

- J.W. Allen: "Shaban, Barquq, and the Decline of the Mamluk Metalworking Industry"
 Louise Mackie: "Mamluk Textiles: National and International Considerations"
 D. James: "The Koran of Baybars I"
 E. Atil: "Mamluk Painting in the Late 15th Century"
 I. Lapidus: "The Political, Economic and Social Setting"
 O. Grabar: "Architecture and the Arts"

FUTURE CONFERENCES

Symposium: To Commemorate the Atatürk Centennial
University of Chicago - 1981

The Middle East Center of the University of Chicago will sponsor a one-day symposium on the above. Details will be announced later.

2nd International Turkish Folklore Congress
Bursa, Turkey - June 22-28, 1981

For details, write: Kültür Bakanlığı, Millî Folklor Araştırma Dairesi, II. Milletlerarası Türk Folklor Kongresi, Hazırlık Komitesi Başkanlığı, Mithatpaşa Cad., Ak Han, No. 33, Kat 6; Yenışehir, Ankara, Turkey.

1st International Congress on
History of Turkish-Islamic Science and Technology
Istanbul Technical University - Sept. 14-18, 1981

For more details, write: Ms. Zeynep Kınık, Bilim ve Teknoloji Tarihi Enstitüsü, İTÜ Taşkışla Oda 219, İstanbul, Turkey.

5th Naval History Symposium
U.S. Naval Academy - October 1-2, 1981

The History Department of the U.S. Naval Academy will sponsor its fifth symposium on naval history. The symposium will welcome suggestions for papers on all topics relating to naval history. For information, write: Frederick S. Harrod, History Department, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21402.

NEWS OF OTHER ASSOCIATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

American Institute of Iranian Studies

The Institute remained open in Tehran through the Revolution, but has been effectively closed since the autumn of 1979. During the period of December 4-6, 1980, the Institute's library and furnishings were confiscated and removed from the premises of the Center in Tehran by representatives of the Bonyad-e Mostaz'afin. The Institute has protested this confiscation to representatives of the Bonyad-e Mostaz'afin in New York, to Iran's representatives to the United Nations, and to the Ambassador of Algeria in Washington, D.C. The Institute remains active in this country. For further information, contact: Brian Spooner, Secretary, AIIIS, 325 University Museum/F-1, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Middle East Outreach Council

[Summary of Report following MEOC's Wingspread Conference, held at Johnson Foundation in Racine, WI, February 27 to March 1, 1981.]

The first meeting of the MEOC, since its incorporation in November 1980, has produced a number of very important results. Primarily, it has enabled the outreach coordinators at the 11 federally funded centers, as well as members of other universities, business groups, community organizations, and members of the national media, to pool their efforts toward promoting better understanding of the cultures and peoples of the Middle East countries, including the Arab world, Iran and Israel. Foremost among the MEOC's priorities is the need to coordinate efforts in the direction of promoting public awareness of the Middle East without, in any way, becoming politicized or falling victim to the dictates of any special interest group or organization. As a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, MEOC's charter designates its activities to "coordinate and promote the dissemination of information and materials on the Middle East for educational purposes." The organization cannot lobby or become a political action group.

Rather, the MEOC seeks to work through schools, constituents in the business and news communities, as well as with the general public, to produce a better understanding in this country of the history, culture and institutions of the Middle East. The Department of Education's mandate for "outreach" — dissemination of information on the Middle East at the local and national levels — through its Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies awards, has been actively participated in by funded Middle East Centers at universities throughout the U.S. for a number of years. By incorporating, the current 11 M.E. Center outreach coordinators can formally link with others involved in similar activities at other schools and universities, and draw in the various, interested business corporations and members of the news media who deal with the Middle East. It is felt that the MEOC will provide the umbrella organization to give this constituency a sense of identity and also a continuity which will make our efforts stronger.

At the conclusion of the Wingspread Conference there was a general feeling that the important ideas and comments made at each of the sessions should be made available to other interested individuals who were not able to attend. Therefore, a booklet containing this information is being prepared for publication, and will be available at the next MESA meeting. Or, copies can be obtained by writing: Sheila Scoville, Outreach Coordinator, Near Eastern Center, Franklin Bldg., University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

The MEOC Newsletter, with information on outreach activities and materials available in the field, can be obtained through: Vernon Eggar, Outreach Coordinator, Center for Near Eastern and North African Studies, U of Michigan, 144 Lane Hall, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

The Population Council

The Population Council, with funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development, has organized an International Research Awards Program on the Determinants of Fertility in Developing Countries. The objective of the program is to support research that will increase understanding of why and how human fertility changes in different cultural settings and under varying socio-economic conditions. The program is organized as a competition based on peer review of research proposals. A Program Committee of distinguished social scientists provides policy guidance for the operation of the program, oversees the peer review process, and makes decisions on awards.

Proposals may be submitted by one or more individuals affiliated with an institution in developing or developed countries. Preference will be given, first, to proposals from developing country institutions