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ISSUE
07

March - April 2016

AZURA NEWS

A new breath to middle eastern life

**100 Shades of Green:
Trabzon**

**Today's timeless designer:
Zeynep Fadillođlu**

**Expo Mar. Apr. 2016
Qatar-Dubai-Oman-Turkey**

**Tulip Festival in Istanbul:
Emirgan**

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Spring in Emirgan Park

Photo by Ulas Aksakal

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Q|A|T|A|R NEWS

MARCH - APRIL

CULTURAL DIVERSITY FESTIVAL

10TH JANUARY - 30TH MAY, 2016
OPERA HOUSE & DRAMA THEATER

Cultural Village Foundation-Katara in collaboration with UNESCO office in Doha, inaugurated the Cultural diversity festival. The festival will amuse Katara festival with the participation of over 20 countries from all over the world who will showcase their traditions and heritage. The opening ceremony of the Cultural diversity festivities inaugurated with the folkloric performance by a Qatari band and will continue with a band from Philippine that will perform on Monday Katara esplanade, the front of the amphitheater.



2ND QATAR ITF JUNIOR OPEN 2016

26TH MAR - 02TH APR, 2016
KHALIFA INTERNATIONAL TENNIS & SQUASH COMPLEX

The ITF World Junior Tennis Competition was launched in 1991 as an International Team Competition for players aged 14 and under. Teams from across the world compete in this event for a place in the Final where 16 boys teams and 16 girls teams compete for the title.

QATAR DRAW SIZE

32 Boys & 32 Girls in the singles competition and 16 Boys & Girls Doubles teams.



QAJAR WOMEN: IMAGES OF WOMEN IN 19TH CENTURY IRAN

08TH APRIL, 2015 - 11TH JUNE, 2016
MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ART

The Museum of Islamic Art will organize an exhibition for Qajar artwork from April 8, 2015 to June 11, 2016. The exhibition will present MIA collection that demonstrates the centrality of women in the artistic expression of 19th-century Iran.



MAGICAL FESTIVAL VILLAGE

A sophisticated atmosphere well facilitated attracting people from all nationalities, different ages and interests providing unforgettable experience to the visitors - scheduled to open to Public on 15th FEB 2016.

A Project designed to contain different integrated scalable parts running permanently and temporarily within THE VILLAGE duration, gathering shopping units -THE SOUK- hosting of international and original all-new FESTIVALS and DAILY & WEEKLY ACTIVITIES & ENTERTAINMENTS through a wonderful ambience.



9TH ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS WORLD CHALLENGE CUP 2016

24TH - 26TH MARCH, 2016
ASPIRE ACADEMY DOME

The competition will be organized under the following FIG rules, as valid in the year of the competition, except for any deviation mentioned in the Individual Apparatus World Cup and World Challenge Cup Rules in Artistic Gymnastics.



INTERNATIONAL COFFEE EXHIBITION

3TH - 7TH MARCH, 2016
KATARA

International Coffee Exhibition is a 5 day event being held from 5th November to the 9th November 2015 at the Katara Hall in Doha, Qatar. This event showcases products like Milks, creams and related dairy products, sugar, syrups, and sweeteners, cocoa and chocolate, coffee machines, equipment and bar accessories, drink dispensers, soda fountains, cups, mugs, glasses, washers, ice makers, and crushers, coffee grinders, Baked foods, bread, pizzas, cakes, biscuits, creams, and ice cream, confectionery, cocoa based products and many more etc. in the Tea & Coffee industry.



CHI AL SHAQAB DOHA 2016

02TH - 05TH MARCH, 2016
AL SHAQAB HORSE RACING ACADEMY

Witness four brilliant equestrian disciplines and skills manifested in the only event of its kind in Asia: Four days of Jumping, Dressage and Para-Dressage; where the best national and international horses and riders will fight for one of the most coveted titles in the equestrian calendar.



Qatar Museum Announces Qatar China 2016 Year of Culture

Two major exhibitions to open in Doha in 2016 as part of a year round programme of events in China and Qatar

Under the patronage of its Chairperson, Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, Qatar Museums (QM) announces the outline programme for the Qatar China 2016 Year of Culture, following the huge success of the Qatar Turkey 2015 Year of Culture.

The Qatar Turkey 2015 Year of Culture, which will draw to a close at the end of the month, celebrated the relations between the State of Qatar and the Republic of Turkey through cultural partnerships between Qatari and Turkish organisations, institutions and individuals. A rich programme explored the contemporary and traditional cultures of both countries, and included exhibitions, festivals, performances, educational programmes and cultural exchanges for all to enjoy.

As part of the Qatar China 2016 Year of Culture, two major exhibitions will be

held in Qatar in addition to a supporting programme of cultural events throughout the year.

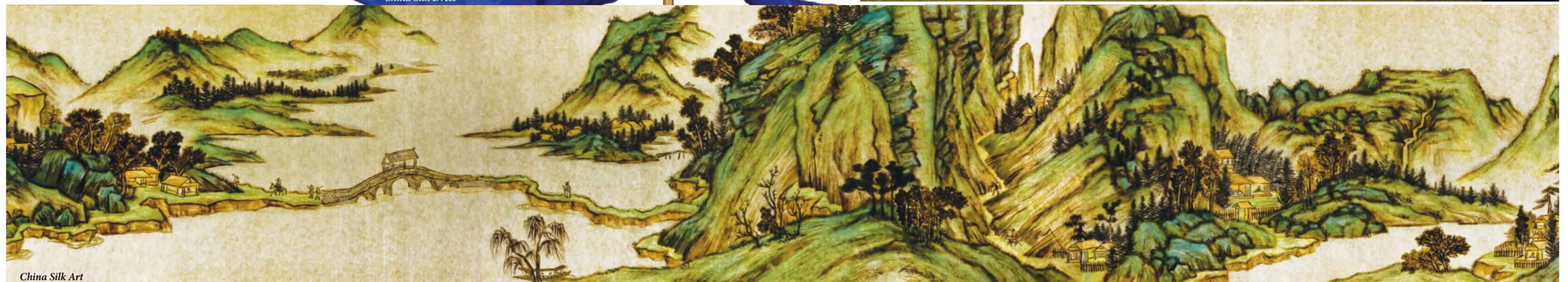
“What About the Art? Contemporary Art from China”, an exhibition from 15 contemporary Chinese artists curated by internationally acclaimed New York based Chinese artist Cai Guo-Qiang, will be on view at the QM Gallery Al Riwaq in Spring 2016. And “Silks from the Silk Road” will also be on view at the QM Gallery Katara in the Spring. In China, one of the most significant moments of the Year of Culture will centre around the latest edition of the exhibition “Pearls.” Previously exhibited in London and Istanbul, the exhibition will travel to Beijing later in the year.

The exhibition “What About the Art? Contemporary Art from China” will be the major highlight presented in the context of the Qatar China 2016 Year of Culture. After his solo exhibition held at Mathaf in 2011, artist Cai Guo-Qiang returns to Qatar, this time as a curator, to present an exhibition featuring 15 contemporary Chinese artists and collectives working in a variety of media. Artworks exemplifying each and every artist’s unique artistic language and methodology will be displayed in individual galleries, a curatorial approach further highlighting the distinctive creative pursuit of each individual participant.

China Silk Dress



Xu Bing / Background story: Landscape Painted on the Double Ninth Festival



China Silk Art



Huang Young

The second major exhibition of the Qatar China 2016 Year of Culture, "Silks from the Silk Road", presents silk as a theme, and as a special local product of Zhejiang that played an important role in the trade along the Silk Road.

The exhibition highlights ancient and modern Chinese silk works, with around 100 pieces due to be showcased at the QM Gallery in Katara in total. The exhibition aims to map out the history of silk and its cultural significance over thousands of years, and allows visitors to experience the charm of contemporary Chinese silk.

As part of the Qatar China 2016 Year of Culture, a range of activities and events have also been planned for all to enjoy in both countries, including a Chinese Movie Week and an open-air Chinese Festival featuring music, performance, crafts and food from different regions of China. A programme of several other events will be announced throughout the year.



Liu Wei



Hu Zhijun



Liang Shaoji

Turkish Embassy in Doha extends support to the Qur'anic Botanic Garden (QBG) by joining the "Ghars" planting campaign



The Turkish Embassy in Doha and the Qur'anic Botanic Garden, member of Qatar Foundation aim together through "Ghars Campaign 2016" to raise environmental awareness, to highlight the importance of increasing the area of trees in Qatar and around the world, and to preserve the natural resources; especially trees within their natural habitats. The event will draw green picture to encourage all the community in Qatar and Turkey to keep their fingerprints on the environment by planting trees.

As Qatar Turkey 2015 Year of Culture celebrates the relations between the State of Qatar and the Republic of Turkey through cultural partnerships between Qatari and Turkish organizations, institutions and individuals. The Turkish Embassy in Doha has extended support to Qatar Foundation's Qur'anic Botanic Garden (QBG) by joining the "Ghars-planting campaign", which mainly aims to increase the number of trees in Qatar.

The "Ghars-planting campaign" will be held in the Turkish Embassy in Doha. In order to mark the event; diplomats,

entrepreneurs, community leaders and executives will be invited to take part in planting trees at the Embassy's yard.

The Qur'anic Botanic Garden is taking this opportunity to raise the public awareness about the value of the trees. From its ethical, cultural and environmental responsibility, the Qur'anic Botanic Garden has launched its planting and awareness campaign "Ghars" which was initiated more than five years ago. The "Ghars" campaign; whose name derives from the Arabic translation of 'Planting' from the Hadith of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) narrated by Anas bin Malik: 'Allah's Messenger (PBUH) said, "There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, but is regarded as a charitable gift for him.'" QBG aims to promote an understanding of the plants, botanic terms, and conservation principles mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, Hadith, and Sunnah. QBG hopes to achieve this by applying scientific innovations, building an appreciation of cultural traditions, and creating a garden that will provide unique opportunities for learning.

"Ghars campaign" not only comes from the perspective of protecting our natu-

ral resources and environment (which is inevitable and necessary), but it is a main principle rooted in the Islam and constructed in Muslim minds as a part of Allah's worshipping.

About Qur'anic Botanic Garden: The Qur'anic Botanic Garden, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, the first of its kind in the world, exhibits all the plant species mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, and those in the Hadith and Sunnah (Sayings and traditions of the Prophet Muhammad PBUH). The Garden exhibits the botanical terms mentioned in the Holy Qur'an, explaining the significance of their mention in the Holy Qur'an, as well as the scientific explanations of composition, application and usefulness to man. It inspires appreciation of nature by encouraging respect and responsibility for our environment. The concept comes from a region-wide UNESCO. The idea of the Qur'anic Botanic Garden was started since it was inaugurated by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation on 17 September 2008. To mark the event, she planted the Garden's very first tree, the Sidra (Ziziphus spina-christi Willd, Sidr), which is also the symbol of the Foundation.



Doha Yunus Emre Institute

Dr Mehmet AYKAÇ
Doha Yunus Emre Institute Manager

Starting operations on 2 December 2015, Doha Yunus Emre Institute aims to promote and teaching Turkish culture, language, literature by cooperating different institutes and supporting scientific studies; and to declare the results of the studies to the public in Doha.

Giving and having given Turkish lessons and supporting academicians and turcologists on the subjects of Turkish language and literature are among the most prominent/main aims. In addition, organizing and supporting cultural activities with other institutes, universities and nongovernmental organizations; and composing bridges between local cultures are aimed.

Yunus Emre Institute gives educations on traditional Turkish Music, Turkish Folk Music and Classic Turkish Music. At these courses in Doha, students will meet the instruments such as reed flute, bağlama (a kind of stringed folk instrument), violin, zither; and the most beautiful samples of Turkish music are introduced to the world.

Besides organizing autograph sessions and conversations with artists and intellectuals, the tradition of handicrafts are tried to keep alive by the works of traditional handcraft workshops.

Cultural sharing is also aimed between Turkey and Qatar with panels, symposiums, conferences in terms of language, literature, art, history, culture. Moreover, the institute organizes and supports festivals on the fields of film, art, literature, cuisine.



Turkey and Turkish is introduced with Turkish Summer School programs...

Yunus Emre institute hosts hundreds of foreign students coming from different geographies and cultures in various cities of Turkey with "Turkish Summer School Program" since 2009.

Turkish Proficiency Exam

It is an international measurement exam testing main language skills of students who learn Turkish as a foreign or native language. Turkish proficiency exam are held three times in a year in January, May and September, and in every country where the institute is located.




Yunus Emre Enstitüsü



Gözleme

Turkish Food Festival

7th March to 22nd March 2016,
13.00h – 23.00h

Join Us for one of the most exciting culinary festivals in the city!
Discover, taste and enjoy special traditional Turkish treats with
its rich array of flavors and scents!

For reservations and inquiries, please call 4445 5540



GrandHeritageDoha



GrandHeritageDh



GrandHeritageDh

Grand Heritage Doha launches Turkish Food Festival “Gözleme”

Grand Heritage Hotel Doha in association with Turkish Cultural Center launches one of the most exciting culinary festivals in the city, the Turkish Food Festival “Gözleme”. The delicious event will take place at the hotel’s signature restaurant Agora, starting from March 7. The first day of the festival will be open to the press and invited guests only. The opening ceremony will be held by an honorary guest H.E. Ahmet Demirok, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey in Doha.



Agora Restaurant

A special à la carte menu with an array of mouthwatering authentic Turkish dishes will be prepared by the culinary team of Agora restaurant to bring in the real flavours of Turkey. Guests visiting the festival will be able to experience traditional Turkish delights, including its famous national treat and the main feature of the festival “gozleme” (traditional savory Turkish flatbread and pastry dish). The Gozleme lady is flying all the way from Turkey to Doha specifically to treat visitors of the festival to its authentic freshly-baked delicacy.

Everything will be set to recreate the magic of Turkish culture, visitors will be offered a ‘mystical nostalgic ambience’ that is enhanced by live traditional Ottoman music and complete with rich aroma of Turkish tea and its delicious sweets.

“Turkish cuisine is one of the most diverse and most delicious culinary cultures of the world. The idea behind the event is to showcase the rich culinary heritage of Turkey, generate

better awareness of traditional Turkish food and encourage local residents and guests to try it out - said Durmus Budak, Head Chef of Agora Restaurant, commenting the event. “All guests of the festival are guaranteed a fascinating journey through the history of Turkish gastronomy.” – he added.



The Turkish food festival will continue until March 22. Those eager to explore and experience the cultural roots and contemporary influences of Turkey will be able to dine at Agora restaurant every day from 1.00 pm to 11.00 pm during the festival. For more information or reservations please call, 4445 5555.

*Gözleme’ (GOES’-leh-meh) is a traditional Turkish snack and street food made with fresh sheets of ‘yufka’ dough that are rolled out by hand, and then spread with delicious, spicy fillings of cheese, spinach or seasonal vegetables.

Today's timeless designer: Zeynep Fadilloğlu

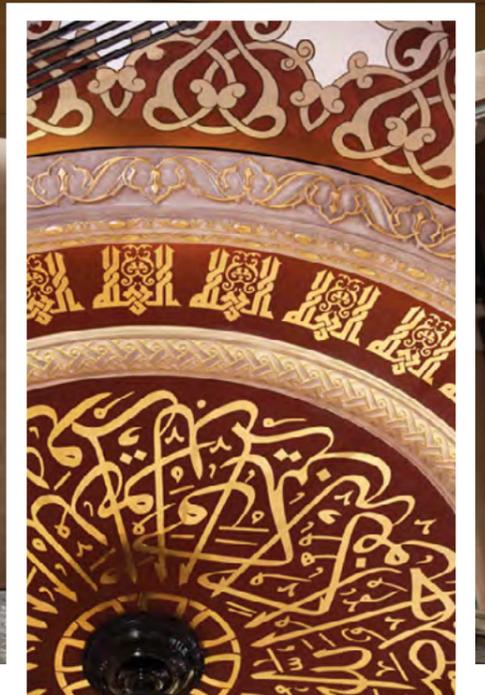
Interview by: Eda Yorgancioglu

The Golden Mosque

The Golden Mosque was garnished with extremely small golden chips, and it represents Ottoman style.

Katara offers, in masjids, several religious programs and a series of religious lectures delivered by a group of prominent and esteemed religious scholars. Katara also organizes advanced courses in Quran memorization that are widely attended by a considerable number of children from different age groups. Such courses bear significance because they instill the virtuous values and the good manners of the Holy Quran.

The Golden Mosque / Katara





The person you will meet now is the first woman to design a mosque. She was one of the 35 designers having their names written to Andrew Martin International Designer of the Year Award in 1999 and 2000. Her acclaimed designs made her well-known not only in Turkey but also all over the world. We have talked about her Şakirin Mosque design and mosque projects in Qatar...

First woman to design a mosque, we are sure Şakirin Mosque has a prominent place in your career. How did you meet this project and how was the design process?

İbrahim and Semiha Şakir are members of a benefactor family who granted schools and have a foundation. Gazi, Gassan and Ghada Şakir brothers wanted to have a mosque constructed in commemoration of their mother and father. When I received the design ward of year 2005 in Enland, Mr Gazi connected me and wanted me to design interior of Şakirin Mosque. Since I had designed his house, he knew my style. After I started the project, they decided me to design the external parts of the mosque with the aim of a design suitable for the public's traditions, values, and reflecting the age with a modern and different look.

I didn't feel any negative behaviour because of being a woman during the process of designing the mosque until I was asked on an interview. The design of the mosque took a great attraction especially abroad. I believe the difference Şakirin Mosque created is originated from my designer identity. The family's aesthetic knowledge, monetary support and being worldwide collector also helped me do the better. The English say "You are only as good as your customer".

In an interview, you said you had always wanted to design a mosque. What did promote you for that intention? In the mosques constructed during Ottoman and Seljuk era, handicrafts and the summit of the art were exhibited. Sultans used to dispatch more opportunities art works at mosques where the public meet. We can observe the best samples of stone work at Seljuk era mosques and the finest Iznik tiles, silk carpets and handicrafts at Ottoman era mosques.

I had always dreamt of carrying this traditional background to a modern mosque together with the world known artists. It was then real with Şakirin Mosque in the favour of Şakir family. Besides the mosque's being preferred for praying by the public, it is an honour for me that the mosque is recommended to tourist together with our other historical mosques.



Şakirin Mosque

You have your signature on Golden Mosque and Friday Mosque projects in Qatar. How did you meet these projects? Could you tell us about your relations with Arab world?

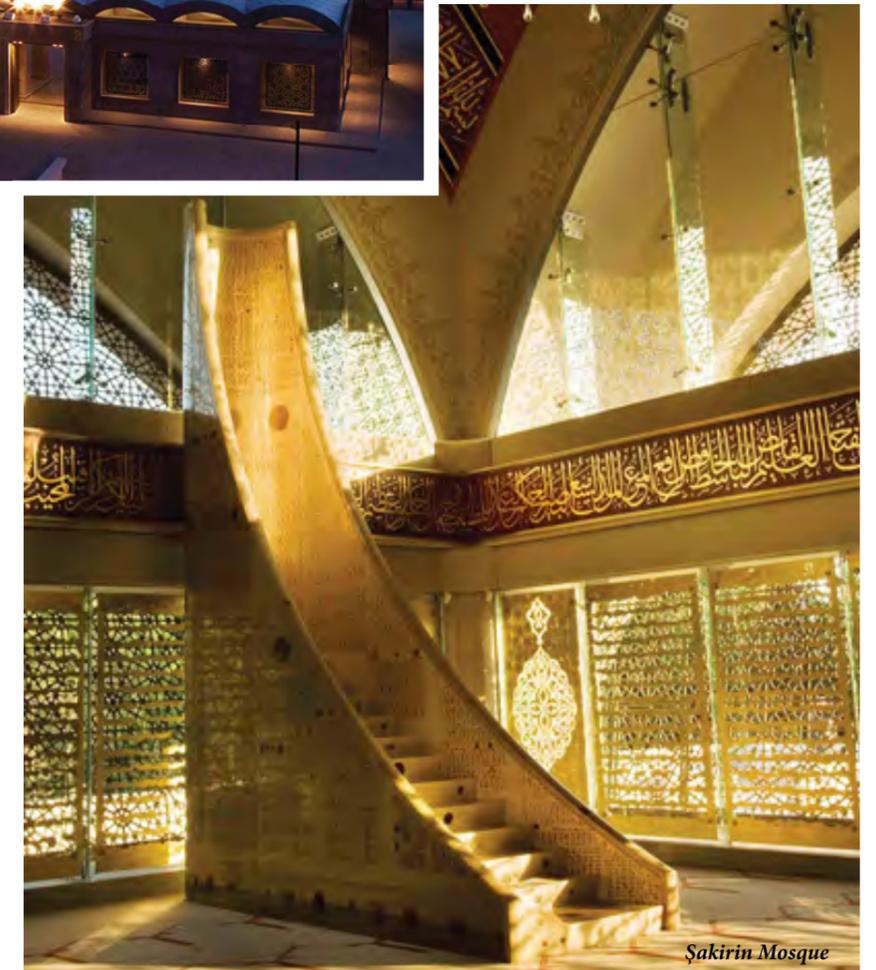
Thank goodness, Şakirin Mosque brought us good luck. Our success awakened Islamic world's interest since we designed a mosque protecting our culture and tradition. Especially foreign press showed great interest to Şakirin mosque. BBC broadcasted on mosque all day, and Le monde published full page interview on the third page. Most prestigious newspaper such as Frankfurter Allgemeine and Daily telegraph followed them. So all the world learned about us.

Qatar Emirate demanded us to design two mosques and a restaurant. Friday Mosque was designed by inspiring Ottoman hand carving and revealing Qatar's traditional colours. 5 metres diameter special leather Mihrab was glamourized by calligraphies.

And it was framed by cast bronze details. Golden Mosque was demanded to be designed as a jewel box. We studied on deciding the tone of gold with Italians for months. We caught shining under the sun and disappearing in the shadow tone of gold. The interior of this mosque is more classical; the bronze minbar composed by carving is used on the advertisement of Katara region. Besides working in Europe, Bahrein, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi are among the Arab countries we work. Respecting the culture of the country, the customer's perception; and our logistics success are some of the reasons we are preferred.

You constitute unique projects blending eastern and western culture. How do you exactly describe your style? What inspires you most?

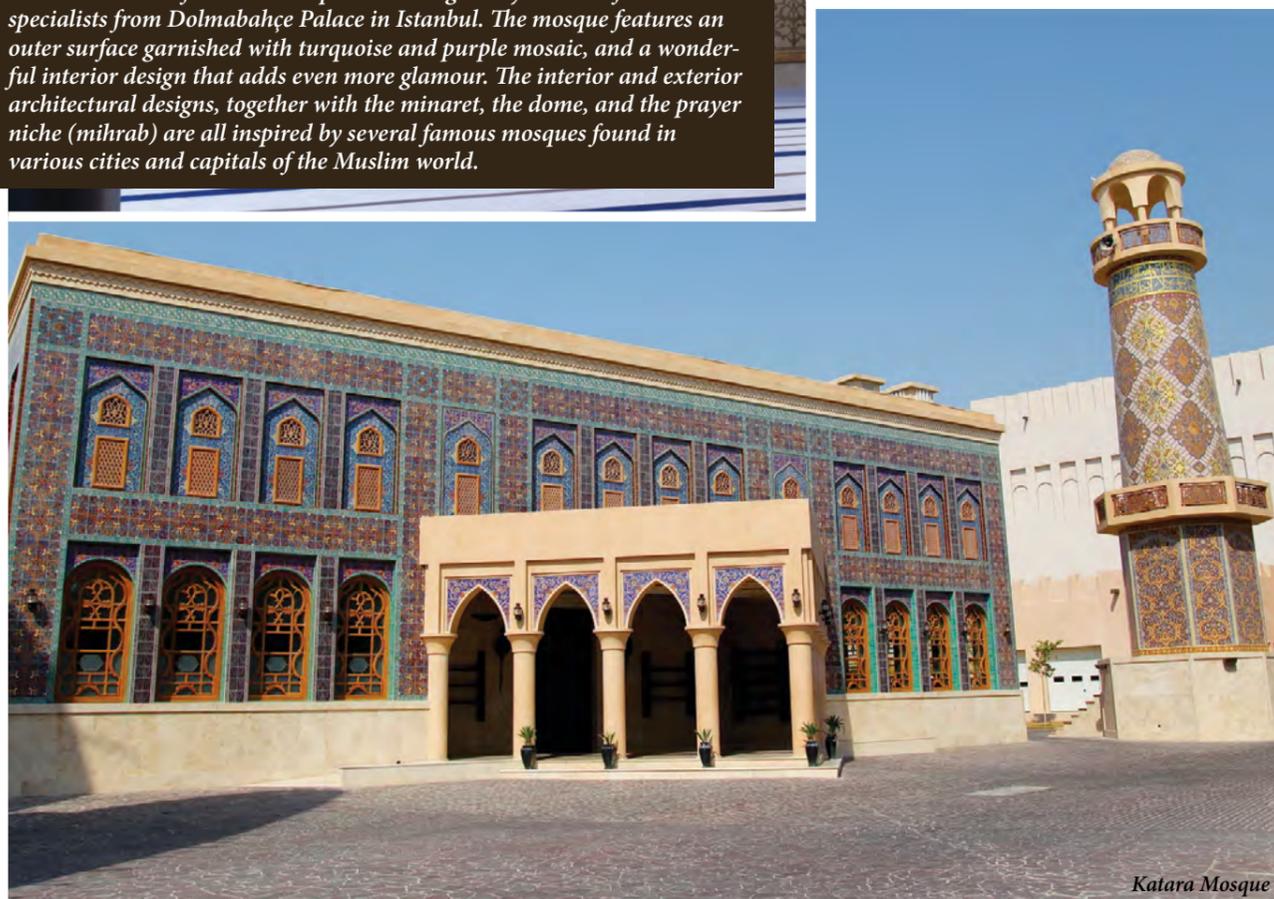
Design was always a part of my life with the help of my family atmosphere, however my style developed completely



Şakirin Mosque



Katara Mosque is one of the most beautiful mosques in Qatar. The decorations of Katara Mosque were designed by a team of restoration specialists from Dolmabahçe Palace in Istanbul. The mosque features an outer surface garnished with turquoise and purple mosaic, and a wonderful interior design that adds even more glamour. The interior and exterior architectural designs, together with the minaret, the dome, and the prayer niche (mihrab) are all inspired by several famous mosques found in various cities and capitals of the Muslim world.



Katara Mosque

naturally. Having an education design and history of art was a milestone. In Inchbald School of Design, I had an education applying all eras and details at museums. My master thesis was on carpets. I had never seen such Turkish carpets in the museums in Sotheby's and Christie's in Turkey before. Also, I met Iznik tiles at a house of my Dutch friend. All these were innovation apart from being a part of my own culture. I think these experiences reflected to my style. I as Zeynep Fadilloğlu design complete 40-50 projects in a year.

What does representing Turkey in the world mean to you?

We are a different society sheltering various cultures from Romans to Seljuk and Ottomans. You may densely feel both eastern and western cultures while living in Istanbul. I am with people from all strata since my childhood. I am trying to be modern face of my country Turkey and introduce Turkish culture abroad. At the same time, I am trying to support everyone interested in designing. For instance, I am giving lectures

on design management at Bilgi University for 14 years; and trying to attend all the conversations I am invited as a speaker. Especially, I am happy to see interest from the young.

You say "I have a problem like being a perfectionist". What are the pros and cons of this perspective?

I have tried to catch the perfect in all of my projects. We have completed more than 450 projects. We serve to a wide range from palaces to houses, hotels to



Sukar Pasha Restaurant / Katara

malls, etc. Besides design, we do the implementations. In addition to our furniture and accessories product range, we present product design service to well-known brands. I think working not only in Turkey but also in Europe, Far East, Middle East, and the USA; our interest in different sociologies, psychologies and cultures are the main reason of our success. We do the logistics and planning best. My team is composed of hardworking, problem solving, successful in team work experts. This is why we are preferred from all over the world. My work is my way of life, I enjoy my work.

You also have special designs. How did designing furniture and goods idea occur?

Our furniture and accessories collection is 2 years old yet. However, it has more than 450 projects and years of experience background. It took us 2-5 years of our collection to prepare the prototypes and complete the design and to put on sale. Although we are new on this field, we are happy of the interest in Turkey and abroad. We prepared a product collection prioritising functionality besides visuality and helping people to change their homes with a few products of our collection. Some of our Anatolian cultured products were put on "The World of Interiors" October issue.



You were listed on Andrew Martin book in which the best 100 designers of year are listed every year. What was your first reaction when you heard this news?

Being appreciated is of course an honour for me. My name is on the list of Andrew Martin; and I am the only Turkish designer listed in "The Iconic Interior: 1900 to the Present" published by Thames & Hudson. I have also two more awards from English Institute: one is "Modern designer of the Year" by Andrew Martin in 2005 and the other is "International designer of the Year" by Design and Decoration Awards in 2002. I was nominated for Aga Khan Architecture Award.

As a last word, in which project will we meet your name in the future?

Our team is composed of 25 experts. We have hotel projects in Maldives and Turkey; two flats in London; Pharmaceutical Industry Employer Union central office in Istanbul and Hacı Abdullah Restaurant 127 years of history at Zorlu Center.

In addition to two mosques project completed in Qatar, the design of two restaurants have been completed; the construction is going on. Stepevi's New York, Koln, Geneva, London stores; Molu Jewellery at Zorlu Center, Akasya Mall and Istinye Park Mall; and second house project in Oman are among our projects.

ASPIRE KATARA HOSPITALITY SPECIALIZES IN THE FIELD OF HOSPITALITY AND LEISURE

We envision of bringing to Doha authentic cuisines from all over the world. We are going a step ahead by creating a unique ambiance to our restaurants yet maintain the rich tradition and culture of Qatar. We provide consultancy and hospitality services to hotels, concept development for retail shops, event management and catering services.

AKH also introduced to Doha high-end retail and food beverage concepts from abroad and developed our own concepts which are fully operational and are popular in the region.



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Sevil Dolmaci;
an **Art Consultant**
and an **Artist**
Discoverer...

"We have an interview with Sevil Dolmaci, who has established the first International Art Consultancy of Turkey, on current art and art market..."

What would you like to tell about current art market? Is there a recession?

In terms of projects, we may consider the market as efficiently productive. Establishments, mostly foreign partnered, have started composing corporate art collections as if in race, and organising exhibitions in favour of being known with their art identity. Hotels have been projected with art works as if they are boutique museums. Construction firms have tended sponsorships, investments, events to be existed with art. Besides, international purchases have expanded and Turkish market has started to share the market with abroad. As the relations abroad increased, the chains on art market demanded professionalization and a system. The absence of corporate art consultancy system with international team up to present is the indicator of this situation. The market is flat for middle segment buyer and seller. The main reason of this is the imbalance, tide and anxieties in the triangle of politics, currency and stock market.



Koray Aris



How can you convert the recession in general market to an opportunity in the art market?

As I stated before, the recession is not valid for especially huge establishments. Foreign partners in Turkey couldn't find that kind of structure for their projects benefitting from art. I myself worked for considerable collections for years; I met plenty of artists, dealers, auctioneers, gallerists in and outside Turkey. I composed an international team based on these friends. So, the recession didn't have negative impact on me since this occupation occurred from necessity. Signing on the projects just after the establishment of my company has approved my opinion.

You have established the first international art consultancy company in Turkey. What made you think of it and proceed?

Istanbul art life is in a period of changing shell as a result of rapid change/ conversion and growth in the sector. Istanbul is always on agenda with exhibitions, art fairs, galleries, second hand market, increasing prices, auctions, and corporations' race on art field. Professional solution partners being searched by the corporations in converting and

growing sector resulted in art consultancy idea. Sevil Dolmacı Art Consultancy is a product of this need. Sevil Dolmacı Art Consultancy aims a pool structure for galleries, auction houses, and art dealers.

Why do you prefer professionals for your team in international arena? Could you tell us about the period of building this team?

There are experienced art professionals who have abroad education and working life in important art institutions in Europe and America in Sevil Dolmacı team. The experience on art consultancy and good relations with strong experts and institutions of international art market present Sevil Dolmacı a trend catching, innovator and evolutionary perspective.

You construct a bridge between artists, collectors, and different corporations and take a part every kind of art. How do you build the interaction between these different actors?

After determining everyone's needs, chaining them is my profession. I have a portfolio including every sector such as economist, communicator, consultant, academician, commentators, writer,

dealer, gallerist, auctioneers, collectors, artists, etc. in my pool. I develop a project and bring together the true actors who can make the project efficient. For instance, a project on new media arts was demanded by me, and we recommended a partnership adapting a project which had come from France.

What styles and artists are in the foreground in Turkey? Could you give some names?

École de Paris (school of Paris) Turkish artists such as Zeid, Nejat Melih, Selim Turan, Mubin Orhon are praiseworthy. Erol Akyavaş and Burhan Doğançay are following them. Artists having market abroad besides Turkey comforts Turkish buyers. The Turkish art histories rooted names are Ergin İnan, Mehmet Güler-yüz, Adnan Coker, Devrim Erbil, Ömer Uluç Komet... Bedri Baykam, Bubi, Kemal Önsoy, Gülay Semercioğlu are demanded names; and Hluk Akakçe and Taner Ceylan are prominent names for Turkey on international lists... Younger artists such as Ardan Özmenoğlu, Ebru Döşekçi, Ebruu Yılmaz, Seydi murat Koç, Kadir Akyol, Saliha Yılmaz, Bugra Erol attract attention due to low prices, however the buyers the most important criteria is the artists' exhibitions, stability, collections, price range/graphics.

You have a mission of discovering and meeting younger artists for art life. Let's talk about this... could you tell us about your new project where younger artists can be discovered?

In addition to Sevil Dolmacı Consultancy we declared our second project. Art Base Project, established by Sevil Dolmacı and Banu Birkan, firstly focuses on the development of contemporary art by supporting art and artists. This projects main aim is to provide a new field where they can share their works and introduce themselves on international platforms; present economic and investment value portfolios composed of the young.

Unique art works may often be in your portfolio ... How do you feed your art life and follow the market?

My life is based on art. I always visit artists' workshops, communicate with collectors, follow the exhibitions,

magazines, go abroad, and believe in the importance of social media...

What makes you different? Why do young artists, prominent collectors and artists of Turkey Prefer you?

I am an art consultant. My education and work life was on this direction. My master and doctorate education was on history of art. I worked for collections for years and was an academician. I had master lessons at Royal Academy; went on Christies' educations on art market while working at Demsa Collection; and I had experiences abroad.

Where will we see Sevil Dolmacı Art Consultancy in 2017?

Sevil Dolmacı Art Consultancy will be in a museum processing structure serving internationally.

Thank you very much indeed for your kind interview for Azuranews readers.



100 Shades Of Green: TRABZON

Trabzon is a city on the Black Sea coast of northeastern Turkey and the capital of Trabzon Province. Trabzon, located on the historical Silk Road, became a melting pot of religions, languages and culture for centuries and a trade gateway to Persia (Iran) in the southeast and the Caucasus to the northeast.[3] The Venetian and Genoese merchants paid visits to Trebizond during the medieval period and sold silk, linen and woolen fabric; the Republic of Genoa had an important merchant colony within the city called Leonkastron that played a role to Trebizond similar to the one Galata played to Constantinople (modern Istanbul).[4] Trabzon formed the basis of several states in its long history and was the capital city of the Empire of Trebizond between 1204 and 1461.

(from: wikipedia)

Trabzon is a port city on the Black Sea coast of north-eastern Turkey. Located between Black Sea and Mount Zigana in the south, Trabzon is a tourism city that can be visited four seasons with its natural beauties and historical background.

Being thought to be established by Turks from Middle Asia, Trabzon was the subjects of numerous travel books by western travellers throughout its history. The first written source naming Trabzon as "Trapezus (meaning Trapezus in Greek)" is Anabasis, which was authored by Xenophon.

Located on the historical Silk Road between Europe and Asia, became a trade gateway to east and melting pot of culture, languages, religion for centuries. Sheltering humanities since the Iron Age, Trabzon naturally has rich tales, ballads, cultural heritage, etc.

The city was founded by Milesian traders in 756 BC; and because of being remarkably attractive, Trabzon entered into the domination of Persians, Romans, Byzantines, and Komnenos. It had been ruled by a Roman family Komnenos for 250 years until Sultan Mehmet the Conqueror made the city a part of the Ottoman Empire on 26 October 1461.

"Museums, monasteries, mosques, tombs, inns, baths, covered bazaars and walls covering the city are pearls the city gorgeously."

This mysterious city of the East has been visited local and foreign travellers making impressions throughout the history and been one of the subject cities of Marko Polo and Evliya Çelebi.

Kanuni Sultan Suleiman, whom the westerners named as the Magnificent, was born and grown up until 15 years old here in Trabzon where the Byzantine and Ottoman historical monuments can be sightseen.

Besides the historical and cultural beauties, lakes, rivers, mountains, forests, highlands are the natural beauties making the city more and more privileged.



Trabzon Castle

Among the primary symbols introducing Trabzon are silver and golden bracelets made in style of Kazaziye Art, horon (a kind of folk dance) kemancha (three stringed folk instrument), etc.

With its geographical location and opportunities given by the weather conditions and flora exhibition every tone of green, Trabzon worth visiting every month of the year. Hazelnut, tea, tobacco are the primary agricultural products contributing to districts economy. The anchovy, which is poetized, has a prominent place in the city's cuisine. Legendary delicious "kuymak" made from traditional butter, cheese, and corn flour still protects its authentic and unique place in the region cuisine.

In terms of its university, modern port, international airport, free zone and tourism potential and being a bridge between Caucasia, Middle Asia and West, Trabzon is proceeding to an enlightened and successful future.



Trabzon Street



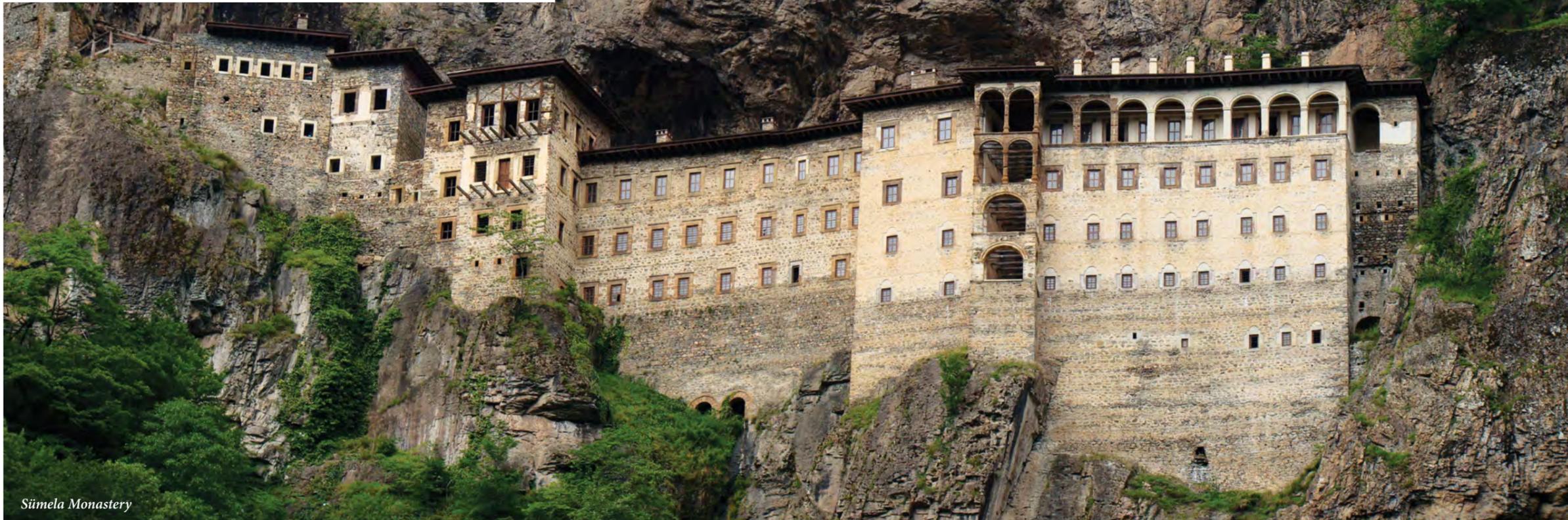
Trabzon Fishing Boats

Sümela Monastery

Nestled in a steep cliff at altitude of 1150 metres, Sümela Monastery is within the borders of Altındere village of Maçka district. It is Greek Orthodox monastery dedicated to Virgin Mary. Sümela is directly derived from the Greek name "Ssou Mela" meaning Black Mountain. Being thought to be constructed in 375-395 AD, Sümela monastery resembles to the churches of Cappadocia. According to the legend, two Athenian monks Barnabas and Sophronios had a dream that one of the three Panagia icons Virgin Mary holding Jesus Christ is located in Sümela. They come to Trabzon by sea independent of each other; tell what they dreamed and decide to construct the monastery. It reached its present form in 1349 – 1390 during the reign of Alexios III of the Empire of Trebizond. According to another legend, Alexios was saved from a storm by the Virgin, and was bidden by her to restore the monastery.



Sümela Monastery



Sümela Monastery

Saint Sophia Mosque

Located on the shore of Trabzon, it was known as Saint Sophia Museum, however it was converted to a mosque in 2014.

The Saint Sophia is derived from Greek "Hagios" meaning holly and "Sophos" meaning wisdom. This name was generally given to the structures where religious education is given. Being an important example of late Byzantine architecture, the structure built with a cross in square plan, is characterised by a high dome and four large column arches. There is a pavement of multicoloured stones under the dome.

Kızlar (Panagia) Monastery

The monastery is at the foot of Boztepe Mountain, and is the closest historical structure to be sightseen in Trabzon. It is built on two terraces and surrounded by a protective high wall.



Saint Sophia Mosque

Trabzon Castle

This one of the best protected fortress is located on the highest point of the city. Constructed on foundations dating back to Byzantine era, the castle stretches from a hill on the backside of the city to the Black Sea shore.

It consists of three parts called the Upper Fortress, the Middle Fortress and Lower Fortress. The walls are constructed with cut stones from former structures of the district.

Maçka

With an altitude of 365 metres, Maçka is a county of Trabzon on the highway to Gümüşhane and 29 km away from Trabzon. The county is located on a valley between spruce trees. Sümela monastery is just 17 km away and the county is covered with forest till 2000 metres high. Grasslands, mountain plants can be seen after 2000 metres altitude.

It is a unique district in terms of natural spring waters, fresh air, wonderful view, and natural beauties. There are a lot of highlands for tourists to visit such as Kiraz, Lapazan, Gulindağı, Mağura, Figanoy, Lişer. Soğuksu festival is held on 7 July every year in Lişer Highland.

Lake Uzungöl

The lake is 99 km away from Trabzon city and 19 km from Çaykara County. Its altitude is 1090 me-tres. It was formed by a landslide closing the valley of Haldizen Stream. With its steep cliffs and magnificent forest flora, Uzungöl easily competes with the Alps. The area is most famous for its natural beauty, however bungalows the Village “Şerah” complete the beauty of the district. Tour-istic potential can be considered as so rich for local and foreign tourists. Besides trekking, bird-watching, botanic tours, tours to highlands such as Şekersu, Demirkapı, Yaylaönü are among popu-lar activities. Bears, wolves, chevrotains, foxes, Caucasian black grouse can be encountered in the vicinity.

Şolma Highland

Şolma Highland is the most tourism potentiated highland of Trabzon. Access to the pinewood cov-ered village 22 km from south of Maçka is provided with beautiful lush slopes of Mount Kulin. The altitude is 1700 m. The highland is worth visiting with its cold water, grasslands, colourful flowers, etc. The infrastructure is completed.

Kiraz Highland

With a completed infrastructure, Kiraz Highland sits at 1850 metres. Visitors can fish trout in the ice cold stream which runs through the village, and try grass skiing. Ayeser festival is held on the third Friday of July every year.

Kadırga Highland

The highland is located on the border of tree planting with an altitude of 2300 metres. Every year ten thousands of people come to Kadırga Festival. Folk dances, competitions, musical entertain-ments are held; and tons of meat, food, drink is consumed. The open top mosque is the most in-teresting structure here. Hıdırnebi and Kuruçam Highlands Hıdırnebi Highland, with an elevation of 1742 metres, shelters wolves, foxes, jackals, and other wild animals; so it is a great place for a photo safari. The Hıdırnebi festival is held on 20th-22nd of July on Hıdırnebi Mountain which presents a beautiful lookout with a spectacular view.



Lake Uzungöl

Santa Ruins

Santa ruins is located within the boundaries of Dumanlı village between Arsin, Araklı and Gümüşhane. With its 7 streets, it has been an important commercial, cultural and religious centre since the 17th century. Each street consists of one storey stone houses, one or two churches and o fountain. Besides rich historical artefacts, the climate and natural beauty attracts local and foreign tourists.



Santa Ruins

What to eat and drink?

You will meet so different cuisine tradition if you visit Black Sea Region one day. When fish is men-tioned, anchovy is undoubtedly the first word coming to mind. Trabzon Cuisine is famous for its black cabbage and anchovy included meals. Never leave Trabzon without tasting traditional cuisines....

└ Hamsili Pilav (Pilaf (rice) with Anchovy)

As the name implies, it is cooked of rice and anchovy...

└ Karalahana Sarması (Black Cabbage roll)

Roll with grape leaves give its place to black cabbage roll in Trabzon. Mixed rice and meat is rolled in boiled black cabbage leaves. It is consumed in all Black Sea region cities as well.

└ Mıhlama

It is one of the famous Black Sea Region meal made from corn flour, butter and cheese. The secret is in the traditional Trabzon butter and cheese. Advised to be eaten hot...

└ Trabzon Pidesi (Pita)

There are pitas indigenous to plenty of cities in Turkey, however if you wonder the most famous, it is the Trabzon pita. What makes it different is the traditional Trabzon butter and cheese aroma and being cooked at wood fire.

└ Kaygana

Dough is prepared with the mixture of egg and yoghurt; and cooked and deep-fried. Greeneries may be added to the dough if desired.

└ Hamsi Kuşu (Anchovy Paste)

There are numerous kinds of meals cooked with anchovy. Another indis-pensable taste of Trabzon is Anchovy paste. Cheese put between anchovies the bones picked out and fried. It is dif-ferent from other anchovy fries.

└ Corn Bread

It is also irreplaceable taste... it is more delicious if mixed with milk and yo-ghurt as well. It may consumed s cookie.

└ Akçaabat Meatball

Since it is made from minced meat of the calf and ox indigenous to the dis-trict and cook on wood fire, that taste cannot be copied. It was first made at the restaurants in Akçaabat county of Trab-zon in 1930 and the fame spread all Turkey.

└ Laz Böreği (Laz pastry)

Don't imagine a pastry to eat since it is not a pastry but a kind of dessert made from pastry dough. Pudding is poured between the dough levels; so it is a kind of light dessert.

└ Burma Dessert (Twisted Dessert)

The procedure of preparing resem-bles to baklava but necessitates more attention while twisting. It is lighter than classic baklava since twisted and Trabzon butter is used.



Trabzon Cuisine

If you come to Qatar and have not experienced a desert adventure yet, here you are an unmissable unique opportunity by
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At noon, in the shade of a hand-woven canopy, we serve a healthy lunch, including meat skewers accompanied by a variety of daily salads, baked bread and a variety of beverages and fresh mock-tails. Beside a selection of pastries we also serve fresh seasonal fruits with the essential and inimitable local mint tea.



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The great outdoor stimulates the appetite. Each evening, our chef prepares a variety of International, Asian & Arabic dishes for all guests. Guests can dine together around a communal table or request a private table for an intimate candle-lit evening.

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A Wonderful Turkish Winter Beverage

Salep

***"Have you ever drink cup of salep?
If you visit Turkey during the winter
season, you can order salep, a hot
beverage in many cafes."***

Derived from Arabic "Sahlap", Salep (also the name given to a wintertime hot beverage) is a flour made from the tubers of the orchid genus orchis.

They are gathered during flowering season. So collected Orchid roots are dried and processed into Salep powder. The roots are decorticated, washed, heated until horny in appearance, and then dried.

Salep was a popular beverage during Ottoman Empire and since then it has been consumed in beverages and deserts. Its fame spread beyond the lands of Ottoman Empire to England and Germany before the rise of coffee and tea; and it was later offered as an alternative beverage in coffee houses.

In England, the drink was known as saloop. Popular in the 17th and 18th centuries in England, its preparation required that the salep powder be added to water until thickened whereupon it would be sweetened, then flavoured with orange flower or rose water. Substitution of British orchid roots, known as "dogstones", was acceptable in the 18th century for the original Turkish variants.

Instead of water, salep is often made with hot milk. Desserts such as salep

pudding and salep ice cream are also made from salep flour. Kahramanmaraş region of Turkey is a major producer of salep known as Salepi Maraş.

Salep plant grown in the mountains of the Gevaş county of Van province is the means of living of the residents in the vicinity. The plant is boiled in the saucepans and dried after collection for only one month, and sold. It is so precious that its price competes with gold. Salep is also known as the yeast of ice-cream. It is proved that salep is beneficial for coughing, bronchitis, constipation, body temperature, heart, etc. Accordingly magic discovered it and revealed that it can restore a man's virility and passion".



How to cook Salep?

The taste of the salep flour depends on the quality of milk during the boiling process. Cinnamon was the mate of salep during Ottoman Era; and it has been a traditional taste since then. The salep needs of Turkey is supplied mostly from Burdur, Kastamonu and Van provinces.



Ingredients:

- 1 litre milk
- 1 dessertspoon salep flour
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- Cinnamon as a mate

- Add Salep flour and sugar to the milk in a small and deep saucepan.

- Stirring continuously, cook over low heat until the milk thickens. Depending the quality of the milk the thickening may take between 20 and 40 minutes.

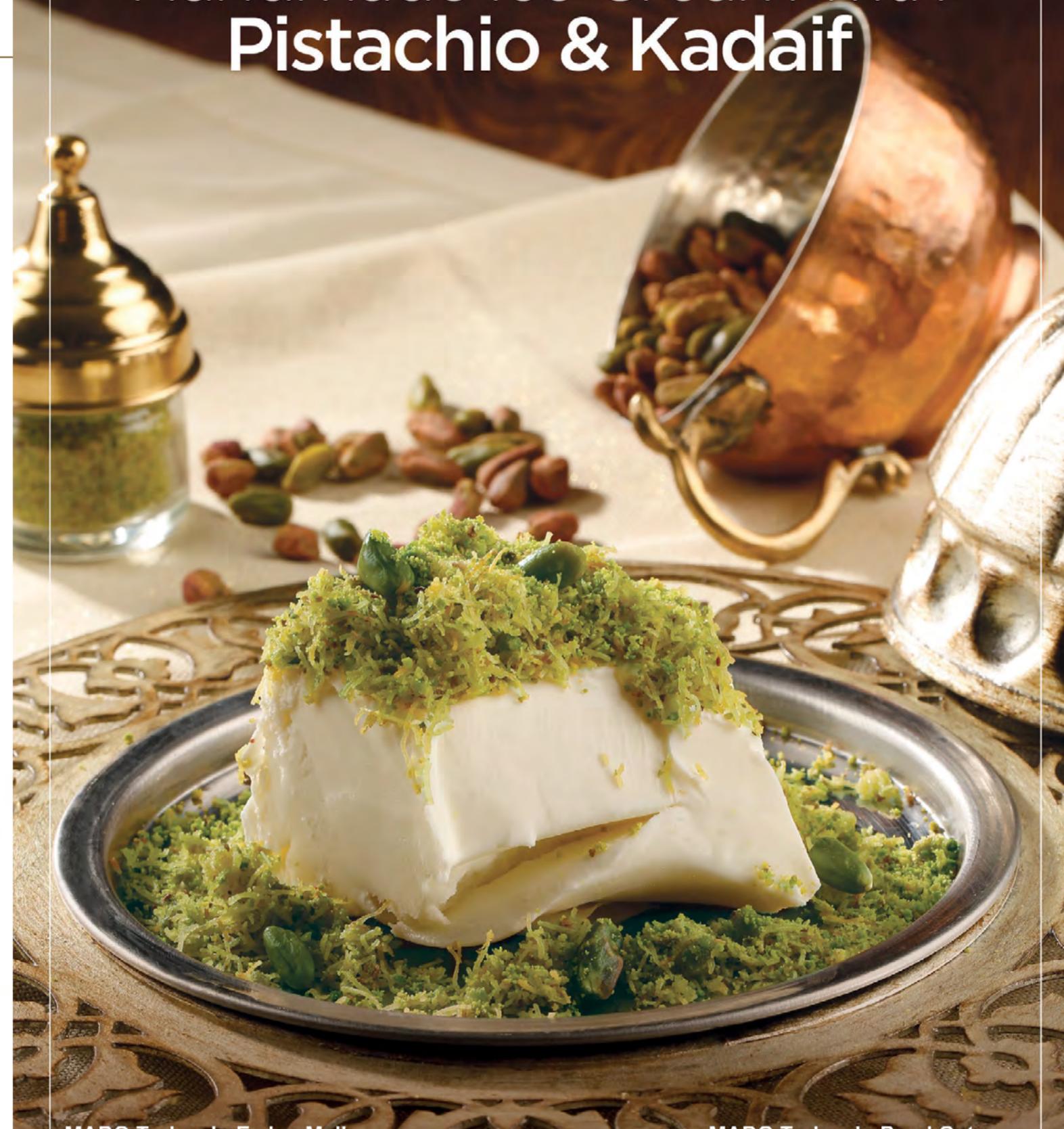
- Serve salep in warmed cups; dust each with cinnamon. If desired, it may be flavoured with vanilla...

The ingredient giving taste and smell to the famous Maraş ice-cream is the salep made from the kind of orchid collected only in the mountains of Kahramanmaraş.

Afiyet Olsun



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Discover the past in Qatar

Economic development as well as urban and demographic growth have had a dramatic impact on Qatar over the last fifty years.

As the landscape continues to change, so do the ways of living. From Bronze Age settlements to medieval palaces, 19th century forts, villages, towers and mosques, Qatar Museums is committed to excavate, restore, protect and pro-mote the sites of Qatar that flourished long ago, thus taking the cultural experience beyond the walls of museums.

Division of Cultural Heritage The Department of Archaeology, Architectural Conservation and Cultural Tourism plays an essential role in preserving Qatar's heritage and putting mod-ern communities in touch with their past. The division department oversees several heritage sites all over Qatar, and cooperates with UCL Qatar and Qatar University to introduce scholarly research in archaeology and conservation.. to introduce archaeology degree

Do not miss to visit the heritage sites in Qatar before your leave!



Al Zubarah Archaeological Site

HERITAGE SITES
AL ZUBARAH TOWN & FORT

Qatar's only UNESCO World Heritage Site and the most important pearling and trading town in the Gulf in the 18th century

Al Zubarah Archaeological Site is Qatar's largest heritage site. It was recently named a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is considered to be one of the best-preserved examples of an 18th-19th century merchant town in the Gulf region.

A historic coastal town that is now abandoned, Al Zubarah is situated approximately 100 km north-west of Doha. Founded in the mid-18th century, the town developed into a centre of the pearling and international trade and rose to become the country's largest and most important settlement.

The success of Al Zubarah attracted the attention of other Gulf powers, and after several attacks the town was eventually burned to the ground in 1811. It never fully recovered and was abandoned by the mid-20th century. Al Zubarah Archaeological Site covers an area of 60 hectares with remains of houses, mosques, large fortified buildings and a market.

With the help of an international and local team of archaeologists and scientists, the site of Al Zubarah and the visitor centre in the nearby fort offer a key to understanding Qatar's cultural

identity and a model to explain the history of the pearl trade – a significant factor in the development of the modern Gulf region.

AL REKAYAT FORT

Guarding valuable water resources, wells, for nearby coastal villages

A one-hour drive from Doha, direction north-west, one can discover an area of forts, traditional architecture and old villages. The fort Al Rekayat is one of the several desert forts dating back to the 19th century.

Located on the road between Al Zubarah and Madinat Al Shamal, it is one of the few forts that were renovated in the 1980s. The restoration was done carefully so that the fort resembles to the original structure. The remains of the original fort can still be seen in the courtyard.

The name Al Rekayat means "well" in Arabic, therefore it is believed that the fort was built to protect the essential sources of water. The existence of a freshwater well in the fort itself and the scattered remains of a village close to the fort support this assumption. In addition, the fort was a secure place for the nearby population in case of potential conflicts between tribes.

The Al Rekayat fort follows the typical plan of a desert fort: it has three rectangular towers and a round one. Around the three sides of the large central courtyard are aligned narrow

rooms without windows, but with doors that open to the courtyard. The only entrance to the fort is located in the southern front wall.

AL THAQAB FORT

Guarding valuable water resources, wells, for nearby coastal villages

Al Thaqab fort lies at a distance of about 10 kilometers from Al Zubarah, on the eastern side of the road. According to finds such as pottery fragments and fragments of Indian glass bangles scattered around, the fort could possibly date back to the 19th century. However according to the houses that surround it, it may be of earlier date.

The name thaqab means the water in the bottom of the valley after the rain. Al Thaqab fort is one of the forts that were renovated in the 1980s but unfortunately, not authentically and carefully enough. In the proximity of the fort, towards the west, there is a deep well that is in use since 1911. The water is pumped out rather than hauled up in buckets, the latter representing one of the old and traditional customs kept and still alive nowadays. The fort itself represents a typical desert fort with a rectangular shape, built of rough limestone blocks or flat slabs of beach-rocks (faroush). It has three round corner towers and one rectangular tower and the inside of the fort, typically, was used by the villagers to store food and water in case they were besieged.

THE OLD PALACE AT DOHA

The best preserved, iconic traditional building reflecting Qatari history

The Old Palace was originally built in the early 20th century by Sheikh Abdullah bin Jassim Al Thani, who is today considered to be the father of modern Qatar. For approximately 25 years the palace was at the centre of Qatar's political leadership, serving as residence of the Royal Family and seat of government.

In 1975 the palace was converted into the National Museum of Qatar, which included a Museum of the State, a lagoon and a very popular marine aquarium. In 1980 the building won the Agha Khan award for restoration and rehabilitation of Islamic architecture. The Old Palace is now restored and will be at the heart of the new National Museum of Qatar designed by renowned French architect Jean Nouvel.

The restoration of the palace aims at setting a new standard for the treatment of historic buildings and architectural conservation, both in Qatar and across the region.

At present the Old Palace is not accessible and will be opened to the public together with the new museum.



Old Palace

THE BARZAN TOWERS

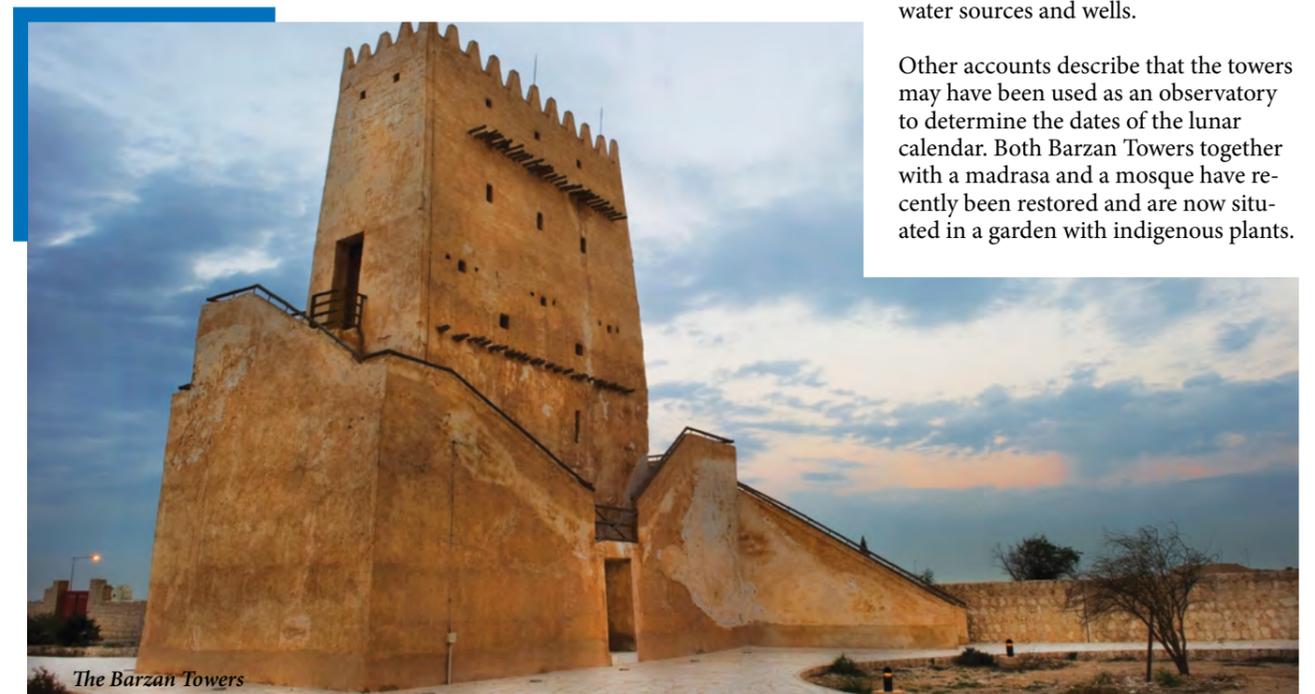
The best preserved group of 18th and 19th century fortified buildings outside of Doha.

The Barzan Towers are located in the suburbs of Doha in the village of Umm Salal Mohammed. The towers, built between 1910 and 1916 by Sheikh Mohammed bin Jassim al-Thani, the founder of Umm Salal Mohammed village, are one of the notable monuments of Qatar. The western tower, the

so-called Barzan Tower, is almost 14 metres high, consists of three levels and, with its distinctive 'T' shape, is considered to possess a unique architectural style in the Gulf region. While the eastern tower, Al Burj Al Sharqi, has the same height and is also built with stones and clad with mud, it exhibits the typical rectangular shape of Qatari towers.

'Barzan' means 'the high place'. According to local oral traditions, the towers may have been used as a lookout to monitor the surrounding area with its water sources and wells.

Other accounts describe that the towers may have been used as an observatory to determine the dates of the lunar calendar. Both Barzan Towers together with a madrasa and a mosque have recently been restored and are now situated in a garden with indigenous plants.



The Barzan Towers

**MURWAB
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE**

The most important early Islamic site in Qatar

Murwab is the only sizeable Islamic settlement in Qatar not located on the coast. Dating back to a period between the 9th to 11th century, Murwab used to be a settlement of some 250 houses, constructed in groups, a residence and two mosques. Excavations have revealed also a group of tombs scattered around the groups of houses.

The Murwab palatial residence is known to be the oldest discovered Islamic palace in Qatar. The excavated foundation walls overlaying each other show clearly that the structure was rebuilt in same place by reducing its size.

The rectangular plan of the residence is similar to Umayyad and Abbasid palatial residences known from Iraq, Syria and Iran. The structure, with walls

preserved up to 1m, was restored in 1985. Field research and comparative studies of such artefacts as coins and pottery retrieved at Murwab attest the foundation of the site to the early Abbasid period (9th century CE) and an occupation for at least a century. This makes Murwab an exceptional site of reference to the material culture of the Abbasid period and a unique Abbasid site within the Gulf region. The Abbasid caliphate was founded in Baghdad in the middle of the 8th century CE and it became the centre of a new empire as well as the hub of scientific and intellectual communities and institutions of that time.

**AL JASSASIYA
ROCK CARVING SITE**

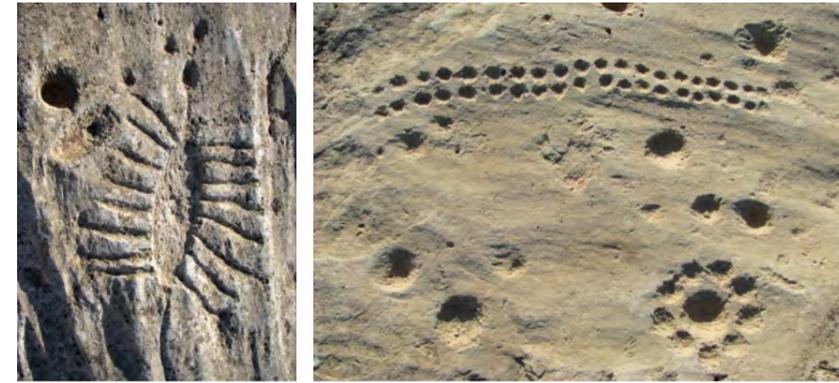
Most impressive Qatari site with rock carvings

Al Jassasiya is one of a dozen rock-carving sites in Qatar. Rock carvings, so called "petroglyphs", can be found

around the coasts of Qatar as well as on Bahrain's Al Hawar Island. But the greatest number of carvings can be found at this major petroglyph site, northeast of Doha, on low limestone hills known also as jebel.

First discovered in 1957, the site was systematically studied in 1974 when 874 carved single figures and compositions were catalogued. These rock carvings consist mainly of cup marks in various arrangements, including rows, rosettes and stars, but also of carvings, such as boats, footprints and enigmatic symbols and signs. It is believed that the cup marks are used for playing ancient board games.

One of these board games may have been "mancala". The game was known in Qatar as Al Haloosa or Al Huwaila. While it has previously been suggested that the earliest might date back to the Neolithic period, new evidence makes it likely that they are not more than a few hundred years old.



AL JUMAIL VILLAGE

Well-preserved finishing village on the northern coast of Qatar

On the north-west coast of Qatar, lies the small traditional but ruined village of Al Jumail. It was inhabited by the Al Kubaisi family, and even nowadays it is still one of the favourite weekend destinations of local families, since it represents their heritage, history, the roots and origins of their ancestors.

The village comprises a set of important traditional buildings, including a small mosque with its minaret still intact. This village dates back to the second half of the nineteenth century and was still inhabited until the beginning of the twentieth century.

RUWAYDA

One of the largest archaeological sites in Qatar

Ruwayda stretches for more than 2.5km along the beach of a shallow bay and is situated close to Al Jumail and Al Thagab. Very little is known about the site from historical sources, and the only two historical references both indicate that it had been abandoned by the end of the 18th century.

The only source for understanding the origins, growth and eventual abandonment of the site comes from archaeological research. Excavations have revealed a large fortress, a palatial residence, two wells, several warehouses, a mosque, a ship repair shop, a walled tomb as well as remains of numerous temporary structures. The fortress was built in three phases, starting with a small square enclosure 25m per side with a

single tower. The mosque next to the sea comprises a prayer hall divided into five bays.

Their pillars were supported by stone piers. The remains of a huge round tower with a solid base that was built as an artillery platform are possibly related to a Portuguese fortification, dating possibly from the early 17th century, which would be the first Portuguese building ever found Qatar. Finds from the site indicate far-reaching trade contacts through porcelain cups from China, Japan and Myanmar (Burma), unglazed earthenware from Julfar (the United Arab Emirates) and Bahrain, glazed earthenware and stone paste fritware from Iran as well as ceramics from Europe. The rooms of the fortress were roofed with mangrove beams likely to have imported from Africa. Significant finds recovered from the site include a red granite mortar probably from Iran and a piece of bone carved in the form of an oryx.



FREIHA

A small abandoned town, now an important archaeological site close to Al Zubarah

Some 5km north of Al Zubarah lies the site of Freiha, a small abandoned town that is situated in a shallow bay. Current excavation and research suggests that the town dates from the early 18th to the mid-19th centuries when it was abandoned. This means that Freiha predates Al Zubarah and, possibly, was abandoned when the new town was established. The settlement seems to have changed shape and size over time, sometimes growing and then shrinking. These changes in fortune and population are reflected in the buildings, with occasional abandonment and frequent remodelling of homes. In the centre of the site is the fort, a 45m square building with high defensive walls and corner towers.

Nearby, on the shoreline, are the remains of a mosque, which was built in the traditional Qatari style that can be seen in many of the later mosques further north along the coast. It was plastered inside and out and was refurbished many times. Life in Freiha was certainly centred on the Gulf; the main occupations for its inhabitants would very likely have been seasonal pearl diving and trading. Fishing was also very important as shown by the number of bones recovered from rubbish heaps in the town and the several stone fish traps surviving in the sea.



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-Verda Law Firm-

Verda Law Firm's main practice areas are corporate, energy, real estate, contracts, litigation and commercial law.

Energy: Verda provides its clients with a full range of expertise covering the spectrum of energy sectors including electricity generation and transmission, oil and gas, pipelines and renewable energy. It also provides all requested legal services in the energy sector including M&A and construction.

Corporate and M&A: Verda's M&A team handles a high volume of significant transactions, assisting both local and multinational clients. The team includes some of the most renowned M&A lawyers, antitrust experts and certified public accountants. The firm has built an outstanding reputation and expertise in M&As, joint ventures, strategic alliances and a variety of other corporate transactions. Attorneys at law, Nafiz Özgür Rifaioğlu and Aslıhan Aydın, are referenced by the clients as 'very knowledgeable, responsive, practical and solutions-oriented'.

Real estate matters: Verda Law Firm represents high-profile clients in relation to their real estate investments in Turkey and provides significant advice from a Turkish property law point of view in respect to the disputes that may arise. Verda has particular expertise in conducting complex multi-jurisdictional transactions, real estate portfolio acquisitions, dispositions and financings, and in the establishment of investment funds and joint ventures.

Banking, finance and capital markets: Verda Law Firm represents and advises various financial institutions on a range of leveraged financings, lending and security-related deals. It also has broad capabilities in either debt or equity transactions including equity offerings and IPOs.

Dispute resolution/litigation/arbitration: Verda represents clients before the courts in Turkey relating to their legal issues against either private persons or public institutions including tax offices. The arbitration team handles a range of commercial, corporate and finance disputes as well as investment treaty cases. : Verda Law Firm has become a leading firm in international commercial litigation with its lawyers' legal expertise and their high level of understanding of Turkish Courts and Turkish legal system. Our legal team is particularly preferred in disputes that are legally and technically complex and require engineering expertise.

Contracts: Verda law firm provides legal consultancy and attorneyship services with its expert attorneys on the below mentioned matters, regarding contracts law, to domestic/ foreign natural persons or legal entities, in line with their requirements.

- Negotiating before the signing process on drawing up commercial agreements,
- Presenting legal opinion and drawing up all kind of agreements pursuant to liberty of contract in accordance with requests and needs of our clients,
- Changing in conformity with clients' benefit by evaluating pre-prepared agreements and bringing forward request for change proposal,
- Carrying out transactions and lawsuits regarding resolutions of disputes arising from contracts.

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A New Period in Turkish Banking with Qatar

An important development took place in the Turkish and Qatar finance markets several days before the completion of 2015. QNB from Qatar, that is the Qatar National Bank, purchased the complete 99.81 percent share of the National Bank of Greece (NBG) in Finansbank for 2.7 billion Euros.

Whereas Greece acted as if they accepted the purchase because they have no other option, the CEO of QNB Ali Ahmed Al-Kuwari announced that they are eagerly awaiting to work for Turkey. In addition to all these developments, it is also rumoured that QNB has now started discussions for purchasing Şekerbank which is another Turkish bank.

How do you think the new target of QNB will be finalized?

Qatar, which first stepped in the banking sector of Turkey with ABank after which they became partners with Boyner and purchased Digiturk, has now purchased Finansbank via QNB for 2.75 billion Euros. Founded in 1987 by the banker Hüsnü Özyeğin, Finansbank was sold to NBG, headquartered in Greece, in 2006. The third quarter net profit of the bank was actualized as 673 million TL in 2015 according to the latest financial report. Today, the bank is actively working in 647 branches with 13 thousand employees. By purchasing Finansbank, the QNB currently became the second largest bank in the Middle East and Africa as of 2014 in terms of assets. The bank that was founded in 1964 is currently active in 27 countries and 3 continents. It is expected that the sales of Finansbank to QNB will be completed officially during the first half of 2016. The 910 million dollars that NBG gave as credit to Finansbank was also included in the agreement. NBG announced that QNB will pay them a total of 3.5 billion Euros including the 910 million dollar credit of Finansbank. Thus, the market value of Finansbank was determined as 2.75 Billion Euros and with this agreement NBG will have increased its nominal capital by 3.5 billion Euros.

Greece implying that they sold Finansbank stocks compulsorily; Of course, Greece is currently fighting against an economic crisis. National Bank of Greece (NBG) which is the largest bank of the country announced that they decided to sell Finansbank in order to cover the capital requirements. Following this decision by NBG, Finansbank that was founded in 1987 changed owners for the 3rd time before completing its 30 years.

NBG had purchased %46 of the stocks of Finansbank from Özyeğin in 2006 thus entering the Turkish market with an expense of 2.7 Billion dollars.

The expected announcement was made by Leonidas Fragkiadakis, CEO of the bank following this important sale. Fragkiadakis said, "We decided to sell Finansbank in order to fulfil our responsibilities towards our shareholders and the authorities in Europe."

This announcement was of course interpreted such that the Greeks were implying they were leaving the Turkish market compulsorily. Fragkiadakis also added that they will continue to support the country's economy as a Greek bank with the strongest capital.



Qatar is happy for the result and they are very excited;

According to the announcement by QNB which is aiming to become one of the largest banks in the Middle East and Africa until 2017, QNB will be making the payment for the whole sale.

According to the statement by the CEO of the bank, Ali Ahmed Al-Kuwari stated "This purchase is an important step for QNB for its strategy to be one of the largest banks of the region in 2017. Finansbank has a very impressive background in Turkey as a much respected financial institution. Similarly, we are also eagerly awaiting the chances to make contributions to the economic future of Turkey as well as their activities in the international markets."

QNB had previously shown interest in purchasing Denizbank in Turkey, however the negotiations could not proceed further because of their price offer.

Do you think QNB will be able to purchase Şekerbank as well following the success in Finansbank? Why not...

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Hunter of Sacred Relics: Nilgün Sensoy



Nilgün Şensoy, bought the library seal of the Prophet Mohammad in Medina along with the rare Qur'an written by the Calligrapher Pir Yahya Sufi and gave them as a gift to the Turkish and Islamic Arts Museum. Are you surprised? These are just 2 pieces from a collection that includes works of art which can fill up an entire museum. So, who is this Hunter of Sacred Relics?



Nilgün Şensoy is renowned for her passion of antiques and arts while working as an art consultant to select collectors from all over the world. Together, we discussed her collection made up of priceless artefacts collected from all around the world as a result of great efforts as well as her occupation.

Ms. Nilgün especially states that she has many visitors from Qatar and that they are very interested in these relics.

Her collection that was started in 1981 with "calligraphy and enactments" now has a variety and richness that can rival those of any museum. You can find plenty of things in this unique collection... Ottoman Sultan Enactments, Qur'ans, a "Turkish Calligraphy Arts Collection" made up of Hilye-, Şerif, plaques and verses, precious Seljuq works of art, Izniks, silver jewellery with tughra (Calligraphic signature of the Ottoman Sultan), tombacs, Beykoz textiles, priceless palace jewellery, "Ottoman Arts Collection" made up of antique works of art from the Ottoman Dynasty as well as the "Islamic Arts Collection" in addition to the Great Chinese Collection including the unmatched "Bleu-Blanc, Bleu Poudre and Celadon pieces the likes of which

can only be found in the Topkapı Palace Collection as well as the Precious European Porcelain Collection including "Sax Meissen, Vienna, Porcelain de Paris and many others..."

"The concept of richness differs from person to person. Some have a lot of money. My richness is these works of art that I bought with care," says Nilgün Şensoy. She has received an education at the Mimar Sinan University Traditional Turkish Arts department on calligraphy, ornamenting, miniatures, porcelain, binding, carpets and rugs. Following her education she has completed her master's degree program on carpets and rugs as the first in her class due to her interest in the Turkish Weaving Arts. "Picasso once said; there is only one Picasso from Spain, but the women who weave these carpets are all Picassos," says Ms. Nilgün. "We read that carpet when we see one. If the carpet has motifs of the mother in law and if they do not like the man who comes to ask for their hand in marriage, they place the motif of a goose. Goose means stupid. These weavings tell you all these are like a letter," she continues thus emphasizing how important her occupation is. When she is talking, you can understand from the looks in her eyes how she enjoys what she is doing.





She says that she is signed up in the Museum of Islamic Arts. This means that your house becomes a sort of satellite of the museum and that your collection has pieces that cannot be sold to foreigners. She mentions that she enjoys it most when expert surveyors and buyers from abroad come to Turkey to see her collection. She has many visitors and customers from the Arab world.

She says that they are especially interested in Qur'ans. In addition, she recounts that they are very interested in the works of art by Fahrettin D. Sepetçioğlu and lists the museums, galleries and private collections with those pieces. Princess Hessa Kal Than, Sheikha Mozah Collection, Mathaf: there are priceless works of art by Sepetçioğlu at the Arab Museum of Art that have been purchased with the support of Ms. Nilgün.

It is not possible for one to be not impressed when one steps inside the Nilgün Şensoy House of Culture and Arts that has been in service since 1997. Every piece has a different story. One wants to ask where all the pieces were purchased from. Signed calligraphies by Cemal Amasi and Şeyh Hamdullah and many more...

She also tells about the Hilye-i Şerifs she purchased. The Hilye-i Şerif depicting our prophet which emerged during the period of Hafız Osman is just one in this collection.

She also has the library seal of Mecca which was auctioned at the time. She has purchased the seal and gave it as a gift to the Islamic Works of Art department and it is still on display at the Sacred Relics section. In addition, she has many Qur'ans which she considers as her passion. All have Swiss insurance. She says that bodyguards search even herself during the Holy Birth Week when the Qur'ans are taken out. She tells about the insistence of the head of the Islamic Works of Art at the Louvre Museum to convince her into selling especially one of the Qur'ans. And she adds, "Of course I didn't sell. This is out of the question. It is registered in the Islamic Works of Art Museum".

"I don't purchase any work of art that I have not fallen in love with. All are very precious. My greatest passion in life was to own Qur'ans. However, I first started with enactments. I was known around as the Women of Enactments. Afterwards, I continued my collection with Qur'ans," she says. And now she has unique pieces.

Ms. Nilgün continues to spend her life between the corridors of museum and auction halls and she is a collector passionately in love with all of her pieces while also working as an academic.

You can visit the Nilgün Şensoy House of Culture and Arts in Istanbul Maçka to visit Nilgün Şensoy and witness her magical world.



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EXPO MARCH - APRIL 2016

QATAR



March

11-12

AppsEvent Qatar Summit

Qatar Academy | Ar Rayyan, Qatar

The AppsEvent Qatar Summit, organized by the AppsEvents will take place from 11th March to the 12th March 2016 at the Qatar Academy in Ar Rayyan, Qatar. The conference will cover areas like sessions on topics like managing and rolling out chromebooks and tablets, learn google apps administration with our structured certification program.

March

15

International Conference on Agricultural and Biological Science

Radisson Blu Hotel | Doha, Qatar

The conference will cover areas like Food Sciences Food Technology Beverage Studies Consumer Studies Animal Science Animal Breeding Animal Nutrition Plants Sciences Plant Fertilization Plant Breeding Agricultural Economics Rural Sociology Organic Agriculture Nurseries and Greenhouses Agronomy Human Nutrition.

March

15

International Conference on Science, Technology, Engineering and Management

Radisson Blu Hotel | Doha, Qatar

The conference will cover areas like Advanced Chemistry, Applications of Computation as a Scientific Paradigm, Medical chemistry, Cloud Computing, Analog and Digital Electronics, Electric Drives and Control, Computer Integrated Manufacturing.

March

16

International Conference On Chemical And Environmental Science

Radisson Blu Hotel | Doha, Qatar

The International Conference On Chemical And Environmental Science, organized by the ISER will take place on 16th March 2016 at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Doha, Qatar. The conference will cover areas like Environmental Science and Technology and Chemical Reaction Engineering etc.

March

16

International Conference on Science, Health and Medicine

Radisson Blu Hotel | Doha, Qatar

The conference will cover areas like Conference is to provide opportunity for the global participants to share their ideas and experience in person with their peers expected to join from different parts on the world.

March

29-31

Doha International Maritime Defence Exhibition & Conference

Doha Exhibition Center | Doha, Qatar

Include airborne systems, anti-piracy technologies, communication systems, consultancy designs, logistics and management, support systems, command and control systems, nuclear components, chemical components, biological equipments, port security technologies, textiles, unmanned systems, weapons and ammunitions, technical support, combat systems and other similar solutions and technologies.

April

11-12

Arab Future Cities Summit

Doha The Ritz-Carlton | Doha, Qatar

The conference will cover areas like Encouraging cross learning amongst technologists, developers, urban planners and researchers, investors, engineers, policy professionals and the local government, the two-day Summit will provide a unique opportunity for presenting ideas pertaining to smart city development and technology deployment.

March

23-26

QATAR COVERTECH

Doha Exhibition Center | Doha, Qatar

QATAR COVERTECH 2016 is a 4 day event being held from 23rd March to the 26th March 2016 at the Doha Exhibition Center in Doha, Qatar. This event will present state-of-the-art quality content; covering the entire spectrum of wall and floor covering technologies.

April

02

Middle East-Gulf EDUEXPOS

Venue to be announced | Doha

This event showcases products like Institutions, Educational Contact Provider, Government education department, Government agencies promoting education, Banks providing Educational loans, Service Provider to Educational institutions, ICT solution providers etc etc. in the Education & Training industry.

April

19-21

Qatars International Exhibition for Franchise and Business Opportunities

Sheraton Doha Resort & Convention Hotel | Doha

This event will facilitate an opportunity for the Entrepreneurs seeking Business Opportunities, Prospective and Potential Franchisees & retailers, SMEs Owners seeking to expand or diversify their businesses through Franchise networks and many more.

DUBAI



March

01-03

Solar Middle East

Dubai World Trade Centre | Dubai

Solar Middle East provides a platform for industry innovators to debate the economic viability and investment required in Solar and the opportunity for visitors to learn about integrating solar energy into their energy supply. With the current industry growth and expected developments in the region etc. in the Power, Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation industry.

March

01-05

Dubai International Boat Show

Dubai International Marine Club | Dubai

This event showcases products like leisure crafts and yachts, marine products and services, naval architects and designing services, boating machines and equipments, boating interior products and safety equipments etc. in the Marine & Boat industry.

March

08-10

Cabsat Mena

Dubai World Trade Centre | Dubai

Cabsat Mena is quite an innovative event that looks ahead to the existence of content creation, content services, content management, delivery and monetization, filmed entertainment, television, news, film and cinema content, sports casting services, radio and music content, satellite communication and content delivery. The event is quite a fruitful one for all exhibitors as it provides them a chance to present their expertise and talent and connect with wide variety of people.

March

08-10

Arabian International Home Show

Conrad Dubai Hotel | Dubai

This event showcases products like Dubai is at the centre of one of the fastest growing economies in the world, and boasts a hugely successful residential market that has attracted millions of professionals and investors over the years. The city is home to a growing population of affluent home owners and residents, looking to maintain a modern and stylish lifestyle within world class property developments.

March

14-15

RetrofitTech Dubai

Sheraton Grand Hotel | Dubai

RetrofitTech Dubai is a 2 day event being held from 14th March to the 15th March 2016 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This event showcases product from Electronics & Electrical Goods, Industrial Products, Power, Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation, Environment & Waste Management industries.

March

14-18

Design Days Dubai

Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment Deira | Dubai

This event showcases products like design materials and objects, design goods and services, design furniture, innovative designs, indoor design products, furniture products and other products and services that are associated with design and furniture etc. in the Architecture & Designing industry.

April

01-02

Weight Loss Show

Dubai International Marine Club | Dubai

Weight Loss Show is a 2 day event being held from 1st April to the 2nd April 2016 at the Dubai International Marine Club in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This event showcases products like Body combat, Kick boxing, Functional training, Freestyle training, Sunset party zumba and more etc. in the Sporting Goods, Toys & Games industry.

April

06-09

World Art Dubai

Dubai World Trade Centre | Dubai

World Art Dubai 2016 will showcase an impressive global collection of more than 2,000 paintings, prints, sculptures, photographs + much more ranging from USD 100 - 10,000. Featuring fresh, contemporary and accessible pieces from new and established galleries and artists, the four-day art extravaganza will also boast an expanded program-me of engaging educational sessions, cultural activities and world-class entertainment.

April

14-17

Vicenzaoro Dubai

Dubai World Trade Centre | Dubai

Vicenzaoro Dubai is a 4 day event being held from 14th April to the 17th April 2016 at the Dubai World Trade Centre in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This event showcases products like promote modern and industrial machinery and design technologies that are used in the making of jewelry specialized in technological solutions and instrumentation for the production and selling process etc. in the Gems & Jewelry industry.

April

14-17

The Definitive Global Jewellery Show

Dubai TBC | Dubai

The Definitive Global Jewellery Show is a 4 day event being held from 14th April to the 17th April 2016 at the Dubai TBC in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This event showcases products like Marketing and Communication Tools, Logistic Services, Technical Services etc. in the Gems & Jewelry industry.

TURKEY



March

10-13

Istanbul Jewellery Show March

Istanbul Fair Center | Istanbul

This event showcases products like gold jewellery, diamonds, semi precious, precious, pearls, synthetic stones, silver jewelry and households. Renowned companies like Atanur Kuyum ITH. IHR SAN VE TIC LTD. STI; Bay Carlos Otantik Silver and many more will exhibit their unique products at the event etc. in the Gems & Jewelry industry.

March

24-27

International Istanbul Laboratory Technology, Systems and Equipment Fair

Tuyap Fair Convention & Congress Center | Istanbul

This event showcases products like General Laboratory, Devices and Systems, Medical Laboratory Products, Filtration Equipment, Laboratory Work Health and Security Products etc. in the Scientific Instruments industry.

March

31

a2 International Education Fair

Venue to be announced | Istanbul

a2 International Education Fair - Turkey is a 6 day event being held at the Istanbul Hilton Hotel in Istanbul, Turkey. This event showcases product from Computer Hardware & Software, Sporting Goods, Toys & Games, Business Services, Education & Training industries.

March

31

International Education Fairs in Turkey - Spring

Venue to be announced | Istanbul

This event showcases products like education providers and the students as they come in contact with the various advanced methods and systems of learning and teaching which ensure top quality development for talented individuals etc etc. in the Education & Training industry.

April

31 mar.-03 apr.

International Housewares & Gift Fair Istanbul

Venue to be announced | Istanbul

This event showcases products like Housewares, tableware and kitchenware, home textiles, gifts & decorative items, electrical appliances, plastic household items, stainless steel household items, decorative furnishings, bathroom & kitchen accessories, lighting & chandeliers etc. in the Household Consumables, Household Services industries.

April

02-03

International Workshop on Finance, Business, Economics, Marketing and Information Systems

Titanic Business Bayrampasa | Istanbul

This event showcases products like IWFBE-2016 is one of the area focused international workshops for presenting novel ideas and advances in the area of Finance, Business, Economics, Marketing and Information Systems organized by scientific cooperations.

April

07-10

Petroleum Istanbul

Tuyap Fair Convention & Congress Center | Istanbul

Petroleum Istanbul, the largest trade fair for Petroleum Upstream and Downstream Equipment, Technology and Services in the Eurasia Region produced extremely positive results: products and services from 81 exhibitors were on display on more than 4,800 square metres of net exhibition space.

April

06-10

International Istanbul Stationery Paper School & Office Products Exhibition

Istanbul Fair Center (CNR Expo) | Istanbul

Exhibition provides space for a wide variety of stationery and office products that include stationery articles, paper and paper products, school articles, decor items and products, wallpapers, labels, calculators and cash registers, educational and publication items, gifts and stamps and much more to add to the list. It is an exciting platform that is a one stop shop for all accessories and stationery products and the event is known to attract large number of visitors.

April

21-23

Beauty Eurasia

Istanbul Expo Center | Istanbul

This event showcases products like products in facial care, beauty and skin care, whitening products, sun care products, beauty treatment services, professional products for hair care and hair styling, manicure and pedicure etc. in the Cosmetics and Beauty Products industry.

April

21-23

Maintenance Istanbul

Lutfi Kirdar Convention & Exhibition.. | Istanbul

This event showcases products like Maintenance technology and modern facility management techniques and systems are extremely important for the economic operability of the industrial, residential and service facilities.

OMAN



March

13-15

International Health and Medical Treatment Expo

Oman International Exhibition Center | Muscat

This event showcases products like products and services for medical treatment, weight loss, cosmetology, health and wellness, to a myriad of focused prospective visitors etc. in the Wellness, Health & Fitness industry.

March

28-31

The BIG Show Muscat

Oman International Exhibition Center | Muscat

The BIG Show Muscat is a 3 day event being held from 29th March to the 31st March 2016 at the Oman International Exhibition Centre in Muscat, Oman. This event showcases product from Building Construction, Home Furnishings & Home Textiles, Furniture industries.

April

18-20

Global Higher Education Exhibition

Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre | Muscat

This event showcases products like opportunities for evolution through internships and related career planning programmes will find GHEDEX to be a lucrative opportunity to pursue their higher education goals etc. in the Education & Training industry.

April

27-30

Oman Bride Show

Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre | Muscat

Oman Bride Show is a 4 day event being held from 27th April to the 30th April 2016 at the Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre (OCEC) in Muscat, Oman. This event showcases product from Wedding & Bridal industry.

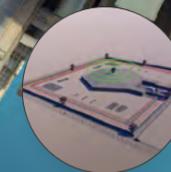
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Project Qatar attracts both regional and international professionals, important construction buyers and industry leaders, with last year's 12th edition bringing in more than 1,130 exhibitors and nearly 32,000 attendees, with 40 countries participating.

Project Qatar has consistently served as a focal point between Qatar and its trading partners for the country's growing and diverse construction market, providing a dedicated avenue for tens of thousands of leading international manufacturers and exporters, and hundreds of thousands of importers and industry professionals, facilitating them to leverage the numerous opportunities in Qatar's construction market.

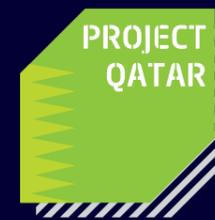
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Istanbul Moda Academy

Education Platform for the Future Fashion Professionals



Istanbul Moda Academy (İMA) is one of the world-wide acclaimed, most proficient fashion schools in Turkey, offering an innovative and modern education in the field of fashion and all relevant branches.

Founded in 2007 with the cooperation of the European Union, the Ministry of Economy and Istanbul Textile and Apparel Exporters' Associations (İTKİB) General Secretariat, İMA pursues the goal of training fashion professionals of the future, possessing an in-depth insight in fashion, design and arts as well as an awareness of the global markets. The Academy thus aims to introduce a creative, innovative and future-steering workforce in the fields of textiles and apparel, two pivotal industries in Turkey.

İMA adopting the systems and structures of internationally proven success is a member of the International Foundation of Fashion Technology Institutes (IFFTI). Besides the University of Arts

London/ London College of Fashion, its strategic partner in academics, İMA collaborates with the world-famous fashion schools such as Polimoda, Institut Français de la Mod and Nottingham Trent University. İMA follows a simultaneous training program with these fashion schools and provides students with access to international fashion institutes, brands and designers. Combining its academic content with the real life, İMA is an exclusive fashion training institution and maintains the theoretical infrastructure of the training programs and applied industry projects with the support it receives from the sector. İMA has become one of the most premium fashion schools of the world thanks to its competent academic staff, which is comprised of local and international experts with professional experience in the fashion industry; its up-to-date curriculum drafted in line with industrial needs; and its facility equipped with state-of-the-art technology; as well as the most comprehensive fashion library in Turkey.

İMA's Approach to Fashion Education

İMA aims to train its students as professionals with a keen perception of fashion, design and art, aware of global markets and fashion marketing who possess the requisite qualifications for the industry and who think creatively and resourcefully, discovering innovative solutions and being risk takers.

The educational programmes at İMA are designed with a global vision and expertise, precisely to meet the needs of the fashion industry. With an intense practical and theoretical curriculum and work-based learning opportunities and real industry projects, İMA prepares its students to the fashion industry with the skills and qualifications that will shape the future of creative industries in Turkey.

Therefore, working with synergy in the fashion and textile industries and international collaborations and a staff



Jale Tuncer
Board Chairman

of experienced local and international trainers and experts with an up to date, practical and comprehensive curriculum distinguishes İMA's positioning.

İMA's Approach to Fashion, Art and Design Culture

The philosophy of İMA is based on the understanding of fashion as an interdisciplinary field of art, design and cultural studies. Therefore, İMA encourages its students and staff to be involved in various research projects, cultural studies and events combining art and design. In order to nourish its students with an international vision and experience of working in a cross cultural environ-

ment; İMA involves in design projects with foreign organisations. İMA engages designer projects, workshops, exhibitions and seminars with designers of global platforms such as Huseyin Caglayan, Bora Aksu and Ece Ege of Dice Kayek.

As a partner of Istanbul Fashion Week, The Core Istanbul, İMA continues to welcome the leading figures of fashion, art and design scene and play a key role in creative and cultural events.

Corporate Training and Consultancy

Aiming to support companies' positions in the industry, İMA also provides

training and consultancy projects that offer tailor-made content such as design, product development, production, visual editing, fashion brand management, and product management in retail.

İMA consultancy service is not only concentrated in Turkey, but also in all its neighbors & in The Middle East.

İMA offers a selection of short-courses and consultancy in the fields of fashion design, retail and management. Participants experiences the same courses as in Istanbul, as the courses are delivered by our high calibre industry professionals who teach on İMA Istanbul courses.



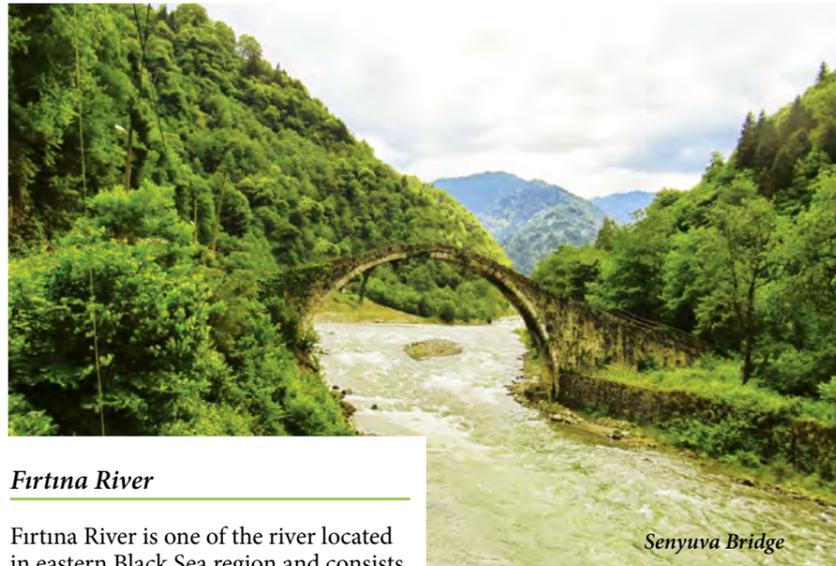


*The toughest landscape love:
Rize*

*The nature, people and highlands of the Black Sea make it a very different region.
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geographic region that makes you fall in love with it.*

Photo by: Ulas Aksakal

Rize located in the eastern part of the Black Sea Region of Turkey, this city was a port district during the Ottoman Era. Rize receives the greatest amount of precipitation in Turkey. Tea and kiwifruit are mostly grown. Besides its geographical structure, Rize is also different from other cities of Turkey in terms of cultural specifications. It's a very special tourism centre with its steep hillside valleys, highest mountains, glacial lakes, emerald green highlands, historical arched bridges, castles, and rapid rivers. Rize has a humid climate with warm summers and cool rainy winters.



Fırtına River

Fırtına River is one of the river located in eastern Black Sea region and consists of small creeks downhill Black Sea side of Kaçkar Mountains. It is 57 km long and disembogues to Black Sea 2 km west of Ardeşen district of Rize. Arch bridged Fırtına River runs between tea gardens is a better river for rafting. There are plenty of fish restaurants along the river. Taste butter fried and oven roasted trout at historical Ottoman Timisvat stone arched bridge with is spectacular view.

Zil Castle

Zil Castle is one of the prominent artefacts of the region. It a medieval castle located in the Fırtına Valley built at an altitude of 1130 metres and sits at the edge of overlooking the Fırtına River. Fırtına River runs at an elevation of 750 metres southeast of the castle. The castle consists of outer walls, middle walls and inner castle. There are a garrison quarters, a chapel and a head tower in the middle castle.

Ayder Highland

Ayder Highland is located 19 km south-east of Çamlıhemşin with an altitude of 350 metres. It is the most known highland of Black Sea Region of Turkey. The infrastructure is totally completed. It is also famous for its thermal water. 50 Celsius hot thermal water is beneficial for rheumatism, fam-ine and stomach diseases. The highland is used as the way to climbing Kaçkar Mountains; and has abundant wildlife of curly-horned mountain goats, lynx, bears and wolves. Ayder Festival is held every year. There are several hotels, lodgings as well.

ley and Bayburt, on one side and Trabzon Uzungöl tourism centre. The hone of this district is distilled thousands of these highlands.

Amlakit Highland

The highland is within the borders of Çamlıhemşin county of Rize. It is mostly preferred as vaca-tion. Amlakit Highland is an ideal getaway route for climbers who want to climb Kaçkar Mountains. Tents can be easily established since the highland has a protected and plain geographic structure. Neighbour highlands are Palovit, Samistal, melezkur, Hanzindak, Pokut, Sal highlands.

Kaçkar Mountains

Kaçkar Mountains are a mountain range rising above the Black Sea Coast of eastern Turkey. Peaks in the east reach to 3500 metres and the western peaks reach to 2000 metres. Kaçkar Kavrun Mountain is the highest point of the range. It has been national park since 1994. Some part of the national park is within Yusufeli county of Artvin and some is in Çamlıhemşin. The mountains is a centre for climbing, rock climbing, trekking, rafting and skiing. The indigenous nature and cultural specification attract local and foreign tourists.



Zil Castle

Maiden Castle

It was built on a small peninsula of Pazar county of Rize. It has a square plan with 7 metres width and 7 metres length, and doesn't have a connection with the land. A regular stonemasonry is seen on its walls. The entry is in the western side of the castle. South walls are ruined; there are round-arched windows on the upper floors of the standing walls. The castle is believed to be built in 13th and 14th century.

Anzer Highland

Anzer Highland is famous for its honey; and the other name of the highland is Ballıköy. It is 85 km to Rize city centre and located on the foothills of Kırklar Mountain. Anzer Highland will be one of the popular tourism centres with Meles, petrani Kabahor, Garzavan highlands in the vicinity. It is connected to Coruh val-

Çamlıhemşin

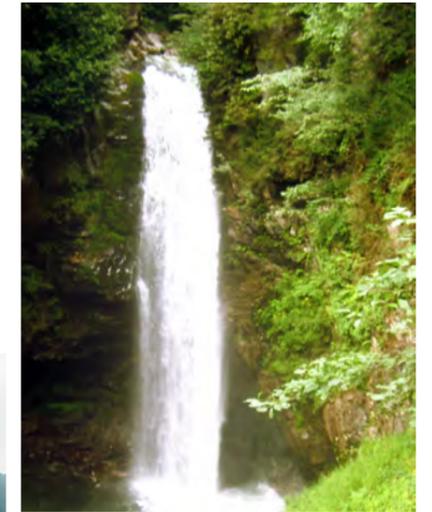
Reflecting all the geographic specifications of Black Sea Region, Çamlıhemşin is an Antolian district to be visited with its green highlands, rapid creeks.

80 percent of the district is covered by forests highlands, hills, and cliffs. The south of the district nestles to Kaçkar Mountains. There are miscellaneous crater lakes at the Peak of Kaçkar Moun-tains Fırtına River runs in Çamlıhemşin County so the vicinity is called Fırtına valley. It is not a crowd county and the houses are generally made of chestnut and hornbeam woods. Some of these houses are older than 100 years.

You will feel as if you are on the pages of history when you see old wooden houses, bridges, his-torical mosques, stone mansions. Also, every tone of green can be observed here in Çamlıhemşin that has an increasing touristic potential. Palovit waterfalls, Fırtına River are well-known and have been the landlord of numerous TV series. There are boutique hotels, mansions serve as chalets with every kind of modern opportunities. They host visitors every month of the year with spectacular mountain views and fresh air. The prices are reasonable; however reservation is necessary.

Şenyuva (Cin civa) Bridge

Şenyuva Bridge is still used and is one of the oldest and prominent historical structures. It has one arched plan. Dated 1699 by an inscription and was lost in 1946 by flood. It is above 15-20 metres above the creek 40 metres long. This hidden historical structure in the green nature of Çamlıhemşin may be the most enjoyable and beautiful part of your Black Sea tour.



Kaçkar Mountains



Anzer Highland

Sport Activities

Rize has the most suitable geography for nature trekking and climbing with highlands and steep mountains; canoeing and rafting with rapid rivers and 2400-3000 metres high Buzulyalağı and Moren lakes; and fishing. Kaçkar Mountains are the source of rapid flowing rivers: two of them are Taşlıdere and İyidere. These rivers have enough regime for rafting and canoeing.

**What to eat?**

Black cabbage and anchovy has an important place in the district as almost every kinds of meals include these. Major meals are ayran doğraması, çilbir,çırılta, çirmulis, fasülye tavalısı, Pilaf with anchovy, Anchovy kuşu, herse, hoşme, kabak felisi,cabbage soup, minçi, mihlama. Anzer honey is a worldly known taste.

**What to buy?**

Hand knitting and wooden handcraft products are still popular. Hemşin socks, Rize cloth (feretiko) are famous weavings. Besides tea, grape and fruit baskets, wattle goods may be easily found. Buxus kinds of spoons, chairs, kemanca (a kind of three stringed violin) are some of wooden goods to be bought. Of course, Anzer Honey shouldn't be forgotten...

**Do not leave without...**

Visiting the highlands, Going to thermal waters in Ayder, Sightseeing 16th century Islam Pasha Mosque and Genoese Castle ruins Watching hawk hunting especially in Ardeşen, Tasting Annzer Honey.



We are a World on Cable Management Systems. We have our brand at all prestigious projects. Our World is more clean than ever thanks to G-Charge. We produce Electrical Vehicle Charging Systems. Our Distribution Systems have new' modern and technological structure. We Produce type tested assemblies up to 6300A/150kA. Busbar Trunking Systems can be communicated over power line. Energy Management can be performed by G-Bus Power Line Communication System. For Many years' we produce the technologies that nobody have and,also insured all our product range against production faults to protect you.

And we think that what we can do for you else? What about you? Do you still think?





Leading Local and Regional Real Estate Development Companies Confirmed for Cityscape Qatar 2016

United Development Company (UDC), Ezdan Holding Group and Al Bandyary Real Estate (Al Bandyary) are among the high profile local companies that will be exhibiting at Cityscape Qatar 2016

Cityscape Qatar 2016, the largest real estate development and investment event in the state of Qatar, has confirmed a number of prominent local, regional and international construction and real estate companies exhibiting at this year's edition. The event, now in its fifth year in Qatar, will be held from April 26-28, 2016 at the newly opened Doha Exhibition and Convention Center (DECC).

The high profile three-day event will showcase a wide range of real estate opportunities to homebuyers, private and professional investors as well as key industry professionals from Qatar, the region and around the globe. Local companies already confirmed to participate in the exhibition include UDC, Al Bandyary, Ezdan Holding Group, Gold Bay Real Estate along with John Taylor, who will be greeted by an expected 7,000 visitors. They will be joined by regional and international heavyweights including, Manazil Real Estate and JLL from the UAE, along with the Turkish company, Gap Insaat Yatirim Ve Ticaret AS and Hashim Properties.

Al Bandyary, a Qatar-based company that has strived to create, restructure and manage a group of investments in the real estate sector over the years, will be exhibiting a number of its upcoming properties and developments. Highlights include B. Square Mall, situated in the heart of Doha, which has redefined the modern shopping experience in Qatar. Boasting world class attractions, B. Square Mall will position itself as a popular host for various local, cultural and promotional activities.

Speaking ahead of Cityscape Qatar 2016, Al Bandyary Real Estate said: "Al Bandyary Real Estate will participate in Cityscape Qatar 2016 and will be exhibiting a number of high profile projects in the most prominent areas in Qatar,



including the Al Kheesa Gate project located opposite Lusail City, consisting of 700 stand-alone villas, along with two projects, hotel apartment towers that are situated in the Al Dafna area. Al Bandyary has also started to expand in projects outside of the State of Qatar and will launch its project in Dubai. We are pleased to announce that we will be offering a special promotion during the exhibition and at competitive prices."

Ahmed Zakaria, Exhibition Director, spoke on behalf of Cityscape Qatar: "Cityscape Qatar provides the exceptional opportunity for exhibitors to promote themselves to a highly targeted audience of investors, government officials and real estate professionals, and ensure that both their brands and projects are seen by these influential stakeholders. We are delighted with the caliber of confirmed exhibitors, and are certain that all of these projects are well positioned to deliver vast investment and further growth for the State of Qatar."

Inaugurating the event on 26 April, Cityscape Qatar Real Estate Market Overview will deliver an invitation-only afternoon of insightful remarks about the market and networking among industry leaders. Organised in cooperation with DTZ Qatar, the session will feature presentations and panel discussions on ways for Qatar's property market to help Qatar achieve its long-term goals.

Cityscape Qatar 2016, the largest ever real estate event to be held in the country, is well positioned to build on the success of previous events and will include a three day exhibition, learning and networking features, along with a number of landmark deals which are due to be struck throughout the upcoming event.

To find out more about Cityscape Qatar 2016, please visit: www.cityscapeqatar.com

THONET

All Hail the Master

The German pioneer of elegant and timeless industrial design



In 1819, master carpenter Michael Thonet established his first workshop in Boppard on the River Rhine. Little did he know that what he had started would become one of the most highly cherished names in furniture till this day. Thonet, the oldest furniture brand in the world, has grown ever since and still stands out for its high-quality, innovation and elegant furniture.

The brand's breakthrough moment arrived in 1859 with a chair; the iconic coffee house chair NO.14, later renamed 214. For the first time, the innovative technique of bending solid beech wood, which Michael Thonet

developed and perfected during the 1850s, was used in production, consequently allowing for the chair's mass production.

As busy Thonet calendar yields new products yearly. "We consider the big furniture fairs, Salone in Milan and imm cologne, as the main anchor points for the introduction of new products."

This year, Thonet's latest design, was introduced at imm cologne, the international interiors show that commences every January in Cologne, Germany. The lounge chair 808, designed by Munich based design studio Formstelle,

was presented. With plenty of room for various seating positions, this chair calms factor with the upholstery reminiscing waves. Formstelle created a fabric that is exclusively designed for the 808 called 'Soul' and client can choose from a multitude of color palettes, material options and swivel frames.

All Thonet products, offering custom-tailored solutions, are produced in the company-owned manufacturing facility, 'our only factory' located in Frankenberg, Germany. This facility, founded in 1889, has been the corporate headquarters and production site of Thonet ever since.

For Thonet today, the constant process of innovation stands in the forefront with a continued focus on tradition and fine craftsmanship.

"The historical designs remind us every day to honour and protect the principles and values of our DNA. That's how our classics become guiding principle for the development of new products," added Muck.

Thonet is still a family owned business and is managed today by the fifth and sixth generation Thonet's who actively involved with the company's business as partners and sales managers.

Let's get
pampered
yourself



Bliss Spa, located in the most vibrant Hotel W Doha, is the best well known Spa in Qatar delivering advanced skin and body treatments that gives real results. They are providing excellent facials, massages, body treatments, waxing and nail services.

Director of Bliss Spa who has visited 60 countries and 90 spa hotels, Burcu Tugba Düzgüner, is a total SPA addict that was working in a bank and trans-

ferred to hospitality business which is 100% suited to her SPA passion

How did you decide to take this decision after a certain age?

In 1995 when I was living in Istanbul working in a bank, I was inspired by an Indian yoga instructor who was travelling all around the world. That was the start of my journey. For a couple of years until I discovered Ayurveda I went travelling and I was out of my comfort

zone, I was different, I found my courage. While I was finding myself I got to know the spiritual side of holistic therapies, and then it started to become a lifestyle. I began to discover popular spa retreats from Aguas Calientes in Peru to Seychelles, from Tengchong Hot Springs in Yunnan (China) to Hot Springs by Pacayo Volcano in Antigua Guatemala. I visited around 60 countries and 90 spa hotels. This is how I came across with Bliss in NY in 2008 and I was totally fell in love with the concept.

How many treatments does Bliss Doha offer?

In Bliss we offer around 90 treatments with the combination of additional services which we call add ons. (www.blissdoha.com)

Can you tell us in which sense Spa treatments are more over just a relaxation facility?

Since 5000 years people are using massage as a form of wellbeing to increase blood flow and lymphatic flow. This both useful for mental health and physical wellbeing.

Virtually every system of the body is affected by massage, either directly or indirectly. Improved circulation of blood brings oxygen and nutrients to the bones. Joint stiffness and pain can be reduced. As the muscles become more flexible, joint movement increases. Massage also makes muscles more flexible by reducing muscle tone and in overall this brings a wellbeing and well thinking structure

What is your best Slimming treatment?

Zerona is a low level laser therapy and a new body sculpting procedure designed to contour the body without invasive surgery using low frequency laser therapy and quadruple thigh-pass is a full step anti-cellulite treatment which combines microcirculation stimulating essential oil blend with a vacuum assisted thigh smoothing, toxin-purging massage and lymph clearing so when zerona prepares the fat going to the lymphatic channel, vacuum draws them to the lymph nodes and essential oils helps to smooth the surface of the body and prevents stretchmarks and bruises.

So briefly it is the most innovative combination of the treatments that is highlighted in the market. quadruple thigh-pass is registered to Bliss Brand. And this combination with in a 12 to 15 session brings exceptional results. We will introduce the 3rd innovative slimming procedure to the market in max 2 months. This will be the best in all over Middle East.



Burcu Tugba
Düzgüner





What are you too 3 favourite treatments that you recommend?

For the moment Our most popular facial is Hydrafacial , it is a deep exfoliation that brings your skin the utmost glovy effect comparing to the facials all around the world.

Turkish Hamam which starts your skin breathing again comfortably with a help of a thick exfoliation fabric that is called ' Kese ' and this will benefits your overall well being in a positive way after a deep nourishing and softening soap massage in the hamam.

The best combination for the slimming nowadays is our quadrapule thighpass treatment in combination of zeron low laser slimming and contouring treatment. This really give us amazing results when they were used altogether.

Moreover we brought Miha Body Machine to the Doha Market Miha bodytec is the premium manufacturer of whole-body electrical stimulation (EMS) that brings recognizable weight loss in 20 min Miha bodytec is meanwhile present in over 30 countries and is expanding dynamically. The ems training with miha bodytec guarantees

exceptional, fast visible and noticeable results with in 20 min in 1 week. This hits the true spirit of the time!

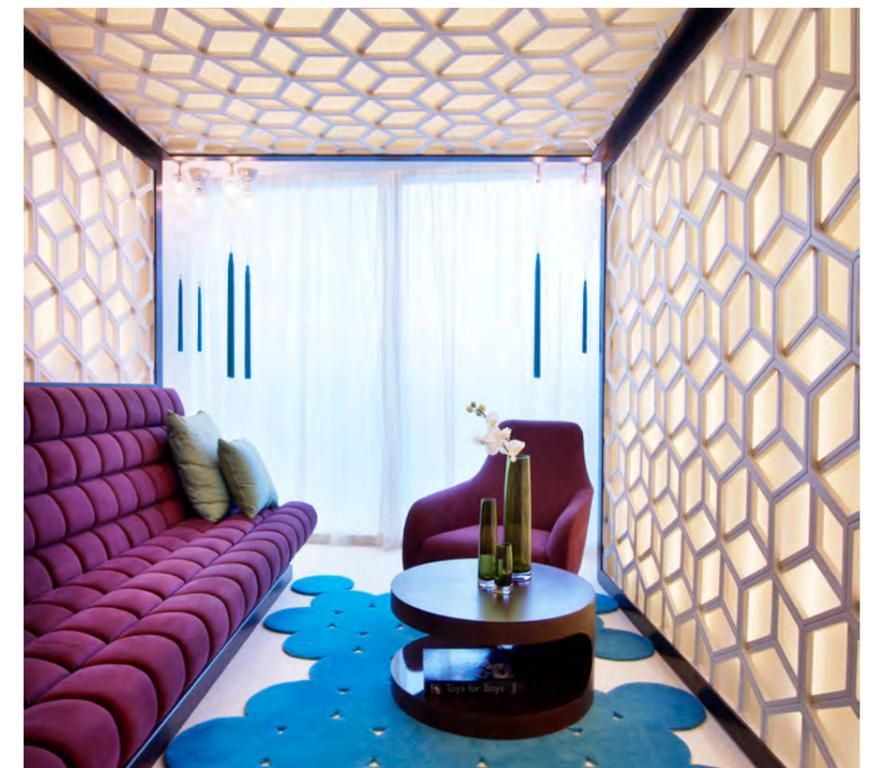
Where has been your favourite place to work so far, and how does that compare to your current position?

I love being a part of Starwood Hotels and Resorts now we had an acquisition with Marriot .It was announced roughly 2 months ago.We are all excited then what will be the next in our future carrier with this new happening.

How do you add success to your Spa Business?

My challenge is to find new and improved ways to get Doha's elite to connect with their inner selves.

First and foremost Bliss is about delivering advanced skin and body treatments that get real results. Behind those results is our accomplished team of hundreds of expert technicians from six continents. I am very lucky to be working at W Doha and Bliss Spa, which has so extraordinary look comparing to the other Spa Brands.



Magnificent Century: Kösem Sultan

Continues To Fix Viewers to Their Seats

Article by: Eda Yorgancioglu



*K*ösem Sultan (1590 – 2 September 1651), also known as Mahpeyker Sultan, was one of the most powerful women in the Ottoman history.

Favourite consort and later wife of Ottoman Sultan Ahmed I, Kösem Sultan achieved power and influenced the politics of the Ottoman Empire through her husband, then through her sons Murad IV and Ibrahim, and finally through her minor grandson Mehmed IV. She was Valide (mother) Sultan when her sons Murad IV and Ibrahim reigned as Ottoman sultans. She was a prominent figure during the Sultanate of Women. She was official regent twice and was thereby one of two women to have been formal regents of the Ottoman Empire. After her death, she was known by the names "Valide-i Maktule" (murdered mother), and "Valide-i Şehide" (martyred mother).

The eagerly anticipated TV series, "Magnificent Century: Kösem Sultan" is finally on air. This time, we are witnessing a plot weaved around Ahmed I, the 14th Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, and Kösem Sultan, who is one of his wives. Again, the scenario is full of intrigue, excitement, betrayal, love and hate.

We wish to share some striking details from this TV series in the historical-fiction genre which received many comments, criticism and praise even before it was aired...

First of all, the producer of the TV series Timur Savcı organized a private viewing for various columnists before it was aired. These elect columnists watched a 35 minute episode detailing the story of the series as well as some parts of the first and second episodes. Timur Savcı also announced during this organization that Magnificent Century was the first TV series purchased by Netflix for the USA, Australia and England markets. This was very impor-

tant news. In addition, the successful producer also added that 4 episodes for the TV series were already shot and that a total of 50 million Turkish liras were spent starting from the preparation stages. Everything is quite ambitious for a TV series that is just starting. Afterwards the moment that the viewers have been waiting for anxiously came and the TV series was aired.



"It was understood from the very first episode that Magnificent Century: Kösem Sultan would be a TV series that would fix viewers to their seats for a whole season."

In short, it is the sequel to Magnificent Century. The same world, same conditions, same music. Only the period, actors and actresses have changed. Of course it is a well-known reality that

this is a much harsher and ruthless period during the reign of the Ottoman Empire. We should get ready for new polemics in this TV series that will bring Ottoman history back in focus again...

We should also mention the actors and actresses. Hülya Avşar, the old Miss Turkey the crown of whom was taken from, was the name that came up as soon as news about Kösem Sultan was heard... There were many people who thought she would not fit the Safiye Sultan character. However, one can see that she has become wholly absorbed in her role. And then of course there is Sultan Ahmed. Viewers liked Ekin Koç starring as Sultan Ahmed who came to the throne after a majestic figure such as Kanuni. Many people are of the same opinion that he has fit his role. And finally; prepare yourself for Bülbül Aga after Sümbül Aga.

Nadir Sarıbacak pleases the viewers with a captivating performance. Of course one can say after taking all this into consideration that there is nothing new on the screen and that Magnificent Century Kösem Sultan continues from where the previous TV series left off. Even though you will find passive Sultan Ahmed a little odd after the glorious Sultan Kanuni, you will get used to him and like him over time...

Another much talked about detail is that the final season of Magnificent Century were shot using the décor of Kösem. Actually when you consider it, there is a lot of outdoor shoots in Magnificent Century Kösem and actually a whole new city has been built from scratch and there are a lot of different sets. Meaning that there is much more work in comparison with Magnificent Century. Of course there are places which are the same. Some things are the same when you take a look back at history as well. For instance, some parts of the palace... The balcony of the palace where Sultan Süleyman clasped his hands at his back and viewed the Empire...

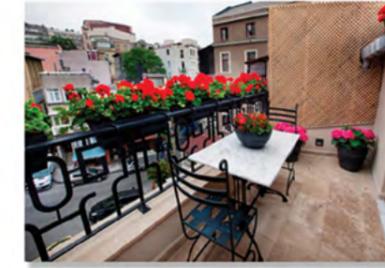


Finally, we should mention the original score. Viewers must have noticed that the Magnificent Century concept is continuing with Kösem. Indeed, the emotions that the TV series wants to install are the same. Intrigue, love, hate, death, betrayal; all of them together. The TV series that continued for years and that became very popular outside of Turkey in whichever country it was aired in continues from where it left off. The level of excitement increases with each episode. Beren Saat continues to amaze with her acting after "Aşk Memnu", "Fatmagül'ün Suçu Ne?" and "İntikam". In short; Magnificent Century: Kösem has been talked about more than Magnificent Century and it is certain that it will remain to be talked about...



Köseme Sultan (1589 – 1651) was the orphaned daughter of a priest on the island of Tinos, a Greek island in the Aegean Sea. Her given name was Anastasia, and it is unsure how she got to Constantinople, but at the age of 15 she was a slave in the royal harem. Kösem Sultan, from an engraving of her capture by the Knights of Malta during a naval battle. She endured very tumultuous times during her life. She was the second wife of Ahmed I who came to power when he was only 13. Ahmed broke with the tradition of fratricide and instead sent his brother Mustafa to the old palace at Bayezit with his grandmother Safiye Sultan. This set the stage for several coups following his death at the age of 27.

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Tulip Only Goes With Emirgan...

Article by: Aynur Koc



Sakip Sabancı Museum

The name coming from Emir Mürgünoğlu, Emirgan was a small village of the Bosphorus like others during the Ottoman Era. Since the Yerevan Castle commander Emir Mirgünoğlu delivered the castle without battling against the Ottomans in the 17th century, he was brought to Istanbul by Sultan Murat IV; and the district which was empty on those years was given as a present by Sultan Murat IV. So, the district was first named as Emirgüne village and became Emirgan in time.

What makes this district beautiful is the Wood of Emirgan followed by the garden which belonged to Khedive Ismail Pasha. Emirgan woods is one of the richest antiquity remaining of the Bosphorus. The Bosphorus view up the woods is magnificent. Being one of the largest parks in Istanbul, Emirgan Park was known as "Feridun Bey Park" for centuries and it was owned by Ottoman governor of Egypt Khedive Ismail Pasha by the end of 1860s. The park was purchased by Tozan family in 1930s and granted later in 1940s to the city of Istanbul during Mayor Dr Lütfi Kırdar who stated that the park is more for one family.



Sakip Sabancı Museum

EMIRGAN PARK

When tulip is mentioned, Emirgan is the first district of Istanbul coming into mind. Tulip Festival held in April with thousands of colourful tulips hosts a lot of foreign tourists every year. Last year, 48 kinds of 1 million 370 thousands tulips were planted in Emirgan Park where is the one of the largest parks of Istanbul with its 42.7 hectares field. There are three mansions called Yellow Mansion, White Mansion, and Pink Mansion in the park.

The Yellow mansion constructed by Khedive İsmail Pasha in 1871 was designed Sarkis Balyan an Armenian architect of the Ottoman Palace in form of chalet. Today it serves as café and restaurant.

The White Mansion resembling to a bird's nest and the Pink Mansion are used as cafes and restaurants as well. Turkish-Ottoman cuisine, magnificent breakfasts, cookies accompanied with tea or coffee may be tasted in the enjoyable park. It is also possible to have a picnic with the food you may bring together with you at any beautiful season of the year. Phaeton can be rented and bicycles can be ridden as well.

EMİRGAN ÇINARALTI

(meaning "under the plane tree")

The Çınaraltı Orga Café is a popular meeting point in Istanbul. The café next to the Hamidi Evvel Mosque was the place where the time of azan determined considering the movements of the sun. The mosque, which

was constructed by Sultan Abdulhamid I in 1872, is one of the most beautiful mosques on the shore of Bosphorus. In addition, the sultan's wife had constructed a fountain next to the mosque. You should absolutely sightsee the octagonal fountain which is located the café now. Also, Hünkar Pavilion next to the mosque is another must to visit...

Moreover, Sütüş just next to the Çınaraltı Orga Café is a popular place of the Bosphorus to have delicious breakfast and taste Turkish cuisine with a wonderful sea view.

SAKIP SABANCI MUSEUM

Taking the name from the bronze horse sculpture in front of the villa, Atlı Köşk (the Equestrian Villa) is located in the

field which was given to Khedive Mehmet Ali Pasha by Sultan Abdulmecid in the 19th century. The horse sculpture is a copy of one of the four horsed group (quadriga) taken from Sultan Ahmet Square to Venice by the Latin during the IV crusade. Sabancı sees this horse sculpture in a trip to Venice and gets amazed; then has a After being bought by Hacı Ömer Sabancı in 1951, the villa was converted to a museum in 2002 by Sabancı family which is the founder of Sabancı holding one of the biggest holdings in Turkey. So, saying that Art came to Emirgan by the Sabancı family won't be wrong.

Sabancı family grants a prominent part of their collection to the museum. Some of the granted collections are Korans, tughras (sultans' signatures), rescripts

of Ottoman Empire 500 years of period; the paintings of artists such as Fausto Zonaro, Ayvazovski. Undoubtedly, one of the most precious collections of the museum is the 3.5x2.2 cm sized, leather covered "Miniature Koran" which was written in 1635. The calligrapher of this Koran which is impossible to be read by eyes deserves respect. Doesn't he? The museum has carried its fame to all over the world by exhibiting Dali, Picasso, Miro, and Anish Kapoor's works. The museum is open between 10:00 – 18:00 every day except Monday.

The garden of the villa is so wide and one of the most beautiful places of Istanbul with its two view terraces, marble stones, sculptures, fountains dating back to Byzantine periods.

One of the most famous restaurants of Istanbul "Müzedede Changa" serves next to the museum. To take a sip of your coffee or tea and enjoy the view and tranquillity in every hour of the daytime is possible here. Turkish-Mediterranean cuisine during the lunch without any reservation is possible. If the weather is good, absolutely sit at the terrace and enjoy the smell of fresh Bosphorus air, tea, coffee, etc.

Also try a short trekking on the shore of Emirgan; taste the symbols of Istanbul waffles, buy balloons for your children. Enjoy Emirgan...

To be continued our trip in the European side of Istanbul in our next magazine...



Emirgan fountain



Emirgan Garden



Emirgan Mosque



Sabancı Museum



Çınaraltı Orga Cafe



Çınaraltı View from Seaside

*Don't miss the
International Istanbul
Tulip Festival in
Emigrant Park*



The annual Tulip Festival is organized here every April making the park very colorful with these plants. Millions of tulips are planted in Istanbul's parks, avenues, traffic roundabouts ...

But what is the best place to admire the Istanbul tulips?

Emirgan Korusu is one of the largest public parks in Istanbul. It's favorite breathing spots, offering a calm green space for those looking for some nature with several tulip gardens in the city. The tulip is not just an ordinary flower for those who know its importance within the cultural and historical context of Turkey.

During the days of the Ottoman Empire, in addition to giving its name to the Ottoman Tulip Era, tulips adorned the luxurious gardens of the sultans as the most favored flower and they were used as an art motif on hand-woven carpets and the walls of grand mosques, as well as being an important subject in Ottoman poetry.

In the Ottoman Empire there were more than 1,800 tulip species and each had a special name in Ottoman Turkish. The many tulips planted for the festival, and especially those in Emirgan Park. (from: Today's Zaman)



Photos By Ulas Aksakal

*The tulip spread to Europe
from Anatolia and
then was exported to the
rest of the world.*



REASONS TO ATTEND CITYSCAPE TURKEY:

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- 20% discount on selected airfare
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- VIP access to Cityscape Turkey and related events

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN TURKEY?

Cityscape Turkey brings together investors, developers, government officials and real estate professionals. If you are looking for second home or an investment opportunity, you'll find it at Cityscape Turkey.

Other Qataris' are already active in the Turkish market. In 2015, Qatari investors purchased:



277

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M²

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I am delighted to address issues relating to ownership of real estate in Turkey for the followers of Azura News. In my last article, I tried to explain the certain precautions that needs to be taken care of before purchasing a real estate, possible costs of purchase, the importance of official deed and registry at the Land Registry Directorates and some other must do's and don'ts.

Although some speculation of existence of a price bubble in the Turkish housing market, due to Turkey's solid economy, its advantageous geographical location, extensive and continuing urban renewal and development, the strength in the construction sector, continuing population growth, and increasing per capita income lead sales of real estate to increase exponentially. The recent cancellation of the reciprocity law indicates that the Turkish Government intends to support housing market and the sales will hence continue to increase. Along with the mega projects such as Marmaray, Canal Istanbul, the third Bosphorus Bridge and Istanbul's third airport, and continuing urban renewal and development, the current situation creates huge potential for investors in real estate sector in Turkey. Furthermore, after the recent sharp decline in the Turkish New Lira, Turkey has become less expensive for foreign buyers.

Due to the pressure on the Turkish economy, rental yields for properties have plunged. However, along with

the increase in real estate value, rental income shall also be considered as a major investment. Thus, the common tenancy issues will be subject of this article.

Real estate investors shall bear in mind that Turkish laws are pro-tenant. There are two main legislations to regulate the lease of immovable: Law on the Real Property Leases ("Law No.6570") and Turkish Code of Obligations.

These two regulations maintain major mandatory provisions that parties are not allowed to agree otherwise. Although there is no formal requirement for the execution of a lease agreement, the agreement shall be carefully drafted. Otherwise the articles contrary to the mandatory provisions, or worst the entire agreement, may be accounted null and void which may cause unwanted problems especially for the landlords.

Term of the Agreement

The contract term can be specified freely by the parties. However, the lease agreement will be automatically

renewed for one year with the same terms and conditions, unless tenant gives notice of termination at least 15 days prior to the expiration of the lease agreement.

The landlord cannot terminate the agreement based on the expiration of the lease agreement as long as tenant has paid his rent regularly. The landlord may, however, at the end of the tenth extension year, terminate the lease agreement by providing a written notice three months' prior to the expiration of extension, without cause. The ten year extension term will be calculated from the end of the contract term specified in the agreement. In case of early termination by tenants, tenants should pay a reasonable compensation to landlord for his losses.

For lease agreements with indefinite term, tenants may terminate the agreement at any time. On the other hand, landlords will be entitled to terminate the agreement at any time, after the tenth year following the commencement date of the agreement.

Rent

Under the principle of freedom of contract, rent can be freely agreed at the beginning of lease agreement. Under the Turkish Law, it is explicitly stated that the parties may freely determine the annual increase provided that such increase shall not exceed the increase in the producer price index for the previous rental term. In order to prevent any possible debates, it would be best if the parties specify the amount by which the rent will increase each year.

Deposit

Normally the tenant should make a deposit before renting the property. This deposit should be paid back at the end of the agreement, if there is no damage by the tenant at the property.

Registration

Under Turkish law, a lease agreement is not subject to any formal legal requirements. However it is possible to record an annotation at the land registry directorate to make the lease agreement enforceable against bona fide third parties.

Transfer of Ownership

The landlord may sale the property which is subject to a lease agreement. There is no restriction on transfer of ownership of a property even the property has leased by tenant. The new landlord may terminate the lease agreement only if he needs the premises as a residence or as a place of business either for himself or for his wife and children. In this case, the new landlord shall inform the tenant within 1 month following the date of transfer of ownership and 6 months later he may request the eviction.

Insurance

The landlords shall buy mandatory earthquake insurance for the real estate. Apart from earthquake insurance there is no any mandatory insurance scheme in relation to real estate.

Sub-Lease

Unless otherwise clearly stated under the agreement, tenants are not allowed wholly or partly to assign or sub-lease the property or grant a usage right over the real estate in favour of third parties without written consent of the landlord. However, the properties such as hotel, boarding house, dormitory etc., which has to be leased in accordance with the objective of the property might be assigned or subleased by tenants without landlord's consent provided that the whole real property is not leased



Repair

Tenants shall keep the property in good condition. Thus, tenants are responsible for small repairs relating to the property. However, if a major repair or renovation is required, the parties may agree on the cost. In practice, if a major repair or renovation is required that will increase the value of the property, the landlord usually bears the costs.

Termination and Eviction

Under Turkish Law, landlords are not entitled to terminate the lease agreement and evict the tenant without relying to a legitimate cause specified by Law.

The causes for eviction of tenant is limited:

● If the tenant, after the date of lease agreement, has signed a written promise to vacate the property by a certain date,

he is obligated to move by that date. It is important to bear in mind that, a promise to vacate given at the time of the lease agreement is not valid. The promise to vacate should be drafted entirely by a notary public.

● The landlord needs the property as a residence or as a place of business either for himself or his wife or his children.

● Substantial repairs, renovation or modifications to the property are required and during this period it is not possible for tenant to reside in the property.

● In case of transfer of ownership, if the new owner needs the property as a residence or as a place of business for himself or his wife or his children. However, if the lease agreement has been recorded in the title deed register, the new landlord may not request from tenant to move out until the lease agreement expires.

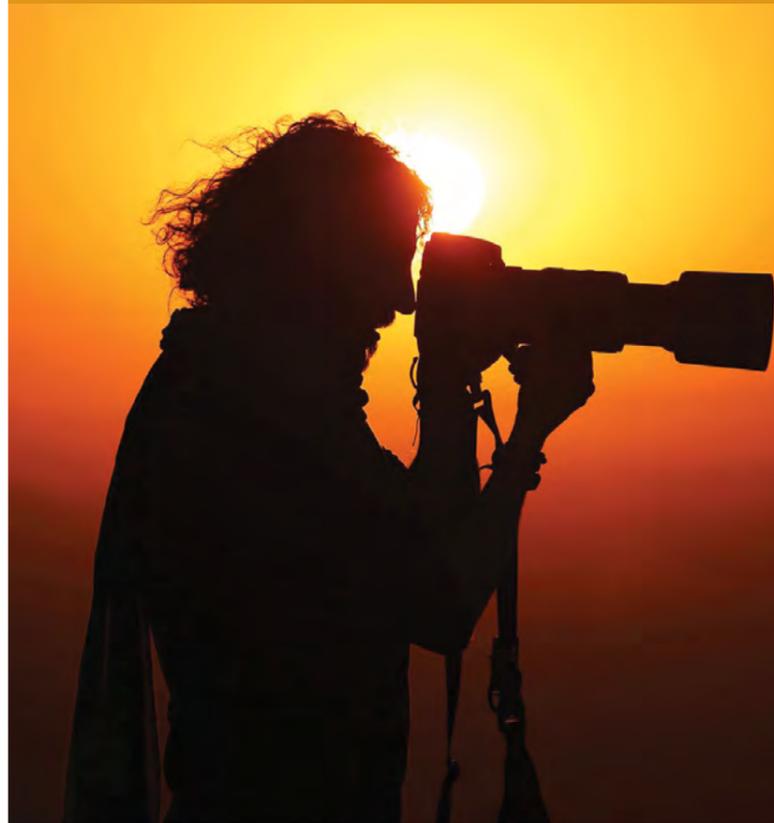
● Due to failure to pay rent, if a landlord has issued within a one-year period two notice of payments to the tenant, landlord may ask tenant to move out.

● If the tenant or his wife has another residence in the same city or municipality, and if the landlord did not know about it at the time of the lease agreement, the landlord may, at the end of the lease agreement, ask him to vacate.

● If the tenant sub-leases the property, landlord may seek eviction.

● Landlord may also ask a tenant to move out for reasons such as infringement of the lease agreement, or failure to maintain good relations with other persons in the building.

In occurrence of one of the above causes, landlords may file an "action for eviction" at magistrate court (which is the most common form of eviction proceeding) at the end of lease period. It is important to bear in mind that under Turkish Law, exercise of self-help by landlords without involvement of a court or execution office would be considered as an offense under Turkish Criminal Code.



One Examination of Life, One Story of Journey

by Tarik Gök

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Tarik Gök, who started his art life by meeting a camera and developing a passion for it, shares his Indian journey, which returned to a life test from a trip, with Azuranews readers.

Is there a particular reason for choosing India for your first solo exhibition?

Human models dating back to 2000 years can still be observed in India. We have the chance of seeing naked, shaggy, straggled, dusted top to the head humans as well. This adventure was a life test more than sightseeing journey.

What did most influence you on your journey?

First of all, you are not the same person after returning from a journey which takes 4 months and 7 thousand kilometres. You may witness some situations you are not familiar such as poverty, struggle, death, desperation, different believes, gap between streets, religion varieties. You experience the cultural exchange just as a rainbow. It took me two weeks to acknowledge this range.





What did force you? The place you accommodated or the living conditions?

I live in the moment. The accommodation was not a problem for me. I had days sleeping on the streets, beaches, in tents next to a stream in four months. India is a country that you love or hate...

How did you start this 7 kilometres trekking journey?

I started from Nepal; and walked from Kathmandu to Everest with my four friends whom I met on internet.

Well... Are you all photograph artists?

No, everyone has a different occupation.

So... was the aim same?

Absolutely yes, all of us' aim was to reach the main camp of Everest.

Were you able to reach the main camp of Everest?

Yes, but one of us gave up and returned back on the half way. We were stuck in the most dangerous airport of the Himalayas at the end of the third week and had to spend the New Year's Eve there. In fact my adventure starts exactly

there; I wanted to carry a stone from the Himalayas to 7 thousand kilometres south of India and throw it to the point where three seas meet.

What make you desire that?

It was just a goal set by me. I wish everyone's goal was throwing a stone; so everything might be different or easy. Something has gone from me and something has come to me with that stone.

Can we say your main aim was not to take photo?

Exactly... It was a life test and a story of a journey. My exhibition is not only a photograph exhibition. I narrated my journey.

Was the magic you came with to Turkey spoilt immediately?

Contrarily... It is something like steeping tea; your brain unavoidably and slowly filters and settles the things gathered from there.



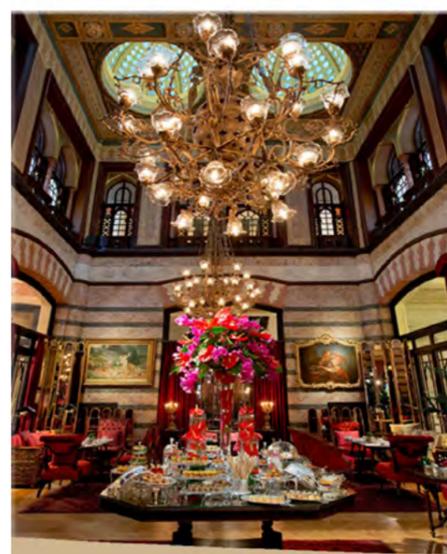
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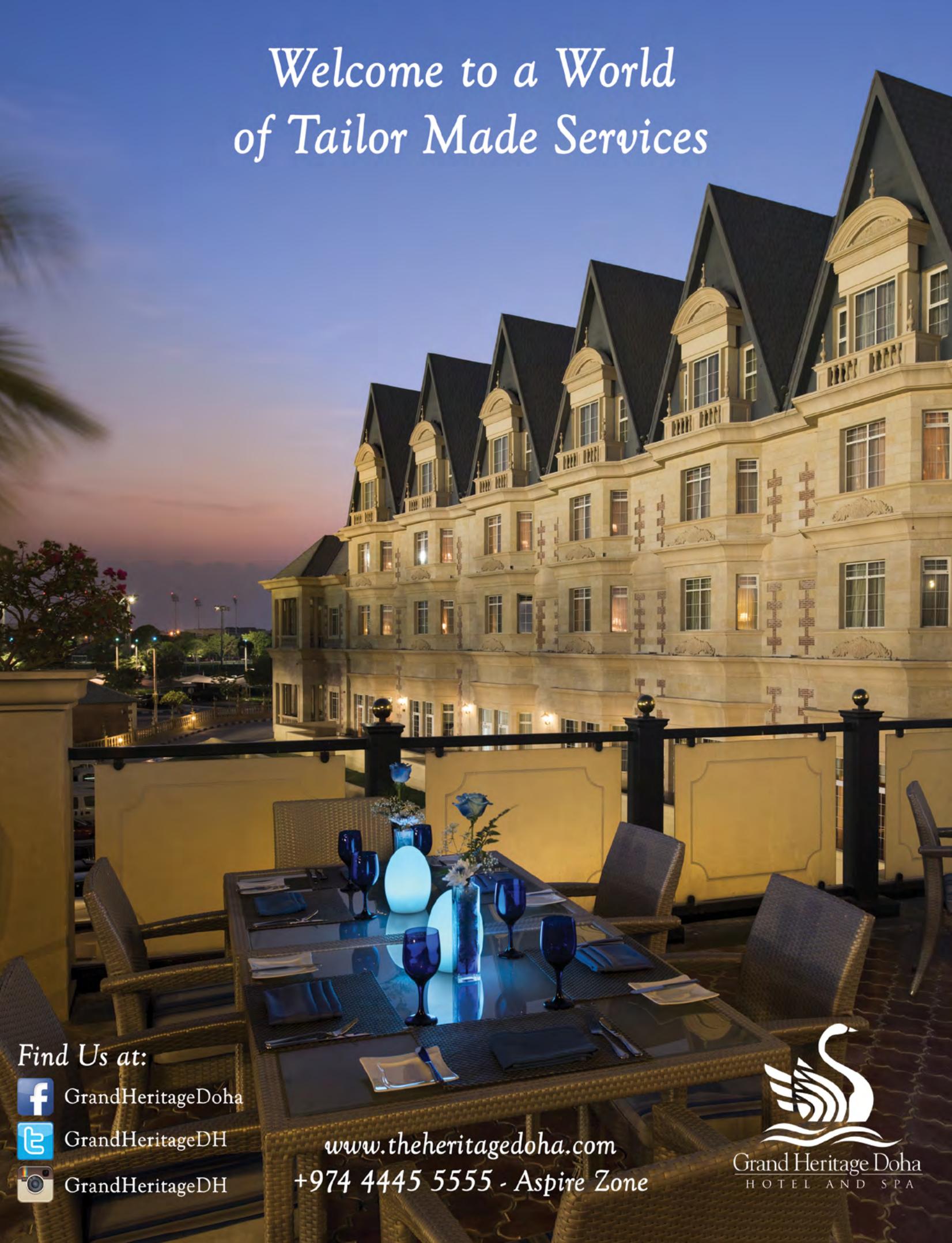
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