Objective
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Qualified News

The Konya News

— Monthly —

VOL: 2 | www.thekonyanews.com | KONYA, MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2021

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By Mustafa AKIŞ

Konya is the hope

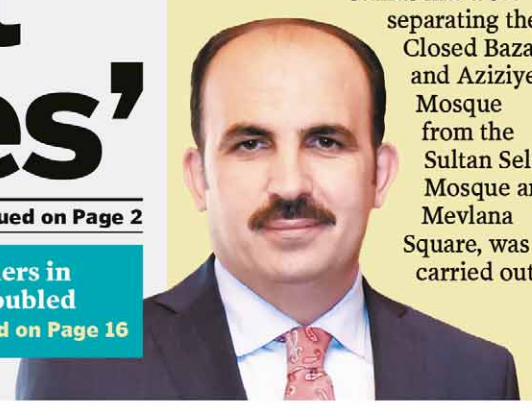
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Foreigners preferred Konya in real estate

Real estate sales to foreigners in the first quarter of 2020 doubled compared to 2019. Continued on Page 16

We make a very important transformation

With the instructions of our Minister Murat Kurum and the ILBANK grant, the first stage of Alaaddin Facade Renovation has been completed. We start the second stage now. In addition, the demolition of the Mevlana Market, which has been the subject of discussion since the day it was built and which stands like a set separating the Closed Bazaar and Aziziye Mosque from the Sultan Selim Mosque and Mevlana Square, was carried out.



Leaders' thoughts about Konya

Continued on Page 3





Kerem İŞKAN
Executive Editor

Looking for new paths...!

Appreciated...

Actually, to publish an-English-newspaper has been a project of me that has been planned for a long time. It was such an idea that every time we mentioned about it, we were really excited. It always made us imagine the designs of the pages. It is such an honour and beyond a perfect feeling to have the real newspaper in our hands and gather praises and compliments from our readers. Because we have had long debates on publishing it and now it's real...

Nowadays, the happiness of living another first in our lives makes us chase new discoveries. It has been told a lot that this initiative is inspiring the youth.

The Konya News gained a general approval both in digital platforms and as printed edition. Our newspaper accepted the congratulations from all over the country. With its first volume, The Konya News created a feeling as it has always been there and as it has always been in publishing business.

The Konya News was met as a late friend waited for a long time by its readers.

In this context, this newspaper represents an enterprising soul which is on a world travel by undertaking the whole city with all its values. The Konya News is conscious about the important representation responsibility and continues its path with universal journalism rules as a young and free voice.

The Konya News entered the press world as a new host for the invitation of "COME" which is originally an invitation of Rumi who calls the humanity to Konya and universal language of love for centuries.

Appreciated.

We think that we opened a new window from Konya to the people all over the world with a new voice and a new breath.

If someone is able to look through this window, s/he will have the chance to see the opportunities and beauties of this city. They will see that the people who live in Konya are not very different from them and they desire the love, the peace and to serve for the common ground of humanity together.

In this sense, The Konya News is a bridge.

We are looking for new paths of the fellowship from our hearts to yours.

We owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who supported, encouraged and appreciated us.

505 sinkholes identified in Konya in 5 months

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In Karapınar district in Konya, 505 different sinkholes were identified by the provincial directorate of AFAD and the faculty members of Konya Technical University Department of Geological Engineering during the last five months of land works

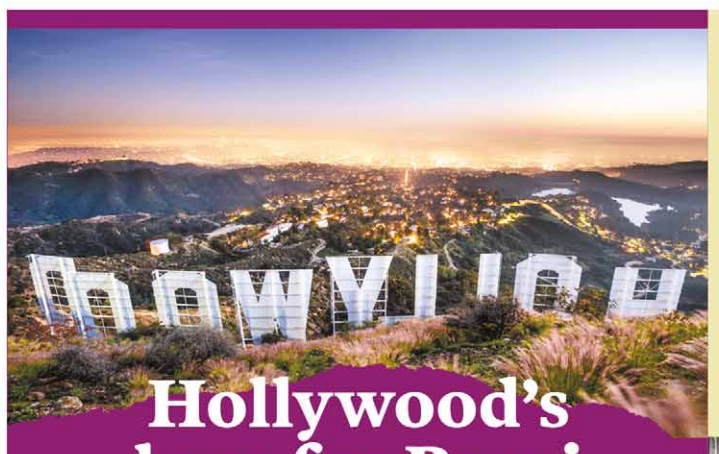


Karapınar district in Konya has a population of 50 thousand people and it is a region which is highly exposed to wind erosion in Turkey.

Konya is fighting against drought

Drought threatens the plain.

Continued on Page 7



Hollywood's love for Rumi

Rumi, whose poems sold more than 2 million in the USA, is becoming more and more popular among Hollywood stars such that the famous singer Beyonce named one of her twins Rumi.

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The main agenda in 2021: "Financial Difficulty"?

Financial difficulty, affecting millions of people in Turkey, will continue to be the main issue on the agenda of the people in 2021. Unless the state aid is increased, the number of poor in Turkey could reach 20 million with a doubled increase.

Continued on Page 4



President Erdoğan calls out: We are ready!

President Erdoğan attended to the International Investment Summit. Speaking at the summit, President Erdoğan gave a message and said "We have launched a new wave of reforms. Come and experience Turkish hospitality.
I tell investors across the world."

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Full Marks from Bangladesh Ambassador to The Konya News

Mosud Mannan, Ankara Ambassador of Bangladesh, visited Konya, in order to exchange ideas about some cultural and economic cooperations. The Konya News, the first and only newspaper in English, is presented to the Ambassador Mosud Mannan. Viewing the newspaper, Mannan stated that 'I appreciate that such kind of newspaper is broadcasted in Konya. Konya is a city which has moral importance for us. This city has a very precious place in the hearths of Bangladesh people. I believe that "The Konya" is going to help to strengthen the cultural, political and economic bonds between our countries and people.

Konya is my hometown

Worldwide known famous Chef Hüseyin Özer inspiring people with his life story emotionally states his interest and love for Konya.

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University students in Konya develop vertical take-off UAV

Göktürk team, consisting of NEU students, won the first place as the team that designed, built and flew the Vertical UAV that stays in the air for the longest time autonomously, detects the target autonomously with image processing and leaves the payload to the target at the competition held in Martyr Lieutenant Gürcan Ulucan Airport with the participation of university students from all over the country.

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International Film Plateaus from TRT to Konya

The protocol of "TRT International Konya Film Plateaus" to be built in Meram Karahüyük District has been signed by Konya Metropolitan Municipality, Meram Municipality, and Turkey Radio and Television Corporation (TRT).

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The Konya News



We will make Konya 'one of the most beautiful cities'

Environment and Urbanization Minister Murat Kurum joined the opening ceremony of collective opening and groundbreaking of Mevlana Market and Altın Market transformation project, Alaaddin Street facade arrangement and Millet Garden projects which are jointly carried out by the Ministry and Konya Metropolitan Municipality

Signs for Energy Efficiency in Organized Industrial Zone

There have been three different Solar Energy Power Plants with a 4.5 MW installed power in KOS. Memiş Kütükçü, the head of Konya Chamber of Industry, stated that these plants are good examples for the production of renewable energy for industrialists and they also started to set up solar energy power plants. He emphasized that energy efficiency is vital for both Konya and Turkey. He also uttered that "To be able to produce, energy is indispensable. For this reason we have to use our energy as fertile as possible. I am also a member of the board of management of energy efficiency organization. According to the results of awareness index done by our organization, especially in industry there is a high awareness on energy efficiency but the rate of taking action is relatively low. Therefore, both the industrialists and the individuals have to change their habits and have to focus on using the energy more efficiently."

THE PROJECT SAVES 50%

Halil İbrahim Tongur, KOP Development Committee Deputy Chairman, emphasized that the implementing agency of the project is Konya Provincial Directorate for Industry and Technology and the cooperative agency is the Directorate of Konya Organized Industrial Zone and by this way public-industrial cooperation was put into practice. Tongur also stated that "Actually, we are signing a very good example of cooperation between institutions. One part is supplying the budget and the other part is working on carrying out this budget. Via this project, in KOS, old 250 watt sodium-vapour lamps will be replaced with led lighting revision system which has high energy efficiency and saves 50% in common area street lights".



Stating that they have great dreams about Konya, Kurum uttered that 'We will make Konya one of the most beautiful cities not only in Turkey but also in the world because this city deserves it. We are going to make Konya a brand city by preserving the Ottoman seal and Seljuk traditions that are hidden in all the streets and roads of Konya.

Environment and Urbanization Minister Murat Kurum carried out the collective groundbreaking and opening programs of the investments jointly carried out by the Ministry and Konya Metropolitan Municipality.

The Groundbreaking ceremony of the project to be built on the site of Mevlana Market, beginning of the Altın Market transformation project, opening of the first stage of the Alaaddin Street facade reconstruction and sapling planting in Konya Millet Garden, the construction of which started with the beginning of the second phase, were held at the program in the Selçuklu Congress Center.

'VISITORS WILL WITNESS THE HISTORY AND CIVILIZATION'

Environment and Urbanization Minister Murat Kurum said that they are working hard to bring Konya to a richer and more prosperous point in every field.

Stating that they have laid the foundations of the investments to be made in the city with great enthusiasm, the Minister Kurum uttered that 'We are enthusiastically laying the foundations of New Mevlana Square, Mevlana Market, and the Altın Market, which will combine the decoration of the Seljuk people, the Ottoman bay windows and the modern touches of our Republic.

We are realizing this historical and cultural project, which really excites all of us, all Konya and Rumi lovers, in a large area of 19.752 square meters.

We start our landscaping works with ornamental pools, cut rock streets, wonderful urban furniture, parking garage and also the traces of our civilization next to our new shops in new Mevlana Market.

We hope that, people who come here will breathe not only a square, but also the atmosphere and spirit of a historical city center, and witness a 1000-year accumulation of history and civilization.'



'WE PREPARED AN URBANIZATION PROJECT THAT SMELLS HISTORY'

Stating that they also started the Altın Market project, the Minister Kurum explained the details of the project and continued his speech as follows: 'While laying the foundations of Mevlana Market, we are simultaneously starting the Altın Market transformation project in an area of 12,715 m². Together with our Metropolitan Municipality and our tradesmen, we prepared an urban planning project that will keep the bazaar culture and the cause of ahi-order alive and smell history. Hopefully, there will be new memories in this place, which has hosted the most beautiful memories of tens of thousands of people from Konya, from the old Grape Bazaar years to when it was the Mevlana Market.'

"WE ARE BRINGING HISTORY AND CIVILIZATION VALLEY IN KONYA"

The Minister Kurum emphasized that they are rebuilding 99 historical squares in 44 different cities with the motto of historical fidelity and respect to the past. He also said that "one of the most important of these recovering projects is New Mevlana Square Project which is carried out for 60 thousand m². When we finish this project, the visitors of Rumi will set on a cultural and historical journey starting from a large square. Our visitors will shop in the Mevlana Market and Altın Market. After that, they will be able to visit the gourmet street which includes the unique tastes of Konya cuisine, the covered bazaar, city museum and the hotels that will be constructed with caravansary architecture. Then, they will also visit Aziziye Mosque and Kapu Mosque and stop by the covered bazaar. The people who love Konya will witness the new form of Şükran neighbourhood. They will spend some time in Alaaddin Hill with its new features and they will drink their tea in Kültür Park. By walking from this point, they will go to Anıt Square and stop by Millet Garden and have a rest. When all these projects are completed, we will bring a culture, history and civilization valley in Konya that you can feel the Seljuks and Ottomans by only walking around".

"ALAADDIN HILL ENVIRONMENTAL FACADE RENOVATION"

The Minister Kurum stated that the environmental facade renovation of all the buildings around Alaaddin Hill, which was the centre of government during Anatolian Seljuks, has been done in accordance with the historic fabric of Konya. He also said that "we have completed 60 independent parts at first. And now I hope we are starting to facade renovation of 40 buildings in the second part of Alaaddin Hill altogether. For both renovations through the provincial bank we have provided 46 million TL support. I hope we will complete the renovations in June this year and present it to our people in Konya and to the future of Konya. I would like to expressly thank to our metropolitan municipality mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay for his efforts with the one thousand years' prays of our ancestors.

"WE HAVE GREAT DREAMS FOR KONYA"

The Minister Kurum told that he has great dreams for Konya. He also said that "We will make Konya the most beautiful city not only in Turkey but also in the world because Konya deserves more than this. We are going to make it a brand city by preserving the Ottoman seal and Seljuks traditions that are hidden in all the streets and roads of Konya. I am grateful to the God for the chance of serving for this city and this spirituality once again. After the speeches, opening and ground breaking ceremonies are performed online with Meram Mayor Mustafa Kavuş for the Millet Garden, with Selçuklu Mayor Ahmet Pekyatırmacı for the Alaaddin Facade renovations, and with Karatay Mayor Hasan Kılca for the projects of Mevlana Market and Altın Market.



Assoc. Dr. Yusuf SAYIN

THE DOOR FROM KONYA TO THE CENTRAL ASIA: THE NAKHCHIVAN CORRIDOR

The brother country Azerbaijan, which declared its final victory in this last November and gave the message that "Karabakh is Azerbaijan" again to the whole world, has liberated the region, which has been under the occupation of Armenia for 30 years, with a result that made us all proud. Undoubtedly the biggest result of this victory is the fact that a problem having remained unsolved for years has been crowned with a permanent agreement, that the region will regain a climate of prosperity and peace, that the peoples living in the region will be able to walk to the future in peace, and the opportunities for our Azerbaijani Turks who had to leave their homes as a result of the Armenian occupation have been created. Additionally, very important gains have been made for our country in terms of foreign policy, geopolitics, regional leadership, and especially in terms of economy.

Thanks to the Nakhchivan corridor opened by Nagorno-Karabakh is recovered from the Armenian occupation, which is the line between Azerbaijan and Nakhchivan as an autonomous republic of Azerbaijan, it has been opened a very critical, strategic, politic, and economic corridor between Turkey and the countries in the Central Asian region. According to the news of Anadolu Agency (AA, 14.11.2020), within the agreement signed between Russia-Azerbaijan-Armenia, a new corridor connecting Azerbaijan and Nakhichevan will be built; Turkey and Azerbaijan will be connected by road for the first time after a full century in the territories of Armenia close to the border with Iran. In addition, according to Article 9 of the Agreement, the obstacles in the economic and transportation connections of the region will be removed; transport and communication networks will be built between Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic and the western regions of Azerbaijan.

The most important effect of the corridor is undoubtedly the strengthening of economic relations with the Central Asia and the integration process will be consolidated at the point of finance and investments. As the official discourse, Turkey, as one of the world's largest 20 economies and the most important actors with the growth figures recorded in the region offers significant investment opportunities in the countries of the region in terms of economic and commercial opportunities. Turkey aims to diversify and increase its cooperation with these countries by such mechanisms as mutual high-level visits, mixed economic commissions, business councils, land transportation commissions, and high-level strategic cooperation councils. Turkey's trade volume with the countries of the region in 2019 was realized 8.5 billion dollars, and over four thousands of Turkish companies operate in the region now (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 12.28.2020).

Considering that Konya broke the all-time export record in 2020 (The Konya News, December '20); it is so predictable this new trade route (the Nakhichevan corridor) from Turkey to the Central Asia will impact positively on foreign trade capacity of Konya city due to the volume of trade of Konya with the region. Considering the cultural, social, and religious ties between the region and Konya, it can be stated that Konya's relations with the Central Asian countries will enter into a positive trend. The Nakhichevan corridor will function simultaneously as 'corridor of Konya-Central Asia'.



The Konya News

Leaders' thoughts about Konya

The President The Justice an Development Party (AK Party) Leader Recep Tayyip Erdoğan;

It is different to live in Konya and to live Konya. Come and live Konya. It is possible to learn the aesthetics of that stonework in Ince Minaret, the delicacy of the lessons that lasted for centuries in the Karatay Madrasa, and the messages of the Seljuk sultans only by living. Such a city suits the grandchildren of Sultan Kılıçaslan, who shows us what can be achieved when fighting with faith and heart. Konya, which is home to many sultans of hearts, is completely different in this sense.



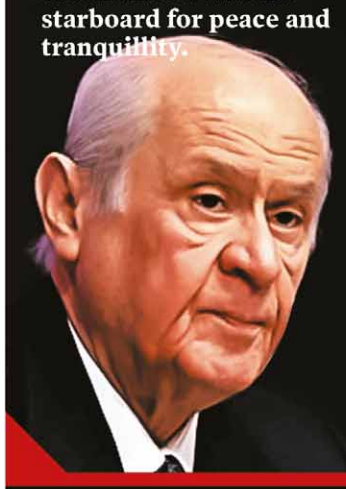
The Future (Gelecek) Party Leader Ahmet Davutoğlu;

With its imbued knowledge and wisdom, Konya constitutes the serenity of our civilization; as the capital of the Seljuk Empire, the touchstone of our state tradition, a "hodja" ("professor") city simultaneously manifesting mind and soul. Anyone who studies under its mentorship attains a high level of mastery in terms of self-understanding.



The Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) Leader Devlet Bahçeli;

Konya is nobility which resists injustice. Konya is a willpower which breaks off relations with unlawfulness. Konya is a shelter for oppressed people and a strong and powerful voice of Turkey. Konya is the home of Rumi. Konya is a history and a memento of ancestors. Konya was the capital city of Seljuks and the honour of Ottomans. If one wants a heart which is able to overcome the carelessness, s/he should wander around Konya. Konya is the home for brotherhood and the starboard for peace and tranquillity.



I am very happy to have served in the past and hope to serve in the future to the ancient city of our Anatolia, Konya which is our country's culture and philosophy stop with Rumi and Nasreddin Hodja, the starting point of humanity with Çatalhöyük, has numerous organized industrial zones and vast agricultural and fertile lands, is the capital of our state tradition and the Seljuks.



The Democracy and Progress (Deva) Party Leader Ali Babacan;

The Republican People's Party (CHP) Leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu;

Konya, where Rumi, who expresses a high value for all humanity, lived and died, is a city of high glory and honor. Mevlana's spirituality continues to nourish Konya's moral climate. Values like Rumi come to the world only once in a thousand years. How happy are my brothers from Konya that they are Rumi's fellow countrymen and neighbours.



The Good Party (IYI) Leader Meral Akşener;

Konya is the central city of both industry and farming. Konya is also the city of entrepreneurship, success and universities. Konya is the city of culture. Konya is the city of Rumi and Sadrettin Konevi. Konya is the capital city of Seljuks. Today, we are proud of Konya, which makes great contributions to our country with its agriculture, industry and universities. It raises its voice and success in every field and gives examples of success around the world.



The Konya News

Founded: 18 December 2020
18 January 2021 Monday • Year: 1 • Volume: 2
Published as: Local and Monthly
Price : $3
On behalf of **DOU COMPANY PUBLISHING**
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Place of Publication:
Fevzi Çakmak Mh. No: 11 10633 Str.
Zipcode: 42050 Karatay / KONYA

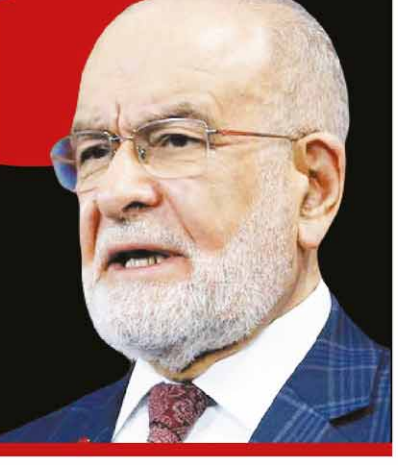
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This newspaper promises to follow the press code.

The Felicity (Saadet) Party Leader Temel Karamollaoğlu;

Our leader Erbakan, started the national vision movement in Konya. In the elections in 1969, he ran as an independent candidate. The people in Konya supported him by voting enough for three deputies. Because of this, Konya has an important role in the national vision movement. We have never forgotten this and we will never forget.

As you know, not only the politics but the economy and the industry are also really important in our movement. Erbakan started the first OIZ and TÜMOSAN's foundations were laid in Konya for this reason. Today, there are 5 organized industrial zones and TÜMOSAN is still ongoing and these are remarkable things to remind Erbakan.



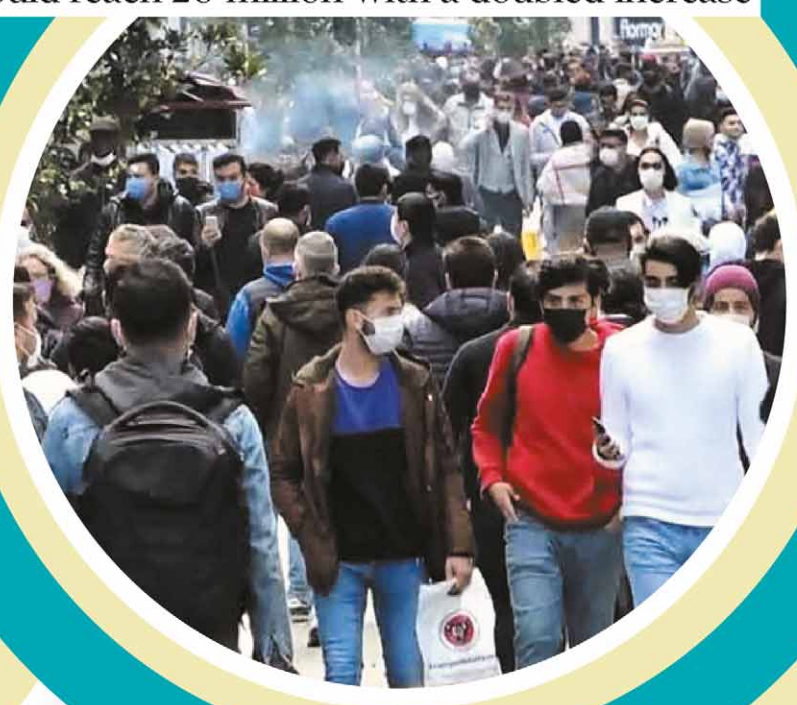


The Konya News

The main agenda in 2021: "Financial Difficulty"?

Financial difficulty, affecting millions of people in Turkey, will continue to be the main issue on the agenda of the people in 2021. Unless the state aid is increased, the number of poor in Turkey could reach 20 million with a doubled increase

Both the high inflation and increasing cost of living, and decreased or completely cut incomes because of thousands of businesses stopping their operating have created a severe loss of income in Turkish society. Millions of people in Turkey will start 2021 with this concern of 'financial difficulty'. According to experts, if new supports do not come into play, the number of poor in the society will double in 2021.



Growing Gap between Turkey and EU

The minimum wage, which was at the level of $ 339 at the beginning of 2020, fell by down to $ 290 in the last days of the year in Turkey. The hunger and poverty line determined by TÜRK-İŞ as the amount that a family of four should spend for the essential needs has increased by %20 last year. Accordingly, by November 2020, the hunger limit for a family of 4 has increased to 2.516 TL and the poverty line to 8 thousand 197 TL.

While inflation exceeding %14 and the continuing depreciation of the Turkish Lira (TL) rapidly increases the number of the poor in the country, the gap about social welfare between Turkey and European Union (EU) countries have increasingly grown. According to the last purchasing power parity announced by the European Union Statistics Office (Eurostat), Turkey remained %41 below the European average at "purchasing power parity". While 27 EU countries' average is 100, the value was 59 for Turkey. Purchasing power parity is considered as a more effective measure for comparing the income levels of different countries.

1.4 million people lost hope of finding job in 2020

Unemployment will continue to be one of the most painful problems in 2021. It seems that the rate of people who look for job for more than a year has been over %25. It means that 'one in four people who lost their job has not been able to find a job for over a year'. On the other hand, according to official figures, experts point out that approximately 1.4 million people have lost their hope of finding a job in the last year. They state that 'As people are looking for a job longer, they tend to give up'. According to the latest data, consumer inflation, which was 10.56 percent in November 2019, exceeded 14 percent in November 2020. In 2021, it is observed that high inflation so the high cost of living will continue to increase. The Central Bank expects an increase in inflation due to the increase in food prices. It seems that, inflation may reach up to %19 by March 2021.

Unemployment and inflation rise in 2021?

Entering 2021, growth, inflation and unemployment expectations have turned negative on Turkey's economy. Turkey's economy had a very tough recession as 9.9 percent in the second quarter of 2020 during the first wave of the pandemic. Getting normal in June, Turkey grew 6.7 percent in the third quarter, and outpaced many countries. However, according to experts, the country's economy, which is expected to grow between 0-1 percent in the whole of 2020, will not be able to meet the government's growth target of 5.8 percent in 2021. On the other hand, millions of citizens turning to bank loans to meet their needs will meet 2021 with a heavy debt, because consumer loans have reached 675 billion TL with an increase of % 46 in 11 months of 2020.

One of the most important agenda topics in 2021 will be unemployment. According to recent data, while Turkey's unemployment rate in September, compared to the same month last year, is 13.8 percent; during the pandemic period, it decreased by 1.1 points to 12.7 percent. The broad-defined unemployment rate, calculated by the participation of those who stopped looking for a job, reached %30. In 2021, with the abolition of practices such as Short Work Allowance (SWA) and a layoff ban, new hundreds of thousands are expected to join the ranks of the unemployed. The number of people who have lost hope of finding a job in the new-year is increasing day by day.

"Electricity, water and natural gas taxes should not be collected for 6 months"

Along with the employees and the unemployed, hundreds of thousands of tradesmen who had to close their workplaces due to the pandemic or suffer heavy income losses are preparing to struggle to survive in 2021. In Turkey, The president of Turkey Tradesmen and Artisans Confederation (TESK) which represents 1.8 million artisans and craftsmen, Bendevi Palandöken says that in order to prevent both tradesmen and the citizens from bankruptcy, the tax applied to the electricity, water and gas bill should be abandoned for 6 months.





The Change in Employment in the Recent Year (million)



"The number of poor might double"

According to the economists who evaluated the possible problems that may be experienced in the economy in 2021, Turkey is on a very important edge. It is stated that the society is going through a rapid impoverishment period during the pandemic. Currently, Turkey is standing in a bad place in OECD countries with approximately 14 percent poverty rate. With the impact of the pandemic, it is predicted that this rate may rise up to 25 percent. This means that the number of the poor, which is about 11 million, will nearly double.



Dr. Ömer KAVRAR

The economic consequences of the coronavirus pandemic and its reflection on taxes

The world has undergone a dramatic change since early 2020. The coronavirus pandemic, which originated from Wuhan city of China and spread to the world, brought the health systems of countries to the point of paralysis. This situation has also had far-reaching economic repercussions and continues to do so. Some sectors, such as hospitality, tourism and travel, have been devastated. Many businesses had to reevaluate the way they carry out their business and had to reinvest. Globally, all sectors and every single player in the economy, from the smallest to the largest enterprises, were heavily affected by the pandemic.

As we leave the year 2020 behind, we still face enormous challenges due to the effects of Covid-19 on the economy and health sector. In the face of the pandemic, many governments around the world have chosen to sacrifice their economies by closing their borders to protect the lives of their citizens. Throughout the world, many businesses have been hit financially by governments' responses to Covid-19, and perhaps most will not be able to survive these shutdowns.

Worldwide, governments have had to take action with various fiscal stimulus measures to reduce the devastating economic effects of Covid-19. From time to time, various public rhetoric and pressure on how Covid-19-related fiscal stimulus should be used, left governments in a difficult situation after the closing of the borders of the countries. There is no doubt that increasing taxes to finance the cost of economic stimulus measures is and will be an option government will consider. However, the last thing that the surviving businesses need will be the additional burden of rising taxes! Moreover, another reflection of rising taxes on consumption or personal income will be on household spending.

Unfortunately, there is no quick fix and recovery solution for economies. However, the measures to be taken need to be balanced by taking into account the effects on entrepreneurs and households. On the other hand, this precautionary measure will require a combination of increasing government revenue, limiting government spending, and economic growth. In short, governments should aim to increase tax revenues by ensuring business profitability and increased employment, and if possible, without the heavy burden of increased taxes on economies and residents in the foreseeable future.

Authorities should consider what they can do to help businesses recover, and encourage them to start new businesses and succeed. This should include providing support to encourage businesses to use digital technology more effectively and enter new markets through online sales, and help drive trade in local and global markets. Productivity-enhancing reforms are critical in this respect. It is also necessary to look at how taxation is made, how the workforce is trained for the future, and how the system of bureaucratic relations hinders growth and innovation.

Despite the fact that the danger is still far from over, a great effort is being made to bring the economy back to its feet with the measures taken almost by the whole of society. In the post-pandemic period, the way to be a strong and competitive country in the global economy is to accept the debt burden brought by this pandemic and to produce effective policies to overcome it. In order not to reflect the financial consequences of the pandemic to future generations, it is necessary to implement structural reforms as soon as possible. Whichever policy path governments choose, the path for the economy to return to the old normal will not be fast or straight.

Business World calls for "Immediate Reform"

A demand of the business world is to implement fundamental structural reforms in the economy as soon as possible. The president of the largest organization of Turkey's business world, Turkey Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (short for TOBB in Turkish) and the vice president of European Chamber of Commerce and Industry Association (EUROCHAMBRES) Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu stated that 'Economic management should focus on reforms, as it has made public. We should design a program that will ensure that we are ready for the post-epidemic period and will give confidence to investors'.

Pointing out that the world economy is experiencing its worst time since the 2009 global crisis; the TOBB President expressed the following views. By implementing structural reforms, we can turn 2021 into a new beginning. Repairing the damages in the economy will take time, of course, but serious and decisive steps to be taken in this direction will increase hopes for the future.



The Konya News



President Erdoğan attended to the International Investment Summit. Speaking at the summit, President Erdoğan gave a message and said "We have launched a new wave of reforms. Come and experience Turkish hospitality. I tell investors across the world"

President Erdoğan calls out: We are ready!



Mustafa AKIŞ
Chief advisor of the President
TRT Board Member

Konya is the hope...!

Konya is the cradle of ancient civilizations, which I call the city where I was proud to be always in service, where I was born and filled with civilization. It is very pleasing for us to see Konya develop and become popular in every field.

In this sense, we congratulate The Konya News, which started its publication life in this city in foreign language. Every step taken in the name of carrying the message of the city, which has been enshrined and consolidated over the centuries, which carries out the good of all world humanity, to a universal dimension also excites us.

Konya has broken its shell in the last 18 years and pioneered resurrection, awakening and breakthrough in every field, in dignity befitting the successor of Konya Seljuk Civilization.

With negative, mostly false news, dirty perception management, all kinds of defamation and disinformation made on the image of Konya from dark sides, hits the admirable stance of the people of Konya living in these lands, which continues to produce value despite everything.

For 18 years, thanks to our President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's view of the city and residents, Konya has flourished in every field and has supported the development of the country in economy, tourism, industry, trade, culture and sports.

In this sense, Konya is at the top of our cities, which took the lion's share of state investments in the 18-year AK Party rule.

It is seen that we broke the records of the history of the Republic in the export figures for 2020 shared by the authorities of the Chambers of Industry and Commerce in Konya. During the difficult pandemic period, while our country is going through economic difficulties, we sincerely thank all our industrialists who continue to produce with determination, diligence, with great faith, and give their country and state a shoulder by producing despite everything.

Konya is the capital of faith, culture, civilization, peace and tolerance. In this sense, on behalf of people of Konya, we would like to thank to especially our President and everyone who contribute, support, serve and create value. Our city will continue to produce in every field, to add value and to be hope for all oppressed geographies in the most difficult times. In this respect, Konya has always been a city that guides all geographies looking for a way through all kinds of difficulties and darkness, like a lighthouse. Rumi, whose message has spread from Konya to the world, has been a light from this city with his ideas for humanity since his time and illuminated the road even in the darkest ages. Konya is a hope city.

President Erdoğan sent a video message to the virtually-held International Investment Summit by the International Investors Association (YASED). Erdoğan stated that YASED, on the 40th anniversary of its establishment, is filling a big gap in experienced human resources and the global relation web with its strong member profile. Erdoğan also stated that he believes that YASED will continue its constructive role, as in the past, on the path to our ideal of great and strong Turkey. Erdoğan uttered that they will continue to support every effort that will ensure the technological transformation of our country and increase its export capacity. He added that coronavirus pandemic, which affected our country as well as the whole world, continued to spread in waves. President Erdoğan said: "We see that countries such as Turkey, which have a strong health infrastructure and a solid security system, manage the destructive effects of the pandemic more easily."

"WE STAND CLEAR OF STEPS WITH HEAVY TOLLS"

President Erdoğan said: "while on the one hand, we strengthen our health care system with new hospitals, on the other, we support our entrepreneurs, tradesmen and disadvantaged groups with the Economic Stability Shield and Social Protection Shield Packages." President Erdoğan also stated that "not only do we avoid the slightest compromise to our nation's health, but we also stand clear of thoughtless measures that would have a heavy toll on our nation. Although many countries are experiencing economic stagnation as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Turkish economy is engaged in a successful recovery period. We consider the strong growth rate that we achieved in the third quarter to be a testament to the success of our country in this period. The pandemic, which upset the world's balances, opened new windows of opportunity for countries with high production capacity, such as Turkey. With its geographical location, strong infrastructure and resistance to shocks, Turkey is one of the most advantageous countries in evaluating these opportunities. I believe that our country offers very important advantages, especially for international investors looking for an alternative to the Asia-centred production network."

"WE OWE TO THE STEPS IN DEMOCRACY AND THE LAW"

President Erdoğan drew attention that "according to purchasing power parity, we are the 13th largest country in the world and the 7th largest in the OECD. We are the 6th most visited country in the world, hosting more than 50 million visitors every year." He emphasized that in the World Bank's 2020 Ease of Doing Business Index rating, we have progresses 27 steps, only in the last two years. He also uttered that "in a period when direct investment is declining all over the world, we have become one of the rare countries that have increased its investment. In 2018, when global direct investments declined by 12%, direct investments coming to our country increased by 17.3% and exceeded 13 billion dollars. We see the direct investment of 220 billion dollars that we have attracted since 2002 as a manifestation of the trust of international entrepreneurs in Turkey. We owe all the gains we have made in the last 18 years in the economy, trade and investment to the steps we have taken in democracy and the law. The secret of our success is to support growth and development with democracy, to strengthen political trust and stability by empowering the state of law. Despite all the attacks we have been subjected to, we have never given up on the ideal of a stronger, more prosperous, more democratic Turkey."

"WE WISH TO MANAGE THE PROCESS ON THE BROADEST GROUND"

President Erdoğan stated that "we have engaged the civil society, motivated our public institutions and our bureaucracy and held consultation meetings." He also made evaluations that "we have exerted great efforts to solve the deadlocks. In the end, we have introduced Turkey to the biggest democracy and development move in the history of the Republic. Anyone who put their hands on their hearts today could see that Turkey was in a place which was unprecedented compared to 18 years ago. Of course, we do not find the place we have reached to be sufficient and we continue our struggle by saying: always reviving ourselves, whoever would get weary of us. For this purpose, we have initiated efforts for a new reform in law, democracy and economy in our country. We wish to manage this process on the broadest ground and with the most comprehensive consensus without excluding anyone. Our doors are open to everyone who has something to say, an idea or constructive criticism for Turkey's development and growth. Our country will be able to reach its goals for 2023 only with the support of 83 million. It is compulsory that 83 million be one and together and walk into the future together for a strong economy and for the bread on our table to grow even more.

"WE DO NOT SEE INTERNATIONAL ENTREPRENEURS AS FOREIGN INVESTORS"

President Erdoğan underscored that "we are fully aware of the critical role that international direct investment plays in Turkey's achievement of its objectives." He called out investors and said that "we are determined to make our country a centre of attraction for domestic and international investors with low risk, high confidence and satisfactory earnings. In the upcoming period, we will further improve the investment environment with additional reforms in this area. I would like to underscore and state that we had never seen and never would see international entrepreneurs as 'foreign' investors. Whichever opportunity we provide for our people, we provide them for all entrepreneurs who rely on Turkey and who trust the investment environment in Turkey. From the defence industry to food and from the digital economy to the health care sector, we promote the investments with high added value that will lead to Turkey's technological transformation. I invite the investors all around the world by saying come and see Turkish hospitality. I would like you to know that our relevant ministries and the Investment Office of the Presidency are ready to provide you with all the necessary support."

Konya's defense industry exports increased 144%

In the 11th month of 2020, the exports of Konya in the field of defense industry increased by 144 percent compared to the same period of the previous year and it exceeded 120 million dollars

Konya exports were observed to increase over the average of Turkey in recent years. Konya's $ 700 million export increased over $2 billion in the last 10 years. Konya increased its exports by 6% in the first 11 months of this year. At the end of the year, it is expected to be a city that can increase its exports despite all the difficult conditions. Konya will reach 2.2 billion dollars of export. Defense industry draws attention as being one of the prominent sectors in exports.



EXPORT IN THE DEFENSE INDUSTRY INCREASED TO OVER 120 MILLION DOLLARS FROM 51 MILLION DOLLARS

Comparing the last year and the 11 months of 2020; defense industry exports increased from 51 million dollars to 120 million dollars. This means an export increase of 144% as of the first 11 months. Now, Konya has become one of the most important cities in Turkey's defense industry export case.

KONYA DRAWS THE ATTENTION WITH ITS AUTOMOTIVE SPARE PARTS EXPORT

When it comes to exports in Konya, food and agricultural products come to mind first, but automotive spare parts constitute the 1st or 2nd item which Konya exports the most in the last 10 years. Machinery and automotive spare parts exports are very close to each other. Much more exports took place in the 11-month period of 2020 compared to last year. There is a 22% increase in automotive spare parts exports compared to last year.

Konya chose production, investment and export in 2020



December council meeting was held. KCI held the last assembly meeting of 2020 online under the chairmanship of Parliament Speaker Tahir Büyükhelvacıgil. Konya Chamber of Industry President Memiş Kütükcü, who gave information to the assembly members about the one-year activities of Konya Chamber of Industry, stated that 'The year 2020 has been a challenging year for our country, all segments of society and the world. The pandemic has changed our habits. However, as the business world, I think we have learned to manage the pandemic process and even managed to open new opportunities in some sectors. In 11 months of 2020, despite all the adverse conditions of the pandemic, we made an export approaching $ 2 billion. We are preparing for a new export record, exceeding the 2019 export figure. We see with great pleasure that the number of exporter companies in our city has reached 3.067 as of November 2020. The progress of the investments in our Konya Organized Industrial Zone (OIZ) and in the various industrial sites of our city makes us more hopeful for the future. All these show that our industrialists maintain their desire to produce, invest and export and create employment despite all negative conditions.'

International Film Plateaus from TRT to Konya



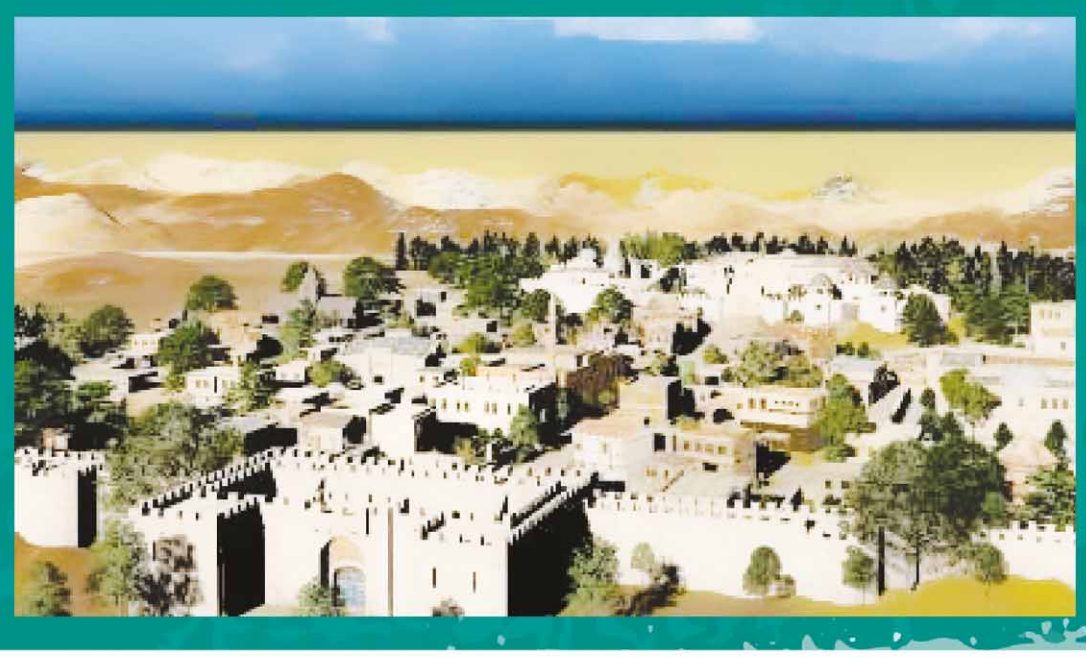
Speaking at the signing ceremony in the Selcuklu Congress Center, Konya Metropolitan Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay said that 'They are celebrating the 923th Anniversary of Konya's being the capital city (of Seljuks) this year, and they have implemented important services in order to be worthy of our ancestors who wrote the resurrection epic of Anatolia'. Stating that the International Konya Film Plateau will play an important role in promoting the city and transferring it to future generations, Mayor Altay said, 'The plateau we will implement with TRT as the Metropolitan Municipality and Meram Municipality will tell the great names of our civilization to both Turkish and world audiences. 390 thousand m2 of area was allocated to TRT by our Ministry of Environment and Urbanization in our Karahüyük province within the borders of our Meram District for this project that will make a worldwide impact. At first, the 13th century city of Konya will be built on an area of 50 decares on the plateau. The first project to be shot on the plateau will be a series of films about Rumi's life'.

The protocol of "TRT International Konya Film Plateaus" to be built in Meram Karahüyük District has been signed by Konya Metropolitan Municipality, Meram Municipality, and Turkey Radio and Television Corporation (TRT)



Reminding that the shooting of a Rumi movie is a topic that has been on the agenda of Konya for a long time and is highly consulted Mayor Altay said that 'Thanks to God we had the chance to realize this project. With the favor of Rumi, we are not just shooting the movie; we will start a very important plateau that will make a great contribution to the promotion of Konya and where other historical productions will be made. I hope it will bring good luck to our city'. Via this plateau, tourists will have the chance to see the miniature form of the real structures and the social life of people who lived in Konya, the capital city of Seljuk State, in the 13th century, thus our city will have a significant contribution to tourism. All the films to be made on this stage will be the mirror of Konya, our country's history and our imagination of civilization'.

The Mayor of Meram Municipality, Mustafa Kavuş stated that, 'The film plateau that will come to life with this agreement will add great value to Konya and Meram. Both the quality and the size of the investment excite all Meram. The gastronomic places in the Dutlu Street, Turkey's second largest Turkish-Islamic MiniaTurc park, the Millet Garden and the Film Plateau will be a very serious tourist zone for both our city and for domestic and foreign visitors. I am grateful to each institution which brought this investment to Konya and Meram District. We are proud to support this investment as being a part of this historical mission. TRT General Manager İbrahim Eren pointed out that 'Konya, which has an exceptional importance in Turkish-Islamic History, has hosted a great project to transmit its thousand-year-old, rich seam of information to the new generation. After the speeches, TRT International Konya Film Plateau protocol was signed by Konya Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Uğur İbrahim Altay, Meram Municipality Mayor Mustafa Kavuş and TRT General Manager İbrahim Eren. While the first part of TRT International Konya Film Plateau is planned to be completed in April 2021; the opening of the entire area is aimed at the end of 2023.



Konya will be the center of lavender

1 million 200 thousand lavender seedlings distributed to farmers by Konya Metropolitan Municipality were brought together with the soil

According to the statement made by Konya Metropolitan Municipality; In order to encourage the cultivation of alternative crops in rural areas in Konya and to support the farmer, lavender will now be grown on lands with low rainfall and no irrigation.

There are approximately 12 thousand decares of lavender production area in Turkey by 2020. With this support, planting 720000 m² of land is of great importance both in terms of utilizing barren lands and supporting lavender production.

Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality Uğur İbrahim Altay, stated that they are working in order to make Güneysınır district of Konya as the center of lavender. He uttered that "The total cost of lavender seedlings we distribute to our citizens in Güneysınır is 1.7 million Turkish lira. Thus, we aim to develop the tourism of the district with the production of lavender oil, lavender flower and honey with high added value. We want to make an additional profit to our farmers with lavender production, especially in regions with little rainfall and in areas that cannot be irrigated. Altay reminded that together with the Konya Plain Project (KOP) Regional Development Administration a distillation center was built at a cost of 1.8 million TL in Güneysınır. Altay emphasized that this system will start operating in the spring of 2021. Konya Metropolitan Municipality has also brought a lavender seedling planting machine to Güneysınır district where lavender is grown. In addition, a joint lavender application garden was established in an area of 150 thousand m² by Güneysınır Municipality to welcome the visitors.





Konya Plain: The insurance of agricultural production in Turkey

Turkey's granary Konya Plain, ranks at the top in the country with cereals, pulses and sugar beet as well as meat and dairy production. The plain has the capacity to feed 6 times its population with its agricultural production. Konya Plain, which is the leader in the country with its meat and milk production as well as cereals, pulses and sugar beets, meets %15 of the production in 8 items in basic food. New type of COVID-19 outbreak increases the strategic importance of agricultural production and food. In the city, which has the capacity to feed 6 times its population with its agricultural production, sector stakeholders stated that there will be no problem in agricultural production, of which importance has increased even more during the pandemic process. Konya Commodity Exchange Chairman Hüseyin Çevik said that plant production is done in 2.2 million hectares of area in Konya. According to the information provided by Çevik, Konya ranks first in the supply of many products considered as the basis of food. The city contributes greatly to the economy of the country with the production of cereals, pulses, sugar beets, meat and milk. Necessary measures were taken to prevent production and trade from stopping in the Konya Plain in order to avoid problems in the coronavirus process.





"If we stop the export, we have enough wheat and food for 83 million people"

Konya Commodity Exchange Chairman Çevik said, 'As the Stock Exchange, we took measures to sell the producer's goods at their value. Every effort has been made to ensure that nutrition and food supply are not interrupted. Problems such as the empty shelves in markets in some countries were not experienced in our country. There is 3 to 6 percent increase in wheat cultivation. The wheat produced in Turkey meets the consumption. We have enough wheat, food and everything for 83 million if you stop the export.



Konya is fighting against drought

With Turkey battling drought stemming from climate change, official data reveals that about three-quarters of the total water consumed in the country is used for irrigation and that there is a water loss of 35-60 percent due to the surface irrigation method.

Farmers had been impacted by the drought with a dramatic reduction in the grain harvest, namely in the central province of Konya, the northwestern province of Edirne and Izmir.

Konya has a vast expanse of farmlands, at around 2.2 million hectares, and about 2.5 million tons of grain are grown every year. Though the province has an arid climate, it has become drier in recent years, partly due to climate change.

Officials in Turkey have raised concerns due to the lack of rainfall since the last summer, which has led to low water levels in dams, saying that there could be a scarcity of drinking water, and agriculture practices could get affected.

According to the data obtained from the Environment and Urbanization Ministry, nearly 74 percent of the total water consumed in the country is used for irrigation and some 35-60 percent water loss occurs in surface irrigation method.



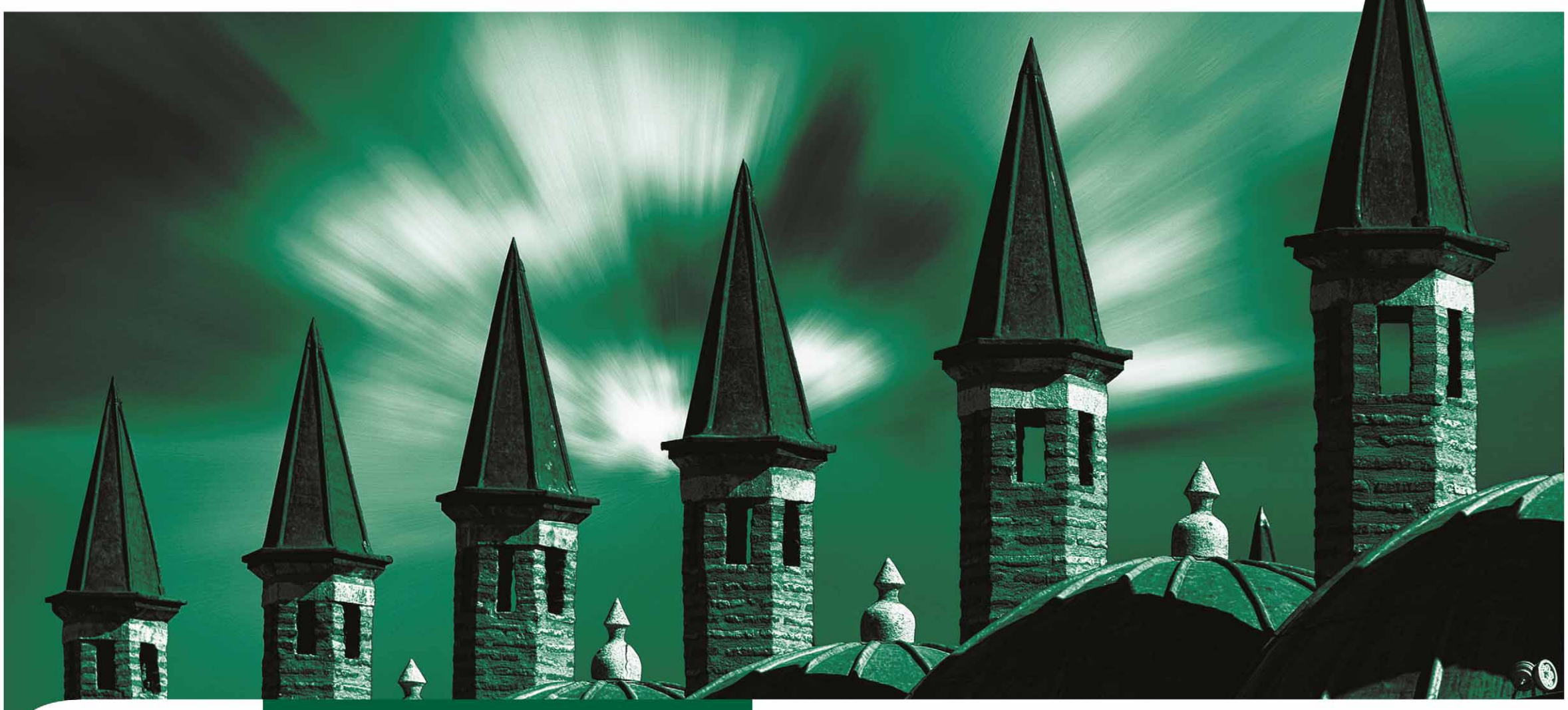
In order to prevent wastage of water, it is recommended to switch to sprinkler or drip irrigation method, which reduces water loss up to 5 percent. While parks and gardens stand out among the places where water should be saved and used judiciously, experts suggest that for irrigation practices, the morning or afternoon hours should be preferred as the rate of evaporation is low. According to the Ministry's data, watering plants in the morning or evening saves up to 112 liters of water each time while cleaning a parking lot with a broom alone instead of using water saves up to 675 liters of water.

Watering a lawn one or two times a week saves 3,780 liters of water, and the sprinkler leakage checks save 2,250 liters of water per month.

HOUSEHOLD WATER CONSUMPTION

Meanwhile, the data reveals that some 35 percent of the water consumed in homes is used in bathrooms and nearly 30 percent in toilets, while the proportion of water used for cooking and drinking is only 10 percent.

Since the water storage capacity of the classic reservoir of toilets is 16 liters, a family of four consumes 3,840 liters of water used in toilets per month. To leave the tap on while brushing teeth is another contributing factor to wasting water.



Rumi commemorated at ‘Şeb-i Arus’ ceremonies

Rumi commemorated on his 747th death anniversary at Şeb-i Arus ceremonies in Konya

Chairman of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey Mustafa Şentop, Culture and Tourism Minister Mehmet Nuri Ersoy attended the ceremony held without audience due to the pandemic.

Rumi was born on 30 September, 1207 in Balkh city of Khorasan, which is within the borders of Afghanistan today, and he passed away in Konya, on 17 December 1273. Rumi considered the day of death as rebirth, reaching his loved one, that is, the God. In Mevleviyeh, the day Rumi died was accepted as the ‘Seb-i Arus’, in which he called the day of his death as ‘Seb-i Arus’, meaning ‘wedding night’. On the anniversary of Rumi’s death, “Reunion” (meeting with a lover) ceremonies are held.

Rumi’s 747th Reunion Anniversary International Commemoration Ceremonies started at the Mevlana Museum with the ‘Gülbank’ prayer at the cist of Rumi this year, and then the whirling ceremony was held at the Mevlana Culture Center. Chairman of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey Mustafa Şentop, Culture and Tourism Minister Mehmet Nuri Ersoy, Konya Governor Vahdettin Özkan and Rumi’s 22nd generation granddaughter Esin Çelebi Bayru attended the ceremony, which was held without audience and was limited to 1 hour due to the pandemic. The program, followed by 35 foreign media employees, was broadcast live on television channels and social media accounts of the Culture and Tourism Provincial Directorate.

MINISTER ERSOY: THERE IS NO DESPAIR IN OUR VALUES

Culture and Tourism Minister Mehmet Nuri Ersoy said that ‘Rumi left us a unique life as a heritage. When we look at the world today, we see that many people meet evil at the hands of those who say they bring goodness to them. Call it as democracy, freedom or civilization; we have learned that bad intentions can hide behind good words both in the past and today. So, seeking goodness in the right place in the right way and in the right people is also a virtue. Moreover, while many examples of wrong and right stand before us with their beginning and end, we have to take the responsibility of the wrong way we have entered. While we make the choice, we cannot blame anyone else for the result. For this reason, we turn our faces to Rumi. We try to understand, explain and live his doctrines. While there is a guide who has sought and found good among ourselves and made countless people find it, there is no more natural and true than referring to it. Let’s not forget that doing wrong is only human. We are human; we make mistakes one way or another. However, there is no despair in our values. Every time we come to this lodge we know that the door is always open as long as we do not lock our hearts, let’s not hesitate to enter.’

WHIRLING PERFORMANCE AT ŞEB-İ ARUS CEREMONY

After the protocol speeches, Konya Turkish Sufi Music Ensemble, affiliated with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, performed a whirling show. The whirling, which was watched with great interest by the guests, was performed by whirling dervishes, who are considered to be ‘Mevlevi dervishes’. Sema is the disappearance of a human being by turning to the truth, exalting with reason and love, leaving his soul, and returning to his servitude as a perfect human being who has reached maturity.

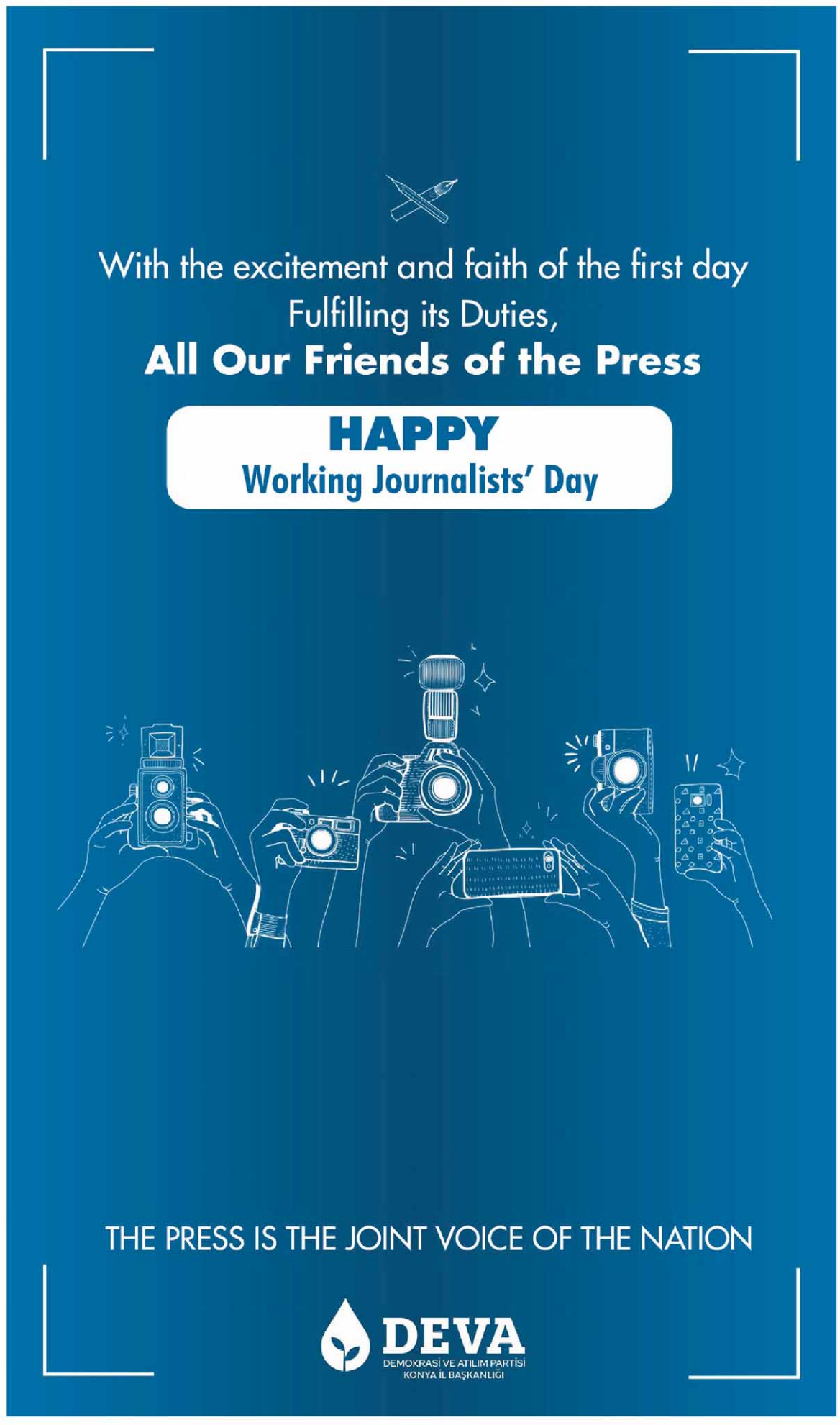
Restoration of Nasreddin Hodja’s House was completed



The restoration of Nasreddin Hodja’s House was completed. The house is in the Nasreddin Hodja World Humour Village. The humour village is a project prepared by Akşehir Municipality and has been carried out by KOP (Konya plains project regional development administration).

Nasreddin Hodja who was the hero of humour in Anatolia for centuries is going to be alive with the humour village project in Akşehir where he lived and died.

Salih Akkaya, the mayor of Akşehir, stated that in this house some materials belong to Hodja’s era and realistic silicon statues of 18 anecdotes are going to be exhibited. Akkaya informed us about the works and said that “Nowadays the works of realistic silicon statues are going on. When they are completed, in the house some materials belong to Hodja’s era and realistic silicon statues of 18 anecdotes are going to be exhibited. Moreover, through some information boards Hodja’s anecdotes will be told. In the garden there will be recreation areas, walking trails and pools for visitors to have a rest. Next summer, the house of Nasreddin Hodja will be open for our fellow visitors and foreign visitors.



The Konya News

Hollywood's love for Rumi

Rumi, whose poems sold more than 2 million in the USA, is becoming more and more popular among Hollywood stars such that the famous singer Beyonce named one of her twins Rumi



Beyonce



Stephen Joel Brown



Demi Moore

Madonna, Chris Martin, Pink and Beyonce at last have revealed their love for Rumi. It has been voiced that Rumi, whose poems sold more than 2 million in the USA, is glamorizing the celebrities with his deepness. Chris Martin, the soloist of the famous band Coldplay told that he held on to life with "The Guest House" one of the poems of Rumi. He said that he got over the difficulties of his divorce from the actress Gwyneth Paltrow with Rumi and he used these beautiful lyrics in his album.

"This being human is a guest house.
Every morning a new arrival.
A joy, a depression, a meanness,
Some momentary awareness comes,
As an unexpected visitor.
Welcome and entertain them all!"

Another famous singer Pink shared the words "I was dead. I came alive. I was tears. I became laughter. Love's wealth arrived. And I became everlasting fortune" from Rumi on Instagram under a photo with her children. Madonna, the queen of pop music, also read Rumi's poems many times. Lastly, famous singer Beyonce named one of her twins Rumi and Rumi again came up to agenda in the world press. Rumi's life which started in Afghanistan and ended in Turkey was handled widely in different broadcasting organisations such as New York Times, BBC, The Guardian and CNN. In New Yorker magazine in an article it is said that "the tomb of Rumi who is a legend from the 13th century is in Konya and hosts millions of visitors every year. He is famous all over the world with his 3 thousand poems full of love that he wrote during his life from the age of 37-he met Şemsi Tebrisi- to the age of 67-he died-. And finally Beyonce was glamorized by his deepness, too. Times magazine reminded that they had reported Rumi as news in 1972 and had added him in the list of "the most effective people in history" in 1999. They also commented that "Beyonce and Jay Z also follow Rumi".

Actually, the curiosity for Rumi in the western world dates back to very old times. The Biography of Rumi was written by different famous writers for many times and his poems were translated into at least 23 different languages. His bestseller poems have sold out more than 2 million in the USA.

AN INCREASE AFTER SEPTEMBER 11

According to the information in the newspaper "Kelebek, Hürriyet", the interest for Rumi's poems which started with Madonna and Demi Moore started to influence other celebrities, too.

The philosophy of Rumi which states "the people who are not speaking the same language but sharing the same feelings can get on well with" has influenced the celebrities in Hollywood. Especially, after the attacks on September 11, many celebrities tended to mystic areas and interested in Rumi's philosophy. The effect of Rumi has started with the album in which Madonna and Demi Moore read Rumi's poems in English.

THE CELEBRITIES IN THE ALBUM "RUMI"

American, originally Indian, Dr. Deepak Chopra prepared a music album in 1998 named "A Gift of Love". The album included Goldie Hawn, Martin Sheen, Debra Winger and Blythe Danner besides Madonna and Moore. Since then, the books of Rumi in English have been sold more and more and especially after the September 11 the interest in Rumi among intellectuals has been increasing.

THE PRODUCER OF "GLADIATOR" IS MAKING A MOVIE OF RUMI'S LIFE

Rumi's life story is going to be a plot of a Hollywood movie. According to the Guardian, preparations were started to shoot the movie of the life of Rumi who is a worldwide known poet, philosopher and sufi lived in the 13th century. The scenario of this huge project will be written by David Franzoni. One of the producers Stephen Joel Brown explained that they want to introduce the culture of sufi to the west via cinema.

If Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert Downey Jr. accept the roles, they will be acting as Rumi and Şems-i Tebrizi in the new film.

Franzoni said that "It is worth exploring the life of these kinds of important characters. Besides, Rumi has been really popular in the USA nowadays. Brown and Franzoni came to Istanbul and they also visited Konya for the preparations of the movie. They also announced the surprises of the movie. They said that "We want Leonardo DiCaprio to act as Rumi and Robert Downey Jr. to act as Şems-i Tebrizi."

A QUOTE BY RUMI IS ON THE ARM OF HOLLYWOOD STAR BRAD PITT

Brad Pitt from the USA is known as a tattoo lover and in some photos taken in New Orleans the tattoo under his arm got attention. In this tattoo a quote "Out beyond ideas of wrong doing and right doing, there is a field. I'll meet you there" by Rumi is written.

Oscar awarded actress Hilary Swank has also joined this trend of sharing quotes by Rumi. Swank, shared this quote "Lovers don't finally meet somewhere. They're in each other all along" by Rumi.



Leonardo DiCaprio



Madonna



Chris Martin



Gwyneth Paltrow



Pink



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Selçuklu Congress Center, with a world-class technological infrastructure, experienced staff and high quality service it offers to visitors, is an international Congress and Organization center.

The Selçuklu Congress Center consists of auditorium saloons, 1400 m² Ballroom and 11 different sized meeting halls at two different capacities and has a usage area of 35.000 m². With 4-storey closed car park and open car park for 950 cars, it hosts all kinds of scientific, social and cultural events such as national and international congresses, conferences, symposiums, company meetings, fairs, exhibitions, musicals, plays, concerts and movie premiers.

With the newest and unique architectural design of Turkey, the foyer areas spread out on four sides in a total of 10.000 m² in open, half-open and closed areas and the center has an infrastructure that can host different activities such as cocktails, exhibitions and launches. Anatolian Auditorium, the largest hall of Selçuklu Congress Center, has an area of 2.500 m² with a capacity of hosting up to 2.000 people. As Anatolian Auditorium has a balcony and a useful seating arrangement, it is possible that important events can be held with maximum attendance. There are large foyer areas that can be used before and during the event on the auditorium floor. They host cocktails and coffee-breaks and also can be used as exhibition area in the events. Backstage and dressing rooms have camera systems that can watch the stage and foyer areas.

Konya Auditorium, which has natural acoustic feature with 1700 m2 area and maximum capacity of 880 people, is another hall of the center. The stage with its orchestra pit of 75 m2 and a wide backstage area hosts many events.

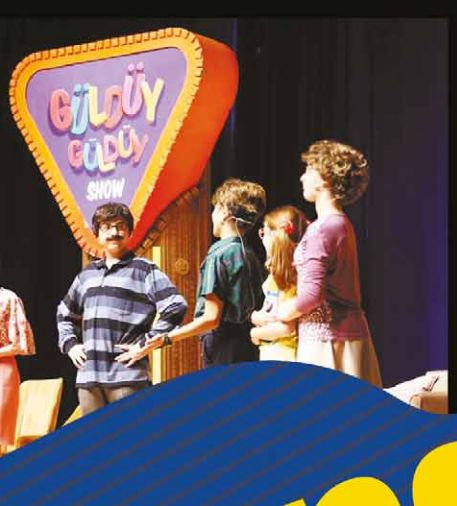
By using abat-voix tiles, it is aimed to have the audiences reach a total sensorial and visual pleasure. There are large foyer areas that can be used before and during the events on the auditorium floors. Spacious and modern foyer areas, which have a direct access to Anatolian Auditorium foyer, offer unique opportunities for cocktails, exhibitions and coffee breaks.

The Kubad Abad Ballroom has a total area of 1,400 square meters and a maximum capacity of 1,850 people. Getting its name from Anatolian Seljuk palace structure Kubad Abad Palace Complex which has survived until today and was built by Anatolian Seljuk Sultan Alaeddin Keykubad I as a summer palace, the hall is located on the ground floor of the Selçuklu Congress Center. It has 1.400 m2 of area and capacity of 1.850 people. It hosts so many organizations from company meetings, year - end events, product launches, gala dinners, graduation balls to wedding organizations. The fact that the hall can be divided into three separate areas with soundproof separators ensures that your events can be conducted simultaneously in different areas. Kubad Abad Ballroom, which gets sun light, is used for gala dinners of meetings and congresses, exhibitions and fairs.











congress center in Turkey

With the newest and unique architectural design of Turkey, the foyer areas spread out on four sides in a total of 10.000 m² in open, half-open and closed areas; have an infrastructure that can host different activities such as cocktails, exhibitions and launches





As it's understood from the name, it provides you to further socialize with the performing artists with whom you are already close. The experience of being almost a part of the stage is offered to you thanks to the design of the Room Theatre and the atmosphere.

The room theatre that is also a multi-purpose hall which you can use for seminar and company meetings is located in the floor -2 of the Selçuklu Congress Center. Special performances are displayed based on fine details and dialogues for only 72 audiences. The room theatre, which is also a multi-purpose hall that you can use for seminar and company meetings, is located on the floor -2 of the Selçuklu Congress Center.

The cinema hall is designed in such a way that it is one of the bests which enables to display collectively and to eliminate the factors that disturb the audiences. It is also a multi-purpose that can be used for seminars and company meetings. The hall is also designed to offer audial and visual elements to the guests of company meetings and education seminars in the best way and located on the ground floor of the Selçuklu Congress Center.

In Selçuklu Congress Center, exhibition and Foyer Areas on the 1, -1, -2 and 0 floors cover an area of 10.000 m2. All floors of the Congress Center have spacious foyer areas that can be used before and during the events. The spacious and modern foyer areas, which have direct access to the Anatolian Auditorium, Konya Auditorium and Kubad Abad Ballroom foyer area, offers an unique opportunity for fairs, cocktails, exhibitions and coffee breaks.





SELÇUKLU BELEDİYESİ · KONYA · 1989

SELÇUKLU MUNICIPALITY

SELCUKLU CONGRESS CENTER

HÜYÜK AGRICULTURE and YOUTH CAMP is being constructed by traditional building material 'ADOBE'

This project is carried out by the Hüyük Municipality under the leadership of the Ministry of Youth and Sports in Konya province, Hüyük district, Çavuş neighborhood. The project area is located in the east of the village of Sonsuz Şükran (The Village of Endless Gratitude), which is among the few examples in Turkey

In the project located on a sloping land, it is envisaged to use different plans in order to have a natural appearance of the project area and in this context, the project plans have been prepared in four different plan types. Symmetry and repetition are avoided in the layout of the plan types. It was placed in a way to create a view of the pond by taking advantage of the elevations in the field.



Sinem Tuğçe ŞAHİN
STD Architecture

Traditional building materials are grouped as stone, soil (adobe) and wood with their influence on regional and climatic data.

These materials are produced with less energy and the structures are not harmful to the environment,

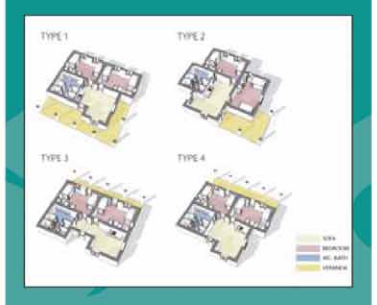
Natural resources can be used,

Easily manufacture,

Recyclable,

Suitable for user's comfort,

Create healthier habitats



The adobe material used has the following advantages,

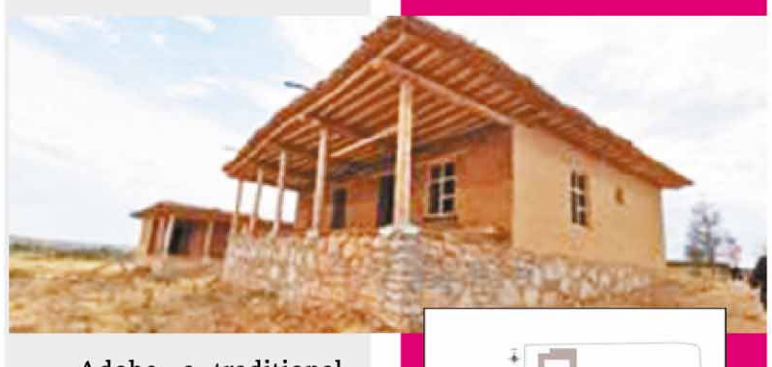
It requires less energy in its construction and use,

Not harmful to nature and the environment,

Recyclable,

Provides natural ventilation due to its structural characteristics,

Provides the healthiest living environment for its users.



Adobe, a traditional material, is an economical structural material such as;
Sensitive to enviroment

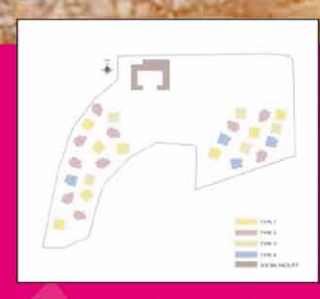
Ecological,

Cost-effective material that requires the least energy from the production stage to the usage and consumption stage and does not require the establishment of a facility.

High thermal insulation value, providing the most suitable living conditions for the inhabitants during all seasons and does not require a separate thermal insulation material.

Moisture regulator by keeping the humidity indoors at proportions suitable for human health (from 40% to 60%), has low formation energy, low carbon emission and low environmental impact.

Obtained from nature and using as a carrier and as a plastering material (Its bonding agent is clay).



Dried poplar wood was preferred during selection. Poplar tree posts and beams that are used were minimum of 35 cm and a minimum of 20 cm poplar wood is used in the roof wood grid system. Straws were laid on the carcass structure created with poplar wood. The top cover of the straw cane, on the other hand, was laid and the production was completed by compacting with a stone cylinder called yuvak (Roll). Wooden lintels were also used in windows and doors. The size of the lintels is 10x15 cm.

7 of the 27 accommodation buildings in the project are Type 1 gross 120 m2, 10 of them are Type 2 gross 115 m2, 6 are Type 3 gross 110 m2, 4 are Type 4 gross 120 m2. They are envisaged to accommodate 8 people in each house. All plan types consist of two bedrooms, a sofa and an outside veranda with a wet area.

Within the scope of the project, 13 adobe houses have been built and 14 adobe houses and 1 social facility building will be built for the accommodation of approximately 200 students.

Adobe in buildings offers the following facilities;

Protects the environmental systems at the highest level,

The most suitable living environment for their users within the building;

Energy saving,

Maximum benefit from daylight,

Natural ventilation.

They are not hazardous to the environment in during production and after the material has completed its life. Its destruction does not require much energy and it is a recyclable material.



Ali Rıza Alaboyun says, "Strength is born from the union!"

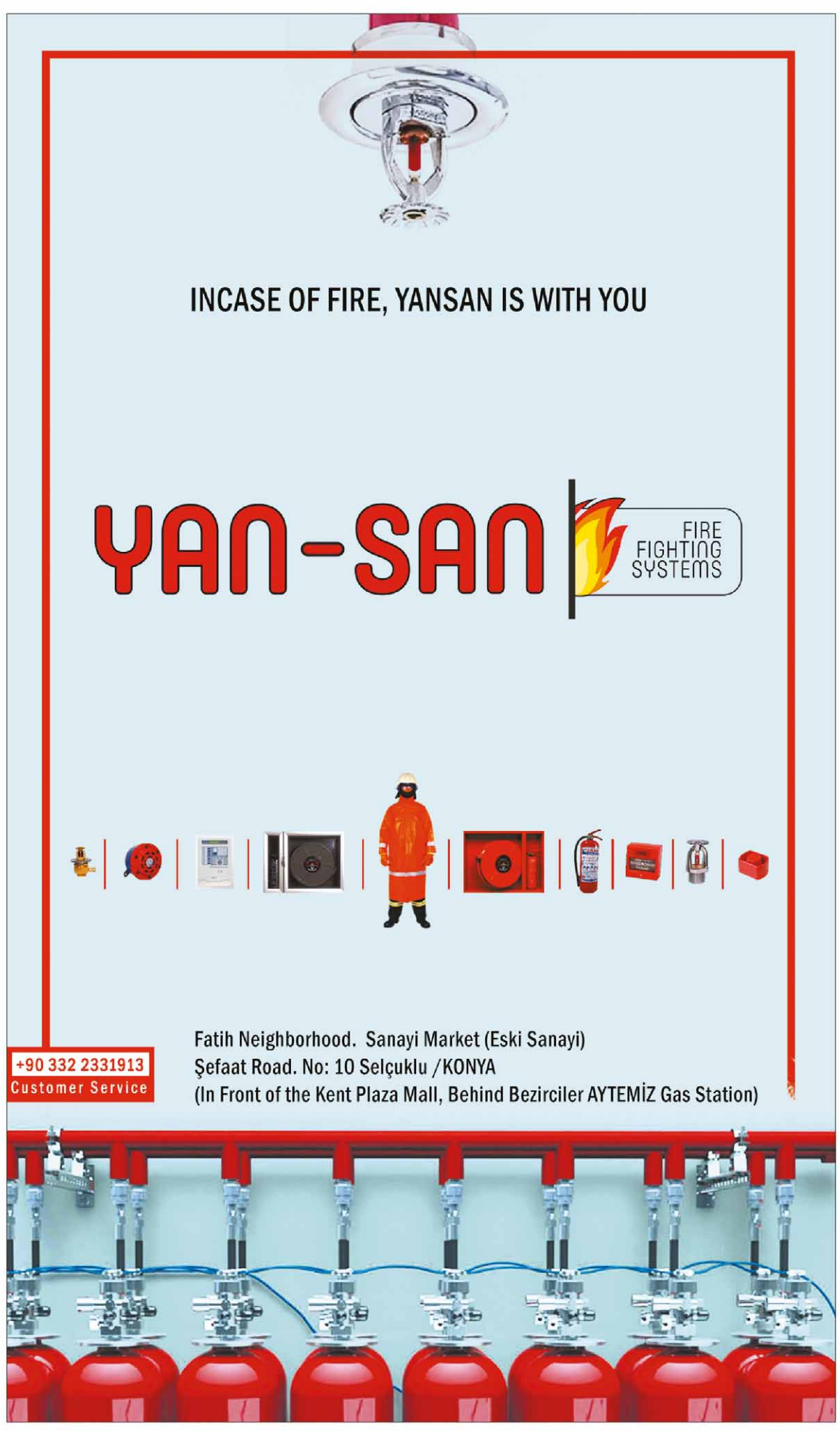
The need of companies for the trust of the society, the need for companies that they can trust in their organization will never change, As Bera Holding management, under the guidance of our new vision; We aim to carry Bera Holding, the largest and most powerful model of Anatolian Capital, to global leadership In Its main fields of activity, While setting sail for new goals, we strive to strengthen the values of all brands of our group, to look at the future with confidence, and to maximize our profitability, In light of the collective mind, we lead a centered and transparent transformation.

As Bera Holding, we attach great importance to disclosing financial and non-financial information to our partners, shareholders, employees. customers, domestic and foreign suppliers, in short, our stakeholders in the society and the general public in all transparency.



Ali Rıza Alaboyun
Holding Chairman

That is why we aim to build a livable 'Corporate Culture' with our openness, transparency, accountability, honesty, and ethical values. We are determined to be the leader of essential transformations by adding our dynamism and youthful energy to our experience of more than 30 years, which we have gained from our past, with the awareness that the work we do is not just about budget and numbers, We are to write new success stories with the slogan "Roots in the Tomorrow", which we have said in the light of our "Strength in its Roots", which we have determined by referring to the values of the Anatolian lands where we are sprouting and our determination to work, and our mission to leave 2023, 2053 and 2071. our strategic investments, and our mission that we will leave to the new generations in future generations. These spiritual foundations inspire our moral principles that we always keep alive and the ideals that give us great excitement. Together with all our employees, especially our board of directors, we will be to maintain and sustain this vision. Because Unity is Strength!



University students in Konya develop vertical take-off UAV

Göktürk team, consisting of NEU students, won the first place as the team that designed, built and flew the Vertical UAV that stays in the air for the longest time autonomously, detects the target autonomously with image processing and leaves the payload to the target at the competition held in Martyr Lieutenant Gürcan Ulucan Airport with the participation of university students from all over the country. Abra team also achieved third place with its performance. The UAV, which can take off vertically, can lift heavy objects, stay in the air for a long time and switch to horizontal flight mode while in the air.

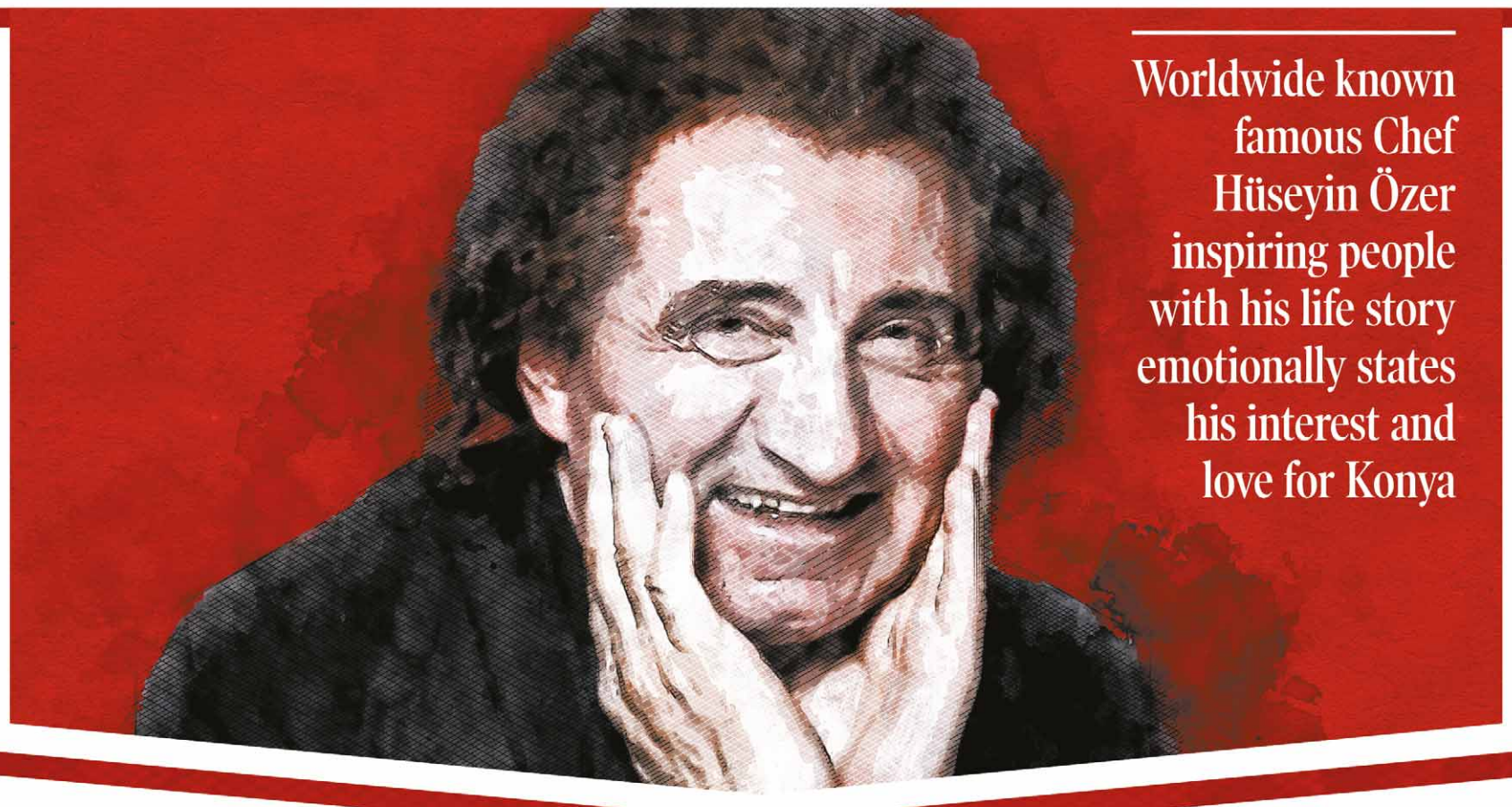


"WE BELIEVE THAT WE WILL CARRY IT TO BETTER POINTS"

Stating that they received the 1st and 3rd prizes in the competition organized by METU, Necmettin Erbakan University Rector Prof. Dr. Cem Zorlu said that 'Altough NEU is a new university it continues to make its name to both Turkey and the world. If we have made just a small contribution to the national defense industry of Turkey recently, it will be the biggest honor and pride for us. It is just the beginning. As NEU, we are now targeting the top 3 in this and similar competitions. We believe that we will carry this process to better levels together with other departments of our Aeronautical Engineering and Engineering faculties.'

The Konya News

Konya is my hometown



Worldwide known famous Chef Hüseyin Özer inspiring people with his life story emotionally states his interest and love for Konya

The founder of London-centred SOFRA and ÖZER restaurants, Chef Hüzeyin Özer is really pleased with the intention that he has faced in Konya. He says "Konya is my hometown and my village. I felt a huge love there. I love everything about Konya, the food, the people. If the people in a place are not nice, the food won't be nice, either."

Çiğdem Kurut met with the famous Chef and drew his story up for The Konya News.

A success story which shows a life that was urged to be lost was reborn from its ashes. Not a series, not a movie, or not a sad story of Ömer Seyfettin which teaches us a lot while disappoints at the same time. If a success story is written, it will definitely belong to Hüseyin Özer and he is the protagonist of this story. It should be him so that we can channel our talent of disguising each failure of ours into other directions. We should remember his name and say "if a person wants, he/she can succeed anything". Here is our interview with famous Chef Hüseyin Özer who is the owner of Sofra Restaurant in London. We talked to him under the sea breeze while we were eating our delicious fish prepared by Murat Kargılı, the owner of "Karışma Sen"...

> "ÇK: Your life is a story that can be filmed. How was your struggle which started at the age of 7?

HÖ: My struggle started when I started to eat bread and drink water. When I was 5 years old, I was poisoned. When I was 7, at the age of school time, my father said "he is not my son". He got divorced from my mother and got married to another woman. My stepfather wasn't intended to send me school. I became literate by writing on the stones and walls with black sticks. I also started to destone in the fields when I was a little child. For long years, I was a goatherd. I learnt how to carry wood on my back then. I thought to hang myself when I was a child, but I thought my mother and my grandmother and abandoned this idea.

> "How did you find an exit?

We had an uncle Şerafettin in my village. I used to compare my future to him. The headman in our village beat him repeatedly and always humiliated him because he was an orphan. I was an orphan and I was humiliated, too. But I didn't want to live like that and I was offended. So, I decided to leave the village. My stepfather gave me 20 liras loan and I left the village and headed to Ankara. I was little but Ankara was a big city. I had no money and nowhere to stay. For a while I stayed at a public toilet in Sıhhiye. I was unwanted in Tokat and became a gamin in Ankara. I started to work in a restaurant with daily wages. This job was the start of everything.

ÇK: Why did your brother want to poison you? Why did your mother want you to kill your father?

HÖ: My mother offended to the words that came from my father's mouth. The poison was a matter of land. The mother of the children, my stepmother didn't want me as a third child. But I gave the expenses of the school in London for the child of my brother who wanted to poison me then. And I gave an Istanbul and Ankara tour on a Rolls-Royce to my uncle who beat me a lot when I was a child because I wanted to go to school and I let escape the animals.

ÇK: If you had had a normal childhood, would it have been possible for you to be the place where you are now?

HÖ: The God sealed my fate. Shakespeare couldn't have written all the plays. The god sealed my fate. I do not know!..:)) Actually I didn't want to be a big guy; I wanted to be a nice guy. I read books to improve myself. After that, I decided to learn English. While I was going further step by step, I was in London. I didn't have money to buy plane tickets so I went there by bus after a long journey for days. I was always in a struggle.

ÇK: What is your wish that you couldn't reach during your life?

HÖ: I do not have any. You can't live with wishes that you can't reach. On the other hand, I love living. I did everything I wanted without making it a wish.

ÇK: What do hunger and being full mean to you?

HÖ: Both of them make addiction and both mean nothing for me. I was used to hunger so I always ignored it. And now, I am used to being full. It doesn't matter for me. I didn't get myself used to ingloriousness and dishonesty. I never want to hurt or disappoint someone in my life. If one of my customers leaves my restaurant sadly, I will lose my sleep. If someone who trusted and loved me is disappointed because of me, I will lose my sleep. I think the biggest sin is to defraud somebody and in our job it is bad service and bad food.

ÇK: Do you remember the first dish you cooked?

HÖ: I do not remember the first beat from my childhood and I do not remember the first dish I made, either. I was beat a lot as a child. I started to cook because I didn't like the food where I worked when I was a child. The number of the beats and the dishes are indefinite.

ÇK: Is there a thing that you wanted to eat a lot but you couldn't eat when you were a child?

HÖ: It's just the bread. I say this intimately. I used to buy a loaf of bread. My aunt used to put two more next to it and make it three so that my uncle would beat me more. The other boys used to get bread and escape, but when I took one, they used to call my uncle immediately. I always got caught.

ÇK: Today you have the power of getting on the most beautiful car and eating the most delicious food. Can you spend money easily?

HÖ: I cannot. It is not easy to spend the money that belongs to a foundation. I always have responsibilities. I have been running a restaurant in the most important centre and the busiest place of London, the capital. At the same time, I have been supporting the NGOs including Turkish-English Chamber of Commerce in London by being a sponsor for years. After that, I have founded the "Hüseyin Özer Education Foundation".

ÇK: You visited Konya already. What do you think about the food in Konya?

HÖ: I love the people of Konya. There is Nermin Halıcı, Advocate Ahmet Ergun and his familly, and my other friends. (If I start to count them, this interview won't be enough) There are my teachers, lecturers, organizers and everybody. Konya is my hometown and my village. I felt a huge love there. I love everything about Konya, the food, the people. If the people in a place are not nice, the food won't be nice, either.

ÇK: When people say Konya the "fırın kebab" and "the etliekmek" comes to mind. Do you like these foods?

HÖ: A lot. But when you say Konya love comes to my mind. The people in Konya have showed to me a great respect. And when you say Konya, I also remember the burn of fire players' hand nails.

ÇK: In Turkey, we have a lot of cities with various and rich dishes but they have difficulty in becoming a brand. What do you suggest them?

HÖ: I have had different suggestions for years. I say them please cook Turkish food. Do not cook foods from other cultures. When our Chefs cook food from different cultures I think that it is a shame on them. I think that this is disrespect to Turkish geography, history and culture. I cook Turkish dishes in abroad. There is only one foreign food in my menus and it is written as Japanese style. I do not make things up.

ÇK: While you are becoming a brand, what did you pay attention most?

HÖ: One of the most important things in our success is that we have trainings. Our trainings include various topics such as clothes, eating, bringing back the customer, human relations, drinking wine, choosing wine, healthy life, diet, self-care, rhetoric, body language, making organizations, balanced nourishment, hygiene, observing the market, making strategies, personnel training, how to keep the restaurant full, and how to be happy at the same time. We try to teach all of them. We try to understand the benefits of being a hundred percent honest, loving yourself and human beings all over the world without any discrimination, being happy in your life, being a manager and being a general director. We try to teach how to be a complex manager. In our restaurants, for years we try to train our personnel about restaurant management, the food and the service. Some of the most important things are how to arrange a menu, how does a menu fit to financial circumstances, how to feel a forthcoming crisis, how to know the customer profile and how to arrange the prices.

ÇK: You have been working on natural products. Why?

HÖ: I want my food to be natural as myself. I am natural and I want my food to be natural, too. Being natural means a quality life and natural food means good life.

ÇK: Have you ever considered starting an initiative in Konya with your brand?

HÖ: Of course. If there is an entrepreneur, he/she can contact me. If he/she wants to do a job with me, I will help without any provision. I will do it for my country, my people and for humanity.

ÇK: How do you evaluate the food culture of Turkish people?

HÖ: The owners of restaurants in Turkey have a confused mind. They are on the wrong way. And this is because of the greed of earning a lot of money. If people behave in accordance with their culture, the problem will go away itself. I hope the God will make us better.

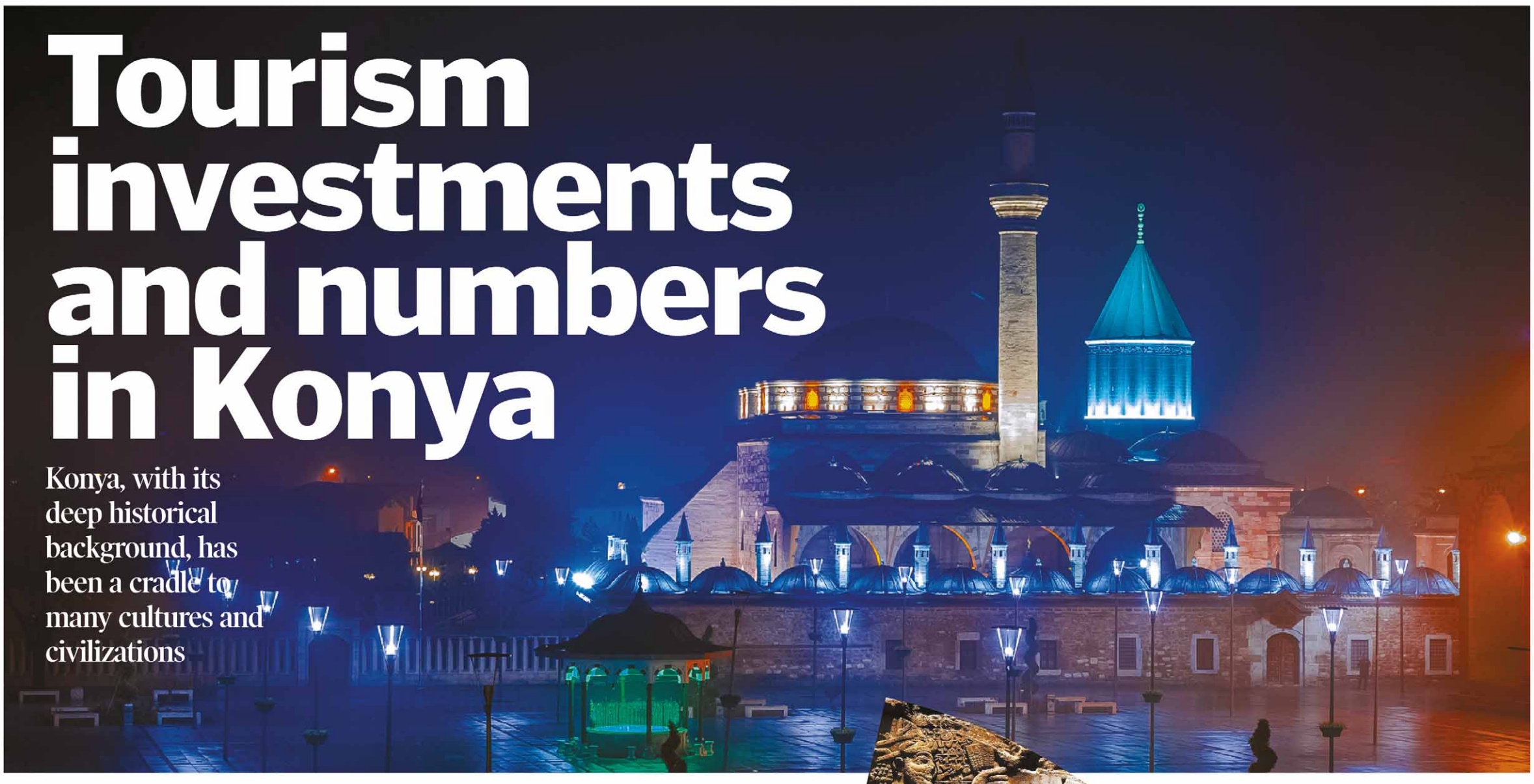






The Konya News

Tourism investments and numbers in Konya



Konya, with its deep historical background, has been a cradle to many cultures and civilizations

Konya, which was home to the first Christian residential areas and sanctuaries in the world, has an important potential in cultural tourism, too. In this context, Konya aims to become an essential centre for cultural tourism beside faith tourism.

Some important historical values such as Sille (Siyata), Aya Elena Church, Kilistra ancient city, Eflatunpınar Hittite monument, Çatalhöyük, Karahöyük, İvriz rock-cut relief, Bolat, Nekropol and Bouleterion shows the potential of Konya on behalf of cultural tourism.

The traditional handicrafts and folkloric values of Konya are also a part of cultural tourism. In Konya, various handicrafts such as making felt, carpet, wooden spoon, rifle, earthenware water rug, tile and calligraphy attract the attention of foreign tourists. Semah, folk dancing and sufi music also form primary folkloric values of Konya.

Konya bears the trace of a history that dates back to 7000 B.C. and witnessed various civilizations. It has a very rich historical heritage with its archaeological sites, historical and natural protected areas, caves and civil architecture examples. Konya, which was the capital of Seljuks, has an important tourism potential with its world-wide known characters such as Rumi and Hodja Nasrettin.

In Konya, there are 135 hotels-7 of them are five starred-with more than 14.000 total bed amounts. Moreover, there are more than 150 tourism agencies that own tourism operation license.

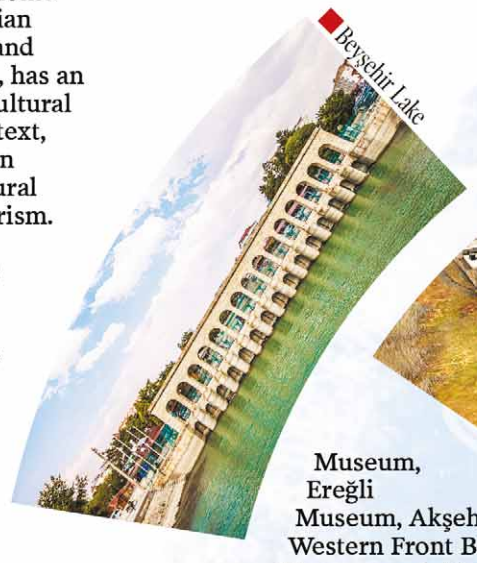
In Konya, there are 11 museums in total. 7 of them are in the city centre (Mevlana, Karatay Tile Museum, İnceminare, Sırçalı Madrasa, Atatürk, Ethnography and Archaeology Museums), and 4 of them are in the districts (Çatalhöyük Archaeological Site Museum, Ereğli Museum, Akşehir Western Front Base Museum and Akşehir Archaeology Museum).

By 2015, 2.7 million people visited those museums.

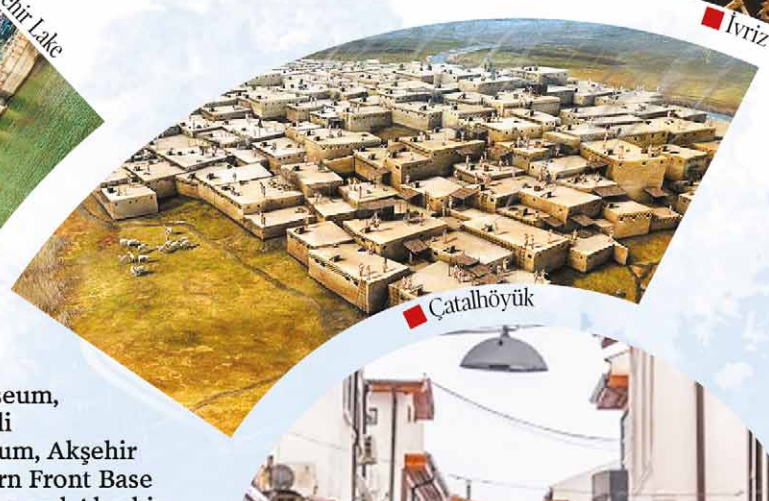
In our city, there is also one place (Çatalhöyük Neolithic Site) in UNESCO World Heritage List and there are four places (Eşrefoğlu Mosque, Konya – Seljuks Capital, Anatolian Seljuks Madrasas and Eflatunpınar: Hittite Water Monument) in World Heritage Tentative List.

In our city, there are Regional Manuscript Library and Yusufağa Manuscript Library as manuscript libraries in which national culture is preserved. Those libraries include 18.118 manuscripts and 91.621 books-73.503 of them are printed.

In the region; as it is stated in the Turkey's Tourism Strategy Action plan, faith tourism steps forward. By taking into consideration of the potential of our city for nature tourism, speleological tourism, health tourism, hunting tourism and convention tourism, it can be understood that how far the regional tourism can expand. In this context, detailed inventory studies are required in the region.



Beyşehir Lake



Çatalhöyük



İvriz



Bedesten Bazaar



Meke Lake



Kilistra ancient city



Aya Elena Church

Beyşehir, the biggest freshwater lake of Turkey, is one of the leading centres of behalf of nature tourism and hunting tourism. Beyşehir Lake, with more than 30 islands on, is expected to become an important centre for nature tourism via investments and effective advertisement in the future.

The district areas in Toros Mountains and the plateaus are extremely appropriate for mountain hiking and mountain sports. Besides, the mountainous and forestry areas are suitable for hunting tourism and in some parts of those areas there has been visits for hunting tourism by foreign tourists.

In the region there are some other natural beauties such as Balatini Cave, Körükini Cave, Suluin Cave, Sakaltutan Cave, Susuz Cave, Tınaztepe Cave, Pınarbaşı Cave, and İncesu Cave and these are important potentials for the speleological tourism here.

There are important areas in the region which are suitable for bird watching that can be included in nature tourism. The inner part of Salt Lake has the biggest flamingo colonies in the world. In the region, mountain sheep in Bozdağ Mountain (in Konya) and wild horses in Karadağ Mountain (in Karaman) are under protection by environmental board in order to preserve the fauna. By constructing excursion spots, these areas can be more profitable for tourism.

Turkey, which is over an important geothermal area, is among the first seven countries in the world in terms of the richness of its resources and potential. There are more than 1000 springs whose temperatures changes from 20oC to 100oC. There are more than 200 thermal centres over these springs. One of these centres is in the town Ilgın, in Konya and comes forward in alternative tourism.

Traditional handicrafts and folkloric values are also a part of culture tourism. In the action plan of Turkey's Tourism Strategy 2023, it is stated that creating a strong tourism path and regional destinations will make these kinds of regions stronger in terms of culture, handicrafts, food & beverage facilities and accommodation. In this sense, the potentials in the region devoted to handicrafts such as making felt, carpet, wooden spoon, rifle, earthenware water rug, tile, handmade equipment and calligraphy should be evaluated. Semah, folk dance, sufi music, Rumi, Yunus Emre and Hodja Nasreettin are the leading folkloric values of the region.



Aziziye Mosque

Common steps needed to improve tourism

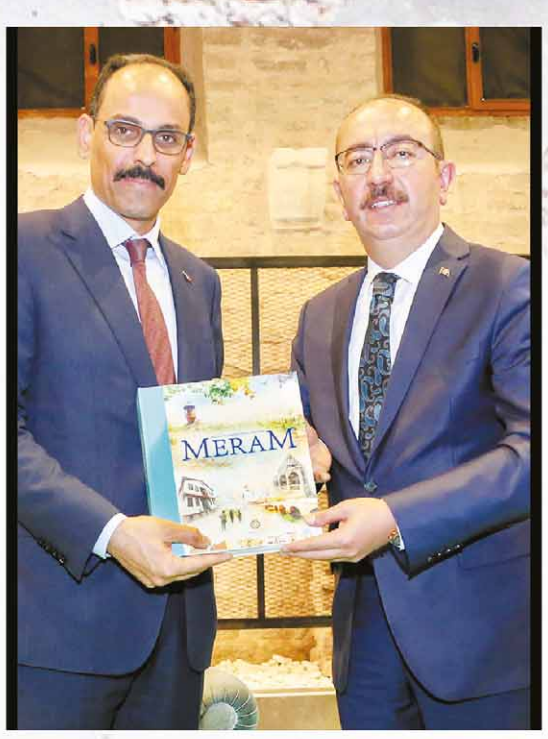
Fatih Bulut, Tourism and Promotion Platform (short for TUTAP in Turkish) Central Anatolia Regional Coordinator and an experienced professional, stated that it is required to do various studies with a high vision in order to improve tourism in Central Anatolia.

The coordinator Fatih Bulut said that "First, we have to think about the tourism potential of Central Anatolia. It is important whether you see the glass as half full or half empty. If we want Central Anatolia in a good level, we need to combine true steps, true product, true information and true people. There are important values in Central Anatolia and if we want to improve tourism here, we must stimulate and gather all the tourism dynamics of different cities in the area together. Then, only then this area will step forward in the international arena. Bulut emphasized that in this sense TUTAP works to serve for the purpose of the introduction of Turkey among foreign countries in the best and most effective ways. He also stated that "we try to advertise that Turkey is a pearl of the world and has a great brand value and we try to do this via some projects and activities. Our assigned position, Central Anatolia is an area that we work meticulously. TUTAP tries to contribute to the tourism in Turkey and tries to tell the rest of the world that everywhere in Turkey has a rich heritage in terms of historical, cultural and natural beauties. TUTAP conducts an introduction project called World Heritage Turkey which is the most comprehensive project in the history of Turkish Republic. Bulut mentioned that they are open to collaborate and cooperate with all the tourism establishments in the region. He also said that "everyone in this sector has tried a lot to improve tourism in Central Anatolia and they'll continue to try in spite of the deep crisis in the sector due to the pandemic. We call the authorities to take care about the problems of the sector faster and more meticulously."



Fatih Bulut

The Konya News











A Cultural Center and Meeting Place for Art Lovers: Tantavi

Meram Mayor Kavuş; 'Tantavi added a different soul to the cultural and art events

Tantavi Inn, which is one of the iconic buildings and monuments in Konya, has been inactive for long years. After the restoration done by Meram Municipality, it became the city's culture and art center and the meeting place for art-lovers. Mayor Kavuş stated that Tantavi Culture and Art Centre impressed both the artists and the visitors in every event with its historic atmosphere, authentic structure and successful restoration.

Tantavi Inn, which was restorated by Meram Municipality, has contributed to the city's both culture/art and social life with its authentic historical structure since the opening. The centre was opened on the anniversary day of 15th July Democracy and National Unity day and since then, it has hosted many important events and valuable guests.

TANTAVİ HOSTED IMPORTANT EVENTS

Since the opening, the centre has hosted various important events and guests such as; The Presidential Spokesperson İbrahim Kalın, the last prime minister Binali Yıldırım, writer Fatih Çolak in many conversations, famous photographers like the master photographer Ozan Sağdıç in different exhibitions about classical Turkish-Islamic Arts, calligraphy and paper marbling; memorials, celebrations for teachers' day and international day of people with disabilities; award ceremonies, quiz shows and mini concerts. Thanks to these events, Tantavi has contributed and still contributes to the city's not only culture and art life but also social life.

Moreover, Tantavi Culture and Art Centre got award of 'Union ofHistorical Towns Practice' because it is a successful example of restoration, it brings an industrial heritage structure in the city life with a quality, the project has a strong bond with the city, it makes a well transition between architecture and urban scale and it completes the future spatial development frame of the city with the offer of functionalisation.

MAYOR KAVUŞ 'TANTAVİ IMPRESSES WITH ITS HISTORIC FABRIC, AUTHENTIC STRUCTURE AND SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION'

Meram Mayor Mustafa Kavuş uttered that by bringing Historical Tantavi Inn in the life of city they were able to hit two birds with one stone. In the evaluations about the centre and its gains, Kavuş also expressed that 'The greatest achievement of Konya and Meram is of course the revival of a historical building and owning the city's history. In addition the city has gained a place where it original cultural and artistic activities can be performed in such a beautiful and historical environment. In addition, due to its unique structure, it brings a different color, a different texture, a different beauty and a different spirit to each interview, each exhibition and each program. It should not be forgotten its contribution to tourism as it is appreciated by artists, politicians and visitors from outside the city. With all these features, the center also supports art and artists. This makes us very happy that it makes us have a share in keeping our art and culture alive and passing it on to future generations. Tantavi Culture and Art Center, with its historical texture, original structure and successful restoration, leaves deep marks on both artists and visitors in every activity. One of the most upsetting points of the pandemic process is that we had to minimize the programs we do in the inn. As soon as the process is over, Tantavi will return to its glorious days, and I hope it will become the address of cultural activities, the center of art and social life again.

ABOUT TANTAVİ;

The total area of the center, which serves with its basement, ground floor and mezzanine, is 1,510 square meters. Tantavi Culture and Art Center, supported by the Konya Governorship in the restoration process, contributes to the cultural and artistic life of Konya with activities such as seminars, exhibitions, symposiums, conferences and auctions. Moreover, there is a book cafe on the terrace floor of the center, which is called Prof. Dr. Fuat Sezgin Thematic R&D Center and Thematic Library.

History of Tantavi

This historical building, known as Tantavi's Warehouse and used as a warehouse for many years, is located in the north of Mamuriye Mosque in Mamuriye neighbourhood. With the arrival of the Istanbul-Baghdad Railway line to Konya in 1896, hotels and warehouses were needed near the station. The warehouse, which was built for this reason, was built in 1903 by Hafız Ragıp Efendi, the son of Nazilli's mufti. Since Hafız Ragıp Efendi had received the Quran education in the city of Tanta, located in the Nile delta and 94 km north of Cairo, this warehouse was named as Tantavi Hafız Ragıp Efendi Warehouse by the people. Tantavi Hafız Ragıp Efendi, who also had an office in Izmir, resided this warehouse in Konya cooperatively with his father-in-law; Sufi, poet and politician Abdülaziz Mecdi Efendi. Abdülaziz Mecdi Efendi was exiled to Konya by the government between 1903-1906 and served as the commissioner of the commodity exchange in Konya. Tantavi Hafız Ragıp Efendi, in addition to his contribution to the trade in Konya, played an important role in the education of the city by training hafizes in Kapı Mosque during his time in Konya. Tantavi's Warehouse served the city for many years, and then served the city as a Cukurova grain storage for a while. The warehouse, which had been kept idle for many years after completing its mission, although it has survived until today, was expropriated by Meram Municipality on March 15, 2016. This precious building was restored with the efforts of the municipality and was presented to the public on 15 July 2019 as a culture and art center.





















Foreigners preferred Konya in real estate



> Real estate sales to foreigners in the first quarter of 2020 doubled compared to 2019. Housing sales increased by 13.8% compared to the previous year

The real estate purchases which foreign investors made in the first quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020 in Turkey were examined. According to the data of the Land Registry Foreign Affairs Department; the real estate purchases of foreigners, which were 1.898.694 m² in the first quarter of 2019, reached 3.035.199 m² in the same period of 2020.

In the research conducted by EVA real estate value assessment report, in terms of house sales, according to the data announced by Turkish Statistical Institute (TSI), by the end of the first quarter of 2020 across Turkey, a total of 10.948 residential units were sold. With this number, an increase of 13.8% was achieved compared to the same period of 2019. While the ratio of houses sold to foreigners in total housing sales was 3.8% in the first quarter of 2019, this rate decreased to 3.2% in the same period of 2020.

2020 (fisrt 3 months) Citizens of Top 10 Countries	Area of the Total Shares (m²)	Total Number of People
Jordan	534.805	370
Palestine	295.305	307
Saudi Arabia	295.127	274
Dominican Republic	231.449	13
Iraq	195.947	2341
Qatar	190.876	143
Afghanistan	143.244	875
Egypt	138.226	282
Iran	125.543	2405
The USA	101.794	140
Total	3.035.199	13581
Gulf Countries	899.518	5.540
Ratio of Gulf Countries in Total Investments	30%	41%

	Area of the Total Shares (m²)	Total Number of People
2019 (First 3 Months)	1.898.694	10.088
2020 (First 3 Months)	3.035.199	13.581
Increase/Dicrease	60%	35%

*The figures include sales of all real estate types.

2019 (first 3 months) Citizens of Top 10 Countries	Area of the Total Shares (m2)	Total Number of People
Saudi Arabia	326.407	372
Iraq	247.036	1911
Korea (South)	229.032	12
Egypt	137.359	227
Jordan	101.086	399
Germany	78.957	376
Qatar	74.886	191
Kuwait	58.644	414
Israel	57.717	100
Iran	55.939	994
Total	1.898.694	10088
Gulf Countries	811.554	3.984
Ratio of Gulf Countries in Total Investments	43%	39%

The Name of The Cities 2020 (First 3 Months)	Area of the Total Shares (m²)	Total Number of People
Konya	661.324	56
Manisa	639.822	48
İstanbul	322.901	6297
Antalya	243.497	2762
Edirne	153.669	57
Sakarya	150.328	262
Denizli	84.704	37
Muğla	76.581	265
Aksaray	76.048	11
Bursa	69.609	462
Total	3.035.199	13608

	Area of the Total Shares (m²)	Piece
2019 (First 3 Months)	1.898.694	10.120
2020 (First 3 months)	3.035.199	13.608
Increase / Dicrease	60%	34%

*Figures include sales of all real estate types.

JORDAN RANKS FIRST IN REAL ESTATE AND IRAN IN HOUSING

When all the foreign real estate investments on the basis of the overall surface area corresponding to the total stake in Turkey is examined, Jordan ranks the first in the first quarter of 2020. In this category, Jordan, which replaced Saudi Arabia, which was the winner of the previous year, is followed by Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Dominica, Iraq, Qatar, Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran and the United States.

Iran took the first place in total residential sales to the foreigners in Turkey during the first quarter of 2020. Iran was followed by Iraq, the Russian Federation, Afghanistan, Palestine, Yemen, Azerbaijan, Germany, Libya and China.

KONYA, MANISA AND ISTANBUL ARE IN THE FIRST PLACE IN INVESTMENT

When we look at the purchases of the most preferred provinces in terms of all real estate, Konya is the city most preferred by foreigners in real estate investments in the first quarter of 2020, based on the area corresponding to the total share. Konya was followed by Manisa, Istanbul, Antalya, Edirne, Sakarya, Denizli, Muğla, Aksaray and Bursa.

The Name of The Cities 2019 (First 3 Months)	Area of the Total Shares (m²)	Total Number of People
İstanbul	325.623	4561
Diyarbakır	228.425	4
Manisa	175.179	23
Çanakkale	169.874	3
Antalya	152.013	2065
Eskişehir	123.966	79
Muğla	98.413	212
Ankara	81.026	601
Sakarya	68.713	237
Bursa	66.418	521
Total	1.898.694	10120

The Konya News

A commerce network developing on passion for purple: Phoenicians

INVALUABLE PURPLE

In ancient times, the production of fabric was the most troublesome craft. However, the cultural, social and economic importance was indispensable. The clothes were not only preserving people from outside conditions but also were showing their social status. The fabric was turned into carpets and rugs in order to be used as a vehicle to tell a story and it was also so priceless that it was started to be used as a currency.

As only a few pieces of fabric are able to reach today we know very little about how Phoenicians produced it and how it looked in real. Although there is very little information about the fabric, the production and usage of purple paint is described in details in ancient resources. The discovery of some workplaces in which murexes were collected, processed and used to obtain purple paint along the coastal area in Arvad, Beirut, Sayda, Sarepta, Sur and Levant shows that how this sector was important and common for Phoenicians.

In the 1st century A.D., a Roman Naturalist the Great Plinius wrote a book called Historia Naturalis. In his work, he gives the most detailed information about how the paint was produced. According to this book, the basic raw material of this paint is an opaque liquid which is obtained from mucous gland of Murex trunculus and Murex brandaris. Murex trunculus was used to obtain blue-purple paint also called kingdom blue. Murex brandaris was used to obtain paint called Tyrian purple.



Both colours were pretty permanent. The fabric painted with these colours weren't fading easily and it was a very rare speciality for the paints then. However, there was a problem about this paint. During its production, there was a terrible smell. This interesting topic was also mentioned in Plinius's work.

From a single murex only a few drops of mucus were obtained. So, in order to do business on Tyrian purple, it was needed to collect a huge number of murexes. Archaeologists estimated that approximately 1, 5 grams of paint was obtained from medium size 12000 molluscs. And such a small amount of paint was able to paint only a small part of a cloth. As a result, to paint a small part of cloth, a huge amount of murexes were required. To paint a complete cloth was equal to a fortune.



Phoenician coin

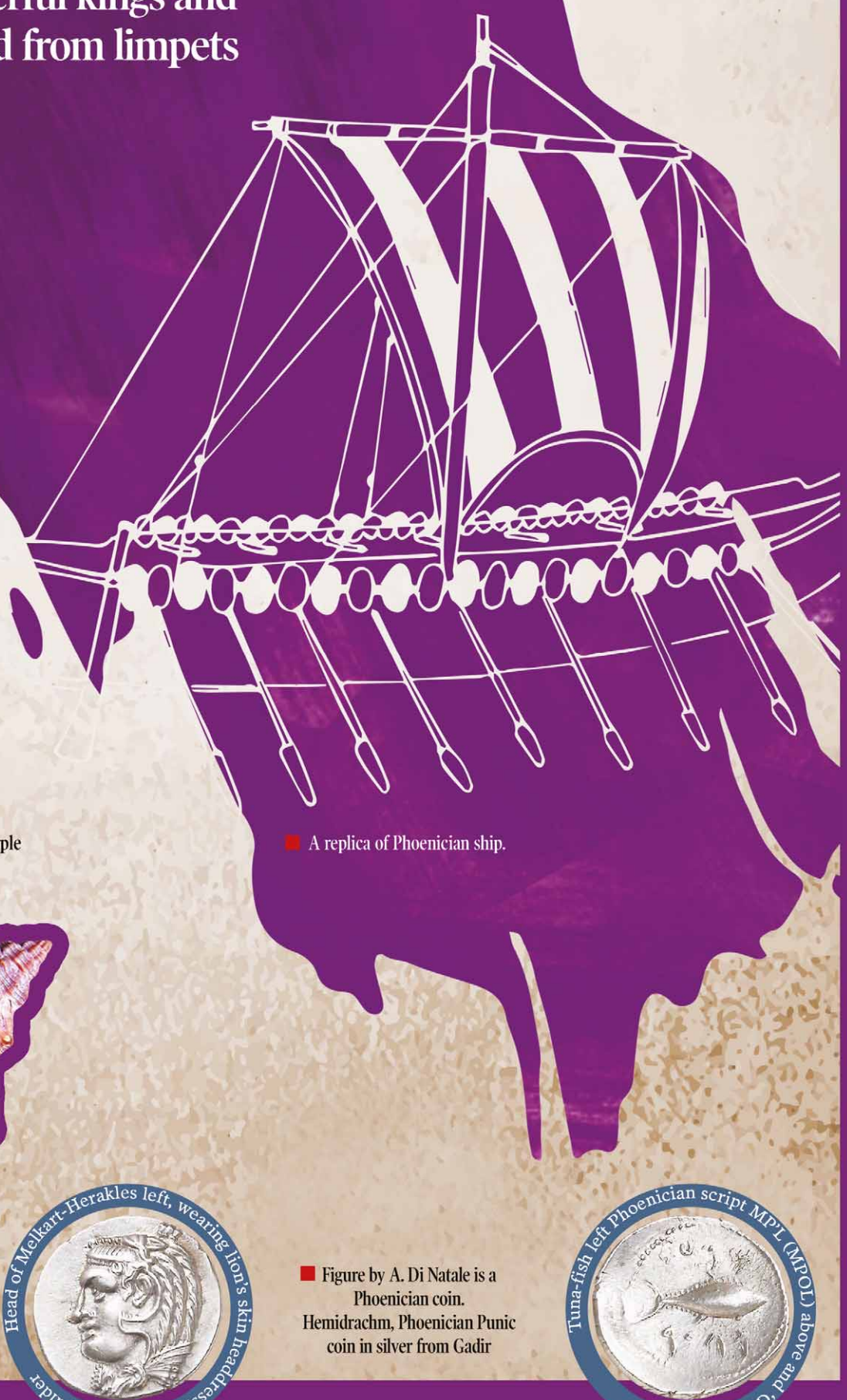
MASTERS OF THE SEA

Phoenicians were one of the most effective societies in 1000 B.C. But at the same time they are still one of the least understandable communities by the modern historians. Actually, there wasn't a kingdom called "Phoenicia". The civilization that we today call as Phoenicians were a series of cities along the coastal area in Lebanon, Syria and North Israel and this is a matter of fact that we really know little about them.

It is thought that they were called as Phoenicians by the Greek as a tribute to the colour purple. Although the origin is ambiguous, the word "phoenix" is known to refer to the colour red-tinged purple, and in time it is believed to evolve to another word that means a kind of purple fabric that is special to Phoenicians. Another popular assumption is that the word is linked to the legendary king Phoinix who is believed to be started the use of purple paint.



Sailor Phoenicians were controlling the big market in Mediterranean for the purple paint which is desired by powerful kings and obtained from limpets



A replica of Phoenician ship.

Consequently, Tyrian purple was much more valuable than the same amount of gold and silver then and the fabric in purple was sold to huge prices. According to the historian Theopompus who lived in the 4th century B.C., the men in Colophon wore such purple clothes and walked around the city although these kinds of clothes were very difficult to reach even for the kings and after that, these clothes were sold for silver.

Indeed, the purple paint was such in a demand that some cunning merchants produced a lot of different tones with a lower quality in order to meet the increasing demand. For this reason, when archaeologists find any parts of purple cloth and jugs, they make a series of chemical analysis before announcing them as kingdom blue or Tyrian purple.

The raw material of purple paint: murex trunculus

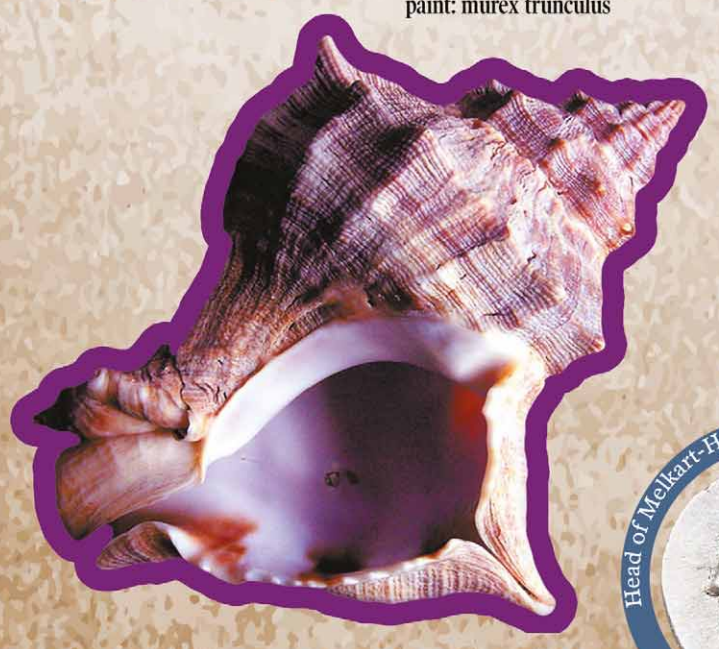


Figure by A. Di Natale is a Phoenician coin. Hemidrachm, Phoenician Punic coin in silver from Gadir

Etliekmek has been cooked in Konya for 800 years



Necmettin Erbakan University Tourism Faculty Gastronomy and Culinary Arts Department faculty member Dr. Yılmaz Seçim stated that the history of Etliekmek dates back to the 1200's and it was first made in Konya. For this reason, Seçim emphasized that Etliekmek belongs to Konya and said:

'Etliekmek belongs to Konya. We can explain this in many ways. It was cooked for the first time in the 1200s in Raziye Hatun Han in Kadinhani district of Konya. This is recorded information. In addition, the kitchen is at a very important



point in Mevleviyeh. Therefore, it is said that Etliekmek is made slowly. It is registered in Konya's kebab market for the first time in 1923 and has gradually become well known. There are various rumors that it is made with pieces from kebabs or meat from a butcher. Stating that a bakery was opened in 1939, which only made and sells Etliekmek, Seçim said that this bakery is still serving. Etliekmek is neither thick nor thin. It has a standart. Etliekmek is made of sheep meat, 70-80 cm long and 20-25 cm wide in Konya. If this is not offered, it means that it is not Konya Etliekmek. Nowadays, it has several versions. Many local and foreign tourists come to Konya. Restaurants cook very long Etliekmek in order to impress them.'

25 MILLION DOLLAR SHOTGUN EXPORT FROM HUĞLU

Being a town of Beyşehir district, in Konya, Huğlu has a population of 3 thousand approximately. In this neighbourhood shotguns are produced in 15 factories and some parts are produced in 45 workplaces. These products are exported to the USA particularly, and more than 50 countries such as Russia, Italy, France and England





Naci Tanık

The chairman of Huğlu Hunting Firearms Cooperative, Naci Tanık expressed that they reached record-breaking production and export numbers. Tanık stated that "as Huğlu Hunting Firearms Cooperative, we gain strength from our essential history and day by day we are growing with real numbers. During pandemic, our production rate increased and our investments continued. We completed our additional factory building. We produce 6 thousand shotguns monthly with about 400 employees and technological production section."

Export numbers reached 25 million dollars with an increase of 35% especially thanks to the demands that came from the USA lately. The sales manager of Huğlu Hunting Firearms Cooperative, Abdüssamed Güzel said that "at the moment we export to the USA most. The panic due to the pandemic and forthcoming elections then in the USA increased the requirement of guns and increased the demands, too. So far, we have reached 25 million dollars export by an increase of 35%."

Huğlu neighbourhood, which is nearly 35 km away from Beyşehir with a population of 3 thousand, is a small town. However, it was able to get famous all over the world with the production of shotguns. In Huğlu, the production of shotguns started in 1914. A man from Huğlu, Mustafa joined into army during the 1st World War. He was conscripted with guns because of his duty in the army and when he came back he started to share his knowledge with other people. Then, shotguns were produced in the small workplaces under houses. But now, these workplaces are replaced with factories.

The productions in Huğlu are done by both private companies and the cooperative. The sales manager of Huğlu Hunting Firearms Cooperative which has 450 members, Abdüssamed Güzel said that:

'Huğlu Shotguns have a long history. In 1914, it started when Mustafa Çavuş, who was from Huğlu, joined the army in the First World War, took on repair and maintenance duties there, then came to the town and transferred his experiences there to the people around him. Currently, we have 15 manufacturing companies, mainly a hunting fire arms cooperative, and 45 subcontractors working as suppliers to these manufacturers. There are around 1500 people working in the arms industry in Huğlu neighborhood. We can say that there is almost no unemployment in Huğlu. There are also personnel who come to work here, even from the surrounding neighborhoods and Beyşehir district. With the acceleration of the sector, the need for workforce has increased considerably.'

Expressing that the people of Huğlu love to produce, Güzel said, 'Huğlu's land is not suitable for agriculture or animal husbandry. There is a process that starts with a gun. Huğlu people are inclined to weapons, manufacture and production. Before the production of weapons, tumble cars were produced in Huğlu. They also manufactured horse-drawn vehicles. If there had not been weapon industry, the people of Huğlu would probably have been in another manufacturing business.

25 MILLION DOLLAR EXPORTS FROM HUĞLU TO THE WORLD INCLUDING THE USA AND THAILAND

Expressing that the shotguns in Huğlu are exported particulary to the USA and even Thailand,Güzel said that 'Weapons production in Huğlu dates back to 1914s; however, the foundation of the cooperative is recorded as 1962. Our established cooperative has around 450 partners in total, active and passive. We export to 50 countries now. We export to countries such as the USA, Italy, France, England, Russia, Malaysia and Thailand. Among these countries, the USA comes as the first.



Abdüssamed Güzel

THE GOLDEN AGE OF WEAPON INDUSTRY

Reminding that the pandemic has some negative effects on other sectors, Güzel stated that 'the weapon industry lives its golden age. In America one of the factors that trigger this purchase is the panic environment caused by the pandemic and the desire of people to throw themselves more into the nature from city centers and crowded environments. Another factor is that the management change and a new election atmosphere in America this year also encourage the purchase of weapons.

505 sinkholes identified in Konya in 5 months

In Karapınar district in Konya, 505 different sinkholes were identified by the provincial directorate of AFAD and the faculty members of Konya Technical University Department of Geological Engineering during the last five months of land works.

Karapınar district in Konya has a population of 50 thousand people and it is a region which is highly exposed to wind erosion in Turkey. Because of the shrink of underground waters and landslip, there have been sinkholes and these sinkholes threaten the residents.

In Karapınar district in Konya, 505 different sinkholes have been identified by the provincial directorate of AFAD and the faculty members of Konya Technical University Department of Geological Engineering during the land works since July.

NO CONNECTION WITH SEISMIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. Dr. Yaşar Eren, the head of the team carrying on the works in Karapınar, said that "We located 505 sinkholes in and around Karapınar in various sizes and dimensions. We identified the physical and geometric specialities of the sinkholes and presented the relationship between these sinkholes and geological factors. According to the measurements, it is seen that the long axis of the sinkholes are between 0,75 metres and 900 metres; the short axis of the sinkholes are between 0,75 metres and 784,7 metres; the depth of the sinkholes are between 0,25 metres and 134 metres. It is also seen that the long axis of the sinkholes are mostly parallel to the fault lines in the region. The seismic activities in the region and the formation of the sinkholes are compared and it is concluded that there is no relation between them both before and after the formations."

Eren also stated that the areas which requires geological examinations are identified and he uttered that "in order to locate the formation of sinkholes and new potential areas in the region, it is required to determine the fault lines, the directions of surface faulting through the deepness, the structure of Karapınar basin and the specialities of lithologic sediment by geophysical methods.



A Path breaking Front Loader...!

Today the agricultural sector in Konya, where the leading agricultural machine producers of Turkey exist, pulses simultaneously with the world. One of these important producers is Alparslan Tarım



Alparslan Agricultural Machinery Industry and Trade Inc., which was established in 1969 and is among the well-established industrial enterprises of Konya, continues its activities in Konya's 1st Organized Industrial Zone in a total area of 25.000 m2, 15.000m2 of which is closed. Alparslan Tarım, which has a machine park that constantly follows technology and has an advanced technology, combined this park with its years of experience and took its power to further levels with new laser cutting, plasma and robot welding investments. The company, which carefully follows the cutting processes of other industrial establishments with the most powerful and the fastest laser cutting machine added to its investments, is constantly improving its production and production quality. Alparsan Tarım always aims to be better and goes on its research and development activities continuously. Alparslan Tarım produces various agricultural machines such as Tractor Front Loader, Tractor Rear Digger (Backhoe Loader), Pneumatic System Combined Thresher, Helical Combined Threshing Machine, Combine Harvester with Shell Peeler Manufacturing Machine, Stem Conveying System Combined Threshing Machine, Storage Mobile System Single and Double Belt Threshing Machine, Straw Conveyor, Rotary Lawn Mower, Conditioner Lawn Mower, Gearbox Side-delivery Rake, Combined Grain Seed Drill, Pneumatic Grain Drill, Disc Plough and Dough Blunger and offers more and more technological and comprehensive products to its consumers every year. Moreover, Alparslan Tarım, which has been the Central Anatolia Region Dealer of New Holland tractors, combine harvesters and agricultural equipment since 2000, serves fully to the agricultural consumers. Alparslan Tarım, which attaches importance to the aesthetics of its products as well as the internal structure, directs its production in line with the appreciation and criticism from its customers. The company, which has modernized its production and products in this direction, implements quality and management standards without compromising in order to sustain and develop this structure. As a result of this customer-oriented production approach, today, Alparslan Tarım has a significant share in both domestic and foreign markets. The priority of Alparslan Tarım, which exports to all over the world, especially Morocco, Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Kyrgyzstan, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Tunisia, Macedonia, Slovenia, Greece and France; is customer satisfaction. With the awareness of it, the company tries to fulfil its responsibilities to its customers and society and to maintain its leadership in the sector with its quality products by following technology.



MEMDUH ERDIREN ÇELEBI, CEO: "WE EXPORT TO ALL OVER THE WORLD"

The CEO of Alparslan Tarım, Memduh Erdiren Çelebi stated that they were established in 1969 and they are among the most essential industrial companies of Konya and they continue their activities in Konya's 4th Organized Industrial Zone in a total area of 50.000 m2, 35.000m2 of which is closed. He also said that "we conduct research and development tasks sensitively. Today we have an important share in both domestic and foreign markets. We export to all over the world, especially Morocco, Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Kyrgyzstan, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Tunisia, Macedonia, Slovenia, Greece and France".

FRONT LOADER CAN BE REMOVED AND INSTALLED IN ONLY 3 MINUTES

Informing that they are the first to produce and have patent for front loader , which can be removed and installed in 3 minutes, Çelebi said that they start to produce the product that they had imported from abroad before. He stated that 'We imported the product from abroad during the years we were a tractor dealer. In Turkey, the front bucket has been fixed on the tractor so far. We have made it mobile. We thought that, people can install it only when they need. It is a product that can be installed and removed in a very short time. The product caught the attention of our farmers and other people. Our market share has further expanded with the product. We provide the product about 30 airports. Airports use the product together with the tractor for snow shoveling. The products we made in the early days were processing equipments, plow, disc harrow and goble machine. Afterwards, when we established our first building in the organized industry zone, we increased the product range a little more. When we came as the second generation, we started to produce different products with my brother. The different products we made were tractor front shovels. We produced buckets that can be attached to any type of tractor. We started to produce the balers machine group. We have produced the eight-bale stacker machine, which nobody produced before in Turkey. We are the first to produce the mobile front loader machines in Turkey.

Attacment balancing system is designed as hydraulic in the platin series frontloader

Attachment balancing system is designed as hydraulic with 6 lifts in platin series front loader. Erdiren Çelebi stated that 'Its most distinctive feature is to suspend the load on the front loader and prevent the mechanical structure from being deformed. "The bearings used at all joint points are imported from the world-renowned Italian company CSB and are durable for a long time thanks to their bronze surface that does not wear under very heavy loads. Anti-shock tubes of the Monoblock Control Center, which determines the operation and performance characteristics of the front loader, are imported as Italian Walvoil brand, and movable attachment hydraulic valve is imported as Italian Aron brand. All hydraulic connections on the front loader are easily disassembled and fitted and impermeable by using flat face quickcaplines, which are hydraulic fittings imported from Italian Faster Company. Platinum series front loader is used in New Holland, Case, TÜMOSAN, John Deere, MasseyFergusan, Me Cormick, Landini, Fendt, Erkunt, Lomborghini, Deutz-Fahr, Same, Stery, Class, Vlatra, etc. field type agricultural tractors between 65 and 140 hp bucket series.'



Memduh Erdiren Çelebi

World Famous Dr. Mehmet Öz, who is from Konya, told about his deceased father Mustafa Öz

Doctor Öz stated that 'His father passed away at the age of 94. My dad changed everyone who met him. Seeing the patients thanked him for saving their lives made me fall in love with medicine.'

Doctor Mehmet Öz told about his father, Doctor Mustafa Öz.

'Mustafa Öz was born on October 4, 1925 in Bozkır, a poor agricultural village near Konya. His heart never left this small village, although he achieved many things that no one in his environment and few in his country could even imagine. He always returned to his village via the buildings he built for the students to contribute to the development of future generations.

'Mustafa got a scholarship at every stage of his education; this reinforces the importance of supporting promising students who are out of school.'

After graduating from Cerrahpaşa Faculty of Medicine with good degrees in 1950, he was accepted to Western Reserve University in Cleveland, USA in 1960, when Mehmet was born. In 1961, when Seval was born, he studied cardiothoracic at Emory University in Atlanta and worked as a chest and cardiovascular assistant. In 1967, when Nazlım was born, he started training other doctors in Wilmington, Delaware.'

His biggest success was to marry Suna Yıldız Atabay in 1959 and always learn something from his advice during their over 60 years of marriage. He came bact to his beloved country, Turkey. He made surgeries eve at the age of 80 in many good hospitals in Istanbul, including his beloved Florence Nightingale.'





'My dad changed everyone who met him. I remember how I ran after him as a kid when he was taking a quick tour of the hospital. When he got old and his legs couldn't move that fast, his mind never slowed down. I witnessed my father sometimes administered some painful treatments for desperate patients. Later, seeing these patients thanking him for saving their lives made me fall in love with medicine.'

'The opportunity to help is a powerful aphrodisiac and the responsibility to act should not be wasted. For this reason, he insisted that he and his children should always be "the best".'

'Growing up in a poor country during the Great Depression in the 1930s, my father knew how to overcome any obstacles that might have arisen with the help the past century. He reminded, pushed, led, forced, reminded, complained and shouted until he got what he needed. He struggled endlessly and rarely backed down, especially when he was told he wasn't good enough. He had the courage of a warrior and the rage of a hurricane, even when he realized that his life would end with kidney failure.'

'In addition to winning in backgammon, my father's favorite hobby was Turkish Folk Music. It was especially a famous Konya folk song 'Aslan Mustafa'. My father used to sang the song by snapping his fingers...

Some parts of the song as:

'Kenardan geçeyim yol sizin olsun bir tanem aman,

Ağular içeyim bal sizin olsun bir tanem amanın Aslan Mustafam'

Dear Father,

You take a straight and wide path towards the heaven you deserved for every minute of your life that you fought hard. We have been on your shoulders for more than 93 years, full of bumpy roads. Let your way be lightened. We will continue to fight what we have learned from you on everything that matters to you. Love from the whole family.'



Assist. Prof. Dr. Sefa USTA

ASSOCIATION OF HISTORIC TOWNS AND KONYA METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY: EXPECTATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Countries started to have mutual interactions with the effect of globalisation. The policies conducted in one country are being transferred to other countries as good examples. In other words, mutual policy/reform transfer among countries has become into prominence. Local governmental cooperation has risen in an international level. Moreover, among different cities from different countries social, cultural, economic and administrative cooperation has become a popular option.

An example of local governmental cooperation in international level is "European Association of Historic Towns" which is designed to ensure the cooperation among cities in European countries. This association is an example of cooperation among local governments in international level. Local governmental cooperation can be achieved both in international level and national level. In national level, an example of local governmental cooperation is "Turkish Association of Historic Towns". Turkish Association of Historic Towns was founded in 2000 in Bursa with the participation of 52 historic towns and became a member of European Association of Historic Towns in 2001. The main aim of this association is to cooperate in historical and cultural areas in city level and to share experiences mutually among cities.

Konya Metropolitan Municipality is also a member of Turkish Association of Historic Towns. To interiorise the membership conditions of the association matters for both the municipality and the people who live in the city when it is handled as specific to Konya Metropolitan Municipality. In this context, there are some requirements such as to raise awareness of the public about historical and cultural values, to produce projects about the preservation and promotion of historical and cultural values, to raise the number of academic, scientific and social activities.

It is an inevitable reality that the university, state institutions and organizations, private sector organizations and nongovernmental organizations have to form cooperation under the leadership of Konya Metropolitan Municipality. Konya Metropolitan Municipality has to strengthen its efficiency in the Turkish Association of Historic Towns and has to develop its cooperation with other members. In this context, projects should be produced; some activities such as symposiums, workshops and exhibitions should be carried out under the leadership of Konya Metropolitan Municipality.

As a result, it is important to remember the importance of intercity cooperation both in national and international levels. As an historical city, Konya hosted a lot of civilizations. There are important steps to take for Konya both in national and international level by the representative of this city, Konya Metropolitan Municipality. As a starting point of Learning Towns concept, it is important to interact mutually and produce common intercity projects for the cities. If these projects can be fund-raised by European Union and other international organizations, it will be more possible to succeed. Konya Metropolitan Municipality should be a leader and take advantage of good examples of historic towns from different cities all around the world. Finally, Konya should take a step forward to be a member of Association of European Historic Towns as a city itself.

The Konya News

Despite the injuries experienced in the 2020-2021 season in Konyasport, our Super League representative, the victories of the green-white team especially against the big teams are remarkable

KONYASPOR 1922

Konyasport upsets THE BIG FOUR

Konyasport, led by coach İsmail Kartal, who was appointed to the head of the team at the beginning of the season, defeated Beşiktaş 4-1 in the home field, Galatasaray 4-3 in the home field, and defeated Fenerbahçe 2-0 on the away game in the first half of this season. The green-white team that recorded 10 of the 23 goals it scored in 16 matches in the Super League to the big teams. Konyasport defeated the champion Medipol Başakşehir and the second placed Trabzonsport 4-3 at the end of the last season. The green and whites are in the 8th place with 6 wins, 4 draws and 6 losses this season with 22 points in 16 matches.

WE COULD NOT PUT THE IDEAL TEAM WE DESIGNED INTO THE FIELD IN ANY GAME

Erkan said that some of the matches played so far have shown a satisfactory game in general except for some certain periods of time. Stating that they usually try to bring their own game to life in matches, Erkan stated that 'We could not put the ideal team we designed into the field in any game. We had either ill, injured or punished players in our team. Of course we tried to turn this into an advantage. Thanks to these negativities, almost all our football players were ready to play immediately. When the task came, they displayed very good games and created matches and scores that marked this year.'

WE ADDED A GOOD MEMORY TO KONYASPORT HISTORY BY WINNING THESE 3 IMPORTANT MATCHES

Konyasport Sports Director Adnan Erkan evaluated the superior performance of the green-white team against the big teams. Emphasizing that the technical team and football players have been satisfied with their efforts since the beginning of the season, Erkan said that 'Beşiktaş, Fenerbahçe and Galatasaray wins showed us that we are a good football team. The motivation of our footballers in such matches and our response to the opponents' pressure on us made us win these 3 matches. However, in these matches, we could not take the field with our ideal team. Despite this, we have won these 3 important matches with a certain understanding of the game and the devotion of our playing footballers and added this year as a good memory to Konyasport's history. I hope it continues like this throughout the season.'

'THE MEANING OF 3 POINTS WAS ENORMOUS IN EVERY RESPECT'

Referring to the Galatasaray match played yesterday, Erkan continued his words as follows:

'Galatasaray match had two important sides for us. When we lose, we will fight against teams close to us from the bottom and the negative atmosphere this will give to the team. When we win, the two matches that will be won afterwards will pull us up and bring us very close to being in the top 8, which is our goal. Therefore, the meaning of 3 points got in such a critical position in difficult conditions against such a big club is enormous in any way. We have a target between 25-28 points until the half. We have 22 points now. We have 4 more matches ahead. Hopefully, if we can get 6 or 8 points from these 4 matches, we will be closer to both our half-time goal and the end of the league goal'. Erkan added that 'They plan to transfer to the required positions by considering the interests of the club during the half break.'