

## Architecture and Culture through the Silk Road Galleries Opening Ceremony

Opening ceremony of the “Architecture and Culture through the Silk Road Galleries” of the Institute of Turkish Culture Studies took place at Koshien Hall on Sunday, October 30, 2011.

The galleries consist of the ceramic gallery, the Turkish culture gallery, and the carpentry tools gallery. The ceramic gallery was newly set up to display ceramics related to architecture and culture in regions along the Silk Road, e.g. Persian tiles, architectural terracotta, Chinese pottery warriors, Japanese traditional tiles, bricks of Japanese modern architecture, tiles of Koshien Hall and so forth. Along with the opening of the ceramic gallery, the existing Turkish culture gallery and the carpentry tools gallery were remodelled and reopened.

Many guests were invited to the ceremony, including Ms. Aysegul Atmaca, cultural and information counselor of Turkish embassy, Dr. Senay Yalcin, president of Bahcesehir University, and Mrs. Yalcin, Dr. Ahmet Eyuce, dean of faculty of architecture and design of Bahcesehir University, and Mrs. Eyuce, Mr. Hideo Tamai, former commissioner for Cultural Affairs, Mr. Akiharu Manabe, superintendent of schools of Nishinomiya city, Mr. Ryo Okawara, chair of the board of trustees of Mukogawa Women’s University(MWU), Dr. Naosuke Itoigawa, president of MWU, and the people who helped with the opening of these galleries, including Dr. Tomoko Masuya, professor of the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia at University of Tokyo, Mr. Masahiko Shibatsuji, Mr. Daisuke Mitsumoto and Mr. Kunihiko Honjo.

After a ribbon cutting ceremony at the ceramic gallery, the attendants were invited to see each gallery.



Ribbon cutting



Guests at the ceramic gallery



Guests as visiting the carpentry tools gallery



Guests as visiting the Turkish culture gallery

After the tour of the galleries, gratitude and congratulatory addresses were exchanged between the host and the guests at the West Hall. Chair of the board of trustees of MWU, Mr. Ryo Okawara said, “I am deeply appreciative of the people who helped with the opening of the galleries. I hope, through these galleries, more people become interested in the architecture and culture of the countries along the Silk Road including Japan and Turkey.” Then, congratulatory speeches were delivered by Ms. Aysegul Atmaca, cultural and information counselor of Turkish embassy, Dr. Senay Yalcin, president of Bahcesehir University, Mr. Hideo Tamai, former commissioner for Cultural Affairs, and Mr. Akiharu Manabe, superintendent of schools of Nishinomiya city. To conclude Dr. Senay Yalcin’s speech, Turkish traditional tiles from Bahcesehir University’s collection were donated to Mukogawa Women’s University to be newly displayed at the Turkish culture gallery.



Mr. Ryo Okawara, the chair of the board of trustees of Mukogawa Women’s University



Ms. Aysegul Atmaca, the cultural and information counselor of Turkish embassy, as delivering congratulatory speech



Felicitations by Dr. Senay Yalcin, the president of Bahcesehir University



Turkish traditional tiles, “ Tree of Life ”, a collection from Bahcesehir University being donated to Mukogawa



Guests enjoying the tea break at the tea ceremony house



Dr. Naosuke Itoigawa, president of Mukogawa Women’s University, giving a closing remark