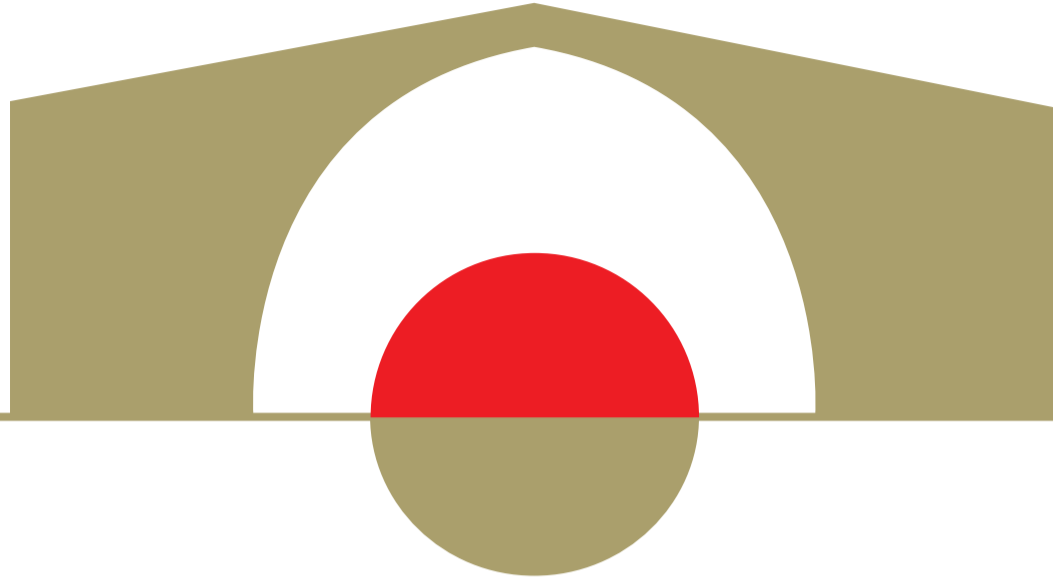




PRIME MINISTRY OF REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
PRESIDENCY FOR TURKS ABROAD
AND RELATED COMMUNITIES



1st INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM of KENAN RIFAI CENTER for SUFI STUDIES KYOTO UNIVERSITY

including the
CLOSING CONFERENCE
of the project

**THE BRIDGE OF
TWO EASTS**
EDUCATION PROGRAMME
for Sufi Culture

**ISLAMIC & SUFI
STUDIES in
ACADEMIA:
RETHINKING
METHODOLOGIES**

SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZERS

Kenan Rifai Center for Sufi Studies, Kyoto University, Kyoto

NIHU Area Studies Project for the Modern Middle East: Structural Comprehension of Islamic Mysticism: Investigation into Sufism–Tariqa–Saint Cults Complex (Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A), JSPS); Anthropological Studies on Veneration of Saints and Relics in the Mediterranean World (Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B), JSPS)

Institute for Sufi Studies, Uskudar University, Istanbul

The Bridge of Two Easts: Educational Programme for Sufi Culture, the granted project of Turkish Republic Prime Ministry, Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities

Kerim Education, Culture and Health Foundation, Istanbul

TURKKAD Turkish Women's Cultural Association, Istanbul Branch

CONTENT OF THE SYMPOSIUM

How is Islamic studies configured as an academic field in different countries? Focusing on Sufi studies, presentations may explore the institutional and intellectual history of Islamic studies in the US, China, Japan, and Turkey. Questions addressed may include topics like the relationship of the study of Islam to academic disciplines, Orientalism, the state (Ministry of higher education etc.), and religious identity.

The field of Sufism may be explored as an academic subject area, which does not simply replicate its sources, but analyzes the phenomenon in terms of categories derived from the humanities and social sciences.

The aim of the conference is to explore the implications of connecting academic work on Sufism in Islamic studies of different countries. How may scholars and centers from these countries assist each other, particularly during times of crisis? What sorts of programs should be planned for the future? How scholars rethink methodologies?