish".

Levi, who is one of the most prominent names of recent Turkish literature and whose works have been translated into more than 20 languages, answered questions from his audience during the final part of the event. Mario Levi ended the programme by taking photographs with his readers and signing his books.



Never Without Istanbul Because...

Mario Levi is a true Istanbulian gentleman. We ask the world-renowned author the reason why he is in love with Istanbul. "I believe that an author's birthplace and his self-built cultural climate shapes not only the topics he chooses and decides to share with another but, also his world of emotions and even his style" he says. He further adds: "Istanbul, on this matter, has given me a long story that I will perhaps never be able to complete. With all its pains and joys, hopes and disappointments... It is for this reason that a bond of love has formed between me and my city". And, what about Kadiköy?.. We ask its importance on your behalf. Levi answers, "You can be an 'Istanbulian' and you can be a 'Kadiköy-ian'". He particularly emphasizes the importance of approaching the city from sea. He describes how the ferries pass before the Selimiye Barracks and quietly sidle upto the Haydarpaşa Port. Levi further states, "Once you approach the Kadiköy Port after a refreshing trip, you observe how a port full of seagulls and busy roads and streets disclose before you. The streets of the suburb climb towards Bahariye Road, just like a labyrinth of faces and voices."



Meetings of Love in Bucharest

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey and the Yunus Emre Institute has organised "The Meetings of Love - Whirling Dervish Performances" at the Romania National Children's Palace. This performance, which has been arranged by the Konya Turkish Sufi Music Union of the General Directorate of Fine Arts of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey, was attended by a thousand individuals. The Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Bucharest Turkish Culture Centre Tuna Balkan stated that sufism has always helped man to attain tranquility, peace and humanitarianism,

channelling him to the truth and beautiful and that the philosophy and ideology of Mawlana guides the modern world on this path today too. The Ambassador of Turkey to Bucharest Osman Koray Ertaş, on the other hand, stated that the whirling dervishes performance is a visual festival that has continued for many years and that today, we are in more need of Mawlana's philosophy of tolerance. The Ambassador ended his speech with the words of Rumi. This performance, which drew attention from many different parts of society, increasing the humanitarian, religious and national feelings, was applauded by all guests.



The Rembrandt Engravings Exhibition at *Sarajevo*

The engravings exhibition on the Ottoman era by one of the most important artists of art history of Europe and Holland, Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, has been exhibited in Sarajevo for the first time.

The exhibition was attended by many guests as well the Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre Mehmet Akif Yaman, Religious Affairs Advisor of the Sarajevo Embassy Hasan Atlı, Culture and Promotion

Advisor of the Sarajevo Embassy Soner Şahin and the TRT Bosnia Herzegovnia representative Ömer Özdenören.

Mehmet Akif Yaman, the Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre, who spoke at the opening stated that the Yunus Emre Institute has organised many social cultural events since 2009 and that they will continue to do so as such events have become points of meetings for the people of Bosnia.



Students Entertained with

Yalvaç Ural

The popular author has come together with the students of Motrat Çiriyazi Primary School as part of the "Yalvaç Ural School Talks" programme. While the students listened to the stories narrated by Yalvaç Ural with great interest and curiosity, they also had the opportunity to play games together. The author also gave advice to the children during his talks. On the fourth day of the programme, Yalvaç Ural also visited the Nazım Hikmet and Musa Zajmi Primary School located in Gilan and Doburçan and played entertaining games with them. Following the

colourful talks, the author gave a copy of his signed books to the students.



Murat Yıldırım

Meets with Tblisi TKM Students



Murat Yıldırım, an actor of Turkish cinema and TV series, was a guest at a commune session in Tblisi as part of the 100th anniversary of Turkish Cinema. The event that was organised at the Yunus Emre Institute Tblisi Turkish Cultural Centre was also attended by the Turkish Ambassador to Tblisi Levent Gümrükçü and the TIKA Coordinator Mustafa Korkmaz. Murat Yıldırım, who expressed his gratitude for the hospitality of the Georgians, expressed how touched he was to see that the students of the Yunus Emre Institute who spoke Turkish with him, were able to learn the language in such a short period of time. After the hour and a half long session, Murat Yıldırım who received a marbling of tulip from the Tflisi Ambassador Levent Gümrükçü, stated his love for Georgia and how it feels like home to him.



The Ottoman Epigraphs Given a Voice in Kosova



The Yunus Emre Institute has completed a project titled "The Kosovo Epigraphs" that is of great importance in terms of Turkish and Kosovo history. The epigraphs written in Ottoman Turkish located as part of the historical structures of Kosovo, which is home to many architectural structures from the Ottoman era, has been translated into Latin alphabet and modern Turkish. Furthermore, for the purposes of achieving understanding by both local and foreign visitors, the epigraphs have also been translated into Albanian, Bosnian and English languages. This project, which includes an explanation plate arranged with the meanings of the epigraphs, can now ensure the comprehension of these unique structures.

A majority of the architectural structures like mosques, lodges, mausoleums, public baths, bridges, clock towers, public fountains that continue to exist in Kosovo today dates back to the Ottoman era. The great cultural accumulation has now completely surfaced with this project of epigraphs located on these Ottoman structures today. This geography, which has become home for many faiths and ethnicities and not just to the Muslims, has become a centre in building of many places of worship and charity works. The writings on these structures shed light onto the language, history, culture and aesthetic pleasures of an era. The people, who pass by these structures every day, are now able to understand the history and civilisation



of the mosques, buildings, public baths, public fountains, bridges and clock towers they live, pray, lean, drink from and wash in every day now. All of the Ottoman structures that continue to exist with epigraphs have been part of this project. These plates that have been hung on the works of these Ottoman heritages in Kosovo has also become a reason for gratitude and prayers to be sent to the builders in various languages including Albanian, Bosnian, English and modern Turkish. These epigraphs are now able to speak about the forever-eternal civilisation's pleasurable images and history to people of many languages and religions. The opening of the Kosovo Epigraphs Project was attended by Turkey's Pristina Ambassador Songül Ozan, the President of the Yunus Emre Institutes Professor Hayati Develi, the President of the Islamic Union of the Republic of Kosovo Mufti Naim Terneva, the Deputy Director of the Religious Affairs Hasan Kamil Yılmaz and the President of the Association of Turkish History Professor Refik Turan as well as the Rector of Medeniyet University Professor M. İhsan Karaman, the Deputy Manager of the Prime Ministry Government Archives Mustafa Budak, Advisor to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism Ahmet Arı and many other representatives of various associations.



The Abdurrahman İbrahim III Symposium IN KAZAN

A symposium on the prominent religious scholar, thinker and traveller Abdurrahman İbrahim has taken place in Kazan with the cooperation of the Yunus Emre Institute, The Turkish Language Society, Ankara University, Kazan Federal University Faculty of International Relations and the Kazan History and Oriental Institutes. The symposium titled "Abdurrahman İbrahim III: From Past to Today - Russian Muslims and Press Movements", which explored the works and ideas of the Kazan activist Abdurrahman İbrahim, took place in Kazan, the capital city of the Republic of Tataristan. The President of the Yunus Emre Institute Professor Hayati Develi, who delivered a speech during the opening of the symposium, stated that the modernisation of

the Tatars began with the Tatar intellectuals and with the press movements and that it was able to endure reforms in alphabet and cultural changes. The Director of the Kazan Federal University International Relations and Oriental Institute, Ramil Hayrutdinov, stated that Abdurrahman İbrahim was an interesting intellectual, who had travelled to many countries and left behind traces. He further stated, "Abdurrahman İbrahim, who was a publisher, linguist and pedagogue, was interested in the lifestyles of the Muslims in the countries he had travelled to and he had put in a lot of effort to intermingle these details with his ideological movements". 40 academicians from Turkey, Russia and Japan attended the symposium and delivered various research papers.

Sevdalinka

Concert

Sevdalinka Concert which was organised by Yunus Emre Institute Podgorica Turkish Culture Center, was presented to Montenegrin People in Budo Tomovic Culture Center. Montenegrin people had great time with Sevdalinka songs that Esad MERILUC, Aldiana TUZLAK and Nina STRUGAR sang. The artists with the performance that they exhibited were acclaimed by Montenegrin fans, sang also Turkish.



Rayif Tuncer

Painting Exhibition

Rayif Tuncer Painting Exhibition "Turks' Migration Adventure from Middle Asia to Anatolia" was presented to Montenegrin Artlovers in Ulucg Galerija by Yunus Emre Institute Podgorica Turkish Culture Center. The artist who combines after and pre-Islamic Turkish cultural heritage with contemporary art, has reflected the old stamps and symbols on his canvas. The exhibition which gives important clues about Turkish Culture, was followed by Montenegro Media with great interest.





Lovers of the Turkish

Language United at the April 23rd Events

The students studying Turkish as an elective course at primary and secondary schools in Bosnia have come together as part of the April 23rd National Independence and Children Festival Programme. The April 23rd Children Festival, which has been celebrated since 2012 with the support of the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre, took place in one of the greatest cities of Bosnia this year. As part of the Sarajevo Embassy of the Republic of Turkey, the "April 23rd In My Heart" project organized by the Yunus Emre Institute, has brought together 6000 students from 105 schools in Bosnia Herzegovina, where attendance was highest

amongst all Balkan countries. The programme, which begun with the national anthems of both countries, was attended by many distinguished guests including the Sarajevo Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey Cihad Erginay, the President of the Yunus Emre Institutes Prof. Hayati Develi, the Deputy Advisor of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism Nihat Gül, the President of the Representatives Council of the Turkish Armed Forces Staff Colonel Savaş Celepoğlu, the Zenitsa Dobož Canton Prime Minister Miralem Galiyaşević, the Mayor of Zenica Hüseyin Smayloviç, the Director of the Sarajevo Yunus Emre Turkish Cultural Centre Mehmet Akif Yaman. The President of the Yunus Emre Institu-



tes, Hayati Develi, who gave an introductory speech at the opening, stated that the people of Turkey have sent their love to Bosnia and particularly to the children of Bosnia. Develi, who emphasised that April 23rd is a festival for children, stated: "This festival is one of friendship, love and peace. We hope that all the children in Bosnia, Turkey and the world unite with love, peace and friendship". Mr. Cihad Erginay, the Ambassador to Sarajevo, stated that the children of Bosnia have been able to learn the Turkish language through the Yunus Emre Institute in Sarajevo and further emphasised that this festival is a gift to the children. Following the opening speeches, many famous sports persons of Bosnia and Turkey, joined the

festival via teleconferencing and celebrated the festival of the Bosnian children. The programme, which also included traditional folk dances, also awarded the students who earned prizes as part of the Yunus Emre Institute 1st Sports Tournaments with gifts as well as a weeks holiday in Turkey. Students, who also won prizes as part of the "Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina Friendship" arts competition, were also given awards. Armin Muzafferiyca, the famous singer, appeared on stage and sang the Gallipoli folk song while the students also joined in the chorus. The programme came to an end with cutting of the cake in celebrating the 5th anniversary of the establishment of the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre.



Training Programmes for

Turkish Educators Completed

■ The Training Programmes for Turkish Educators" that began in Belgrade with the organization of the Yunus Emre Institute has come to an end. The training programmes, which were attended by 90 individuals from 33 different Turkish Cultural Centres, included seminars on language, literature and culture by various academics from Turkish Universities. While a tour of Belgrade was arranged for those attendees of the programme, both tutors and academics had the opportunity during these trips to spend more time together. Furthermore, the tutors also had the opportunity to take training on topics such as Turkish as a Foreign Language, technology-based language teaching and class management during the

final two days of the programme. As a result of the contest "The Centres are Producing Own Materials" that was organised on the final day, the Tblisi Yunus Emre Institute won first prize, while Sarajevo and Budapest shared the second prize. Amman Yunus Emre Institute won third prize in the contest. The winners received their awards from the YETEM Director Dr. Ibrahim Gültekin, Deputy Director of Gazi University TOMER Education Associate Professor Nezir Temur and Istanbul University Lecturer Associate Professor Fatma Bölükbaş. Certificates of Participation were handed out to the attendees while the academicians received a Certificate of Appreciation. The programme was finalised with group photographs taken.



FROM MAWLANA'S TOLERANCE TO

Yunus' Knowledge

A Whirling Dervish Performance titled "Meetings of Love" was organised with the cooperation of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey and the Yunus Emre Institute Köstence Turkish Cultural Centre at the Köstence Union Culture House for an audience of 1300 people.

During the programme, which had received much attention from the residents of Köstence and surrounding districts, messages of love, brotherhood, peace and tolerance were illustrated. Ali Oğuzhan Yüksel, the Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Köstence Turkish Cultural Centre, spoke at the opening of the programme by giving examples of the words of Mawlana and poems of Yunus Emre. He further stated our need for the tolerance explored by these two figures. Ali Bozçalışkan, the Consul General of the Republic of Turkey in Köstence, who also delivered a speech spoke about the

importance of such days when the April 23rd Children's Festivals were being celebrated and thanked the Yunus Emre Institute Köstence Turkish Cultural Centre for their contributions.

The Köstence Turkish Cultural Centre Director presented gifts to the Selçuk University Faculty of History Lecturer Associate Professor Necmi Uyanık and the Konya Turkish Sufi Music Group of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey Fahri Özçakal.





A Matrak Show in Sarajevo

As part of the 450th commemoration anniversary of the death of Matrakçı Nasuh, a panel titled "Matrakçı Nasuh in the Balkans" and a miniature exhibition titled "The Cities of Matrakçı" took place in Sarajevo. The matrak performance that took place during the event also received much attention. The programme, which took

place at the Bosnian Institute, received great attention by the attendees. Apart from Sarajevo, the event was also held in Mostar. The programme was attended by the President of the Atatürk Culture Centre Professor Turan Karataş, the Deputy Director of the Atatürk Culture Centre Şaban Abak, the Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural



Centre Mehmet Akif Yaman, the Director of the Bosnian Institute Amina Rizvanbegovic Dzuvic and many distinguished guests. The President of the Atatürk Culture Centre Professor Turan Karataş delivered a short speech at the event that set off with the opening of the exhibition. Professor Turan Karataş stated that Bosnia Herzegovina is a treasure in terms of cultural

wealth and that the roots of Matrakçı Nasuh also is traced back to these lands. Professor Turan Karataş, who further stated the importance of holding this exhibition in Bosnia due to this reason, also expressed that Matrakçı Nasuh, who was considered to be one of the most important scholars of his times, continues to shed light onto history even today.

MATRAKÇI

Yasun

Matrakçı Nasuh was an Ottoman historian and mathematician. He is of Bosnian origin and is believed to have been born in Sarajevo.

He has been given the nickname "Matrakçı" as he invented the game of matrak (a form of war game) as well as "Swordsman". Based on his own narrations, his father's name was Abdullah, grandfather's name was Karagöz and he had Bosnian roots. It is highly possible that Nasuh, whose grandfather or father was a devshirma (foreigners being conscripted to the Ottoman janissary to be raised), was taken into the Palace at a young age and received his education at the Enderun (The Palace School) during the era of Bayezid II. During this period, he became the student of the Palace tutor, Sal. He began his works titled Words of Beauty and Calculations of Wisdom during the era of Yavuz Sultan Selim and dedicated it to him. He also became known as an expert swordsman during that period. Nasuh, who was successful amongst all his peers in the game of matrak, was also astounding in swordsmanship. His success is proven by the certificate given to him in 1530 by Suleiman the Magnificent. According to this

certificate, Nasuh had left for Egypt during the governorship of Hayır Bey, attending the matrak and swords contests and had won all other competitors with his movements like Rüstem-i Zal, the most famous hero in this field. Nasuh, who translated the famous work of Muhammed b. Cerir et-Taberi on Islamic history on the order of Suleiman the Magnificent, also wrote a book titled Gift of Warriors in 1530. He designed two portable fortresses with its cannonballs and armours by paper for the circumcision festival of the sons of the sultan, Mustafa, Mehmed and Selim at the Atmeydanı and presented a military show for them. Matrakçı Nasuh, who joined Suleiman the Magnificent on his first Iran expedition in 1534, travelled from Istanbul to Tabriz, Baghdad and prepared miniatures of all the stopover locations upon his return through the same route. Although there is an absence of information on the rest of Nasuh's life, the fact that his works continued until 1561 is proof that he was still involved in publishing and research. He was most probably positioned at the Directorate of Warriors when he passed away on April 28, 1564.

His Works:

1. *Cemâlü'l-küttâb ve kemâlü'l'bussâb* (Words of Beauty & Calculations of Wisdom)
- 2) *Mecmau't-tevârih*. (Journal of History)
- 3) *Tuhfetü'l-guzât*. (Gift of Warriors)
4. *Umdetü'l- Hisâb* (Treatise of Arithmetics)

It ought to be stated that Nasuh was also a master at murals. The beautiful samples of his murals can be seen in his works *Tuhfetü'l-guzât* and *Mecmû-ı Menâzil*.

Resource: *Diyanet Islamic Encyclopedia*, v.28, p:144



MATRAKÇI Nasuh

As a Multi-Talented Individual



We have had an enjoyable talk with Professor Nurhan Atasoy who says, "One ought to have such curiosity that he or she should be able to overcome all forms of materialistic and spiritual hindrances."

Interview By: Uğur Polat

Professor Nurhan Atasoy, who was born in the town of Reşadiye in Tokat in 1934, graduated from Istanbul University Faculty of Fine Arts and Art History. She completed her Masters and PhD in the same faculty. Atasoy, who is a founding member of the Istanbul Art and Sculpture Museum and the Foundation for Fine Arts and Cultural Heritage (KÜSAV), was appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Maltepe University and retired thereon. Atasoy, who has more than 120 published works, has written many journal articles and books. Following her book titled The Portraits and Kaftans of the Ottoman Sultans in 2012, Atasoy returned back to her PhD thesis and republished her work in more detail under the book titled, The Ibrahim Pasha Palace. Professor Nurhan Atasoy has given us a very

personal interview both about herself and her research on Matrakçı Nasuh.

Could you briefly talk about yourself?

I was a very naughty, active child who would ride her bike all over Istanbul. No one really expected me to be the mature person I am today. On the other hand, I was a hard-working student during my university years. I chose art history because of my interest in the university. I had a very fulfilling university life. I joined many trips to Anatolia. My efforts during the research on these journeys were highly acknowledged by my lecturers. Due to my hard work, my lecturers asked me to become an assistant at the university. After I graduated, I taught as an English teacher at the Davutpaşa Middle School for a year until





their was an available position at the university.

Your life, work, hobbies and research are all amazing. Could you tell us about the passion and inspiration behind this knowledge and efforts?

Yes, passion! If you do not have passion, you do not have anything. I look at some people today and they lack complete interest. If you don't have any curiosity, you cannot learn new things and research. One must have such curiosity that he or she should be able to overcome all forms of hindrances, both materialistic and spiritual. For instance, as an art historian, I used to always photograph my own research. Being an art historian and archeologist, also means to be a photographer. I will be honest - All of my money went straight into the pockets of booksellers and photographers. My father supported my work tremendously. I continue to use my materials from those times in my research today. I developed my own research methods. I compiled and archived all of the notes I had taken during my younger years. All of the walls in my house in Bostancı had shelves and were filled with files. I cannot throw them away because I need to still use all of that information for my other research papers. I scanned some of those documents and have stored them digitally. Apart from this, I spent most of my time in libraries and museums. Visiting museums, and particularly the Topkapı Palace, taught so much. I had the opportunity to study those great works of art closely and eventually grew up like a museologist. It is because of this that today I am very upset to see students graduated from art history because they graduate from their universities without analysing or touching any piece of artwork. I became a multi-faceted person with my identity as an art historian, librarian and museologist. I started using text resources while I was studying the Ibrahim Pasha Palace. I studied the research in which these texts were used. I developed two methods during my Ibrahim Pasha Palace research. The first was to use the miniatures as visual documents, and the second was the method of using Ottoman rese-

arch resources. I applied both of these methods in my own research. While I was preparing my book, I came across Matrakçı Nasuh and thus, started to analyse all the documents on the Hippodrome region. While I was researching this area, I used Seferi Irakeyn (The Staging Stations of Matrakçı Nasuh), the work of the late Hüseyin Gazi Yurdaydin. I studied the images of what I assumed was the At Meydanı and Ibrahim Pasha Palace. This section had been studied earlier by other researchers, however, it was not successful in being completely understood and was thus incorrect. That image is a complete puzzle but I was able to solve it. At the time, there was a restoration and there was a closed wall overlooking the inner garden. I informed the restorator that if he opened that wall, we would find red columns and that is what happened. This tiny detail within Matrakçı Nasuh's Istanbul Topography, as a result, was disclosed. By solving that puzzle, I was able to help in the restoration of that location as well as in guiding them. In my opinion, the Ibrahim Pasha Palace book was of

great importance due to methodology. It was the first time that I had ever used a miniature as a visual document. Although it was research from my younger years, I give great importance to this work in particular. I used the same method in other research as well. For instance, in my research on Ottoman Tents, I made the constructionism of tents more comprehensive by using this method. It was then that my communication with Matrakçı Nasuh and his Menazilname had began. I saw unbelievable things once I studied the details of it. There are tiny details of birds and fish in those huge and congested works.

What do you see once you get into the details?

I showed the animals to the zoologists, the birds to the experts, fish to the marine experts; all of the details to the experts in their fields. It was so fascinating that my friend, who is an expert on birds, started to instantly name all of the birds she saw.



In other words, Matrakçı Nasuh was not just an artist, a miniature artist, a swordsman, mathematician, sportsman, historian and the inventor of the matrak game?

Matrakçı Nasuh was a multitalented individual. During those same years, those who we call Renaissance types in Italy, like Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo were just being raised... Matrakçı Nasuh was like them too. His works were just as successful as an architect's work. Matrakçı, who was a swordsman, was also a master in festivals. He would build fortresses from paper and cartons during these festivals, and develop new games and activities.

For instance, he invents the game, Matrak...

Yes, he invents a game called matrak and that is why he is called Matrakçı. We learn the details of the game Matrak from the work depicting the circumcision event of Prince Mehmet in the work of Murat III. In my work that has been published, I emphasise that Matrakçı Nasuh was a multitalented person as well as a painter of birds and an expert on plants and fish. He draws all of the features of the birds that can be observed at first glance within his work. He has amazing work on fish-eating birds, plants, land structures and architecture. For instance, he has illustrated the caravansary types in complete detail. He does not further leave notes pointing to the buildings addressing their usage but instead, once we study them, we are easily able to identify which is what. In all my research too, I undertook detailed analysis like Matrakçı, almost entering into his mind and enjoyed it to the fullest extent.

Is it coincidence that individuals like Matrakçı Nasuh were brought up during the era of Suleiman the Magnificent?

It is not correct to believe that military power is attained during the most powerful ruler's era. In these kinds of environments, there is such an at-

mosphere that the best architects, best painters and sculptors are raised. I believe this is about the environmental atmosphere. For instance, an amazing individual called Karamemi surfaces during the era of Suleiman the Magnificent. The source of the designs of those Iznik ceramics that we watch in complete awe, is none other than Karamemi. So amazing figures such as Karamemi, Architect Sinan, Matrakçı and many other people, who we cannot possibly count now, have all been raised during that time. This, in a way, is a matter of encouragement. Suleiman the Magnificent builds 30 gardens during his era. So, during this time horticulture blooms to its fullest and the tulip becomes the first flower to have been grown. The gardens during that period are developed in the most amazing manner. Also, many people in the fields of materials, flowers, architecture, art, literature and many more fields are also raised.





The Last Letter

in Azerbaijan

The movie, The Last Letter, which explores the Gallipoli struggle, has been screened in Azerbaijan with the organisation of the Yunus Emre Institute Baku Turkish Cultural Centre. While top government officials of Azerbaijan attended the gala, the Deputy President, Ali Hasanov read out the message of congratulations of the President Ilham Aliyev. The gala was also attended by the director and producer, Özhan Eren, as well as the leading actors and actresses of the movie and the Azari actress Nesrin Cevadzade. Özhan Eren, the producer of the movie, stated that his own ancestors had migrated from the Şirvan region of Azarba-

ijan to Turkey, and it is because of this reason that he intentionally had an Azari play the role of a nurse in the movie that narrates the story of those who went to the Gallipoli War and those who waited for their return. Eren, who further stated that many Azari volunteer nurses had travelled to Istanbul and the surrounding regions to help the wounded, also said: "This is more than brotherhood. I wanted the Turkish youth to learn about the help given by our Azari sisters". Nesrin Cevadzade, on the other hand, expressed her honour in seeing that the most important movie of her career, The Last Letter, has been screened in her homeland.

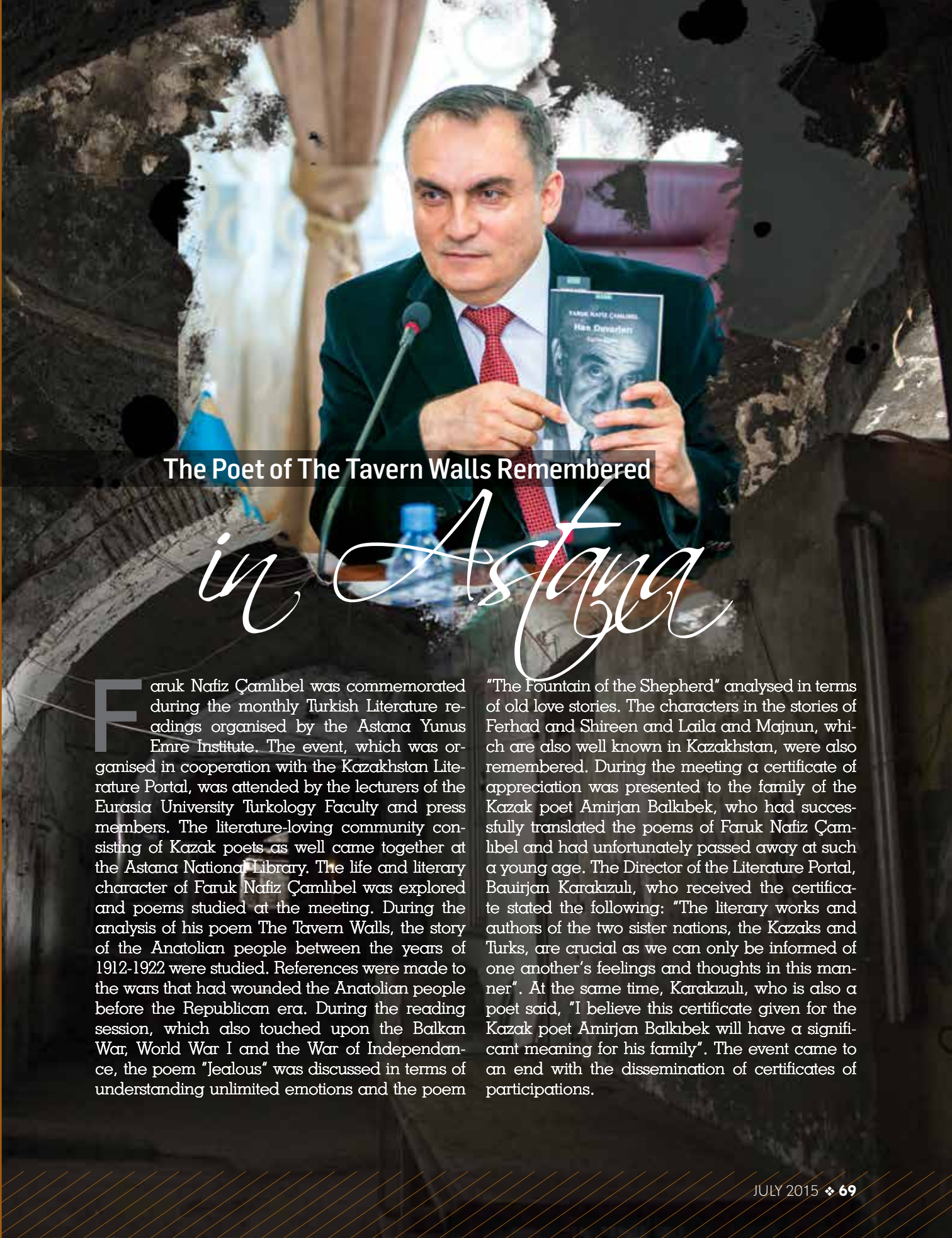


Turkish Cinema Days in

Kazakhstan

The Kazakhstan gala of the movie *Aşk Sana Benzer* (Love Looks Like You), leading Burak Özçivit and Fahriye Evcen, took place in Almaty and Astana with the attendance of Burak Özçivit. The famous actor, who was welcomed by the Kazak movie lovers during both Gala programmes, became a guest on one of the most famous channels, Kazakhstan TV on the program called *Tüngi Studiya*. Özçivit, who appeared on the programme as a special guest, spoke about Turkish cinema. Our country was represented with the movie *Uzun Hikaye* (A Long Story) at the Europe Film Festival that took place in Almaty as part of the European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC). Many movie lovers showed

great interest to the event, which was attended by the director of the movie, Osman Sınav. Before the gala of the movie, Osman Sınav gave a press conference and stated that he feels at home when he comes to Kazakhstan and that he believes that there needs to be more shared Kazak - Turkish productions. In answering a question, Sınav stated that he has always wanted to make a movie on the era of the Göktürks and that he would like to do it in Kazakhstan. The Kazak press showed much interest in Osman Sınav, whose television series such as *Deli Yürek* (Crazy Heart), *Kurtlar Vadisi* (Valley of the Wolves) and *Acı Hayat* (A Life of Sorrow) have been passionately followed by the Kazak population.

A man in a dark suit and red tie is seated at a podium, holding a book titled "Faruk Nafiz Çamlıbel Han Divanları". He is speaking into a microphone. The background is a dark, textured wall with a large, stylized white script that reads "in Astana".

The Poet of The Tavern Walls Remembered

in Astana

Faruk Nafiz Çamlıbel was commemorated during the monthly Turkish Literature readings organised by the Astana Yunus Emre Institute. The event, which was organised in cooperation with the Kazakhstan Literature Portal, was attended by the lecturers of the Eurasia University Turkology Faculty and press members. The literature-loving community consisting of Kazak poets as well came together at the Astana National Library. The life and literary character of Faruk Nafiz Çamlıbel was explored and poems studied at the meeting. During the analysis of his poem The Tavern Walls, the story of the Anatolian people between the years of 1912-1922 were studied. References were made to the wars that had wounded the Anatolian people before the Republican era. During the reading session, which also touched upon the Balkan War, World War I and the War of Independence, the poem "Jealous" was discussed in terms of understanding unlimited emotions and the poem

"The Fountain of the Shepherd" analysed in terms of old love stories. The characters in the stories of Ferhad and Shireen and Laila and Majnun, which are also well known in Kazakhstan, were also remembered. During the meeting a certificate of appreciation was presented to the family of the Kazak poet Amirjan Balkibek, who had successfully translated the poems of Faruk Nafiz Çamlıbel and had unfortunately passed away at such a young age. The Director of the Literature Portal, Baurıjan Karakızulı, who received the certificate stated the following: "The literary works and authors of the two sister nations, the Kazaks and Turks, are crucial as we can only be informed of one another's feelings and thoughts in this manner". At the same time, Karakızulı, who is also a poet said, "I believe this certificate given for the Kazak poet Amirjan Balkibek will have a significant meaning for his family". The event came to an end with the dissemination of certificates of participations.

Turkish Movies

SWEEP KAZAN



The Yunus Emre Institute of Kazan and the Kazan Consulate General of the Republic of Turkey has organised a Turkish Films Week at the Kazan Mir Cinema. "The 100th Anniversary of Turkish Cinema" themed event supported by the Tatar Kino Kastamonu Integration company screened 8 movies from different times. The audience enjoyed the movies *Yozgat Blues* (Mahmut Fazil Coşkun), *The Last Letter* (Özhan Eren), *Egg* (Semih Kaplanoğlu), *A Long Story* (Osman Sınay), *The Girl with the Red Scarf* (Atif Yılmaz), *Happy Life* (Yılmaz Erdoğan), *Bandit* (Yavuz Turgul) and *Pandora's Box* (Yeşim Ustaoğlu).

The gala programme screened the movie *Yozgat Blues* for its audience. The famous director Mahmut Fazil Coşkun and cinema critic Ihsan Kabil attended the gala programme as special guests. Prior to the gala, the press conference with the guests from Turkey received great attention by the Tataristan press. The talk held with Mahmut Fazil Coşkun following the gala programme was attended by many Tatar cinema directors, actors and students. The talk allowed the guests to speak of the current state of Turkish cinema, the problems and the annual Muslim Films Festival organised in Kazan.





Conference on the Historical Relations Between

Turkey and Romania

The Consulate General of the Republic of Turkey in Costanta and the Yunus Emre Institute Costanta Turkish Cultural Centre has organised a conference titled "The Relations Between Turkey and Romania in History". The lecture in which Professor Ömer Turan, a lecturer at the Middle East Technical University Faculty of History, and Associate Professor Emanuel Plopeanu, lecturer at the Ovidius University Faculty of History both delivered speeches, was held at the National History and Archeology Museum. The conference was attended by the Consul General of Turkey in Costanta, Ali Bozçalışkan, the staff of the Consulate General, the

Deputy Governors of Costanta, Ersun Anefi and Levent Accoium, the Mufti of Romanian Muslims Murat Yusuf, the President of the Mecidiye Kemal Atatürk National College Suat Yıldırım and staff as well as Major Ramazan Gürdal from the Navy Forces amongst many other guests. In their speeches, the speakers spoke about the economic, diplomatic and cultural relations in history between both Turkey and Romania. They further stated that in light of this shared culture, the relations that have continued between both countries have been proof of lasting peace and political stability. The conference came to an end with the hope of many more similar events as this programme.

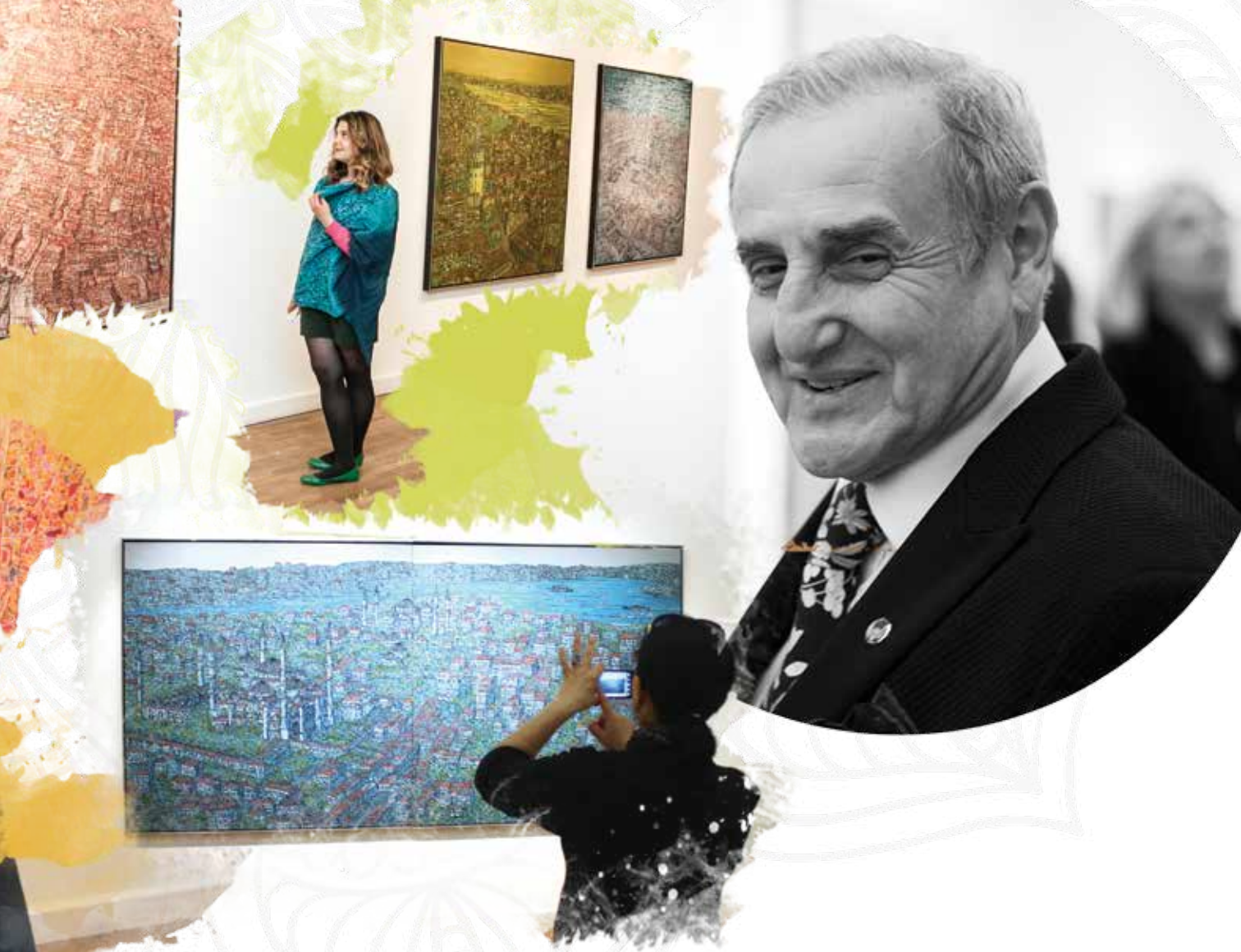


Devrim Erbil and The Exhibition

"Love From Istanbul" in Tirana

Devrim Erbil, one of the most famous names in Turkish Arts, has come to Tirana with his collection titled "Love from Istanbul". The popular artist came together with Albanian artists and art-lovers at the Albanian National Arts Gallery at the exhibition curated by Beste Gürsu. Hidayet Bay-

raktar, the Ambassador to Tirana of the Republic of Turkey, who delivered a speech at the exhibition, stated: "Our Embassy is honoured to have organised this exhibition together with the Yunus Emre Institute Tirana Centre and the Albanian National Arts Gallery and unite you with Devril Erbil, one of the most promi-



ment artists of our country. Devrim Erbil, who is a close friend and whom I highly respect and known as "The Poet of Art" throughout the world, has united this exhibition and the title of this exhibition with the mutual values and love that has preexisted amongst the Turks and the Albanians for many centuries. We had deeply desired Mr. Erbil to have come here to Albania with this exhibition of his. I would like to firstly thank the great master Devrim Erbil, the Director of the Albanian National Arts Gallery Şabani, the Yunus Emre Institute in Tirana, Turkish Airlines and Beste Gürsu for their contributions". Devrim Erbil, on the other hand, stated the following: "Dearest Art Lovers, During this day where the intellectuals of Turkey and Albania have come together, is one of the most dearest days of my art career. I have had many

exhibitions in many different parts of the world and each and every one of them has been a great success, but I shall not forget the warmth I have felt here today. I will never forget your close interest and warmth. I hope that you too will not forget me and my work. I would like to thank you all". During the exhibition, Devrim Erbil donated one of his works illustrating the Galata Tower and Pera, to the Albanian National Arts Gallery. During his visit to the Yunus Emre Institute, the artist signed the guestbook and stated that he closely follows the works of the Institute. Devrim Erbil was a centre of attention during the press conference as well. The artist also appeared on the Albanian National Television TVSH the following day, answering questions on Turkish Arts, its status in the world as well as his own art perceptions.



Global Public Diplomacy Network Meeting Held

in South Korea

The Global Public Diplomacy Network, which was established by the cultural diplomacy groups of 9 countries including our own Institute (Phillipines, Sweden, Korea, Hungary, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Singapore and Turkey) last year at the capital Seoul, has held its second meeting at the island Seju in South Korea.

The meetings, which were held with the attendance of the member countries representatives, had the opportunity to discuss the culture diplomacy activities, planned projects under the title of "Culture, Millennium Goals, & Beyond 2015". During the Board of Members meeting that was held during the second day of the programme, the annual plans,

mutual projects and the future of GDPNet were discussed. This year, the Taiwan Chiang Ching-Luo National Academic Change Association that attended the meetings for the first time, also became a member. The Deputy Director of the Yunus Emre Institute, Dr. Şaban Çobanoğlu and the Strategy Development Director Hasan Kocabıyık stated that the next meeting has been decided to be held at the Adam Mickiewicz Institute in Poland, and the meeting in 2017 will be held in Istanbul hosted by the Yunus Emre Institute.

At the end of the meetings, the President of the Korea Association Hyun-seok Yu was presented with an award by the Deputy Director of YEE, Dr. Şaban Çobanoğlu.



Clemens Holzmeister

The Architect Of Modern Turkey

Commemorated in Vienna

The project "Turkish Architecture: From the Seljuks Until Today", which has been organized with the cooperations of The Vienna Yunus Emre Institute, Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakif University and the Vienna Technical University, held its final conference titled "Clemens Holzmeister and Modern Turkish Architecture" at the Vienna Technical University. Clemens Holzmeister, the Austrian architect, was commemorated during this conference by the prominent professors of the field such as Bern Nicolai and Wilfred Bosch for his works in shaping the city of Ankara during the initial years of the Republic, with

his buildings of the Turkish National Assembly, the Directorate of the Military Staff, and the Central Bank. Professor Erich Lehner, who spoke on behalf of the Vienna Technical University, expressed his gratitude to the Vienna Yunus Emre Institute and Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakif University for implementing the project. He further stated that the Ottoman Empire was one which had ruled such an extensive geography, and while it transferred this sovereignty over to the Republic of Turkey, it was Clemens Holzmeister who was able to strengthen the relations between Turkey and Austria during the Republican era.



Turkish Calligraphy and Illumination Arts

in Poland

The Warsaw Yunus Emre Institute has hosted the prominent names of Turkish Calligraphy and Illumination Arts, Professor Uğur Derman and Professor Çiçek Derman, as part of the "Literature and Culture Talks" programme. The conference, which took place at the Krakov Jagiellon University Turkology Department, was attended by the Warsaw Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey Professor Yusuf Ziya Özcan, and academicians Professor Kivilcim Özcan and Warsaw University Lecturer Professor Tadeusz Majda amongst many other Polish individuals. Similar conferences continued

to take place at the Warsaw University Turkology Department. Throughout these dates, the conferences that were being simultaneously translated by Ewelina Jurek, drew much attention by the audience. The conferences ensured to provide detailed information about the Turkish arts of calligraphy and illumination. The opening speeches of all three conferences were made by the Director of the Warsaw Yunus Emre Institute Turkish Cultural Centre, Associate Professor Öztürk Emiroğlu. Emiroğlu thanked all attendees for their participation. The conference, which took three hours, was highly appreciated by the audience.



“World Romani Day”

Celebrated in Skopje

The Balkan Romani Union (BAROM) established in Istanbul with the assistance of the International Development and Cooperation Association (UKID) in May 2013, organised “April 8 International Romani Day” events at the Skopje Alexander Palace Hotel with the cooperation of UKID and the Yunus Emre Institute.

The President of the Republic of Macedonia and the BAROM President Necdet Mustafa congratulated “April 8 Romani Day” of all Romanis living within the Republic of Macedonia and abroad

and stated that they will continue to work on ensuring that all Romanis attain their rights.

Following the speeches given by the Edirne Governor of the Republic of Turkey Dursun Ali Şahin, the Turkish Ambassador to Skopje Ömür Şölendil and the General Manager of UKID Şefik Kantar, the opera singers Ernest Ibrahimovski, Gonca Vogorlova, the famous Romani clarinet musician Baysa Arifoska and violinist Zoran Corlev and Esmâ Recepova, known as “The Queen of Romanis” went on stage for their performances.



The Project "Turkey on Stage"

in Azerbaijan

As part of the Yunus Emre Institute's "Turkey on Stage" project, Burhan Öcal and Hüsnü Şenlendirici gave a concert in the capital city Baku, Azerbaijan.

Dr. Şaban Çobanoğlu, the Deputy Director

of the Yunus Emre Institute, stated that the Institute undertakes many cultural, art and language events within its 40 centres worldwide. Çobanoğlu, who further emphasised the importance given to multilingualism and multiculturalism by the Yunus Emre Institute, stated

that they have the same approach for all languages and cultures indiscriminately.

Çobanoğlu, who stated that they have undertaken more than 700 cultural functions worldwide and that the majority of these took place in Azerbaijan, said "As Turkey and Azerbaijan, we share our pains and joys during our mutual national days and special occasions".

Haşim Koç, the Projects Manager of the Yunus Emre Institute, also stated that they have been able to promote Turkey to the world with such projects as "The Rejuvenation of Traditional Handicraft Arts", "The Reconstructions of Cultural Heritage", "100 Libraries of Turkey", "Turkey Days: From 7 Regions to 7 Continents" and "On-Site History".

Koç, who underlined uniting all concerts and stage performances under the project of "Turkey on Stage", stated that the purpose of this project was to carry the traditional stage performances and modern arts of Turkey to the international arena.

Ali Çura, the Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Baku Turkish Cultural Centre, stated that the Republic of Turkey had undertaken its official communications and top level visits firstly to Azerbaijan and that the Institute continues to implement this tradition.

Kutu: Burhan Öcal görüş gelecek. Bla bla bla.....





A Certificate Ceremony in Germany

The successful students, who have undertaken the A1, A2 and B1 Turkish language certificate examinations arranged in Germany for the first time in conjunction with the Ministry of Education, have received their certificates during the celebration events of April 23rd Children's Day Festival. The ceremony was attended by the Consul General of Turkey in Germany Ahmet Baser Şen, the General Manager of the EU and Foreign Relations Y. Ziya Yediyıldız, the Deputy Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Professor Şeref Ateş, the Director of Germany Berlin Professor Osman Faruk Akyol, the Consul for Education at the Turkish Embassy in

Berlin Professor Cemal Yıldız and the Education Attache in Berlin Dr. Gürsel Gür. The General Manager of the EU and Foreign Relations Y. Ziya Yediyıldız explained that the examinations evaluated reading, writing, listening and speaking skills in four levels. He further stated that they intend to implement these Turkish certificate examinations throughout Germany, then in Western Europe countries, which will eventually allow all Turkish children to communicate easily in their own languages. Yediyıldız then stated that the second of the examinations are planned to be held simultaneously in the cities of Berlin, Hamburg, Stuttgart and Karlsruhe.



“The Mystical Light”

Meets with Art Lovers

Objects on Sufism, folk art and modern art as part of the exhibition titled “Mystical Light” were opened with a programme at the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre. The event, which was organised in cooperation with the Yunus Emre Institute, The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Turkey, The Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality and the Küçükçekmece Municipality and curated by Erkan Doğanay, was attended by Yasemin Eralp, Counsellor at the Embassy of Turkey in Sarajevo, Ali Kemal Baysak, the Honourary Consul of Turkey to Bosnia, Temel Karadeniz, the Mayor of Küçükçekmece Municipality, Murat Özer, the Advisor for

Education, Culture and Art at the Yunus Emre Institute, Mehmet Akif Yaman, the Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Sarajevo Turkish Cultural Centre as well as other distinguished guests. Murat Özer, the Advisor for Education, Culture and Art at the Yunus Emre Institute, delivered a speech during the opening of the exhibition in which he stated that ever since the establishment of the Yunus Emre Institute, the Sarajevo Branch had been the first to have been opened internationally and has been ever since committed in undertaking many important projects. He further stated that these events have had tremendous contributions to the development of culture and art of Bosnia.

a Music Feast at The

Kosova Jazz Week

Kosovo has become a host for many prominent names of Turkish music during the first half of the month of April. As part of the organisation of the Pristina Embassy of the Republic of Turkey and support of the Yunus Emre Institute Pristina Turkish Cultural Centre, "The Turkish Jazz Week" organized for the 4th time this year, has united the prominent names of Turkish jazz in Kosovo. The festival, which took place over a period of five days, was organized in Prizren and Yakova this year. The festival set off with the distinguished name of Turkish music, Erkan Oğur, leading the TELVIN group with Ismail Alp Ersönmez

and Turgut Alp Bekoğlu, on April 14th at the Pristina National Theatre. The jazz-lovers, who filled the hall, were able to listen to a fabulous concert by Erkan Oğuz's lute and voice, vocalizing songs from Emrah and Pir Sultan Abdal, two of the most prominent names of Turkish music. The festival that took place in Prizren hosted the TAD BAND consisting of Akın Eldes, Demirhan Baylan and Turgut Alp Bekoğlu at the Culture House. The audience showed great interest to the classical jazz songs as well as to the works of Aşık Veysel which were performed in jazz style. The festival, which was located in Pristina on its third day, provided a



unique music feast by Sabri Tuluğ Tırpan, Ediz Hafizoğlu and Engin Recepoğulları under the famous Mitrovica-born double bass musician Volkan Hürsever. The fourth day of the jazz festival took place in Yakova, a famous city of Kosovo. The ASENA AKAN BAND had surprised its audience at the Asim Vokshi Culture House. The "Çobankat" song, which was performed by Aseña Akan in Albanian, received much attention from the audience. Agron Peni, the famous Kosovan guitarist, also performed on stage with Ertan Iliyaz, the general coordinator of the festival this year. The group members also came together with students of the "Prenk

Jakova" Music School during the same day at a workshop. Sibel Köse, who performed during the last day of the festival, went on stage before the audience with the most beautiful examples of Quintet classical jazz music. The concert that took two hours glamourised the audience, while Kürşad Deniz, Kağan Yıldız, Engin Recepoğulları, Cem Aksel as well as the Kosovan musicians Enver Muhammedi, Visar Kuqi, Armend Xhaferi and Ertan Iliyaz also appeared on stage with Sibel Köse. During the same day, Sibel Kose also had the chance to come together at a workshop administered by Armend Xhaferi with the students of Pristina University.

Turkish Awards

Given in Iran!

The Turkish Awards programme, organised by the Tahran Yunus Emre Institute and is planned to become implemented hereon, took place at the Dekhoda Institute Mahmoud Afshar Hall. The Director of the Tahran Yunus Emre Institute, Associate Professor Şamil Öçal delivered an opening speech at the event, which then continued with the Dersaadet concert given by a sufi music group from Turkey. Following the concert in which the most precious sufi music songs of Anatolia were performed, the programme continued with the Turkish Poetry Reading Contest. The Turkish students at the Tahran Yunus Emre Institute and students from the Allamei Tabataba'i University Faculty of Turkish Language and Literature competed against one another during a knowledge and culture contest. The students of the Tahran Yunus Emre Institute won the contest which included answering questions. The students received their awards from the Art Advisor of the Yunus Emre Institute, Murat Özer. Following the Knowledge and Culture Competition, the winners of the various competitions in the categories of Writing Turkish Poetry-Story, Translation of Poetry-Story from Persian to Turkish, Book Translations from Turkish to Persian, Stage Performances in Turkish and Turkish Short Films were announced and given their awards. A group photograph was taken following the awards ceremony and the event was completed with the presentation of Turkish desserts and foods



The Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra

“Ramadan” Concert

The Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra had its traditional Ramadan concert together with musicians from Turkey. The concert organised with the support of the Sarajevo Yunus Emre Institute in Viyecnitsa was attended by Hüseyin Kavazovic, Leader of the Scholars, as well as many other distinguished guests. The leading vocalist under the maestro Oğuzhan Balcı was the pianist Gökhan Aybulus. The concert, which played Ludwig van Beethoven’s “Seventh Symphony” and Mikhail Glinka’s “Ruslan and Ludmila”,

also had the opportunity to provide information about the works of the Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra. Nina Granov, the speaker of the Orchestra further stated how honoured they are to have this traditional Ramadan concert every year and also to have been able to host Oğuzhan Balcı this year.

Nina Granov, who expressed her gratitude to those who supported the concert, also reminded the role played by the Yunus Emre Institute in the cultural and art projects in Bosnia.



April 1st

**The Nasraddin Hodja
Humour Day**



The Yunus Emre Institute Warsaw Turkish Cultural Centre continues its cultural promotion of values. For the first time, on April 1st, 2015, a Nasraddin Hodja Day was organised at the Ursynow Lajos Kossuth High School. The event was attended by the Ambassador of Turkey to Warsaw Prof. Yusuf Ziya Özcan, the Director of the Yunus Emre Institute Warsaw Turkish Cultural Centre Associate Professor Öztürk Emiröglü, the Principle of the Warsaw Ursynow Lajos Kossuth High School Pawel Mazur and the teachers and students of the school.

The Yunus Emre Institute Coordination Council Member, Fikret Büyükbayrak, who dressed up as Nasraddin Hodja delivered jokes to the

students. The Nasraddin Hodja jokes that caused laughter and deep thought were applauded by the students.

As part of the event, a knowledge contest in the five languages (English, French, German, Russian, Turkish) taught at the school was organised. Those students, who were the winners of the contest, received Nasraddin Hodja gift mugs from the Turkish Ambassador to Warsaw, Professor Yusuf Ziya Özcan. The event came to an end with presentations on the food cuisines of the different countries. The Polish were able to taste Turkish food prepared by the Yunus Emre Institute. The event was completed with group photographs taken.



**“My Grandfather Mehmet Akif”
Conference Held**

in Prizren

The Prizren Yunus Emre Institute has held a conference commemorating the author of the National Anthem, Mehmet Akif Ersoy. The special guests of the conference were the granddaughter of Mehmet Akif Ersoy, Selma Argon and the journalist, Fatih Bayhan. Selma Argon, the granddaughter of Mehmet Akif, spoke about Tahir Efendi – Mehmet Akif Ersoy’s father – and his journey from Suşica to Istanbul, Akif’s experiences during the national struggle years, his life while he was a member of parliament from the city of Burdur, and important details of his poetry life. Argon further stated her delight in being present at the lands of where her grandfather was born. Selma Argon delivered the li-

festory of Mehmet Akif by shedding light onto the historical eras of his time. Mehmet Akif’s support of Atatürk during the national struggle years, the reasons behind his voluntary migration to Egypt, the writing of the National Anthem, his years as a politician and the years afterwards were all discussed while emphasising on the fact that Akif was a man of mission and commitment. On the other hand, the journalist Fatih Beyhan, who has given almost 60 conferences about Mehmet Akif Ersoy, stated that Mehmet Akif Ersoy had assumed a significant responsibility during the national struggle years and had successfully achieved it. The conference came to an end with questions and answers.



The Europe No Stop Youth

Culture and Arts Festival

The arts festival organised by the Rome Yunus Emre Institute promoted the artworks in the fields of painting, sculpture, photography, graphics as well as film, music, dance and theatre for a period of three days. Turkey was represented by 10 artists during the festival. Rome, which is one of the most important culture and arts cities of the world, became lively with Turkish culture and arts objects for three days. The "No Stop Europe Youths" Mixed Culture and Arts Festival events organised by the Rome Yunus Emre Institute was hosted by the Dioscuri Theatre affiliated with the Quirinale Palace. The Institute, which continuously undertakes similar organisations in the various cities of Europe for the purposes

of strengthening the dialogue between Turkey and Europe through arts, organised paintings, sculpture, photography, graphic arts, film, music, dance and theatre events during the programme in Rome. The event known as The Mixed Culture-Arts Festival took place with the attendance of 20 artists from both Italy and other countries. The event was attended by A. Sina Gürsu in the field of short films in Turkey, Aylin Yavuz, Kadir Akyol, Nurdan Likos, Mihriban Mirap and Yasemin Öztürk in painting, Can Katırcıoğlu in stage performances, Çağdaş Erçelik in the field of sculpting and Payidar Şeyma Bestey in photography. The events gave the opportunity to build bridges between the young artists of Turkey and Europe.



On the Centennial Anniversary of the Gallipoli War; LITERATURE BRIDGES ERECTED FOR PEACE

As part of the Centennial Anniversary of the Gallipoli War, the Yunus Emre Institute has united the two sides of the war through bridges of literature and history. The programme, which has been undertaken for the first time, was supported by the Bursa Nilüfer Municipality, Bahçeşehir University and Çanakkale 18 Mart University and took place over a period of 6 days with 3 authors in 3 different cities. The programme that consisted of four panels took place at the Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University Troy Culture Centre, Bursa Nilüfer Municipality Nazım Hikmet Culture Centre and the Bauart Gallery of Bahçeşehir University with the Literature for Peace theme, while uniting Australian, British and Turkish

authors together. Demet Altınyelekliloğlu, one of the most prominent names of historical novel writing in Turkey, came together with her novel "Diaries of Gallipoli", in which she has written the story of a friendship that stemmed from amongst "enemies" sharing the same fate. Altınyelekliloğlu had the opportunity to work on a project together with the Australian academician and historian Jonathan King at the ITEF – Istanbul Tanpınar Literature Festival. Another famous name at the event was the author of the book "The Mandolin of Captain Corelli", Louis de Bernieres, who shared his own past reflected in his works encompassing the difficult years endured in Anatolia during the war as well as his personal connection with the war.

