

Dear Mr. Minister,

Distinguished Scholars,

Honorable Guests,

I am proud to deliver the closing remarks at the end of the congress, ICANAS 38. 103 panelists out of 104 spoke during the panels; 1598 papers were presented with 21 papers missed. About 80 of these papers were prepared by two or more people. So 1755 presenters out of 1777 whose papers had already been accepted presented their papers; the number of the people in the halls, who attended to the congress as audience or chair, was 298. Totally 1998 people from 62 countries made significant contributions to the different disciplines of social sciences and humanities.

The motto of ICANAS 38 is the famous dictum: “Peace at home, peace in the world” by Mustafa Kemal ATATÜRK, the great leader of the world. So, we believe that the spirit of Atatürk, the symbol of peace and the leader of independence, has been satisfied as we do when the distinguished scholars and researchers, who are heartily for peace truth, presented their papers.

You have to read what our guests have written to our memorandum. We gladly accept their applauses and praises on behalf of our nation.

Gyorgy HAZAI, who has been the Secretary General of ICANAS for the latest four congress organizations, made his speech a few minutes ago. I kindly ask you to applaud Prof. Dr. HAZAI who is the oldest member of ICANAS as well as being one of the oldest experts of Hungarian Turkology, World Turkology and Altaistic Language.

There are several reasons why I ask you to applaud him:

1. Prof. Dr. HAZAI highly supported me when I officially applied to take ICANAS 38 organization to Turkiye and he greatly contributed to the acceptance of our proposal for ICANAS 38 despite other candidates.
2. Prof. Dr. Gyorgy HAZAI is a Turkologist and he is a sincere friend of Turkiye.
3. Yesterday Prof. Dr. HAZAI quitted his post as the Secretary General of “International Orientalist Union” and he has been elected to be the President of the Union. You have applauded him for his new post.

Prof. Dr. Jikido TAKASAKI was the President of “International Orientalist Union”. I have always had a feeling since the day I met him first as if I have known him for 1000 years. Prof. Dr. TAKASAKI has resigned from his post as the President of “International Orientalist Union” and he has been the honorary President of the Union upon Mr. Rybakov’s appropriate proposal.

As Prof. Dr. Gyorgy HAZAI has also pointed out in his speech, it is also notable here that a Turkish scholar has been a member of the Union Executive Committee for the first time in its 134 years old history; I accept this honor on behalf of my institution and my nation.

We are proud to have served 2200 people –including the members of the families of some scholars here- and we prefer to ignore a few envious and pessimistic people who refuse to see the positive aspects of the organization in a craze of jealousy.

Please visit our web page, icanas38.org.tr, to learn more about the congress and the organization. You will find there all the details about the congress as well as its reflections on written and visual media.

I would also like to state here that the Union has decided to organize ICANAS 39 in Netherlands, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia or China. Although it had almost already been determined to hold ICANAS 39 in Netherlands during ICANAS 37 in Moscow, the attitude of the mentioned country has not been very clear, yet.

It is my pleasure to greet the members of the International Advisory Board in the personality of Prof. TAKASAKI.

Our National Organization Committee also significantly contributed to the organization of the Congress; the Chairs of the main topics carried out the responsibility of the scientific order of the Congress. They know that I am grateful to them.

I would also like to express my gratitude and respect to every member of the National Executive Committee and the officials of Atatürk Supreme Council for Culture, Language and History, who have shouldered all the troubles of the Congress organization, in the personality of Zeki DILEK.

Additionally, I would like to acknowledge the efforts the Turkish national press, including the members of Anadolu Ajansı, of national newspapers, of local and national radio and TV channels, for their contributions to publicize and broadcast the news of ICANAS 38.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to TİKA and its President, to TRT and its General Manager, to the Rector of Gazi University, to the Rector of TOBB University, to Vehbi Koç Foundation, to the Mayors of Beypazarı and Kecioren, to the General Manager of Turkish National Lottery, to the President of Ankara Chamber of Industry and to the General Manager of Eti Holding for their friendly support.

Our guests were offered dinners by our Minister of Culture and Tourism the very first night, by our Prime Minister on the second night, and by the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey on the third night; we are deeply grateful to them.

Our special thanks go to the Embassies of China, Japan, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Mongolia and North Cyprus for treating the members of our National Organization Committee along with their own native scholars and researchers attending to the Congress during dinner parties on Friday night, which was a significant opportunity to make the relations and friendship between our countries stronger.

We presented plates to the 12 stars of Turkish Science and Art whose names and work are acknowledged internationally. We hope that this attitude of honoring the elders will turn into a tradition for the future hosts of ICANAS.

We are going to present plates to Prof. TAKASAKI, Prof. HAZAI and Prof. RYBAKOV, as well. We expect it to be transformed into a tradition, too, in the upcoming congresses.

Dear Guests,

I also wish to express my personal gratitude along with the indebtedness of the National Organization Committee to the Minister of Internal Affairs of the 60th government, Prof. Dr. Beşir Atalay, who is a sociologist, for his immense help during his post as the Minister of State and our coordinator on behalf of the 59th Government.

I would like to express my respect and gratitude personally to Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN, our Prime Minister, who made a speech during our opening ceremony despite his heavy program, on behalf of the National Executive Committee and Atatürk Supreme Council for Culture, Language and History.

Dear Scholars and Researchers; we have brought our heart and physical power together to organize the Congress; we have overcome the difficulties and reached our destination.

I greet you all with my deepest affection in the hope of meeting again in such pleasant organizations.